



THE GREATER LAS VEGAS ORCHID SOCIETY
THE ORCHID COLUMN
CAROL SIEGEL, EDITOR

EASTER SEAL BUILDING
6400 WEST OAKY BLVD

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2012
2 PM BUILDING OPEN AT 1

SPECIAL EVENTS:

May 6, 2012 Norito Hasegawa
"Multifloral Paphs"
June 3, 2012 Rick Burnett "Seven
Ways to Kill An Orchid"
July 1, 2012
Diana Smith
"Species You Can Grow"
August 5, 2012 Barbecue
September 9, 2012
Second Sunday
Greenhouse Tour
Al deRicco, Clarice Dean, Dan Mumau
October 6, 2012
Peter Lin
"Growing Specimen Orchids"
November 4, 2012
Carol Siegel "Liars and Cheats:
The Story of Orchid Deception"
December 2, 2012
Holiday Party
January 6, 2012
Ron Parsons
"Miniature Orchids"
February 3, 2013
Alan Kochs
April 7, 2013 Karen Muir "Maxillaria"

DRUNK BEES POLLINATE CORYANTHES ELEGANTIUM

The whole business of orchid pollination is strange. This weird looking flower, with buds the size of plums and big flowers with their petals swept back like angel wings, is nothing if not strange. Liquid drips from two tiny spigots on the wings of the column and drop into the bucket-shaped lip. *Coryanthes* means "helmet flower," and the top third of the lip looks like a helmet. It is covered in fragrant oils that drive Euglossine bee males wild. They fight each other for space on the "helmet," and collect the oils with little brushes on their feet. When the brushes are full, they store the oils in little pockets on their hind legs. It is thought that they make an aphrodisiac with the oils to attract female bees. The ladies seem to find male bees with this aphrodisiac irresistible. (Go know...) The oils seem to make the male bees drunk, and they stagger around like frat boys after a party. Drunk, they fall into the bucket of the orchid and struggle to get out. Some die, drowning in the liquid. Some make their way out up a ladder of hairs, past the column, picking up or depositing pollinia, and exiting out a small hole in the back of the flower. Just one of the amazing strategies that orchids use to get pollinated.

OUR BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY AT THE EASTER SHOW AT THE CAL

We put together another lovely display this year at the Torrance Cymbidium Society Show at the California Hotel. Everett Stockstill and his wonderful club are so kind to us and make us feel so welcome. Shelly North, our talented display genius, was out of the country, but Ole Borresen stepped up as our Displaymaster, and he did a wonderful job. He and Tony picked up lots of green plants and blooming begonias at the hotels which made a beautiful backdrop for our magnificent orchids. We thank all the people who came down to help with the display- Diana Smith, Carol Siegel, Dan Mumau, Mike Lawless, Claudia Drake and Tony Billitere. Shelly was kind enough to provide materials for our display in her absence. We cannot thank Ole enough for his time, trouble and artistic sense. He does so much for the club!! We are grateful. We thank our ambassadors who greeted guests and promoted our club- Tony Billitere, Diana Smith, Terry Wilsey, Myra Lee Glassman, and Sonny Bruce. (A special thank you to my wonderful friend Diana who picked up my plants on Sunday and brought them to my house because my granddaughters were visiting and I was busy having fun with them... THIS is a friend...)





WE ARE SORRY TO HAVE TO CANCEL OUR EPIPACTIS GIGANTEA FIELD TRIP THIS YEAR. PAULA GARRETT WHO KINDLY LEADS US TO SEE THAT NATIVE ORCHID IS WORKING WEEKENDS THIS YEAR. I ASKED SEVERAL OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE BOTANISTS IN AND OUTSIDE THE CLUB, BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, ALL WERE EITHER WORKING OR HAD OTHER COMMITMENTS. NEXT YEAR...

We had great fun at our **April meeting**. We thank Cathy Lofffield, Inga Rossan, Claudia Drake, Dan Mumau and Mike L., Jesse Sanders, Ole Borresen and Sonny Bruce for providing very delicious food for the meeting. All we needed was a bride, and we could have made a wedding reception. It was great. We thank in advance Penny Senneseth, Doris Fairchild, Katherine Weber, Pat Holland and Diana Michael for the food for the May meeting. (I don't have any information for Diana Michael who was a guest. Does anyone?)

Slipper orchid maven Dr. Harold Koopowitz did a superb presentation on the history of *Paphiopedilum*. What could have been a dry talk was really fascinating, and he told the story with humor, great insight, and an interesting patter. I provided blooming paphs for members to buy, and the club sold them all. We had a great raffle thanks to Tony and Ole and the other members of the Raffle Committee. I have a dozen beautiful begonias growing in my garden from the raffle. It is so nice to get green plants as well as orchids. I bought \$20 worth of raffle tickets and went home with 18 plants!! We were very happy to see Tony at the meeting.

Roberta and Fred Schechter presented the Species of the Month, *Bulbophyllum falcatum*, a darling orchid from tropical West Africa. On each side of the "rachis" (main stem of an inflorescence or flower spike) are rows of alternating little flowers that look like chairs, 10-15 flowers to a row. It is one of those flowers best seen with a magnifying glass, which Fred cleverly brought in. Thanks so much for doing this.

We were happy to welcome new member Vi Carlos to the meeting as well as Diana Michael. We hope you will love growing orchids (and US).

Our best wishes to Leslie Doyle for a speedy recovery after breaking her arm... Hope Melanie Long's foot is better now... Fond wishes to Tonie Kerbs for a complete recovery after surgery... Hope Damon Schechter is doing well after his surgery... Hope Shelly Long enjoyed her vacation and is now all tanned and rested... Want to see Mike Levin and hear about his time in France... Looking forward to seeing Wanda and Bruce LaFollette after their European visit with family... Hope Judie and John Tuthill have a nice time in New York... Wishing Vera and Hubert Wray a pleasant summer in England... We will miss you... Good to see Becky Biondi on her visit to Las Vegas... We have certainly missed her after her move to Washington... Happy 50th Birthday to Mike Lawless. We love you... Congratulations to the Deans whose daughter is expecting... A first grandbaby...how exciting... Congratulations to my granddaughter Lauren who got into the University of Georgia, the college she wanted... (Can she really be 18!) Congratulations to Mary and Barry King of putting together their new greenhouse... Hope Jim Lofffield is all well now... And to everyone else I forgot or didn't know about, may life be gentle with you.

NORITO HASEGAWA PRESENTS "MULTIFLORAL PAPHS" IN MAY

Norito Hasegawa is a big name in orchids- and also a member of our club, even though he lives in California. A wonderful and generous man, he never charges us for his hotel, travel or food when he speaks to us. So nice of him, and it saves us lots of money. Thank you, Norito. Norito will do his very first Power Point presentation ever (he was a slide man) and will present "Multifloral Paphs." These magnificent and exotic orchids are considered by many to be the royalty of the orchid world, and the flowers last a very long time. Norito will talk about all the different species and some of their hybrids and how to grow them. I think you will find this a very rewarding and interesting presentation. He will also bring plants in bloom to sell!!

Norito Hasegawa is a retired dentist, an overextended hobbyist (considered commercial for tax purposes), is a 3 million miler travelling to many foreign countries talking and/or judging in places such as Japan, South Africa, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Germany, New Zealand, Taiwan, England, France, Switzerland and many many cities in the USA.

He is primarily a hybridizer of Slipper Orchids (*Paphiopedilum*) although his interests and collection of 15,000 orchids include miniature cattleyas, phalaenopsis, cymbidiums and variegated orchids of all sorts. He first became interested in orchids after seeing orchids in mass at the World Orchid Conference held in Long Beach in 1966. After he bought his first orchids, he failed miserably, but persisted in trying to grow them outdoors, and in no time he had hundreds. Now, he can't imagine his life without orchids. Orchids are an endeavor of science, taxonomy, hybridizing, art, sociability, quiet reflections, and mad parties—join the addiction and fun.

He is married to Joyce, with three children Lisa, Todd and Mark with paphiopedilums named after each of them. He is owner of Paphanatics, unLimited; a judge in both the American Orchid Society and the Cymbidium Society of America for over 35 years.

BELOW ARE EXAMPLES OF MULTIFLORAL PAPHS. ALSO ATTACHED TO THE NEWSLETTER IS AN ARTICLE JUST PUBLISHED IN ORCHID DIGEST I WROTE ON MOTHS AND BUTTERFLIES AS ORCHID POLLINATORS. LOVE CAROL

SOME EXAMPLES OF THE GORGEOUS MULTIFLORAL PAPHIOPEDILUM...



Paph Delrosi



Paph Lyro Blackhawk



PAPH MICHAEL KOPOWITZ



PAPHIOPEDILUM ROTHSCHILDIANUM