

GREATER LAS VEGAS ORCHID SOCIETY SUNDAY, JAN 8, 2017 1 PM

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2017

MEETINGS 2ND SUNDAY EXCEPT JUNE 4

January 8, 2017 Ron Kaufmann

"Phragmipedium"

Feb 12, 2017 Fred Clarke "Orchids 101"

"Orchids 101"

March 12, 2017 Carol Siegel

"The Sex Life of Orchids"

March 25, 2017 A Passion for Orchids

Show W Charleston Library 10-4

April 9, 2017 Peter Lin "Brassavola

Species and Hybrids"

May 14, 2017 Ron Parksons

"The Orchids of Columbia"

June 4, 2017 (1st Sunday) Art Chadwick

"The Great Cattleya Species of the

Cut Flower Era"

July 9 Barbecue Diana's house

"Setting Up a Rainforest"

Aug 13 Mark Romansky "Judging Orchids"

Sept 10 Mary Gerritsen "Orchids of the

Lost World"

Oct 8 Keith Davis Orchid Growing Tips"

Nov 12 Steve Frowine TBA

It was our best holiday party ever as our fun-loving club gathered for all the things we love best- music, mayhem, munchies, margaritas and morchids (more orchids- can you ever have too many? NO!) The food was glorious thanks to the creativity and generosity of our members. The food was spectacular. A special thank you to Jeannie Powers for the prime rib, Wanda LaFollete for the pork roast, Betty & John Williams for the ham, Cathy Loftfield for the marinated shrimp, Christine Delacruz for the lovely salmon, Cathy Weber and Eileen McKyton for the turkey, Joel Davidson for the fried turkey, Ole for the pasta. Thank you for Leslie Doyle for the fun balloon lady and me for the music, margarita machine, paper goods, champagne, drinks, photo booth, nail artist, pens, and hair tinsel. Congratulations to Jeannie Salles who won the orchid basket I give to a Blue Ribbon winner. Bring in show and tell plants, and you could win next year. Through the generosity of our members, we were able to donate five cartons of canned goods to the Salvation Army. How nice of us! Michael Shane & Carol Joyce delighted us on keyboard, and we drank umpteenth bottles of champagne and frozen margaritas. The Joy Squad took zany pictures of us in our photo booth to take home. Daring members and even the fearless men got orchids painted on their nails, tinsel in their hair, and tattoos on Lord knows where. We walked around with blinking necklaces, hair extensions, and santa hats, and we were honored for all we had done with orchid pens. If you missed getting one, pay your dues and you can have one, too. We had 100 blooming beauties from Hilo Orchid Farm for our raffle. Orchids & champagne and orchid art... doesn't get any better. Lord willing, we will do it all again next year.



Topic: PHRAGMIPEDIUM

Our speaker in January will be **Ron Kaufmann**, **Committee** afounding director of the **Orchid Conservation Alliance**. Ron has travelled extensively to view orchids in the wild in South America. Ron is a marine biologist by training, and his scientific work includes studies of Antarctic and deep-sea ecosystems as well as marine communities in coastal Southern California. He has been growing orchids for nearly 20 years, starting with a reedstem Epidendrum and progressing to a diverse collection that contains mostly species orchids. Ron has a long-standing interest in conservation and has been a member of the SDCOS Conservation Committee for almost 15 years and chair since 2004. Ron also helped to found the **Orchid Conservation Alliance** and serves on the boards of the OCA, **EcoMinga Foundation** (a conservation foundation based in Ecuador) and the **Orchid Digest**.

Ron grows most of his orchids in a 36 x 24 foot greenhouse and several outdoor shade-covered areas around his house in San Diego, an exercise requiring extensive training in gymnastics and yoga to avoid serious injury

Ron has just written a book on *The Orchids of Tropical America*. He will be selling plants from Fred Clarke's Sunset Valley Orchids.

Phragmipedium are a genus of 26 species that only grow in the New World.

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE IN JANUARY... LOTS OF ORCHIDS FOR YOU \$10

It's time once more for our annual white elephant sale, JANUARY 8, an event that earned OVER \$1400 last year. COME EARLY SO YOU CAN SET UP AND BROWSE AND BUY. EVEN BEFORE ONE O'CLOCK WOULD BE GOOD! We are a very high-class club, and our junk is of the very best quality. Everyone brings in some unwanted treasure- wine, a holiday gift, a lamp, a bike, books, CD's, VHS's, DVD's, dishes, pictures, nick nacks, sporting equipment, food...Don't have anything elephantine? Bring an orchid or orchid stuff or a division from your collection or Home Depot. I bought orchids that I am going to donate. You could, too. Start looking around. I wrote to some nurseries and got them to donate orchids to our club. We will pay the postage. Last year, we asked the the kind people at Piping Rock Orchids, Sunset Valley Orchids, Hilo Orchid Farm, Andy's Orchid, Cal Orchids, Orchid Limited, Orchids by Hausermann, Zuma Canyon Orchids, Santa Barbara Orchids, Norman's Orchids, Repotme and others for orchids, and I have asked them again this year.. We will sell them for \$10, a bargain. Very exciting. Don't forget to bring in your White Elephant Items. We thank our White Elephant Captains in advance. If you are a Captain, please try to get to the meeting early to help set up with the sale (12:30 or 12:45 would be good). Thanks to Linda Bushaw, Dallis Church, Stephanie Ciers, Yolanda Alberici and Janet Quinlan for food and drink for the meeting.



LOOKING BACK AT 2016....

It is hard to believe that 2017 is already here. We had a fantastic year. Pardon us as we strut our stuff, 2016 style. Looking back, the best news is that we love the Rainbow Library, the best meeting room ever. Smart people just wander in, and we just leave these new members. We have a beautiful room, totally dark presentations, a kitchen, piano music on a baby grand, and even security. We really learned a lot last year and had great fun. We continued our electronic newsletter. Some of us even bloomed some of our orchids, which always is a miracle in this scorching hot, brutally dry desert. We attracted lots of new members and made new friends. Wanda and Bruce LaFollette provided live piano music on our baby grand with the very talented Dennis Sullivan. We advertised in newspapers, on TV, on flyers, in the RJ, and on meetup.com. We had fabulous speakers who entertained and informed us and sold lovely and interesting plants. We learned to buy plants for the meeting that someone might actually want at a decent price, another miracle. We raffled off everything from house plants to trees to orchids to and marveled at Tony Billitere, Ole Borresen, Ken Summervilla, and Joel Davidson's ability to walk away with so many great things from the hotels. Charm helps... Steve Hochman picked up and entertained our speakers, and he and Eileen McKyton welcomed our members. We ate great food and laughed a lot. We welcomed the talents of new webmaster Steven Campbell. Cathy advertised on Meetup.com and in newspapers and made great posters that she hung everywhere. Steve Campbell updated Mark Romansky's facebook page for us and his wife Caroline made us gorgeous table cloths. Everyone in the club made great food at meetings which we loved. We donated food to charities and enjoyed our orchid

show at the West Charleston Library in March. We had a great Greenhouse Tour at the homes of Al de Ricco, Ole Borresen, Dan Mumau and Christina de la Cruz. We had lots more people bringing in blooming beauties to show and tell and talk about them, too. Let us stroll back through 2016 and remember some of what we did together.

In January, we made over \$1400 at our White Elephant Sale amid cries of “But what IS it?!!” as we lugged out more stuff than we brought in. We loved the 80 orchids in bloom that we scooped up donated by our nursery friends. Fred Clarke did a wonderful talk on “Aussie Dendrobium.” We gave Blue Ribbons to the Best Orchid, Best Story, and Best Newbie Orchid. At the end of the year 2016, Jeannie Salles won the orchid basket I donated. All Blue Ribbon winners through 2016 were entered to win. Ron Parsons did a wonderful talk on the orchids of SE Australia and sold wonderful plants.

In February, Fred Clarke did an amazing talk on “Catasetum” and sold beautiful plants. The newsletter had an article on growing Catasetum and a poem on speakers.

In March, Guillermo Salazar from Florida entertained us with a great talk on “Tropical African Species to Grow” and sold beautiful orchids. The Board and especially Steve Hochman provided a Chinese feast. The club put on an orchid show and lecture series called “A Passion for Orchids” at the West Charleston Library. Diana Smith and Mark Romansky did excellent talks on growing orchids, Cathy Loftfield entertained with the “Orchids of the New World,” and I spoke about weird orchids. A big orchid arrangement was raffled for free to people who came to the show. We had demonstrations on potting, free orchid corsages and stems, a native orchid display, a gorgeous orchid display the club put together, Cathy’s orchid photos, and a display on different kinds of orchids. In addition, we had a banner with a face cutout for people to take photos of themselves inside the orchid as a souvenir. The show was gorgeous, and we got lots of new members!

In April, we had a very successful Greenhouse Tour of the growing areas of Ole Borresen, Dan Mumau, Al de Ricco, and Christina de la Cruz. They stuffed us with information and lots of food, and everyone loved it. The newspaper had an article on Hawaiaian native orchids.

In May, Mark Romansky led us on another fun walking trip in Calico Basin to see 100’s of our native orchid, *Epipactis gigantea*, blooming against the wet sandstone cliffs. The newsletter had an article on the native orchid as well as articles by members who did the Greenhouse Tour.

Art Chadwick did a great talk on the “Large-Flowered Cattleyas” and thrilled us with beautiful plants.

In June, we welcomed back our favorite Cathy Loftfield who spoke on “Orchids of the Old World.” Bruce and Wanda La Follette paid for a whole year of the piano player for the club, so nice and generous. We sold Megathrive and orchids from Hilo Orchid Farm. The newsletter had two articles on growing in sphagnum moss.

In July, amid piano music on our Baby Grand Piano, we had a fabulous potluck presented by everybody, and Mark Romansky did a great presentation on “Forgotten Orchids.”

In August, we loved our pizza party and Chocolate Bar. I bought the pizza and everybody brought fabulous Chocolate treats and Clearasil. The newsletter had an article the plants of Borneo, and Mary Gerritsen fascinated us with a talk on her travels in Borneo to see orchids.

In September, Diana Smith did another of her marvelous talks, this time on “What are Your Orchids Trying to tell You. Steve Campbell, the new brilliant webmaster, updated our website and Facebook, and his wonderful wife, Caroline, continued taking photos of us at our meeting to put on Facebook. She also made lots of delicious egg rolls! How fun! The newsletter had an article on the suffragettes at Kew years ago.

In October, the club did a presentation on “Potting” with Cathy, Mark and I doing various aspects of this important part of growing. The club sold potting mix I donated and horticultural oil. The newsletter had an article on potting.

In November, we held elections, and Carol Siegel, Cathy Loftfield, Mark Romansky and Diana Smith were thrilled to be elected. Steve Frowine did an excellent talk on growing under lights, and he prepared a hand out on suppliers. The newsletter had an article on pests.

In December, amid flashing with lights and laughing with margaritas, we ended the year, thanks to the dear Lord, once again with a festive holiday party. The newsletter had a Christmas orchid poem and an article on growing under lights.

Here’s hoping that 2017 bring you and yours only the best. Below is the prayer dear to the hearts of orchid growers. There is also some information on Phragmipedium, the subject of our January speaker, from the AOS.

Love Carol 254-4168 525-3714 growlove@cox.net

An Orchid Prayer for the New Year
Carol Siegel

Oh, Lord above who holds us dear
Please let my orchids bloom this year.
Let my roots grow thick and my buds grow round
And let no ugly brown scale be found
Kindly put all the nursery cattleyas on sale
And don’t let me have to buy my orchids retail.
Make my plants all bloom right before our meeting
So lots of show and tell excuses I won’t be needing.
Try to make my orchids bloom with lots of flowers
So I won’t feel I have wasted all those darn watering hours.

Please don't make all my plastic tags fall out
So the parentage of every orphan plant is in doubt.
Bless my orchids to wow with pink, yellow and red
And please prevent more of them from winding up dead.
May all this year have many blessings from above And may you all have blooms that you really love.
Let all my orchid friends be healthy and have no cares
But may all my orchids always be nicer than theirs.

ABOUT PHRAGMIPEDIUM

Similar in many ways to the other slipper orchids, the paphiopedilums, selenipediums and cypripediums Phragmipedium is a very popular genus that was established by Robert Rolfe in 1896 when he revised all the slipper orchids. Those species native to the tropical Americas were placed in either Selenipedium or Phragmipedium. Rolfe named the genus, using the Greek words phragma (fence) in reference to the division of the ovary and pedilon (slipper). As with the other slipper orchids, the species of this genus are sympodial in growth habit and form tight fans instead of pseudobulbs. All species are either epiphytic or terrestrial and grow at elevations between 1300-7200 feet (400 to 2,200 meters). Inflorescences can be up to 3 ft. (90 cm) long and can bear up to 15 flowers. The flowers themselves can measure 30 inches (75 cm) or more from the tip of the dorsal sepal to the tip of a lateral petal. The flowers, once thought to consist mainly of yellows, greens and browns, some with yellow and purplish patterns, now include orange, red (P. besseae) and even magenta (P. kovachii). Popular species include P. boissierianum, P. caudatum, P. longifolium, P. sargentianum.

Number of species:

The World Monocot Checklist contains 26 accepted names including several varietal forms and 1 natural hybrid (9/2007).

Distribution:

From Mexico to Brazil and Bolivia



Phragmipedium. besseae - ©2009 Greg Allikas



Phrag. longifolium - ©2009 Greg Allikas



Phrag. pearcei - ©2009 Greg Allikas



Phrag. boisserianum 'Kelly' ©2009 James Harris



Phrag. caudatum 'Jon Sauer'©2009 Richard Noel



Phrag. schlimii 'Memory Tom Cox' AM/AOS - ©2009 James McCulloch

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Temperature:	Requirements vary. 55F – 100F, depending on species.
Light:	1000 footcandles in the hot Summer months, 1,400 footcandles in the cooler months.
Water-Humidity:	Wait until potting medium is starting to dry out but not completely dry before watering. Water thoroughly until water runs freely through the drain holes in the pot. Phrag. besseae and its hybrids are best kept with the base of the pot sitting in 1” of water.
Fertilizer:	Fertilize with a balanced, water-soluble formula at 150-200ppm (parts per million). Fertilizer is applied from October through May on the day after every other watering. Ensure two waterings between every fertilizer application to remove any residual salts from previous applications. Discontinue fertilizer during hot Summer months to prevent salt burns as a result of plant taking up too much fertilizer.
Potting:	A fairly porous mix is recommended, consisting of five parts medium fir bark, two parts Canadian peat and one part each charcoal, extra coarse Sponge Rok #4 and ½-inch (1.25-cm) Stalite. Combine components in these proportions to produce a mix that provides support for the roots while allowing them to breath and resist becoming water-logged.