

Tucson Orchid Society Newsletter

December 2015

Holiday Potluck and Annual Meeting

Sunday, December 13, Noon-4 PM

Where: [6650 N Los Arboles Circle](#)

When: Sunday, Dec. 13

Noon-4 PM



Our yearly holiday potluck will be hosted by Wes Addison and Sue Philips in their lovely home. They will provide the main dish and drinks. Please bring a favorite holiday dish to share. We will eat at 1 pm.

There will be a short meeting to elect board members following the meal. Wes' three greenhouses will be open so prepare to feast your eyes and drool!

If you have questions, call Wes at 742-7754.

Show and Tell at the Potluck!

If the weather is mild, please bring your orchids that are in bloom to show off! It's nice to share your pretties with everyone and talk about what works and doesn't work for you. Get tips from others to help your orchids grow better.



Orchid of the month: Angraecums Jim Wilcoxon

Angraecum, and some related genera, collectively are called angraecoid orchids. Though lacking the sensational colors of Cattleyas, vandas and others, the angraecoids bring a wealth of exotic forms, scents and the purest of whites. as well as the greenest of greens. And the compact size of many species permits their cultivation beneath lights and on a windowsill. They range from 6 foot giants to tiny miniatures.

Angraecoids come mainly from Africa and Madagascar. The most popular, and those that provide the best flowers, come mainly from altitudes between 3000 and 6000 feet, and are well suited to intermediate greenhouses. Fortunately, although many of these species can tolerate quite low temperatures, they also thrive with warm bright days and do not suffer from an occasional 90 degree day in the greenhouse.

Plant characteristics:

Height: Miniature to 6 feet! Most are modest sized and are suited to 3- to 6-inch pots.

Growth type: Monopodial

Spike: Varies by type

Flower size: Varies by type

Flowers: A wealth of exotic forms and scents, from the purest of whites to the greenest of greens.

Bloom season: Winter

Light: This is an easy plant to grow on a windowsill or under lights. It needs some shade and should not be subjected to any direct sun. An east or west window with a curtain is ideal. They also appreciate adequate ventilation.

Temperature: 57 to 85 degrees F (day) and 60 to 65 degrees F (nights).

Water: Keep the potting medium damp, but allow to dry slightly between watering. Watering frequency should increase in the hot summer months, and decrease in winter. They are quite sensitive to water quality, and will not tolerate water with high amounts of dissolved salts. Frequent flushing of the potting mix can help reduce salt buildup.

Fertilize: I fertilize (at 1/4 strength) at each watering using a 30-30-30 water soluble fertilizer.

Humidity: 60 to 80 percent humidity.

Pot size: 3 to 6-inch pots.

Potting medium: These plants do well grown in baskets or pots of bark (for the larger plants) and sphagnum moss for those plants with fine roots.

Re-pot: I have found that these plants do not tolerate being divided and perform best with spring re-potting.



[Calendar of Events](#)

Dec 13 - Holiday potluck and annual meeting

Jan 20, 2016 meeting - Bob Fuchs of Fuchs Orchids in Florida

Feb 17, 2016 meeting - Ron Parsons

Mar 5-6, 2016 – 19th Annual Fiesta de las Flores. Mesquite Valley may have their new greenhouse facility open by then for us to display in.

Mar 16, 2016 meeting - Thomas Mirenda

Cookie List Jan 20, 2016 Mike Barretti

General Meeting Information

The Tucson Orchid Society regularly meets on the **third Wednesday** in January through October. Members are encouraged to bring orchids in bloom for **show and tell**. In November, the Society holds a fundraising **auction** of plants donated for that purpose. In December, we have a wonderful, relaxing **potluck** with a greenhouse tour, combined with a short business meeting and election of officers.

The monthly meetings are held at the [Gem & Mineral Society Building](#) (Adobe Bridge Club entrance), 3727 E. Blacklidge Dr., Tucson, AZ 85716 at 7:30 PM. From the intersection of East Ft. Lowell and North Dodge, go two blocks south on Dodge, turn left on Blacklidge. The building is on the north side of the street.

The Newsletter

The newsletter is published January through November, and sometimes in December. If you have something you would like to have published in the newsletter that is of general interest, don't hesitate to contact the newsletter editor, Judy Forester. The deadline is two weeks prior to the monthly meeting.

TOS Officers

President	Mike Barretti	mbarretti@msn.com
Vice-President	Jim Santino	jimmys1321@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jim Wilcoxon	jfw@theriver.com
Membership	Mary Ann Albano	albanom@comcast.net
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Program Chair	Wes Addison	wesadd@cpatucson.com
Show Chair	Wes Addison	
Auction Chair	Mike Barretti	
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