

**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 324:
June 2026**

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Vanda coerulea
People's Choice Award
Debbly Halliday

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – May 2026

President's Message

David Vandebroek, President

Hi everyone, I hope you all had a great May meeting - I was sorry to miss seeing everyone, but also had a great time at the *Neofinetia falcata* show in Japan.

This month we have our annual summer banquet to celebrate the spring show and our year of Shows in the Park. During this annual meeting we will also have our election. If you are on the fence about coming, please be sure to, so we can meet quorum!

As usual, we will open the appetizers table at 6 PM and open the main table for the full meal at 6:30 (to give people time to get their other dishes ready/set out).

Please be sure to bring a dish to share!

At 7 PM we will pause the festivities to hold our election.

Since in the past 2 elections we have had almost nobody attend on Zoom and there is a lot more adminstrivia involved with holding elections on Zoom, starting this year, we will be returning to our pre-pandemic norm of only allowing in-person voting. Zoom will not be accessible at all for this dinner. Again, at our holiday party literally nobody called in, so I'm hoping this will inconvenience nobody, and it will save us a surprising amount of work.

Additionally, during this meeting we usually celebrate our Show winners from the past year. Due to a minor issue with pictures, we won't be having that presentation. Instead, while we are eating, we will have a cycling

slideshow of awarded plants going in the background for us to view.

I also wanted to call out a few recent additions to the volunteer team:

- Alice Sanders has taken the position of co-webmaster and is officially active in the role now. She works with websites professionally and will be taking a look at ours with an eye towards improving accessibility. You may notice some changes in the near future. Some changes will likely be piecemeal, so please bear with us as we work to improve things.
- Alex Cain has taken over as Newsletter editor - Alex did the May NL and this June one as well. He's doing great, and I'm grateful.
- Todd Ruth and Barbara McCubbin have been part of the new AV team, supporting Jack DeTate in setting up the projector / zoom / everything, which is a huge help.

As most of these members are relatively new to the society, I'd like everyone to be sure to introduce yourselves to them - maybe twice - names are hard! Also, related, I'd like to remind everyone to please wear your name badges to meetings - this really helps our newer members to learn everyone's names... and our older members to elar new people's names! It's great all around.

While calling out these specific new volunteers, I want to be sure to thank the rest of the support team as well - volunteers who don't get called out as often - who get the food, set up tables and tablecloths, man the membership desk, make the coffee, man head the opportunity table get our gift plants

and plants for our meetings, clean up after the meeting, take care of volunteers, write volunteer reward coupons, load and unload and rent trucks, plan the shows - our club is possible because we have so many people working in small (and not small) ways to make sure the society functions. I'm thanking these specific new members, but I want all the people who have been working for a long time to know: you are also appreciated!

I hope to see you all at the summer election and banquet!

From the Editor

Alex Cain

Hello everyone, included in this newsletter are some of the remaining articles and photos from our April show that didn't make it into last month's newsletter. There were so many amazing plants at our spring show, and I hope you enjoy seeing some of them again in this month's newsletter.

As always, if you have any ideas, SDCOS welcomes newsletter contributions of from members at SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com by end of the **second Friday of the month**.

All the best,

Alex Cain
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – May 2026

SDCOS Annual Summer Banquet and Election, June 2

- 6 PM Appetizers,
- 6:30 PM Main Course,
- 7 PM Business Meeting: Election

The SDCOS Summer Banquet and annual election will be held on the evening of Tuesday, June 2. This year, we will provide a gift plant to each member who registers by Tuesday, May 26, and who attends in person!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdn3De5tiiccEXJ5aInpKoFcgIOjRUIMpUmk2duuGosseFgNQ/viewform?usp=dialog>

SDCOS will be providing plants from Andy's Orchids, El Jardin Tropical, and Sunset Valley Orchids. Members who do not register by May 26 will not be guaranteed a gift plant.

The banquet will be held in our usual meeting room, but it will begin earlier than typical meetings, with appetizers at 6:00 and the main course at 6:30. The society will provide main courses, as well as a selection of drinks, plates, cups, and utensils. Members may bring their own alcoholic beverages.

Sign up today at

<https://volunteersignup.org/ETJWC>

to help with event setup, to contribute a dish for the potluck dinner, and to select your preferred gift plant vendor. Each member may register and bring one guest. Guests are not eligible for gift plants.

Starting at 7:15 we will hold our annual election and plant giveaway after which people can chat as long as they like. In the past we have done a presentation of plants

awarded at the Spring Show. With the Spring Show now effectively a Park Show, we have decided instead to have a slideshow of plants that were awarded at Park Shows throughout the last year. The slideshow will be playing in the background throughout dinner; there will not be a separate presentation. This will allow members to see many beautiful plants as we all enjoy each other's company throughout the night.

Finally, members with plants in bloom are encouraged to bring in a plant to showcase as a centerpiece at their banquet table. We all love being surrounded by beautiful orchids!

Please email info@sдорchids.com with any questions. I look forward to celebrating our year in orchids with you!



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

2026-2027 Proposed Officers

President	Barbara McCubbin
Co-1st Vice President	Peter Tobias
& Co-2nd Vice President	& John Synder
Secretary	Nate La Breche
Treasurer	Myra DeTate
Director at Large, to 2029	Sima Perkins

2025-2026 Officers

President	David Vandebroek
First Vice President	Vacant
Second Vice President	Vacant
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

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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.

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.

These roles can be taken on a trial basis. Please consider stepping into one.

**Judging at the San Diego Judging Center
(Casa del Prado, Balboa Park),
April 18, 2026 ~ Spring Show
Jeanie Anderson**

There were 9 orchids presented for judging. Six (6) were awarded.

[1] ***Phragmipedium humboldtii* 'Fortuna'**

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Jane Wesley Brooks

Awarded Award of Merit, 87 points

[2] ***Tolumnia Jairak Firm* 'Butterfly'**

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: George Pflaum

Awarded Award of Merit, 85 Points

[3] ***Tolumnia Jairak Flyer* 'Sporty'**

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Jane Wesley Brooks

Awarded Award of Merit, 87 Points

[4] ***Paphiopedilum violascens***

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Paolo Garcia

Awarded Award of Merit, 88 Points

[5] ***Rhyncattleanthe Key Mersorcamdan***

Award: FCC/AOS

Exhibited by: George Pflaum

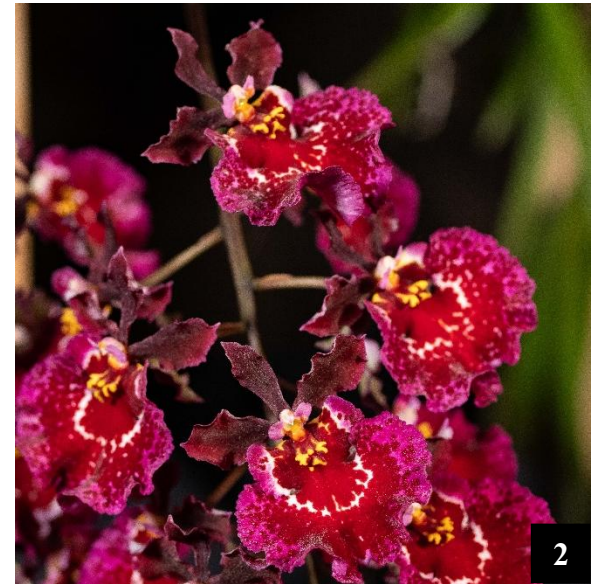
Awarded First Class Certificate, 90 Points

[6] **NR *Vanda* 'Bravo Orchids'**

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: William Tse

Awarded Award of Merit, 83 Points





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San Diego County Orchid Society
Newsletter – May 2026
Judging at the San Diego Judging Center
(Casa del Prado, Balboa Park),
May 5, 2026 ~ Member Meeting
Jeanie Anderson

There were approx. 30 orchids presented for judging. Sixteen (16) orchids were awarded. One received 2 awards.

[7] *Vanda* Dragon's Fire 'Earnest Lee'

Award: AM/AOS
Exhibited by: Jack Li
Awarded Award of Merit, 84 points

[8] *Angraecum leonis* 'Dee Dee's Angel'

Award: AM/AOS
Exhibited by: Dee Dee Flores
Awarded Award of Merit, 81 points

[9] *Paphiopedilum micranthum* 'O'Side's Kirby'

Award: FCC/AOS
Exhibited by: Tim Culbertson
Awarded First Class Certificate, 91 points

[10] *Paphiopedilum hennisianum* v. *christensenii* 'Dee Dee's Cricket'

Award: HCC/AOS
Exhibited by: Dee Dee Flores
Awarded Highly Commended Certificate, 77 points

[11] *Laelia speciosa* 'Little Bird'

Award: AM/AOS
Exhibited by: Pedro Sanchez
Awarded Award of Merit, 83 points

[12] *Paphiopedilum hennisianum* fm. *Christensenii* 'O'Side's Jade'

Award: AM/AOS
Exhibited by: Tim Culbertson
Awarded Award of Merit, 83 points

[13] *Paphiopedilum mastersianum* 'O'Side's Triumph'

Award: AM/AOS
Exhibited by: Tim Culbertson
Awarded Award of Merit, 84 points



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[14] *Paphiopedilum acmodontum*
'O'Side's Tourmaline'

Award: HCC/AOS

Exhibited by: Tim Culbertson

Awarded Highly Commended Certificate, 79 points

[15] *Paphiopedilum liemianum* 'O'Side's Paradise'

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Tim Culbertson

Awarded Award of Merit, 82 points

[16] *Paphiopedilum robinianum*
'Sunset Valley Orchids'

Award: CCE/AOS

Exhibited by: Fred Clarke

Awarded Certificate of Cultural Excellence, 90 Points

[17] *Paphiopedilum robinianum*
'Sunset Valley Orchids'

Award: FCC/AOS

Exhibited by: Fred Clarke

Awarded First Class Certificate, 90 points

[18] *Paphiopedilum lowii f. aureum* 'Pure Honey'

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Kevin Chen

Awarded Award of Merit, 85 points

[19] *Paphiopedilum sukhakulii*
'O'Side's Stunning'

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Tim Culbertson

Awarded Award of Merit, 88 points

[20] *Paphiopedilum Beluga* 'O'Side's Snowball'

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Tim Culbertson
Awarded Award of Merit, 85 points

[21] *Paphiopedilum vietnamense* 'Dee Dee's Blush'

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Dee Dee Flores

Awarded Award of Merit, 81 points

[22] *Encyclia pauciflora* 'Paradox'

Award: CHM/AOS

Exhibited by: Paul and Ann Tuskes

Awarded Certificate of Horticultural Merit, 84 points

[23] *Masdevallia Mandy* 'Leopard'

Award: AM/AOS

Exhibited by: Tim Culbertson

Awarded Award of Merit, 83 points



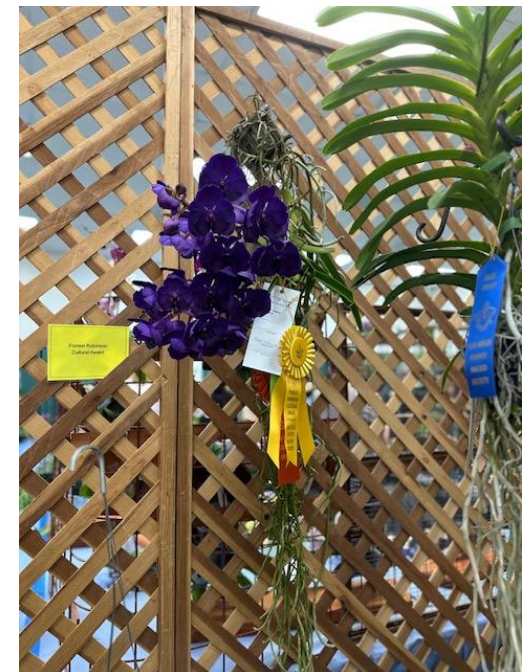


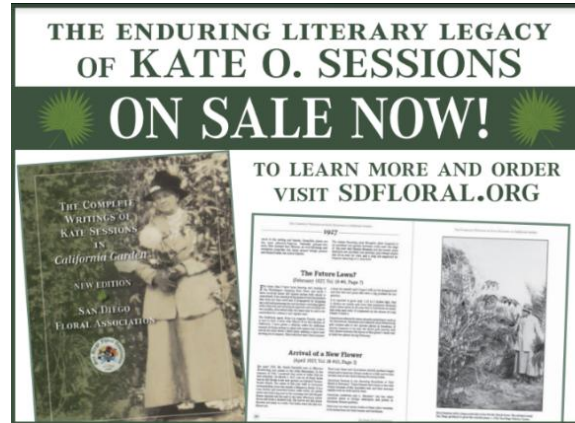
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April Show Awards, Continued

Here are a few more pictures of plants that won awards at the April show that did not make it into the May newsletter. Apologies for the omissions, and congratulations to the winners!

Show Winners APRIL 2026			
Sec	Award	Orchid	Winner
	Forrest Robinson Cultural Award	<i>Vanda</i> Hybrid 'Deep Purple'	Tom Osborn
	Siv Garrod Most Unusual Species Award	<i>Bulbophyllum treschii</i>	Rachel Burns
9	Oncidium Alliance Hybrid	<i>Tolumnia</i> Jairak Flyer 'Spotty'	Jane Wesley Brooks
12	Hybrids of Other Genera	<i>Masdevallia</i> Prince Charming (<i>angulata</i> x <i>veitchiana</i>)	Dave Rimlinger
18	Small Species: Maxillaria - Zygopetalum	<i>Phalaenopsis honghenensis</i>	Jack Li





Member Submissions

Virus Regrets Todd Ruth

I'm new to the hobby – one year, 18 named orchids, and 2 no-names. But I wish I'd started testing sooner. Today, I tested for the first time. I mashed samples from three plants and delighted in finding only the “control line” after 15 minutes. Four more: again, no virus. After a couple in bad shape had a clean test, I felt home free. I tried mashing samples from 5 plants that seemed healthy and was shocked to see a red line for *Cymbidium* mosaic virus (CymMV). Five tests later, I learned that my two most vigorous plants were infected with CymMV, and by the end of the day, I'd learned that the rest of my collection tested clean – for now.

I'm glad that I've always sterilized tools between uses, but I'm not perfect. At some point I've touched the plants and then touched others without washing my hands.

That can spread virus. Water that touched those plants came in contact with other plants. I've thrown away one of the infected plants and have the other – which was my favorite - in quarantine until I can harvest its pods (which may lead to clean seedlings, but that will take some luck). The plants that tested negative but were nearby will be in quarantine at least a month, waiting for retesting.

I wish I'd gotten test kits earlier in joining the hobby. I wish I'd tested those plants the morning after receiving them at the December banquet, or even better, quarantined them for a month and then tested them. I wish I'd done that with all the plants I've acquired. I'll be more careful in the future, and I offer this piece in hopes other newcomers may learn from my regrets.

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Japan Fūkiran Society show, Ueno Park, Tokyo, 2026

David Vandebroek, SDCOS President and fūkiran enthusiast

This month I went to the *Neofinetia (Vanda) falcata* show in Tokyo and wanted to share some pictures. In Japan, officially registered varieties are called Fūkiran, while unrecognized ones (who may still have names) are called furan (wind orchid). Here are some pictures from the event.

Reminder: the Newsletter would LOVE more pictures from people's orchid trips - it was one of the most voted for topics of "things people would like to see presentations of" in the survey. Additionally, the NL needs good pictures of people's orchids - we all like seeing everyone's plants - make our days happy by letting us see yours!

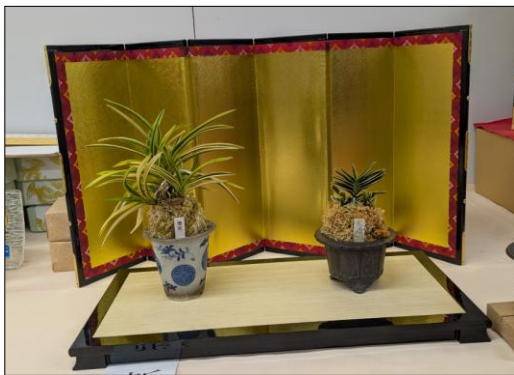
Send contributions to SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com by end of day on the second Friday of the month to be considered for inclusion in that month's newsletter. If you're late, then it can just go in the next one!



Overall awarded plants, wall 1/2



Winners of the greatest awards



Newly registered varieties



Not winners, obviously - just look at them



Best of show with prize, followed by others I liked



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Orchid Dates to Remember:

June 2
SDCOS Annual Summer Banquet and Election

Appetizers at 6 PM, main course at 6:30 PM, business meeting at 7 PM.

June 3
Palomar Orchid Society Meeting
Society business at 4 PM; main program at 5 PM
First Wednesday of the month

Pine Avenue Community Center
3209 Harding St
Carlsbad, CA 92008

June 4
SDCOS Board Meeting
First Thursday of the month, 7 PM
Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email
president@sdorchids.com

June 6
SDCOS Species Study Group Meeting
Socializing 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM
First Saturday of the month
info@sdorchids.com

June 12th- 14th
Andy's Orchids 2026 Summer Open House
734 Ocean View Ave.
Encinitas CA 92024

July 25 - 26
SDCOS Summer Show

Board and General Meeting Minutes

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

president@sdorchids.com



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