

Tucson Orchid Society Newsletter

April 2015

Monthly Meeting: Wednesday, April 15, 7:30 PM

Featured Speaker: Karen Muir Orchids in the Wild

Karen Muir is originally from Michigan where she began raising orchids around 1975. She was a member of the Michigan Orchid Society and held all of the offices of the Society including show chair, program chair, vice president and president. Karen became an **accredited American Orchid Society Judge** in 1997. In 1998, she was transferred by her company to Irvine, California and retired in January 2002.



Karen also served 5 years as the American Orchid Society Chair of the Pacific South Judging Region and has traveled to Canada, Guatemala, Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, South Africa, England and Japan to **attend and judge orchid shows**. She has lectured on the Society circuit in the US, including the California Paphiopedilum Guild, the Slipper Alliance, NCOS (National Capital Orchid Society) Paphiopedilum Forum, two South African Paphiopedilum Conferences and the Paph Forum in London, England. Karen is now the Affiliated Societies Representative and Treasurer for the Orchid Digest. She resides in Laguna Niguel, CA.

Show and Tell 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.



Here are some of the orchids that people brought to show off at the March meeting.



Tucson Botanical Gardens Greenhouse Tour

[Tucson Botanical Gardens](#) has offered us a wonderful opportunity to see their greenhouse on **Sunday, April 19 at 3 PM**. Massimo Boscolo will give members of Tucson Orchid Society a private tour! Their greenhouse is filled with tropical plants (including orchids), butterflies and frogs. This private tour is **only open to members in good standing** of Tucson Orchid Society.

President's Corner Hello Everyone,

I want to report to you all that things are moving along with our society. We have not only a Facebook website but also a regular website. Doug Forester did a great job getting us a new website. We lost the old one to website pirates several years ago; they would sell it back to us for a lot of money! We instead took another route. (You can go to the website if you click [here](#).) We are open to suggestions from all the members on things they would like to see on the website. Thanks especially Doug for taking charge of this project as our new Webmaster. We owe Dean Stith a debt of gratitude; he was our previous webmaster for a very long time.



Tucson Botanical Garden has invited us to a private Greenhouse Tour on Sunday, April 19 at 3PM. (See article above.) This is the first of our Greenhouse Tours. Judy Forester has offered her greenhouse for a tour in May. I am looking for volunteers to show us their growing conditions for the months of June, September and October. I am looking for people who grow in greenhouses, under lights, on their windowsills, and on covered porches. I would like to see members exposed to all kinds of growing conditions. So please volunteer.

Mike Barretti

AOS Judged Plants

There were **three awards** given at our March orchid show by the AOS judging team. (Click [here](#) to see lots of other photos from the show!)

Wes Addison's **Paph Shun-Fa Golden** (right) received an 84 point Award of Merit (AM). It has excellent form, great color and is larger than most of the previously awarded plants. Shun-Fa Golden is a cross between paph hangianum and malipoense.



Wes Addison's **Sc. Seagull's Mini-cat Heaven** (right) received an 84 point Award of Merit (AM). It has excellent form, great color and is larger than most of the previously awarded plants. C Seagulls Mini-cat Heaven is a cross between C Beaufort and C Tangerine Jewel. Both of these have proven to be very good parents giving wonderful color, flatness and crystalline texture which can be seen in the photo.



Mark Dimmitt's Cym. Australian Midnight (left) received a 92 point Certificate of Cultural Excellence (CCE). A CCE award is given to the grower for excellent growing. Mark's plant had many more spikes than normal with more flowers on each spike.

Education Corner

by Marie Hirsch

What Does That Orchid Word Mean?

Epiphytes (EP-a-fites)

Orchids called epiphytes **grow on trees or shrubs** for support, while others called terrestrials grow in soil and organic matter in the ground. Both types produce flowers in a range of colors, from minuscule to 20 centimeters (about 8 inches) in diameter. An epiphytic plant is one that is able to obtain its water and nutrients from rainfall and decomposing materials. Epiphytes **exist without soil** and gather all that is necessary for their growth while clinging to another immobile organism. Some examples of epiphytic orchid genera are phalaenopsis, cattleya, dendrobium, and oncidium.



Cattleya (KAT-lee-a)

A tropical American genus of showy-flowered **epiphytic** orchids related to Epidendrum, Laelia and Brassavola. It was found by Lindley in 1824 and dedicated by him to William Cattley, of Barnet, England, who was an ardent horticulturist and patron of botany.

Comparettia (kom-pa-RET-ee-a)

A small genus of **epiphytic** orchids found chiefly in the Andes of Columbia and Ecuador with one species extending to Mexico and the West Indies. It is allied to Trichocentrum and Ionopsis. It was found by Poepping and Endlicher in 1835. It was named in honor of Sr. Andreo Comparetti, an eminent plant physiologist and professor of botany at Padua, Italy.



Hartwegia (hart-WEGG-ee-a)

A very small **epiphyte or occasional terrestrial** genus of Middle American orchids, dedicated to Karl Theodore Hartweg by Lindley in 1837. It was subsequently renamed Nageliella by Louis O. Williams in 1940.

Schomburgkia (shom-BERG-kee-a)

A small genus of **epiphytic** orchids from the American tropics and subtropics, often included in the genus Laelia to which it is closely allied. It was established in 1838 by Lindley who dedicated it to the German botanist Sir Robert Schomburgk.



Future Greenhouse Open Houses

There are two greenhouse open houses currently scheduled. The first one is scheduled for **April 19** - a tour of the Tucson Botanical Garden greenhouse. This tour is free to Tucson Orchid Society members. The second tour scheduled is **May 23** from 1-4 pm - a tour of Judy Forester's greenhouse. Contact Judy 742-4775 for directions.

Please let the President know if **you are interested** in showing off your orchids and how you grow them to members of the Society. We want to schedule greenhouse tours for the last Saturday in June, September and October.

Calendar of Events

April 11 – [Annual Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale](#), 4210 N Campbell, Tucson (520) 625-5161

April 11-12 - [Desert Valley Orchid Society Show](#), Harper's Landscape Co., 2529 N. Hayden Rd, Scottsdale, AZ. The show has been very nice in the past and is well worth the scenic drive

Apr 15 meeting - Karen Muir on Maxillarias

Apr 19 3pm - Tour of Tucson Botanical Garden greenhouse - Free to TOS members

May 20 meeting - Ivan Portilla, VP of Orchid Shows, Equagenera Cia Ltd, Ecuador

May 23 1-4pm - Tour of Judy Forester's greenhouse

Sep 16 meeting - Mary Gerritson of San Francisco Orchid Club

Oct 21 meeting - Graham Wood on Paphs

Nov 11 - Club auction

Dec 5 - 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

Annual Master Gardeners [Spring Plant Sale](#)

Saturday, April 11 8:00-11:00 am

Pima County Cooperative Extension

4210 N Campbell Ave

For information call (520) 626-5161

Spring is the perfect time to plant blackberries, fortnight lilies, chuparosa, and red yucca. We have them all! The sale will include a variety of shrubs, cacti, succulents, ground covers, vines, and flowering perennial plants grown by local Master Gardeners and offered at reasonable prices.

Master Gardeners have also created unique bird houses, ollas, decorated gourds, pressed flower stationery, as well as corrugated aluminum hand painted panels to brighten you garden. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer all your gardening questions.



Board of Directors Meeting

The next Tucson Orchid Society board of directors meeting will be Saturday, April 25, at 10am. The place has not yet been determined.

Membership Dues

Reminder: if you haven't paid your **membership dues** for 2015, they are \$12 and due now. You may pay by check or cash at the meeting. For those who cannot attend the meeting, you may mail your check to the Treasurer, Jim Wilcoxon, 9662 E Hickory Tree Place, Tucson, AZ 85749.

Cookie List Be sure to sign up at the March meeting to bring cookies. There are still a several months available. There will be a sign-up sheet at the monthly meeting. Pick a month, sign your name, and plan to bring something nice to share.

Jan 21, 2015	Mary Ann Albono	Jul 15, 2015	Ron Norman
Feb 18, 2015	Carolyn Addotta	Aug 19, 2015	_____
Mar 18, 2015	Ed Busch	Sep 16, 2015	_____
Apr 15, 2015	Judy Forester	Oct 21, 2015	Beth Woodin
May 20, 2015	Marie Hirsch	Nov 4, 2015	Tony Knight (Annual Auction)
Jun 17, 2015	Tina Roesler	Jan 20, 2016	_____

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** 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. 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
Newsletter	Judy Forester	judyf.ccn@comcast.net
Program Chair	Wes Addison	wesadd@cpatucson.com
Show Chair	Wes Addison	
Auction Chair	Mike Barretti	
Webmaster	Doug Forester	webmaster@orchidsocietytucson.org

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Tucson Orchid Society

Meets the third Wednesday of each month 7:30 p.m.
Gem & Mineral Society Building (Adobe Bridge Club entrance)
3727 E. Blacklidge Rd.

Visitors and new members are always welcome

Yes, I would like to join the Tucson Orchid Society. Yearly membership dues are \$12.00

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

May we email you the newsletter? _____

Date _____

Bring this form and check or cash to the
Monthly meeting or **mail the form** and
a check to:

**Attn: Membership
% Jim Wilcoxon
9662 E. Hickory Tree Place
Tucson, AZ 85749**