



# The Arizona Orchidist

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## NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting  
will be **Monday, December 7, 2009**  
at **7:00 P.M.**

Meetings are held at the

**Training Center**  
at the

**Arizona State Veteran Home**  
**4141 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Phoenix.**

OSA meetings are open to all  
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided.

**By everyone !**

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (480) 948-0714

Mary Gannon (623) 878-4173

Carol Erwin (602) 996-1696

**Joint Board Meeting 1:00 PM**

**December 27th**

at the home of Julie Rathbun

**Grower on Call**

**Julie Rathbun**

[jandfent@aol.com](mailto:jandfent@aol.com)

**(602) 843-0223**

## December Program

### Annual December Fund-raising Auction

Our 15<sup>th</sup> annual holiday buffet and live auction fund-raiser will begin promptly at 7 PM on Monday, December 7th, in Liberty Hall at the Arizona State Veteran Home.

You are cordially invited to join in the fun of our auction. There will be both a live and silent auction of orchid plants and orchid-related items. As you know, OSA is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to community service, and we do NOT accept grant money. Our December auction is one of our major fund-raisers in the year.

We need your donations of plants and orchid-related items. If you don't have anything to donate for the live and/or silent auction, join in the bidding, and perhaps you'll take home one or more plants from your "wish list" or orchid-related items to give as holiday gifts. This is your one-stop shopping adventure!

**An expanded refreshment table will be provided by OSA members.**

Note to guests and new members who are attending their first OSA December auction: NO credit cards are accepted.

### THANKS TO THE NOVEMBER RAFFLE TABLE DONORS

**Joe Bacik, Wilella Stimmell  
and non-member Craig Pearson**

**THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**

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## From the President's Desk

### Julie Rathbun

Our annual show on November 7th and 8th was another successful event! This year's show theme was HATS OFF TO ORCHIDS. Thanks to **Debbie Easley Murphy, co-owner of Easley's Fun Shop** for continuing to support OSA by loaning us props (this year we borrowed fancy hats) to display during our show.

Every year Bob MacLeod creates amazing props for our show. We are firmly convinced that there is nothing that Bob can't build and have it look like it was done by a professional master builder. Without Bob's creative talents, our shows would look like several other orchid society shows – bland and lacking creative effort. Our annual show is always unique! Thanks, Bob!!

This year our Annual Show Chair was Lou Ann Remeikis. She deserves high praise from all OSA members. Thanks, Lou Ann, for your team spirit and dedication to OSA. Lou Ann has already agreed to serve as next year's Annual Show Chair! And Kimberly Levingston has agreed to design our show flyer! (Kimberly also designed the flyer for this year's show. She is very talented and creative!) Thanks, ladies!

This year our November monthly meeting occurred BEFORE our show. The timing of the meeting gave us a chance to twist arms of members and encourage them to volunteer to help work during the show. Our longtime dependable workers signed on, and some of our new members also volunteered to help!

Our election of officers for OSA's 2010 Board of Directors took place during our November 2nd meeting. Lou Ann Remeikis moved and Bob MacLeod seconded the motion that the slate of candidates prepared by Nominating Committee Chair, Seelye Smith, with the assistance of two other committee members, Keith Mead and Bob MacLeod, be accepted by acclamation. The motion passed. Thanks to the Nominating Committee members for their time and efforts! (Elsewhere in this issue, you will find the list of newly elected officers whose terms begin on January 1, 2010.)

Special thanks to our two retiring trustees: Seelye Smith and Frank Bopp. They have been valuable, reliable members of OSA's board, and I hope that they will continue to help OSA!

Our November meeting program was presented by **Joe Bacik**. His multimedia program featured our annual October trip to the Morongo Basin Orchid Festival in Landers, CA. For the program, it was necessary for Joe to edit 3.5 HOURS of action that he logged and filmed during our trip and condense his GPS gizmo, camcorder film, and photos into a one hour program. It took him DAYS to compose the program. Thanks, Joe! We really appreciated your effort on our behalf!

Our December 7th meeting will be our annual fund-raising auction and the last event in this year for us to raise money for our community service agenda. Both a live and silent auction will be held during our meeting. Doug Baldwin has graciously agreed to serve as our auctioneer, and he will be ably assisted by Aaron Hicks. If you haven't seen these two in action during an auction, you should know that they have fun and make the entire evening an enjoyable event. The smorgasbord of food on our expanded refreshment tables is an added attraction!

Our joint board meeting of retiring and newly-elected officers will be held on December 27th at my home at 1 PM.

See you on December 7!

Julie

## 2010 OSA Board of Directors

President – Julie Rathbun

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Aaron Hicks

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Joe Bacik

Secretary – Barbara Parnell

Treasurer – Wilella Stimmell

Trustee – Debra Hartill (term expiring 12/11)

Trustee – Diane Norman (term expiring 12/11)

Our two Trustees who will complete their term of office in 12/10 are Kimberly Levingston and Carol Erwin.

## Joint Board Meeting

The December board meeting is a joint meeting of retiring and newly elected board members. The meeting will be held on December 27<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM at the home of Julie Rathbun.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Enclosed with this issue is a membership renewal form. OSA's calendar year ends on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

At your earliest convenience, please complete all areas of the form and return it with your 2010 membership dues to the Treasurer's address that is listed on the form, or bring your completed form with cash or check to our December or January meeting. Please do not pay your dues without completing your renewal form!

For those who receive their newsletters via e-mail, a separate attachment is (or should be!) included with this month's newsletter. If you didn't receive a renewal form, contact our newsletter Editor, Keith Mead, at [kjkm@comcast.net](mailto:kjkm@comcast.net)

W. Stimmell

The *Arizona Orchidist* is published monthly by the Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.  
Direct Inquiries to our website at:  
**[www.orchidsocietyaz.org](http://www.orchidsocietyaz.org)**

Or to any of the Board Officers or Trustees:

### Board of Directors for 2009

<b>President</b>	(602) 843-0223
Julie Rathbun	jandfent@aol.com
<b>First Vice President</b>	(480) 722-9328
Aaron Hicks	ahicks51@cox.net
In House Program Chairman	
<b>Second Vice President</b>	(480) 785-2251
Joe Bacik	bacikj@cox.net
Outside Speaker Program Chairman	
<b>Secretary</b>	(480) 948-0714
Barbara Parnell	birdie552002@yahoo.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	(480) 947-8479
Wilella Stimmell	willellas@worldnet.att.net
<b>Librarian</b>	(602) 803-6889
Lou Ann Remeikis	remeikis@andiamo-tel.com
<b>Editor</b>	(505) 898-0975
Keith Mead	kjkm@comcast.net
<b>Trustees</b>	Frank Bopp (623) 937-0019 fgbopp@cox.net
	Carol Erwin (602) 996-1696 nerwin2@cox.net
	Kimberly Levingston (602) 843-6213 kimberlydahle@yahoo.com
	Seelye Smith (602) 404-1013 sss3301@hotmail.com

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 Orchid Digest Corporation, the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. , and The Nature Conservancy.

## **ANOTHER SHOW UNDER OUR BELT!!!**

Well, this year's show is history. If you came to the show, either as a volunteer or as a "shopper", you were able to see the amount of work that went into this event. I say "work" because it was a lot of work, but I must add that it was "fun" seeing the results of the efforts made by many of our members.

For those of you who do not know of the process, the first order of business towards a successful show is the first show planning meeting. This is the time we throw ideas around for our theme (if it hasn't already been decided upon). Obviously the ideal situation would be for more of our members to participate at the ground level, helping to develop the show's concept. The show dates, set-up date, and location are chosen. Of course, nothing is set in concrete until we submit our proposed show information and receive the approval from the venue's administration (Arizona State Veteran's Home). After approval is received, the real work begins.

The Show budget is determined, and this amount is presented to the OSA Board of Directors for approval, denial, and modification, if necessary. Responsibilities are then established and members volunteer to perform a number of jobs. The Show Chair is chosen, in addition to who will be doing publicity, who will design and produce the show flyer, who will print the flyers for distribution, who will work on set design and construction, and choices for the refreshment table are discussed, etc. You get the picture!

Several show planning meetings are scheduled throughout the year to work out details, monitor our group's progress, and fine tune the particulars. And...we can't forget the three day buying trip to Gubler's during the Morongo Basin Orchid Festival. The participating members hand-pick the plants to be sold at our show, and provide hands-on repotting classes for the public who attend.

As you can see, there is a great deal of "work" that goes into our annual Orchid Show & Sale, and I haven't even touched on how valuable YOU, our fellow member, are to the success of each year's show. Without you we wouldn't have the help with show set-up, mingling and assisting visitors to our Show, set destruction, and the wonderful display plants and props for our orchid displays.

I certainly hope the following list is complete. I apologize, in advance, if anyone's name is omitted from it. This list hopefully includes all of our members who volunteered their time and energy to making the 2009 show a success. Please join me in thanking them for their creativity, dedication, and participation in this year's show. It could not have been done without the cooperative efforts of everyone!

*Continued on page 5*

Continued from page 4

OSA recognizes the following members for all of their help:

Wilella Stimmell	Julie Rathbun	Joe Bacik
Barbara Parnell	Kimberly Levingston	Seelye Smith
Bob MacLeod	Karolyn Hall	Diane Norman
Demitris Sagias	Tony Duran	Frank Bopp
Ann Cherny	Cynthia Schnitzer	Rob MacLeod (Bob's son)

Debbie Easley Murphy of Easley's Fun Shop, 509 West McDowell Road, Phoenix and the wonderful staff at the Arizona State Veteran Home.

As I have been "voted" in as the Show Chair for the 2010 Orchid Show & Sale, I wish to extend an invitation to any and all who would like to join in on the creative end of planning next year's event. Our first Show planning meeting date has yet to be determined, however I can guarantee it will be published as soon as possible so you can make plans to attend.

Thanks for a job well done in 2009, and I look forward to working with YOU in the 2010 year!

Happy Holidays!

### Instructions for those donating plants or orchid-related items for the December auction

Although our December 7th auction will begin promptly at 7 PM, **members bringing donations need to arrive by 6:30** at Liberty Hall and do two things:

1. **A minimum bid should be CLEARLY written on the item** so that if it's an item for the **LIVE** auction, our auctioneer, **Doug Baldwin** and his assistant, **Aaron Hicks**, will be able to **READ** the minimum bid. Items that don't fetch minimum bid will be returned to the donors **ONLY** if they write **ON** the item – "return to (name) if the item does not receive a minimum bid". The items so marked will be left on the live auction tables. It will be a donor's responsibility to retrieve unsold items at the end of the meeting.

2. **Members arriving later than 6:30 and who have items for the SILENT auction, need to physically take the items to the silent auction tables.** (See #1 regarding items that do not receive a minimum bid.)

An OSA member will be stationed at the silent auction tables.

## PRESS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT:

Chris Gubler, Event Co-Chair  
760-364-2282

**Yucca Valley, California**

### ***Heavy Winds on Sunday Could Not Stop Another Orchid Festival Fundraising Record. The Weekend Event Raised \$12,632.00 for Desert Charities***

The Yucca Valley Sunset Rotary announced that the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Morongo Basin Orchid Festival, held earlier this month, broke another fundraising record this year netting \$12,632.73 for charitable causes. Saturday's turnout was spectacular and represented substantial gains over the previous year. On Sunday Mother Nature huffed and puffed with wind gusts up to 40 mph, which prevented many visitors from attending the festival and negated Saturday's increases. "Given the poor shape of the economy and high winds on Sunday, we are ecstatic that we could achieve another fundraising record." Yucca Valley Sunset President Anne Sholtz said.

Corporate sponsors helped lay the ground work for the success of this year's Orchid festival. Corporate sponsors this year included Costco, Gubler Orchids, Mackenzie's Gift Shop, Chets Appliance, McDonalds, Pacific Western Bank, and Trader Joes. The strong turnout on Saturday is attributed to our media sponsors Hi-Desert Star and Z107.7 which did a tremendous job getting the word out.

Rotary Bucks continues to be a very popular way for festival goers to support the charity of their choice. This year the festival hosted 15 charities who registered ahead of time to have booths at the festival. Festival goers received Rotary Bucks for spending money on orchids, food, and drink, and in turn they "donated" the Bucks to the charities of their choice. Organizations that garnered the most "Rotary Bucks" in first place was Guide Dogs of the Desert, second place Unity Home, and third place the American Food Bank. In addition to the Rotary Bucks these top earners received \$1000. Bonus for 1<sup>st</sup>. place, \$750.00 bonus for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and 500.00 for third. The remaining Organizations received their Rotary dollars collected, plus an additional \$100.00 bonus.

"We are humbled how fortunate we are to have the support of both the businesses and people in the desert communities. It is because of their support that the festival has grown into a community event that lends a helping hand to non profit organizations that are willing to take part" said festival founder Chris Gubler. "A very big thank you to those who participated." Gubler graciously added.

Please visit [www.gublers.com](http://www.gublers.com) and [www.sunsetrotary.org](http://www.sunsetrotary.org) for more information about the event or its hosts. The Fifteenth annual festival is scheduled for October 2nd and 3rd, 2010.

*Editors Note: Although the funds raised from OSA's classes are included in the final tally, we are not mentioned by name in the press release.*

*Message from Chris: "We beat last year's amount by \$230.00. Together we raised \$12,632.73 for the benefit of mankind. OSA is such a part of the festival, and it is always great to see you all."*

## GUBLER'S GOES GREEN

The first weekend in October each year your dedicated “team” makes a journey to participate in the Morongo Basin Orchid Festival. Every trip has brought new and exciting changes at Gubler Orchids, host of the festival for the Yucca Valley Sunset Rotary Club.

Many years ago we were introduced to the installation of “rolling benches” in the greenhouses at Landers. This innovation allows one person to move an entire row of plants by simply turning the pipe rollers on which the benches sit. Over the years we have seen the reconstruction and refurbishing of the greenhouses at Lucerne, the completion of covered pathways connecting the houses and the construction of a large modern staging and shipping facility. This year we shared in the excitement of the installation of wind turbines at the Lucerne facility.

These unique turbines are Vertical Axis Wind Turbines manufactured by WePower.

When the project is completed Gubler’s will have five turbines producing up to 21 kW per hour.

Chris writes “Gubler Orchids is very excited to be going green. With the addition of the 5.5 kWh turbine in Landers, the “Optimum Greenhouse” which burns no fossil fuels for night time heating is now completely green. (no carbon foot print).”

It is projected that in the Lucerne Valley, Gublers will be able to reduce their electricity demand by 20-25% when the project is completed.

What will be next year’s ‘going green’ innovation at Gubler Orchids?



The first two Vertical Axis Wind Turbines installed at the Lucerne property.  
For more information about VAWT check the website [www.wepower.us](http://www.wepower.us)

# OSA December 2009 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3  Connie Skinner	4  Janet Jurn	5
6	7 <b>OSA Meeting 7:00 PM</b>	8  Bev Tall	9  Shirley Engberg	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21  Doug Baldwin	22	23  Pam Albright	24	25 	26
27  Janella Bacik	28	29	30  Jennifer Schmitt	31		



Orchid Society of Arizona  
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