



The Arizona Orchidist

Published monthly by
The Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.
Founding Editor- Clarence S. Lindsten
1966
Volume 52
August/September 2014

NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting will be

Monday, August 4th 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 – Gary Law

**Snacks – Barbara Parnell and
Wilella Stimmell**

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (602) 451-5952

Lou Ann Remeikis (602) 803-6889

Jo Anne Waddoups 480-654-9883

Growers on Call

August –

Richard Holle – 480-202-6923
richard@aerology.com

September –

Julie Rathbun –602-843-0223
jandfent@aol.com

August Program

Our August meeting's topic/presentation will be an in-house demonstration on the use of coconut coir as a planting medium for orchids.

What are the advantages of its use? Are there any draw backs to using coconut coir? One of OSA's members, Gary Cauble, uses coir as a primary potting medium for his collection of orchids and he has volunteered (was coerced lol) into giving our members and guests a Coconut Coir 101.

My understanding is that Gary has a great deal of success using coir, and we are always looking for interesting topics that deviate from what most of us normally do. I personally have never used coconut coir and am anxious to see if it is something I can incorporate into my growing practices. It is well known for moisture retention, and that is one of my biggest problems in raising orchids here in the arid climate of Arizona. Gary will show how coconut coir is packaged and give instructions on anything special he does to prepare it for use in repotting his plants. Gary will also demonstrate how to repot an orchid using this product, although I don't believe it varies much from repotting with any other medium such as fir bark. You'll have to come to the meeting to see for yourself.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in August. I know it is one of the hottest months to venture out in the heat but I hope we all learn something new at this meeting. Until then, happy growing !

Lou Ann

Raffle Donors

June meeting – Gary Cauble, Bob MacLeod, Wilella Stimmell,
and non-member, Mark Obermayer

July meeting – John & Karen Barber, Gary Cauble, Bob MacLeod,
Julie Rathbun, Wilella Stimmell, and non-member, Mike Sielaff

THANK YOU ALL !

Board Meetings

August 24th, Northern AZ VA Health Care System, Prescott
September 21st, at 1 PM at the home of Barbara Parnell

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From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

Several of our members were lucky enough to enjoy summer vacations in cooler climates. I wasn't one of them! That's not a case of envy; it's just a matter of fact.

For our June 2nd meeting, we had excellent attendance considering the fact that our program was a discussion by our members of various pest control measures that they use on their orchids. Years ago, when the late Leith Plunkett was our Program Chair, we scheduled a program about our favorite orchid books. Leith was surprised that the meeting was a success. Our June meeting would also have surprised him.

For our July 7th meeting, we saw a DVD on orchid growing. The orchid pictures were colorful, but at the end of the program, our members voiced their disagreement about the narrator's approach to handling cutting tools, etc. It's one thing to listen to how a grower approaches repotting; it's another when a visual aid is involved. Our veteran members are not shy about voicing their opinions, and for that all of us can be thankful!

Our members and friends were very generous with their raffle table donations for both the June and July meetings. Thanks to all of our donors!

During our August 4th meeting, I will ask for a show of hands of the number of members who want to join us on our Sunday, **August 24th 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 our 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.

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 4th meeting will be conducted by OSA member, Gary Cauble, who grows his orchids in coconut coir AND outside. Lou Ann Remeikis will assist him.

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. It has been our custom for a retiring trustee 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 meeting because it falls on Labor Day.

See you on August 4!

Julie

New Members

Jimmy and Amy Chia

Seek them out, introduce yourself, make them welcome

NAVAHCS WISH LIST FOR FIELD TRIP

For the nursing home –

*personal size toiletries (nothing containing alcohol)

*books (nothing war-related)

*puzzles

*sweat pants for men, particularly **extra large sizes**

*small decorative items that will move or make noise for stimulation

*white t-shirts, particularly **extra large sizes**

THE DOG DAYS OF AUGUST

The humidity is up; the temperatures are oppressive; and we humans are wilting. If we're uncomfortable, think about your orchids and how they "feel". Make sure that you have plenty of fans on hand so that air circulates freely around your orchids. The old adage is true: if you are comfortable, your orchids will also be comfortable.



Use this

On their website, the American Orchid Society has an article about heat stress.



To help prevent this !

The Arizona Orchidist is published monthly by the

Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.

Direct Inquiries to our website at:

www.orchidsocietyaz.org

Or to any of the Board Officers or Trustees:

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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.

ORCHIDS IN ART

The October Orchid Show and Sale will be here in no time. The theme this year is "Orchids In Art" and members are encouraged to lend the show items showing orchids in décor such as pictures, vases and the like. We also are in need of any small dark wood tables or plant stands for displaying the plants.

Barbara Parnell

Boruca Masks



Boruca is an indigenous tribe in South-Pacific Costa Rica, located among the Talamanca Mountains 20 km from Panama. The Boruca tribe is estimated to have around 2,000 members and is located on an indigenous reserve, where about 140 km² of land are protected for their use. According to Costa Rican law, tribes on the reservation land, like Boruca, have the right to self-governance.

The pride of the Boruca people is their ornately carved, wooden masks. The masks come in many different varieties and styles, but authentic Boruca masks demonstrate an expert craft, passed down for centuries. In addition to the two most common styles: Diablo and Ecological, masks are made to look like jaguars, birds or a combination of the styles.

Their striking, hand-carved boruca masks are so popular that imitations are sold throughout the Central American country. But the indigenous culture is more than a mask. Boruca is built on faith in the wisdom of elders and the Boruca legends they tell, passed down for centuries. The identity of Boruca reflects a deep respect for the stories told, the nature that surrounds them, and the community they share.

The Boruca people are very proud to have survived the struggles between the native tribes and Spanish conquistadors in the 1500s with their village and sense of identity intact. While many indigenous tribes consider themselves to have been defeated by the Spanish, Boruca demonstrates that a tribe cannot be defeated if its culture is still alive today. Boruca is very much alive.

Though the Boruca have kept their identity intact, the Spanish colonization left an influence — most notably through the presence of the Roman Catholic church and its traditions. Spanish is now the dominant language in Boruca.

www.boruca.org

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lou Remeikis 3rd
Joe Bacik and Dennis Olivas 5th
Marlene Hill 17th
Iva Dobson 18th
Jeanette Socaciu and Megan Stuff 19th
Gary Remeikis 25th

From the Archives
The Arizona Orchidist Newsletter
January 1986

The Spoilers

The picture's there,
(page 980- AOS Bulletin-December)
of a felled jungle on a hillside,
(article-compliments of Rebecca Northen),
of a jungle ready for burning,
and I see desolation.

I see a quietus,
an aceldama where bulldozers
pushed live trees—(with orchids appended),
to prone logs that shriek of destruction.
I see God looking down
through grey clouds,
causing sympathetic skies
to weep on shorn acres.

I see rare species lost
to impatient thoughtlessness,
and conscience, like a scared hare, races
over grounds of an overt act.

I see the dark curve of a crow
banked against the grey clouds,
hawking his anger racuosly
at such a waste
of nature's bounty,

and I am sad.

Clarence S. Lindsten

Editors note: Permission was asked and granted to Rebecca Tyson Northen by Clarence S. Lindsten for the above poem to be included in her revised edition of "Home Orchid Growing"



Orchid Habitat Loss.
Gunung Leuser National Park,
Sumatra, Indonesia
photo by
Kathleen Sullivan and Eric Hunt

OSA August 2014 Calendar

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



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