



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, October 6, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

OSA meetings are open to all
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided
This month beverages will be furnished
by: Ainsley LaCour
Edibles will be provided by:
Lucy Redmond-Hall and Alan Ladd

Janet Jurn,
Refreshment Coordinator
(623) 386-2741

NEXT OSABOARD MEETING

The next OSA board meeting will be
Sunday, September 29, 2003 at 1:00 p.m.
Hosted by Julie Rathbun
Please contact Julie at (602) 843-0223
for directions to her home,
if you plan to attend
The meeting is open to all OSA members

GROWER ON CALL

Alan Ladd (602) 508-8965
Email : ClipperAL@cox.net

October Program

MAKING BEER FOR THE ORCHIDS

While many people debate the health benefits of beer consumption in humans, there is a select group of Orchidists who believe in the benefits of administering beer to orchids (in small doses of course). The factors that control the selection of the administered beer usually revolve around the lowest cost or most available brands. But is this the best for the orchids? Sure, you can give the orchids more expensive beers or imported beers, but is this really necessary?

Mike Davis will provide information and a demonstration about how Orchidists can make their own beer, inexpensively. While the beer making purists might not admit it, there are some shortcuts that the English and Australians have used for years. It is this shortcut that results in a better quality beer, made easily and inexpensively.



Sharon Davis



OSA notes with sadness the passing of highly regarded author Margaret L. Baker on September 15th following a short illness. We extend our sympathy to her husband Charles, co author with Margaret of *Orchid Species Culture*.

IN THIS ISSUE

<i>From the President's Desk</i>	Page 2
<i>Bellbird Weekend</i>	Page 4
<i>It's Showtime</i>	Page 5
<i>Slate of Officers 2004</i>	Page 6



From the President's Desk

Lou Ann Remeikis

Here is the October newsletter...October? Dare I say Christmas is around the corner? Okay, I'll bite my tongue! The big event before Christmas – at least for OSA – is the upcoming Orchid Show & Sale.

We are into the planning and preparation for this big event! In case you have been living in a cave or something, the theme for this year's show is "Orchid Mardi Gras"! We have had show flyers available at the monthly meetings, and we encourage each and every one of you to take some flyers and pass them out! The show & sale will take place November 8th and 9th, and we need everyone's help. There will be a show set-up on November 7th. We do not know what time the set-up will start, but this will be announced at the meetings and in next month's newsletter. Joe Bacik, this year's Show Chairman, also has submitted a list of items we will need for the set decorations, so scour your closets and garage for appropriate items, keeping with the Mardi Gras theme!

OSA already has volunteers heading to Landers, CA, to the Morongo Valley Orchid Festival on October 2nd-5th to hand-pick orchids that will be sold at the show. This is a true "labor of love" for the volunteers. This is a long four days of representing OSA and working very hard. As usual, we will be presenting programs at Gubler Orchid's (at least three programs), as well as combing the greenhouses in Landers and in Lucerne Valley for the best plants we can get for our sale. Additionally this year, the volunteers will be presenting a Community Service Program at the Landers Elementary School for 90 eager students. All of this activity is funded primarily by the volunteers for YOUR benefit! Don't forget to thank them for their generosity of time and personal financial contribution to the betterment of the Society!

A big thank you also goes to Norma Kafer. Norma's continued support of OSA was expressed in her willingness to play hostess to September's guest speaker, Hermann Pigors. Norma (and Jim) have opened their home many times to guest speakers, saving OSA treasury funds from hotel bills. These gestures speak very highly of Norma and Jim! Thank you!!!

For those of you who have seen the September issue of Phoenix Home & Garden, you probably saw Norma's name in the publication – along with her answer to a question on growing orchids in the Arizona desert climate. Her answer to the question also directed the readers to the Orchid Society of Arizona's website for more information. Thanks again, Norma!

The last Board of Director's meeting was held on August 24th, 2003, in Prescott at the Northern Arizona Veteran's Administration Health Care System (NAVAHCS) facility. It was a wonderful trip, enjoyed by Board Members Wilella Stimmell, Norma Kafer, Julie Rathbun, Bob MacLeod, Joe Bacik, and myself. Marleny Castillo, Sharon Davis and Madeleine Heberling also spent the day with us.

continued on page 3

From the President's Desk

Donations of items needed at NAVAHCS were delivered to the residents upon our arrival. Thanks to all members who donated these items. The residents look forward to our contributions and are truly appreciative of anything we provide!

The greenhouse was in such great shape this year – not that I've ever seen it in disarray! Just when I don't think the greenhouse can be improved upon, the NAVAHCS greenhouse workers prove me wrong. They have new shade cloth on the greenhouse that was not there last year, and the grounds around the greenhouse have more blooming flowers and gardens than ever before. It is such a peaceful place I really hated to leave. The staff, Betty Stephens and Bill Starkman, along with several of the regular greenhouse therapy residents, had an "Open Greenhouse" day while we were there. OSA members were delighted to meet so many of the residents and their visiting family and friends. It is very obvious this greenhouse therapy program is very well received and enjoyed by many of the residents who live there! This alone is a tribute to Betty and Bill's achievements!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the October 6th meeting, but be prepared to see a group of very tired people – me included. The meeting is the day after we get back from our long trip to Landers. I'm sure I'll have lots to tell you about the trip at the meeting.

Happy Growing, *Lou Ann*

The Arizona Orchidist is published monthly by the

Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.

Direct inquiries to our website at:

[Http://welcome.to/orchidsocietyaz](http://welcome.to/orchidsocietyaz)

Or to any of the board officers or trustees

Board of Directors for 2003

President	Lou Ann Remeikis	(480) 892-0263 remeikis@dancris.com
First VP	Aaron Hicks	(480) 722-9328 ahicks51@cox.net
Second VP	Norma Kafer	(602) 252-6197 nfk54401@cox.net
Secretary	Heidi Owens	(602) 274-4319 traildust@cox.net
Treasurer	Wilella Stimmell	(480) 947-8479 wilellas@worldnet.att.net
Librarian	Norma Kafer	(602) 252-6197 nfk54401@cox.net
Editor	Keith Mead	(505) 898-0975 kjk@att.net

Trustees

Jeanette Socaciu	(623) 772-5527 jmcsoc@usa.net
Bob MacLeod	(623) 935-4059
Julie Rathbun	(602) 843-0223 jandfent@prodigy.net
Joe Bacik	(480) 785-2251 bacikj@cox.net

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, and Biosphere 2 Center.



Thank you for your September Raffle Table Donations



**Alan Ladd, Mary Sallee, Steve Lamoreaux,
Aaron Hicks, Wilella Stimmell and OSA**

THE BELLBIRD WEEKEND EVENTS, Sept. 12 - 14, 2003

by Wilella Stimmell

It was my great privilege to attend two of the three events scheduled for the Bellbird Weekend and not only thoroughly enjoy the Bach for the Bellbird concert that was held in the Unitarian-Universalist Church in Woodstock, VT, but also the benefit dinner that was held at the Three Tomatoes Trattoria in Lebanon, NH. (I was too exhausted to attend the Bonk for the Bellbirds which was held at the Woodstock Union High School, but Phyllis Arata-Meyers, the energetic catalyst responsible for organizing the Change the World Kids, reported that the students thoroughly enjoyed the Bonk celebration.) The Bach concert was a treat for me on several levels. I now know for a fact that, in addition to being an orchid taxonomist who routinely has demonstrated the utmost care in his research and writing, John Atwood is an outstanding church organist who can extract the best possible sounds from even a historic (old) organ! His interpretation of Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor was both sensitive and compelling, not to mention that the volume of some passages, nearly "lifted" the roof of the church! During the Bach concert, there were also contributing performers who provided choral music and also musical selections on an assortment of other non-organ instruments.

(John sent a division of Paph. Maudiae 'The Queen' for our October raffle table! For the lucky winner, please note that the medium used in the pot is "Vermont" osmunda which John collected and cleaned!)

It was truly inspiring to meet the Change the World Kids who lovingly did so much work to make the Bellbird Weekend happen. The students distributed to all who attended the weekend events, a brief description of who they are and what they do:

"Who are the Change the World Kids?"

The Change the World Kids is an energetic group of sixteen children in middle and high school dedicated to making the world a better place. Formed five years ago, it is a non-profit organization operating totally with volunteer labor. Over the past five years, these children have provided many hours of service, **locally and globally**, including projects such as yard and garden maintenance, creating a ten foot high garden fence for deer protection made of natural materials, rebuilding a dam to re-establish a goose and duck pond, assisting with numerous spring cleaning housekeeping chores, providing meals for those in extraordinary circumstances, serving at community dinners, offering assistance for The Haven in White River Junction and the Listen Center in Lebanon, NH, supporting Central and South American women artisans through fair trade arrangements, and helping to preserve critical rainforest habitat in Costa Rica.

They also designed and received grants for a project called 'Save Energy For Free!' Their awareness of the important role that energy plays in the current and future world inspired their desire to educate people about the importance of using renewable resources whenever possible. The result was a project that involved the construction of clotheslines for free to minimize the use of clothes dryers during the fair weather months and included tracking the amount of energy conserved. They focused on encouraging sound energy conservation practices now to improve the world for future generations."

At the Tunbridge World's Fair, which was held in Tunbridge, VT, during the Bellbird Weekend, the "kids" entered a poster that incorporated the bellbird design which was featured on all their promotional materials for the Bellbird Weekend. They won First Prize! Also, the "kids" were the serving "staff" at the benefit dinner at Three Tomatoes Trattoria. They worked hard and deserved the many accolades they received. They also received a letter of recognition from the President of the National Wildlife Federation!

In addition to meeting the Change the World Kids, I also met Debra Hamilton, a Costa Rican Biologist, and Victorino Molina, founder of Fundacion Conservacionista Costarricense. During the Bach for the Bellbird concert and following the benefit dinner, Debra and Victorino showed slides of the threatened habitats on the Pacific side of Costa Rica. Few habitats on the Pacific side are protected. Yet these habitats are critical areas for quetzals, bellbirds, butterflies, and many other cloud forest inhabitants that migrate every year from protected breeding habitats to the Pacific side. And lest we forget, the Pacific side also contains many ORCHIDS!!

There is an ecological crisis in Costa Rica! Development and deforestation are eliminating habitats on the Pacific slope. The Tropical Rainshadow Forest is essential for the survival of several endangered animals and is the region of various endemic trees. In the past 10 years, over 12 new species of trees, yet to be identified, have been discovered on the Pacific side!

In the short term, the Costa Rican Conservation Foundation needs to raise \$85,000 by January, 2004 in order to purchase a tract of land in the Pacific slope habitat. The Change the World Kids certainly made a good start towards the goal! They raised \$10,000 during the Bellbird Weekend, BUT if the remainder of the money for purchasing the tract of land is not raised by January, the land will most likely be sold to a NON-conservation minded buyer.

OSA members can help! The Change the World Kids have demonstrated that **they** understand the critical need to save the migration corridor on the Pacific side of Costa Rica.

Visit the Foundation's website at <http://www.fccmonteverde.org> or, for U.S. tax deductible donations for habitat purchase (5% of the donation becomes part of an endowment fund to monitor protected habitat), make your check payable to Alliance for the Monteverde Institute and mail to the Alliance at P.O. Box 1312, Burlington, VT, 05402-1312. Don't forget to write on the memo line on the check: "for CRCF". Any amount is appreciated!

IT'S SHOWTIME



ORCHID SOCIETY OF ARIZONA
presents

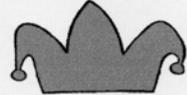
ORCHID MARDI GRAS
ORCHID SHOW AND SALE



NOVEMBER 8 and 9, 2003

ENCANTO PARK CLUBHOUSE
2605 N. 15th AVE.
PHOENIX, AZ

FREE ADMISSION



HOURS: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM BOTH DAYS

**Orchids, supplies, cultural information, gifts, raffle,
entertainment, refreshments**



For information contact: Show Chairman: Joe Bacik (602) 363-1598
OSA President: Lou Remeikis (602) 803-6889

OSA website - <http://welcome.to/orchidsocietyaz>



WE NEED YOUR HELP !

We need MARDI GRAS props and decorations for our November Show.

If you have something to donate or loan us, please bring it to the October or November meeting. If the items are too large to bring, contact Joe Bacik at (602) 363-1598 and he will make arrangements to have it picked up. Anyone bringing something special that he/she wants returned after the show should place the owners name somewhere on the object so that it is sure to be returned.

Since this year we have so much extra room, we could have live music at the show. If anyone knows of a local Zydeco or Dixie Land Jazz band available for November 8th or 9th please let us know.

Joe Bacik

The Nominating Committee's Slate of Officers and Trustees... for 2004

The election of OSA's Board of Directors for 2004 will be held during our November 2003 regular monthly meeting.

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following list of candidates:

President: **Norma Kafer**

1st Vice President (In House Program Chairman): **Aaron Hicks**

2nd Vice President (Outside Speaker Program Chairman): **Joe Bacik**

Secretary: **Jennifer Schmitt**

Treasurer: **Wilella Stimmell**

Trustee: **Julie Langston** (Term expires 12/2005)

Trustee: **Sharon Davis** (Term expires 12/2005)

The Nominating Committee is encouraged by the ever-increasing number of newer OSA members who fully understand that maintaining our status as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization is predicated on our continuing focus on community service.

We believe the slate we have proposed for the upcoming election represents a strong, united, and dynamic team.

All members of OSA thank the two retiring Trustees for their dedicated service:

Bob MacLeod and **Jeanette Socaciu**.

Our other two Trustees, **Julie Rathbun** and **Joe Bacik**, will continue to serve until their terms expire in 12/2004 .

Respectfully submitted by:

Jim Johnson (Chairman)

Doug Baldwin

Bob MacLeod

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

Sounds more like the beginning of a eulogy for the late Bob Hope than a thank you to an Orchid Society president. But that is what this is, the editor taking this opportunity to write a few words that can never express the collective gratitude of our organization.

When I viewed the fine slate of candidates for office for 2004 I was struck by the realization that many of our members have never known OSA without Lou Ann at the helm.

I remember when she was pressed into service. Stepping into the role, somewhat reluctantly, from her 1st Vice President's position in March 1999....to.....2004 that's a lot of board meetings, society meetings, Community Service presentations, newsletter submissions, shows, and field trips (remember the San Diego Airport late at night?)

I believe Lou Ann would tell you it was all worth it. Like many of us, she has a passion, not just for the plant that has brought us together, but for all the society stands for and achieves.

So, again, THANK YOU. You are appreciated.

2004 Calendars Have Arrived

OSA now has orchid calendars available for the 2004 season! There are two to choose from this year. The wall calendars are, of course, great for home or office. This year we were also able to get the checkbook-style calendar which is great for the purse, or to keep in your car, and it covers 2004-2005. These make great gifts, too. Don't forget to check them out at the next meeting. When the inventory is gone, you'll have to find them somewhere else!

Letter of Thanks to Orchid Society of Arizona

September 5, 2003, from Betty Stephens, Lead Recreation Therapist at Northern Arizona VA Health Care System, Prescott:

"On behalf of the Northern Arizona VA Health Care System, please extend to the members of the Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc., our appreciation for your visit on Sunday, August 24, 2003.

The donations you brought were very much appreciated. We especially enjoyed your visit, the feedback and assistance offered by your members in support of the garden and greenhouse, and of course the cookies and wonderful lunch! The patients and residents who attended were grateful and appreciated your friendliness. You really made them feel welcome!"

International Orchid Conservation Congress II Registration Forms Available

At each of our monthly meetings from June, 2003 through April, 2004, registration forms for the International Orchid Conservation Congress II, will be available on our raffle ticket sales table. The Congress will be held at Selby Gardens, Sarasota, FL, May 16-21, 2004.

OSA was the FIRST orchid society to donate funds for the IOCC! The goal of the organizing committee is to have funds available so that scientists from Third World countries will be able to attend the congress. Your OSA Board of Directors voted unanimously at our March 2 Board Meeting, to donate funds for the IOCC.



OSA October 2003 Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  <i>Dee MacLeod</i>	2  <i>Kathleen Luther</i>	3 <i>CSP PROGRAM</i> <i>Landers Elementary School</i>	4 <i>Morongo Basin Orchid Festival</i>
5	6 OSA MEETING <i>7:00 P.M.</i>	7	8	9	10	11  <i>Alan Wren</i> <i>Montse Anderson</i>
12	13	14  <i>Sharon Davis</i>	15  <i>James Geiger</i>	16	17	18
19	20  <i>Kaila Bacik</i>	21  <i>Keith Mead</i>	22	23	24	25
26  <i>Peter Heckel</i>	27	28	29	30	31  <i>Harry Parnell</i>	



Orchid Society of Arizona
 c/o Keith Mead
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