



The

# Arizona Orchidist

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## NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting  
will be **Monday, February 4, 2008**  
at 7:00 P.M.

Meetings are held at the  
Encanto Park Clubhouse  
2605 N. 15th Ave., Phoenix, Arizona  
North of Encanto Blvd. on 15th Ave.

Phone (602) 261-8993

OSA meetings are open to all  
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided.

Snacks by

Marleny Castillo and Lou Ann Remeikis

Beverage by

Marleny

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (480) 948-0714

Mary Gannon (623) 878-4173

## OSA BOARD MEETING

Board Meetings

are open to all members

The next Board meeting will be  
Sunday, February 24th at 1 PM  
the home of Seelye Smith

(602) 404-1013

## GROWER ON CALL

Wilella Stimmell

[wilellas@worldnet.att.net](mailto:wilellas@worldnet.att.net)

## February Program

### **PAPHIOPEDILUMS MODERN BREEDING TRENDS, CONSERVATION, POLLINATION BIOLOGY, AND CULTIVATION**

“Blaine Maynor is the sole proprietor of Orchids for the People, an orchid nursery in McKinleyville, CA. He studied Botany and Pollination Biology at Humboldt State University. Through Blaine’s retail nursery, he focuses on Pleurothallids, miniature orchids, and species orchids. From 2002 through 2006, he served in a leadership position of the Humboldt Orchid Society. Blaine’s personal collection of orchids emphasizes Masdevallias, Draculas, species, and miniatures.” *Bio notes by Jennifer Maynor*

During our meeting, there will be a silent auction of plants from Orchids for the People.

This will be the first time that Blaine has visited Arizona. Welcome, Blaine!

The URL for the website of Orchids for the People is  
[www.orchidpeople.com](http://www.orchidpeople.com)

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## From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

For those of you who were unable to attend our January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, you missed welcoming our newest OSA member, **Carol Erwin**. She is an enthusiastic new grower and won several plants from our raffle table. Although she was very happy at her good fortune, she also said that she felt guilty winning so many plants. Those of us who buy raffle tickets every month know that sometimes we win nothing, and sometimes we win several times.

The speaker for our January meeting was Eric Elsberry, owner of the Arizona Vanilla Company in Mesa. His PowerPoint presentation, the Cultivation and Curing of Vanilla, was excellent! Our members asked questions, and Eric and his wife, Patty, provided answers. We are very pleased that Arizona Vanilla Company has grown since Eric last spoke to us in October, 2006. Their products are now being sold on eBay and Amazon.com as well as in retail stores and wholesale providers! Local ice cream stores and bakeries are also using Arizona Vanilla Company products. And for the third time, Eric and Patty have been invited to return to the Greater New York Orchid Society Show.

During our January meeting I thanked Harry Parnell for picking up a donation of plants from Frank Bunch, a non-OSA member who was in the process of moving out of state. Harry took the plants to his home, and Barbara brought the plants to my greenhouse. **Thanks to both Harry and Barbara for their efforts on our behalf!**

Barbara passed around the sign-up sheet for refreshments. **We still need volunteers to bring refreshments for May through November meetings**, so at our February meeting, Barbara will again pass around the sheet.

Our membership application/renewal form was available at our January meeting. For those of you who read our January newsletter, you know that the renewal form was NOT in our newsletter because there was no space to include it. Keith, the Editor of our newsletter, included a note about the missing renewal form. Keith, don't forget to include the OSA renewal form in this issue. For those of you who already renewed your membership but receive a renewal form in the February newsletter, pass the form along to a potential new member!

We have a community service program scheduled for Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM. Elsewhere in this issue, you will find details about the program for the Northwest Regional Library in Surprise. Unfortunately I will be unable to assist with the program because I have a short-term day job, but I hope that several members will help with this program because we need as many helpers as possible.

See you at our February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting!

Julie

## COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

By Wilella Stimmell, CSP Coordinator

Our first program for 2008 will be held on **Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM**, at the **North-west Regional Library** in **Surprise**. It will be a multi-generational Orchids 101 and repotting program, and we need members to assist. The address for the library is 16089 N. Bullard Ave., Surprise.

This year the date for the **Equestrian Special Olympics** has been moved from January to **MARCH 8**. OSA members always enjoy helping with this event. Further details will be included in our March newsletter.

Special thanks to OSA members who contribute 12-packs of soda pop and/or funds toward the purchase of soda pop and snacks for the residents of the Arizona State Veteran Home. For benefit of newer members, each month we donate at least 5 cases of soda pop and assorted snacks. And for the diabetic veterans, we donate sugar-free chocolate bars. For these residents, sugar-free chocolate is a comfort food!

### New Member

**CAROL ERWIN**

**Welcome to the OSA Family**

### JANUARY RAFFLE DONORS

Bob MacLeod, Wilella Stimmell,  
Coastal Gardens, the family of Ken Gettys, and  
non-member, Frank Bunch

THANK YOU!

The *Arizona Orchidist* is published monthly by the

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Direct Inquiries to our website at:

[www.orchidsocietyaz.org](http://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 Orchid Digest Corporation, the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., and The Nature Conservancy.

## IS TROPICAL DEFORESTATION REALLY OCCURRING?

**Rhett A. Butler, mongabay.com**  
**January 8, 2008**

*New assessment suggests global deforestation data from the U.N. is deeply flawed and without better monitoring it is impossible to know whether net forest cover in the tropics is expanding or declining.*

U.N. data on tropical deforestation does not show a decline in forest cover over the past generation, reports a new study published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS).

Examining "all available" forestry data published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Dr Alan Grainger, a researcher at the University of Leeds in the U.K., found serious flaws resulting from the aggregation of self-reported of forest figures from individual states.

"The errors and inconsistencies I have discovered in the area data raise too many questions to provide convincing support for the accepted picture of tropical forest decline over the last 40 years," Grainger said. "Scientists all over the world who have used these data to make predictions of species extinctions and the role of forests in global climate change will find it helpful to revisit their findings in the light of my study."

Grainger says that while deforestation is occurring in some areas, going by FAO figures, there is no evidence of a net decline in tropical forest cover. He cites two UN reports as an example. FAO's Global Forest Resources Assessment 2000 showed that all tropical forest area fell from 1,926 million hectares to 1,799 million hectares between 1990 and 2000, but ten years earlier FAO's previous report stated that tropical forest area fell from 1,910 million ha to 1,756 million ha for the same 90 countries between 1980 and 1990.

"Owing to corrections to the earlier study, the 1990s trend was just like a 're-run' of that in the 1980s," said Dr Grainger. "The errors involved in making estimates for forest area could easily be of the same order as the forest area reported cleared in the previous 10 years. Even if you take enormous care, as FAO does, I argue that large errors are inevitable if you produce global estimates by aggregating national statistics from many countries. This has important implications for the many scientists who rely on FAO data."

Grainger's own estimates based on a different data set for tropical moist forest, excluding dry tropical forests, suggest that humid forest cover in 63 countries actually increased 9 percent from 1,081 million hectares in 1980 to 1,181 million hectares in 2000. He said the observed change could partly result from improved satellite technologies which more accurately measure forest extent.

"We would expect to see some increase in estimates as we use more accurate satellite sensors," he explained. "This is even apparent in FAO's data. It is sad that only in the last 10 years have we begun to make full use of the satellite technology at our disposal."

Still Grainger says that natural regeneration of forest is occurring in some countries, like Gambia and Vietnam. [Previous studies have projected forest recovery](#) where rural populations are abandoning the countryside for cities. Nevertheless some biologists have argued that regenerating forests [cannot make up for biodiversity losses](#) associated with the conversion of primary forests to degraded forests. [A number of studies](#) have shown that logged forest and recovering forest is [biologically impoverished](#) relative to old growth forest.

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To address inconsistencies in U.N. data, Grainger urges the establishment of a World Forest Observatory to monitor changes in forest cover.

"What is happening to the tropical forests is so important, both to the peoples of tropical countries and to future trends in biodiversity and global climate, that we can no longer put off investing in an independent scientific monitoring programme that can combine satellite and ground data to give a reliable picture," he said.

"A World Forest Observatory would bring together existing research teams in Europe, the USA and elsewhere and ensure they are properly funded to continue mapping tropical forest at least every five years. It could also undertake a massive project to analyze all available satellite and other data from the past and reconstruct the trend in tropical forest area since 1970. Only then will we really know what has happened to tropical forests over the last 40 years."

CITATION: Alan Grainger (2007). Difficulties in tracking the long-term global trend in tropical forest area. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences January 7-11, 2008.

Editors notes: The above article presents an alternative view to the widely held belief of tropical deforestation and is reprinted here with the permission of the author Rhett A. Butler of San Francisco, California.

Mr. Butler's website Mongabay.com aims to raise interest in wildlife and wildlands while promoting awareness of environmental issues. Originally the site was based around a text on tropical rainforests that he developed over a four year period (1996-2000), but today the site has expanded to other topics. In 2004 he developed [WildMadagascar.org](http://WildMadagascar.org) to focus on the incredible biodiversity of Madagascar. In 2005 he released a [kids version](#) of the rainforest site and launched the mongabay [environmental science news](#) site. In 2006, he introduced the first [foreign language versions](#) of the kids' site.

Mongabay.com and WildMadagascar.org are self-funded -- there is no organization or outside funder associated with the site. Advertising covers the cost of running the site.

## Home Remedies

### CROWN ROT TREATMENT

Crown rot is caused by letting water sit in the folds between leaves, resulting in a bacterial or fungal infection, or even both. Prevention is the key, so water or mist early in the day so the stuff has time to dry by nightfall. If you do get a case of crown rot:

1. Pour a liberal amount of hydrogen peroxide in the wound and let it stand for about 5 minutes to kill the infecting agents.
2. Tilt the plant to pour the liquid out of the crown.
3. Let the plant dry completely.
4. Sprinkle with dry cinnamon.
5. Treat the plant normally, being sure to keep the wound dry.

*Thanks to Ray Barkalow of First Ray's Orchids [www.firstrays.com](http://www.firstrays.com)  
Visit his website for other great remedies.*

# OSA February 2008 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2  <i>Carol Erwin</i>
3	4 <i>OSA Meeting</i> 7PM	5	6  <i>Yuka Hughes</i>	7	8	9  <i>Tami Ryall</i>
10	11	12	13	14 <i>Bob Gordon</i>  	15	16
17	18	19  <i>Jim Johnson</i> <i>Jim Lauck</i> <i>Penny Nighbor</i>	20	21	22	23
24 <i>Board Meeting</i> 1 PM	25	26	27	28	29	



Orchid Society of Arizona

c/o Keith Mead

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