

President - John Reyes
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Espie Quinn (2026)
Desica Ingagiola (2027)
Dean Shoffeitt (2028)
Eva Von Huff (2028)



Regular Meeting Schedule
Doors open at 6:30 pm
Meeting begins 7:00 pm
Culture session
Speaker starts at 7:30 pm
Opportunity drawing
Doors close at 9:30 pm
Committees: Auction - John McCoy. Ribbon Judging - Bill MacCorkell. Hospitality – Open. Newsletter – Open. Website - John McCoy. Library - Open

South Coast Orchid Society

76th Year of Orchid Excellence

Newsletter

Founded in 1950

September 2026

Program:

Tim Culbertson: Masdevallias You Can Actually Grow



One of our favorite guest speakers, Tim began growing orchids 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 his collection numbers nearly 3000. He currently manages the paphs at Sunset Valley Orchids, and does hybridizing in a wide range of genera. Tim always has a goal in mind in creating new hybrids. That's true for his new work with the "masdies" as well!

Masdevallias are famous for their bizarre "tailed" sepals, that might have been designed by Dr. Seuss, and for their brilliant, jewel-like colors. For many years, we could depend on seeing them in a particular outdoor section of the Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, but that growing area, which apparently had the perfect climate, is now undergoing renovation.

Tim says it's such a pity that these absolute gems trace most of their heritage to cold-growing, cloud forest species! Some modern hybridizers are pushing back on those temperature requirements, to make new Masdevallia hybrids which are compact, floriferous, colorful, and that grow and bloom in normal intermediate conditions in mixed collections. Come see what's new!



Newsletter Editor: Russ Nichols has retired from a very long run as newsletter editor. John McCoy is filling in for now, but we still need to find a permanent newsletter editor.

Currently, the newsletter is composed in Microsoft Word. The editor will receive input from board members about the schedule, program, ribbon judging results and photos, as well as covering any developments of interest to our members. The newsletter is then converted to PDF format and distributed via email, a process now managed by Don Goss. Contact any board member to volunteer for this important position!

August meeting report: Peter Lin presented an excellent slide show and discussion of what Brassavola species and hybrids can do! Just the encouragement we need, and the practical advice, to get the most out of our plants with Brassavola ancestry. Of particular note, how well the species seem to adapt to growing in wooden baskets with very little medium – the roots naturally attach to the wood slats and then to each other, very much like the plants would do in nature. With this growing method, the roots will need to be sprayed regularly to provide enough moisture for good health, but the roots will still be able to dry out quickly.

Ribbon Judging: Bill Maccorkell is taking a couple months off. Mong Noibooksoon has stepped up to keep ribbon judging going until Bill can return. At the August meeting, ribbon judging went smoothly, thanks to Mong and his dedicated team. The plants on display were extremely diverse! In fact, our meetings have become a free orchid show. Mong provided the photos this month. The list of winners is only a small sample of what turned up!

Request from the ribbon judging team: ***Please try to have your plants in place and labeled by 6:45 PM!***

Shows and Sales: •Friday-Sunday, September 11-13, [Andy's Orchids](#) fall open house, 734 Ocean View Ave., Encinitas, CA. •[South Bay Orchid Society](#) fall show and sale, September 19-20, Palos Verdes Art Center, 5504 Crestridge Road, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.

•[Huntington International Orchid Show and Sale](#), October 9-11, The Huntington, San Marino, CA. •For more events, watch the [Orchid Events Calendar](#) at [fascinationfororchids.com](#)!

Volunteering for the Huntington show: Hot off the presses! Brandon Tam, orchid curator at The Huntington, has just sent out the information this morning, September 8! First, the general information is [here](#), describing the volunteer options, especially the fantastic opportunity for orchid club members to participate in ribbon judging for the show, including a free lunch! Ribbon judging is done in teams, each led by an AOS judge, on the morning of

the Thursday before the show opens, in this case October 8. A fantastic opportunity to learn about orchids you have never seen before and orchids you thought you knew, and to establish new friendships in the SoCal orchid world.

Volunteer opportunities continue throughout the show, Friday-Sunday, October 9-11, with free admission to The Huntington, including the show and the incredible orchid sales area. The [sign-up page is here](#). Right now, most of the volunteer slots are open, so sign up now to get one or more shifts that meet your schedule. Be sure to leave some time for yourself, between shifts! The show includes a “plant hotel” where you can safely stash the plants you bought in the sales area, while you explore the show and the gardens.

Annual Election: Our [By-Laws](#) set out requirements for our annual election cycle. It’s time to get to work! We need a Nominating Committee, as well as a slate of candidates for officers and for a set of two Directors-at-Large whose terms will run for three years, 2027-2029. Please let us know if you can help keep this club running!

No Fascination Show this year: Roberta Fox reports that there will be no Fascination of Orchids show this year. The normal venue at the Santa Ana Zoo is not feasible due to major construction. However, the Fascination of Orchids club has posted a hint that future shows will be INDOORS, which presumably means good lighting, air conditioning, and space for exhibits! Also, perhaps, less work involved in setting up the show. Over the years, the Fascination of Orchids shows have been an important meeting place for orchid lovers, professional growers, and a wide range of orchid plants. So much information exchanged, so many friendships blossoming! Since the show moved to the Santa Ana Zoo, admission has been *almost* free (discounted tickets) and everything has been easily accessible. We’re hoping for a new chapter for this show!

A simple off-the-shelf misting system: Last year, our remodeling crew had spotted a simple misting kit at Home Depot, intended for cooling a patio, as seen frequently in Palm Springs: a simple string of 20 misting nozzles designed to attach to a garden hose. It’s on Amazon, *Bonviee 59FT Mistlers for Outside Patio*. We tried it out in our outdoor growing area, about 12’ x 20’ under a clear tarp, the sides mostly bird netting. We attached it to a short garden hose, in turn attached to a simple battery-powered hose timer with three “cycles”, so the misting comes on for about 6 minutes



three times during the afternoon. We attached the nozzles to the overhead supports from which many mounted plants and baskets are hanging, so that everything gets nicely doused in a fine mist. Some tinkering was involved, and we wanted more nozzles, so we got second kit and used the pieces to extend the original set-up. You could construct your own kit from widely available pieces: ¼" tubing (used in drip irrigation systems), a pressure reducer fitting where the system attaches the garden hose, and misting nozzles, but the combination in this kit has the advantage of convenience and availability. In fact, the product information on Amazon includes ideas about other ways of configuring the parts for custom applications. With proper adjustment, the mist produces significant cooling, and provides enough moisture for most mounted plants. However, there is some dripping that could end up leaving some potted plants too wet. As with any irrigation system, the placement of the plants and the nozzles may have to be adjusted from time to time. For us, definitely an improvement!

OrchidWiz – the next act: The well-known “orchid encyclopedia” program for your home computer, OrchidWiz, has reached the next step in its evolution. Under new ownership, but with the founders still very much involved, it has migrated to the internet as orchidwiz.org, with a \$99 annual subscription fee, considerably less expensive than the previous versions, and with impressive new capabilities intended to support growers with large collections.

Over the years, OrchidWiz has collected award information from almost everywhere, except, unfortunately, the Orchid Digest awards program that was so important for SCOS until it was folded into AOS judging in 1968. The materials we have collected for SCOS history (shown on our web site) include some items that should eventually make their way into OrchidWiz, including extensive slide collections from the families of Kay Francis (“the orchid lady of Pasadena”, creator of Lc. Prism Palette and others) and Carl and Imogene Keyes (famous for their paphs, odontoglossums, and many others), as well as our complete list of awards from the old Orchid Digest Corporation judging program 1949-1967!



August Meeting Ribbon Judging

Mong Noiboonsook led the Ribbon Judging team at the June meeting. Bill Maccorkell is taking a break for a couple months.

August 24, 2026 SCOS Ribbon Judging Results

GENUS	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE	JUDGES
POINTS	5 pts	3 pts	1 pt	
CATTLEYA	Lc C.G. Roebling Espie Quinn	Brassavola Jimminey Cricket Sharon Alvarado	Eplc. Don Herman Eva Von Huff	Dawn Dwyer
CYMBIDIUM	No entry			
DENDROBIUM	Dendrobium amabile Espie Quinn	Dendrobium nobile Hoa Nguyễn		Nympha Marcos
EPIDENDRUM	Epidendrum NoID Mong Noiboonsook			Dean Shoffeitt
MAXILLARIEAE	Anguloa clowesii Dean Shoffeitt			Mong Noiboonsook
ONCIDIUM	Brassia NoID Sharon Alvarado	Banfieldara Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze' Espie Quinn	Vuylstekeara Melissa Brianne 'Dark' Hoa Nguyễn	Dean Shoffeitt
PAPHIOPEDILUM	Paph kolopakingii x philippinensis Dean Shoffeitt	Paph dianthus Dean Shoffeitt	Phrag Eric Young Jerry Jensen	Espie Quinn
PHALAENOPSIS	No entry			
PLEUROTHALLID	No entry			
VANDA	Vanda Warut Leopard x Fuchs Delight Orange Wes Hansen	Vanda christensoniana Wes Hansen	Vanda Teddy Bear Wes Hansen	Espie Quinn
MISCELLANEOUS	Stanhopea nigroviolacea Dean Shoffeitt	Cynorkis calanthoides Dean Shoffeitt	Baptistonia (Gomesa) echinata Jerry Jensen	Mong Noiboonsook
CULTURAL AWARD WINNER -7 points	Cynorkis calanthoides Dean Shoffeitt			Peter Lin



Ribbon Judging Photos from our August Meeting

Many thanks to Mong Noiboonsook for the excellent photos – but this is only a small part of the incredible display that our members brought to the meeting!

The Cattleya division had nine entries, the Vandas had eight (thanks to a great contribution by Wes Hansen)! In between, all sorts of remarkable plants!

Here's the Cattleya division:



Now the individual plants!



C. (Lc.) C. G. Roebling,
grown by Espie Quinn



Brassavola (Rhyncovola) Jimminey Cricket, grown by Sharon Alvarado



Dendrobium amabile,
grown by Espie Quinn



Epilaeliocattleya (Epicattanthe) Don Herman, grown by Eva Von Huff



Dendrobium nobile, grown by Hoa Nguyen



Anguloa clowesii, grown by Dean Shoffeitt



Brassia sp., grown by Sharon Alvarado



Banfieldara Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze',
grown by Espie Quinn



Vuylstekeara Melissa Brianne 'Dark',
grown by Hoa Nguyễn



Paph. kolopakingii x philippinensis, grown by
Dean Shoffeitt



Paph. dianthus, grown by Dean Shoffeitt



Phrag. Eric Young, grown by Jerry Jensen



Vanda Warut Leopard x Fuchs Delight
Orange, grown by Wes Hansen



Vanda christonsoniana,
grown by Wes Hansen



Vanda Teddy Bear, grown by Wes Hansen



Stanhopea nigroviolacea,
grown by Dean Shoffeitt



Cynorkis calanthoides,
grown by Dean Shoffeitt



Baptiston (Gomesa) echinata, grown by
Jerry Jensen

And finally, how about those Vandas? SCOS rocks!



Meeting Location

The **South Coast Orchid Society** holds monthly meetings, usually on the fourth Monday of the calendar month, at the Whaley Park Community Center, 5620 E. Atherton St. in Long Beach, CA. Whaley Park is on Atherton, just off Bellflower Blvd., near the Long Beach State University campus.

Pest of the Month: Anthracnose



Anthracnose on a mature leaf of a *Cymbidium* with *devonianum* ancestry

Although many gardeners (and not only orchid growers) know something about Anthracnose, it's not actually a specific fungus infection. It's more of a symptom, usually dark speckles on a leaf caused by various fungus species, different ones on different kinds of plants. *Which fungus is causing the spots on which plant? We will probably never know, but it probably doesn't matter much!* Thin leaved orchids are most likely to be affected. Sometimes, it's not really a serious problem, because the leaf was already mature and would be expected to fall off in a few months anyway, to be replaced by new growth.

Cymbidiums that have *Cym. devonianum* in their ancestry. The older the leaf, the more likely it is to show the little dark spots and then start dying back from the tip.

One place almost everyone will encounter anthracnose symptoms is on the leaf tips of

Here's where it gets interesting: Whether the fungal infection looks like "anthracnose" or something else, the main remedies for the home gardener are likely to be the same. The three main choices are: (1) slow-release granules, such as **BioAdvanced "3-in-1"**, a combination insecticide (acephate, same as "orthene"), fungicide, and fertilizer; (2) a copper-based broad-spectrum fungicide preparation such as **Phyton 27** that is rated safe for California home gardeners; or (3) a biological remedy such as a preparation of the bacterium *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* strain D747 (available as **Monterey Complete Disease Control**, 8 oz. concentrate, for about \$24). Many other options are available for commercial growers, but it is important to read all the warnings, including what protections are necessary for anyone applying the product in any given situation, and whether it is safe to combine the product with other fertilizers, pesticides, oils, soaps, or anything else you may be tempted to try on your plants.

The slow-release "**3-in-1**" granules, often recommended for roses and shrubs, are easily found at Home Depot. Exactly how much to use isn't entirely clear (this product was not intended for use on potted plants, and certainly not indoors), but for outdoor Cymbidiums, 1 teaspoon scattered on the potting medium for a 1 gallon Cymbidium plant every couple months seems to work well. What does that mean? The new growth has come out a nice, healthy green (thanks to the fertilizer component), with no spots, even though the leaf tips on old growths may be spotted and dying back, and generally no insect pests (one plant still had some scale?). So far, blooming has been excellent. Whether there might be long term issues remains to be seen. One key measure of success will be whether the new growths remain clean after they mature, and the old, spotted leaves have fallen off, as well as the blooming performance of the treated plants. We will soon find out!

Copper-based fungicides have been around for a very long time, and they do work, but you have to be careful! Too much copper, especially in conditions that are stressful for the plants, such as hot weather or drought, can be toxic to the leaves – curing the infection by killing the patient! Some orchids are notoriously sensitive to copper, including many Dendrobiums, as well as "thin-leaved orchids" in general. However, used at lower doses and not very often, these products have been used successfully by many orchid growers. The product that most gardeners will end up with today is called **Phyton 27** (*not Python*, even though Google will probably change your spelling!). Definitely to be used at the lowest suggested concentration, and probably alternating with other options.

Biological control using *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* is the newest option, highly recommended by expert gardeners (including Doug Overstreet). This particular bacterial strain is thought to form a sort of protective coating that discourages fungal infections from getting into the plant. At the very least, it appears to be completely safe and is widely

regarded as effective for many commercial crops. There are a number of other *Bacillus* species and strains that are useful in the garden, such as *Bacillus thuringiensis*, which can infect insect larvae and thus effectively control mosquito infestations in standing water, caterpillar infestations, etc. Before you buy any *Bacillus* product, read the fine print to be sure you understand what the product is designed to do!

Next month: *Slugs and snails, molluscs we could do without...*



Vendor Sponsors

The South Coast Orchid Society thanks these commercial vendors for their generosity and support of our continuing auction and other events over the years.

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Cal-Orchid Santa Barbara, CA (805) 967-1312 www.calorchid.com	Casa de Las Orquideas Solana Beach, CA (858) 755-7572 www.orquideas.com
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