

**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 309:
February 2025**

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Schomburgkia superbiens
Bill Loy
Best in Show, January 2025

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – February 2025

President's Message

David Vandebroek, President

Hi everyone – a bit of a short newsletter this time around. Thanks to everyone able to help out in the January show! I'll have the show winners, a wrap-up article, and many pictures for the next edition, not enough time between the show and the NL to grab them this time. Thanks to all the people who brought in plants and volunteered to make the show happen!

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Spring Show in April, if you haven't done so! This is the 3rd weekend in April, the 17-20th.

We are continuing to look for people to volunteer to serve on the board. I'll have a more detailed list of open volunteer positions and responsibilities next newsletter, as we will be having considerable turnover in June, but for now we could use a new:

- Secretary
- Director at Large
- Newsletter Editor
- Kid's Corner Workers
- AV Team (to set up and take down the projector / make sure Zoom is working)

These are all positions that could use someone to help starting immediately, but the first two, Secretary and Director at Large, are board positions which should be filled as soon as possible. If you're willing to do these, please let me know.

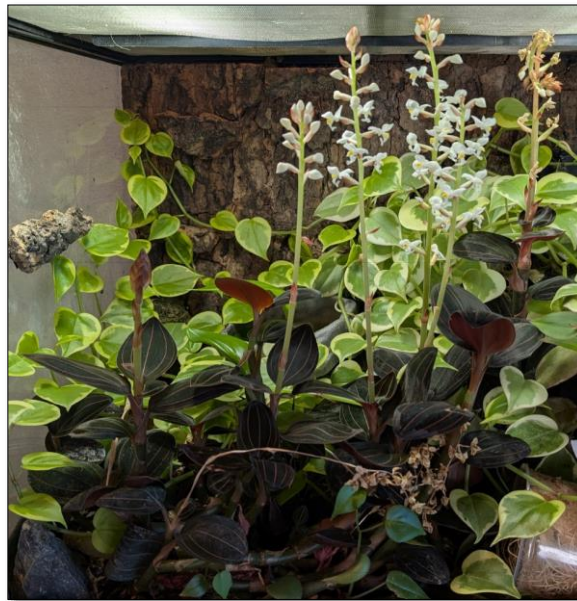
Hope you all have a great end of January, and I look forward to seeing you in February!



Reed Stem Epidendrum hybrid
David Vandebroek



Cycnoches chlorochilon
Rachel Burns



Ludochilus Hybrid
David Vandebroek



Orchid Conservation Alliance

Conserving Orchids by Conserving Orchid Habitat

The OCA conserves orchids by funding habitat preservation. Since inception in 2005 we have helped with the purchase of over 3000 acres of orchid habitat, protecting hundreds of orchid species in Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia. Many species of rare birds, trees, frogs, mammals also find refuge in these reserves.

 <small>Dracula</small>	 <small>Dracula</small>	 <small>Ventanas</small>	 <small>Ventanas</small>
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Dracula gigas (L), *D. trigonopetala* (R)
Dracula Reserve, Ecuador

Dracula lemurella (L), *Lepanthes escifera* (R)
La Selva de Ventanas Reserve, Colombia

We hope you will join us in promoting this important work. We invite you to become a member of the OCA, to make a donation, to take a trip with us to see Orchids in the Wild®, and to purchase merchandise through our website. Since we have no paid staff, all proceeds support orchid conservation. The OCA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.

For more information: www.orchidconservationalliance.org

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – February 2025

General Meeting, February 5, in person at Balboa Park, Casa del Prado Room 101, and on Zoom; 7:30 PM.

Fred Clarke: Aussie Dendrobiums and their Cultivation

Fred Clarke and Ashley Grable, First VP

Our friends down under have been breeding their native Dendrobiums and creating some fantastic flowers; the word is out! Aussie Dens are easy to grow, tolerant of heat and cold, have fragrant flowers, and re-bloom from the old bulbs!!! They grow well with Cattleyas and in frost-free areas. They are perfect plants for the shade house.

They grow well in a wide variety of conditions, they are perfect plants for summering in the shade house and then bring in doors once night are in the low 40's or stay outside year-round in frost free areas. In conclusion we cover the 'best growing practices' for cultivating these remarkable plants.

The presenter will be Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids in Vista. Fred Clarke has been growing orchids for 42 years and has been hybridizing for 38 of those years. With over 34 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery; Sunset Valley Orchids, located in San Diego, California. He is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Although developing Cattleya hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new Paphiopedilum and Aussie Dendrobium hybrids plus some others to be named if they work out!

His pioneering work in *Catasetum* intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, *Fredclarkeara After Dark*, which produced "the blackest flower ever witnessed". This grex has received over 100 awards worldwide with nine FCC's and thirty AM's from the AOS judges!

Fred is an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region. His plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society.

*SDCOS members are invited to join, at their own expense, **dinner with the main speaker** on the evening of the presentation. To secure your seat, email 1stVP@sdorchids.com by Monday, February 4. Please arrive at the restaurant – [The Prado at Balboa Park](#) (1549 El Prado, Suite 12) – prior to the 5:45 pm reservation, so the table may be seated on time.*

*Fred will supply this month's plant opportunity table, which may include some of the plants listed on his website. Want a chance to take one home? Participate in the **opportunity table plant raffles** by 1) picking up a free raffle ticket (one per person) at the meeting's welcome table; 2) redeeming your volunteer reward coupons for chances to win; 3) exhibiting your orchid in bloom on the meeting's show-and-tell table in exchange for a raffle entry; and/or 4) purchasing raffle tickets.*

Culture Class, DATE, 6:30 PM

Speaker: Topic

Nate La Breche, Second VP

Title: Orchid Roots

Description: Nate La Breche is the second VP of the SDCOS. He started growing orchids in January of 2023 in his apartment using a grow tent along with shelves and LED lighting. His presentation will focus on the roots of orchids. Specific topics include root structure, functions, appearance, and health issues.



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Visit our website: www.sandiegozoo.org

Your membership supports our plant and
animal collections and includes a
monthly visit to our Orchid Odyssey on
the third Friday of each month from
10am until 2pm.



Oncidium Gower Ramsey
Bruce Kidd



SDCOS Members at the January
Culture Class, given by Kay Klausing



Species Orchids seen at Species
Study Group

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – February 2025

Orchid Dates to Remember:

February 6

SDCOS Board Meeting

First Thursday of the month, 7 PM

Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email

president@sdorchids.com

February 1

SDCOS Species Study Group Meeting

Socializing 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM

First Saturday of the month

president@sdorchids.com

February 4

Main Speaker Dinner*: 5:45 PM

*See Main Speaker article for details.

February 4

SDCOS General Meeting

Culture Class: 6:30 PM; Program: 7:30 PM

First Tuesday of the month

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

Also broadcast via Zoom; meeting link to be emailed to members prior to meeting. For a nonmember to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

February 4

AOS San Diego Judging Center

6:30 PM, Registration starts at 6 PM

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

February 5

Palomar Orchid Society Meeting

Society business at 4 PM; main program at 5

First Wednesday of the month

Carlsbad City Library

1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011

February 7-9

Newport Harbor Orchid Society Show

<https://nhosinfo.org/>

February 18

Newport Harbor Orchid Society Auction

<https://nhosinfo.org/>

April 16

Orange County Orchid Society Auction

April 17 - 20

SDCOS Spring Show



Medicalcar decoratum

Betty Kelepecz

Board and General Meeting Minutes

The SDCOS Board meeting minutes are available to members upon request.

president@sdorchids.com

2024-2025 Officers

President	David Vandebroek
First Vice President	Ashley Grable
Second Vice President	Nate La Breche
Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	Myra DeTate
Director at Large, to 2025	Stewart Walton
Director at Large, to 2026	Sima Perkins
Director-at-Large, to 2027	Carey McCoy
Past President	Debby Halliday

NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY
presents

EXOTIC PLANT & ORCHID FESTIVAL 2025

FRIDAY February 7 10 am - 8 pm
SATURDAY February 8 10 am - 8 pm
SUNDAY February 9 10 am - 6 pm

WESTMINSTER MALL

1025 Westminster Mall, Westminster, CA 92683
Free Admission & Parking
<https://nhosinfo.org/>

NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY

Discover the Beauty of Orchids!
Visitors Welcome – Bring a Friend!
Monthly Meetings Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 PM

- Inspiring Expert Speakers
- Tips & Tricks for Orchid Care
- Showcasing Stunning Orchids
- Plant Opportunity Table for Rare Finds

Norma Hertzog Community Center
1845 Park Ave, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

<https://nhosinfo.org/> <https://www.facebook.com/newportharbororchidsociety.org/>

Next regular meeting is **January 21**
Auction **February 18**

Join our passionate community of orchid enthusiasts and learn everything you need to grow thriving, gorgeous orchids

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SDCOS Newsletter Notes

Interested in being the next SDCOS Newsletter editor? Please contact me at the email below to discuss the role. The primary responsibilities are: collect the articles from the President, 1st and 2nd VP, and Judging chair, and then generate and upload the newsletter. Pretty straightforward! Contact me at SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com if you're interested in learning more.

SDCOS welcomes newsletter contributions of articles and pictures from members.

To be included in the next issue, contributions should be sent to SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com by end of day on the **second Friday of the month**.

Contributions that come in after the deadline can still be included in the following issue, so don't let missing the deadline stop you from sending things in.

For contributions of pictures, please include the correct, full name of the orchid being shown in the email text. Also, please do not submit more than 3 pictures per month (unless they're really good...). I will not be able to use every picture, but having a small library to choose from is helpful.

All the best,

David Vandebroek
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

1st Class
Postage
Required

San Diego County Orchid Society
P.O. Box 161020
San Diego, CA 92176

