

# Orchid Society of California

Next Meeting: Monday, January 17, 2005  
Lakeside Garden Center, Lake Merritt  
666 Bellevue Ave. Oakland, California

## **PROGRAM TOPIC: South African Indigenous Orchids** **Gavin McDonald, Ph.D.**

Gavin McDonald will talk about most of the South African genera of orchids, including information about their culture and habitats.

Gavin started growing orchids in 1981, and maintains a modest collection of orchids, mostly species, including a handful of indigenous orchids. He has plans to expand his collection to a commercial scale within the next 3-5 years with a special interest in the Vanilla and, to a lesser degree, Phalaenopsis.

Gavin has been a qualified South African Orchid Council Judge since 1989, has served as Chairman of Judges for the KwaZulu-Natal judging region, served two terms as National Vice-Chairman and one term as National Chairman of Judges for the South African Orchid Council, and is involved in the training of judges. He has also served as President of the UMhlatuzana Orchid Species Club and on the committee of the Natal Orchid Society, and has served as a corresponding member of the AOS conservation committee (for Africa) for many years (so many, he has lost count).

Gavin McDonald was born in Capetown in 1963. He studied for a BSC (Honors) in 1985, looking at taxonomy and biogeography of *Disa* and *Eulophia* (the largest genera of geophytes in South Africa). He moved to Durban, the largest city in the Zulu Kingdom of KwaZulu-Natal, in about 1986, the same year he completed his Masters degree in connection with the taxonomy and biogeography of orchids in and around Durban. He is currently the acting head of the Department of Biology at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and is working on a study of molecular systematics of the genus *Stenoglottis*. Dr. McDonald has also held a position at the prestigious Department of Nature Conservation at Mangosuthu Technikon.

Try not to miss this interesting presentation!

## **CULTURE SESSION: - Re-Potting Orchids** **Christina Lisac**

All of us have our own little secrets for successfully repotting our treasured orchid specimens. Come see how Christina reinvigorates her collection. There is sure to be something to learn for everyone!

## **Election Results**

The slate of nominations were approved by the membership present at the December meeting.

The new board members are:

Carol Klonowski *President*  
Walter Shinn *Vice President*  
Lois Miller *Secretary*  
Dan Chiappone *Treasurer*  
Earle Stebben *Director*  
DeAnn Mosbey *Director*

## **January 2005**

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### **Inside this issue:**

Calendar	2
January in your Orchid Garden	3
President's Message	3
Contact Us	4
Bay Area AOS Awards	4
Membership Renewal	5

### **Meeting Details**

- Plant sales will open at 6:30 PM.
  - Pre-program culture session starts at 7:00 PM
  - Meeting starts at 7:30 PM.
  - Raffle table will be provided by the society
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## Dinner with the Speaker

The Speaker's Dinner will be at the Ta Ke Sushi Bar, 357 Grand Avenue, just south of the park. The restaurant serves a variety of cooked Japanese dishes as well as sushi and sashimi.

**Dinner is at 5:30 PM**

## Raffle Table Volunteers

January – Kay Greisen & Bill Stidwell

February – John Artim & Juan Alejo

## Dessert Assignments

Members with last names from "Kestrel" to "Osprey" are responsible for bringing refreshments to the January meeting. If it is your turn to bring refreshments, you are also responsible for participating in the set-up and clean-up. If you are unable to bring refreshments, please make a monetary donation. Those that provide refreshments are entitled to participate in a drawing for the first choice of raffle plants.

## Calendar

### February 5-6

Santa Cruz Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale, Soquel High School, 401 Old San Jose Rd., Soquel, CA. Contact: Cheryl Wagner, 91 Mountain View Rd., Santa Cruz, CA 95065; (831) 457-8393.

### Feb 5-March 6

*Passion: The Irresistible Beauty of Orchids, Kew Gardens.* Flower lovers get romantic at Kew Garden's annual orchid festival. There's a special Valentine's dinner with live music in the Orangery on the 14th. Princess of Wales Conservatory, Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey, UK. £10 (garden admission, includes exhibition entry), £60 (Valentines dinner); 020-8332 5655

**[rbgkew.org.uk](http://rbgkew.org.uk)**

### February 19-22

The San Francisco Orchid Society's Pacific Orchid Exposition at the Festival Pavilion in Fort Mason Center will be the 3rd weekend in February. The Benefit Preview Gala Night will be Thurs., Feb. 17th and the Show will be Fri. Sat. and Sun., Feb. 18th -- 20th, 2005. Contact: Dennis Westler, 1680 Gouldin Rd., Oakland, CA 94611; (510) 339-8626

**[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)**

### March 4-6

Sonoma County Orchid Society Show, Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA. Contact: Paul Matsushita, PO Box 555, Calistoga, CA 94515; (707) 942-4036;

**[ptmatsushita@dslextreme.com](mailto:ptmatsushita@dslextreme.com)**

### March 4-6

The 60th Annual International Orchid Show, Santa Barbara, 'A CELEBRATION OF ORCHIDS' OSC received 2 tickets for one days admission which will be on raffle for those who are interested in going to show

### March 11-13

Malahini Orchid Society Show, Vallco Fashion Park, 10123 N. Wolfe Rd., Cupertino, CA. Contact: Barry Zimmerman, 685 Stirling Dr., San Jose, CA 95124; (650) 262-5782.

### March 26-27

Napa Valley Orchid Society Show and Sale, Napa Senior Activity Center, 1500 Jefferson St., Napa, CA. Contact: Fredia Lloyd, (707) 224-6233;

**[fredialloyd@aol.com](mailto:fredialloyd@aol.com)**

Need more? See the AOS Calendar online at:

**<http://orchidweb.org/events.html>**

## Interesting Orchid Web Sites

### **[www.orchid.org.uk](http://www.orchid.org.uk)**

Founded on St George's Day April 23rd 1897 originally as The Manchester Orchid Society it was to become The North of England Orchid Society around 1973.

### **[www.orchidguide.com](http://www.orchidguide.com)**

The Orchid Guide is an online publication from Akerne Orchids, Belgium's leading botanical orchid nursery.

### **[www.orchidlady.com](http://www.orchidlady.com)**

Welcome to my humble greenhouse on the Internet! My name is Linda or, as my friends have tagged me, "The Orchid Lady."

## January in Your Orchid Garden

January is somewhat like December but in reverse, with each succeeding day bringing longer hours of sunlight until days are long enough that afternoons return at the end of the month. January, like December, is cold and wet, perhaps even more so. Although wet can be good, and cold can be bad, it's the combination of managing these two weather elements that determines the culture of our orchids this month.

We need to accentuate the positive by careful watering in January. By keeping our plants as dry as possible and spacing out the watering, we avoid the too-wet conditions that bring other problems into our plants (root rot, fungal infections, etc). In January water early and water sparingly. Some orchids that might especially appreciate a 'drying out' period are Nobile (cane-type) Dendrobiums.

As far as temperature is concerned, even in this, a possible El Nino year, with above-average temperatures for most of the fall and winter thus far, at some point protection from low and freezing temperatures is necessary. If it is not practical to bring all the Phalaenopsis, vandas and hard cane dendrobiums into the house or garage, think of using heaters or something else to help protect them. Shade cloth or even patio screen can prevent the overnight frost on outdoor plants, especially the tender flower spikes of cymbidiums. Cymbidium spikes should also be staked as they emerge this month.

Speaking of phalaenopsis, this is the cool time of year when spiking can initiate with the temperature drop from daytime to nighttime temperatures, so keep that in mind when/if relocating your phals.

## President's Message

Happy New Year! Along with wishes for a safe and prosperous year, I also hope 2005 brings everyone health, happiness, and many spikes of flowers on all their plants.

This year will start off with a new membership renewal form that will be in another part of this newsletter, so prepare to answer a couple of new items as you renew your OSC dues.

With 2005 comes new faces on the Board of Directors and other positions. Please take a moment to review the names listed in this newsletter to acquaint yourselves with the new Board, and other staff. Also, consider giving the outgoing Board members and other chairpersons a pat on the back for their efforts for the past year. Society activities only get done when these people donate their time and efforts on behalf of us all.

This coming year we will complete the rewrite of OSC Bylaws. Bylaws Chair DeAnn Mosbey has a draft and is requesting all interested members to join her in reviewing it and getting the draft out for member approval. For more details, please see DeAnn.

Several volunteer positions are still open: donations chair, book selling maven, PA system engineer. Qualifications for all these positions are surprisingly the same: enthusiasm and willing to commit a bit of time and effort each month. Please see me if you are willing to donate yourself to one of the positions!

Finally, we have the annual San Francisco Orchid show, the Pacific Orchid Exposition, coming up in late February, from the 17<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>. This year, the timing of our February meeting, the 21<sup>st</sup>, is after the SFOS show, so we will have to make different arrangements to transport member plants for our display. You may recall the 'hijacking' of Show & Tell plants last year, when the show was only two days after our meeting! I will announce the new logistics at our January meeting. Give a thought to lending a plant to fill out our display this year, and to signing up for volunteer positions at the show.

*Carol Klonowski*

# AOS Awards

## Pacific Central Supplemental Center San Francisco, November, 2004

Dendrobium tobaense 'Rio Verde'

Exhibited by: Walter M. Shinn

HCC 77

### December, 2004

Masdevallia Un-named Hybrid 'Orange Crush'

(Masd. Dean Haas x Masd. Ted Khoe)

Exhibited by Golden Gate Orchids

HCC 79

Masdevallia Highland Monarch 'Shirley'

(Masd. Highland Fling x Masd. Monarch)

Exhibited by Ken & Amy Jacobsen

HCC 77

Paphiopedilum Taisuco America's Plum 'Fancy'

(Paph. Pele's Fire x Paph. Winston Churchill)

Exhibited by McLellan Botanicals/ Taisuco America

HCC 76

Zygoneria unnamed hybrid 'Jagnar'

(Zygo. Freestyle x Zga. Adelaide Meadows)

Exhibited by McLellan Botanicals/ Taisuco America

HCC 79

## Pacific Central Judging Center, Oakland, December 20, 2004

Habenaria rhodocheila 'Lillian Sparks'

Exhibited by Walter M. Shinn

HCC 77

Slc. Circle Of Life 'Fordyce Herald Angel'

(Lc. Culminant x Soph. coccinea),

Exhibited by Sherwood Orchids

AM 80

For more information and pictures please  
visit the Pacific Judging web site:

<http://www.aospacificcentral.org>

## New Orchid Books from Timber Press

### Wild Orchids Across North America

A Botanical Travelogue

By Philip E. Keenan

Now in paperback edition

### Orchid Grower's Companion

Cultivation, Propagation, and Varieties

By David Banks

### Growing Orchids in Your Garden

By Robert G. M. Friend

See details and more at:

[www.timberpress.com](http://www.timberpress.com)

## Contact Us

### Officers

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[slippergal@msn.com](mailto:slippergal@msn.com)

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### Directors

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DeAnn Mosbey 510-521-7825

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## Volunteers

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Pam Newton *Librarian* 510-527-6785

# The Orchid Society of California

## Membership Renewal Form

To renew your membership in the Orchid Society of California, fill in the information below (please print) and make your check for **\$20.00** payable to **OSC**. Mail this form and your membership fee to:

**Lois Miller**  
**OSC Membership**  
**3807 Oxford Common**  
**Fremont, CA 94536**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Orchid Related Business (to be listed in Roster):

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Phone or Fax (please specify): ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

I have been a member of The Orchid Society of California since (year): \_\_\_\_\_

I have been growing orchids since (year): \_\_\_\_\_

Profession/special skills: \_\_\_\_\_

My orchid interests /types of orchids I grow include:

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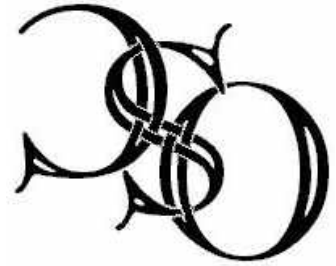
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Lakeside Garden Center, Lake Merritt  
666 Bellevue Ave. Oakland, California

The first orchid society west  
of the Mississippi, est. 1937



Orchid Society of California  
360 Grand Avenue #129  
Oakland, CA 94610

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## **In this issue:**

⇒ **South African Indigenous Orchids,  
by Gavin McDonald, Ph.D.**

⇒ **Orchid Show Season, see Calendar**

⇒ **Election Results**

**[www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com](http://www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com)**

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