

Overtures

A Communication Instrument for Society Members and other Interested Parties

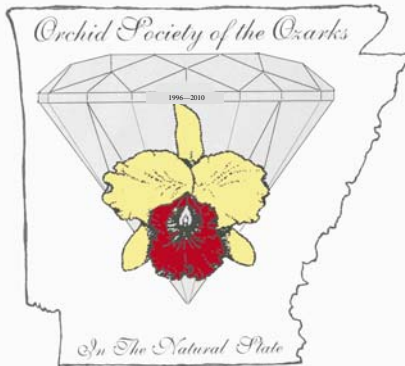
Inside this Issue:

Spotlight on A couple of Passions	1 & 2
Notes from the Program Chair	4
June Meeting Highlights	3
Phalaenopsis Culture	5
Santa Barbara Fair	7
Suzanne's Musings	8
AOS Corner	8

Volume XV Issue 6

July 2010

Spotlight on A couple of Passions Suzanne Hobbs



Stimulating interest in Orchids and their culture as a nonprofit, educational organization...

Special Points of Note

- *Spotlight on A couple of Passions*
- *Notes from the Program Chair*
- *June Meeting Highlights*
- *Phalaenopsis Culture*
- *Santa Barbara Fair*
- *Suzanne's Musings*
- *Back Porch*

The Orchid Society of the Ozarks meets the 4th Sunday of each month. Annual dues: \$10.00 for individual and \$15.00 for joint membership.

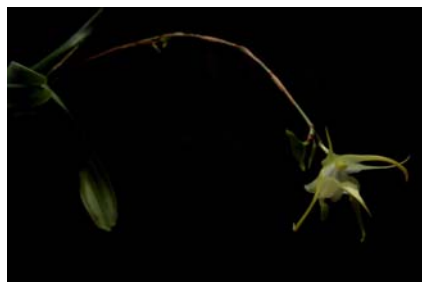
Suzanne Hobbs, President
37 N. Palmer Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72701
suzannehobbs@swbell.net

Editor: T. Larkin
Phone: 479-925-2228
Email tslarkinjr@yahoo.com



Aerangis verdickii

Many years ago, I majored in fine art photography. (And, I do mean MANY years ago!) As life progressed, I explored other careers, hobbies, pastimes and passions. Orchid growing has given me a chance to work on those skills that I acquired so long ago, and it has reignited an interest in photography that I have not touched upon in a long while. We are constantly growing : losing interest in some fields and pursuing others. What a pleasant surprise it has been to realize old loves can be revisited. Inspiration is ever changing!...



Aeranthes grandiflora



Phalaenopsis lueddemanniana



Epc. Rene Marques 'Flame Thrower'



Phragmipedium besseae

A couple of Passions (continued)



C. walkeriana v. *alba* Pendentive



Phragmipedium besseae



Jumellea comorensis



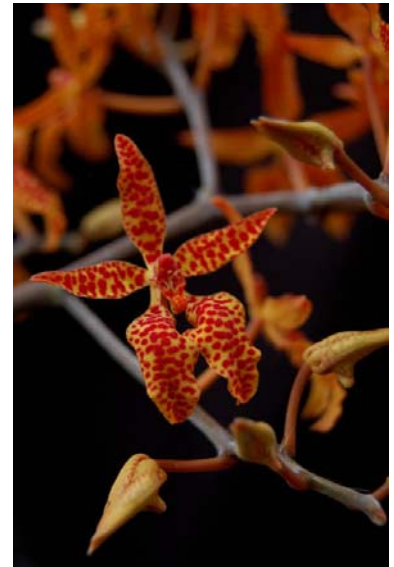
Brassovola cucullata



Dar. Fuchs Cream Puff x *Asctm. miniatum*



Aerangis citrata



Renanthera monachica



Psychopsis Pisgah Forest



C. glauca



Oncidium onustum

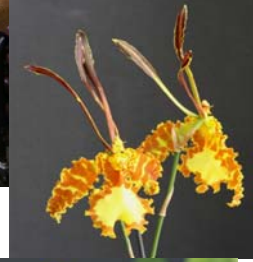


Phal Princess Kaiulani

June 27 Meeting Highlights

The June meeting featured Dr. Tom Nassar of Carolina Orchids.

Members carted off new tenants for their growing spaces. Thanks to the Maraks and Shari Loftis for the Pictures.



Notes from your Program Chair Sarah Waddoups

July 25, 2010 Back to Basics: Our society has had many new and newer growers join, so this month we'll focus on the basics of orchid growing. Members are encouraged to bring specific or general questions, problem plants or any mysteries of orchid growing you would like help to solve.

August 22, 2010 Let there be light. We'll discuss lighting options, light needs and optimizing your light and grow space. The program will include natural light and artificial lights.

September 19, 2010: 14th ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION – great plants, dirt cheap! Can you believe it is nearly that time again?

October 23, 2010: Designer Cattleyas, Tom Larkin: Our own resident expert was recently invited to speak to several societies in Texas on his cutting-edge cattleya breeding. In October we'll get to enjoy this presentation too!

Norman Fang – Sphagnum Moss Culture 16th Annual International Phal Alliance symposium

Potting Generally

- Use smaller pots than you would with bark – much smaller than is my inclination
- Trim the healthy roots if necessary. Think of it as pruning. Norman cuts roots and then doesn't pot the plant until the next morning. That allows for the roots to seal over and avoids infection
- Repot only when there is active root growth, of course.
- Soak the moss overnight (which wets it and also raises pH slightly), then squeeze out all the water you can. (Big Taiwanese nurseries use a press for this.)
- Pack the moss really, really tight. Norman teaches his staff to press three times.
- Try to leave at least a 1" lip on the pot, this helps the water sit as it drains through the pot.
- Taller pots help water drain better and keeps the plants cooler – they can handle higher light levels. (ie 3000 fc for big white phals)
- Don't water plants after you transplant. Wait for the moss to dry – Norman waits 3-4 weeks before he waters the first time. This encourages new root growth—plant is seeking the water. Make the plant work for it.
- After transplanting, no fertilizer for 3-4 weeks. Start fertilizer only when you see new root growth

Watering –

- Norman doesn't really ever drench water. He foliar feeds. "In moss culture, learn not to water the moss.)
- Norman waters once every 2-3 weeks in the summer. Always waters twice – hand waters everything then comes back and waters everything again.
- Moss dries from the bottom up – water when it is dry halfway up the pot
- Again, the 1" lip will help to let the water really soak in
- Foliar Feeding advantages are that you don't get algae – uses Physan 20 at 1 tsp / gallon and drench waters to kill algae in the plants.
- Need a very fine textured fertilizer when foliar feeding—if you start seeing a build up on the leaves use a better fertilizer. Norman says MSU is fine.
- Foliar feeding – same concentration of fertilizer generally. Foliar feeding means the plant can handle and use a higher level of nitrogen.
 - o Foliar feed 2-4 times per month in the summer and once every two months or so in the winter
 - o Ammonium nitrate and calcium nitrate are good sources of nitrogen in foliar feeding
 - o Silicon will not work in foliar feeding – plant cannot absorb it through the leaves

Advantages of Moss Culture

- Moss has a natural pH of 4.5 – that makes it a natural fungicide
- Used properly, phals will keep all their leaves for a longer period of time
- Less water, less fertilizer, less time
- LESS is more in moss culture

A Pictorial Tour of the Santa Barbara Fair Sarah Waddoups



Views along the Pacific Coast Highway



A Tour of Norman's Orchids

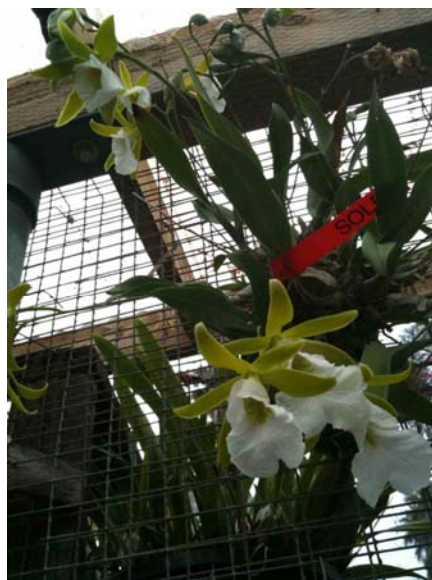


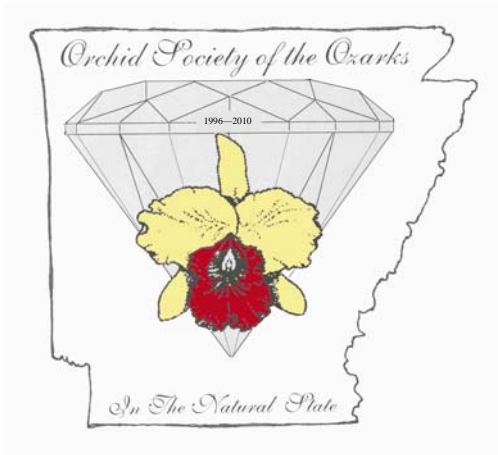
A Pictorial Tour of the Santa Barbara Fair (Continued)



Cal-Orchids, Inc.

Santa Barbara Orchid Estate





BUSINESS NAME

Suzanne Hobbs, President
37 N. Palmer Ave
Fayetteville, AR 72701
suzannehobbs@swbell.net

Phone: T. Larkin
Fax: 479-925-2228
E-mail: tslarkinjr@yahoo.com

***A non-profit, educational
organization stimulating interest in
orchids and their culture.***

We're on the web!

www.oso-web.org

Webmaster: Bruce Brown

webmaster@oso-web.org



Suzanne's Musings!

As we ease in to the height of Summer, battling those high temperatures is on every grower's mind. Thank goodness for those Arkansas night lows. I hope everyone can keep it cool and enjoy growing success!

Cheers, Suzanne

What's Ahead

July 25, 2010

NTI, 709 S. Old Missouri Rd.,
Springdale AR. 1:30

Program: Back to Basics

Discussion Panel

August 22, 2010

NTI, 709 S. Old Missouri Rd.,
Springdale AR. 1:30

Program: Let there be Light

Discussion Panel

About OSO...

The Orchid Society of the Ozarks came into existence with the Organizational Meeting of April 28, 1996, in which ten local orchid growers met with the purpose of forming the group. Since then, the Northwest Arkansas based Society's membership has grown considerably and now consists of over 100 members.

The OSO meets on the 4th Sunday of each month. Annual dues are: \$10.00 for an individual membership, \$15.00 for a joint membership. For more information, please contact Membership Chairperson Suzanne Hobbs 479-236-0760 email shobbs@sellingnwa.com, or, visit our website at www.oso-web.org and click the "Join" link.

Back Porch Special News from SWROGA Directors Meeting

To the SWROGA Affiliated Societies Officers, Directors, and Newsletter Editors:

Several changes were voted for at the SWROGA Directors meeting held on May 1, 2010, in Oklahoma City that you and your membership should be aware of:

- 1) Beginning this year, 2010, the SWROGA dues are reduced from \$2.00 per member per year to \$1.00 per member. Dues remain payable as of December 31 of each year-end and no later than January 31st of the following year.
- 2) The SWROGA News will be published semi-annually, rather than quarterly, six weeks before the spring and fall SWROGA shows.
- 3) The News will be delivered via e-mail to all members who have a valid e-mail address on file and will also be posted on the SWROGA Website.
- 4) The designated SWROGA Representative for each affiliated society will be responsible for printing a hard copy for distribution to their members who do not have e-mail access.

Please poll your membership for updated e-mail addresses and let me know if there are any changes I need to make to the SWROGA e-mail database. I will gladly make any and all changes necessary to assure that your members have the e-edition of the SWROGA News readily available for perusal.

Yours Respectfully,

Carolyn McCabe, SWROGA Treasurer