

Tucson Orchid Society Newsletter

March 2017

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

Featured Speaker: Nancy Mountford - Hybridizing the 'big-lipped' Phalaenopsis



The February program will feature Nancy Mountford, an owner of Orchids Dominicana located in the **Dominican Republic**. She will speak about her efforts hybridizing the 'big-lipped' Phalaenopsis, and adventures in creating an orchid nursery in the Dominican Republic.

She has made over 10,000 orchid hybrids in the last 20 years, mainly Phalaenopsis, but also Paphs, Vandas, Cattleyas and a few Dendrobiums. Her professional career is as a **marine biologist** studying the taxonomy of Polychaete worms in her other business, Cove

Corporation. She has a 14 x 21' greenhouse in Calvert County, Maryland, and over 400,000 sq ft of greenhouses in the Dominican Republic.



In addition to being on the recent **Past President of the National Capital Orchid Society** she is the Assistant Treasurer and a past Trustee of the American Orchid Society. She has exhibited and judged in both East Coast and international orchid shows.

Nancy is a talented exhibitor, having **won the AOS show trophy** in the NCOS, SEPOS, and GNYOS shows, and has won gold, silver gilt and silver medals for exhibits at the London Orchid Show. "Setting up an exhibit gives you a chance to show off your plants and to bond with like-minded orchid growers," says Nancy. "The people of the orchid community are my network of friends and family. They are, truly, what makes this lifestyle so interesting and rewarding, and I am gratified to giving back to that community in my capacity as a Trustee."

President's Corner

Dianne Turausky

The Orchid Show was a great success! Everyone who participated and/or helped out **deserves a round of applause!** I noticed that there was a lot of individual attention given to visitors who wanted advice on how to select an orchid for purchase, or needed growing information. That, I think, made for **some very happy visitors** and helped folks new to orchids feel more comfortable with them. Members, too, learned a lot.

We saw a new way of **wrapping Neofinetia Falcata orchids using a small net pot**, and learned that there is a way to grow full sized Vandas in a vase with water! That's the beauty of having time to talk to other orchid enthusiasts in a relaxed setting! Thank you all for your part in making the Orchid Show a success!



As the date of the show approached, I became very concerned because the orchids I had hoped to take to the show were stuck in bud mode! Some of these are orchids that I have never seen in bloom before, and it was **frustrating to have them be so close**, yet not close enough to display! And sure enough, the morning after the show closed, two of those orchids bloomed! Someone mentioned once that orchid growing teaches us patience. And I think about the question I kept hearing as I spoke with visitors to the show: “What can I do to get my orchid to bloom?” Unfortunately, **they bloom when they feel like it**, and not a moment sooner!

A few members did not have name tags, and I apologize for that. If you didn’t sign your name on the list of those without tags, please let me know that you need one! I think **wearing name tags** for this event really helps our visitors know who to look for when they need help! If you don’t want to be responsible for keeping track of it, just bring it to the next meeting! I keep them with all

the TOS materials and will bring them to the next show.

Outreach Event

Our next outreach program will be **Sunday, April 2**, at the Himmel Park Library. Our presentation will begin at 3pm. All of you are welcome to attend, and if you can, bring some of your orchids! There is always something to learn at these events!



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL *Annual Dues*

Reminder: the 2017 dues are due!

They remain the same at \$12 per year. All members with email should have gotten a reminder recently. If you have not already paid for this new year you can bring cash or **check to our next meeting**. For those folks who cannot attend the meeting, you may mail your check to the Treasurer, Jim Wilcoxon, 9662 E Hickory Tree Place, Tucson, AZ

85749.

Greenhouse Open House

The next greenhouse open house is scheduled for **Saturday, April 1 from 1-3PM at Mark Dimmitt’s** home. His address is 4331 N. Oxbow Rd. Phone Mark at 9778541 if you need to ask for directions. There are no other tours scheduled yet for 2017. Please talk to the President if you are interested in showing off your growing space

Cookie List

Be sure to **sign up** at the meeting to bring cookies to a monthly meeting. Pick a month, sign your name, and plan to bring something nice to share. including something to quench the thirst!

Mar 15 Mark Dimmitt
May 17 Beth Woodin
Jul 19 Dianne Turausky
Sep 20 Sandy Wilson

Apr 19 Kathryn Moore
Jun 21 Kevin Yeanoplos
Aug 16 Wes Addison

Fiesta de las Flores Wes Addison

I want to thank everyone for all the time and effort that they **contributed to the show**. I have had feedback from non-members that they thought the show was the best yet and I tend to agree. The show had eight displays and the society display. I think that this either matches or exceeds the number of displays that we have ever had. I could go through the list of everyone that helped out but I would probably miss someone so again thanks to you all. I do want to mention my **special appreciation to Jim Santino, Beth Woodin and Jim Wilcoxon** for running the judging, education and show tables. I also want to mention how much we missed Mike Barretti at the show this year. Mike has always been a big contributor to the show and we look forward to having him back next year. There were **two AOS awards granted**, one to Eric Goo and one to Wes and congratulations to Doug and Judy for winning the best of show display. Doug put a lot of time into their display and it really showed. So did Judy with her plants.

Hope to see you all at our next show on March 5, 2018.



Education Corner by Marie Hirsch and Doug Forester

What Does That Orchid Word Mean?

Flask/Flasking

A flask is a bottle shaped container used in the germination of orchid seeds. The seeds are sown in agar* and grown to very young seedlings.

*agar is a gelatinous substance derived from certain seaweeds.



Reflasking

Transplanting small seedlings into flasks of fresh medium to permit greater growth before establishing the seedlings into Community Pots.

Deflasking

After the seedlings have grown to a sufficient size they will be removed from the flask or “deflasked”, and placed in groups into a community pot.

Community Pots/Compots

Individual plants removed from the flask are wrapped in moss and gently packed in small pots, or “community pots” to be grown to a size suitable for individual pots.

Calendar of Events

March 15, 7:30pm - Monthly meeting - Nancy Mountford of Orchids Dominicana

April 1, Saturday, 1-3pm - Greenhouse tour Mark Dimmitt (see article above for details)

April 1, Saturday, 9am - 3pm - Annual Master Gardener [Home Garden Tour](#)

April 1, Saturday 9-5, April 2, Sunday 10-4 - Desert Valley Orchid Society [Orchid Show and Plant Sale](#), Berridge Nurseries, 4647 E Camelback Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85018

April 2, Sunday, 3pm - Outreach program at Himmel Park Library.

April 8, Saturday, 8-11am - Master Gardener [Spring Plant Sale](#), 4210 N. Campbell Ave

April 19, 7:30pm - Monthly meeting - Dennis Olivas will speak on Vandas

May 17, 7:30pm - Monthly meeting - Tony Knight will speak on the orchids of Kenya

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](#) (side 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 every month of the year. 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, Doug Forester. The deadline is two weeks prior to the monthly meeting.

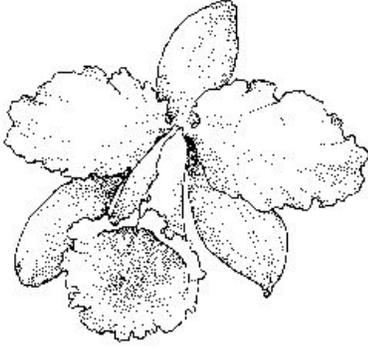
TOS Officers

President	Dianne Turausky	dturausky@comcast.net
Vice-President	Judy Forester	judyf.ccn@comcast.net
Treasurer	Jim Wilcoxon	jfw@theriver.com
Media/Membership	Doug Forester	dougf.ccn@comcast.net
Program Chair	Wes Addison	wesadd@cpatucson.com
Show Chair	Wes Addison	
Auction Chair		

Social Media

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/TucsonOrchidSociety

Website: www.orchidsocietytucson.org



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

Visit us on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/TucsonOrchidSociety

Visit our website: www.orchidsocietytucson.org

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? _____

Today's date _____

Bring this to the monthly meeting or mail with your check to:

Tucson Orchid Society
%Jim Wilcoxon
9662 E Hickory Tree Place
Tucson, AZ 85749