



The Arizona Orchidist

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NEXT OSA MEETING

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

The next regular society meeting will
be Monday, June 5, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

OSA meetings are open to all
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided.

This month beverages
will be provided by:

Wayne Baker and Joe Freasier
snacks by

Mona Brooks and Jim Lauck
Refreshment Coordinators:
Barbara Parnell (480) 948-0714
Mary Gannon (623) 878-4173

OSABOARDMEETING

The next OSA board meeting
will be held Sunday, June 25th
at the home of
Barbara and Harry Parnell
show meeting at noon
board meeting following
Board meetings are open to all OSA
members

Call for directions (480) 948-0714

GROWER ON CALL
WILELLA STIMMELL
wilellas@worldnet.att.net

June Program

PAPHIOPEDILUM AND PHRAGMIPEDIUM CULTURE

Dennis Olivas was born and reared on the island of Kauai. He was a member of the Future Farmers of America, and it was through his association with that "subversive" organization that his orchid addiction started. In 1980, he left the garden island and arrived on the mainland. He vowed never to touch the "evil weed" again. It is unclear how many years he remained "clean", but it is known that when he spotted a Paphiopedilum Maudiae at Rod McLellan's Acres of Orchids in South San Francisco, Dennis's addiction returned with a vengeance. From that point, his whole life became one downward spiral. First, he filled his home with more than 6000 plants. Then he leased greenhouse space for his ever-burgeoning orchid collection. Dissemination of orchids and orchid information became his career. He has been traced to every orchid society in the Greater Bay Area and has held many of those societies' highest positions. His plant distribution point is located somewhere in the Half Moon Bay area. (Due to secret government files, the exact location of his collection may not be revealed for the foreseeable future.)

Dennis is always easy to spot in a crowd. Just listen for laughter and a pony-tailed, chap wearing a Hawaiian shirt. (You can take the man out of the islands, but you can't take the islands out of the man.) Beware: his addiction is contagious!

In addition to his slide presentation on June 5, Dennis will repot one paph and one phrag.

Dennis Olivas

Editor's Notes:

Dennis will be bringing plants for our silent auction!

At the conclusion of Pacific Orchid Exposition 2005, Dennis donated an assortment of beautiful plants to OSA. Those of us who attended the show packed the plants and brought them back to Phoenix. Those plants were either placed on our March, 2005 silent auction or on our raffle table so that ALL members who attended the March meeting had a chance to own one of the plants donated by Dennis.

For benefit of newer members, Dennis last spoke to OSA in September, 2000.

Welcome back, Dennis!



From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

On April 22, the weather was beautiful for the "Fred Rathbun Horse Show" (Equestrian Special Olympics). The annual event is sponsored by the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department [Adaptive Recreation Services], Phoenix Special Olympics [Maricopa Area], and the Western Saddle Club.

For those of you who might not know, for many years I have been a member of the Western Saddle Club. A very touching tribute to my late husband was included in this year's program. "Phoenix Special Olympics would like to honor and say goodbye to one of our friends, Fred Rathbun. Fred was the driving force of our unique horse show. In his honor we have renamed the horse show to Fred Rathbun Horse Show. We want to thank Fred for enriching our lives. We will miss you, Fred." The back of the program cover noted thanks to, among other groups and individuals, Orchid Society of Arizona for volunteering to help with this event. Also, during the presentation ceremony, the announcer mentioned OSA's participation. My personal thanks to **Barbara Parnell** and **Wilella Stimmell** for their help. They are the only two OSA members who, in addition to me, assisted on April 22. Barbara now knows that when a horse steps on a human foot, it REALLY hurts! Sorry, Barbara!

Our May 1 meeting was fun! For those of you who missed it, you might like to know that one kilo of vanilla beans produces a wonderful aroma throughout the Encanto Park Clubhouse! The fragrance was noticeable from the moment the entrance door to the clubhouse was opened.

Not only did our speaker, Eric Elsberry, educate us during his multimedia projection program, but also he brought informational sheets that include answers to frequently asked questions about vanilla [extra copies of this sheet will be available at our June 5 meeting] and answered questions from the audience. Eric, accompanied by his wife, Patty, donated two bottles of vanilla extract for our raffle table and a few fresh vanilla beans to replace the shriveled, odorless vanilla bean that we've used for demonstration during our school programs during the past 10 YEARS. Also, Eric announced that for anyone who places an order with Arizona Vanilla Company, if you mention that you attended the OSA meeting on May 1, he will NOT charge shipping. Thanks, Eric!

I also announced at our meeting that our webmaster, Jim Johnson, has notified us that his home is being remodeled. He must move his desktop computer out of the house while the remodeling is being done. He will use his laptop computer to try to keep our website current, but if he has a problem using his laptop, he will let us know.

See you on June 5!

Julie

The OSA has a new domain name for it's web site

www.orchidsocietyaz.org

MAY RAFFLE TABLE DONORS

Mary Alice Baumberger, Bob MacLeod
OSA, Lou Ann Remeikis, Cynthia Schnitzer
Diana Sibley and Wilella Stimmell

Non Member Donors:
Arizona Vanilla Company
Ken and Judy Vincent

Thank you !

CLEAR POTS FOR SALE

OSA has sets (10 pots = one set) of each of the following size pots: 5 ½"; 6 ½"; and 7 ½"). If anyone wants pots brought to a meeting, **phone or e-mail at least 2 days prior to our monthly meeting**. A set of 10 pots of 5 ½" is \$7.00; a set of 10 pots of 6 ½" is \$10.00; and a set of 10 pots of 7 ½" is \$15.00 If you don't need 10 pots of any one size, consider contacting a fellow member and sharing the pots and cost.
W. Stimmell

Arizona State Veteran Home Wish List

When you are shopping, **please** don't forget the residents at the veteran home. They **greatly** appreciate: assorted flavors of soda pop – 12-count packages of both diet and regular (Coke, Pepsi, Sprite, Dr. Pepper, and A & W root beer), assorted chocolate bars, and 24-36 count, butter flavored boxes of microwavable popcorn. For those of you who don't want to be inconvenienced by bringing your donations to our monthly meetings, a donation jar is located on our raffle ticket sales table. If you drop in a few dollars as your contribution, the member who delivers the items will also purchase them for you. The items mentioned above are delivered on a monthly basis – most often on the Wednesday following our Monday meeting – to ASVH. OSA members have been donating soda pop, flavored water, and snacks to the veterans for at least 5 years. Soda pop, flavored water, and snacks might not seem important to OSA members, but the items help the veterans feel that their environment is less institutional and more like living in their own homes.

Show Planning and Board Meeting:

June 25 at the home of Barbara and Harry Parnell.
Show meeting at noon; board meeting to follow.
PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND

The *Arizona Orchidist* is published monthly by the
Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.
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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. The Nature Conservancy.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

Wilella Stimmell, CSP Coordinator

On **April 29**, OSA presented an orchid mini-show and sale at the **Presbyterian Church**, on Main Street in **Payson**, AZ. Thanks to **TEDDY COHEN** for suggesting that OSA hold a show/sale and hands-on repotting programs in Payson and "test the waters" to find out if there is interest in orchids amongst residents in the area. Teddy was ably assisted with arrangements by **PAYSON MAYOR, BARBARA BREWER** who demonstrated both her generosity and her enthusiastic, new-found love of orchids. During our hands-on programs, Barbara took photographs - a few of which will be used on a tri-fold display board at our November show. After our hands-on repotting programs ended, Barbara fired up the church's vacuum cleaner and swept our bark mess from the activity room's carpet. She also donated two bags of lava rocks that were not needed for our programs. Thanks, Barbara!

The theme of our display utilized a may pole, that had been expertly crafted by **BOB MACLEOD**. From the top of the lavender pole to each plant on the 4 display tables, pastel colored crepe paper streamers were used to "connect" each plant to the pole. A variety of display plants was loaned by: **Marleny Castillo, Jim Lauck, Bob MacLeod, Barbara and Harry Parnell, Julie Rathbun, and me**. Many beautiful colors, sizes, and shapes of orchid flowers were displayed. Some were fragrant, and some were not.

Although the hours for our Saturday event were 10 AM - 3 PM, Teddy Cohen went to the church the night before our display, moved tables, and generally set up the display area. She also provided cookies in the shape of orchid flowers, and Jim Lauck, OSA's official cupcake baker, provided cupcakes for refreshments. Barbara Parnell provided coffee, and Teddy Cohen also brought bottles of soda pop. Visitors AND OSA members enjoyed refreshments.

Barbara, Teddy, and Jim answered the questions of visitors in the display area, while Bob helped with the hands-on repotting programs. Between programs, Bob also answered questions in the display area.

For our school programs, display plants are on a table in the same room with the children. For this event, before the phal seedlings were repotted, it was necessary to lead the "students" on a tour to the room in which the plants were on display and to briefly discuss the plants and answer questions. Visitors were amazed when they were told that Marleny's huge dendrobium display plant was being grown in a bathroom.

Thanks to all who helped make this first time event a success!

On the Schedule: Our next hands-on repotting programs will be presented for the **GLENDALE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB, 5850 W. NORTHVIEW AVENUE**, on **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14** from **10 AM - noon**. We are planning for three programs and 80 children participating. Please help if you are available. If you are not available but have a blooming plant or two to loan for our display, bring your plant(s) to our June 5 meeting. You do NOT need a special invitation to help with our community service programs. **VOLUNTEER!** Even if you have never helped with other programs, within 5 minutes you will learn how to assist the children AND that they are very grateful for your help. If you need directions to 5850 W. Northview Ave., Glendale, phone me and/or locate a map on the internet.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FOURTH ORCHID DIGEST SPEAKER'S DAY

“ORCHID SPECIES SPECTACULAR”

HUNTINGTON LIBRARY AND BOTANICAL GARDENS
SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2006
NOON TO 8:00 PM

EXPERT LECTURES
FLOWER DISPLAYS
ORCHID SALES
DINNER

ORCHID DIGEST DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER
LOU MENEZES FROM BRAZIL

ALSO LECTURES BY
FRED CLARKE
LEON GLICENSTEIN
MARK HACHADORIAN
ERICH MICHEL
MARNIE TURKEL

VENDORS INCLUDE
ANDY'S ORCHIDS, CAL ORCHIDS, HOOSIER ORCHIDS
SUNSET VALLEY ORCHIDS

TICKETS \$60 FOR
AFTERNOON SEMINARS, DINNER AND EVENING DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER EVENT

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DEADLINE FOR PAID RESERVATIONS IS JUNE 16

FYI: For those who plan to attend the **Orchid Digest Speaker's Day** on June 24 at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA, and intend to bring your plants (species only) for display, your plants need to be presented **by 10:30 AM** on June 24.

OSA June 2006 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 <i>OSA MEETING 7:00 PM</i>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16	17
18 <i>Fathers Day</i>	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 <i>Show meeting Board meeting</i>	26  <i>Suz Cramer</i>	27	28	29	30	



Orchid Society of Arizona
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