



The Arizona Orchidist

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NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting
will be **Monday, February 1st at 7:00 P.M.**

Meetings are held at the

Training Center

at the

Arizona State Veteran Home

4141 N. 3rd St., Phoenix.

OSA meetings are open to all
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided by

Debra Hartill and Jo Anne Waddoups

Beverages by

Bob MacLeod

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (480) 948-0714

Mary Gannon (623) 878-4173

Carol Erwin (602) 996-1696

Board Meeting

February 28th

1 PM at the home of

Julie Rathbun

Grower on Call

Jim Johnson

jjm1958@nphs.us

February Program

*Happy
Valentine's Day!*

Our Favorite Angraecoids and Why You Should Grow Them Too!

Brenda Oviatt of Botanica Ltd. in Missoula, Montana will speak about Angraecoids - the common term used for the two smaller subtribes (Aerangidinae and Angraecinae) within the Vanda Tribe.

Brenda Oviatt and Bill Nerison have been growing orchids for over 25 years. Over time, their interest in growing has become focused on rare and endangered species; primarily Angraecoids. Many species in this group are not readily available; in part because they're from regions of the world that are falling victim to habitat destruction. Brenda provides a mix of terminology, culture information and beautiful images to both educate and entice growers to desire more of these special orchids.

Website <http://botanicaltd.com>

Bio notes by Brenda Oviatt

Editor's Note: During the meeting, there will be a silent auction of plants from Botanica Ltd. This will be Brenda's first visit to OSA. Please extend a warm welcome to her.

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From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

During our January meeting, a new member joined our happy orchid family! Even though our local economy shows little if any signs of improvement, I hope that a new member during the first meeting of the new year is a sign of good things to follow for OSA in the remainder of the year!

Also at our January meeting, our raffle table was loaded with excellent plants. Everyone who bought raffle tickets won at least one plant. In all of the years that I've been a member of OSA, to my recollection, this is the first time that everyone was a winner!

At our January meeting, I mentioned that, as time permits, I've been working on a quilt for our December auction. We will begin selling raffle tickets as soon as I have enough of the quilting done so that the item actually looks like a quilt and not just a piece of fabric with a beautiful orchid design. I will bring the quilt to our public events so that people can see my labor of love. The fabric was donated, and my labor is/will be donated. We hope to sell lots of raffle tickets for the quilt!

Aaron Hicks did an excellent job leading the January repotting program. He always adds additional information when he's looking at a plant and deciding whether it really needs to be repotted. He also adds humor to his comments. Thanks, Aaron!

It's not too early to start reminding members that this year, due to holidays, there will be no July and no September meetings. There will be a combined June/July newsletter and a combined August/September newsletter.

Since December, 2009, out of fear that visitors not familiar with Phoenix, would be confused, I've been avoiding mention of the street name change for 3rd Street north of Indian School Rd. However, now that the street sign has been changed, visitors won't see the N. 3rd St. sign (unless they look south of Indian School Rd. where the sign is still N. 3rd St.). Instead, they will see that 3rd St. north of Indian School has been renamed North S. Herrera Way. Why the name change when the veteran home has not moved? The change of the name of the street north of Indian School was to honor Silvestre Herrera, an Arizona veteran who was the only person to hold the U.S. Medal of Honor and the Mexican equivalent. According to the January, 2010 issue of the Arizona State Veteran Home newsletter, Silvestre Herrera "spent much of his later years visiting his friends at the Arizona State Veteran Home." At this time, we're not sure whether we will or should change the street address in our newsletters and on our fall show flyers to Herrera Way or list the address as "North S. Herrera Way (formerly known as N. 3rd St.)" I just wanted everyone to know that I am aware of the street name change. In a future newsletter, I'll let you know what your OSA Board decides to do. If the majority decides to use Herrera Way - to coincide with the street sign, the blame for confusing visitors will be shared by ALL board members!

Our February 1 speaker will be Brenda Oviatt of Botanica Ltd., Missoula, MT. Brenda and her 8 year-old son, Tristan, will be my house guests while they are in Phoenix. I understand that Tristan is very anxious to see all of my animals, and Brenda is ready for a warmer climate. You won't want to miss our February meeting! (If you attended our December auction and/or read our January newsletter, you know that Botanica Ltd. generously donated plants for our auction.)

Our February board meeting will be held at my home at 1 PM on February 28.

See you on February 1!

Julie

Valentine's Day



Don't forget Sunday, February 14th is Valentine's Day. Why not remember that loved one with the gift of an orchid? Cut flowers are DEAD when you buy them ! Orchids live *forever*.....well, not really, but a lot longer than roses!

NEW MEMBERS

.Barbara Dickstein and Clayton Newberry have joined the OSA family. Please make them feel welcome !

January Raffle Donors

Bob MacLeod, Wilella Stimmell,
and non-members
Mark Obermayer and Craig Pearson

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

LAST MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

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

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 if you wish to save a stamp, bring your completed form with cash or check to our February 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

W. Stimmell

FYI: There will be a postage increase in May, so you might want to stock up on the Forever stamps while they are still 44 cents per stamp. Forever stamps issued AFTER the postage increase will cost more than 44 cents per stamp.

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

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

Wilella Stimmell, CSP Coordinator

On January 8, **Bob MacLeod, Julie Rathbun**, and I presented an Orchids 101 program for the members of Washington Garden Club. After our program was over, we were presented with a donation check for our community service agenda. We didn't ask for a donation, but we graciously accepted the generous donation.

Thanks to Bob and Julie for bringing their blooming plants, we had a full table of colorful and diverse varieties of orchids. (I had only 5 plants in bloom.) We explained to the WGC members that orchids don't bloom "on cue" or when you need them to be in bloom.

Usually funny things happen during school programs, but this is the first time that a funny thing happened during a program for adults. For our display table, I didn't have a dendrob in bloom, so I took the fake one that "lives" on my kitchen table. Now it just so happened that Bob brought a live dendrob that had the same color flowers as my fake one. I don't know whether it was Bob or Julie who set the fake plant next to the live one, but...the garden club members didn't know that the plant was fake until I held it up and told them it was fake! They were completely fooled by the fake plant. That was fun! In fact, it was so much fun (for us) that we might use the fake plant in another Orchids 101 program, but to be effective, we need a live plant with the same color flowers to fool the audience. (My fake dendrob was used in our Magic of Orchids show. For those of you who remember the "magic" show, Bob had built a black box that revolved on a turn table. When visitors looked into the box, at first they saw nothing. Then the fake orchid came into view.)

Before we started our program, Mary Jo Wall, the AFGC Scholarship Chair and a member of Washington Garden Club, told the members that OSA donates funds for scholarships. She didn't have to do that, but it was nice to hear our contributions acknowledged.

We remembered some of the WGC members because we presented a program for them in 1999. One of the members has since moved to Washington state, and she reported via one of the members who attended the meeting on the 8th that the orchid that she won as the door prize in 1999, is still alive, blooms every year and has a new bloom spike! The report stimulated a lot of interest among the members at the meeting, and the lady who won our donated, blooming Phal was ecstatic that she was the lucky winner.

On January 5, we received an update on our most recent recipient of the Deacon Bell Scholarship Fund. Anne McCoy Estes received her PhD in December, 2009. She wrote: "Thank you so much for all of your help and that of the Orchid Society."

I have moved to Maryland and am now a visiting assistant professor at Towson University. I will be teaching General Biology for Biology Majors at the end of January."

We also received an e-Christmas card from Kathryn Mauz. She was the 3rd recipient of the Deacon Bell Scholarship Fund. (Anne McCoy Estes was the 4th and most recent recipient.) It's always a treat when recipients keep in touch with us.

We have no doctoral candidate for the spring semester this year, but with the help of Mary Jo Wall screening potential recipients for us, we hope to have a candidate for the fall semester.

Missouri Botanical Garden's 92nd Annual Orchid Show Features a Lush Indoor Garden

By Karen Hagenow

St Louis, MO - Experience the color, beauty and fragrance of orchids in bloom in the middle of winter. The Missouri Botanical Garden's 92nd annual Orchid Show features a lush indoor garden of French-inspired, curvilinear design, resplendent with up to 800 fresh-blooming orchids. The Orchid Show is the only time of year that the Garden's historic collection is made available for public viewing en masse, so hurry to see this fleeting display! Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, Saturday, Jan. 30 through Sunday, Mar. 28.

The Missouri Botanical Garden maintains one of the nation's largest orchid collections, with over 8,100 individual orchid plants in hundreds of varieties. Shades of warm yellows, energetic oranges and rosy reds mingle with passionate plums and winter whites reflected in the Oncidiums, Cymbidiums, Cattleyas and other orchids displayed amid lush greenery.

Saunter through the 5,000-square-foot Orthwein Floral Display Hall, transformed into a French-inspired temporary streetscape and garden. Stroll the curved Rue du Jardin beneath lit streetlamps. Meander past storefronts, alongside a rising image of Paris's monumental Eiffel Tower. Find dozens of larger-than-life butterflies aloft throughout the garden. Decorative fleur de lis finials and ornamental obelisks accent the sophisticated scene.

Winter-blooming orchids comprise about 60- to 70-percent of the Garden's prized collection, which concentrates on plants that can tolerate extremes in St. Louis temperatures. Throughout the duration of the eight-week show, orchids will be continually rotated out and replaced with fresh blooms as different cultivars come into flower, offering new sights and smells with each repeat visit. Photographers are welcome to use hand-held cameras to capture the show for personal enjoyment, but tripod and monopod usage is not permitted indoors.

Throughout the show's duration, stop by the Garden Gate Shop to browse a large selection of orchid plants, books and gardening accessories for both beginners and experienced growers. Proceeds support the Garden.

Several special events highlight the show's opening weekend. Enjoy a special lecture on Friday, Jan. 29 at 4 p.m. by Alan Tan Chye Soon, assistant director of living collections at the Singapore Botanic Gardens and an award-winning floral display designer specializing in orchids. The lecture is free and open to the public. Become a Garden member to enjoy an invitation to the exclusive members-only Orchid Show preview evening on Friday, Jan. 29 from 5:30 to 8 p.m.; visit www.mobot.org/membership to join. Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 30 and 31, the Orchid Society of Greater St. Louis will present their annual show and sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Beaumont Room. Society members will be on hand to share information and advice on the care of orchids. Entry is included with Garden admission.

From the Zoo and Aquarium Visitor January 10, 2010

OSA February 2010 Calendar

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|-----|---|---|-----|
| | 1 <i>OSA Meeting 7:00 PM</i> | 2  <i>Carol Erwin</i> | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 <i>Bob Gordon</i>   | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19  <i>Jim Johnson</i> | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | | | |  | | |



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