



# The Arizona Orchidist

Published monthly by

The Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.

Founding Editor- Clarence S. Lindsten

1966

Volume 49

January 2011

## NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting will be

**Monday, January 3rd at 7:00 P.M.**

Meetings are held at the

**Training Center**

**at the**

**Arizona State Veteran Home**

**4141 N. S. Herrera Way, Phoenix.**

OSA meetings are open to all  
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided

Beverages and Snacks by

OSA Board Members

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (480) 948-0714

Lou Ann Remeikis (602) 803-6889

Jo Anne Waddoups

480-654-9883

**Board Meeting**

**January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**1 PM at the home of Julie  
Rathbun**

**Grower on Call**

Julie Rathbun

602-843-0223

jandfent@aolcom

## JANUARY PROGRAM

### **Repotting of the 2 Super Large Northern Arizona VA Greenhouse Cattleyas**

For those of you who have seen the 2 C. Porcia 'Cannizaro' plants at one or more of our annual orchid shows, you know that these plants are probably the largest cattleyas that you have seen or will ever see! The plants are so large and heavy that we need to use a horse trailer to transport them from Prescott. These orchids have not been repotted for about 20 years. The VA greenhouse workers, who are not even familiar with much smaller orchids, have avoided repotting these plants. A few of our experienced growers will take charge of the repotting. Assuming that we can knock the plants out of their original pots, and not hurt ourselves in the process, you won't want to miss witnessing this once-in-a-lifetime repotting experience. What will we find at the bottom of the pots? Mushy bark or...no bark at all? Feel free to laugh when (not if) we make a mess.

W. Stimmell

### **FOR BENEFIT OF NEW OSA MEMBERS A brief history of the Grower on Call**

On page 1 of the Arizona Orchidist, you will find listed the name of the Grower on Call. For many years, this item has been included in all issues of The Arizona Orchidist. Who was responsible for this feature, and what does it mean? The late Leith Plunkett recommended that OSA institute a monthly Grower on Call to answer questions from new orchid growers. But it can also serve as a "911" call for help from any member who knows of an ailing member who needs help with his/her orchids.

### *IN THIS ISSUE*

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK	Julie Rathbun	Page 2
FROM THE ARCHIVES	"Growing <i>Trichopilia suavis</i> "	Page 4
HAPPY NEW YEAR	Poem by Clarence Lindsten	Page 5



## From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

Happy holidays to all! And to our members who are in poor health and/or to those members whom we have not seen in 2010, may 2011 be a better year for you!

The weather on December 6 couldn't have been better for our annual fund-raiser! Those who were unable to attend our annual auction missed out on purchasing gorgeous orchid plants (quite a few were rare AND in bud) at bargain prices, unusual orchid-related items (several were one-of-a-kind gifts), and another fun time! We always have fun at our auction, and one of the main reasons for that is the interaction between our live auctioneers, **Doug Baldwin** and **Aaron Hicks**. Thanks guys! You two always set the tone of our auctions.

As most of you know, our auction was scheduled to be held in Liberty Hall at the veteran home. (Liberty Hall is the largest meeting room.) However, in the morning on the day of our auction, we received a panic telephone call from Candy Covarrubiaz, the gal who reserves Liberty Hall for groups. On Monday morning, she found out that someone else had scheduled a group of visiting veterans to meet that evening in Liberty Hall. She really hoped that it wouldn't ruin our auction if we met in the Training Center. The staff at the veteran home is and has always been extremely helpful to us, so we assured her that we could adjust. And for those of you who attended our financially successful auction, you know that we "squeezed" everybody into the Training Center. We stowed packing boxes and our culture sheet box in the lounge outside of the Training Center.

Several ASVH residents who became aware that a "party" was going on in the Training Center, joined us. I'm not sure if they joined us because they smelled our food or because they had also attended our show in October. When residents feel welcome to attend our events, I think it says a lot about the friendliness of our group. Mike, one of the wheelchair-bound residents bought an orchid for his wife. At last year's auction, he also bought an orchid plant for his wife who grows orchids at home on her kitchen windowsill.

Thanks to everyone who brought food for the expanded refreshment table. We had a large variety of delicious food from which to choose. And thanks to members who were unable to attend our auction, but who donated items for our auction and delivered them to me. And last but not least, thanks to all members and vendors who generously donated items for our annual fund-raiser.

One of our members won the quilt raffle drawing! (Before the start of the auction, Doug and Aaron helped me display the quilt. Thanks, guys!!)

It's the start of a new year, and I hope that board members and general members will be as helpful as they were in 2010. This is the beginning of my 6<sup>th</sup> year as your President. Serving as your President has been a labor of love (including a lot of **physical** labor).

Our January board meeting will be held on the 23rd at 1 PM at my home. OSA board meetings are open to all members, and all members are welcome. If you are not a board member but want to know more about the business of successfully operating a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, feel free to attend one or more board meetings. Please notify the host or hostess that you plan to attend a meeting. Since food is always a part of any OSA meeting, the host/hostess needs to know how many people expect to attend.

See you on January 3!

Julie

## 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 2011 membership dues to the Treasurer's address that is listed on the form, or bring your completed form with cash or check to our 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)

## SPECIAL THANKS

**To the following businesses for generously donating items for our December, 2010 Fund-raiser:**

**JEWELL ORCHIDS**  
25 Good Hope Rd.  
Colbert, GA 30628  
Phone: (706) 742-5065  
E-mail: [orchids@jewellorchids.com](mailto:orchids@jewellorchids.com)  
[www.@jewellorchids.com](http://www.@jewellorchids.com)

**RAINBOW BAY ORCHIDS**  
33 SE Meadowlark Lane  
Waldport, OR 97394  
Phone: (541) 563-5396  
E-mail: [Mijo730@aol.com](mailto:Mijo730@aol.com)  
[www.rborchids.com](http://www.rborchids.com)

**SEATTLE ORCHID.COM**  
E-mail: [brian@SeattleOrchid.com](mailto:brian@SeattleOrchid.com)

Brian Schlittenhardt (co-owner)  
Phone: (206) 979-9116  
[www.seattleorchid.com](http://www.seattleorchid.com)

**Thanks also to the 3 orchid vendors who requested that they NOT be acknowledged in our newsletter. Your donations were greatly appreciated!**

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 2011

<b>President</b>	(602) 843-0223
Julie Rathbun	<a href="mailto:jandfent@aol.com">jandfent@aol.com</a>
<b>First Vice President</b>	(623) 810-3967
Bob Macleod	In House Program Chairman
<b>Second Vice President</b>	(480) 785-2251
Joe Bacik	<a href="mailto:bacikj@cox.net">bacikj@cox.net</a>
	Outside Speaker Program Chairman
<b>Secretary</b>	(480) 948-0714
Barbara Parnell	<a href="mailto:birdie552002@yahoo.com">birdie552002@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	(480) 947-8479
Wilella Stimmell	<a href="mailto:willellas@att.net">willellas@att.net</a>
<b>Librarian</b>	(602) 803-6889
Lou Ann Remeikis	<a href="mailto:remeikis@andiamo-tel.com">remeikis@andiamo-tel.com</a>
<b>Editor</b>	(505) 898-0975
Keith Mead	<a href="mailto:kjkm@comcast.net">kjkm@comcast.net</a>
<b>Trustees</b>	
Carol Erwin	(602) 996-1696 <a href="mailto:nerwin2@cox.net">nerwin2@cox.net</a>
Chris Gubler	(760) 364-2282 <a href="mailto:Chris@gublers.com">Chris@gublers.com</a>
Debra Hartill	(602) 404-0302 <a href="mailto:dhartill@hotmail.com">dhartill@hotmail.com</a>
Diane Norman	623) 692-7422 <a href="mailto:dlnorman31300@yahoo.com">dlnorman31300@yahoo.com</a>

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.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

“Growing *Trichopilia suavis*”,

author: Lucien V. Tempera,

published in the *American Orchid Society Bulletin*, Volume 54, Number 8, August, 1985, p. 975.

“I am very fond of the genus *Trichopilia* and grow *Trichopilia tortilis* (regular and alba forms), *Trichopilia marginata*, and *Trichopilia fragrans*. My favorite, however, is *Trichopilia suavis*. Not only is it a great eye-catcher, with its large, spotted, trumpet-shaped lip, but, as its species name implies, it is also delightfully fragrant.

To my mind, close attention to culture is everything in the successful growing of orchids. When I acquired my plant of *Trichopilia suavis*, I carried out some research to determine the proper culture. My findings, drawn particularly from Alex D. Hawkes’ *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CULTIVATED ORCHIDS*, suggested that under my growing conditions, this species might do best mounted rather than being placed in a pot. I chose a piece of tree fern that was not too compressed, thus allowing a place for the roots to penetrate. The plant then was secured firmly to the slab with a ‘cushion’ of osmunda fiber beneath it.

*Trichopilia suavis* adapts very well to Phalaenopsis conditions of low light and warm temperatures.

...

Good air movement is a must for *Trichopilia suavis* – as well as most other orchids. It seems to me that air movement stimulates healthy roots and clean foliage and also makes the plants less apt to attract insects.

To flower *Trichopilia suavis* well, proper watering and fertilizing practices are crucial. My research indicated that in nature these plants receive heavy water and fertilization when in active growth, conditions I sought to simulate. For fertilizer I use a kind of ‘tea’ made of cow manure and water. I alternate this with a commercial fertilizer (Hyponex 7-6-19). Every day, rain or shine, when the plant is in active growth, it is immersed in a large pail of one or the other of these solutions and then is hung up to dry.

By late fall, the year’s growths have matured. At this time, the previously described generous treatment is ended. A rest period is initiated during which the plant is misted only occasionally, just enough to keep the pseudobulbs plump. The flowers, along with new root tips, start to appear in early February. All during the rest and flowering cycle, the plant receives water only, no fertilizer.

Although the careful attention I devote to my plants may seem like hard work, this goes with the territory. I spend a good deal of time with my plants. But when the flowers appear and my labors are rewarded so beautifully, all the toil is forgotten.”

**Editor’s Note:** *Trichopilia suavis* is featured on the front cover of this issue of the AOS Bulletin. Also, attached to this archival article is a photo of *Trichopilia suavis*. The plant was grown and flowered by an OSA member.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

A poem from Clarence Lindsten's  
"Orchids in my Greenhouse, Crabgrass in my Lawn",  
1973, page 60

God bless you orchid lovers, may  
The New Year bring you cheer,  
Not only just for New Year's Day,  
But throughout all the year.  
May your problems all be minor,  
May your orchids bring you peace,  
May they fill your heart with happiness,  
And may it never cease.







May your plants all thrive and prosper,  
May your insect pests be few,  
May you share your blooms with others,  
Not as fortunate as you.

May you aid the new beginners,  
And see that they get started right,  
If you have excess divisions,  
Share some with a neophyte.  
May you have good health and prosper,  
May your trouble be but small.  
And as we start a brand new year,  
God bless you, one and all.



*Trichopilia suavis*

# OSA January 2011 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1  <i>Diane Norman</i>
2	3 <b>OSA Meeting</b> 7:00 PM	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11  <i>Debra Hartill</i>	12	13	14  <i>Barbara Dickstein</i>	15
16	17	18	19  <i>Frank Bopp</i>	20	21	22
23 ↙ 30	24 ↙ 31	25	26	27	28  <i>Kristin Husinga</i>	29



Orchid Society of Arizona  
 c/o Keith Mead  
 5425 Thomas Drive NE  
 Albuquerque, NM 87111

January 2011 Newsletter