

**San Diego County Orchid  
Society Newsletter  
Volume 314:  
August 2025**

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*Note: all pictures in this edition are from  
the July Show unless otherwise noted*

Best in Show (tie)  
Forrest Robinson Cultural Award



*Oncidium Kilauea Karma*  
Debby Halliday

Best in Show – (tie)



*Stanhopea ruckeri 'Femme Fatal'*  
Peter Tobias



# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – August 2025

## Open Volunteer Positions

David Vandebroek, President

SDCOS currently needs to fill the following volunteer positions. Please contact [president@sdorchids.com](mailto:president@sdorchids.com) if you are willing to consider any of them.

### 1st Vice President

- Primarily in charge of finding and managing main speakers and getting plants for the plant table

### 2nd Vice President

- Primarily in charge of finding and managing culture class speakers and arranging a once- or twice-yearly repotting workshop

### Webmaster

- In charge of things related to the website – updating show posters, posting volunteer links, general maintenance and possible improvements

### Newsletter Editor

- Get articles and pictures for the newsletter and make the newsletter (I just use Word)

### Membership Chair Apprentice

- Follow our membership chair, Bob Clark, as he performs membership tasks like keeping a roster of members, setting up the membership booth especially at Shows, and sending the monthly email to members, with the intent of taking over as membership chair sometime in 2025ish

### AV Team Member

- Every month we need someone to set up and run Zoom for our meetings. We only have 1 person who does this now, which leaves us in a lurch if he ever has vacation or can't make it. We want a

team of ~3 people to share this responsibility, each taking a couple months / year of being in charge. This job is easy to learn, and Jack can teach you everything you need to help.

Any of these roles can be taken on a trial basis. Please consider stepping into one.

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## President's Message

David Vandebroek, President

Good Show, everyone! The July show was a huge success – we had an absolutely packed house on Saturday, with the sales line starting at 9 AM and extending past the bathrooms by the time we opened, and a solid day Sunday. I spent most of my time talking with the hundreds of visitors walking through the show, and they absolutely loved it! Thank you to everyone who contributed their lovely plants to the show – they were appreciated by all who visited.

We do still have a few important roles to fill in the society, please see the 1<sup>st</sup> article in the Newsletter for more information.

New on the list: we will **need a new 2nd Vice President and a new Webmaster**. Kay Klausing will no longer be serving in either of these roles as he steps back from SDCOS responsibilities. I would like to thank Kay for his many years of service to SDCOS, including a 3-year term as President, among nearly another decade of board service and extensive volunteering at our shows.

We do have several members volunteering to take pieces of the roles, for which I am VERY grateful. If you feel you are willing to

try any of these positions, or take on parts of these roles, please let me know.

I will be out for most of the August meeting, but I'm looking forward to seeing you all in September! Hope you and your plants are surviving the heat!



*Aranthes ramosa*

Debby Halliday

Siv Garrod Most Unusual Species Award

## San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – August 2025

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

**Dave Sorokowsky: *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum***

Dave Sorokowsky of Paph Paradise will be talking to us this month about *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*, a very interesting paphiopedilum species. The following day at POS, he will be giving his talk “Don’t Fear the Slippers: A Guide to Successful Paph Culture”, an in-depth review of how to grow Paphiopedilum.

After receiving his degree in biochemistry from the University of Toronto, Dave opted to step outside his chosen field and operated a tropical fish import business for eight years. Upon returning to school, Dave received a degree in enology and viticulture from Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. While attending Brock, Dave began acquiring orchids one 2” pot at a time and before he graduated, Dave had over 100 orchids. About one year later, winemaking and a passion for orchids prompted Dave to seek a warmer climate in California. Dave has been growing paphiopedilums for about 20 years and seriously hybridizing for over 10 years. He is an Accredited Judge with the American Orchid Society, California Sierra Nevada Judging Center, and his paphiopedilums have received over 100 awards to date from the AOS and CSA. Many of those awarded plants play important roles in his breeding program. In 2018, Dave left winemaking to devote all his time to running Paph Paradise Orchids.

Dave is taking pre-orders for any of our members who are interested in purchasing orchids from Paph Paradise

(<https://www.paphparadise.com/>) and there is a 10% discount on orders over \$100. Pre-orders are due August 1st, and you can email Dave with your order at [dave@paphparadise.com](mailto:dave@paphparadise.com). Dave will also be providing this month’s plant table.

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### **Culture Class, August 5, 6:30 PM Paolo Garcia: Miniature Orchids**

This month, our newest board member, Paolo Garcia, will be speaking about miniature orchids. His talk will cover his own growing conditions / setup, general care and culture, some key species which work well for beginners, and how to add minis to your collection. This promises to be an interesting talk and a great introduction to a smaller subset of orchids than many of us grow. For a bio of Paolo, see the next newsletter article.

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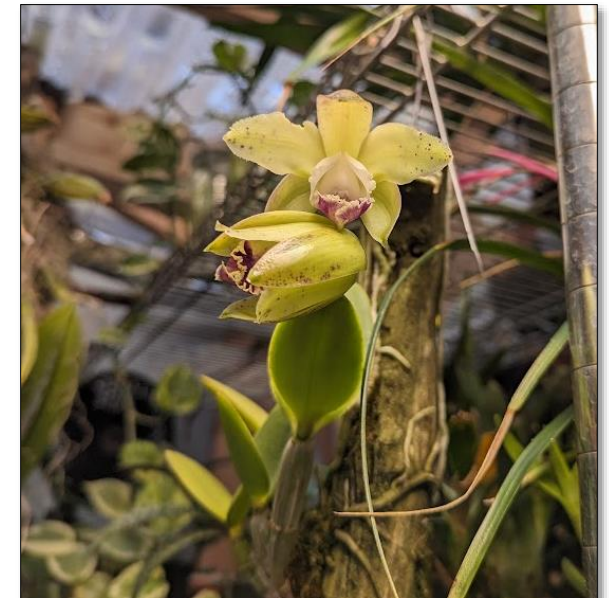
### **New Director at Large: Paolo Garcia David Vandenbroek, President**

After many years of service to the society on the board, in hospitality, volunteering at shows, and helping facilitate meetings, our Director at Large Carey McCoy is stepping down from leadership at SDCOS. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank Carey for her many years of excellent service and wish her the best going forward.

Paolo Garcia has graciously volunteered to fill this vacancy, and the board has voted to confirm him in the Director at Large through 2027 position. We welcome Paolo and look forward to working with him as a new board member!

### **An introduction from Paolo:**

Growing orchids has been my constant hobby since I was 12 years old and growing them in my dad's garden. Today I live in Bankers Hill and grow miniature, fragrant, and Paphiopedilum species in my apartment and outdoor patio. I've always been fascinated by the diversity of orchid species and the different habitats they thrive in around the world. I joined the SDCOS in 2023 to meet other local growers and to learn how they grow orchids in our climate, and I am happy to join the board as a Director-at-Large in 2025.



A mini-Cattleya



## San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – August 2025

### Kids Corner at the Orchid Shows Nancy Walters

The goal of the Kids corner is to provide initial experiences to familiarize children with orchid history and facts, growing and caring for orchids, and of course appreciation of the huge variety they can see at the shows.

We provide activities to enjoy, as well as learn about orchids. Puzzles, coloring, pages and learning games are at the center for the kids to enjoy while their parents visit the show.

I am also looking for some volunteers that would like to help at the booth during the shows. Contact [Nancywalters928@gmail.com](mailto:Nancywalters928@gmail.com) if you are willing to help with this part of our shows

Here are some photos from the last Couple of shows.



**Fascination of Orchids Inc.**  
and the  
**Santa Ana Zoo**


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Fascination of Orchids Festival  
of Orchids and Exotic Plants  
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## San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – August 2025

Show Winners July 2025			
Sec	Award	Orchid	Winner
	Best of Show - James & Lise Wright Award (tie)	<i>Oncidium</i> Kilauea Karma	Debby Halliday
	Best of Show - James & Lise Wright Award (tie)	<i>Stanhopea ruckeri</i> 'Femme Fatal'	Peter Tobias
	Forrest Robinson Cultural Award	<i>Oncidium</i> Kilauea Karma	Debby Halliday
	Siv Garrod Most Unusual Species Award	<i>Aranthes ramosa</i>	Debby Halliday
	People's Choice Award	<i>Laelia purpurata</i> v <i>camea</i> 'HR4N' x <i>Laelia purpurata</i> v <i>camea</i>	George Pflaum
1	Cymbidium Standard Hybrid	no entries	----
2	Cymbidium Hybrid Miniature	<i>Cymbidium</i> Canterbury 'Emma'	Anita & Jerry Spencer
3	Cymbidium Hybrid Pendulous	<i>Cymbidium</i> Rainbow Bronze	Anita & Jerry Spencer
4	Cattleya Alliance Standard	<i>Rlc.</i> San Diego Hot Spots 'Frosty'	Stewart Walton
5	Cattleya Alliance Compact	<i>Bc.</i> Hippodamia	Alex Nadzan
6	Cattleya Alliance Miniature	<i>Rlc.</i> Stippled Sunset	Alex Nadzan
7	Paphiopedilum Hybrid	<i>Paph. philippinense</i> x <i>Paph. gigantifolium</i>	David Brown
8	Phragmipedium Hybrid	no entries	----
9	Oncidium Alliance Hybrid	<i>Tolumnia</i> Jiaho Rose 'Fantasy'	George Pflaum
10	Dendrobium Hybrids	<i>Den. lasianthera</i> x <i>Den.</i> Helix	Lisa Humphreys
11	Vandaceous Alliance	<i>Papilionanda</i> Motes Black Star	Rachel Burns
12	Hybrids of Other Genera	<i>Epicattleya</i> Leaf Hopper	Debby Halliday
13	Phalaenopsis Alliance	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Fuller's Lady	Jeanie Anderson
14	Specimen Plants	<i>Oncidium</i> Kilauea Karma	Debby Halliday
15	Large Species: Angraecum - Masdevallia	<i>Laelia purpurata</i> v. <i>sanguinea</i>	Min Teng
16	Large Species: Maxillaria - Zygopetalum	<i>Stanhopea ruckeri</i> 'Femme Fatal'	Peter Tobias
17	Small Species: Angraecum - Masdevallia	<i>Dendrobium hekouense</i>	Paulo Garcia
18	Small Species: Maxillaria - Zygopetalum	<i>Neofinetia falcata</i> 'Toyosakura'	Alex Nadzan
19	Small Displays	Orchid Themed Educational Display: <i>Dracula severa</i>	Betty Kelepecz



Section Winners







Section Winners, continued

Note: the 2 tied best in Show on the front page are also section winners

### Casa de las Orquideas

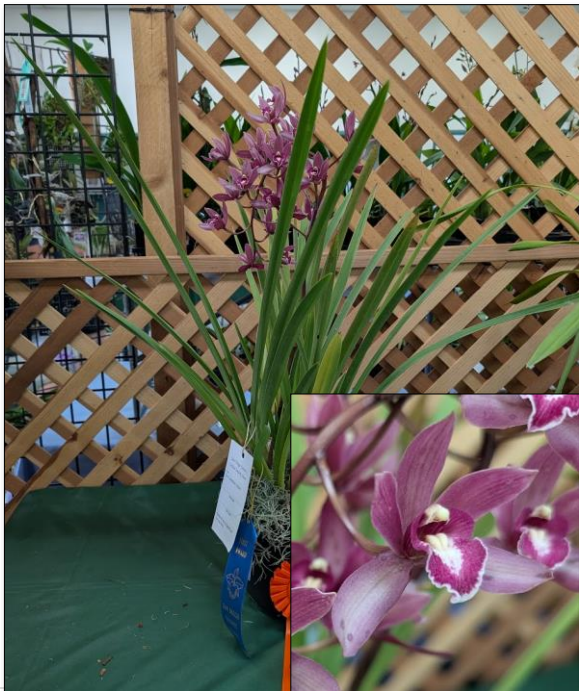
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Section Winners, continued





San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – August 2025

Show Photos

















# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – August 2025

## People Who Brought Plants to the July Show

Pam Peters

The following people brought orchids to display in the show. We thank you all!

Jeanie Anderson, Florian Blume, David Brown, Rachel Burns, Myra DeTate, Paolo Garcia, Nico Goossens, Debby Halliday, Lisa Humphreys, Raphael Jaramillo, Betty Kelepecz, Kay Klausing, Nate LaBreche, Jack Li, Ben Machado, Grady Mitchell, Alex Nadzan, Tom Osborn, Sima Perkins, Pam Peters, George Pflaum, Barry Reder, Dave Rimlinger, Suzy Sandore, Ann Marie Seitz, Andy Siekkinen, John Snyder, Anita & Jerry Spencer, Min Teng, Peter Tobias, Primrose Tricker-O'Dell, David Vandenbroek, Stewart Walton.

## SANTA BARBARA ORCHID ESTATE

Every day a different orchid—check out "Orchid-of-the-Day" at [www.sborchid.com](http://www.sborchid.com)

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<https://www.sborchid.com>

1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93111

(800) 553-3387 [sboe@sborchid.com](mailto:sboe@sborchid.com)

## AOS Youth Essay Contest

The American Orchid Society is excited to announce an essay contest celebrating the stories that make our community so special. We want to hear about your most memorable AOS moments—and what being a member of this orchid-loving family has meant to you.

Whether it was discovering a rare bloom, making lasting friendships, or growing in your orchid knowledge, your journey matters. And we want to share your story with the world!

**Who Can Participate?** AOS members only.  
Two age divisions are open:

**Youth Division:** Ages 14-18 years old

**Adult Division:** 19-25 years old

## Essay Guidelines

**Topic:** Best Moments from My AOS Journey and Why I Love Being an AOS Member

**Length:** Up to 500- 600 words

**Language:** Submit in English or Spanish

**Format:** Typed and submitted electronically, Times New Roman, double spaced, 12pt font.

**Prize:** Each division winner will receive a 1-year Silver Membership in the American Orchid Society, special recognition in an official AOS ORCHIDS publication.

## Important Dates

**Submission Deadline:** November 1st, 2025

**Winners Announced:** December 1st, 2025

**Send your essay to:** [debb@aos.org](mailto:debb@aos.org)

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*a community collectors' showcase*

**Do you collect trading cards?  
Succulents? Trains? Stamps?  
Something else?**

San Diego Central Library is interested in showcasing **collections of all kinds** at a September exhibition!

Space is limited to 50 collectors.

Application is required.

Details on the event calendar.



**APPLY TO EXHIBIT  
JULY 1 – AUGUST 30\***  
*Scan QR Code to Register*

*\* Exhibit application period closes once all slots are filled.*



## San Diego Public Library “Table of Contents: Collectors' Showcase” – invitation for displays

Pauline Bronstein, Librarian II, San Diego Public Library, and David Vandenbroek, SDCOS Newsletter Editor

The San Diego Public Library is holding a program for hobbyist collectors to showcase their collections. This is not a swap meet or market. This is purely for people with personal collections to come and show off. Plants are certainly included in collections, and we don't mind collectors bringing photos or poster displays of their collections if that is easier. Of course, if any SDCOS members would like to bring a collection that isn't plant-related, that would be welcomed as well. We're open to almost anything. (One of our registrants is bringing a fortune cookie fortune collection, for example.) We will also have visits from professional collection managers and archivists to discuss home collections and the importance of preservation.

The registration period is already underway, ending on August 30th or when our table slots fill (50). If any SDCOS members are interested in participating, please check out details on our website here:

<https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/event/table-contents-community-collectors-showcase-450630>



# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – August 2025

## Orchid Dates to Remember:

August 2

### **SDCOS Species Study Group Meeting**

Socializing 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM

First Saturday of the month

[info@sdorchids.com](mailto:info@sdorchids.com)

August 5

### **Main Speaker Dinner\*: 5:45 PM**

\*See Main Speaker article for details.

August 5

### **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](mailto:president@sdorchids.com)

August 5

### **AOS San Diego Judging Center**

6:30 PM, first Tuesday of the month

Registration starts at 6 PM

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

August 6

### **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

August 7

### **SDCOS Board Meeting**

First Thursday of the month, 7 PM

Zoom; September 26-28

## **Fascination of Orchids: Festival of Orchids and Exotic Plants**

10 AM - 4 PM

1801 E. Chestnut Ave, Santa Ana 92701

More details at [fascinationoforchids.com](http://fascinationoforchids.com)

October 25 - 26

## **SDCOS Fall Show**

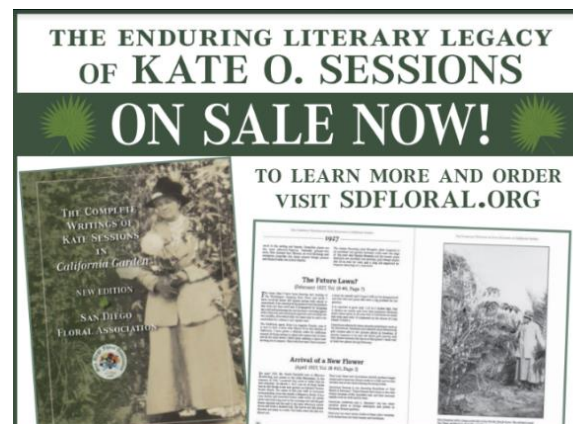
## **Board and General Meeting Minutes**

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

[president@sdorchids.com](mailto:president@sdorchids.com)

### **2025-2026 Officers**

President	David Vandebroek
First Vice President	Vacant
Second Vice President	Kay Klausning
Secretary	Nate La Breche
Treasurer	Myra DeTate
Director at Large, to 2026	Sima Perkins
Director at Large, to 2027	Paolo Garcia
Director-at-Large, to 2028	Barbara Mc Cubbin
Past President	Debby Halliday



## **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.



*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](http://www.orchidconservationalliance.org)



## SDCOS Newsletter Notes

SDCOS is looking for a new Newsletter Editor. If you are willing to consider or try out the position, please email me!

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](mailto: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 Vandenbroek  
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

1st Class  
Postage  
Required

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

