

**San Diego County Orchid  
Society Newsletter  
Volume 322:  
April 2026**

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Cymbidium Hybrid  
Sharen Vandenbroek

## SDCOS Needs a New Newsletter Editor!

Hi everyone, since picking up the newsletter in June of 2018, I've been happy to assemble the newsletter and share everyone's beautiful orchids with the society. It is, however, time for me to step back from the role.

If you're interested or willing to take this on, please email me at  
[President@SDOrchids.com](mailto:President@SDOrchids.com)

I am willing to stay on through July, after which I will be stepping back. I'm happy to give any training and help transition the new newsletter editor into the role.

The NL Editor primarily collects the President's message, Main Speaker Bio, Culture Class Speaker Bio, Judging and Show pictures, and adds them to the NL template in Word and sends it out.

The new editor, like I did when I first took over, will have nearly infinite freedom in how they want to make the newsletter, so don't feel the need to perfectly reproduce what I've been doing.

Thanks for considering taking on this role!

Also, the nominating committee is looking for a 2026/27 President.  
Please let us know if you have any ideas.

# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – April 2026

## President's Message

David Vandebroek, President

Happy true-spring, everyone! As we pass into official spring, our "winter" weather has cooled down, and if your plants are anything like mine, they're absolutely confused - and blooming way ahead of schedule! I'll still have several to bring for the Spring Show this month, though, and I hope you all do too!

Speaking of: we have some Spring Show announcements from last month I'd like to call out. Our show will be **2 days** this year, so make sure not to show up Friday unless you're part of setup. We will be using the Patio for plant sales, though, which will expand our show from a normal park show.

As always, we need volunteers. If you haven't signed up and want to help, please do so here:

<https://volunteersignup.org/YJEQF>

It's very helpful to our volunteer coordinator to have people sign up in advance so he knows not to harass people into joining thinking we were going to be desperate, then ending up with too many.

Our society also needs a new President. If you or someone you know is interested/willing, please let me know. To follow our usual process, we need to have one ~the day after the Spring show so it can go in the May newsletter, 1 month before the election/banquet in June. We're coming up on the deadline, and the nominating committee is hitting a wall. Any help you can provide is appreciated.

Hope to see you at the meeting and the Show!

---

## Volunteer Updates!

The "we need help" article has been here a while; thanks to the people who have stepped in to take some of this work since last month!

Peter Tobias and John Snyder will be stepping in to officially serve as **both** 1st and 2nd VP

Nate volunteered to continue as Secretary

I really appreciate everyone stepping in to help fill these roles!

---

## 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.

### Newsletter Editor

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

### Membership Chair Apprentice

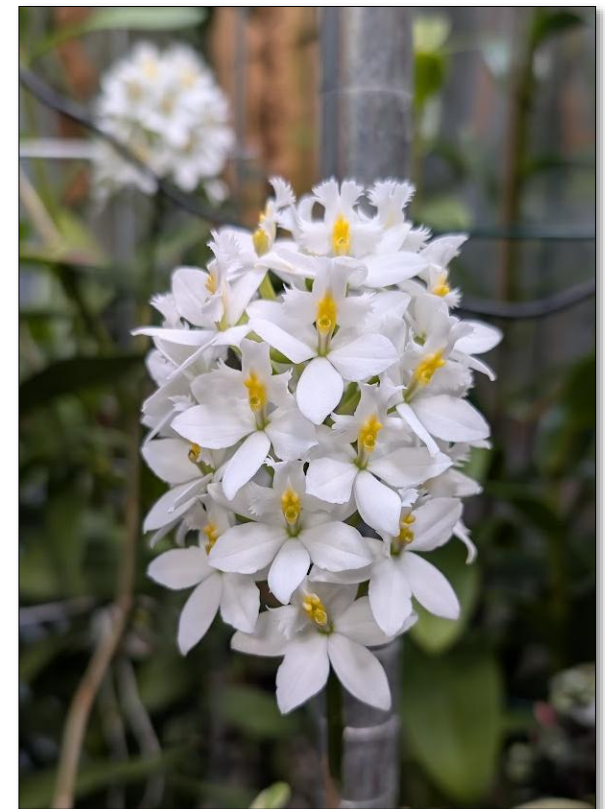
- Follow our membership chair, Bob Clark, as he performs membership tasks like keeping a roster of members, setting up the membership booth especially at Shows, and sending the monthly email to members, with the intent of taking over

as membership chair sometime in 2026ish

## AV Team Member

- Every month we need someone to set up and run Zoom for our meetings. Thanks to Nora and Todd for stepping in to help with this role! We still would like 1 or 2 more people to be on this team so that the responsibility can be shared even further. With so many on the team now, it's not that big a commitment.

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



*Epidendrum* hybrid  
David Vandebroek

## San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – April 2026

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

**David Vandebroek; Getting into Neos: What Makes Them Special (and How to Keep Them Alive)**

David Vandebroek, President

For the main presentation this month I will be giving a brief talk on *Vanda falcata* (aka *Neofinetia falcata*, furan), the Japanese Wind Orchid, which is appreciated in Japan primarily for its leaves, though it also has lovely flowers. During this talk I will explain what makes Neos special, how they are appreciated in Japan, what is getting popular in the hobby now, what the Koreans are doing, and how to keep them happy in San Diego. I will also describe 3 methods of potting them and give a repotting demonstration with my favorite method.

For the main presentation this month, I'll be giving a brief talk on *Vanda falcata* (aka *Neofinetia falcata*, or "furan"), the Japanese Wind Orchid. These are a really fun group of plants, which are appreciated in Japan more for their foliage than their flowers, though the blooms are also fantastic. I'll go over what makes Neos special, how they're traditionally appreciated in Japan, what trends are becoming popular in the hobby right now, a bit about what Korean growers are doing, and, of course, how to keep them happy here in San Diego. I'll also cover three different potting methods and do a quick repotting demo with my preferred approach.

This presentation will be a bit shorter than usual, going over just the highlights, because we also have a presentation from the San

Diego Botanic Garden about their show which will take some time.

For those that don't know me, I've been on the SDCOS Board since 2019, serving as Secretary, 1st VP, and, for the past 3 years, President. I also moderate the Species Group and, for a couple more months, write the newsletter, which I've been doing since 2018. Outside of SDCOS, I work with the AOS Education Committee, helping decide how best to expand the AOS education initiative and occasionally giving education-related talks.

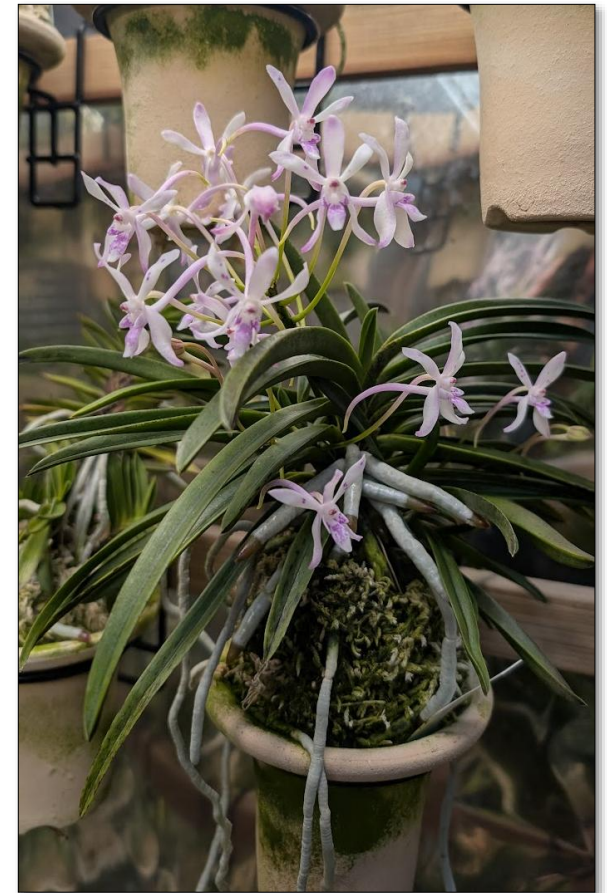
I grow in a condo in Grantville, just east of Mission Valley, in windowsills, terrariums, a patio, and a ~35 sqft unheated greenhouse I somehow squeezed into a courtyard. Space constraints have definitely pushed me towards miniatures and other small growing varieties, and I've grown to love the small mounted species.

I've also been traveling to Japan for the Neo show for the past 3 years and am planning to go again this May. Those shows are a great way to see beautifully grown plants (and pots), and, if you've got the permits, they're also a great source for quality plants at reasonable prices. I currently have around 80 Neos, many of which I've brought back from those trips.

I'm looking forward to sharing some photos from Japan and talking about what has become my favorite group of orchids. Hope to see you there!

David

PS if anyone has neos or their vandacious hybrid friends in bloom (mine are only in bud), I'd appreciate you bringing them to the plant forum table so we can all see them :)



Vandachostylis Kibana Pinky  
'Benishibuki Honoka Appleton'  
David Vandebroek

# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – April 2026

## Culture Class, April 7, 6:30 PM

**Pam Peters: Ribbon Judging at SDCOS Shows**

Pam Peters, Judging Chair

Ribbon judging is one of the major activities of our orchid society that brings recognition for our efforts in cultivating our orchids. We offer four opportunities during the year for you to bring in your orchids for ribbon judging at the Shows in the Park: January, April, July, and October.

Just in time for our spring show this month, Pam Peters has a presentation that will clear up some of the “mysteries” of the Show Schedule used for registering and displaying plants. She will discuss the registration process and address what the judges look for while judging. She hopes that after this presentation, you will participate in our April show by entering your beautiful orchids. Pam joined SDCOS in 1994. She has served on the Board and was Co-Chair of our Spring Show in 2008. In 2009 she took over as Ribbon Judging Chair and was awarded Life Member the same year. She enjoys participating in all society events.



*Phal* hybrid  
David Vandenbroek

## SDBG Presentation, April 7, 7:15ish, after Culture Class

**Juan Solomon: San Diego Botanic Garden’s ‘Orchids in the Wild’ Show, 2026**  
Juan Solomon, Director of Horticulture, SDBG

The San Diego Botanic Garden’s Show is shaping up to be another successful event. The former event name ‘World of Orchids’ has been replaced with the new theme ‘Orchids in the Wild’ and considerable progress has been made in staffing up for the event by the new Director of Horticulture at SDBG, Juan Solomon (jsolomon@sdbgarden.org).

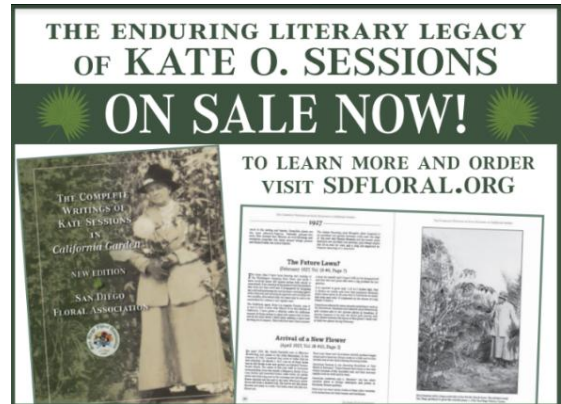
Juan and members of his team will attend the April POS and SDCOS meetings to give an update on the Orchid show and the benefits and logistics of participation. Ian Xavier and his company Grand Artique will be leading the production & design of the show in collaboration with the Garden’s team. Grand Artique has worked previously with the Garden on Lightscape installation.

Our initial submission of society orchids will be provided to the garden staff on April 28 and 29 with the show running from May 2nd to June 1st. Hannah Smith will be coordinating orchid drop offs and pickups with orchid society members and will be our primary contact (hsmith@sdbgarden.org). She will likely attend the two April society meetings. Cassidy White (cwhite@sdbgarden.org), who will be coordinating plant sales on the weekends, will attend the Balboa Park society meeting on April 7th to meet society members and vendors.

The SDBG’s landing page for the show is up with an updated schedule of dates and events: <https://sdbg.org/orchids/>

Luis Palacios, who has worked with us on orchid care for the past 3 years, will be in charge of caring for our orchids throughout the run of the show. Similar to last year, plant registration forms will be due on Fridays with drop offs and pickups on Tuesdays. There will be vendor sales on weekends with the Palomar Orchid Society having its first fundraising event on Memorial Day weekend of May 23-25th.

As in previous years, society members who loan their orchids for the show will receive a complimentary one-year membership to the garden. Alex Nadzan will serve as the liaison for POS and SDCOS and will work closely with the Orchids in the Wild staff to make this another successful year for SDBG, our two orchid societies and the general public. Please mark your calendars for these dates as more details will be forthcoming at our regular society meetings in April and in our Newsletters. Any questions should be directed to Alex at [anadzan@mac.com](mailto:anadzan@mac.com) or by text or phone at 858-205-6789.



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# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – April 2026

## Orchids of the Earth 2026

Debby Halliday

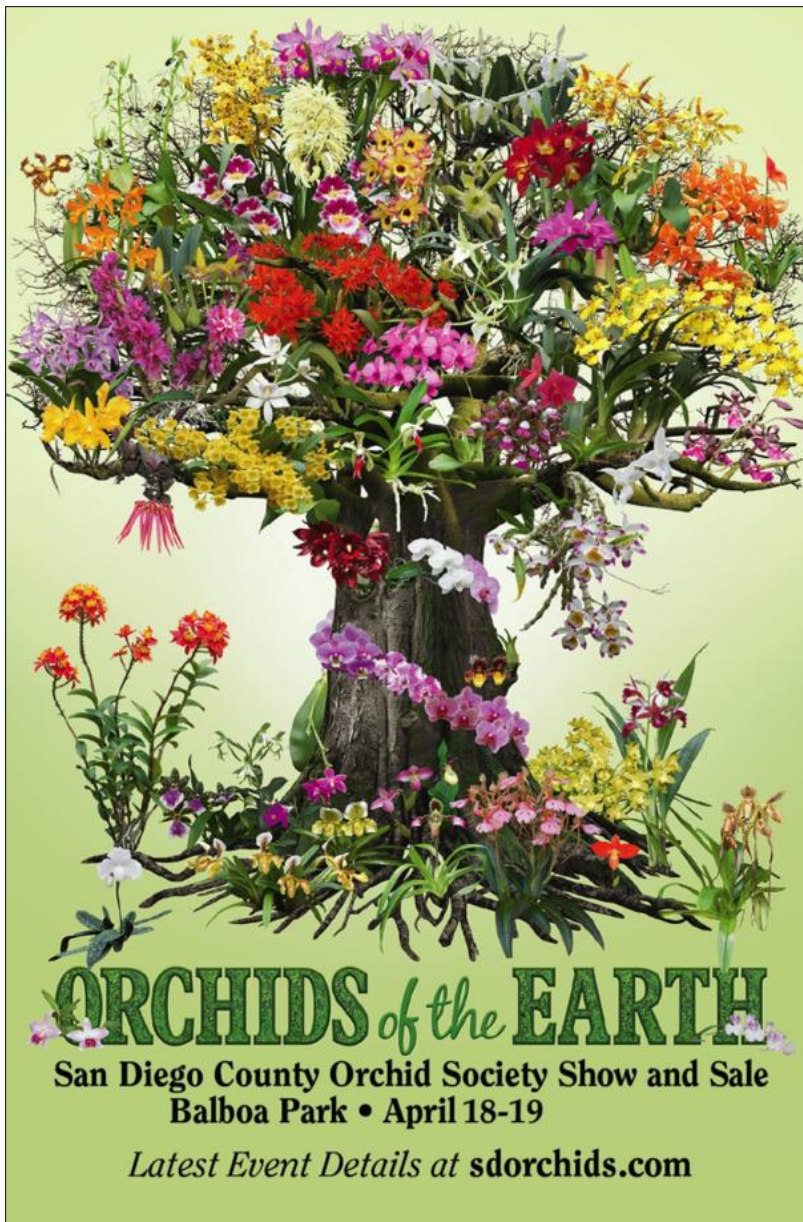
It's coming this month! Our annual Spring Show, Orchids of the Earth, will be on April 18-19 in Room 101 and Patio A. We have an excellent line-up of vendors, including a new grower from Vista, The Doe Orchids, with a large selection of cymbidiums among other offerings. All our vendors will be benefiting from extra space in both areas so the shopping should be great! See full vendor list included in this issue.

Hours are 10-6 for Saturday sales, 12-6 for the display area, 10-4 for everything on Sunday. Set up is on Friday 17th at 2-7, Saturday 8-9. With Patio A, we also gain extra space to show our plants, so please plan to bring some of yours! Our visitors love the amazing variety and quality that our club always provides! Please watch for the pre-registration form coming in your email the week before the show. It makes a huge difference to the showroom planners when we know in advance what is coming. It's also nice for you to have the plant labels ready and waiting when you arrive.

Please plan to volunteer. Adding Patio A increases our need for volunteers. We are making this only a two day show, but we do have to staff the show. This is our biggest show of the year and helping out makes you part of it. The best thing our club does is our shows so let's make it a wonderful experience for everyone.

Thank you in advance to everyone who shows up to put up and take down the show, provide security, help with cashiering, and

spread the joy of orchid growing to all the visitors who attend our show. I'll see you there!



*Catt sp.*

ORCHIDS OF THE EARTH		2026
VENDOR		Booth #
Alex Nadzan Orchids		1
Conservation		2
Victor Gonzales - Mia's Orchids		3
Jack Li		4
OrchidSource Laboratory & Nursery		5A
Suzi Sandore		5B
Nico Goosens		6
Keith Nguyen		7
Tom Osborn		8
Orchid Design		9
David Vandenbroek		10A
Kay Klausung		10B
Phyllis Prestia		11
Lisa Humphreys		12
Anita & Jerry Spencer		13
Everything Orchids		14
Barbara McCubbin		15
Divine Orchids		16
El Jardin Tropical		17
Jack Zhu - JnJ Orchid		18
The Doe Orchids		19

# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – April 2026

## Balboa Park Parking Update David Vandebroek, President

The parking situation in Balboa continues to evolve. Presently, it looks like the City is going to give ~50 parking permits to the San Diego Botanical Foundation to check out to their affiliate associations to loan to their members during shows for members who live outside the city of San Diego.

A reminder that San Diego members can park for free in level 2 or 3 lots for free if they preregister. Registration takes a couple days to process, so please register early if you haven't yet.

While this is good news for us, the plan is not yet finalized, and we need to actually get the passes and work out logistics - how to check them out - are they physical or digital? How to get them back - how to physically get them to people. And as far as I know the passes don't exist yet.

This is a small update, but may be great news for us and our volunteers at our shows. We'll share more info as it comes.

### 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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*Bc. Sunny Delight 'MAJ' x Epicattleya Kyoguchi 'M. Sanno'*  
David Vandebroek

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619-948-5942 [bmach16814@aol.com](mailto:bmach16814@aol.com)

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734 Ocean View Ave. Encinitas, CA 92024 Phone (760) 436-4239  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY - Please Call

### Species Specialist

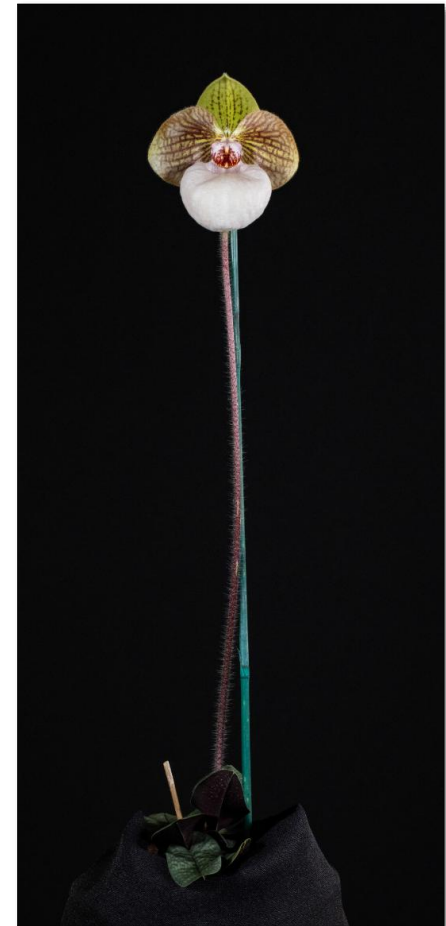
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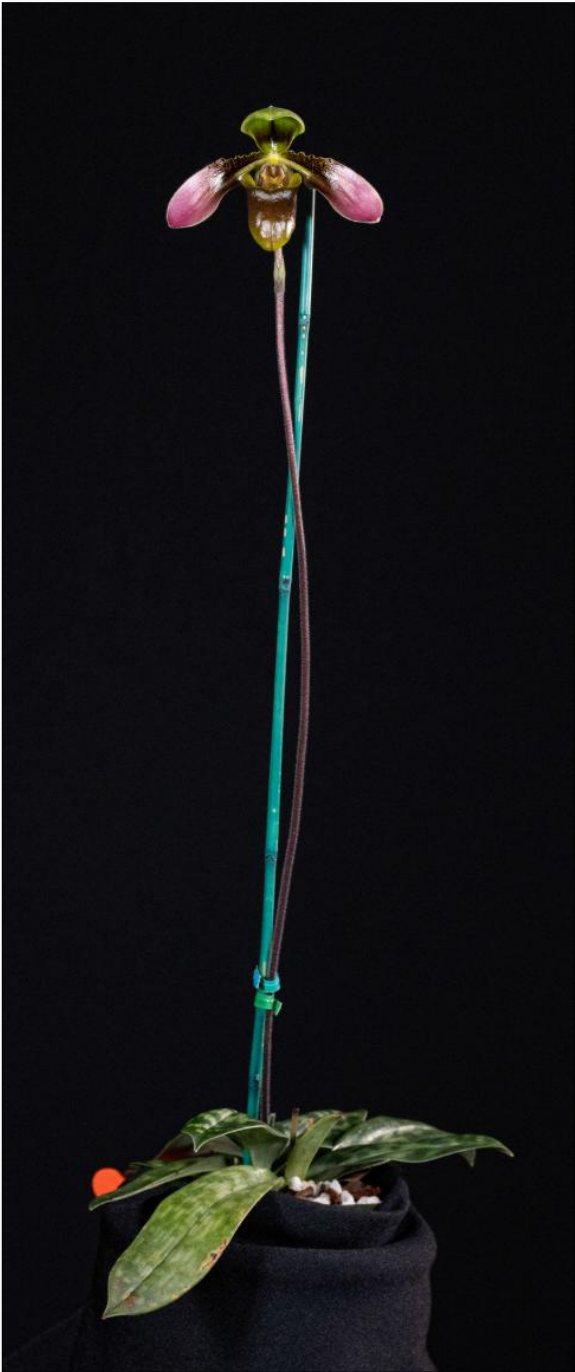
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# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – April 2026

MARCH MEETING - SD ORCHID SOCIETY		3-Mar	10 entries	Article and photos by Jeanie Anderson		
Here are the award numbers and info:		San Diego AOS	6 awards			
20265703	Paphiopedilum Larry Cox	'SVO Gold'	3/3/2026	FCC	93	Fred Clarke
20265704	Paphiopedilum Delightful Moon	'O'Sides Glowing'	3/3/2026	FCC	91	Tim Culbertson
20265705	Paphiopedilum Fanaticum	'O'Sides Hidden Gem'	3/3/2026	FCC	91	Tim Culbertson
20265706	Paphiopedilum Fumi's Delight	'Fumi's Favorite'	3/3/2026	AM	85	Fred Clarke
20265707	Paphiopedilum appletonianum	'O'Side's Ace'	3/3/2026	AM	86	Tim Culbertson
20265708	Paphiopedilum malipoense	'SVO Raspberries'	3/3/2026	FCC	92	Fred Clarke







**Orange County  
Orchid Society**  
**ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION**

EVERYONE WELCOME!  
FREE ADMISSION!  
**Wednesday**  
**April 15, 2026**  
**6:00pm Preview &  
Refreshments**  
**7:00pm Auction Begins**

Cymbidiums Cattleyas Phalaenopsis  
Dendrobiums Oncidiums Species  
*And more!*

Yorba Linda Community Center  
4501 Casa Loma Ave, Room C, Yorba Linda, CA  
If you have any questions, please contact  
Sharon Rockwell at  
srockwell@writeeme.com  
Visit [www.ocos.net](http://www.ocos.net) for  
sale catalog on April 12, 2026



**Vista Garden Club's  
90<sup>th</sup> FLOWER SHOW**  
Jim Porter Recreation Center, Brengle Terrace Park



**Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**2:00 pm – 5 pm**  
**Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**10 am – 4 pm**

Plant Sale and  
Garden Art Boutique  
Saturday, noon – 5 pm  
Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm  
**IT'S FREE!**

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LONG BEACH AMATEUR ORCHID SOCIETY

**ANNUAL ORCHID  
AUCTION**

SATURDAY MAY, 9, 2926

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# San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – April 2026

## Orchid Dates to Remember:

April 1

### **SDCOS Board Meeting**

First Thursday of the month, 7 PM

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

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

April 3

### **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)

April 5

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

\*See Main Speaker article for details.

April 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)

April 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

April 7

### **Palomar Orchid Society Meeting**

Society business at 4 PM; main program at 5

First Wednesday of the month

Pine Avenue Community Center

3209 Harding St

Carlsbad, CA 92008

April 15

### **Orange County Orchid Society Auction**

6 PM Preview and Refreshments

7 PM Auction Begins

4501 Casa Loma Ave, Room C, Yorba Linda

[www.ocos.net](http://www.ocos.net)

April 18 - 19

### **SDCOS Spring Show**

Sales begin at 10 AM Saturday

Display area runs from 12-4 PM on Saturday.

Sunday hours: 10 AM - 4 PM

\* Members' set up and plant registration on Friday, April 17

May 2 - 3

### **Vista Garden Club's 90<sup>th</sup> Flower Show**

Jim Porter Recreation Center, Brengle

Terrace Park

Details in Flyer

May 9

### **Long Beach Amateur Orchid Society Annual Auction**

1 PM - 4 PM

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church

6201 E Willow St, Long Beach, CA 90815

Details in Flyer

## **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	<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



**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 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](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 Vandebroek  
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

1st Class  
Postage  
Required

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

