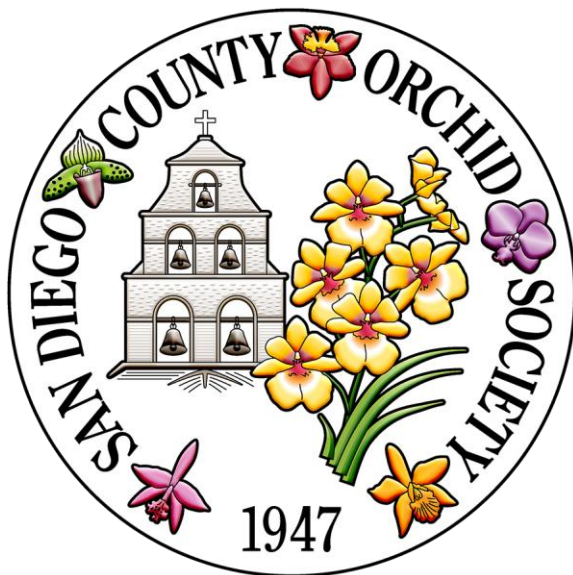




**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 316:
October 2025**

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Dendrobium Enobi Purple 'Splash'
David Vandenbroek

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – October 2025

Open Volunteer Positions

David Vandebroek, President

SDCOS currently needs to fill the following volunteer positions. Please contact 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.

President's Message

David Vandebroek, President

Hi everyone, I hope you and your plants are enjoying the transition to fall and the cooler weather.

It's October, and that means we've got our October show coming up in a few weeks, on the 25th and the 26th. [The volunteer signup sheet is online here](#). This show especially it is important for us to know who is coming since planning will be a bit more complicated, so if you're planning to come, please sign up! We also have several usual show volunteers who aren't able to make it this time, so if you're on the fence or haven't volunteered before, now would be a great time to step up!

As usual, we have all the open positions to the left. We especially need a 1st VP and a potential apprentice President. The jobs really aren't that much extra time every month. I'll discuss them more at the meeting on Tuesday.

The survey results are in! Thank you so much to everyone who participated! We had 86 responses, which is a very high turnout – I really appreciate the time you all took to provide feedback to the society. The board

will look over the results together at the meeting, and in the next NL or two I plan to attach the results so everyone can look at them too. It's interesting to see where majority opinions lie on some of these.

One interesting thing is that a lot of respondents didn't know how the society runs behind the scenes, and that lack of knowledge was preventing some more volunteering. Soon I will put together a presentation on the subject to give to the society.

Another note is that several people felt a bit excluded at our general meetings, saying they talked to 1 of 0 people. The average rating for "How connected to other members of the society do you feel?" was 3.1/5, which is lower than I'd like. To help with this, I'd like us all to try a bit harder to reach out to newer members – or older ones we don't recognize – and just say hi during the meetings.

More on the survey results after we've broken them down a bit more. Looking forward to seeing you all either at the General Meeting next week or at the Show!



Blc David Matsuura 'Paradise'
Min Teng

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

Tim Culbertson: Catasetums
Ashley Grable, First VP

Since I was young, one of my passions has always been plants. I began growing orchids in high school and expanded my collection as an offshoot from working at Longwood Gardens in Philadelphia just after college. From the very beginning it was all about Paphs, particularly awarded and select clones of historic importance, of which my collection numbers in the thousands. While I love finding old, rare stepping stones in paph breeding, I also do a little hybridizing of my own, and growing and flowering my hybrids is very exciting.

I was once the youngest accredited judge with the American Orchid Society, and have been a judge now for 20 years; I have served in various capacities with various orchid societies in California and on the East Coast. Recently, I've partnered with Fred Clarke to greatly expand the selection of paphs at Sunset Valley Orchids through the acquisition of significant parts of Sam Tsui's collection at Orchid Inn. I currently manage the Paphs at SVO, and do hybridizing in a wide range of genera including Cattleya, Catasetinae and Masdevallia.

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 species. I like to be involved in plants as much as possible: in addition to Longwood, I've worked at the Smithsonian Institution

tending to their orchids, and for years for the United States National Arboretum, collecting rare non-orchid plants and documenting cultivated species and hybrids for their herbarium. In short, I really like plants of all kinds.

I love Catasetums! They are fantastic plants, with an incredible diversity in colors and forms. At SVO, we understand that growing space is limited, so we are working hard to produce the best miniature Catasetums available. This presentation includes some of the important parents in miniature Catasetum breeding, interesting directions for intergenerics, wonderful photos of the pathway we've taken to achieve miniature results, some natural history of this incredible alliance, and lots of information on Catasetum culture! By the end of this presentation, you will have a new appreciation of their beautiful flowers and ease-of-growth. I will have lots of plants of this alliance for sale, and will be providing the plant table.

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Culture Class, October 7, 6:30 PM
Peter Tobias: Orchid Pollen and Pollination

Join us for a fascinating presentation by longtime SDCOS member Peter Tobias, who will share his deep knowledge on orchid pollen and pollination. This talk will explore the unique and often surprising ways orchids reproduce, from the intricate structures of their pollen to the complex strategies they use to attract pollinators. Whether you're a seasoned grower or just beginning to explore the orchid world, Peter's insights will deepen your appreciation for these remarkable plants and the evolutionary relationships that sustain them.



Blc Hsinying Greenworth
Min Teng

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – October 2025

Culture Class Recap, Sept 2025

Our Culture Class presenter for September was John Snyder who has been a member of SDCOS since 1980. His collection focuses on a variety of miniature species which grow on wood mounts, outdoors under shade cloth in South Park. John gave an outstanding demonstration on mounting orchids. He first displayed the tools he uses including drill, pliers, moss (3 different types), fishing line, and hanging wire. He discussed different types of wood he uses and gave recommendations on which are best and those that should not be used. John showed us two ways to secure hanging wire on mounts, then ended the presentation by mounting a miniature orchid on a piece of wood.

Before retiring, John was a middle school teacher of computer science and art. He enjoys traveling (Ecuador, Brazil, China, etc.) with the Orchid Conservation Alliance to “anywhere he can learn about orchids in the wild”.

Thank you, John, for a very informative and visual presentation.



Phal bellina
Debby Halliday

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**Judging at the San Diego Judging Center
(Casa del Prado, Balboa Park),
August 2025, 6:30 PM.
Text and photos by Jeanie Anderson and Maddiel
Alpizar**

There were 12 orchids presented for judging.
Three were awarded.

[1] *Dendrobium hekouense* Diwata
AM/AOS
Exhibited by Paolo Garcia
Awarded Award of Merit, 80 points

[2] *Stanhopea embreei* Jessica Pederson
AM/AOS
Exhibited by Jane Wesley Brooks
Awarded Award of Merit, 83

[3] *Cattleya Memoria* Robert Strait B.R.O.
AM/AOS
Exhibited by Barry Reder
Awarded Award of Merit, 82 points

Please remember: judging starts promptly at
6:30, so please have your plants in before
then.



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**Judging at the San Diego Judging Center
(Casa del Prado, Balboa Park),
September 2025, 6:30 PM.**

Text and photos by Jeanie Anderson

There were 15 orchids presented for judging.
Five (5) were awarded.

[1] *Cattleya* Mini Purple - Blue Chateau
HCC/AOS

Exhibited by Barry Reder

Awarded Highly Commendable Certificate,
79 points



[2] *Cattleya pygmaea* - B.R.O.
HCC/AOS

Exhibited by Barry Reder

Awarded Highly Commendable Certificate,
78 points



[3] *Warczewiczella timbiensis* - O'side's
Marble
AM/AOS

Exhibited by Tim Culbertson

Awarded Award of Merit, 81 points

[4] *Ctsm.* Extravaganza - Sunset Valley
Orchids Killer Lips
FCC/AOS

Exhibited by Fred Clarke

Awarded First Class Certificate, 90 points

[5] *Aciopea* Walnut Valley Sunshine - Sunset
Valley Orchids
FCC/AOS

Exhibited by Fred Clarke

Awarded First Class Certificate, 91 points



(Continued on next page)





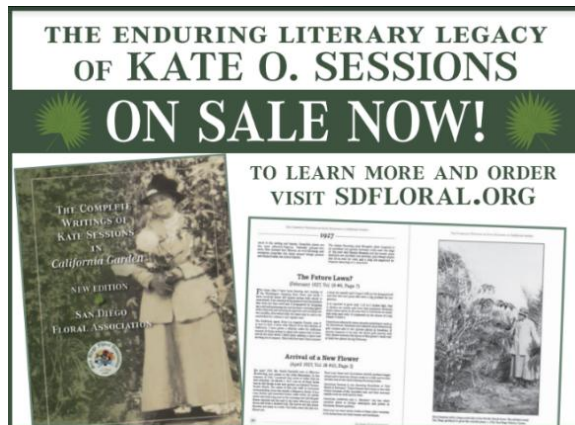
Species orchid



Doritis pulcherrima
Kay Klausing



Dendrobium tobaense





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. triconopetala* (R) *Dracula lemurella* (L), *Lepanthes escifera* (R)
 Dracula Reserve, Ecuador 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

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San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – October 2025

Orchid Dates to Remember:

October 2

SDCOS Board Meeting

First Thursday of the month, 7 PM

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

president@sdorchids.com

October 4

SDCOS Species Study Group Meeting

Socializing 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM

First Saturday of the month

info@sdorchids.com

October 7

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

October 7

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

October 8

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

October 25 - 26

SDCOS Fall Show

Sales start at 10 AM Saturday

The show is open from **noon to 5 PM**

Saturday and from **10 AM to 4 PM** Sunday

Board and General Meeting Minutes

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

president@sdorchids.com

2025-2026 Officers

President	David Vandebroek
First Vice President	<i>Vacant</i>
Second Vice President	<i>Vacant</i>
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

Photo Submissions

Please note the newsletter accepts photo submissions of blooming orchids. Please include the plant name and your name and email the pictures to:
SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com

We can't include every picture, but appreciate submissions!



Dendrobium stratiodes
Lisa Humphreys

1st Class
Postage
Required

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 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

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

