



**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 260:
January 2021**

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Paphiopedilum gratixianum
Debby Halliday

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – January 2021

President's Message

Text by Debby Halliday, President

Happy New Year! How nice that we are about to embark on a brand new year! Let us hope it is better than 2020. With a bit of luck, 2021 should see us returning to in-person meetings in Balboa Park and even putting on some shows again. We have been pleasantly surprised at how well virtual meetings work and would like to be able to continue to include out of town members and even speakers from distant places when we meet in Balboa Park. We are exploring hybrid options to make those meetings also available by Zoom. More information about that will be coming.

We had a good Holiday Party. Over 40 members came, and it was nice to see Arthur Pinkers' presentation of the AOS awards. It was also a treat to meet Jim Cootes from Australia and learn more about the orchids of the Philippines. Our plant giveaway went very smoothly, thanks to Stewart Walton who collected the plants from the vendors and took them to various points around the county for member pickup. Thank you to Kay Klausung and Sima Perkins for providing two of those locations. We hope you enjoy your new plant!

We are concerned that some of you who do not have computers or good connections are missing out on our meetings all together. It is possible to join a virtual meeting from a normal telephone. You wouldn't see the pictures, but you could listen to the speaker and stay up to date on other business. If you would like to try this option, please call me at 858-756-3578 and I'll give you the meeting

phone number and instructions. If you have an iPad or cell phone, we can help you attend with video. We miss you!

We will be having a plant forum in January! Please send me your pictures. I look forward to seeing what you've been growing. Just attach your images to email and send them to president@sdorchids.com along with the information below. Only 4 plants per person but you can send multiple pictures of the same plant.

Plant Name

Species or Hybrid

If Hybrid - Parentage if you know it.

If Species - What country is it from?

How you grow it – Greenhouse, Shadehouse, Balcony, Etc.

Any comments

Please have your pictures to me by Sunday, Jan 3 latest.

A scheduling note: the January board meeting will be held on January 14th instead of the 7th. If you are interested in attending, email me and I'll send you the Zoom link.

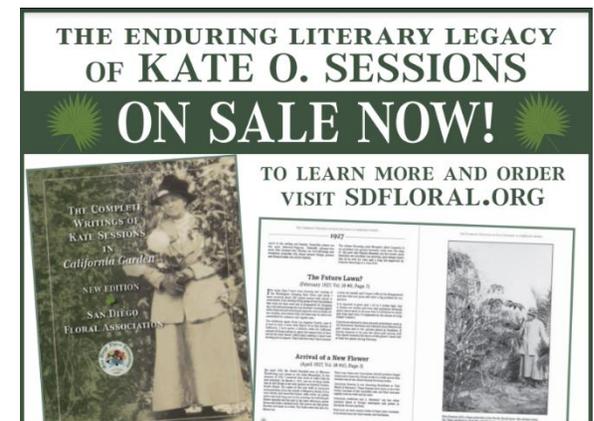
Stay safe. Wear your mask. I'll see you in 2021!



Blc. Haw Yuan Gold
Debby Halliday



Cycnoches warscewiczii
Bruce Hubbard



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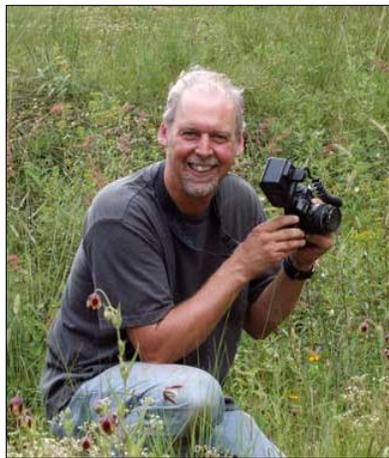
General Meeting, January 5, 7:30 pm
Meeting to be held via Zoom; details will be emailed to the membership before the meeting.

Ron Parsons: Orchid Rarities and Oddities

Text by Stewart Walton, 1st VP

At our Zoom meeting on Tuesday, January 5th, we will be pleased to hear from Ron Parsons on the topic “Orchid Rarities and Oddities.” This talk features some of the strangest and rarest plants in the orchid family and includes both terrestrial and epiphytic species. The majority of terrestrial orchids are not in cultivation, and many of those shown were photographed in nature. Most of the epiphytic species presented are in cultivation, and, though some may be relatively common, others are not; hopefully all will inspire awe.

Ron Parsons has been growing orchids for more than 45 years and has been interested in species orchids for most of that time. Ron loves to photograph orchids and most other flowers whenever he can, whether it be on



trips to see them in nature or in collections. He loves to travel to see orchids in the wild and does so as often as possible.

Ron has more than 80,000 digital images, most of which are of orchids, and still retains a slide library that exceeds 100,000 botanical images. He has 4,000 published photos that have appeared in magazines, periodicals, journals, and books.

Ron has co-authored four botanical books, all with Mary E. Gerritsen. The first two, published by Timber Press, are *Masdevallias*, *Gems of the Orchid World* and *Calochortus*, *Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives*. Their third book, a large, luxurious, 18.5 pound, two-volume set, *A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species* was published by Redfern Natural History Productions in January of 2014, and has 1,200 pages, 1,800 photos (1,600 are his), and features 500+ species in detail with many others included for comparison. In 2019, *The American Orchid Society Guide to Orchids and their Culture* was released and is now already on its third printing.

Currently, they are working on a second edition of *A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species*, which will have over 1,100 new photos, including photos of nearly 500 species not in the first edition. There will now be four volumes and more than 2,600 photos, with up-to-date text revisions and taxonomy. Ron willingly shares his knowledge about plant habitats and suggestions for culture with all who are interested. Follow him on flickr.com, or visit his website, flowershots.net.



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Culture Class: “Orchid Roots” for Beginners, a Free Internet Orchid Database, by Alex Nadzan
Wednesday, January 6th, at 7:30 PM

Orchid Roots (www.bluenanta.com) is a free internet orchid database that can provide useful information to the orchid beginner and experienced orchid enthusiast alike. One can search the genus and name of the species or hybrid or just the species name.

For orchid species, it can provide origin and distribution, synonym names, and immediate offspring information. For hybrids, it will give the most recent genus name, parentage information, and a list of immediate offspring made from the hybrid. In addition, several pictures are available for many of the species and hybrids. Users are encouraged to submit photos through a Facebook page.

Alex will walk you through the basics of the database and provide some examples to demonstrate Orchid Roots capabilities and then compare it with the more expensive Orchid Wiz database.



Pelatantheria insectifera
Roberta Fox



Pot. Dogashima Paradise
‘Strawberry’ AM/AOS
Debby Halliday



Trichopilia rostrata
Bruce Hubbard

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From the Membership Desk

Text by Bob Clark, Membership Chair

Please welcome our newest member –
Patricia Stewart.

Wishing you a Happy and Safe New Year,
Bob Clark
Membership Chair



Sobralia portillae
Betty Kelepecz



Laelia anceps 'SanBar Annie' x self
Alex Nadzan

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Orchid Dates to Remember:

January 1st
New Year's Day
And end to 2020

January 2nd
SDCOS Species Group Meeting
Socialization 8:45 AM, meeting 9:00 AM
First Saturday of the month
secretary@sdorchids.com

January 5th
SDCOS and POS Joint General Meeting
7:30 PM
First Tuesday of the month
Zoom; invites sent to membership prior to meeting.
For a nonmember to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

January 6th
SDCOS and POS Joint Culture Class
7:30 PM
The Wednesday after the General Meeting
Zoom; invites sent to membership prior to meeting.
For a nonmember to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

January 14th
SDCOS Board Meeting
USUALLY First Thursday of the month, 7 PM
Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

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Yearly rate \$174.
Renewal Rate \$159.

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP (for one adult)

Yearly rate \$112.
Renewal rate \$102.

~ A year of **FREE UNLIMITED ADMISSION** to both the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park.

~ 2 discount guest coupons good toward admission.

~ A One Year Subscription to ZONOOZ.

~ Free Zoo Skyfari.

Prices & benefits subject to change.

For more information, call 619.231.0251

Or call toll free 877.3 MEMBER

Visit our website:

www.sandiegozoo.org

Your membership supports our plant and animal collections and includes a monthly visit to our Orchid Odyssey on the third Friday of each month from 10am until 2pm.

From the Editor:

Hello everyone,

I hope you all are keeping well as Southern California and the country in general has been struggling with this pandemic. This Holiday season, I wanted to express thanks to some of the people who have been working behind the scenes to make sure this society weathers the pandemic. Our Board of Directors, Debby, Stewart, Myra, Kay, Jack, Sima, and Carey, meets monthly to talk about issues affecting the society, such as who we should have speak, what we should do for the Holiday Party, what reopening should look like, and everything else.

I'd also like to explicitly thank Bob C. and Bruce B. for their continued contributions to the newsletter, and Ron K. and Betty K. for working hard to arrange the recent Conservation Plant Sale. We have so many people who are involved and contributing to the society to make sure it continues to be relevant and alive as we all weather this pandemic together. So, thanks to you all, and to the many other people who are also contributing to our society. We are all about plants, but it's the people who make this group what it is.

As always, if anyone has articles they wish to submit to the monthly newsletter, please continue to send contributions to me at SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com. Deadline for submissions is end of day on the **second Friday of the month**.

Happy Holidays,

David Vandebroek
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

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