

GREATER LAS VEGAS ORCHID SOCIETY
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2004!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2004 2 PM
(WHITE ELEPHANT SET-UP AT 1 PM)

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE USUAL PLACE, THE NEVADA GARDEN CLUB BUILDING AT WASHINGTON AND TWIN LAKES ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF LORENZI PARK

Carol Siegel, Newsletter Editor

CAROL SIEGEL- PRESIDENT
CLARICE DEAN -VICE-PRESIDENT
EILEEN MCKYTON- SECRETARY
DIANA SMITH- TREASURER

AND...

Dan Mumau, Michael Lawless - Membership Hospitality Chairmen
Lillian Patterson- Photographer and Historian
Dan Mumau and Tony Billitere- Raffle Chairmen
Phyllis Bond, Leslie Doyle, Shelly North and Eileen McKyton- Special Events Chairmen
Jeri Lee and Tony Billitere- Community Liaison
Alex McKyton -Building Chairmen and Webmaster
Tex Severance and Mike Levin- Show and Tell Gurus
Tex and Gidget Severance- Judging Chairmen
Scotty Nogaim- Election Chairman, Raffle Lady
Steve Ninemire Library Chairman Clarice Dean, Assistant Librarian
Clarice Dean- Trip Chairman
John Haydukavitch-Video Chief
Shelly North-Classy Club Apparel Chairlady

January 4, 2004	John Salventi, Parkside Orchids, "Dendrobium"
February 1, 2004	Carol Siegel "The Sex Life of Orchids"
March 7, 2004	Ron Coleman "Wild Orchids of North America"
April 4, 2004	Charles Rowden, "Orchid Photography"
May 2, 2004	Norman Fang, Owner of Norman's Orchids "Phalaenopsis"
June 6, 2004	Glen Decker, Owner Piping Rock Orchids, "Phragmipedium"

July 11, 2004	Virtual Greenhouse Tour SECOND SUNDAY
August 1, 2004	Barbecue
Sept 12, 2004	Mike Blitz, Exotic Orchids of Maui SECOND SUNDAY
October 3, 2004	Aaron Hicks, "The Orchid Seed Bank"
November 7, 2004	The Further Exploits of Bill Bergstrom in Mexico
December 5, 2004	Fifth International Food Fest and Holiday Party
January 9, 2005	Mike Glikbarg SECOND SUNDAY
February 6, 2005	Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids, "Orchid Growing For Dummies"

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It is unbelievable that 2004 is upon us!! We wish all our dear members a year of safety, peace, good health, and LOTS OF BLOOMING ORCHIDS!

On January 4, we are looking forward to the slide lecture of John Salventi, co-owner of Parkside Orchids in Pennsylvania, who will be speaking on "Great Dendrobiums to Add to Your Collection and How to Take Care of Them"—something like that. Parkside Orchids is one of my favorite website places to buy orchids, featuring a wide variety of fabulous species and hybrids. I buy most of my phrags from them, but they have lots of other things. They are coming from far away by plane and can't bring LOTS of plants although they will bring some. They will bring special orders you make with them. After December 15th, you can look on their website (www.parksideorchids.com) under Tom's Specials especially (in bud and spike!) and call them with your order (610-847-8039) or e-mail at parkside@ptd.net. You won't have to pay shipping because they will bring the plants with them. You can discuss what you want with them over the phone if you don't have a computer. I have been very pleased with the quality of the plants they have sold me, find they are a great value, have wonderful roots and leaves and flowers- a genuinely good experience.

Dendrobium are fascinating flowers, many weirdly twisted and bizarrely convoluted. With more than 1400 species, the genus *Dendrobium* is one of the most interesting groups in the orchid family. They all don't look like the plants from Treasure Island! Originally from Southeast Asia, dendrobium are now widely found from the Pacific

islands to the Himalayas, including Burma, Malaysia, China, Japan, the Philippines and Fiji. Because all dendrobium are epiphytes (that is, they grow on trees), Olaf Swartz gave them the name "*dendrobium*" in 1799 from the Greek *dendros*=tree and *bios*= life, in other words, "plant living on trees". Come and learn more about these fascinating flowers.

We are also having our FIFTH annual sale on January 4th at our meeting. This fun event made almost \$1000 last year and is lots easier than selling stuff to strangers. (WE will buy almost anything...) Bring the stuff you bought last year or bring books, CD's, VHS's (they made over \$300 alone...), knick knacks you are tired of, orchids, orchid stuff, vases, Xmas presents you don't want, kitchen stuff, just anything. Last year we had two bikes.. Bring stuff. Buy stuff. It's for a good cause, US, AND it pays for several speakers. The meeting hall will be open at 1 pm to allow time for you to bring your items and bid on more stuff to take home!! Please come early and help us set up. By the way, this year we will give a receipt to anyone who requests one since we are now a 501 (c)(3) entity—which means donations to us may be tax-deductible to you!! Lucky you and lucky us.

Speaking of money, it is time to renew your orchid club membership. The price is still \$25 for singles, \$35 for couples (defined as two members at the same address). We hope you feel, as I do, that it is a really good value. You can pay at the party or you can send me a check made out to GLVOS. My address is Carol Siegel 8601 Robinson Ridge Drive Las Vegas, NV 89117 254-4168. Don't know if you paid yet? Look on your newsletter envelope label. If it says, (03) after your name, you haven't paid yet. If it says (04) after your name, you have! If there is an * before your name, it means you were a guest and have never paid. You need to pay soon to keep getting the newsletter. If you have decided not to join, or join again, please give us a call or e-mail me (254-4168 or growlove@cox.net) so we won't incur the expense of the newsletter. Don't forget to update you address, phone and e-mail when you come to the meeting. Check with Dan Mumau, Mike Lawless or Eileen McKyton, our friendly Hospitality Committee, to make sure we have the right information for you.

We send a special thank you to Leslie Doyle (as well as a loving birthday greeting) who designed and produced our lovely membership cards. Leslie is really a gifted artist, and we are lucky to have her! If you didn't get one, stop by the front desk. Remember you get 10% off at Plant World if you show your membership card.

Good news on our library!! The board met and decided that because we have had excellent return on books from the library, we will no longer require a \$25 deposit to borrow books from us. We will return any checks we do have. Just come on over and borrow the great books and magazines we have, a great benefit of membership. We also have purchased a large, locked, rolling cart to house our books at the meeting, using the honorariums I made speaking at two clubs. Thanks to Steve for taking care of this new upgrade to our library. What a guy!

Looking back on our year 2003, we have really learned a lot and had great fun. We attracted lots of new members and had over 100 members at year's end. By the way, James Le Blanc was our 100th member. Thanks, James. We advertised in newspapers, TV, on flyers, on culture sheets, and on business cards. We provided inexpensive, quality orchids at every meeting. We had fabulous speakers who entertained and informed us and sold lovely, interesting plants. We continued our friendship with Dan Vong of Paradise Orchids who spoiled us with blooming plants. We raffled everything from orchids to potting supplies to fertilizer and make lots of money doing it. We ate great food and made precious new friendships. We continued and expanded our free orchid library, videotaped our speakers and collected food for the poor. To celebrate our 30th anniversary, we wrote and sold a member cookbook and raised \$450 to benefit the homeless. We had our own web site and got tax-free status as a non-profit organization. We had our second greenhouse tour and continued our mentor program. We learned a lot from our show and tell gurus and increased our display plants so much that we ran out of tables!! AND we now sport our very own club logo apparel. We are proud of the high quality of our club—and its members.

In January, we started off our glorious new year with standing room only for the interesting, informative and entertaining seminar on phalaenopsis culture by the renowned author and expert Bob Gordon who signed his famous phal book. Daniel sold phal mericlones, and Shelly North started the sale of our club logo apparel. A dozen people volunteered to be mentors to new members, and Jeri sold cookbooks to benefit the homeless. We started our orchid library and videotaped our speaker. Our Fourth Annual White Elephant Sale collected \$723, and the newsletter had an article by Bob Gordon and one ON Bob Gordon by me.

In February, world-famous conservation authority Dr. Harold Koopowitz delighted us with an intelligent slide lecture on the illegal paphiopedilum trade. A record 75 people attended the meeting and received valentine gifts of fertilizer. Daniel and Harold sold paphs, and Shelly did a poster display on our apparel. The newsletter had an original article on ten ways to take part in conservation and a poem by Sue Fordyce

In March, our very own Diana Smith did us proud by teaching us how to defeat those insect beasties and disease nasties. Dan Vong provided our raffle and Tony Billitere and Shelly North donated dozens of oncidiums from Simply Hawaii to the raffle. We had our very first of many orchid weddings as Dan married Clarice's Cattleya schroederi with mine, an event which later produced viable species seed to donate to the Seed Bank. We started our own species mating club (consenting adults only). Leslie Doyle hosted a very profitable Spring Plant Sale at her home, and we participated in the Spring in the Desert Event with CCSN. The newsletter had an original article on preparing orchids for a show and one on our big fat orchid wedding as well as articles by others on insects and diseases and how to set seed on orchids.

In April, Matt Swift of Swift's Orchids introduced us to the world of equitant oncidiums with culture sheets and a potting demonstration. Mike Lawless and Dan Mumau started their monthly tradition of providing the raffle with donated hotel plants (bless their sweet souls...) We exploded onto the Las Vegas television scene as Channel 8 covered our presentation of the BIG CHECK to the Catholic Charities Crisis Intervention Center for the homeless. Shelly and Phyllis designed a gorgeous display for the Easter Show at the Cal where we set up a conservation booth, too, and Alex took photos. The newsletter had original articles on vanilla and polyploidy as well as information on potting and questions and answers.

In May, accompanied by maracas and mariachi, Harry Phillips of Andy's Orchids entertained us with a very useful talk on mounted orchids. He sold wonderful species "on a stick" and taught us the tricks of growing out of the pot. Mike Levin and Dan sold plants, Mike Lawless and Dan Mumau donated hotel plants to the raffle, and I brought phals from Simply Hawaii, too. We had our first of many Species of the Month with culture sheets on Dendrobium unicum, and the Orchid Mating Club had the wedding of Diana Smith's Coelogyne mooreana with mine. The newsletter had an article from the NY Times on the relationship between asparagus and orchids, and an article with color pictures by Greg Allikas on how to mount orchids.

In June, Nick Burnett hilariously taught us the seven common mistakes that speed orchids toward the garbage. As always, we had plants from the two Dans and Mikes, and Mike Levin and Tex Severance shared guru"ing", We had TWO species of the month-Rhyncostylis coelestes and Psygmorchis pusilla, and Shelly North and Clarice crossed their Laelia purpurata var carnea for our mating club.

Members braved the summer heat and very memorably participated in the the Fish and Wildlife annual orchid count of *Spiranthes infernalis*, found only in the Ash Meadows Wildlife Refuge and nowhere else in the world. I wrote an article on our adventure which will be published in January in the Native Orchid Conference Journal, and the newsletter had an article on capsule drying and seed preparation.

In July, the newsletter had my original article on the twelve native orchids of Nevada, which was published in the 2003 North American Native Orchid Journal. Our Virtual Greenhouse tour presented the growing areas on nine members with slides, enhanced with the new microphone the club purchased. We were thrilled to get our club apparel at last, lovely shirts and hats and totes, enhanced with Shelly North's artwork of *Cattleya dowiana*, and *Oncidium ornithorynchem* was our species of the month.

In August, we had our COOL barbecue at the mountain home of gracious Eldine Stevens. US Filter spoke on de-ionized water systems, Eileen provided dendrobium and oncidium to buy, and Pam Knapp, owner of Everything Orchid Management System donated computer orchid database programs. Best of all, Dan Mumau and Mike Lawless coordinated a delicious and artfully arranged barbecue.

In September, Dan and Mike prepared a Mexican feast while a Mexican fiesta was crowding the park. Mike Glikbarg of Orchids of Los Osos did a wonderful talk on growing specimen plants, and the room overflowed with blooming orchids from Diana, Mike and Dan, AND Mike and Dan. Steve Ninemire was installed as the new librarian as Liz Leone left to become President of the Commercial Realty Board. Our Species of the Month was *Brassavola nodosa*, and we sent seeds for the very first time to the Myers Conservancy and the Orchid Seed Bank. The newsletter had an article on growing specimen plants and two on salep. Leslie and Terry represented us at the Fall Meeting of the Nevada State Garden Club where we prepared snacks.

In October, Butch aka Charles Weckerle-Thrun did a hands-on demonstration on potting different genera and sold plants from the Rowland Collection. We had a silent auction of cattleyas from Marty's Orchids and also loved getting pencils with the club name on them as a gift. Clarice again presented the species of the month, Epidendrum ciliare and wrote an original article on San Diego orchid growers to visit. The newsletter also had my original article on orchids in magic, religion, and food. We had great fun on an orchid safari to the New Otani East-West Orchid Show, and had a booth at the Day with the Experts at the Desert Demonstration Gardens. With Shelly donating props, Clarice, Dennis, Diana and I created a display at the Fall Garden Show that won a big pink ribbon.

In November, Alex Mckyton got recognition for our club as a 501 c 3 organization to our great applause. Karen Muir, Pacific Regional Judging Chairman, delighted us with a talk on the Japanese Grand Prix, and Dan Vong gave out fertilizer as gifts. Our species of the month was Doritis pulcherrima, we held elections, bought great plants, and had a wonderful raffle. The newsletter had an article on the scandal surrounding Phrag Kovachii and an original one by Clarice on LA orchid growers.

In December, a fitting end to a glorious year, we had a very festive party at my house with fabulous member food and drink and lots of fun. The keyboard player remembered his keyboard, and we discovered we sang better when we drank as we sang while he played. The magician did fun close-up magic, and the margaritas flowed. 100 blooming cattleyas filled the room, thanks to Eileen and Carmela's Orchids, and everyone loved his Holiday Plants. (By the way, Holiday plants are only available if you go to the Holiday Party.) I presented certificates of appreciation to all the wonderful members who did so much for the club over the year. I was especially delighted as Clarice and Dennis presented me an engraved gavel at the party. It meant so much to me. Thank you.

NOBODY DOES IT BETTER THAN WE DO!!

Have a safe, happy, healthy 2004, and may we always be able to grow orchids and share friendship together. Love, Carol growlove@cox.net 254-4168

*See the 2 articles
that follow
↓*

Dendrobium

den-DROH-bee-um

Dendrobium is a diverse genus of orchids with different cultural needs. Many go through a growth phase and then a rest phase during the course of one year, and must be given water and temperature to match these periods of growth and rest. Flowers can last one day to many weeks, depending on the type. Owing to the extreme diversity of the genus, we have categorized culture according to the following main types:

PHALAEANTHE

Evergreen for several years, with thin, tall pseudobulbs, terminal inflorescences, usually appearing in the autumn or twice a year (see culture).

Species such as *Den. affine*, *Den. bigibbum* (*phalaenopsis*), *Den. dicuphum* and *Den. williamsianum*.

Culture Grow warm year round (see below); 60 F nights; water and fertilize heavily when roots appear from new growth; medium light; reduce water and fertilizer after growth finishes. If a short (three- to four-week), cooler (55 F) dry rest is given, and then plants are warmed again (60 F minimum), another growth may mature during winter and flower in the spring. Treat this growth as a summer growth cycle. These grow well with phalaenopsis, except for the rest period. Plants will go deciduous if grown too cool and dry.

SPATULATA (Antelope Type)

Evergreen for several years. Most are large, vigorous plants with long-lasting flowers in summer to several times a year. Species such as *Den. antennatum*, *Den. canaliculatum*, *Den. discolor*, *Den. gouldii*, *Den. johannis*, *Den. lineale* (*veratrifolium*), *Den. stratiotes*, *Den. strebloceras* and *Den. taurinum*.

Culture Warm all year (60 to 65 F nights, 75 to 90 F days); no rest period; can be kept cooler in winter if dry; medium to high light.

DENDROBIUM

Most of the plants are pendulous, with leaves all along the canes that most often drop with onset of cooler, drier weather. One to five flowers per node are borne from the nodes of the leafless canes in mid-winter through early spring.

Group 1

Species such as *Den. chrysanthum*, *Den. friedricksianum*, *Den. nobile* and *Den. wardianum*.

Culture Growth period in summer; give warmth, water and fertilize heavily from when roots appear until top leaf appears on canes. Then give high light, little or no water, no fertilizer, cool nights (40 to 50 F). In other words, forget about them.

Group 2

Species such as *Den. anosmum* (*superbum*), *Den. crassinode*, *Den. falconeri*, *Den. fimbriatum*, *Den. findlayanum*, *Den. heterocarpum* (*aureum*), *Den. loddigesii*, *Den. moniliforme*, *Den. parishii*, *Den. primulinus* and *Den. transparens*.

Culture Same as Group 1, but winter nights 55 F. Deciduous species need virtually no water in winter.

CALLISTA

Most are pseudobulbous plants with pendent inflorescences.

Species such as *Den. aggregatum* (now properly *lindleyi*), *Den. chrysotoxum*, *Den. densiflorum*, *Den. farmeri* and *Den. thyrsiflorum*.

Culture Summer give warmth (60 to 90 F), medium light, medium quantities of water and fertilizer. Winter keep cool (50 F nights), medium light, just enough water to keep pseudobulbs from shriveling, no fertilizer.

LATOURIA

Leaves at top of pseudobulbs are large and leathery, inflorescence erect, flowers commonly yellow-green.

Species such as *Den. atroviolaceum*, *Den. macrophyllum* and *Den. spectabile*.

Culture Same as antelope types, but cooler and drier when resting in winter.

FORMOSAE (Nigrohirsutae Type)

Canelike pseudobulbs, with black hairs on leaf sheaths and pseudobulbs often apparent, leading to the popular name nigrohirsutae. Flowers usually white, up to 4 inches across, two to three together from near the end of the pseudobulb. Long lasting. Species such as *Den. bellatulum*, *Den. dearii*, *Den. draconis*, *Den. formosum*, *Den. infundibulum*, *Den. lowii*, *Den. lyonii*, *Den. margaritaceum*, *Den. sanderiae* and *Den. schuetzii*.

Culture Intermediate to cool year round, 50 to 60 F nights, maximum 85 F days. Water and fertilize when growing; give a slight short rest (dry) when growth is completed. Keep barely moist until growth starts again.

OTHER SPECIES

Among the popular types are *Den. linguiforme*, *Den. tetragonum*, *Den. gracillimum* and *Den. cuthbertsonii* (*sophronitis*).

Culture Depends on the plant's native environment. It is generally safe to grow them intermediate to warm (55 to 60 F at night), drying them out in winter (or as growth stops). Hybrids between sections vary in culture.

The American Orchid Society is the world's leading provider of information about and related to orchids. We invite you to join us and learn about the world's most fascinating flowers and plants. Your membership entitles you to our monthly award-winning magazine *Orchids*, a free copy of our cultural guide *Your First Orchid* and the *AOS Orchid Source Directory*, a 10 percent discount on items purchased through The AOS BookShop and Orchid Emporium, and free admission to the International Orchid Center in Delray Beach, Florida.

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