



**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 246:
September 2019**

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Tolumnia Pine Hollow 'Lue's Red' AM/AOS
Plant by Alex Nadzan

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General Meeting, September 3rd, 7:30 pm
James Rose: My 10 Favorite Orchids
Text by Debby Halliday, First VP

We are pleased to welcome James Rose of Cal-Orchids in Santa Barbara as our September speaker. He will be talking about his 10 favorite orchids. What are they? You'll have to come to the meeting to find out! We have been told they are all species, from various genera and several different countries. James is always an entertaining speaker and has a vast amount of knowledge and experience with orchids. This promises to be a good talk.

Most of you have shopped at Cal-Orchid at our Spring Show and may be familiar with the excellent quality and variety of plants they have available. James and his wife Lauris started their commercial orchid careers in the



'Pacific' Reedstem Epidendrums

early 1970's at Santa Barbara Orchid Estate. In 1987, they bought their current property when it was a cut flower cymbidium range. It is an impressive operation with over 50,000 square feet of growing area. Their inventory is diverse and truly offers something for everyone, whether you are a serious collector, a beginner, or just looking for an orchid gift.

They maintain a robust breeding program with over 5,000 hybrids and clones. They offer plants for all temperature ranges and have become well known for their 'Pacific' line of reedstem Epidendrums. With a sturdy and compact growth habit and brilliant colored heads of flowers, these Epi's are really good and have earned Cal Orchid the designation as The EpiCenter. If you have never visited them in Santa Barbara, it should definitely be part of your next trip. James travels and speaks very regularly, so you should call ahead if you want to visit.

James will be providing the Opportunity Table plants, so plan to get plenty of tickets. You can also preorder from the Calorchid.com website for delivery at the meeting. Check out their Summer Hummer specials!

James will also be giving the same lecture at the Palomar Orchid Society on Wednesday, Sept 4. So if you can't make it to our meeting, you have a second chance with POS.

Kay Klausing will be hosting dinner as I will be out of town. As always, you are welcome to join in. Dinner is at the Prado at 5:45. Plan to meet in room 101 at 5:30. If you want to come, please drop an email to Kay and let



Cal-Orchid at the SDCOS
Spring Show

him know so there will be room for you at the table. As always, your dinner is on you, but the conversation is free!

This should be a very interesting meeting. I'm sorry to miss it!



James & Lauris Rose

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Kids' Corner October SDCOS Show

Text by Nancy Walters

The Kids' Corner has been a popular event that draws at least 35 to 40 participants each show. Children have the opportunity to participate in games, educational activities, puzzles, art, and more. They learn to recognize and appreciate orchids and hopefully they will be inspired to grow orchids and become Student members in the future.

In order to keep the booth going, I need volunteers to help for 4-hour shifts on October 26th and 27th and hopefully the future shows. It is fun to see the children learn and get excited about orchids. ANYONE can volunteer. You don't need to be an expert. Mostly, it just requires help with



getting them started on an activity and handling the materials at the center.

I am looking especially for regular volunteers, but everyone is welcome to try it out. Please sign-up on the website, at the meetings on the volunteer sign-up sheet, or email me at nancywalters@cox.net.



Kids at the Kids' Corner

From the Membership Desk

Text by Bob Clark, Membership Chair

Please welcome our new members – Maria Gray and Dean Gibson.

Culture Class, September 3rd, 6:30 pm Stewart Walton: Plant Collections – Tags and Databases

Text by Stewart Walton

Everyone has a system for tracking their orchids, whether it's penciled notes on white plastic ID tags in the pot, notebooks with photos, or an online database. Most of us arrived at our systems gradually as our collection grew and as we discovered new things we wanted to track. In this class, Stewart will describe some possibilities, from simple to complex, to make the task of managing your collection easier.

Please join us for this enlightening Culture Class which starts at 6:30 pm. Come prepared to discuss your present or ideal plant tracking system.

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Summer Potting Workshop a Great Event! Text by Debby Halliday

On Saturday, August 10, we held another of our popular potting workshops at Debby Halliday's house in Rancho Santa Fe. We had more than 20 attendees, who all brought delicious offerings for lunch and plants needing a bit of TLC. We started around 12 pm with lunch on the patio. Debby gave a potting demonstration on a compact Cattleya, Lc. Jungle Eyes. After lunch, it was time to work.

Ben Machado provided us with all sizes of pots and plenty of high-quality bark medium. Dave Hoffmaster kindly came early and created the pre-moistened mixes of bark and perlite. We had lots of tables and chairs, plus burlap mats for cymbidium repotting on the lawn. People asked many useful questions and learned how to re-pot their plants. Thank you to Carol Kerr and Stewart Walton for giving help and advice. Thank you also to Nancy Walters for taking some fun pictures!

After finishing their plants and helping tidy up, participants toured Debby's greenhouse and gardens. We all socialized and got to know one another. It was a great event. If you have never come to one of our workshops, you should. They are fun and educational, and you will come away with newfound courage in handling your orchids.



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Orchids in the Park Show: Best July Show Ever (Article 1 of 2)

Text by Debby Halliday

We enjoyed a wonderful July show on the weekend of July 27/28. Our sales were the highest ever for a July show, thanks to our vendors and members who offered a variety of excellent plants for sale. These sales included nearly \$3,000 raised for conservation. We had 168 plants on display from 25 different member growers. Thank you all for going to the trouble to bring in your gorgeous orchids. It is what makes our park shows so special.

Best in Show and the Forrest Robinson Cultural Award went to Kay Klausing for his amazing *Brassia verrucosa*, a large and stunning plant which was beautifully grown outdoors. People's Choice was won by Debby Halliday's *Dendrobium thysiflorum* with its large bouquets of yellow and white flowers. Our visitors nominated 107 different plants from 19 exhibitors as their favorites in People's Choice voting. That is a real credit to the members who brought such high quality plants for our show.

We must thank Dave Hoffmaster, who runs our park shows, and the many volunteers who set up a beautiful showroom, handled sales efficiently, gave classes, did our ribbon and AOS judging, placed signs all around the park, manned the doors, answered questions, entertained children, and then took it all apart again. They are the reason we could put on such a successful show! Congratulations and thank you so much.



(Continued on next page)

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Orchids in the Park Show, continued

Please note – Nancy Walters, who created and runs our popular Kids' Corner, is looking for a steady helper to assist her in managing this very important feature of our park shows. If you could offer a few hours in October to meet, greet, and help entertain our youngest visitors, it would be a huge help. It's also satisfying and fun! Please see Nancy's article on Page 3.

The next Orchids in the Park Show & Sale is October 26/27. Mark your calendar, work on your plants, and plan to be part of it.

Go to our website www.sdorchids.com to see more images from the show.

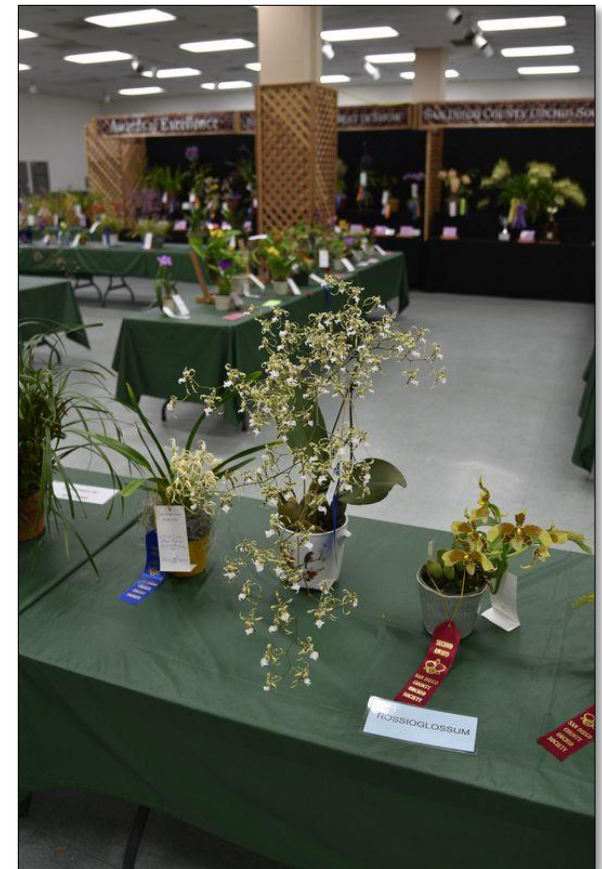


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July Show in the Park (Article 2 of 2)

Text by Dave Hoffmaster

The July Show in the Park was quite a success. We filled the room with blooming orchids to wow all the visitors and we racked up record sales in the vendor area. We would like to thank all the people who helped put on the show as we could not do it without your help. There is a considerable amount of work that goes into preparing the room before the doors open and a special thanks goes out to Pedro Sanchez, Myra DeTate, Bob Vitacco, Jack Schaefer, Carol Kerr, Mike Frye, Bill Loy, Stewart Walton, Kay Klausing, Carey McCoy, George Pflaum, and Peggy Wegner for their help. This is not an easy job: hauling all the materials to Balboa Park and setting up all the tables, lattice, and lights to display the orchids.

And then, of course, there are the orchids. Thank you to everyone that brought in orchids to display. The reward for growing orchids is to see them bloom and it makes for quite a show when we can fill a room with hundreds of blooms.

One of the interesting features of this show was the number of species orchids on display. Almost half of all the plants brought in were species, which speaks well for the efforts of our species group. Species may not always have the most eye-catching flowers, but they do show the great diversity of what is available in the orchid world.

Conservation brought in almost \$3000 to support their efforts. Thanks go to Betty Kelepecz, Shirley Hall and Rachel Burns for their efforts in working that booth.

(Continued on next page)



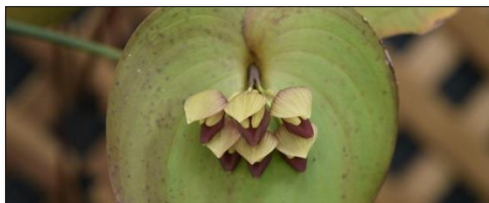
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July Show in the Park, continued

A special thanks goes out to Pam Peters, Anita Spencer, and Jerry Spencer for helping everyone register their plants for the show. Thanks again to Pam and everyone that helped judge plants on Saturday morning. Kay Klausing's *Brassia verrucosa* won both the Best of Show and Forrest Robinson Cultural Awards while Debby Halliday's *Dendrobium thyrsiflorum* won the People's Choice award.

A show like this requires a lot of help from jobs like security, the plant hotel, and the ever-popular Kids' Corner. A special thanks goes out to Nancy Walters, Jim and Necole Stary, Jack Schaefer, Paul Tuskes, Kathy Andrews, Carol Kerr, Linda Humiston, April Louis, George Pflaum, and Victoria Cohen for staffing those positions. Additionally, signage set up and take down was headed by Carol Kerr and assisted by Carey McCoy both days, a task which helps draw in visitors from around the park.

As mentioned, sales were an all-time high with a total of just over \$22,000 for the two days. Most of this was from vendors but the society netted more than \$4,000. We need to thank all the people who worked the cash register including Myra DeTate, Pam Murphy, Victoria Cohen, Doloris Maxwell, Deryl Adderson, Gary Lewis, Cheryl Adams, Laurie Lee, and Kay Klausing.



Show Winners, July 2019			
Sec	Award	Orchid	Winner
	James & Lise Wright Best of Show	<i>Brassia verrucosa</i>	Kay Klausing
	Forrest Robinson Cultural Award	<i>Brassia verrucosa</i>	Kay Klausing
	People's Choice Award	<i>Dendrobium thyrsiflorum</i>	Debby Halliday
1	Cymbidium Standard Hybrid	No Entries	-
2	Cymbidium Hybrid Miniature	<i>Cym. Betty Court</i>	Jerry & Anita Spencer
3	Cymbidium Hybrid Pendulous	<i>Cym. Tennis x Cym. canaliculatum</i>	Jerry & Anita Spencer
4	Cattleya Alliance Standard	<i>Catt. gaudii</i> var. <i>coerulea</i> AM/AOS	Alex Nadzan
5	Cattleya Alliance Compact	<i>Rlc. Murtha's Luck</i>	Ken Campbell
6	Cattleya Alliance Miniature	<i>C. Burgundy Sun</i>	Betty Kelepecz
7	Paphiopedilum Hybrid	<i>Paph. Avalon Mist</i>	Debby Halliday
8	Phragmipedium Hybrid	<i>Phrag. Living Fire 'Jim Wright'</i> HCC/AOS	Debby Halliday
9	Oncidium Alliance Hybrid	<i>Tolumnia Pine Hollow 'Lue's Red'</i> AM/AOS	Alex Nadzan
10	Dendrobium Hybrids	<i>Den. Pixie Princess</i>	Jerry & Anita Spencer
11	Vandaceous Alliance	<i>Vanda Mario Vega Solorzano</i> 'Bradley'	Alan Castillo
12	Hybrids of Other Genera	<i>Bulbophyllum</i> Betty Kelepecz	Betty Kelepecz
13	Phalaenopsis Alliance	Phalaenopsis Hybrid (Harlequin Spots)	Pam Peters
14	Specimen Plants	<i>Brassia verrucosa</i>	Kay Klausing
15	Species over 6" tall	<i>Dendrobium thyrsiflorum</i>	Debby Halliday
16	Species under 6" tall	<i>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii</i>	Orchid Source
17	Displays	Tree of Species Plants	Bill Loy

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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.

President's Message

Text by Kay Klaussing

Dear SDCOS Members,

Our July Show in the Park was a full success: we had record sales, great attendance, and no volunteer crisis despite early concerns. A big "Thank you!" to all our members who donated their time. The income these shows generate is vital for the society.

The society is participating at the Huntington Orchid Show October 18th – 20th and is planning to organize a bus trip for members for October 19th. Please look for the sign-up sheet on our website. The trip will not be paid for by the society this time; participants will need to prepay.

Temperatures in September are still warm so keep on watering and fertilizing your plants heavily to add as much substance as possible before the fall temperatures towards the end of the month start to slow things down. Get your repotting supplies ready for those plants which prefer to be repotted in fall.

Thank you and happy growing!



Phragmipedium Living Fire 'Jim Wright'
HCC/AOS by Debby Halliday

Second Orchid Home Advisory Tour!

Text by Nancy Walters

We had a great response for our first tour in May. See the July newsletter for a short summary.

We are now planning our second tour for interested members from the northern part of San Diego. The date will be October 12th. We hope to have four members volunteer from the Miramar to Escondido area.

You'll be a great candidate to join if:

- You have attended some workshops or orchid classes and know some basics.
- You are interested in having an advanced grower share ideas regarding questions you may have about the orchids in your garden collection.
- You are willing to spend about three hours touring the four home gardens and learning what works in their gardens too.

We will drive or carpool to each home and spend about 30 minutes at each location, with an optional lunch or snack stop at the end. If this sounds like something you are interested in doing, contact nancywalters@cox.net no later than September 21st.



C. Burgundy Sun by Betty Kelepecz

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Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa del Prado, Balboa Park), August 2019

Text by Phyllis Prestia; photos by Arnold Gum

Of the seven orchids presented for judging, one was awarded.

[1] *Phragmipedium* QF Leina'ala 'Arnie'
AM/AOS

Exhibited by Arnold Gum

Awarded AM/AOS 81points



Huntington Orchid Show and Sale: Looking for Attendees, Volunteers, and Ribbon Judges

We are just around the corner from The Huntington Botanical Gardens 5th Annual International Orchid Show which runs from October 18-20, 2019 and they are inviting local orchid societies to join. Specific information about this event can be found on their website at:

<https://www.huntington.org/orchid-show>

If anyone is interested in volunteering to help or to be a ribbon judge, you are invited to sign up here:

<https://signup.com/go/tzgstab>

Ribbon judging is a fantastic opportunity where you can learn more about orchids and judging from AOS Judges. Lunch will be provided for ribbon judges. Societies who put in an exhibit for the show will get free admission to the orchid show and grounds for the duration of the show; please remember to wear your SDCOS badge!

Additionally, as Kay mentions in his message, SDCOS is putting together a bus trip to go to the Huntington. If you are interested in going with the group, consider doing so – it's a fun and bonding experience.

Board and General Meeting Minutes

The SDCOS Board did not meet this month due to a large number of absences. Generally, meeting minutes can be found at: <http://sdorchids.com/Minutes.html>



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Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa del Prado, Balboa Park), July Show in the Park, 2019

Text by Phyllis Prestia; photos by Arnold Gum

Of the eleven orchids presented for judging,
five were awarded.

[1] *Paph. lowii* f. album 'Verdigris Ice'
AM/AOS

Exhibited by Michael Tibbs

Awarded AM/AOS 82 points

[2] *Promeneia ovatiloba* AM/AOS

Exhibited by Rachel Burns

Awarded AM/AOS 80 points

[3] *C. gaudii* f. coerulea 'Kathleen' AM/AOS

Exhibited by Alex Nadzan

Awarded AM/AOS 84 points

[4] *Aganisia cyanea* HCC/AOS

Exhibited by Rachel Burns

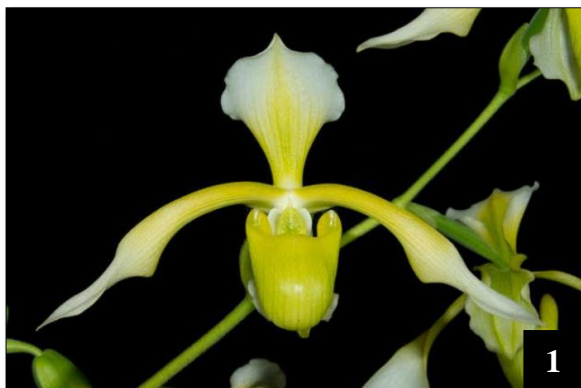
Awarded HCC/AOS 78 points

[5] *Tolumnia* Pine Hollow 'Lue's Red'

AM/AOS

Exhibited by Alex Nadzan

Awarded AM/AOS 80 points



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Reedstem Epidendrums, Easy Orchids to Grow

Text by Bruce Berg

Epidendrums (eh-pee-DEN-drum) are known by several nicknames, the “Poor Man’s Orchid,” the “bullet-proof Orchid,” or other names giving the reader the clue that these orchids are among the easier and more hardy of orchids to grow. Jay Phal on his website states:

“This is another of the large genera with over 1,000 known species throughout tropical Americas and the Caribbean. It is distinguished by a slit rostellum and the lip is united with the column creating a nectary tube that continues through the pedicel. Many of this genus have reed-like stems but they also can have thickened pseudo bulbs. [...] Culture for this group is as diverse as the climates that they occur in, from tropical lowlands to high alpine cloud forests, but as a rule most appreciate intermediate conditions and an even watering and fertilizing schedule. There are many terrestrial species in this group as well as epiphytes so culture is important. The only common factor is good drainage. This genus is part of the Cattleya alliance and is often used in breeding orchids.”

The Epidendrums that most of us will encounter are the ones called Reedstem Epidendrums, or Epis in this article for short. This article is intended to address culture requirements for common Reedstem Epidendrums only.

Epis have been hybridized to produce a large and interesting array of colors from white

through the primary color spectrum, along with variations in between. Hybridization has also reduced the long inflorescences and made the flowering heads more compact and showy.

They are very easy to grow on most patios, being able to handle our outdoor temperatures and more sunlight than most other orchids. They are also very easy to share. Most of them will easily create miniature plantlets on the old bloom spikes, called “keikis” that can be easily twisted off and potted up and made into a new plant, thus making a great conversation or friendship plant to keep on your patio.



Light

This may be the single most important factor. With too little light, the plant will become leggy and will not flower well, if at all. The level should be equal to or greater than that for growing cattleyas (2500-3500 foot-candles or about 60-70% shade). Many growers can grow them in full sunlight if the plants acclimatize first, depending on location in the county. If you give your Epidendrum too much light, the foliage may bronze a bit from stress. When growers describe their Epis as rambling to three and four feet tall, the problem is always too little light.

Water

Epidendrums, like most tropical orchids, have two distinct seasons; a hot, wet growing period followed by a cooler, drier, flowering season. These orchids are generally forgiving of water frequency and quality. Be sure to water copiously, letting water drain out of the bottom of the vessel, to prevent mineral buildup in the mix. Keep the roots moist year-round, but, as for most orchids, do not let the plant sit in water. Depending on where you live in the county, you may have tap water that is just fine for Epis. While this is not generally true for most of our orchids, Epis are more tolerant of the minerals found in our waters, just try and make sure you flush the pots when watering.

Potting Media

For *Epidendrum secundum*, *Epidendrum radicans* and *Epidendrum ibaguense*, almost any planting mix will do, because these are extremely tolerant of soil conditions. These three species make a spectacular display in raised planter beds or in tubs or pots. Use a

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potting mix of large or small bark amended with any combination of perlite, moss, charcoal, sand or gravel. Either a plastic or clay pot is fine (clay needs watering more often). Repotting or replacing raised beds is generally not necessary, although plants do need to be top-dressed with additional mix as the mix decomposes or is washed away during watering. For *Epi. cinnabarinum*, *E. oerstedellae*, and their hybrids, it is best to choose a fast draining mix of one part medium bark, one part fine bark, and one part perlite and replace the medium every 12 to 18 months, or when the mix smells musty.

Fertilizer

These orchids require copious amounts of fertilizer. When fertilized regularly they respond immediately with denser flower spikes, greener, stronger leaves and more robust roots. Use any balanced fertilizer according to the manufacturers' recommendations.



Epidendrum porpax



Temperature

Epis can tolerate a wide range of temperatures and most can handle near-freezing conditions. Note that *Epidendrum cinnabarinum* and many of its primary hybrids are not tolerant of low temperatures (below 55 F) for extended periods. This is also true for many of the newer hybrids. If the plant looks stressed, sometimes trimming it down and moving it to a warmer location in the winter will stimulate new growth.

Pests

Only two pests are commonly associated with reedstem Epis: hard brown scale and aphids. The former can sometimes appear, since, as is the case for many orchids, the flowers exude nectar which attracts ants, which commonly carry scale. Normal observation and response will remedy this problem. During the warm weather flowering season, aphids can quickly become a problem. Fortunately, they are easy enough to see and deal with. Be sure to provide ample air circulation and you may not even have a problem.

Sources for Epis:

Cal Orchid has been hybridizing Epis for a number of years and have developed some great “pom-pom” style plants in a wide variety of colors. James Rose of Cal-Orchids will be our main speaker this month.

<http://www.calorchid.com/>

Of course, if you are looking for the *Epidendrum* species plants, you can find everything you want locally at Andy's.

<http://www.andysorchids.com>

Another good source for these plants is to visit our Conservation and Member sales tables at our Shows in the Park where members will offer you divisions (or keikis) for sale.

Good luck with growing these rewarding and easy to care for orchids.

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Orchids from the Summer Show

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – September 2019

Orchid Dates to Remember:

September 3rd

SDCOS General Meeting

Culture class at 6:30; program at 7:30

First Tuesday of the month

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

September 4th

Palomar Orchid Society Meeting

Culture class at 6:30 pm; program at 7:00 pm

First Wednesday of the month

1105 La Bonita Dr. , San Marcos, CA 92078

September 5th

SDCOS Board Meeting

First Thursday of the month, 7 pm

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

September 7th

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

Breakfast 8:30 am, meeting 9:00 am

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes, (858) 274-5829

September 18th

Cymbidium Society Meeting

Meeting at 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Third Wednesday of month

111 Richmar Avenue, San Marcos 92069

aaallen@cox.net or (760) 533-4975

September 20th

San Diego Zoo's Orchid Odyssey

10:00 am – 2:00 pm (orchid space is open)

Third Friday of the month

September 28-29th

Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale

South Coast Plaza Village

1621 West Sunflower, Santa Ana, CA 92704

October 12th

Orchid Home Advisory Tour

nancywalters@cox.net

October 18-20th

Huntington Orchid Show and Sale

<https://www.huntington.org/orchid-show>

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Orchids from the Summer Show

From the Editor:

Hello everyone,

I hope you're all doing well as we're hitting peak heat and getting ready for fall. I want to echo Dave Hoffmaster's thanks to everyone who volunteered to help out with the July show. This society runs on volunteer's time and work, and the July Show was a huge success because of the effort our members put into making it so – thank you!

Also, if anyone is interested in going in the SDCOS bus trip to the Huntington's orchid show next month, please sign up on our website at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/TJKMT>.

As always, if you have contributions, please let me know at SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com by the **15th** of the month; I'm always looking for more things to include (when we have space), and I welcome your contributions.

Best,

David Vandebroek
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

1st Class

Postage

Required

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San Diego, CA 92176

