

# Orchid Society of California

Next Meeting: Monday, January 16, 2006  
Lakeside Garden Center, Lake Merritt  
666 Bellevue Ave. Oakland, California

**PROGRAM TOPIC:** Odontoglossums, Rhynchosteles, and Lemboglossums; species and potential in hybridizing  
**Steve Beckendorf**

January 2006

I started growing orchids about 25 years ago and quickly became fascinated by odontoglossums and their close relatives because of their beauty and variety, because excellent plants were available from growers and hybridizers on the West Coast, and because of their glamorous past as the most sought after plants in the orchid frenzy that gripped Europe in the 19th century. I soon realized that few of the species in this group were readily available and began collecting them for propagation and use in hybridizing. My attempt to find unusual or lost species has led to several trips to the cloud forests of Mexico and South America. I currently grow about 50 odontoglossum species and another 30-40 of their near relatives along with lots of odont hybrids and a smattering of other cool growing genera.

The Rhynchosteles were the first genus I focused on, partly because they are beautiful and partly because there are only 15 species, so it seemed possible to get all of them. Federico Halbinger had recently separated this Mexican and Central American group from *Odontoglossum* proper and had called them Lemboglossums. Thirteen years ago, Miguel Soto and Gerardo Salazar realized that the tiny *Rhynchosteles pygmaeum* is definitely a member of this group. Therefore they transferred all the Lemboglossums into *Rhynchosteles*. My talk will illustrate the species and discuss some of their potential in hybridizing.

Professionally, I'm a professor at UC Berkeley, where I teach genetics and do genetic and developmental biology research. Because of this scientific background, I'm interested in many areas of orchid research, am actively involved in DNA-based revisions of orchid taxonomy, and currently serve as President of the *Odontoglossum* Alliance and as a member of the Research Committee of the American Orchid Society.

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## 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.
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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 - James Hand & DeAnn Mosbey  
February - Casper Curto & Daryl DuCharme

## Dessert Assignments

Members with last names from "Jaan" to "Neighbor" 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

### November 4 - February 26, 2006

Orchids meet Jackson Pollock in "The Modern Art of Orchids," a new exhibit featuring hundreds of nature's living masterpieces. Conservatory of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays - Sundays, \$5 general; \$3 youth 12-17, seniors and students with ID; \$1.50 children 5-11; contact 415-666-7001

[www.conservatoryofflowers.org](http://www.conservatoryofflowers.org)

### January 14-15

Fordyce Orchids is having a final Closing Sale 10am-5pm at the Orchid Ranch. Come now for best selection of stock, but even further discounts at the January Sale. 1330 Isabel Ave. Livermore (925)447-1659

### February 4-5

Santa Cruz Orchid Show & Sale. AOS judged displays, indoor and outdoor plants for sale, demonstrations and cultural information. Co-sponsored by SCOS and Soquel High FFA/ROP. Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. 401 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA, 95073 Contact Soquel High FFA 831-429-3612, SCOS 831-818-9933

### February 16 - 19, 2006

54th Pacific Orchid Exposition and sale, "Hot House Hot-ties and Their Cool Friends", Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco. Hours: Gala Benefit Preview, Thursday, Feb. 16, 6:30-10:00 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (Tour rates available); Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Admission: Preview Night: \$30.00 in advance, \$35.00 at the door; General: \$12.00, Seniors (65+), disabled: \$8.00; Children 12 and under free when accompanied by an adult, except at the Gala Benefit Preview

INFO: Call 415.665.2468 or visit

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

### March 24-26, 2006

Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, Orchids in Paradise, Earl Warren Showground, 3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara

Contact: Sandra Svoboda, PO Box 5814, Santa Barbara, CA 93150; (805) 969-5746; sborchid@west.net.

Need more? See the AOS Calendar online at:

<http://orchidweb.org/aos/events/shows.aspx>

## GREENHOUSE TOURS

### Saturday February 25, 2006

We will be visiting Top Hat Orchids located in Richmond Ca. We will also be visiting a second mystery destination. Stay tuned for further information. Have a suggestion for future tours, or a question? Please give me a call .Mimi Rose 510 569-8683 or [rose4mimi@yahoo.com](mailto:rose4mimi@yahoo.com)

## Santa Barbara Show

### Ticket Raffle

Two tickets to the Santa Barbara International Orchid show will be raffled during the February meeting. If you are interested in going to this prestigious west coast show in semi-tropical southern California, then plan to attend the February meeting.

# AOS Awards

## Pacific Central Supplemental Center San Francisco, December 6, 2005

Masdevallia veitchiana 'Cow Hollow'  
Exhibited by Anna S. Chai  
AM 81

Slc. Circle Spirit 'Nathalie Smith'  
(Slc. Seagull's Apricot x Lc. Culminant)  
Exhibited by Kathleen F. Barrett  
HCC 77

## Pacific Central Judging Center, Oakland, December 19, 2005

Epidendrum hugomedinae 'waiting on a name'  
CBR (Prov.)  
Exhibited by Walter M. Shinn

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

<http://www.aospacificcentral.org>

## Bylaws Update

In case you couldn't spot the differences between the proposed bylaws printed in November and those printed in December, here are the details from the Board of Directors:

The changes to the bylaws at the board meeting are:

To strike Article III, Members, Sec. 2 the last sentence: 'An elected president of the corporation who has completed the term of office shall automatically become a member.' Article III, Members, Sec. 2 should now read 'A Life Member is any person who has performed a substantial service to OSC. Life members shall participate in all membership activities of the corporation and shall not pay dues. Life member shall exercise the membership voting power of the corporation.'

And to amend Article IX, Duties of Officers, Sec. 7 the second sentence strike 'the Mother's Day Show and November Show' and add ***any shows deemed necessary***. Article IX, Duties of Officers, Sec 7 should now read 'Other Officers or appointed positions shall perform such duties as may be directed by the Board of Directors. The Show Chair(s) shall plan any shows deemed necessary. This entails getting American Orchid Society approval, obtaining the judges, securing the place for the show, the date, and time of the show, obtaining plants to sell or vendors to rent space and staging the show so the public can learn more about orchids.'

## Contact Us

### Officers

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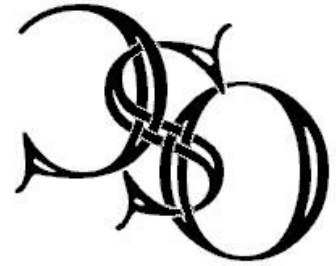
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## **In this issue:**

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⇒ **Fordyce Orchids final blow-out sale**

⇒ **GREENHOUSE TOURS**

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

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