



# The Arizona Orchidist

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## NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting will be

**Monday, August 6th at 7:00 P.M.**

Meetings are held at the

**Training Center**

**at the**

**Arizona State Veteran Home  
4141 S. Herrera Way, Phoenix.**

OSA meetings are open to all  
plant enthusiasts

Refreshments will be provided

Snacks by Carol Erwin and

Rhonda Woodward

Beverages by Joe Bacik

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (480) 948-0714

Lou Ann Remeikis (602) 803-6889

Jo Anne Waddoups

480-654-9883

## Grower on Call

August

**Lou Ann Remeikis**

**602-803-6889**

**remeikis@andiamo-tel.com**

September

**Keith Mead**

**orchidsinabq@gmail.com**

## AUGUST PROGRAM

### LAST CHANCE (HOPEFULLY)

The August Program will be a repeat from a couple of months ago. We are trying to reduce the Library inventory due to the fact we have no home for this valuable resource. I wish we had a location where OSA could maintain our book collection for our members use, however we are doing the next best thing...making the collection available for purchase by live auction. This is your opportunity to acquire some unique books and Orchid related manuals at an affordable price.

All Orchid growers, both commercial and the hobbyist, have reference material that they personally like better than others. OSA's inventory covers all levels of knowledge or expertise which offers insight into specific species/cultivars, growing techniques, light, humidity, watering and temperature requirements, etc. Many of the books are current publications, along with some of the classic standards. We also have books or pamphlets that are quite old and offer a humorous look to growing practices of years gone by. Some older methods have since been improved, yet the books have increased in value and are hard to find.

Please join us at the August meeting and help us reduce the inventory. If you don't need any of these publications, there is nothing stopping you from getting a few and donating them back to the raffle table at a future meeting!

So...we want to see your faces on August 6th. Come to participate in the bidding process, see your "orchid friends", and eat! We never have a function without some refreshments to enjoy!

Happy growing!  
Lou Ann Remeikis

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## From the President's Desk

### Julie Rathbun

I hope that all of our members and their families enjoyed a safe July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday!

For our June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, we had excellent attendance to hear Gustavo Romero's presentation. We gained a new member, and several guests were also in attendance. For those of you who missed the meeting, I think that Gustavo's PowerPoint program was outstanding. It contained a blend of geography of the area of his 2011 field expedition in Venezuela, personal experiences (including foods he ate – particularly local fish that he and his crew caught during his trip), pictures of unusual plants, and of course, pictures of orchids. My personal favorite was a photo of Gustavo sitting in a small dug-out canoe. The larger canoe had been placed in a vertical position by his crew, and we could see that the large canoe was carved out of one piece of wood. Amazing! (If anyone wants the photo of Gustavo in the small canoe, contact Wilella. She asked him to send her the photo, and she shares! If anyone sends her an e-mail, she will send you his photo. Please remember that the photo can be shared among our members, but it is **not** intended for public distribution.)

During his stay in Phoenix, Gustavo was my house guest. In 2007, he was also a guest in my home, but at that time, I didn't have quite so many dogs. He didn't seem to mind being greeted by a small "herd" of dogs because he said that he would see us again in 5 years.

In June, our school program team presented hands-on repotting programs for summer school students at Morristown Elementary and at the Children's Center for Neurodevelopment Studies. Carol Erwin was our photographer, so she is not pictured in any of the photos. **Thank you, Carol, for taking photos!** The photos in this newsletter are of the programs at Morristown. The photos of the programs at The Children's Center in Glendale can be found on our website! (A detailed report about the programs can be found elsewhere in this combined August/September newsletter.)

Our arrival in Morristown was published in the June 13, Wickenburg Sun newspaper. The reporter, Mary Ann Rosenhnal, included a link to OSA's website and the backdrops for our November, 1999 show, from Morristown School's website. The backdrops had been painted by Morristown students. We notified **Jim Johnson**, OSA's webmaster, of the link, and he was amazed that such an old link still worked. He asked for more photos of our school programs. Since we have photos of many school programs that date back to 1999, Wilella and Jim worked on putting together a page of photos of our Community Service Programs. Wilella provided the photos and captions, and Jim organized them from the most recent to the oldest, and uploaded them onto our website. The URL for the page is: [http://www.jimni.0catch.com/osa\\_programs/osa\\_programs.htm](http://www.jimni.0catch.com/osa_programs/osa_programs.htm)

When you look at the page, what you will see are thumbnail photos. To see captions and larger views, click on each thumbnail. **Thanks, Jim!** For visitors to our website, the photos give them visual images of our community service within Arizona.

During our August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, I will ask for a show of hands of the number of members who want to join us on our **August 26th field trip to the Northern Arizona VA Health Care System greenhouse**. We will meet at 8:00 AM at my house, count heads to find out how many vehicles we will need to transport our group, and carpool from there to Prescott. We plan for our caravan of members to arrive at the greenhouse by 10:00 AM. Sandwich trays for a picnic lunch will be provided by OSA, but drinks, chips, and dessert are provided by a few of your board members. If at all possible, Betty Stephens, who had Paula Moran's position as Supervisor of Recreation Therapy until Betty's official retirement, plans to be there. This is our annual summer get-away-from-Phoenix trip to the greenhouse. Our involvement with the greenhouse, residents, and staff dates back at least 25 years. (A brief board meeting will be held in Prescott. If you aren't interested in listening to OSA business matters, you can always stroll through the orchard and garden.)

We never know what the weather will be like in Prescott. If you bring a jacket and an umbrella, then the weather will probably be sunny and warm.

No OSA members should feel obligated to donate items. If you want to donate items for the nursing home, there is a short list included in this newsletter. This year, as we did for the past two years, your board decided that in order to take the pressure off members for donations, OSA will donate funds for the greenhouse. (In fact, we decided to make our donation for the greenhouse an annual donation in order to encourage more members to make the trip.) So if you have nothing to donate, **the check from OSA includes our entire membership**.

The program for our August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will be Part II of our library liquidation. This is your chance to build your orchid library at cheaper prices than you will find anywhere else, so bring your checkbooks. (Cash works, too!)

At our **August 6th meeting**, show flyers will be available on the raffle ticket sales table. Since we won't hold a September meeting, please pick up as many flyers as you can distribute.

It's that time of year when a **Nominating Committee** prepares a slate of candidates for our November election. **Lou Ann Remeikis** has graciously agreed to serve as Chairperson; **Barbara Parnell** and **Pamela Albright** will also serve on the Nominating Committee. Thank you, ladies, for your willingness to help! The slate will be published in our October newsletter.

**Reminder: We will not hold our September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting because it falls on Labor Day.**

See you on August 6!

Julie

**Welcome New Member Iva Dobson**  
Seek her out and welcome her to OSA !

### September Birthdays

Lou Remeikis and Wayne Teske Sept. 3rd  
Dennis Olivas and Joe Bacik Sept. 5th  
Iva Dobson Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>  
Jeanette Socaciu and Megan Stuff Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>  
Gary Remeikis Sept. 25th

### NAVAHCS WISH LIST FOR AUGUST 26, 2012 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

**\*\*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 VA Health Care System, 500 N. Highway 89, Prescott, AZ 86313-5001**

### June Raffle Donors

Richard Holle, Bob MacLeod, Barbara Parnell,  
Wilella Stimmell, and Megan Stuff

**Thank You !**

### Night-blooming Orchid

The discovery of this new species is significant because it has the first night-blooming flowers recorded among the more than 25,000 known species of orchids. Within the orchid family, its genus (*Bulbophyllum*) is spectacularly diverse with about 2,000 named species. The slender bizarre-looking flowers of *Bulbophyllum nocturnum* are rather small and start to open around 10pm but close the next morning, lasting only about 12 hours. This new species is known from a single plant and may be at risk due to habitat loss from logging practices in its native New Guinea.

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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:

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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

Wilella Stimmell

On **June 13**, **Carol Erwin**, **Richard Holle**, **Bob MacLeod**, **Julie Rathbun**, and I presented 3 hands-on programs for children enrolled in summer school at **Morristown Elementary School**. When we arrived, we were greeted by longtime lead teacher, Lucy Thompson. It was a welcome reunion for Bob, Julie and me because we had previously presented programs at Morristown in March, 1999. (Bob was not available to help with the programs in 1999, but in 2002, he volunteered to plant desert willow seedlings along the school's nature trail and at one side of the new elementary school that was built in 2000.)

We presented our programs in one of the separate buildings that was in use in 1999. After the new school was built, the older building was turned into a music room and library. The first 3<sup>rd</sup> grade boy into our "classroom" took a look at the display plants, and said: "This is fantastic!" All of the children were very appreciative of working with their very own orchid seedling.

The students were enthusiastic about our display plants and their seedlings. Program team members were assisted by classroom teachers and their aides. With so many helpers, each student had a one-on-one experience.

At the conclusion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> class, Lucy gave us a tour of the new school. Although it was built 12 years ago, it still looks brand new. Obviously the staff and students help to keep their new school in first rate condition. We were very impressed with the layout and state-of-the-art facility. Students who had finished their homework in the computer room, were permitted to play games on their computers. At all times, a teacher monitored the students. Students who are interested in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math were busy at work in the STEM room. We simply had a quick look-see and did not disturb their concentration.

Lucy, who has been at Morristown Elementary for 32 years, said that the students would remember this orchid experience for many years. She also hopes to attend our fall orchid show and perhaps bring a busload of students. Lucy and at least 6 students arrived in a bus for our November, 1999 show. The students had learned to square dance and performed during our show. For this year's show, Lucy asked if we would welcome art work from her students. Of course, we said, "Yes!" It will be interesting to see what her students create for our show.

On **June 21**, **Carol Erwin**, **Richard Holle**, **Terri Jackson**, **Bob MacLeod**, **Julie Rathbun**, and I presented 2 hands-on programs for students enrolled at **The Children's Center for Neurodevelopment Studies**, in Glendale. When Janet Othman, Assistant Client Services Coordinator, contacted us, she told us that the students were "high-functioning Autistic" children. Knowing ahead of time that these students had special needs, we kept our introductory remarks short. Also, we asked that she and her staff save water jugs for the greenhouses that we would construct from the jugs. We requested water jugs because unless milk jugs have never contained milk, more often than not, reused milk jugs are malodorous. However, we're also aware that often gallon milk jugs are more readily available than water jugs, so we took several extra water jugs to the school. And we really needed to use our extra water jugs. We presented our programs in the cafeteria, and with the help of staff members, we were able to work with these special children. Our program team showed great patience working with the students, and we believe that we gave these children a special experience.

At the end of the programs, our program team visited the school's garden, above-ground swimming pool, and newly constructed greenhouse. The interior of the greenhouse is not completed.

**Note: If any OSA member uses plastic, gallon water jugs, and doesn't re-use, please save them for future programs.**

# MORRISTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS



Morristown Old Building 2012

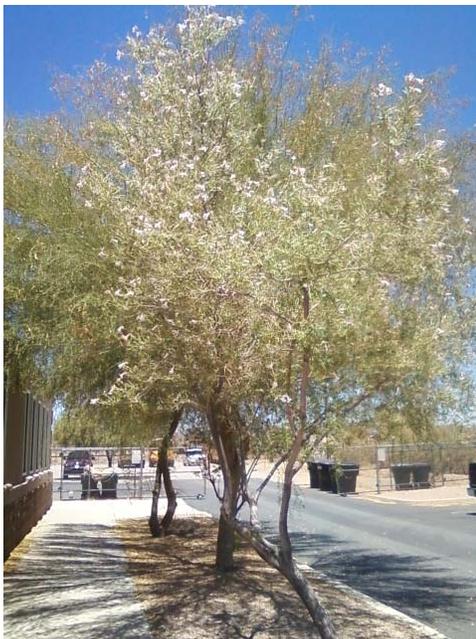


Morristown New School Building 2012

## 2012 Morristown Program Team

Bob MacLeod, Julie Rathbun,  
Wilella Stimmell,  
and Richard Holle

All photos by team member  
Carol Erwin



One of Bob's Desert Willows



2012 Morristown Program Team Members and Students

# OSA August 2012 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  Virginia Connolly	2	3	4  Kimberly Levingston
5  Pat Miller	6 <b>OSA Meeting 7:00 PM</b>	7	8  Ann Cherny	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Orchid Society of Arizona  
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