



## San Francisco Orchid Society Newsletter

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### SFOS Meeting

**October 2013** Volume 62 Number 10

**The mission** of the SFOS is to foster the culture and cultivation of orchids and to promote education of its members and the public about orchids. Our goals include: an exchange of information from exhibitions, publications, and the Internet, maintenance of a reference library, and participation in worldwide activities.

## October Speaker Ron Parsons

**Back to China**

### Ron Parsons

Ron has been interested in and growing orchids for nearly 40 years, and has been fascinated by the species for most of that time. He grows about 600 orchids, in an unheated greenhouse in Burlingame as well as under lights in his garage in South San Francisco. In addition, he grows numerous succulents, cacti, bromeliads, and carnivorous plants as well. He loves photography of flowers and has more than 150,000 slides and currently, 38,000 digital images. Ron has more than 2000 images published. He has co-

**Tues. Oct. 1, 2013**



**Tues. October 1, 2013  
AOS Judging: 7:00 PM  
Skills Session: 7:05 PM  
Meeting: 7:30 PM**

San Francisco County Fair Building,  
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and  
Lincoln Way, San Francisco. Plants  
submitted for American Orchid  
Society Judging must be entered  
between 6:30 pm and 7:00 pm.

**Speaker**

**Ron Parsons  
*Back to China***

**Skill Session  
Marni Turkel**

***Getting Orchids Out of Flask***

Many people find orchids in flask  
intimidating. This will demystify the  
process of getting them out and  
growing them on.

**Plant  
Opportunity Table  
Marni Turkel**

**2013-2014 SFOS  
Officers/Contacts**

**President  
Mary E. Gerritsen  
[meg570@comcast.net](mailto:meg570@comcast.net)  
Vice President  
Steven Beckendorf**

**Secretary  
Valerie Mountain  
415-664-5065  
[valeriemountain@yahoo.com](mailto:valeriemountain@yahoo.com)  
Treasurer**

authored three books with Mary Gerritsen. They are "Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World", "Calochortus - Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives", and a third, soon to be released two volume set called "A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species". Ron also loves to travel extensively and nearly all of his trips are botanical adventures, timed specifically to see the most species in bloom.



## Back to China

Ron's talk, "**Back to China**", again focuses on the province of Sichuan (aka Szechwan) in western China. Ron joined Holger and Wenqing Perner's orchid tour in mid-June of 2012 to see *Cypripediums* in nature, but it was such a fantastic trip that he decided to go again this year. This year's trip was only 1.5 weeks later than last year's but season-wise it was approximately 3 weeks later. Most of the sites visited were different, and many different orchids were seen as well as other incredible wildflowers and scenery, and this program will feature the highlights.



## Dinner with the Speaker

Please join us in the parking lot in back of the SF County Fair Building at 5:30 PM sharp.

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Carol Zoltowski  
415-657-3222  
c [zoltowski@sbcglobal.net](mailto:zoltowski@sbcglobal.net)  
**Show Treasurer**  
Dan Peter  
650-563-9259  
[dan.peter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dan.peter@sbcglobal.net)  
**Directors**  
David Hermeyer  
415-255-6322  
[Dave@Hermeyer.us](mailto:Dave@Hermeyer.us)  
George McRae  
510-233-7374  
[Elegans@aol.com](mailto:Elegans@aol.com)  
Florence Inserto  
[floinsert@yahoo.com](mailto:floinsert@yahoo.com)  
Chris Mende  
[chrismendefoto@aim.com](mailto:chrismendefoto@aim.com)  
Jean Lee  
Past President  
Dennis Westler  
Show Chair  
**Membership Co-Chairs**  
Florence Inserto  
[floinsert@yahoo.com](mailto:floinsert@yahoo.com)  
Claire Zvanski  
[czvanski@hotmail.com](mailto:czvanski@hotmail.com)  
(415) 341-3085  
**Newsletter Editor**  
Stanford Stapleton  
415-384-0746  
[stanford@rkmediasolutions.com](mailto:stanford@rkmediasolutions.com)  
**AOS Representative**  
Carol Zoltowski  
415-657-3222  
[czoltowski@sbcglobal.net](mailto:czoltowski@sbcglobal.net)  
**Orchid Digest Representative**  
Jean Lee  
415-665-6079  
[jeanleorchids@gmail.com](mailto:jeanleorchids@gmail.com)  
**Property Managers**  
Ellen Edelson  
415-531-2140  
Maureen Clarke  
415-333-4033  
[maureenclarke@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maureenclarke@sbcglobal.net)  
**Raffle Tickets**  
Ellen Edelson  
415-731-5924  
Maureen Clarke  
415-333-4033  
**Librarian**  
Chuck Chan  
[quolanusa@gmail.com](mailto:quolanusa@gmail.com)  
415-387-1179  
**Show Chair**  
Dennis Westler  
415-336-2752  
[DennisWestler@aol.com](mailto:DennisWestler@aol.com)  
**POE Sponsorship**  
Frances Larose  
650.548.6700  
[flarose@prmagic.com](mailto:flarose@prmagic.com)  
**Webmaster**  
Contact: Dennis Westler  
[DennisWestler@aol.com](mailto:DennisWestler@aol.com)  
Web Site  
[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)

## Minutes of the SFOS Board Meeting

### SFOS Board Meeting September 9, 2013

Present: Mary Gerritsen, Jean Lee, Dennis Westler, Valerie Mountain, Chris Mende, Florence Inserto, Carol Zoltowski, Dave Hermeyer, Claire Zvanski, Steve Beckendorf  
Excused: George McRae

#### I. Vice President's Report

A. Steve: October's speaker will be Ron Parsons, topic: Second China Trip, New Observations. November speaker is Roy Tokunaga.

#### II. Membership Report

A. Florence has completed the new membership form to be posted on the website. The form will include the single membership for \$25 and couples membership for \$40.

#### III. Treasurer

A. Carol noted that, as of the end of August, our High Yield Savings account balance is \$106,565.53, the Market Rate Savings account balance is \$1565.53, and the Checking account balance is \$15,482.90.

#### IV. Old Business

A. Orchids in the Park- There is still a need for more volunteers to staff the show. Members are encouraged to sign up before the show. There will be a raffle at the show with plants donated by the vendors. Ads for the show will run in the San Francisco Chronicle starting the Saturday before, during the week and the Saturday of the show. Tom Perlite will also have an article on Wednesday, the 25th, in the Chronicle. Emails to advertise the show have been sent to our mailing list, and postcards with coupons will also be sent out to the neighborhoods around the park.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Valerie Mountain

## SFOS Bulletin Board

### Want to try to win \$100 for your blooming orchid?

Members are strongly encouraged to bring their blooming plants for display at Orchids in the Park.

This year we will have a "People's Choice Award" of \$100 for the orchid that gets the most votes from attendees.

There will also be a second prize of a decorative ceramic Marni-pot for the runner-up.

If you do bring in an orchid for display, please pick up your orchid after the show on Sunday, between 5-6 pm (the building will be closed by 7 pm).

\*\*\*\*\*

### MEMBER PLANT SALES ORCHIDS IN THE PARK

Help your Society and yourself by selling your excess plants at the Member Plant Sales table. Make space for your new orchids. Just inform Kay of your intent to bring plants and mark each sale plant with its name, your code and price, i.e., Maxillaria marginata KK-1 \$10.00, and give Kay a master list. Help to sell plants for at least 3 hours. You get 75% of the price. SFOS gets 25% and pays the sales tax. You may bring plants anytime during the event, but Friday or early on Saturday is best. If you have questions, ask Kay at a

[info@orchidsanfrancisco.org](mailto:info@orchidsanfrancisco.org)  
A California Non Profit 501(c)3  
Corporation  
SFOS NEWSLETTER October 2013

## FEATURED ARTICLE

### 2013 Membership Directory

The new membership directory is now online on the SFOS website.

All members with an email address in our records should have received instructions for login and password.

If there are errors, please contact Florence Inserto - [flojoinsert@yahoo.com](mailto:flojoinsert@yahoo.com) or Claire Zvanski: (415) 341-3085 [czvanski@hotmail.com](mailto:czvanski@hotmail.com).

**2013 Dues  
Are Now Payable**  
(\$25 per year-Individual)  
(\$40 per household-2 or more- per year)

Dues may be payable at any SFOS meeting,  
or go the Web site  
[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)

- and use Pay Pal or mail to SFOS- Membership  
PO Box 27145  
SF, CA 94127-0145
- \$25/year or \$40/year (with Email Newsletter Option)
  - \$45/year individual (with USPS Mail Newsletter Option)
- Thank you!

### Welcome New Members

John Griffin  
Clarissa Dyer  
Philip Go

Please welcome our new members whenever you meet them and especially at the San Francisco Orchid Society meetings.

### NOTICE TO BUSINESS MEMBERS OF THE SFOS

Member Orchid Related Businesses in our Roster are out of date. All current SFOS members who wish to have their

meeting or contact her at [kayklumb@gmail.com](mailto:kayklumb@gmail.com) or 415 648-8271.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **San Francisco Orchid Society Conservation Committee Plant Sale Fundraiser**

The SFOS conservation committee needs your help! Our next fund raising activity will be at the Orchids in the Park. This is a great chance for those extra plants of yours taking up room in your greenhouse, lath house or kitchen table to find a new home, and to raise money for conservation at the same time. The committee is seeking donated orchids and/or orchid related supplies which will be sold at the member sales table at the Orchids in the Park. For these donated items, 100% of the proceeds will go to support orchid conservation. We now have a web page describing our activities (<http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/conservation.html>), and we hope to have sufficient funds to begin reviewing projects for funding in 2014. Set aside those extra plants and divisions!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Members Orchid Workshop at the Tiny Jungle**

Members are welcome to join Chris Mende at her greenhouse, aka The Tiny Jungle, on Saturday October 12, 1pm-4pm. Location: 169 1st Avenue Daly City. 415.307.4542

The workshop will focus on orchid repotting, including demonstrations and some hands on experience.

Bring in an orchid (or two or three) to repot. If you do repot your own orchids, please donate \$5/orchid to Chris to help pay for the materials (pot, potting media).

If you bring your own materials there is no charge. Sorry, due to their size and difficulty in repotting, please, no cymbidiums!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Volunteers still needed for Orchids in the Park.**

**We are short on volunteers, particularly on Saturday morning. If you would like to help, please contact**

Jean Lee: [jeanleeorchids@gmail.com](mailto:jeanleeorchids@gmail.com)

or: [Info@orchidsanfrancisco.com](mailto:Info@orchidsanfrancisco.com)

or: Mary Gerritsen: [meg570@comcast.net](mailto:meg570@comcast.net)

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### **Got Bark?**

You can pre-order Orchiata Bark in the sizes you need directly from **American Horticultural Supply** and pick up your pre-paid supplies at **Orchids in the Park** at their booth in the show. Forms are included here or contact them directly at 408-842-9888 [www.americanhort.com](http://www.americanhort.com)

To download forms-please click on the link.

#### **Order Form**

<http://attachment.benchmarkemail.com/c331141/OrchiataBKcompatible.pdf>

#### **Credit Form**

<http://attachment.benchmarkemail.com/c331141/CardAuthorization2013.pdf>

#### **Reslae Form (if it applies to you)**

[http://attachment.benchmarkemail.com/c331141/Resale\\_Certificate.doc](http://attachment.benchmarkemail.com/c331141/Resale_Certificate.doc)

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The Bulletin Board is a free service for SFOS members' orchid related items. Send items by the 15th of the month by email to: [stanford@rkmediasolutions.com](mailto:stanford@rkmediasolutions.com)  
Include your name, phone number, and how long you want the item to run. We will



Orchid Related Businesses listed need to contact membership. See contact information above or at end of this newsletter.

### Refreshments

#### V - C

SFOS members are encouraged to help out with refreshments, setup and cleanup at Monthly Meetings. If your last name falls within the letter range **V - C** please bring snacks such as fresh fruit, crackers & cheese for the next meeting. About three dozen cookies, one cake, one to two pounds of fruit or cheeses, or one box of crackers is an appropriate amount. Remember to pick up your raffle ticket as one of the rewards of sharing - and good luck



in the drawing!

### AOS Awards

#### AOS Awards

American Orchid Society Pacific Judging Center Web site:  
[www.aospacificcentral.org/](http://www.aospacificcentral.org/)  
Please check the Web site for the



most recent awards.

### Change of Address

Send all address and e-mail changes to:  
Florence Inserto -  
[floinsert@yahoo.com](mailto:floinsert@yahoo.com)  
or Claire Zvanski:  
(415) 341-3085 -  
[czvanski@hotmail.com](mailto:czvanski@hotmail.com)

**SFOS Membership**  
P.O. Box 27145,  
San Francisco, CA 94127

also run items of interest from other orchid societies. All submissions will be reviewed and may be edited.

### Upcoming Events

#### October 1, 2013 7:30pm - SFOS General Meeting

**Main Speaker - Ron Parsons**

**Subject: Back to China**

**Skill Session- Marni Turkel -Getting Orchids Out of Flask** - Many people find orchids in flask intimidating. This will demystify the process of getting them out and growing them on.

#### **September 28 & 29, 2013 SFOS Orchids in the Park - SF County Fair Bldg**

The SFOS Orchids in the Park sale and exhibition is on Saturday and Sunday from 10 AM - 5 PM each day at the County Fair Bldg., 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way in San Francisco. Admission - \$4; Seniors - \$3 Children under 16 free. The show will feature hundreds of plants for sale from local, national and international vendors along with exhibits, demonstrations and seminars. For more information- visit [www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org) or email: [info@orchidsanfrancisco.org](mailto:info@orchidsanfrancisco.org)

#### **October 5, 2013 Saturday -Peninsula Orchid Society Auction-San Mateo Garden Center**

Bidder registration and preview- 12 Noon. Auction gets underway at 1:30 PM. More than 400 orchids will be for sale. San Mateo Garden Center- 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA

#### **November 9, 2013 Carmel Valley Orchid Society Fall Orchid Festival**

Carmel Orchid Society -Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula, 4590 Carmel Valley Rd., Carmel, CA 9 AM - 4 PM.

#### **February 15 - 23, 2014 Japan Grand Prix International Orchid Festival 2014**

Tokyo Dome, Tokyo, Japan 10 AM - 5:30 PM

### Upcoming Speakers

**November - Roy Tokunaga**

### Notices

#### Wear Your Name Badge

The board voted to provide a special raffle ticket to members when they pick up and wear their name tags at our meetings. A drawing for a plant from the opportunity table will be limited to this and will immediately follow the choice by the person who did the Skill Session and the winner from the Show and Tell table. So, wearing your name tag will get you an early selection from the opportunity table.

Your name tag will be available at the membership table.

## Newsletter Items

The SFOS Newsletter welcomes news, articles, events, and any other items of interest to members. Send items by the 15th of the month in an email to Stanford Stapleton at: [stanford@rkmediasolutions.com](mailto:stanford@rkmediasolutions.com)

Please include your name at the beginning or end of your text. All submissions will be reviewed and may be edited due to space limitations. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
San Francisco Orchid Society



## Member's Corner

### SFOS Monthly Show and Tell Table

We want to thank our members who bring in their plants for display at the monthly meetings. This is a great viewing experience for all and a great way to learn about new plants we might want to try to grow in the future for ourselves.

But did you know that you can bring in a blooming plant that you might not be certain about the name or type and have our group of experts help identify your plant? The more you know, the better your chance of success. Thank you for participating and we'll see you and your plants at the next monthly meeting.  
The Board

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## Announcements

### On-line Membership Roster

We have been updating our membership lists, and hopefully the on line roster is up to date too. If you want to check your information, or look up someone's contact information, go to [www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/member/login.php](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/member/login.php). If you have forgotten your password there is a link to recover your password. If you have an orchid related business (e.g. nursery, decorating, landscaping, flower arranging, art, ceramics, photography etc.) and would like it listed in our business listing, please contact membership: [czvanski@hotmail.com](mailto:czvanski@hotmail.com) or [flojo1337@yahoo.com](mailto:flojo1337@yahoo.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Member Eric Wells donated **The Wild Orchids of California** and **North American Native Terrestrial Orchid Propagation & Production** to the SFOS Library that he purchased from the Native Orchid Conference. Thank you very much for your donation Eric!

Please note - SFOS members can check out books from our Library and return them at the next monthly meeting.

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## Special Events



## Orchids in the Park

A Sale and Exhibition  
**September 28-29, 2013**  
10 am-5 pm  
County Fair Building  
9th Ave & Lincoln Way  
San Francisco, CA

Admission \$4, Seniors (over 65) \$3  
Children under 16 Free

Featuring hundreds of plants for sale  
From local, national and international vendors

Exhibits, Demonstrations and Seminars

For more information, visit our website  
[orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://orchidsanfrancisco.org)  
email: [info@orchidsanfrancisco.org](mailto:info@orchidsanfrancisco.org)

**The San Francisco Orchid Society**

A California non-profit 501(c)3 organization

Photo by Ron Parsons

## Peninsula Orchid Society 2013 Auction

Saturday afternoon, October 5th

San Mateo Garden Center,  
605 Parkside Way,  
San Mateo, CA  
(Close to Hwy. 92)

Auction begins at 1:30 PM

Bidder registration and plant previewing begins at 12:00 PM

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

All plants will be from member's collections or donations from professional growers - we have both professional and hobby members. Come and find that special orchid!!

Cash, checks or credit cards accepted

We will post a list of pre-entries at <http://penorchidsoc.org/blogs/auction-2013/> starting about 2 weeks before the auction



# Fall Orchid Festival

presented by the  
Carmel Orchid Society

**Saturday  
November  
9th  
9AM - 4PM**

- **Orchid Sales**
- **Orchid Display**
- **Silent Auction**
- **Wine Barrel Raffle**
- **Orchid Care Classes**
- **Potting Demonstrations**

**Community  
Church of the  
Monterey  
Peninsula**

**4590 Carmel  
Valley Rd.  
Carmel CA**