



The Arizona Orchidist

Published monthly by
The Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.
Founding Editor- Clarence S. Lindsten
1966

Volume 51

August/ September 2013

NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting will be

Monday, August 5th at 7:00 P.M.

Meetings are held at the

Training Center

at the

Arizona State Veteran Home

4141 S. Herrera Way, Phoenix.

(Formerly North 3rd Street)

OSA meetings are open to all
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided

Beverage

Barbara Parnell

Snacks

Carol Erwin and Karen Barber

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (602) 451-5952

Lou Ann Remeikis (602) 803-6889

Jo Anne Waddoups 480-654-9883

Board Meeting

August 25 in Prescott at NAVAHCS

September 29 at 1 PM
at the home of Julie Rathbun

Grower on Call

August – Wilella Stimmell
willellas@att.net

September – Keith Mead
orchidsinabq@gmail.com

AUGUST PROGRAM

Repotting Seedlings from Community Pots

Last year in May, when we held a similar repotting program, our members and guests appreciated this type of program. For our August 5th meeting, we will be repotting donated community pots (compots), but of different hybrids than were used last year. Each compot contains 5 seedlings which are large enough to survive in individual pots. One seedling per grower, so choose carefully!

For this program, everything will be provided free of charge. At the end of our meeting, you will be able to take your newly repotted seedlings home and take care of it. Assuming your plant thrives in your care, we hope that you will update us on your seedling's progress and perhaps bring a plant in bloom for us to admire!

At our January, 2013 meeting, we repotted Phalaenopsis seedlings from a flask purchased at our December, 2012 auction and donated to us by Pamela Albright. A few months later, Kitten Harmon brought her seedling to show us how vigorously it was growing. We would like to know if anyone else had similar luck with their Phal seedlings.

W. Stimmell

OSA ANNUAL SHOW UPDATE

The theme for our 2013 Orchid Show is "**Harvest of Orchids**" and will be held at the Veteran Home on October 19 and 20th. As usual we will need volunteers for both days and for the setup which will be on Friday October 18th starting at 5pm. Display plants are also needed for the presentation and hope our members will be able to bring their blooming plants to be part of the display. We will have a sign up sheet at the August 5th meeting

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From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

I hope that all of our members and their families enjoyed a safe July 4th holiday! I've filled my summer with several "sitting" jobs – tending other people's homes, animals, and orchids while the owners went on vacations. And those jobs are in addition to taking care of my own animals and plants during our hot weather!

For our June 3rd meeting, we had excellent attendance to hear a presentation by our speaker, Peter Lin, owner of Diamond Orchids, CA. We gained two new members, and several guests were also in attendance. For those of you who missed the meeting, Peter's program was colorful and included a lot of useful information about miniature Cattleya hybrids.

In June, our school program team presented hands-on repotting programs for summer school students at the Children's Center for Neurodevelopment Studies in Glendale. (A report containing more details about the programs can be found elsewhere in this combined August/September newsletter.)

During our August 5th meeting, I will ask for a show of hands of the number of members who want to join us on our Sunday, **August 25th field trip to the Northern Arizona VA Health Care System greenhouse**. We will meet at 8:00 AM at my house, count heads to find out how many vehicles we will need to transport our group, and carpool from there to Prescott. We plan for our caravan of members to arrive at the greenhouse by 10:00 AM. Sandwich trays for a picnic lunch will be provided by OSA, but drinks, chips, and dessert are provided by a few of your board members. If at all possible, Betty Stephens, who had Paula Moran's position as Supervisor of Recreation Therapy until Betty's official retirement, plans to be there. This is our annual summer get-away-from-Phoenix trip to the greenhouse. Our involvement with the greenhouse, residents, and staff dates back at least 25 years. (A brief board meeting will be held in Prescott. If you aren't interested in listening to OSA business matters, you can always stroll through the orchard and garden.)

We never know what the weather will be like in Prescott. If you bring a jacket and an umbrella, then the weather will probably be sunny and warm. (If anyone missed reading about how NAVAHCS used to be Fort Whipple, please reread your June/July newsletter. In my President's Message, there is a brief history of the transformation.)

No OSA members should feel obligated to donate items, but if any members want to donate useful items for the residents in the Community Living Center, the veterans appreciate receiving **large size sweat pants and white t-shirts. personal size toiletries (nothing containing alcohol), books (nothing war-related), and puzzles. Hearing aids are also welcome.** The NAVAHCS Audiologist can refurbish hearing aids to fit their veterans.

The program for our August 5th meeting will be repotting orchid seedlings from donated community pots.

Also, we hope to have show flyers available at our August meeting. Please do your part to help publicize our annual show!

It's that time of year when a **Nominating Committee** prepares a slate of candidates for our November election. **Terri Jackson** has graciously agreed to serve as Chairperson. Two other members will also serve on the Nominating Committee. The slate will be published in our October newsletter.

Reminder: We will not hold our September 2nd meeting because it falls on Labor Day.

See you on August 5 !

Julie

Welcome New Members

Wes and Janie Ringering

Seek them out, introduce yourself
and make them welcome !

June Raffle Donors

Carol Erwin, Richard Holle, Bob MacLeod,
Barbara Parnell, Julie Rathbun,
Lou Ann Remeikis, & Wilella Stimmell
Non-members – Mark Obermayer,
Penny Post, and Mike Sielaff

THANK YOU !

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

Wilella Stimmell, CSP Coordinator

On **June 17**, OSA program team members helped 2 groups of students enrolled in the summer school program at the **Children's Center for Neurological Development**, in Glendale, repot Phalaenopsis seedlings.

Prior to our arrival, Richard Holle donated 3" clear pots and enough pre-cut water jugs so that each student had one of each. **Thanks, Richard!**

Richard Holle, Terri Jackson, Bob MacLeod, Julie Rathbun, Dean Toms, and I were our program team volunteers. Thanks to all!

Two of the boys who participated in our programs last year, remembered us!

This was Dean Toms' first experience helping with our school programs, and we hope that he will continue to volunteer. This school is the only school...so far, where we work with Autistic children.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lou Remeikis 3rd

Joe Bacik and Dennis Olivas 5th

Iva Dobson 18th

Jeanette Socaciu and Megan Stuff 19th

Gary Remeikis 25th

The *Arizona Orchidist* is published monthly by the
Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.
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The Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (C) (3) organization dedicated to community service and the study of orchids. It is affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. , and The Nature Conservancy.

Copycat Orchids

ScienceShot
by Traci Watson June 25, 2013



Photo Credit: A. Papadopoulos et al., Proc. R. Soc. B, 280 (2013)

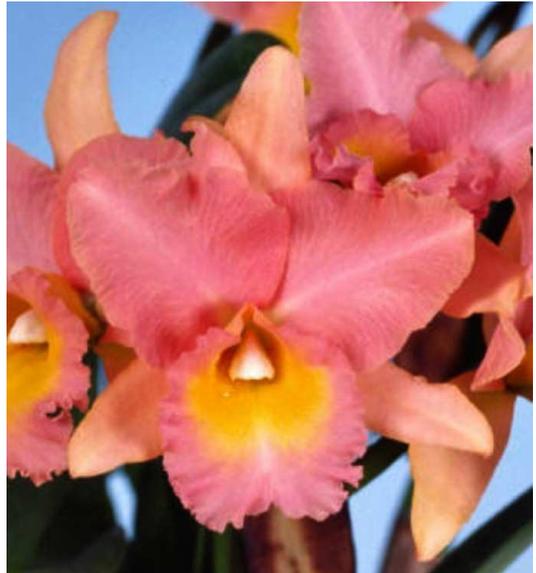
The turtle shell orchid is a dainty yellow beauty—and also an identity thief, according to a new study. The flower (*Rossioglossum ampliatum*, above) is a member of the Oncidiinae group of orchids in the tropical Americas. Most don't make nectar, so they lure pollinators by trickery. To expose the orchids' scam, researchers examined dozens of Oncidiinae orchids growing in Costa Rica and elsewhere. They found that roughly 500 are an unusual color called bee-UV-green, visible to bees but not humans. That's the same color as several flowers from the Malpighiaceae family, which offer bees a reward of oil that they can eat or use for nest-building and grow in many of the same places as Oncidiinae orchids. All the bee-UV-green orchids also copy the shape of these oily flowers. The image shows a blossom, center, from a Malpighiaceae species of liana (*Stigmaphyllon lindenianum*) and, on the left, an Oncidiinae orchid (*Trichocentrum ascendens*); both look bee-UV-green to bees. To determine whether it's just a coincidence that *T. ascendens* is identical in color to Malpighiaceae species, the researchers randomly chose pairs of Costa Rican flowers and compared their colors. Members of each random pair weren't at all alike in color, suggesting that the similarity between the oily flower and its orchid doppelganger is greater than would be expected by chance. Fourteen different branches of the Oncidiinae family tree independently evolved into mimics of oily flowers, the team reports online today in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Biological Sciences*. suggesting that even for orchids, crime does pay.

Compot Seedlings Available at the August Meeting



Blc Hawaiian Passion 'Carmela'

Blc. Pastel Queen 'Peach Orange'



Lc. Final Blue 'Royal Purple'

OSA August 2013 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 OSA Meeting 7:00 PM Pat Miller 	6	7	8  Ann Cherny	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 NAVAHCS Field Trip and Board Meeting	26	27	28	29  Karen Barber	30	31



Orchid Society of Arizona

c/o Keith Mead
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Albuquerque, NM 87111

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