

**THE GREATER LAS VEGAS ORCHID SOCIETY
THE ORCHID COLUMN**

CAROL SIEGEL, EDITOR



**EASTER SEAL BUILDING
6400 WEST OAKLEY BLVD**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2012
2 PM BUILDING OPEN AT 1**

SPECIAL EVENTS:

March 4, 2012 Ron Parsons "Orchids Of Philippines"
April 1, 2012 Harold Koopowitz "All About Paphiopedilum"
Easter Show at the Cal
April 13-15, 2012
May 6, 2012 Norito Hasegawa TBA
June 3, 2012 Rick Burnett "Seven Ways to Kill An Orchid"
July 1, 2012 Potting Workshop
August 5, 2012 Barbecue
September 9, 2012
Diana Smith
"Species You Can Grow"
Second Sunday
October 6, 2012
Peter Lin TBA
November 4, 2012
Carol Siegel "Liars and Cheats: The Story of Orchid Deception"
December 2, 2012
Holiday Party

TYING ONE ON: LABELS

It is frustrating when we lose a label for our plants. As luck would have it, these "orphan" plants always seem to be the ones that manage to bloom. (And they say orchids don't have a sense of humor...) When you get an orchid, put in ANOTHER label. When labeling orchids, try to buy new, big, sturdy labels, 5"x 5/8." Old tags get brittle and break and may have a disease clinging to them. Don't re-use tags from plants you have discarded. Try to write on the dull side of the tag and not the shiny side with a No. 2 lead wooden pencil. Dip the new tag in a glass of slightly soapy water, and write while the tag is still damp. This makes a dark impression and lasts better than writing on a dry tag. Always stick the tag in the pot at an angle. The tag has a harder time falling out. It is a great idea to put TWO tags in a pot so in case one falls out, there is still another. Ed Wright recommends making a hole in one tag with a single hole punch or hot ice pick, inserting plastic wire, and tying it to the plant itself for security. Before putting plants back, check to make sure the tag is still there while you can still find it. Diana likes colored tags, with each color representing cultural requirements, such as a blue tag that means the plant needs a dry rest in the winter or likes it cool. You can write information on the tag such as when you repotted it, when it bloomed, or what nursery you bought it from. Dan Mumau likes to look up blooming raffle plants or Trader Joe plants without tags on the internet and then write a question mark and what hybrid the plant looked. You can also write a description of color or purchase on the tag. It is always fun to know that you got your plant in 2003, AND IT IS STILL ALIVE!



**CLUB DUES FOR 2012
ARE OVERDUE..**

**PAY AND GET AN
ORCHID KEY CHAIN**

Thank you to all the folks who paid 2012 dues at the party and at the meeting. Some folks, like Carolyn Jones and Clarice Dean even added a donation. Thank you.

Dues remain \$30 for individual or \$45 for couples (two people at same address). You can pay at the January meeting or send a check to me made out to GLVOS: Carol Siegel 8601 Robinson Ridge Drive Las Vegas, NV 89117. I pay for the newsletter postage myself so if you have an email, please tell me. Mine is growlove@cox.net. If you have decided not to rejoin, please let us know. We hope Leslie Doyle will make up some nice membership cards like she did last year. Nice lady...

!

FUN AT OUR FEBRUARY MEETING...

Some day, when we look back at the happiest days of our lives, we will think back on our Sundays together, our laughing and learning, eating and buying. I know for me, our times together are very special. February was no exception. Proving once again that orchids ace football, loyal and dedicated members (with a DVR) came to our meeting on Super Bowl Sunday for a good time and were not disappointed. To thank all the kind people who inquired after my old knee, I brought in a huge tub of valentine goodies including heart-shaped notebooks, pencils, pens, candy, lip gloss, lolly pops... for us to take home. **Ron Midgett**, owner of New Earth Orchids in Albuquerque, New Mexico did a splendid presentation on cattleya orchid breeding. He also had a wonderful selection of inexpensive and unusual orchids for us to buy. We thank **Fred and Roberta Schechter** for arranging the speaker, picking him up and housing him, and showing him a good time. Tony Billitere and his team of raffle experts provided a table full of hotel plants for us. We welcomed new members **Karla Thomas, Alex Olaiz, and Doris Fairchild**. **We are so happy to have you!!**

Fred and Roberta Schechter presented our Species of the Month, **DENDROCHILUM GLUMACEUM**. This miniature species from the Philippines has pendulous spires of fragrant, crystalline white pink or ivory flowers and is about 16 inches tall.

Many thanks to **Jeri Lee, Marilyn Short, Rosalie de Guzman, Cathy Loftfield, Tonie Brebbs and Stella Charvet** for the wonderful food in February. So yummy! We thank our Food Angels for March in advance, **Carol Siegel, Diana Smith, Eileen McKyton, Roberta Schechter and Lee Kirshbaum**. WE STILL NEED ONE OR TWO MORE PEOPLE FOR APRIL

RON PARSONS AND THE ORCHIDS OF THE PHILIPPINES

The first time I ever met Ron Parsons, he was conducting a Show and Tell at a San Francisco Orchid Society meeting where I was speaking. I was stunned. Not only did he know every last little fact about everybody's orchid, but he spoke about them as though he grew up on the same block where they lived. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of orchids and a photographic memory. Add to that, that he is a world-class author and photographer and great speaker AS WELL AS BEING THE NICEST GUY- well, we are thrilled to welcome him back. Ron Parsons is considered by many to be one of the finest flower photographers in the United States. He has been photographing orchids, wildflowers, and almost every other kind of plant for over 25 years, and has a slide collection that numbers well over 80,000 slides! He went "digital" just over a year ago, and in this short time has taken thousands of photos orchids, wildflowers and other rare plants. Ron loves to travel, photograph orchids and wildflowers *in situ*, visit orchid and other plant enthusiasts collections, and most of all, to take photographs of plants and flowers that he likes. Ron's photos have been featured in journal articles, [book covers](#), and in several books. Please see the [publications](#) page of www.flowershots.net for more information about his books and journal articles.

Ron will be doing a talk on his visit to the Philippines to see the orchids. In his own words,

"I had the chance to visit the Philippines in February of 2011 to join my Australian friend, Jim Cootes, author of Timber Press' "The Orchids of the Philippines. We visited the islands of Luzon, Mindoro, Leyte, Samar and Cebu to look for orchids in the wild. We were joined at times by other local orchid experts in our hunt. We also were able to attend the Philippines Orchid Society's annual show in Manila as well as visiting the amazing orchid nursery, Purificacion Orchids, a major highlight of the trip. This talk is a travelogue of the trip."

Ron's friend Anna Chai, an AOS judge in San Francisco and a very good grower, has had some health problems and wants to downsize her collection. She is shutting down her warm and intermediate greenhouses. Those plants would do well in Las Vegas, he thinks. He is bringing some of her plants and divisions to sell. That should be interesting and different.

It is with great sadness that we inform members of the club of the passing of Dorothy Billitere, beloved wife of Tony Billitere. Tony took exquisite care of Dorothy during her last years, and I am sure his kindness and consideration made her life happier and more secure. We extend to Tony our sincerest condolences. We all thought the world of Dorothy, and we love Tony.

We are saddened to hear of the passing of Steve Hinkson's mother in Florida. If anyone would like to express condolences, his address is 916 Indian Lane, Las Vegas 89108; phone is 646-5560. We extend our sincerest condolences to Steve and his family.

ORCHID SHOWS:

The 67th Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

Theme: " Orchidelic "

Friday March 16 through Sunday March 18, 2012, 9 AM to 5 PM

An eclectic, world-class show and sale with many glorious garden-type exhibits featuring the best of west coast growing. Also stylish orchid flower arrangements, themed orchid corsages, and juried orchid art. See cutting edge hybrids, specimens, and just awarded plants. The exhibitors are nurseries from around the world, orchid societies, and serious hobbyists. Held at Earl Warren Showgrounds: Highway 101 and Los Positas Road. Contact information: www.sborchidshow.com <<http://www.sborchidshow.com/>> , sborchidshow@gmail.com, P.O. Box 62154, Santa Barbara, CA 93160-2154. Single-day ticket prices: General Admission is \$12; Seniors (65 and older), Students (with ID), and advance group sales are \$10; Children 12 and under are free with a paid adult. New for 2012, three-day pass (single person denoted with special wristband): General for \$20; Seniors and Students for \$17. Instructions for purchasing advance group tickets (25 or more) may be found at <http://www.sborchidshow.com/pages/Groups/Group.html>

more below



Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

**March
16-18
2012**

Quick Links

[SBIOS Web Site](#)
[About The Show](#)
[Plan Your Visit](#)



[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

The Santa Barbara International Orchid Show is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the joy of orchids to the public.

Vendor Spotlight: Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology

For the first time, the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show will feature Hengduan Biotech, a nursery and orchid laboratory based in mainland China that legally and regularly exports rare native slipper orchids of the genus Paphiopedilum. These plants are unusual because this is only the second time they have been offered legally in the United States! Hengduan's offerings include Paphiopedilum hangianum, Paph. helenae, Paph. tranlienianum and Paph. areeanum. Be among the first in the United States to acquire these Chinese orchids. Pictured is Wenqing Perner, managing director, with a Paph. Hangianum. With its large showy flower, it is one of the most extraordinary slipper orchid discoveries made in the last 15 years, and is now produced in the Hengduan lab.



Suemae Lin Willhite to offer orchid painting demonstrations

Popular Chinese artist and calligrapher Suamai Lin Willhite will once again entertain show visitors with her live brush painting demonstrations. Suemae's inspiration comes from nature and the beautiful displays at the Orchid Show. She paints with a unique style of Chinese impressionism, abstract, and her own fusion of East meets West. Meet Suemai at the show on Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18 from 10-2pm.



Culture workshops offer show visitors tips and advice on orchid care

Experts will lead demonstration workshops on raising healthy orchids. Leading growers will offer growing tips and provide common sense advice about how to solve pest, potting and fertilization problems. They will answer frequently asked questions such as: Why won't my orchids bloom? How do I repot my orchids? How do I treat snails, mealy bugs and scale? Do I need to fertilize my orchids? They will also demonstrate techniques and answer individual questions. Workshops are offered on the hour, every hour through 4pm on all three days of the show weekend.

Orchid Virus

Everett Stockstill, president of the Torrance Cymbidium Society 'Ohana (family) for 23 years and Cymbidium grower for 35 years, will talk about orchid viruses and cover such topics as: What are the most common orchid viruses, and what are the symptoms? How do I test for viruses in my orchids? What should I do if I find some of my orchids have virus? Is it curable? Answers to these and other questions about identifying and containing virus will be covered at 1 pm each day of the Show. If you have an orchid that you suspect has virus, bring it to the presentation and Mr. Everett Stockstill will teach you how to test for virus (limit one per person). Don't bring the whole plant; bring a single leaf in a sealed plastic bag.

Visit the show's [website](#) for an updated schedule of the Orchid Show's presenters.

We hope to see you at the show in March. Encourage your friends to sign up for the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show e-newsletter!

Below is old article AOS June 1988. Had fits getting it on page. Hope it is okay.

A Revised Glossary For Orchidists

A DEAR FRIEND of mine is currently in the process of house hunting, which brings back some not-so-fond memories of my own experiences in that area 10 years ago. It became imperative to learn how to translate the Real Estate-Speak of the ads into everyday English. For instance, I learned that “cozy-kitchen” meant there wasn’t sufficient space to swing a spaghetti fork; “decorator’s delight” meant it would cost a fortune to make it livable; and “handyman’s special” translated into “bring a demolition crew — it’s not worth saving.” Anyway, the thought occurred to me that the novice orchid grower might be able to use a bit of help in navigating the shoals of vague and ambiguous phrases dotting most culture books. So, herewith I present *Cantwell’s Guide to Orchidese* (abridged version), in no particular order whatsoever.

Easy to grow: Almost sure to bloom at least once during your lifetime.

A challenge: Will probably never flower but will survive if given a special diet, a vacation in Tahiti and its own valet.

Fussy: Only a masochist would buy this one.

Compact grower: Can be counted on not to take over the *entire* growing area.

Vigorous grower: Stock up on plant stakes and 18” pots. A machete would help, too.

Miniature: “Is that the flower or an insect?”

Adequate humidity: This is a toughie. Let’s just say that if the plants are trying to crawl toward the kitchen sink, it’s probably too dry. On the other hand, if your eyeglasses fog up when you look at the flowers, chances are you’ve overdone it.

Balanced fertilizer: An orchid grower attempting to carry one tub of 30-10-10, one of 10-30-20, one of 18-18-18, a watering can, a scoop and a proportioner — all at the same time.

Minimum night temperature: The temperature below which a given orchid will awaken you in order to ask for an extra blanket.

Pest: 1. Any number of insects, etc. likely to damage an orchid plant. 2. Anyone who interrupts a repotting session.

Good air circulation: Ideally, something between the air movement needed to blow out a single birthday candle and that which would require tether lines to keep the plants on the benches.

Award quality: The plant may receive an FCC, AM, HCC, CBM or other honor. If not, it might qualify for the PAA (Pest Appeal Award), AWF (Absolutely Won’t Flower), DLC (Dropped-Leaves Certificate) or GC (Garbage Can).

Evenly moist: The bane of growers everywhere. While the exact definition has yet to be established, it generally is agreed that a fair-sized insect traveling from the top of the growing medium