



**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 319:
January 2026**

Table of Contents

Open Volunteer Positions	Page 2
President's Message	Page 2
General Meeting	Page 3
Culture Class	Page 3
Board and Meeting Minutes	Page 5
Orchid Dates to Remember	Page 5



SDCOS 2025 Holiday Party

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – January 2026

Open Volunteer Positions

David Vandenbroek, 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.



Laelia anceps
David Vandenbroek

President's Message

David Vandenbroek, President

Happy Holidays everyone! I was so sorry to miss the holiday party - sadly Thanksgiving Covid kept me home. I also won't be able to make the January meeting, but I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone in February.

The holiday party looked like lots of fun! I was sent a few pictures, which I'll include here – I'm glad the society could come together and celebrate another year together.

It seems far away, but we're getting ready for our elections again in a few months. We like to have the slate presented to members in May before the June elections, so we're only a few months away! We will be forming a nominating committee to try to put together a board for next year. I'm termed out, so we'll be short a President, 1st VP, and 2nd VP - kinda all the leadership. If you're willing to step in, please consider doing so. I'll stay on as Past President to help out.

Lastly, we have our January Show coming up on the 24/25. As always, we can use volunteers and, most importantly, plants! In winter many of us have fewer plants in bloom, so if you have any, please consider bringing them to help make our show beautiful for our visitors.

Wishing you all the very best this holiday season,

David

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – January 2026

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

Brandon Tam: Stanhopea
First VP

It is our distinct pleasure to welcome back Brandon Tam as our first speaker of 2026. Brandon will present a fascinating and educational program on Stanhopeas, a remarkable and dramatic group of orchids. This is an exciting presentation that orchid enthusiasts of all levels will not want to miss.

Brandon is deeply passionate about his career as Associate Curator of Orchids at The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California. A longtime supporter of orchid societies, Brandon has graciously hosted several visits by San Diego orchid groups to The Huntington, giving members the opportunity to experience its renowned orchid collection firsthand.

Brandon's love of orchids began at a young age when his grandmother introduced him to the hobby by giving him a white Cymbidium at age seven. While still in high school, he volunteered at The Huntington, and upon graduating at just 16 years old, he was offered a full-time position as Orchid Collection Specialist by Dr. James Folsom, Director of the Botanical Gardens. Brandon has now managed the orchid collection for over 13 years. During this time, he also earned a Bachelor of Science in Plant Science from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, graduating in 2015.

Today, Brandon oversees one of the largest orchid collections in the United States, which has grown from approximately 2,000 plants to more than 10,000 orchids over the past 14 years. The collection spans over 26,000 square feet of growing space, including the Rose Hills Foundation Conservatory and three dedicated tropical plant greenhouses. In addition to orchids, Brandon also manages The Huntington's collection of more than 50 *Amorphophallus titanum*—better known as the “corpse flower”—and successfully bloomed one in 2014.

Brandon is also the driving force behind the Huntington International Orchid Show, which he inaugurated in 2015. Outside of work, he enjoys traveling and, of course, eating! He has also served as a Trustee of the American Orchid Society from 2018 to 2021.

Culture Class, January 5, 6:30 PM

Stewart Walton: Pests and Diseases of Orchids

Our next culture class will feature Stewart Walton presenting “Pests and Diseases of Orchids.” Stewart will cover how to identify common orchid pests and diseases, what damage to look for, and practical strategies for prevention and treatment. This informative session will help growers at all levels keep their plants healthy, vigorous, and blooming at their best.



The poster features a large pink orchid flower in the center. The text "Orchids" is written in a large, pink, cursive font at the top. Below it, the dates "January 24-25" are in a smaller black font. The location "Balboa Park's Casa del Prado, Room 101" is listed, with "Near the Natural History Museum" in smaller text. The admission is "Free Admission". The poster also includes the San Diego County Orchid Society logo, the website "sdorchids.com", and social media links for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



The screenshot shows the Andy's Orchids.com website. The header features the text "Andy's Orchids.com" in a stylized font, with "734 Ocean View Ave, Encinitas, CA 92024 Phone (760) 436-4239" and "OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY - Please Call". Below this is a section titled "Species Specialist" with the text "Rare and Exotic beautifully mounted and potted orchids is What We Do Best." and "Come Visit a One Of A Kind Nursery. Make your personalized appointment today (closed most weekends)". There are images of various orchids and a small potted plant. The footer includes the address "734 OCEAN VIEW AVE ENCINITAS CA 92024", the phone number "(760) 436-4239", and the website "WWW.ANDYSORCHIDS.COM".

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – January 2026



Barkeria whartoniana
Min Teng



Trichocentrum albococcineum
Min Teng

SANTA BARBARA ORCHID ESTATE

Every day a different orchid—check out "Orchid-of-the-Day" at www.sborchid.com

Specializing in outdoor-growing orchids for coastal California, incl. Laelia anceps and hybrids, Cymbidium species and hybrids, and orchid species.

Temporarily closed due to covid

[https://www.sborchid.com](http://www.sborchid.com)

1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93111
(800) 553-3387 sboe@sborschid.com



Dracula sp.
Dave Rimlinger



THE ENDURING LITERARY LEGACY OF KATE O. SESSIONS

ON SALE NOW!

The Complete Writings of Kate Sessions in California Gardens
NEW EDITION
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

TO LEARN MORE AND ORDER VISIT SDFLORAL.ORG

An image showing the front cover of the book and a page from inside. The book cover features a woman in a garden. The page from inside shows text and a small illustration of a person in a garden.

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – January 2026

Orchid Dates to Remember:

January 3

SDCOS Species Study Group Meeting

Socializing 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM

First Saturday of the month

info@sdorchids.com

January 5

Main Speaker Dinner*: 5:45 PM

January 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

January 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

January 7

Palomar Orchid Society Meeting

Society business at 4 PM; main program at 5

First Wednesday of the month

NEW 2026 Venue!

Pine Avenue Community Center

3209 Harding St

Carlsbad, CA 92008

January 15

SDCOS Board Meeting

7 PM

Note: usual meeting moved for the holiday

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

president@sdorchids.com

January 24 - 25

SDCOS January Show

Saturday: Sales start at 10 AM, Show runs from 12 – 5

Sunday: Show and sales from 10 – 4

Board and General Meeting Minutes

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

president@sdorchids.com



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 lemurula (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

CALAVO GARDENS

Orchid Supplies

Specializing in the needs of the orchid grower

MSU FERTILIZER

formulated for pure water

25 lb. and 2 lb. pack

CHARCOAL

sweeten your mix

grades 3 and 4

40 lb. and 6 lb. pack

4044 Calavo Drive, La Mesa 91941
619-948-5942 bmach16814@aol.com

2025-2026 Officers

President	David Vandenbroek
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

Casa de las Orquideas

Southern California's leading source for Cymbidium and Zygopetalum seedlings. Over 30,000 plants in stock from 3" pots to blooming size. Our complete list of seedlings and flasks is on the web at

www.orquideas.com

Open by appointment only!

170 S. Nardo Ave., Solana Beach, CA
92075

Phone and Fax: (858) 755-7572

Email: casa@orquideas.com

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

1st Class
Postage
Required

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

