



The Arizona Orchidist

Published monthly by

The Orchid Society of Arizona, Inc.

Founding Editor- Clarence S. Lindsten

1966

Volume 49

August/September 2011

NEXT OSA MEETING

The next regular society meeting will be

Monday, August 1st 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

Bob MacLeod

Snacks by

Susan Nahmias and Megan Stuff

Refreshment Coordinators:

Barbara Parnell (480) 948-0714

Lou Ann Remeikis (602) 803-6889

Jo Anne Waddoups

480-654-9883

**August Board Meeting – August 21
at the NAVAHCS picnic grounds,
Prescott**

**September Board Meeting –
September 25th at the home of
Julie Rathbun**

Growers on Call:

**August – Julie Rathbun
jandfent@aol.com**

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

AUGUST PROGRAM

Orchids from the Brazilian Amazon a CD by Francisco Miranda

“The Amazon is the largest river basin in the world. The Brazilian portion of it includes most of the Amazon plains and thus most of the lowland habitats. Although the variety of orchid species is less than the area covered would make one think, there are unique species to be found there.” This CD covers the most important of these habitats and orchid species. Joe Bacik has agreed to bring his laptop computer to our meeting, and, if necessary, we will also use OSA’s multimedia projector. (The Training Center at the veteran home is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, but just in case their equipment fails, we are prepared.)

W. Stimmell

NAVAHCS WISH LIST FOR AUGUST 21, 2011 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 Health Care System, 500 N. Highway 89, Prescott, AZ 86313-5001**

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Julie Rathbun

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From the President's Desk

Julie Rathbun

Those who attended our June meeting seemed to enjoy mounting orchids. One member had two large *Bulbophyllum* species orchids from which several divisions were cut and mounted. Several members who mounted the divisions, were able to add these rare plants to their collections. We also had two guests at our meeting, and one of them, Carol Jurn (daughter of the late Janet Jurn), donated several of her mother's books and other items to OSA. We're hoping that her mom's love of growing orchids is hereditary and that Carol decides to join our happy orchid family.

I hope that all of you had a safe July 4th and went someplace cool in order to escape our summer heat. Unfortunately, it was necessary for me to stay home and stack hay bales for my horses and tend other people's horses while their owners were on vacation. On the bright side, by my being at home, I could make sure that my greenhouse cooler was working, monitor my animals for signs of heat stress (my rabbit had to be moved indoors), and to cool off, I stayed inside my house and completed sewing jobs.

Like the June/July combined newsletter, this newsletter issue will also be a combined issue for August and September because we will NOT hold a September meeting on Labor Day.

It's that time of year when a **Nominating Committee** prepares a slate of candidates for our November election. **Ann Cherny** has graciously agreed to serve as Chairperson; **Debra Hartill** (retiring from our Board of Directors at the end of the year) and **Jo Anne Waddoups** will also serve on the Nominating Committee. Thank you, ladies, for your willingness to help! The slate will be published in our October newsletter.

At our **August 1 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. Elsewhere in this issue, you will find a submission (written by Show Co-Chair, Lou Ann Remeikis) about the items we need for our show.

Our **annual trip to the Northern Arizona VA Health Care System greenhouse** is set for **Sunday, August 21**. At our August 1 meeting, I'll mention the trip and try to get an idea of how many members will make the trip to Prescott. Our caravan of members departs from my home at 8 AM on the 21st. We carpool to the VA. After members arrive at my home, we count heads to see how many vehicles we will need to transport our group.

We plan to arrive at the greenhouse by 10:00 AM. At least 2 members always bring cookies for light morning refreshment to munch on with coffee provided by the VA. Before lunch (provided by OSA for members, patients, and staff members), you have a chance to explore the garden, orchard, picnic area, and of course, the greenhouse. You might even want to take photos. After lunch, we will hold a short board meeting and then we head back to Phoenix.

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 last year, 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.

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, but cooler than Phoenix!

On the way home, some members might want to stop at the former Young's Farm in Dewey. It closed 5 years ago, and the Young Family moved its operation to Oregon. (The housing development that had been planned for the property, didn't happen.) This year the Mortimer Family is tilling the soil and planting crops in the same location. According to our local paper, the first sweet corn crop was expected to be ready in July. For those members who do not want to spend time at the reopened farm, don't worry! When we arrive at the farm, we switch vehicles: those who want to head back to Phoenix, ride with a driver who also doesn't want to spend time at the farm. We try to accommodate the wishes of our members.

See you on August 1st!

Julie

Reminder

No September meeting this year !

ANNOUNCEMENT PRICE INCREASE FOR NAME BADGES

We received the following announcement from Nameplate Distribution, the local company from which we order permanent name badges for our members. "As you are no doubt aware, the costs of most of the raw materials and processes we use in our products have been rising steadily for the last few years. Since our last overall price increase in 2007, we have absorbed these added costs; unfortunately we are no longer able to continue to do so. In order to maintain our product quality and service standards that we have prided ourselves on for the last 33 years in business we find it necessary to raise our prices. Therefore, effective July 1, 2011, there will be a 15% increase on all of our product lines." At our June board meeting, it was decided that the price increase will not affect our new members; their name badges will still be included in their membership dues. However, in order for us not to lose money for "no-show" members, **a new member will need to attend 3 meetings before a permanent name badge is ordered for him/her.** OSA pays for the first badge for a new member, but if a member loses his/her badge or can't find it, another badge will **not** be ordered until the member has paid OSA to replace the badge. **The cost of replacing a badge is \$12.00.**

SPECIAL THANKS

TO DAVE JOHNSTON, OWNER OF JEWELL ORCHIDS, COLBERT, GA, FOR HIS PERMISSION TO USE THE ORCHIDS FROM THE HOME PAGE OF HIS WEBSITE, www.jewellorchids.com , ON OUR SHOW FLYER. (Dave spoke at our April, 2007 meeting and even before he spoke at our meeting, he had/has been a faithful donor of plants for our annual December fund-raising auction.)

June Raffle Donors

**Carol Jurn, Julie Rathbun, Lou Ann Remeikis,
Wilella Stimmell,
the family of August Lorenzini,
Northern AZ VA Health Care System,
and Mark Obermayer**

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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

Laelia purpurata 'Ruby'



Grown by Julie Rathbun
Photo by Bob MacLeod

I bought my *Laelia purpurata* 'Ruby' at our December, 2007 fundraiser. Three *Laelia purpurata* 'Ruby' plants had been donated for our annual fundraiser by John Atwood, OSA member and resident of Vermont. John had sent the plants bare root. I placed my newly acquired plant in a pot with a mixture of fir bark and perlite and hoped for the best.

Readers might like to know that this plant had originally been grown by John in FL, and when he moved to Vermont, he took a number of the orchids in his personal collection with him. He determined that the *Laelia purpurata* 'Ruby' plants didn't appreciate the change in climate from FL to VT, and so he sent the plants to us.

Plants, like people, need time to adjust to a new climate - especially to a climate that is so drastically different than a previous climate. In May, 2009, my plant bloomed for the first time. It had 3 flowers. Last year in May, my plant bloomed with 6 flowers, and this year in May, my plant had 7 flowers. I assume that my plant likes the care I'm giving to it. The leaves are not as green as I would like, but the plant gets a lot of bright, diffused light in my greenhouse. I would rather have beautiful, multiple flowers than darker green leaves, so I'm not really complaining - just stating what I've observed. According to Carl Withner, author of *THE CATTLEYAS AND THEIR RELATIVES* (a 6 part series), in Volume II, devoted to Laelias, on page 112, of the pages devoted to *Laelia purpurata*, he states: "The usual number of flowers is 3-5 but as many as 7-8 are recorded."

There are many excellent internet sources of information for *Laelia purpurata*. If you are interested in seeing the great variation in the color of the lip, you might want to start a search by checking the reference information on Jay Pfahl's Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia at www.orchidspecies.com/lpupurata.htm and <http://mirandaorchids.com/laeliaVGA.htm> (Francisco Miranda, owner of Miranda Orchids, Haines City, FL, spoke to us in July, 2002.)

AN AGREEABLE LANDSCAPE

Kathryn Mauz, recipient of the Deacon Bell scholarship fund, has sent OSA a complimentary copy of her new book: *AN AGREEABLE LANDSCAPE: Historical Botany and Plant Diversity of a Sonoran Desert Bottomland, 1855-1920*. (The book was published in June, 2011, by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX.) Included with the book was a thank you letter: "I truly appreciate the interest and sponsorship of the Orchid Society of Arizona for the research effort, and hope that you will find this a worthy product. My work on [Cyrus] Pringle continues and I will keep you updated."

In the Acknowledge section of the book, Kathryn states "This work was supported in part by the Deacon Bell Memorial Scholarship from the Orchid Society of Arizona..."

Kathryn's book will be available at our August 1 meeting. If anyone would like to purchase his/her own copy of the soft-cover book, it is available for \$30.00 + \$4.00 shipping at www.brit.org/brit-press/books/sbm-35/ or for those without internet access, phone (817) 332-4441.

It's Almost Showtime!

As our Show is getting closer and closer, please think of what you can contribute to its success. In case you missed it, the theme of this year's show is "A Mountain of Orchids". We envision a mountain, a modified pyramid which our Famous Bob constructed for last year's show, and our display plants will be accented with mountain-type items. The Show Planning Committee, of which EVERY member is encouraged to participate, envisions mountain accents of small native animals, rodents, birds, small decorative trees or shrubs that would fit into a mountain scene. Obviously we don't want a giant item that would overshadow the display plants, but we want to spruce up the mountain. Do you have any such item(s) that could help us showcase our vignette? If in doubt, bring your items anyway... they may be just the thing we need!

Additionally, we will need any of your blooming plants for the display. ANYTHING you contribute to the show's setting, if you want the items returned – PLEASE put your name on the plant or item so it can be returned to you! No one can guarantee your item's return if we don't know who it belongs to.

There is always a table of orchid-related items. Some of these items belong to the Orchid Society of Arizona and some of the items are donated by various members of our organization. I encourage everyone to donate an item for sale, if you have something that pertains to orchids, as these dollars add up and help fund OSA's community service programs.

What is a show without food and beverage? The Show Planning Committee is always looking for donations of cookies, brownies, snack items and punch or coffee to keep the workers happy and to welcome the visitors to our Show. It does not matter if they are home-made items or purchased at your favorite grocery store.

Bottom line – get ready, volunteer, donate items for the display (or for sale), and keep your calendar open for Saturday, October 15th (9:00 am – 5:00 pm), and Sunday, October 16th (9:00 am – 3:00 pm). Friday, October 14th, will be the set-up date, time yet to be announced.

I certainly look forward to the assistance of our membership to make this year's Show the best ever!

Submitted by Lou Ann Remeikis

NEWS ABOUT THE ARIZONA STATE VETERAN HOME NEWSLETTER

We received the following message from Kristin Fray, Therapeutic Programs Manager:

“The Arizona State Veteran Home has moved [from a monthly] to a quarterly newsletter. It will be available on our website here: http://dvs.az.gov/services/phoenix_veteran_home/default.aspx

Thank you for everything that you do for our veterans!

Gratefully yours,

Kristin”

New Peru Video Previews/Trailers (of Stig Dalstrom, the Wild Orchid Man) on You Tube

- 1) La Montaña De Basura (The Mountain Of Trash)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aeBoGt6MyA>

- 2) Mountains of Amazonas preview

<http://www.youtube.com/user/reffaslyrrad?feature=mhum>

- 3) Conservation at Inkaterra Machu Picchu

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0AB-myMoJk&feature=relmfu>

FOR INTERNET USERS: USEFUL ORCHID PICTURE REFERENCE DATABASE

An easy to use website of 185,929 references from 3003 documents can be found at <http://los.lon.imag.net/picref.asp>

2011 OSA MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

The 2011 roster is available electronically. If you indicated an e-mail address on your membership renewal form, you may request an electronic roster. To request a roster, send an e-mail to:
wilellas@att.net

With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person, which almost went unnoticed last week. Larry LaPrise, the man who wrote "The Hokey Pokey", died peacefully at age 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin. They put his left leg in. And then the trouble started.....

Ed.

NEW WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE GREENHOUSE AT ASVH

“On July 9, during All Star Weekend, the Diamondbacks and Bank of America worked with the staff at ASVH, and they finished building a greenhouse and stocked it (not with orchids), erected a canopy over one of the patios that didn't have a canopy, refurbished the pool table in the lobby, donated a baseball (of course) game machine, and some other goodies. We saw on the news that the D-backs had donated \$175,000.00, and saw a couple of pictures of them working.”





Wilella Stimmell

“Thanks to Major League Baseball, the Diamondbacks, and Bank of America, we also got the canopy on the D1 patio, and they redid the landscaping, did our buses, got us some new computers, etc. In total, it was a \$179K donation. And even better, now we have two patios on D1, one for smoking and one for non-smoking. So there won't be smoking in the greenhouse (I hope!)”

Kristin Fray, ASVH



OSA August 2011 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  OSA Meeting 7:00 PM Virginia Connolly	2	3	4  Kimberly Levingston	5  Pat Miller	6
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
 c/o Keith Mead
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