

Upcoming Events

2018:

25 Nov – WOS Year-End
Function, Walter Sisulu
Botanical Gardens



WITWATERSRAND ORCHID SOCIETY

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Fun & Friendship Through Orchids

NOVEMBER 2018

Meeting: **SUNDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER 2018**

TOPIC: **YEAR-END FUNCTION** (see details below)
SPEAKER: Andrew Hankey
TIME: 12h30 for 13h00
VENUE: **Eagle's Fare Restaurant in the Walter Sisulu
Botanical Gardens, Malcolm Rd, Poortview**

TEA DUTY

Not applicable

RAFFLE

There were 2 Raffle prizes last month

Coelogyne lawrenceana, donated by Bill
Mincher was won by **Marinus Kort**.

Coelogyne tomentosa, donated by Keith
Palmer was won by **Victor Heard**

MEMBER NEWS

It is with great sadness that we learnt that **Peter Becker**, one of our Life Members, has died. Peter was one of the founder members of the Society (formerly Transvaal Orchid Society) and played an important part in the formation and running of the Society over many years. We were lucky to have him attend our 50 Anniversary celebrations in 2014

Another bit of sad news was hearing that **David Davidson** has recently died. Although not a member, David designed, free of charge, the combined Gauteng Societies stand at the World Orchid Conference (WOC21) held in Pretoria in 2014. David was best known as one of the chief designers, over many years, of the Kirstenbosch stand at the THS Chelsea Show. These stands regularly won Gold Medals.

Our condolences and thoughts go to their family and friends.



The Committee wishes all members and their families a Joyous and Happy Christmas and Holidays. May 2019 be filled with peace, happiness and lots of blooming orchids, which we hope to see at the Plant Table

WOS YEAR-END FUNCTION

It is almost year-end once again and your committee has decided to do something different this year.

We have managed to get the Eagle's Fare restaurant in the Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens to grant us use of a major part of one of their buffet room for a special Sunday lunch buffet from 13h00 to 15h00 on Sunday 25 November.

The buffet menu is superb with many choices

The Society will cover the buffet and park entrance costs – over R200 per person

Since we will have to declare a final number of members (and spouses) attending in advance and will be charged on those numbers,

The society will however ask members to contribute R50 per person in advance as commitment to their attendance. This money will be used to provide wine and juices on the tables.

Kindly RSVP soonest possible in order we finalise the booking to what is bound to be a great time socialising.

Due to the limitations of the venue and the difficulty of getting plants there, we have decided to not have a plant table. Between courses during lunch, Andrew Hankey, Assistant Curator of the Gardens, will tell us more about the Gardens, the well-known Verreaux (Black) Eagles and the critically endangered Albertina Sisulu Orchid and the threats it faces.

Please email Marinus at wos@thekorts.co.za

Or SMS Marinus on 082 447 5081

Or WhatsApp Marinus on the same number

CROWDFUNDING & THE ALBERTINA SISULU ORCHID

The Albertina Sisulu Orchid is an incredibly beautiful and very rare orchid which occurs on public and private land adjoining the Walter Sisulu National Botanical Gardens. It is Critically Endangered and protected by law, only about 150 of these rare orchids still remain on earth. The Sugarbush Ridge Ecosystem is home to about 130 individuals, the last known place on earth where they still comprise a viable population. Despite this, authorization has been given for a high-density housing development inside this sensitive area, which is likely to destroy the orchid and significantly reduce the hunting territory for the Black Eagles, placing them and other wildlife under even more severe urban pressure.

The housing development is currently being challenged in the high court by the PCA. In order to obtain funds to continue the legal battles required to protect the Albertina Sisulu Orchid, the organisations involved have engaged **Thundafund** to obtain **CrowdFunding**.

Please support if able, but also please spread it wide and far via family, friends & colleagues

To save the Black Eagles of Roodekrans and the unique Albertina Sisulu Orchid, we need to regulate our collective human footprint on the Sugarbush Ridge Ecosystem. To achieve this in such a highly urbanized and densely populated area we all have to work together as a community, so that we can enjoy and appreciate this valuable natural asset without destroying it in the process.

Who are we?

The Sugarbush Ridges Coalition was formed by several non-profit organisations joining forces with the main objective of conserving the Sugarbush Ridges and surrounding area in as natural a state as possible.

Proteadale Conservation Association (PCA),
Wild Orchids Southern Africa (WOSA),
Black Eagle Project Roodekrans (BEPR),
Bankenveld Branch of the Botanical Society of SA (Botsoc)
Walter Sisulu National Botanical Gardens (WSNBG)

What is CrowdFunding?

Crowdfunding is an online way of raising capital (and a crowd) to realise exceptional ideas.

Thundafund allows a large number of people to each pledge small amounts of money into a project or idea. They are paid back with a project related reward produced through the project itself. These small amounts soon add up to the capital required, simply due to the crowd factor.

Note: we have only 60 days from 15th October 2018 to raise the required amount of R250 000 to be successful

For more information on the Crowdfunding project and the Thundafund, the Project Managers, please go to;

<https://www.thundafund.com/project/eagles>

THE PLANT TABLE – OCTOBER 2018

By Allan Abel

Rules of the Plant Table

Every member is encouraged to bring and share their flowering orchids with other members. However, for plants to be entered in the prize selection process, they must comply with the following rules

- All plants must have been grown by **the owners for at least 6 months**.
- Novice section is for those members who are **new to growing orchids**. A Novice will cease to be a Novice when they;
 - o win a Red Ribbon at a WOS Show or
 - o win the Plant Table Annual Prize

This month, the plant table consisted of 31 orchids belonging to 9 members.

Mandy & Marinus Kort

Vanda tricolor
Oncidesa Kaizumic Delight
C Irene Holguin x2
Guarianthe skinneri
Sarcochilus hartmannii
Dendrobium aphyllum
Rth Namib Sunset

Chris Steckner

Angraecum florulentum
Paph Belle Royal 'Carmen'
Masdevallia coccinea

Bill Mincher

Cuitlauzina pulchella
Speckilinia strumosa
Specklinia brighamii
Ionopsis sp
Leptotes bicolor
Dendrobium linguiforme

Margaret Peters

Dendrobium Comet King

Stuart Smith

Lycaste brevispatha
Dendrobium Formidable
Paph Song of Love

Allan Abel

Vanda Loke
Oncidesa Sweet Sugar

Erhard Schmid

Eulophia Michael Tibbs
Paph haynaldianum
Pleurothallis megaglossa
Masdevallia Sueño Lindo

Keith Palmer

Rth Duckitt Charm
Vanda tricolor

The favourite orchids, as selected by the members, were;

BEST HYBRID



***Paph Belle Royal* owned by
Chris Steckner**

BEST AFRICAN / MASCARENE



***Eulophia Michael Tibbs* owned by
Erhard Schmid**

BEST NOVICE



***Dendrobium Comet King* owned by
Margaret Peters**

BEST SPECIES



***Masdevallia coccinea* owned by
Chris Steckner**

Committee Members

Position held	Name	Email Address	Contact Details
President	Marinus Kort	mail@thekorts.co.za	082 447 5081 / 011 794 1041
Vice President	Deon Barnes	deon.barnes@angloamerican.com	083 469 6188 / 011 842 2151
Secretary	Vacant – contact President		
Treasurer	Vacant – contact President		
Meetings Organiser	Bill Mincher	billmincher@yahoo.com	082 871 3152
Newsletter Editor	Allan Abel	aabel@global.co.za	082 738 8360 / 011 477 7938
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