



**San Diego County Orchid  
Society Newsletter  
Volume 248:  
November 2019**

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Z. Kiwi Korker x *Pbt.* Copper Queen

## San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – November 2019

**General Meeting, November 5th, 7:30 pm**  
**Tim Culbertson: Zygos for Southern California**

Text by Debby Halliday, First VP

Our November speaker will be one of my personal favorites, Tim Culbertson. He is an excellent and entertaining speaker. Here is his description of the talk.

For your meeting, I'll be sharing a presentation entitled "Zygos for Southern California". These plants are easy to grow and flower, are vigorous, and have low cultural demands; many will grow easily outdoors in Southern California. Although many Zygos look similar, different breeding lines from around the world have pushed the look of Zygos in radical and wild directions. Many genera contribute to these new hybrids, and I will share some of these with you, as well as help identify some of the important parents in the backgrounds of new and modern colors and appearances found in this genus.

By the end of this presentation, you will have a new appreciation of what goes into breeding trends for these types of plants, as well as an appreciation of their beautiful flowers and ease-of-growth, both indoors and outside. I will be providing a plant table of the newest, modern, cutting-edge Zygopetalum alliance hybrids, suitable for inside, outside, or both.

Although Tim teaches middle school kids for a living, one of his passions has

always been plants. He began growing orchids while working at Longwood Gardens in Philadelphia just after college. He has long been attracted to Paphs, particularly the awarded and select clones of historic importance, of which his collection numbers nearly 3,000. In addition to collecting important Paph parent plants, he also enjoys hybridizing and finds growing up his own babies to be a blast.

He has been a judge with the American Orchid Society for nearly 15 years and has served in various capacities with numerous orchid societies in California and on the East Coast. Tim notes "I love meeting other people who like orchids too, and doing so often finds me traveling to shows, vendors, and peoples' greenhouses to see the latest and greatest in new hybrids and to get the best orchid gossip." Tim just likes to be involved with plants as much as possible. In addition to Longwood, he's worked at the Smithsonian Institution tending to their orchids, and for years for the United States National Arboretum, collecting rare plants and documenting cultivated species and hybrids for their herbarium. In short, Tim really likes plants.

We are delighted to have Tim with us again. Zygos make wonderful companion plants for Cymbidiums, and everyone should have some in their collection.

This is a rare opportunity to win a cool new Zygo or two, so plan to get your tickets! Tim will be judging with the AOS on the 5<sup>th</sup>, so he will not be joining us for dinner.



Zygopetalum hybrid





# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – November 2019

## President's Message

Text by Kay Klausing

Dear SDCOS Members,

Everybody is starting to prepare for the upcoming Holiday. The Fall Show in the Park has concluded our orchid shows for the year. The plants in our care have slowed down due to cooler temperatures and shortening days with less light. Watering and fertilizer should also be reduced in sync with plant growth and plants shouldn't be repotted any more.

Now is the time to prepare your growth area for the upcoming winter – check the heaters, install rain protection, etc.

This is the most challenging time to grow orchids in San Diego. First the intense heat and dryness of the Santa Ana periods and then rain accompanied with cold nights – both are very tough on our plants.

I have recently acquired some European and Australian terrestrial orchids which have the opposite growth habit of all my other plants: they come from a climate similar to ours and have just started their active growth and will go dormant over the summer. It will be an interesting experiment for me – I hope it will turn out well and it will be easy to grow them outdoors.

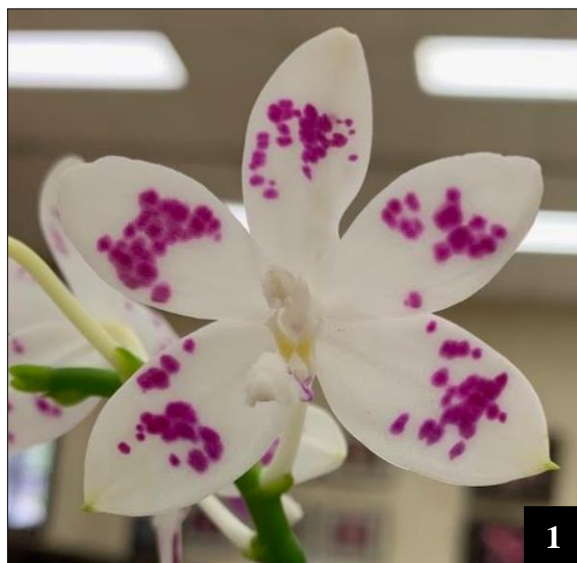
Thank you and happy growing!

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

Text and photos by Phyllis Prestia

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

[1] Phalaenopsis tetraspis 'Arnie' HCC/AOS  
Exhibited by Arnold Gum  
Awarded HCC/AOS of 78 points



## Board and General Meeting Minutes

The SDCOS Board and General Meeting minutes can be found at:

<http://sdorchids.com/Minutes.html>

## World Famous San Diego Zoo

All memberships listed below are for zip codes 91900-92899 and include unlimited admission to the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park for one year.

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Or call toll free 877.3 MEMBER

Visit our website:

[www.sandiegozoo.org](http://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.

# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – November 2019

## SDCOS Conservation Grant Awardees 2019

Text by Ron Kaufman

The SDCOS Conservation Committee met on September 7 to evaluate applications from several people and organizations. After careful consideration, the Committee recommended the following three grants for funding. All three of these recommendations were approved by the SDCOS board on October 3.

A vote of the membership is required for all society expenditures in excess of \$750, and a motion to approve these three awards will be made at the monthly General Meeting on Tuesday, November 5. If you have any questions about these applications or the review or approval process, please contact Ron Kaufmann (rkaufmann@gmail.com) by **Monday, November 3.**

### 1. Continuing with the “Integrated Strategy for the Restoration and Conservation of Epiphytic Orchidaceae in the Southeast of Mexico.”

Submitted by Anne Damon, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), Chiapas, Mexico. Southeast Mexico includes the two most biodiverse states in the country, Chiapas and Oaxaca. The region of Soconusco in Chiapas state is a biodiversity “hotspot” that includes the second richest region for orchid diversity in Mexico. This project will continue a very successful program, initiated in 2018 with SDCOS support, to educate young people to promote orchid conservation and train local groups in communities situated in important and sensitive areas in southeast Mexico. A second element of this project will

produce and distribute guidebooks of local orchids for farmers in the Soconusco area. These guidebooks will be part of a program to educate farmers about the orchids that grow in their region and the benefits of protecting the orchids and their habitat. Total amount recommended = \$5,500

### 2. Conservation Status and Phenology of the Ghost Monkey Orchid, *Dracula lemurella*.

Submitted by Nicolás Peláez, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA. Species of the genus *Dracula* have been popular in cultivation since the 19th century. Many species in this genus are endemic to small geographic areas in the Andes of Colombia and Ecuador. One such species is *Dracula lemurella*, which was discovered in the Central cordillera of Colombia in the mid-1970s. Contrary to most *Dracula* species, *D. lemurella* grows naturally at intermediate elevations, which also is the most favorable zone for coffee plantations. As a result, intact habitat at this altitude is difficult to find, and few reserves are currently protecting ecosystems within this elevation range in the Andes of Colombia and Ecuador. All information to date suggests that *D. lemurella* is endemic to a small area in the northern slopes of the central cordillera of Colombia. Fortunately, a recently-established reserve includes the only known natural remaining population of *D. lemurella*. However, the basic biology and ecology of this species that are necessary to establish a long-term conservation plan for this species are unknown. This project will investigate the population status and examine the biology and ecology of *D. lemurella* in this reserve. In addition, an education program in the community closest to the reserve will be

conducted to create greater awareness and support the long-term conservation of this species.

Total amount recommended = \$5,700

### 3. Utilizing Citizen Science to Restore Orchid Biodiversity at The Ridges Sanctuary in Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin.

Submitted by Matt Peter, The Ridges Sanctuary, Wisconsin. The Ridges Sanctuary, Inc. is the oldest private land trust in the state of Wisconsin and has been involved with orchid conservation since its beginnings in 1937. Many of the orchid species at The Ridges, and throughout Door County, have experienced significant declines in recent years due to habitat change, land management activities, unauthorized collection and overgrazing. Conservation initiatives at The Ridges are designed to gather information on the distribution and biology of the native orchid and determine best practices for propagation and restoration of these species. This project will build on the work funded last year by the SDCOS to study environmental conditions in areas with natural populations of the Ram's Head Orchid, *Cypripedium arietinum*, in comparison to sites containing plants from the ongoing restoration program. The results will be used to inform future practices for restoration and conservation of orchids in this habitat.

Total amount recommended = \$3,500



*Ctt Trick or Treat.*  
Plant by Bruce Berg



Zygopetalum hybrid

## Culture Tips for Fall

By Bruce Berg

Each one of these tips is backed up by personal experience, usually involving the death or disfigurement of a favorite orchid. As the month of October is coming to an end, I have a checklist of things that I would recommend that members consider for November:

- Nobile type dendrobiums need about a month of outside cooling off time with no fertilizer or water other than a light misting to keep the canes plump. See my last month's article for more info.
- Phals also need a cooling off period outside to help them start blooming next spring. When temps get below 50, bring them into an environment where they can stay at room temperature all winter.
- There are other plants, such as Catasetums, that need special treatment over the winter that you can research in our society website.
- Check all plants for pesky bugs, including mealy bugs and scale. A general treatment with an insecticide is also recommended. The culture page on our web has several excellent articles on treating pests.

If you have a greenhouse to move your plants into over the winter, there are several things to also consider:

- If you have been thinking of making improvements or changes to your

greenhouse, it's better to do it now, before it's full of plants!

- Check your plant-supporting devices such as benches, hangers, wet wall supports, and structural members.
- Check all wood for termite damage.
- Test your water and heating delivery systems. Make sure you have an air moving system to keep a constant air flow over the plants.
- Check air vents.
- If you have any sort of computer monitor or control, make sure it's working before bringing plants into the greenhouse. I use "Orbit b-hyve" to program my valves and receive temperature readings at my computer.
- If you use any sort of plant tracking system, do an inventory as you bring plants into your greenhouse. Consider setting up a digital camera to record your plants as you move them so you can look back and see how your plant is doing over the years. I use 'OrchidWiz' to keep track of my plants. Also track any society ribbons that plants have received; it'll help you decide which plants you may want to divide, or treat better than others.

## San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – November 2019

### Casa de las Orquideas Open House, December 7th

Text by Casa de las Orquideas

Fall is here, which means it's time to start planning your trip to the annual Casa de las Orquideas open house! Come to pick out some new seedlings, see some early-blooming cymbidiums, and enjoy some sale prices!

We look forward to seeing you December 7th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. As always, carpooling is encouraged and please remember to park on the street if possible, as parking at the nursery itself is extremely limited. Feel free to share the attached flyer with your friends and society members! Look for more details on our website soon!



### CSA 2020 San Marino Judging Center Schedule

12:30 p.m. Orchid Registration

1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. Judging

The Huntington Library, Museum and Botanical Gardens

Botanical Building, Bsmt. Floor

1151 Oxford Road

San Marino, CA 91108

Month	Date	Note
January	11	No judging: Paph Guild
February	8	
March	7	No judging: Santa Barbara show
April	11	
May	8	
June	13	No judging: Summer Break
July	11	No judging: Summer Break
August	9	
September	12	
October	10	
November	14	
December	12	



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*Miltonia moreliana*  
Plant by Peter Tobias

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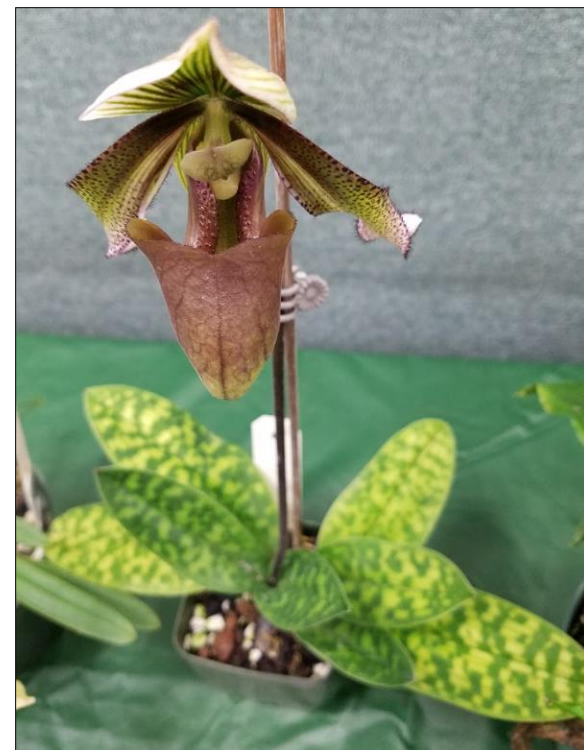
*Laelia dayana*  
Plant by Debby Halliday

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Email: [casa@orquideas.com](mailto:casa@orquideas.com)



*Paph superbiens* "Bold Statement"  
Plant by David Brown

# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – November 2019

## Orchid Dates to Remember:

November 2nd

### **SDCOS Species Group Meeting**

Breakfast 8:30 am, meeting 9:00 am

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes, (858) 274-5829

November 5th

### **SDCOS General Meeting**

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

First Tuesday of the month

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

November 6th

### **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

November 7th

### **SDCOS Board Meeting**

First Thursday of the month, 7 pm

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

November 15th

### **San Diego Zoo's Orchid Odyssey**

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

Third Friday of the month

November 20th

### **Cymbidium Society Meeting**

Meeting at 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Third Wednesday of month

111 Richmar Avenue, San Marcos 92069

[aaallen@cox.net](mailto:aaallen@cox.net) or (760) 533-4975

December 7th

### **Casa de las Orquideas Open House**

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

170 S. Nardo Ave. Solana Beach 92075

[www.Orquideas.com](http://www.Orquideas.com)

## **From the Membership Desk**

Text by Bob Clark, Membership Chair

Please welcome our newest member, Scott McGregor.



*Paph sukhalukii* "Bold Statement"  
Plant by Debby Halliday



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Some *Zygopetalum* / hybrid



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**From the Editor:**

Hello everyone,

I hope you had a chance to enjoy our Fall Show in the Park. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help out with that. This society runs on the efforts of volunteers, and I appreciate the time and energy people devote to keeping it alive.

I wasn't able to make the Huntington Show this year, but I hear it was great – thanks to those who set up the SDCOS exhibit.

In order to be sure to get the Newsletter out before people show up to our monthly meeting, we're changing the submission deadline to **end of day on the second Friday of the month.** Newsletter editing and formatting will be started (and sometimes finished) the following day, so any submissions received after the 2nd Friday of the month will not be able to be included.

I am always looking for more additions, so please feel free to send contributions to me at [SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com).

Best,

David Vandebroek  
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

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P.O. Box 161020  
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