



# The Arizona Orchidist

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## NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting  
will be **Monday, August 2nd 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 by

Barbara Parnell

Snacks by

Tony Duran and Seelye Smith

Refreshment Coordinators:

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Lou Ann Remeikis (602) 803-6889

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480-654-9883

## **Growers on Call**

**August** Julie Rathbun  
jandfent@aol.com 602-843-0223

**September** Keith Mead  
kjk@comcast.net

## AUGUST PROGRAM

### OSA T-Shirt Painting "Party"!

We have 26 black and white (marked medium, but fit an adult large) t-shirts and 6 large "children's" t-shirts (actually fit adult size small) that need to be colored so that we can offer them for sale at our show. Colored markers that are especially made for fabric will be provided for members to "paint" as many shirts as they can finish during the meeting. So grab your markers and have fun! Members who participate and who want to purchase their creations will be able to purchase t-shirts at a reduced price. This isn't rocket science! It's just like coloring in a coloring book. Surely everyone remembers how to color. There is a color chart in each box, but you can choose a different color scheme.

### Reminder

There will **not** be a monthly meeting in September due to holiday interference. This **August/September** newsletter is a combined issue.

### Board Meetings

**August 22 Board Meeting**  
VA picnic grounds in Prescott

**September 26 Board Meeting**  
1 PM at the home of Julie Rathbun

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## From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

Attendance at our June meeting was light because so many of our members were on vacation. Actually for those members who DID attend our June meeting, they found a wide assortment of special plants on our raffle table. Quite a few plants were specimen size, and several of the plants were special plants that some of us knew had been expensive when purchased by the donors.

I hope that all members...and their orchid plants are coping with our summer heat. I was not one of the lucky vacationers. Instead, while saddle club members went on vacation, I took care of their horses. When I had a little "spare" time, I continued to work on the quilt that we will raffle at our December auction. Also, one of my Yorkshire terriers gave birth to two healthy puppies. They've already been sold, but the new owners won't be able to take custody of the puppies for 6 weeks (while I continue to monitor the growth, development, and health of the puppies).

This newsletter is a combined issue for August and September because we will NOT hold a meeting in September. OSA's board does appreciate input from our membership, and if any of you think that next year, we should have a meeting in July and one in September (if our meeting dates are not close to holidays), AND if you will attend those meetings, let us know. If you indicate that you will attend July and September meetings, then please indicate suggestions for programs for those two meetings.

In this issue, I am purposely including a short President's Message because we need all the space we can find for a wonderful, lengthy article from Gustavo Romero (about his April, 2010 trip to Venezuela). You will read in Gustavo's article that OSA donated funds for his expedition.

During our August 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, I will ask members of the audience how many are planning to join our annual caravan to the Northern Arizona VA greenhouse (in Prescott). The annual trip will happen on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Our August 22<sup>nd</sup> board meeting will be held on the picnic grounds adjacent to the greenhouse.

See you on August 2<sup>nd</sup>!

Julie

### **June Raffle Donors**

Bob MacLeod, Diana Sibley, Wilella Stimmell, OSA,  
and non-members – Craig Pearson and Mike Sielaff (Rainbow Bay Orchids)

Thanks for your support

## OK, I WANT TO BRAG

One of our fellow OSA members, Madeleine Heberling, has made this Aunt VERY proud! Since Madeleine lives in Illinois, and only attends one or two meetings a year when she visits, I thought those who know her would be interested in hearing of her recent accomplishment.

Madeleine, 14 years old, competed for, and was chosen to perform a viola solo for the Alton Youth Symphony's 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Concert, held April 18, 2010. I was fortunate to be in attendance! I watched in amazement as Madeleine performed her very First solo. She was front and center during her seven minute solo in the musical piece (Concerto in G Major by Georg Philip Telemann). I, of course, presented her with an arm full of flowers in recognition of her first solo performance. Yes, lots of orchid sprays in the arrangement!

As part of this Spring Concert, the Alton Junior Youth Symphony also performed. Madeleine is a musician in both groups. She is also studying/performing at Alton Middle School. I was lucky to be visiting there that week, as I was able to attend the school's Spring Orchestra Concert, too. Madeleine was Principal Violist, and played with the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra (all students), The Schumann Chamber Orchestra, and the Jazzio's Orchestra group at this Concert. The last two orchestras are auditioned specialty groups.

Although I am beaming about my Niece and her talents, I wanted to share it with you...as she is OSA's "Little & Youngest Girl", ugghh – well, not anymore! She's as big as I am, and not a "Little Girl" anymore, and I don't believe she's our youngest member anymore either. NO – I'm not really getting any older, am I? Don't answer that!

Lou Ann Remeikis

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

### AUGUST

Kimberly Levingston 4<sup>th</sup>  
Pat Miller 5<sup>th</sup>  
Ann Cherny 8<sup>th</sup>

### SEPTEMBER

Joe Bacik 5<sup>th</sup>  
Lou Remeikis 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Dennis Olivas 5<sup>th</sup>  
Clayton Newberry 10<sup>th</sup>  
Jeanette Socaciu 19<sup>th</sup>  
Gary Remeikis 25<sup>th</sup>

Happy Birthday !

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[www.orchidsocietyaz.org](http://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.

## April 2010 Travel to the Venezuelan Guayana

I would like to report the results of my most recent travel to "La Gran Sabana" region, in the southeastern portion of Bolívar state, and around Puerto Ayacucho, in the northern region of Amazonas state, Venezuela, conducted in April of this year. The purpose of my trip was to photograph and collect orchids in the places I visited, and to assess in general how the recent devaluation of the Venezuelan currency had affected the prices of goods and services (of which I need precise figures in order to calculate a budget for a major expedition that I am planning for the spring of 2011). While in Puerto Ayacucho, I also was able to examine and photograph orchid plants collected in Maroa without flowers that my local collaborator is cultivating in order to identify them. We suspected these plants could be new reports for the checklist of the Orchidaceae of *Municipio Autónomo Maroa*, Amazonas state, Venezuela (see Romero, 2005a, for a description of this project). This time I traveled only by commercial airlines and by car.

I had explored both regions in the recent past, but mostly for short visits (1–2 days) in the Gran Sabana (e.g., Romero, 2005b) or just one day or even just one morning around Puerto Ayacucho (e.g., Romero, 2005b, 2007)<sup>1</sup>. These visits were tremendously productive, and I wanted to spend more time carefully documenting with notes, geographic coordinates, and photographic images, the orchids I could find in each place.

On April 7, I traveled from Boston to Caracas using the usual transportation. I spent a few days in Caracas to work on my collecting permit renewals, examine and identify specimens of Orchidaceae in the National Herbarium (VEN), and briefly visit my family.

In the early morning of April 12 I flew to Puerto Ordaz. There are several commercial airlines that fly to this major industrial city located south of the Orinoco and west of the Caroní River that, combined with San Félix (a historic city immediately east of the Caroní River) is sometimes called Ciudad Guayana. On the Caroní River there are several dams, one of which is the Guri dam, by far the largest source of hydroelectric power for Venezuela. I flew Aeropostal, which for this particular flight employs old, but reliable McDonald Douglas CD-9 series 50 jet airplanes. The flight lasted about one hour. My ultimate destination was the small town of Santa Elena de Uairén along the Brazilian-Venezuelan border. In the past I had taken a bus to travel the 311 mi between these two localities, but this time my friend Armando Martínez, from Santa Elena, happened to be in Puerto Ordaz: I decided to ride with him back to Santa Elena. We took Venezuelan highway 10 and traveled past several towns, mostly through flat terrain that became progressively more hilly as we drove south. Araguaney (*Tabebuia chrysantha* G. Nicholson, Bignoniaceae), Venezuela's national tree, was in flower, and its distinctive bright yellow flowers were readily apparent against the brownish background of the then leafless tropical dry forest we were traversing.

Just south of El Dorado I was able to admire a suspension bridge, over the Cuyuni River, allegedly designed and built by Alexandre Gustave Eiffel (1832–1923). It is truly magnificent, but no longer in use: the current road crosses the river *via* a wider and sturdier reinforced concrete bridge.

In the early afternoon, we reached "Km 88", some 183 mi south of Puerto Ordaz. There we refueled our vehicle and had a bite to eat. The area we had just traversed, from about El Callao to Km 88, is rich in gold, which has been extracted since the 1880s (see Barry, 1886; Sievers, 1896: 311–312; Morisse, 1904). Even today, there are several large gold mining operations close to Km 88 (the tremendous environmental degradation these mines cause is readily apparent in satellite images: see Google Earth centered at 6° 11' 58" N, 61° 27' 03").

We had been gaining altitude slowly from Puerto Ordaz (at 23 ft above sea level) up to Km 88 (at 558 ft). From this point on, however, we rapidly started gaining altitude, reaching *Piedra de la Virgen* (at 1345 ft) in a few minutes, after which we started the ascent through the unusual and beautiful cloud forest of *La Escalera*, the highest point of which is at 4757 ft. At this locality the trade winds meet the intertropical convergence zone, creating the heavy rain we experienced. It was raining hard and the road was very curvy and the few stops we could make revealed only a few, mostly epiphytic orchids the great majority of which we found without flowers:

*Cryptocentrum dunstervilleorum* Carnevali & G. A. Romero;

*Dichaea* sp.;

*Epidendrum ibaguense* H.B.K. (growing on sandstone);

*E. tumuc-humaciense* (Veyret) Carnevali & G. A. Romero (growing on sandstone);

*Maxillaria* spp.;

*Octomeria* spp.;

*Pleurothallis* spp.;

*Stelis* spp.

In the late afternoon, after leaving the cloud forest, we entered the Gran Sabana proper, and started the slow descent to Santa Elena de Uairen (at 2625 ft m above sea level). The views from this portion of road were extensive grass savannas with unusual meadows dominated by species of Rapataceae and Xyridaceae, and isolated pockets of tropical forest and large areas occupied by gallery forests dominated by the palm *Mauritia flexuosa* L.f. (called *morichales*). The rivers were high, and the several waterfalls we passed were impressive. Far away, to the east, we could admire the silhouettes of several *tepuis*, the famous rugged table-top mountains of the Gran Sabana. We reached Santa Elena long after dark.

La Gran Sabana is part of Canaima National Park<sup>2</sup>, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1994. This is a large park (11583 square miles, roughly the size of Belgium or Maryland) that also includes some impressive sandstone massifs such as Auyán-tepui (where the famous Angel Falls are located) and Mount Roraima (Schubert and Huber, 1989). The latter, at 9,219 ft, is the highest elevation of the park.<sup>3</sup> South of Santa Elena, Venezuelan Highway 10 joins Brazilian highway BR174, which goes as far as Boa Vista, the capital of the Brazilian state of Roraima, and on to Manaus, the capital of the Brazilian state of Amazonas.

I stayed in Santa Elena for the next seven days. Each day we explored different habitats along highway 10, such as roadcuts, grass savannas (where few orchids are found), shrublands on sandstone outcrops, savannas and forests along small rivulets, and *morichales*.<sup>4</sup>

We found the following species, all terrestrials:

*Cleistes rosea* Lindl.;

*Cyrtopodium parviflorum* Lindl.;

*Epidendrum Xgransabanense* Carnevali & I. Ramírez;

*Epidendrum ibaguense*;

*Epidendrum orchidiflorum* Salzm. ex Lindl. (with inflorescences full of ants!);

*Epidendrum secundum* Jacq.;

*Epidendrum tumuc-humaciense*;

*Epidendrum ulei* Schltr.;

*Epistephium parviflorum* Lindl.;

*Epistephium* sp. (without flowers);

*Eriopsis biloba* Lindl.;

*Koellensteinia tricolor* (Lindl.) Rchb.f.;

*Oncidium pirarense* Rchb.f. (without flowers);

*Sobralia elisabethae* R. H. Schomb. (with old flowers);

*Sobralia stenophylla* Lindl. (without flowers).

We found the only flowering plant of *Cleistes rosea* in a rather boggy habitat (at some point I sank in the "muck" up to my knees, and had a hard time dislodging myself and returning to firmer ground) and it was rather stunted. Close to it I found several plants of *Epidendrum ulei*, bearing fruits. *Epistephium parviflorum* is one of the few orchids found in the grass savannas, together with several species of *Habenaria* (but it was apparently too early for the *Habenarias*, for we could not find any plants with or without flowers). In these savannas *Epistephium parviflorum* is a small "shrub": 3–5 ft. tall, with purplish flowers (and I am certain that the type specimen of the species, collected by Robert H. Schomburgk, is a savanna plant). I often have wondered whether the much taller (up to 5 m in total length) and rather vine-like (decumbent in botanical terms) plants we find in shrublands on white sand around Maroa is the same species.

*Cyrtopodium parviflorum* was quite a find: it is a rather showy species, which I had never photographed before. I was at first disappointed because I only found plants with old inflorescences or old flowers. Eventually, however, I found two plants with flowers in perfect shape, which I enjoyed photographing.

I was also glad to photograph good flowers of not only *Epidendrum ibaguense* and *Epidendrum secundum*, but also of their natural hybrid, *Epidendrum Xgransabanense*, first proposed by Carnevali and Ramírez (1996: 338, illustrated on page 352). *Epidendrum orchidiflorum* from this region is again a case similar to *Epistephium parviflorum*: could the Gran Sabana plants, growing in shrublands over sandstone, with lots of reddish-green flowers, spotted purple, guarded by lots of ants, be the same species we find in shrublands on white sand around Maroa, which produce one greenish flower at a time, also spotted purple, and have few if any ants?

Armando Martínez agreed to take me to Puerto Ordaz (the buses from Santa Elena to Puerto Ordaz sometimes get hijacked, recently at a high frequency, and the passengers robbed of all their possessions. This time I did not want to take the chance). On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, early in the morning, we left Santa Elena. At a stop, by a road cut outside of the park, we found *Epidendrum ulei* (again with fruits) and *Sobralia elisabethae*, the latter with flowers in nearly perfect condition, which I was able to photograph and preserve. A bit later we found *Sobralia valida* Rolfe with good flowers that, again, I was I was happy to photograph and preserve. By then we were again in *La Escalera*, this time rapidly descending but pressed for time, we made only a few stops. Already low in altitude, amongst granite boulders and outcrops alongside the road,<sup>5</sup> I found a beautiful flowering specimen of *Brassia bidens* Lindl. Most of the flowers were heavily damaged by herbivores, but I was able to photograph at least one good flower. Late that evening, we reached Upata where we slept. Early the next morning I flew from Puerto Ordaz to Caracas.

Additional accounts of the orchids of the Gran Sabana can be found in Dunsterville and Dunsterville (1982, 1988), Huggins (1991) Allikas (2002), and Rach (2002, which includes an interesting section on the geology of the region).<sup>6</sup>

I spent the weekend in Caracas, and on April 26th, I flew to Puerto Ayacucho. Only *Conviasa*, a state-owned airline, flies to this city. The planes for this particular flight were recently upgraded (from the slow ATR 42 twin-turboprops to the much newer and faster Bombardier CRJ700). In the ATR-42 flights used to take 1 hour and 45 minutes, but with the new planes it takes barely 45 minutes. As the plane descends to land in Puerto Ayacucho it flies over beautiful savannas west of the Orinoco and, as we approached the Puerto Ayacucho airport, over the famous and magnificent Atures rapids. Going upriver from its delta, this is the first truly non-navigable set of rapids found along the Orinoco River. These rapids extend for at least seven kilometers up river and their rumbling can be heard from far away (for an image of part of these rapids see Romero, 1993).

While in Puerto Ayacucho I explored several local "lajas", or granite outcrops, and grass savannas found around the city. The granite outcrops have a unique flora and were first brought to the attention of scientists by Julian A. Steyermark (1979, 1982); this flora includes more than 24 genera and 50 species of Orchidaceae (Romero, 1993). This time we found nine orchid species during the little time we spent on four granite outcrops located north and south of Puerto Ayacucho (intense rains limited the amount of time we could spend exploring these interesting places):

*Catasetum bergoldianum* Foldats (without flowers);

*Cyrtopodium graniticum* G. A. Romero & Carnevali (with old flowers and young fruits);

*Encyclia leucantha* Schtr.;

*Epidendrum ibaguense* H.B.K. (few individuals with flowers);

*E. norae* Carnevali & G. A. Romero (the only epiphyte);

*E. purpurascens* H. Focke;

*E. stanfordianum* Bateman (without flowers);  
*Oncidium pirarense* Rchb.f. (without flowers);  
*Schomburgkia heidi* Carnevali (without flowers).

*Encyclia leucantha* is a showy species that is locally quite common, always found growing directly on the granite, most often growing under small trees (such as *Acantella sprucei* Hook. f., Melastomataceae), but some plants grow quite exposed to the sun and to the high temperatures that the rock can reach in the dry season. In this case, the roots can be quite elongated, serving as stilts that keep the plant elevated above the rock surface. On granite outcrops east of Puerto Ayacucho (none of which I was able to explore this time), *Encyclia leucantha* often grows next to *Encyclia conchaechila* (Barb. Rodr.) Porto & Brade, but the latter is always found on small trees.

Two other species I found on the granite, *Epidendrum ibaguense* and *Oncidium pirarense*, were also found in Gran Sabana, but growing at a much lower altitude (197 ft versus more than a 3,281 ft in Gran Sabana) and on a very different substrate (granite versus sandstone in Gran Sabana). In the past colleagues and I have dealt with several cases in which names of orchids found elsewhere were applied to orchids found on granite outcrops, and after detailed studies we concluded that the plants on granite were different species. *Catasetum bergoldianum*, *Cyrtopodium graniticum*, *Acianthera granitica* (Luer & G. A. Romero) Luer, and *Sobralia granitica* G. A. Romero & Carnevali are examples of species that were described based on material collected on the granite that had previously been known under misapplied names. Of these four species, only *Sobralia granitica* is also found on other substrates (e.g., it is relatively common on white sand outcrops around Maroa). My colleague Germán Carnevali and I hypothesize that this is the case with the *Epidendrum ibaguense* and *Oncidium pirarense* found on granite outcrops. We are currently examining the evidence at hand to determine whether these two plants should be recognized as distinct species.

In grass savannas found south of Puerto Ayacucho I tried to locate plants of *Veyretia simplex* (Griseb.) Szlach. This plant normally flowers without leaves later in the year, and I wanted to prepare herbarium specimens of plants with leaves. Despite searching for several hours in two localities where in the past we had collected it in flower, we could not find a single plant. As was the case with the *Habenarias* of the Gran Sabana, it may have been too early in the growing season to find it. Apparently it was also too early for the 2 or 3 species of *Habenaria* that we had previously collected in savannas near Puerto Ayacucho (including the very showy *H. huberi* Carnevali & Morillo; see Romero and Batista, 2009), of which we could not find any plants.



It was sad to see that the vegetation of granite outcrops and savannas around Puerto Ayacucho, especially those closest to the city, was greatly disturbed by fire. Many orchids that were common in the past on the granite have largely disappeared, together with other highly ornamental plants such as *Anthurium bomplandii* Bunting, *Philodendrum acutatum* Schott (both Araceae), *Aechmea* spp. (three species), *Pitcairnia* spp. (at least three species, the last two genera in Bromeliaceae), *Melocactus* spp. (Cactaceae, two species), *Peperomia maypurensis* H.B.K. (Piperaceae), the attractive, bonsai-like *Pseudobombax croizatii* A. Robyns (Malvaceae) and the previously cited *Acanthella sprucei*, the strange looking *Vellozia tubiflora* H.B. K. (Velloziaceae, a plant I would pick as *décor* if I ever filmed a movie where I wanted to show an extraterrestrial habitat, and rare species such as *Kunhartia radiata* Maguire & Steyerf. (Rapateaceae).

Undisturbed flora is found only on isolated "lajas". Fortunately we found a few, one on which I photographed a large population of *Schomburgkia heidi* that must be quite spectacular when in full flower (this species flowers December–January). In both the Gran Sabana and around Puerto Ayacucho, fire has also affected savannas tremendously (Romero, 2010). Around Puerto Ayacucho, orchids found at the edge of savannas such as *Otostylis brachystalix* (Rchb.f.) Schltr. and *Epistephium parviflorum* Lindl., and other rare species that in the past were relatively common (such as *Brocchinia* sp., Bromeliaceae, and *Monotrema xyrioides* Gleason, Rapateaceae), are currently locally extinct.

Among the orchids from Maroa that Carlos Gómez is cultivating in Puerto Ayacucho I found two new records for our checklist, *Catasetum planiceps* Lindl. and *Rodriguezia batemanii* Lindl. The latter we were expecting to find (it had been previously gathered by other collectors in the surrounding area) but *Catasetum planiceps* was quite a surprise particularly because we found it growing on a tree stump, and it is usually a terrestrial species (it had flowered earlier in the year and I could examine only flowers preserved in alcohol). *Rodriguezia batemanii* was in flower and I was able to photograph this rather showy species and to preserve some flowers.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, I flew back to Caracas, and on May 4<sup>th</sup>, I flew back to Boston. Although my travels this time did not have the excitement of river travel and good food (eating only at restaurants was not as enjoyable: I missed the fish soups), my sleeping accommodations were much more comfortable and, insect-wise, we only experienced a few black-flies both in Gran Sabana and around Puerto Ayacucho.

In late spring of next year, I look forward to my next expedition to the Cariche mountains (which we explored briefly before: see Romero, 2009).

Acknowledgments: The April 2010 travel to the Venezuelan Guayana would not have been possible without the financial support of the Harvard University Herbaria and the Orchid Society of Arizona (OSA), and the logistic support of Venezuela's Ministerio del Poder Popular para el Ambiente both in Santa Elena de Uairén and Puerto Ayacucho. I am also grateful to Armando Martínez and Norma Sánchez in Santa Elena de Uairén for their assistance during my travels in La Gran Sabana and to Luis Alvarez, Jesús Nieves Farfán, Carlos and Carmen Gómez, and Dimas and Anita González for all the assistance they provided during my stay in Puerto Ayacucho. Finally, I am again grateful to Luis Angel Carmona, my faithful companion during the many road trips I made back and forth between the Simón Bolívar International airport in Maiquetía (at sea level) and the city of Caracas (at over 900 m of altitude).

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#### NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> I lived in Puerto Ayacucho, the capital of Venezuela's Amazonas state, between 1981 and 1985 and then from January 1987 to June 1988. During these two periods I spent most of my free time documenting the orchid flora of the surrounding habitats, especially that found on granite outcrops. More recently, however, I have visited Puerto Ayacucho for only short periods of time, either going or returning from other places in the state.
- <sup>2</sup> My collecting permit, granted by Venezuela's *Ministerio del Poder Popular para el Ambiente*, explicitly prohibits the gathering of plant material within National Parks without an additional permit granted by *Instituto Nacional de Parques* (INPARQUES). The latter is rather difficult to obtain, especially for areas inhabited by native Indians. Therefore, within Canaima National Park, I could only photograph the orchids I found.
- <sup>3</sup> The summit of Roraima is shared by Brazil, Guyana, and Venezuela.
- <sup>4</sup> I also had a second objective while in Santa Elena: to meet with the Indian chiefs of Gran Sabana to present several research projects, some involving international cooperation, which they would have to approve in order for us to obtain collecting permits. Despite multiple efforts to have this meeting, I was not successful, but I did talk to several local officials whose contacts will be useful next time I try to obtain approval of the projects.
- <sup>5</sup> At greater altitude one sees mostly sandstone.
- <sup>6</sup> The names of some of the orchids depicted in last three two publications have changed. In Huggins (1991): page 438, 440, *Mendoncella burkei* = *Galeottia burkei* (Rchb.f.) Dressler & Christenson; page 445, *Cyrtopodium glutiniferum* = *C. fowliei* L. C. Menezes.  
In Allikas (2001):  
page 397, *Sobralia liliastrum* = *S. elisabethae* R. H. Schomb.;

page 399, *Epidendrum carpophorum* = *E. tumuc-humaciense*;  
page 399, *Koellensteinia kellneriana* = *K. tricolor* (Lindl.) Rchb.f.;  
page 402, *Epistephium hernandii* = *E. sp.* (*non E. hernandii* Garay).

In Rach (2001):

page 519, *Cleisthes rosea* = *C. parviflora* Lindl.;  
page 522, *Epidendrum* species = *E. ibaguense* H.B.K.

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## NAVAHCS WISH LIST FOR August 22, 2010 FIELD TRIP

### For the nursing home -

- \*personal size toiletries (nothing containing alcohol)
- \*books (nothing war-related)
- \*puzzles
- \*sweat pants for men
- \*small decorative items that will move or make noise for stimulation

### For gardening programs for the patients -

- \*metal markers that can be placed in the ground so that the patients know what has been planted
- \*ceramic, decorative pots - to accommodate large palms, etc. (Southwestern accent colors)
- \*macramé plant hangers - at least 3 feet long - to accommodate 12" pots (Southwestern colors)
- \*small decorative garden items to place in pots or in the ground
- \*wind chimes
- \*wind socks
- \*flags
- \*other decorative items that will brighten the garden area

**\*\*\*To donate funds in lieu of items, a check should be made payable to NAVAHCS, and on the memo line, write: Acct. #GPF 9017. If you mail the check, send it to: Paula Moran, Northern AZ Health Care System, 500 N. Highway 89, Prescott, AZ 86313-5001**

For benefit of new members: Our annual field trip to Prescott is an all-day trip. (We depart Phoenix in the morning and return in late afternoon.) For the past two years, a local Master Gardener has been in charge of the greenhouse. After we arrive, we can choose to tour the greenhouse, check the veggies in the garden adjacent to the greenhouse, and/or check the trees in the orchard for apples and peaches. After we help bring patients to the picnic area, all of us (staff, patients, and OSA members) enjoy lunch which is provided by OSA. (The picnic area is located near the greenhouse.) After lunch, before we hold an abbreviated board meeting, we help return the patients to the nursing home. And after the board meeting, we head back to Phoenix.

Patients, staff members, and OSA members always enjoy this annual event.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR – IT'S SHOW TIME!**

The Orchid Society of Arizona's Annual Show & Sale date has been set, the venue has been confirmed, the flyers are printed, and the plant buying trip to Gubler's has been planned – all we need is YOUR help and participation. Our Members make (or break) this major fundraiser.

“Pyramid of Orchids”, our show's title and theme, will be held at the Arizona Veteran's Home (Liberty Hall), 4141 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Phoenix, on Saturday/Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> (9-5) & 17<sup>th</sup> (9-3). As usual, the Show Set-up is scheduled for Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 p.m. until ? (probably by 9:00 p.m.)

Please note that October is not a misprint. Our show has been moved from the usual month of November to October this year. The date change will be advantageous in several ways.

OSA's “Gubler Gang” will be able to better choose plants in bloom, or ready-to-bloom for our show. In previous years, our show was four to six weeks after we had been to the Gubler's Orchid Festival. The length of time between our purchase and the show made our plant choices more difficult. We tried to choose plants that were in tight bud so they would be in blooming glory at show time. Of course, judging precisely the length of time between tight bud stage and full bloom is not as reliable as one would hope. We always do the best we can to provide a diverse inventory of plants, taking into consideration colors, size of plants, size of flowers, number of flowers, prolific growth, fragrance or not...you get the idea. It is a labor of love, even though all who go on the buying trip come back completely exhausted and sleep-deprived.

An even better reason for having our show in October is that our “Plant Hostess”, aka/Julie Rathbun (our Prez), gives up a very large area of her greenhouse to house and care for the show's plant inventory until our Show & Sale date. Reducing the time our plants are in Julie's care, relieves her of a big responsibility we have asked Julie to do for several years. Julie was, by default, the logical place to house the mass inventory of plants at one location as she *has* a greenhouse and it is *large* enough (barely) to hold her collection *and* the additional sale plants.

OSA is not only lucky to have Julie as our President, but we are grateful for her generosity to the group. I, as the 2009 and 2010 Show Chair, and as a member of OSA for 15 years, have witnessed Julie's willingness and ability to make OSA a priority in her life along with her many commitments to other organizations and personal endeavors. I do not forget to also acknowledge there are other members who have been instrumental in the success of our organization. Thanks to all. It can't be done without you!

So...I hope that OSA can count on YOU to be a part of the success of this year's Show & Sale. It is YOU that can make a difference! We need your help with show set-up on Friday, assisting during the Saturday & Sunday show hours, lending your blooming plants for display, and breakdown after the event on Sunday afternoon. It would be helpful to bring non-plant items for display that would have the Pyramid/Egyptian theme. Please place your name on any of your plants and/or other items used for the show so there is no question as to who the items should be returned to, or picked up by. If you have plants or display items we can use, and your schedule does not fit with Friday's show set-up, *please* contact me so arrangements can be made for another member to pick up your contribution.

If you are unable to assist with the production of the Annual Show & Sale, I hope you will spread the word about it to your family, friends and co-workers or come to the show to purchase some fabulous orchids! Volunteer Sign-Up Scheduling Sheets will be available at the next two meetings (August & October). Show Flyers will also be available at these meetings for you to distribute to the businesses you frequent as loyal customers or Community Boards at your local Library or gardening center. We count on you to help make our Annual Show & Sale a success in any way you can!

Our last Show Planning Meeting will be held on September 26<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m., at Julie's home. Please feel welcome to attend to help us finalize the details of our show. I am also available to answer questions regarding our Annual Show & Sale by calling me at the contact number found on the Show Flyer, 602-803-6889.

I look forward to working with you towards the success of the 2010 “Pyramid of Orchids”.

Lou Ann Remeikis  
2010 Show Chair  
602-803-6889

# OSA August 2010 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>OSA Meeting 7:00 PM</i>	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 <i>NAVAHCS TRIP</i>	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Orchid Society of Arizona  
c/o Keith Mead  
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August/September 2010 Newsletter