



The Arizona Orchidist

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NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting will be

Monday, June 3rd at 7:00 P.M.

Meetings are held at the

Training Center

at the

Arizona State Veteran Home

4141 S. Herrera Way, Phoenix.

(Formerly North 3rd Street)

OSA meetings are open to all
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided

Beverage

Randy Ricardi

Snacks

Susan Nahmias & Julie Rathbun

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (602) 451-5952

Lou Ann Remeikis (602) 803-6889

Jo Anne Waddoups 480-654-9883

Board Meeting

**June 23 at 1 PM at the home of
Randy Ricardi**

Grower on Call

June

Julie Rathbun
jandfent@aol.com

July

Barbara Parnell
birdie552002@yahoo.com

JUNE PROGRAM

“Mini-Catts: Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature.”

Our guest speaker will be Peter Lin,
owner of Diamond Orchids in Southern California

Peter started growing orchids over 30 years ago, but then stopped due to school and starting a career. It wasn't until about 9 years ago that the orchid "bug" came back and he is now heavily involved once again!

He is an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society, and a hybridizer of mini-catts. He enjoys meeting with other orchid enthusiasts, and can often be found at various orchid shows and societies around the country.



Due to limited growing space, Peter likes to specialize in miniature orchids, both species and hybrids, and has received numerous AOS awards. His interests in orchids include Dendrobiums, Angraecoids, and Neofinetias. He is also known as "Mr Sophronitis" as he has a passion for growing and collecting them. He maintains a collection of a thousand or more orchids at his home in Southern California in 3 small greenhouses, outdoors, as well as indoors under lights.

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From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

At our May 6 meeting, members and guests enjoyed Lou Ann's program about a variety of potting media. Several days before the meeting, Lou had injured one of her fingers. Although her injury required a trip to the Emergency Room and several stitches, she managed to conduct the potting media program with a minimum of difficulty.

During the meeting, I mentioned that Peter Lin, owner of Diamond Orchids, will be our speaker at our June 3rd meeting. This will be Peter's third program for us. He last spoke to us at our April 4, 2011 meeting. Since that time, we have quite a few new members who haven't heard Peter speak and who are also new to growing orchids.

I also mentioned that our June/July newsletter will be a combined issue and that there will be **no meeting in July**.

We have repotting programs scheduled for Monday, June 17, at 10 AM, for the students who attend the Children's Center for Neurodevelopment Studies. The address is 5430 W. Glenn, Glendale. We need all of the volunteers who are available because the students are Autistic and need a lot of attention.

And while I'm thinking about things we need, **OSA is in need of plants for future raffle tables**. Our plant inventory "cupboard" is bare! If members have divisions of plants to share, or other orchid-related items, please consider sharing them for our raffle tables. Our monthly raffle is one of our sources of income. Without donations, there would be no raffle at a meeting, and members would surely be disappointed.

I have contacted Paula Moran at the Northern Arizona VA Health Care System in Prescott, and our annual field trip is scheduled for **Sunday, August 25**. For members who have never seen the greenhouse on the VA campus, mark your calendars! Each year, we look forward to our annual picnic with the residents, their guests, and staff. While we eat our picnic lunch, we have an opportunity to visit with the residents and staff. OSA provides the picnic lunch. For more than 20 years, we've been making our annual field trip to Prescott. Our members who have never seen the greenhouse, will be impressed with the sheer size of it. There's also a large garden plot maintained by the residents. We hold our picnic in a lovely shaded area that is located close to the greenhouse. It's a very relaxing experience. We carpool to Prescott, so if any members want to ride with another driver, just let any of your board members know that you need a ride. There will be more details in our August/September newsletter. Also, at our June and August meetings, I will mention additional details – such as where and what time in the morning we will meet to start our day trip to Prescott. A few of our members usually donate clothing items, personal size toiletries (nothing containing alcohol), books (not war-related), and/or puzzles for the residents of the Community Living Center. **Donations are not required** in order for members to make the trip.

Cory Sanders, Recreation Therapist at NAVAHCS, might not be able to attend our picnic on the 25th. His wife is expecting twins close to or on that date and...the 25th is his birthday!

Some of our newer members might not know that I am a native Arizonan. And while I wasn't alive at the time NAVAHCS was established on the former site of Fort Whipple, you might be interested in a bit of history:

FORT WHIPPLE (1863-1913) Fort Whipple was established in November 1863 one-mile northeast of Prescott in the Chino Valley after Camp Clark was abandoned. Cavalry and Infantry soldiers stationed there participated in many Indian engagements. The Whipple Barracks became the Headquarters for the Military Department of Arizona on April 15, 1870. The post was General George Crook's District of Arizona headquarters in 1882. Centrally located in the state, the fort had a major influence on all Indian affairs in the region. The old post was condemned in 1869; all the buildings were torn down and rebuilt. Post was discontinued in 1898 and re-garrisoned in 1902. New officers' quarters, built in 1904 from modern designs of architect Stanford White, were vastly different from earlier structures, but the post was later abandoned February 15, 1913. In 1922 the reservation transferred to the Secretary of the Treasury, and later was taken over by a Veterans Administration Hospital.

NAVAHCS is a small city! There's a Domiciliary (the staff refers to it as "the Dom"), a Nursing Home (now referred to as the Community Living Center or CLC), a hospital, housing for staff, a theater/auditorium, administrative offices, a building known as the Fort Whipple Museum, and of course, the greenhouse! (About 30 years ago, a former OSA member contacted the Texas Greenhouse Company, and the company sent a greenhouse kit to the VA.) OSA has a long history with the VA in Prescott. I hope that as many members as possible can make the trip on August 25.

See you on June 3!

**Welcome New Members
Dolly and Dana Floyd**

May Raffle Donors

John and Karen Barber, Cece and Bob Blue,
Bob MacLeod, Julie Rathbun,
Lou Ann Remeikis, Randy Ricardi,
Wilella Stimmell, Dean Toms, and
Jo Anne Waddoups

THANK YOU !

FYI: We received notice from Santa Barbara Orchid Estate that "due to low attendance the past few years", this year, there will be **NO** Santa Barbara Orchid Fair at the Earl Warren Showgrounds. However, SBOE will have a July 12-14 Open House at their nursery.

**Check out Gubler Orchids
Newly Designed Website**
www.Gublerorchids.com

**Biosphere 2, Oracle, AZ
in the Travel Destination News**

A May 5th article written by Ken Gordon and published in the May 10th Columbus Dispatch newspaper can be accessed at:

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/travel/2013/05/05/1-a-desert-dome.html>

The article features a slide show consisting of 10 photos and highlights of the Biosphere features as seen by the author.

For those of you who have never visited the Biosphere 2, it's a very educational experience. In 2002, 8 OSA members were privileged to tour the Biosphere. At that time, it was being operated by Columbia University. In 2003, OSA became a member group of the Biosphere, but in 2004, Columbia was no longer financially able to continue managing the Biosphere and memberships like ours were discontinued. In 2007, the property was sold to CDO Ranching and its development partners who then leased to the University of Arizona. UofA is still conducting important research at the Biosphere, and tours are available.

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www.orchidsocietyaz.org

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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 Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. , and The Nature Conservancy.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT AND SCHEDULE

Wilella Stimmell

On **May 1**, **Julie Rathbun** and I presented an Orchids 101 program for the members of the **Digger's Garden Club**. The program was held in the home of one of the members who lives in North Scottsdale. After viewing our website last summer, the member in charge of scheduling programs, contacted us. At least one of the members who attended our program, admitted that she had killed "several" orchids and needed help. After viewing our colorful display plants, others who had not tried to grow orchids, were enthusiastic about trying to grow them in a household environment. **Thanks to Lou Ann Remeikis** for donating a blooming phal for a door prize drawing! The winner was delighted at her good fortune.

At the conclusion of our program, we were presented with a **donation check for our Scholarship Fund**.

On **Monday, June 17**, we will present three hands-on repotting programs for Autistic students who are enrolled at the **Children's Center for Neurodevelopment Studies**, 5430 W. Glenn, Glendale. The first program will begin at **10 AM**, and the other two programs will follow. These students need special attention, and I hope that we have as many volunteers as possible to help with the programs.

Last year – in June – we also presented repotting programs for the students at the CCNS. As a matter of policy, we do not usually return to the same school in the following year. But because fewer schools have contacted us for programs this year, we decided to make an exception.

Lady's Slipper rare orchid to have Chelsea show security

Britain's rarest flower will have its own personal security guards when it goes on display at next week's Chelsea Flower Show.

The Lady's Slipper orchid was rescued from extinction by scientists and is strictly protected by wildlife laws. It will be part of the Le Jardin de Yorkshire exhibition, promoted by tourism body Welcome to Yorkshire.

A panel of botanical experts, the Cypripedium Committee, volunteer to look after and protect the rare flower. Officials from Welcome to Yorkshire are in discussion about the security arrangements for the flower show, which is celebrating its centenary year.

"When you have the UK's rarest orchid on your garden you need to take every precaution to protect it and we are having those conversations," chief executive Gary Verity said.

"I'm sure people will flock to see this rare specimen and to learn more about its successful conservation programme."...

The flower had been thought to be extinct but was found by chance growing in Yorkshire in the 1930s.

Michael Tibbs, a South African orchid expert who worked at Kew Gardens, said exactly where the plant was found was a closely guarded secret.

"It's only known to a very few people," he said. "It's an extremely rare plant and they've tried to keep it secret for many years."...

It is thought a Lady's Slipper cutting could fetch up to £5,000.

They have been planted at various locations across the north of England, including on North Yorkshire's Kilsby Park Estate.

"It is testament to the... work Natural England and Kew Gardens have done that we are able to take a Lady's Slipper orchid to Chelsea", said the estate's managing director Jamie Roberts. "And while security is uppermost in all our minds, so is raising awareness of the plant's success story, from the brink of extinction to being showcased at the world's most famous flower show in its one hundredth year."

The Le Jardin de Yorkshire exhibition celebrates the centenary of both the Chelsea Flower Show and the Tour De France, which is due to run through Yorkshire for the first time in July 2014."

URL :<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-22545330>

Thanks to Julie for sharing these beautiful images from her greenhouse



Laelia purpurata 'Ruby'



Den. Lindleyi 'Merlin'

OSA June 2013 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 OSA Meeting 7:00 PM	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Fathers Day	17 CCNS Repotting Program	18	19	20	21	22
23 Board Meeting 30	24	25	26  Suz Cramer	27	28	29



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June 2013 Newsletter