

Orchid Society of California

Next Meeting: Monday, September 20, 2004
Lakeside Garden Center, Lake Merritt
666 Bellevue Ave. Oakland, California

PROGRAM TOPIC: New Orchid Species of Venezuela César A. Fernandez B., Venezuela

This month's speaker is César A. Fernandez of Venezuela, an orchidist of international renown, speaking on New Orchid Species of Venezuela. He last spoke in the Bay Area in 2002 to San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz Orchid Societies. This year he will also be speaking in Belgium, Kew, England, and Munich, Germany.

He has been an avid orchidist for 35 years. As such he has found 10 species new to science and 40 species new to Venezuela. He has dedicated a lot of his time sharing his orchid expertise in his works *Basic course of orchids in CD-Rom for amateurs* (1996) and *Tachira and its native orchids* (2003). The latter survey reporting 418 species, including 40 new species for Venezuela and 10 for science, with introduction by Dr. Carl Luer. While an Agriculture Engineer by profession, and distributor of Masterblend fertilizer in Venezuela, he has also established two local orchid societies, ASORTA and ORQUITACHIRA.

Professionally, he has worked for RF Orchids in Florida, Centro de Jardinería Lausanna in Venezuela, and currently runs a small orchid propagation laboratory breeding Venezuelan *Cattleya* species.

César is bringing two specimens of newly discovered orchids: *Maxillaria fernandezii* and *Epi. cesar-fernandezii*. These will be offered in a special auction with all proceeds going to the Orchid Society of California. This is a very generous offer and the society is honored to provide the first of these plants into US cultivation.

César will also be bringing 20 copies of his book for sale, \$40 each. An autographed copy would make a great addition to any orchid library.

CULTURE SESSION: How to Design an Orchid Display

The purpose of this session will be to encourage members to do an Orchid Display at our November Show by exploring the possibilities. There are **seven new classes of display awards this year**, and therefore **many new opportunities to win a Marni Pot Trophy!** We will also discuss possibilities for the OSC display in the February 2005 San Francisco Show. The SFOS show theme is "Orchid Reflections." The OSC November show theme is "The Magic of Orchids."

September 2004

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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.
 - Raffle table will be Cymbidiums
-

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

Dessert Assignments

Members with last names from "Cabrillo" to "Gibraltar" are responsible for bringing refreshments to the September 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

September 25-26

D & D Flowers will have their Fall Open House from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (see ad page 4)

October 2-3

'OrchidFest' The San Francisco Orchid Society presents this second annual event featuring local, national, and international orchid nurseries, lectures, and demonstrations. Hall of Flowers, County Fair Building, Ninth Ave and Lincoln Way; 665-2468, www.orchidsanfrancisco.org. 10am-5pm, \$2

October 16-17

Diablo View Orchid Society Show, Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Dr., Pleasant Hill, CA. Contact: Jill Chambers, 332 Harper Lane, Danville, CA 94526; (925) 837-0243 (see ad page 3)

October 18

Carol Seigel speaks at OSC meeting, Sex Life of Orchids. Culture session by Walter Shinn.

November 13-14

Orchid Society of California fall show: "The Magic of Orchids"

November 13

Our Awards Banquet speaker is Glen Decker, the Phragmepedium guy

November 15

Dennis Olivas speaks at OSC meeting, Phragmepedium culture

December 20

OSC Holiday Potluck

Need more? See the AOS Calendar online at:

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

Special Auction

Our speaker, César A. Fernandez B., is bringing two specimens of newly discovered Venezuelan orchids: *Maxillaria fernandezii* and *Epi. cesar-fernandezii*. These will be offered in a special auction with all proceeds going to the Orchid Society of California. This is a very generous offer and the society is honored to provide the first of these plants into US cultivation.

This auction is being offered as a special benefit of membership. As such, only members in good standing will be qualified to bid in this auction. Bidders must have been in good standing, dues paid in full, as of the end of the August 2004 meeting.

September in Your Orchid Garden

Summer is coming to an end as the autumn equinox approaches near the end of the month, but temperatures may continue to stay high as the 'Indian summer' of the Bay Area begins. When most of the country is either winding down its growing season to cooler fall weather or drying out from unusually heavy summer rains, we experience a shift into another, different orchid growing season.

Except for cymbidiums, which are just entering their bloom cycle, and cooler growing plants such as odontoglossums and masdevallias, the end of summertime weather means the end of the steady growth of warm growing plants. From now on until spring arrives, we will have to decide on what our dendrobiums, paphs, cattleyas and other warmer growers will require in the change from long hours of daylight to short days with steadily declining temperatures.

Some, dendrobiums especially, will require a 'winter rest' of cooler temperatures and drought, and some, like phaleanopsis, will now spike as temperatures drop dramatically from day to

night. Doing some research on any new additions to our collections that haven't gone through a winter with us may pay dividends next spring if we understand their seasonal demands. Remember, non-evergreen lycaste, catasetums, and cynoches, to name a few, will lose their leaves as part of their natural cycle, and not necessarily because of owner neglect! Dropping of leaves signals dormancy for the plant: keep them dry until active growth emerges after winter. However, remember to keep watering the evergreen Lycaste during winter, although a bit sparingly.

Of course, as mentioned above, our cool growing plants are now refreshed from the heat in the last few months, and are either starting to grow or have increased the pace of their growth. As with the warm-growers in the spring, start to fertilize any plants that are entering their growth cycle as temperatures moderate. However, cymbidiums, which should have had a steady diet of nitrogen rich fertilizer all summer, must now be switched to a bloom-type of fertilizer formula, such as 10-30-20 or even no nitrogen at all.

GREENHOUSE TOUR AND POTLUCK DINNER OCTOBER 9, 2004 1PM --4PM

We will be visiting three different growing environments:

Marques "Mark" Miller, 2255 Ransom Avenue, Oakland,
Dennis Westler, 1680 Gouldin Road, Oakland, (510) 339-8626
Mimi Rose, 11133 Kerrigan Drive, Oakland, (510) 569-8683

Driving directions will be available at the September meeting. Beverages and munchies will be available at the Millers' and at Dennis Westler's. Mimi's Greenhouse is open from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM; the Newcomers Potluck at Mimi Rose's 4:00PM to 7:00PM. All are welcome to the Potluck. Members who have joined in the last 6 months may come as guests, the rest of us will bring a dish; salad, side dish or dessert. Drinks and meat will be supplied by the society.

Those who wish to carpool please meet at the garden center at 1:00 PM.

AOS Awards

Pacific Central Supplemental Center San Francisco, August 3, 2004

Aerangis luteo-alba var. rhodosticta 'Sierra Storm'
species, Exhibited by Gold Country Orchids
HCC 75

September 8, 2004

Oncidium macranthum var. nanum 'Memoria Henry
Ho Hur'
Exhibited by Anna S. Chai
HCC 76

Pacific Central Judging Center, Oakland, August 16, 2004

Papiopedilum lowii 'John Shinn'
Exhibited by: Walter M. Shinn
HCC 76

Slc. Twilight 'Lush'
(Slc. California Apricot x C. Horace)
Exhibited by: Paula Shiu
AM 82

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

<http://www.aospacificcentral.org>

D & D Flowers Fall Open House

D & D Flowers will have their Fall Open House on September 25 and 26, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be lots of Masdevallia, Cymbidium, Oncidium and Cattleya hybrid and specie divisions at great prices. There will be lots of anthuriums also. Come for the company of friends, fun and food.

Driving from the north or south, take 101 or 280 to 92 west to Half Moon Bay. About a quarter of a mile before down town Half Moon Bay, you will see a fire wood business, a house, the statuary and Spanish Town, a small arts and craft complex. Turn left at the fire wood business and drive beyond the left side of the house over the bridge and up into the greenhouse complex. D & D Flowers is the first greenhouse to the right.

President's Message

Martin Motes was our speaker last month, and provided an informative and animated presentation on his award-winning Vandas, including tips on their care and culture. Never shy, Martin gave us a clear idea of where he stands on the issue of vandas grown overseas for hobbyists and those grown in local greenhouses (local meaning South Florida). The Show & Tell table reflected our guest's presence, since I believe we had more vandas on display last month than in any of our meetings over the past year or two. Thanks to all who brought in their plants, vandas or not, and I hope everyone in attendance enjoyed the show!

Show?! The November Show, titled 'The Magic of Orchids', is in active planning status, with the kickoff meeting being held this past September 7th. Show Chair Lois Miller is again going to distribute the signup sheets for volunteers to help with security, plant hotel, and general setup and breakdown. Please try and give us a few hours of your time to help with the work and take a moment to look at the amazing orchid displays we are expecting with a show theme that's 'magic'.

Of course, November is also the month we have our annual Awards Banquet, and Lois has found us Glen Decker, of Paphiopedilum and Jungle Adventure fame, as our speaker. We hope to have more details regarding ticket prices, menu, etc., by meeting time.

DVOS 2nd annual Fall Show and Sale

The Diablo View Orchid Society is having its 2nd annual Fall Show and Sale on Saturday, October 16, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Sunday, October 17, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. The event will be at the Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA. Besides the beautiful array of blooming exotic orchids on display, there will be numerous vendors selling their plants. We will also have raffle plants, a plant doctor to offer advice and on both days, we will have potting and culture demonstrations at 10:00a.m., 12 noon and 2:00 p.m..

Take 680 to Concord. Exit at Willow Pass Road, head west and as you cross through Contra Costa Blvd., the name changes to Taylor Blvd.. Go past the next stop light and Civic Drive will be just a bit further up on the right side. If you've driven up to the second stop-light after Contra Costa Blvd., you've gone too far.

Cymbidiums: 'Tis the season and the society has many nice cyms left over from the Mother's Day sale. They are primarily from the former Frank Isola Orchid greenhouse collection and will comprise the raffle table for September. In addition we will have some for sale on the plant sales table, and a list of available plants for any member who would like to pre-order some for delivery at the October meeting. Prices will be reasonable, so consider adding a plant or two to your cymbidium collection this fall.

Carol Klonowski

**San Francisco Orchid Society
Presents
Orchid Fest
Sale & Exhibition**

**Sat. & Sun. Oct. 2 & 3, 2004
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Hall of Flowers
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way,
San Francisco**

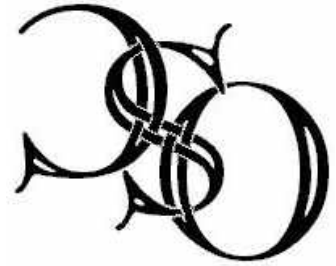
**\$2.00 Admission
will benefit the
San Francisco
Botanical Garden**

- **Demonstrations**
- **Lectures**
- **Raffle**

(415) 665-2468 www.orchidsanfrancisco.org

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



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360 Grand Avenue #129
Oakland, CA 94610

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⇒ **Special Auction, *Maxillaria fernandezii*
and *Epi. cesar-fernandezii***

⇒ **Greenhouse Tour and Newcomers Potluck Dinner**

www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com
