# Orchid Society of Santa Barbara

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

#### May 2022

Next Meeting

Wednesday May 18th 7:30 pm

### via Zoom

OSSB Website <u>orchidsb.org</u> Facebook Orchid Society of Santa Barbara

### This month's program



## Our speaker this month is

## Tom Mirenda

#### African Orchid Adventurs

What springs to mind when you ponder your favorite African orchids: Ansellias? Angraecoids (and their pollinators)? Disas?

We are fortunate this month to gain new orchid insights by traveling (virtually) with our speaker Tom Mirenda to several habitats on the continent that he visited (in person) in 2019 in search of orchids. Come along and see the orchids of Mauritius, Kenya, South Africa and Gabon.

Tom Mirenda has been working professionally with orchids for over three decades. He is an AOS accredited judge and a past chairman of the AOS' Conservation Committee.

Tom has been cultivating plants since his early childhood and has created beauty with plants in garden settings for more than half of his adult life.

Originally trained as a Marine Biologist, Tom moved to Hawaii in his early 20s to pursue that career working on the trophic relationships of denizens of coral reefs in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands (Midway and French Frigate Shoals).