

GREATER LAS VEGAS ORCHID SOCIETY THE ORCHID COLUMN

CAROL SIEGEL, EDITOR



**DIRECTIONS TO
GREENHOUSE TOUR IN
NEWSLETTER**

**SUNDAY JUNE 5, 2011
2 P.M.**

**EAST SIDE GREENHOUSE TOUR
WE WILL MEET IN THE HOMES
OF OUR HOSTS NOT AT THE
EASTER SEALS BUILDING**

SPECIAL EVENTS:

June 5, 2011
East Side Greenhouse Tour
July 10, 2011
Fred Clarke,
"Growing Fabulous Cattleya"
August 7, 2011
Barbecue Mt. Charleston
September 11, 2011
Cathy Loftfeld
"A Passion for Orchids"
October 2, 2011
Peter Lin
"The Three A's
Angraecum, Aeranthes, and
Aerangis"
November 6, 2011 Carol Siegel
"The Sex Life of Orchids"
December 4, 2011 Holiday Party
January 8, 2012
Jason Fischer
Singapore World Orchid Conference
February 5, 2012
Ron Midgett "20-Year Odyssey in
Cattleya Breeding"
April 1, 2012 Harold Koopowitz
"All About Paphiopedilum"
May 6, 2012 Ron Parsons "Orchids
Of Philippines"
June 3, 2012 Rick Burnett "Seven
Ways to Kill An Orchid"

WE LOVED OUR MAY MEETING...

MUCH TO OUR RELIEF, THE POWER POINT PRESENTATION WAS VISIBLE THIS TIME IN OUR NEW MEETING PLACE. (IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT WE ARE TALKING ABOUT, CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY.) IN FACT, EVERYTHING WENT OFF JUST PERFECTLY, AND WE WERE OFFICIALLY SETTLED INTO OUR NEW HOME, THANK THE LORD. KAREN MUIR DID A GREAT PRESENTATION ON WHAT CONSTITUTES A GOOD PAPHIOPEDILUM, AND WE LEARNED A LOT AND HAD A GOOD TIME. THE FOOD WAS FABULOUS THANKS TO OLE BORRESEN, THE LA FOLLETES, THE LOFTFIELDS, THE DEGUZMANS, CAROLYN JONES AND PHIL POTASHNER. TONY BILLITERE PROVIDED HUNDREDS OF PLANTS AND ORCHIDS WHICH TOOK UP 12 TABLES!! EVERYBODY WALKED OUT WITH ARMFULS OF GOODIES. THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO CARED FOR AND CARRIED PLANTS. I PROVIDED BLOOMING PAPHS FROM HILO ORCHID FARMS. MANY THANKS TO OUR NEW VICE-PRESIDENT WHO DID A WONDERFUL PRESENTATION OF OUR SPECIES OF THE MONTH, *ONCIDIUM MACRANTHUM* (FORMERLY *CYRTOPODIUM MACRANTHUM*). THIS SPECTACULAR ORCHID FROM THE ANDES BOAST A FLOWER SPIKE THAT IS 12 FEET LONG! THANKS TO STEVE NINEMIRE FOR HIS HELP WITH THE NEW BUILDING

ALL ABOUT SALEP...

Bruce and Kathy Weber just returned from Turkey, and they told us lots about their trip at the meeting. They brought back packets of Salep, a drink that is common all over the world and is made with orchids. In 2008, I wrote an article for ORCHID DIGEST on salep, and I was excited to actually see it. Salep refers to the paired underground tubers found in several orchid genera including ORCHIS and OPHRYS. The tubers are dried and ground into a powdery flour, mixed with milk and sugar, and used in a popular hot drink and an even more popular ice cream (that comes in 32 flavors...), both called “salep.” The name “salep” comes from an Arabic expression shortened to “sahlab” and the Hebrew “sakhlav,” which means “fox testicles,” a graphic description of the shape of the orchid tubers. In 50 AD, Dioscorides, a Greek writer, wrote that if something looked like a body part, it was good for curing that body part. Because of what these orchid roots look like, they have been used for centuries as an aphrodisiac, an early form of Viagra. It is still regarded today as an effective and desirable aphrodisiac for men. The Webers told us that they had searched for and found “dondurma,” the Turkish word for ice cream. Good salep ice cream, made from orchid tubers, is so thick it needs to be eaten with a knife and fork. The ice cream does not melt, and it is so elastic that you can jump rope with it. The ice cream comes in many exotic flavors including apricot, pistachio, red current and peach. Eric Hansen, author, says that the flavor has a “hint of mushrooms, yak butter or goats on a rainy day.” Bruce said it tasted good. The tremendous demand for these orchids is putting pressure on the plants. The leading salep ice cream maker in Istanbul uses three tons of salep or about 12 million orchid plants a year. The BBC reports in 2003 that several rare orchid species found in Turkey face extinction because of the Turkish love of the ice cream. Export is not permitted, but there is no plan to cut back on orchid harvesting within the country. Now, the flowers are more difficult to find, and orchid harvesters must travel higher in the mountains to find them.

POTLUCK SCHEDULED FOR JULY 10TH MEETING

Only Terry Wilsey and Pennye Senneseth signed up for July 10th food. We, therefore, will have a potluck. We ask everyone who can to bring a summer salad or dessert. I am going to ask Terry if he will bring paper goods, and Pennye if she can bring ice and drinks. Your salad can be a main dish salad, a green or vegetable salad, or a fruit salad. Your dessert can be anything yummy. If you want to bring something else, feel free. We did this once before, and it was spectacular, and nobody had to do too much. Our July speaker is Fred Clarke, who will speak on cattleyas and sell plants. We love Fred's plants.

BELOW IS A LETTER WITH A WONDERFUL LINK SENT TO US BY THE ADORABLE 5TH GRADE STUDENTS OF MS. ALICIA HENDERSON. WE APPRECIATE IT!! WE THANK ALEX MCKYTON, OUR WEBMASTER, FOR ALL HIS HARD WORK.

From: Alicia Henderson

Subject: Feedback on your page <http://www.glvos.com/>

Dear Good Folks at Greater Las Vegas Orchid Society,

I'm writing in regard to your page: <http://www.glvos.com/> . I wanted to let you know I appreciate all the effort you must have put into creating this page; I'm a 5th grade science teacher and I've been including a small 'Horticulture' unit in my classroom for six years now and I thought your page was absolutely wonderful and look forward to using it to assist me in my lessons. Thank you!

This year I decided to do something different and I've been planning something special for my students! We are doing a tropical-themed play, that the kids will be performing in, (which I love!) and I'm also in the process of working out a field trip... and they are getting excited! Let me tell you!

While I was looking for 'Green Ideas', I found this really interesting article that turned out to be quite the resource tool, it talks all about Orchids... and it's very informative, like a glossary. Anyone can use it, I've already saved it to my favourites and reference it often!

Here's a link: 'Orchids: The Exotic Flower Guide' - <http://www.silkflowers.com/orchids-the-exotic-flower-guide>

I'm sharing this with you not only as a way of saying thank you, in hopes that you like it and find it as useful as I have, but also in hopes that you will consider adding it to your page.

If you do decide to add it, please let me know... I have an adorable group of little ones here and I'm trying to get creative and compile as much as I can for this class event. The idea if you folks are interested, was to maybe add a little something along the lines of "from Ms. Henderson's Class" or "for Ms. Henderson's students" or anything like that!

Truth is, it would not only provide your viewers with yet another amazing resource... but it would also bring a sense of authenticity and realism to mine, (which the kids need).

Please let me know what you think! They will all be very excited to actually see something like that incorporated on your page, if you so chose of course, and I promise I won't take up any more of your time.

One behalf of my entire class, thank you!

Cheers,

Alicia Henderson

Montgomery Charter School

5th Grade Teacher

alicia@khsteachers.org



VISITING OUR NATIVE ORCHIDS

On **Saturday, April 30th**, our club met at the Red Springs Picnic Area of Calico Basin to see our native orchid, ***Epipactis gigantea*** in glorious bloom. On an absolutely perfect day, **Paula Garrett**, our Nevada native orchid guru, took us on a lovely walk where we saw hundreds of our native orchid growing against moist red rocks as well as scores of beautiful wildflowers. Our lucky group included Roberta Schechter, Ole Borresen, Carol Siegel, Jeanne Tinsman and her husband, Claudia Drake, Sherry Byrnes, and Wanda and Bruce LaFollette, as well as two of Claudia's friends and two dogs. It was glorious! This is the easiest of our 14 native orchids to see. It is found in First Creek, La Madre Spring, Ash Spring, Pine Creek, Icebox Canyon, Blue Diamond, the Spring Mountain Ranch and Sandstone Spring. Its lip quivers in the breeze, and it is called the Chatterbox Orchid. It loves little streams and wet areas.

In other years, our club has gone to Mt. Charleston to see *Platanthera sparsiflora*, now thought to be *P. tescamnis*, a close relative. Several years, we trekked to Ash Springs near Death Valley to participate in an orchid count of *Spiranthes infernalis*, which only grows there and nowhere else in the world. Thrillingly, in 2005, the club went on an orchid hunt for *Spiranthes diluvialis* which had been lost in Nevada since the 1930's. WE FOUND IT AGAIN in Panaca in Lincoln County and I wrote up our discovery in the NATIVE ORCHID JOURNAL. We were famous! Congratulations poured in from as far away as Borneo!

The photo directly below is by Claudia Drake. The group photo is by Paula Garrett.







E THESE DIRECTIONS FOR JUNE MEETING, PLEASE TWO PAGES!

DIRECTIONS FOR EASTSIDE GREENHOUSE TOUR ON JUNE 5TH

KINDLY PREPARED BY CATHY LOFTFIELD

WE START AT THE EASTER SEAL BUILDING FOR SIMPLICITY SAKE. YOU CAN MODIFY FOR YOU.

From: 6200 W Oakey Blvd # L, Las Vegas, NV 89146-1103 EASTER SEAL BUILDING

To: 1532 Beech Grove Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89119-0367 US (HOME OF CATHY LOFTFIELD)

1. Start out going EAST on W OAKLEY BLVD toward S JONES BLVD/NV-596 S. (go 0.1 miles)
 2. Turn RIGHT onto S JONES BLVD/NV-596 S. (go 0.5 miles)
 3. Turn LEFT onto NV-589 E/W SAHARA AVE. (go 2.9 miles)
 4. Turn RIGHT onto S RANCHO DR. (go 0.0 miles)
 5. Merge onto I-15 S toward LOS ANGELES. (go 1.1 miles)
 6. Take I-15 EXPRESS LN. (go 2.8 miles)
 7. I-15 EXPRESS LN becomes I-15 S. (go 1.2 miles)
 8. Take EXIT 34 toward AIRPORT/I-215 E/CR-215 W/HENDERSON/215 WEST. (go 0.2 miles)
 9. Merge onto I-215 E/BRUCE WOODBURY BELT via the exit on the LEFT toward MCCARRAN AIRPORT/HENDERSON. (go 2.6 miles)
 10. Take the WARM SPRINGS RD exit, EXIT 9. (go 0.3 miles)
 11. Turn LEFT onto E WARM SPRINGS RD. (go 0.7 miles)
 12. Turn LEFT onto TAMARUS ST. (go 0.4 miles)
 13. Turn RIGHT onto MISSION HEIGHTS LN. (go 0.0 miles)
 14. Turn RIGHT onto JASMINE CREEK WAY. (go 0.1 miles)
 15. Turn LEFT onto BEECH GROVE DR. (go 0.0 miles)
 16. 1532 BEECH GROVE DR is on the LEFT. (go 0.0 miles) CATHY'S HOUSE
- >> TOTAL ESTIMATED TIME: 19 minutes | DISTANCE: 13.00 miles

From: 1532 Beech Grove Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89119-0367 LOFTFIELD HOUSE

To: 6855 Stone Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89110-4126 US SCHECHTER HOUSE

1. Start out going EAST on BEECH GROVE DR toward SAXONY DR. (go 0.0 miles)
 2. BEECH GROVE DR becomes SAXONY DR. (go 0.1 miles)
 3. Turn RIGHT onto BRIGHT VIEW DR. (go 0.1 miles)
 4. Turn RIGHT onto CYPRESS GARDENS LN. (go 0.3 miles)
 5. Turn LEFT onto E WARM SPRINGS RD. (go 0.7 miles)
 6. Turn LEFT onto S EASTERN AVE. (go 3.0 miles)
 7. Turn RIGHT onto E TROPICANA AVE/NV-593 E. (go 2.1 miles)
 8. Merge onto I-515 N/US-93 N/US-95 N via the ramp on the LEFT. (go 3.8 miles)
 9. Take the CHARLESTON BLVD exit, EXIT 72. (go 0.4 miles)
 10. Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto E CHARLESTON BLVD/NV-159 E. Continue to follow E CHARLESTON BLVD. (go 3.6 miles)
 11. Turn LEFT onto N HOLLYWOOD BLVD. (go 0.8 miles)
 12. Turn RIGHT onto STONE DR. (go 0.2 miles)
 13. 6855 STONE DR is on the RIGHT. (go 0.0 miles)
- TOTAL ESTIMATED TIME 24 MINUTES 15 MILES

From: 6855 Stone Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89110-4126 US SCHECTER HOUSE

To: 1248 S 8th St, Las Vegas, NV 89104-1547 OLE BORRESEN HOUSE

1. Start out going WEST on STONE DR toward ROSSMORE DR. (go 0.2 miles)
2. Turn LEFT onto N HOLLYWOOD BLVD. (go 0.8 miles)
3. Turn RIGHT onto E CHARLESTON BLVD. (go 6.6 miles)
4. Turn LEFT onto S 8TH ST. (go 0.1 miles)
5. S 8TH ST becomes PARK PASEO. (go 0.0 miles)
6. Turn LEFT onto S 8TH ST. (go 0.1 miles)
7. 1248 S 8TH ST is on the RIGHT. (go 0.0 miles)

B) 1248 S 8th St, Las Vegas, NV 89104-1547 US

>> TOTAL ESTIMATED TIME: 15 minutes | DISTANCE: 7.79 miles

KEEP READING—THERE IS MORE NEWSLETTER BELOW..



OUR JUNE 5TH GREENHOUSE EASTSIDE GREENHOUSE TOUR...

We have been invited to tour the greenhouses of those of our friends who live on the East side of town June 5th at 2. We will start with start with the sunroom of Cathy and Jim Loftfield, proceed to the growing area under skylights of Roberta and Fred Schechter and finish up in the greenhouse of Ole Borresen, a great chef who will feed us! It is far for some of us so try to arrange carpooling. Two people have volunteered to carpool so far: Diana Smith (655-6717 n2orchids@hotmail.com), Jeri Lee (jeri_lee1999@yahoo.com, underline after "jeri" 362-6885.)

Tell me if you are willing to drive someone- or just ask them. It would be a pity if people did not go before they didn't want to drive alone or could not afford gas. Speak up!

Ole has called me and said that he is cooking up a storm. He was Liberace's personal chef. In case you just want to eat, Ole thinks he will be serving at 4.

See you in June! Keep blooming! Love Carol 254-4168

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE NINTH ORCHID DIGEST SPEAKER'S DAY!! "ONCIDIINAE"

Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California
Saturday, June 18, 2011 – 12:30 pm to 8:00 pm in Friends Hall
FEATURING

All Genera Flower Display – Orchid Sales– Expert Lectures – Dinner
Remember!! AOS judging at 10:00 AM Open at 11:00AM to bring your blooming
plants for the flower display
Prize for best species and best hybrid

Lecturers: Cordelia Head, Jim Rassmann, Steve Beckendorf, Howard Liebman
Dinner Speaker: Mark Chase

VENDORS: J & L Orchids; Cal Orchids; Andy's Orchids; Sunset Valley Orchids, Orchid Inn

Tickets: \$60 (\$70 at door) for afternoon Seminars, Wine and Cheese Happy Hour; Dinner and Evening Entertainment

Please Contact: Simone Friend, 4349 Dogwood Ave., Seal Beach, CA 90740

Phone: (562) 431-1247 E-mail: orchidsimonef@aol.com

Make Your Reservations Now!

