



# The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

June 2021

Website: [www.marylandorchids.org](http://www.marylandorchids.org)

## President's Message June's 2021



In these monthly notes I try not to repeat myself too much from contribution to contribution. This time, however, I think is the exception to that 'rule,' and it seems absolutely appropriate to come back to a couple points made in last month's note. As we finish up this very strange and challenging year, two recent observations are worth repeating: 1) There is a light at the end of the tunnel and I am quite comfortable predicting that in-person meetings will be back on our docket by next Fall. And 2) MOS is going to come out of its COVID malaise as a still strong and dynamic organization AND that that strength is due almost entirely to the contributions and commitment made by you members to maintaining and enhancing our MOS community. THANK YOU! We need to continue those efforts, but I'm confident that much of the heavy lifting has been accomplished and that that strength training has conditioned us well for the next steps.

### Now to quickly point ahead:

1) This month's program is home-grown, always a welcome circumstance. Arne Schon will be presenting, as described by Fay in this Newsletter. Don't forget to get your virtual show table pics to her ([fay.citerone@gmail.com](mailto:fay.citerone@gmail.com)), ideally at least a day before the meeting.

2) It looks like the Board of Trustees will be meeting in person on July 22. Much of our effort then will be spent in looking ahead to next year. Members are ALWAYS welcome to attend/participate and we can ALWAYS use your additional thoughts and insights.

3) Before we meet again in September, we'll be participating in the Maryland State Fair. Sally Over is our main connection to that; see the description of the opportunity later in this Newsletter.

*John Heinbokel*

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## June's Guest Speaker

**One of our own MOS members will be presenting in June 2021.**

Arne Schon started growing orchids in Sweden over 40 years ago but could not really continue during the 1990s because of studies, work, and a lot of international traveling.

After a brief period in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Arne and his wife moved from Sweden to Baltimore in 2001, where Arne holds a position as research scientist at Johns Hopkins University. Arne started growing orchids more seriously again in 2007.

With the exception of a single small window, Arne grows his orchid collection under lights in his basement. He has chosen to grow many of the orchids mounted on bark or wood mostly because many orchids are easily cared for when they are mounted but also for aesthetic reasons.

Arne brought his first orchid for AOS judging in 2014 and has received six awards since then. Arne's wife, Khairul Bariah, has been writing about his orchid collection in her blog since 2014 (<http://arnesorchidcorner.blogspot.com/>).



**Arne Schon**  
**"Growing Mounted Orchids"**





# Maryland Orchid Society News and Surrounding Events

## MISCELLANY

An Every-Once-in-a-While (Monthly?) Item of Potential Interest to the MOS Membership

*Have you run into a resource that provides some useful information or just an oddity related to our passion for orchids? Please share that discovery with your friends and colleagues of the MOS. Please submit your findings to John Heinbokel ([jheinbokel@hotmail.com](mailto:jheinbokel@hotmail.com)), for inclusion in a future Newsletter.*

### Orchid Mantis

OK, this may be stretching the orchid-relevance angle a bit, but I'll argue that it still fits into the purpose of these 'Miscellany' contributions. Please take a peek at the information (and a short National Geographic YouTube video clip that is very nice, albeit a bit gruesome from a predator-prey perspective) brought to my attention in a recent 'Orchid Nerd' Newsletter provided by our friends at Waldor Orchids.



A mating pair of the orchid mantis. The female is the larger of the pair, and can grow up to four inches in length. PHOTOGRAPH BY JASON ZHU/NYTIMES

Here's a link that'll get you started exploring this topic: <https://praying-mantis.org/orchid-mantis-facts/>

Enjoy!

Contributed to MOS Newsletter by John Heinbokel, May 2021.



# Orchids at the Maryland State Fair

22 August – 6 September 2021

As COVID risks are decreasing, the Maryland State Fair has recently committed to moving forward with their annual end-of-summer festivities. The Maryland Orchid Society will similarly return to sponsoring an orchid 'show' and provide local (not AOS) judging of the entries. Entrants will be asked to self-identify as NOVICE or EXPERIENCED (presumably MOS members will fit here) and enter their orchids in the appropriate class: Phalaenopsis, Cattleya alliance, slippers (mostly Paphiopedilum or Phragmipedium), Dendrobium (a new class this year), or Others.

Entries will be housed in the same location as in past years with air conditioning, security monitoring, and periodic watering. Note, however, that orchids will be on display from 22 or 23 August (set-up) through the end of the Fair following the Labor Day weekend (6 September). Plan your entries accordingly.

This is likely to be our first MOS 'out-in-public' event since COVID effectively shut us down in March 2020, right after our annual show and sale. Please plan to take advantage of this opportunity with any of your summer-booming plants. Additional announcements and instructions will be provided, as we get closer to the dates. Please pass the word to any of your non-MOS friends who might have orchids to enter. Best in Show NOVICE orchid will earn a year's free membership in the MOS.

For further information, please check: [www.marylandstatefair.com](http://www.marylandstatefair.com). Click on 'Exhibitors,' and follow the links to 'Open Class Farm and Garden,' and on to 'Section J Flowers and Plants.' Our member, Sally Over, is the Fair's Superintendent for that Section and can answer questions:

[flowerlady@zoominternet.net](mailto:flowerlady@zoominternet.net); home 410-692-6757; cell 443-640-7619.

John Heinbokel & Sally Over

# American Orchid Society and Surrounding Events



Society Member Newsletter [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)

## SUPPORT THE AOS

Renew  
Donate



Seeking  
AOS Judges!



## Become an AOS Judge

The American Orchid Society Program is seeking highly motivated orchid enthusiasts to join the judging ranks.

Contact at [judges@aos.org](mailto:judges@aos.org)

If you have a love of orchids, want to learn more about them, are willing to contribute to the long-term health of the AOS and its Affiliated Societies, and have a desire to teach the public about orchids, then contact the AOS Judging Program at [judges@aos.org](mailto:judges@aos.org) for more information about how to become an AOS Judge!

## Orchidist's Word of the Month etiolation (ee-ti-o-LAY-shun):

Effect on green plant from loss of chlorophyll through exclusion of light, the normally green tissue becoming white or yellow by unmasking of carotenoids within the chloroplasts.

***Please remember to call ahead when planning to attend an orchid show, judging event, or garden! Looking for Orchids?***



## Looking for Orchids?

Find vendors of orchid plants, seedlings, supplies, greenhouses, fertilizers, watering equipment, potting mixes, lighting setups and other orchid-related products in our online [Orchid Source Directory!](#)

## Looking to visit a garden?

AOS Members enjoy free or reduced admission to and discounts at hundreds of gardens, conservatories, and arboreta nationwide. See a list of participating gardens near you!



## Welcome to Summer!

### Check out the Summer Orchid Care Section:

[The Summer Doldrums: How to Care for Your Orchids During the Wilds of Summer \(aos.org\)](https://www.aos.org)

#### June Issue of ORCHIDS

June 2021 Issue CoverThe June issue of ORCHIDS is delayed in mailing due to a binding machinery setback at the printer's facility. It is hoped that it will be resolved by tomorrow. In the meantime, please enjoy the online version. Thank you for your patience and understanding.



All Current AOS members can [log in to read it online now](#).

Our June issue is traditionally the month in which we publish the winner of the prior-year's Dillon-Peterson Essay Contest and announce the topic for the current year. Congratulations to Carol Zakahi of Kailua Kona, Hawaii!

This month also features a beautifully illustrated article by Jean-Michel Hervouet and Chantal Misandeau on Ambodiriana forest protection in Madagascar and David Rosenfeld, MD continues his series Who Were These Guys? with a historical look at James Veitch, Sr. and the brothers Thomas and William Lobb.

#### Spotlight on Orchid Research



A few highlights from one of the most recently awarded Research grants by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation from the Research Committee

***“Comparative analysis of terrestrial orchid seeds to inform ex-situ conservation in Europe.”***  
**Sara Magrini, PhD - Tuscia Germplasm Bank, Tuscia University (Viterbo, Italy)**

The ex-situ conservation of orchid seeds in seed banks is potentially a cost-effective tool to provide a long-term extinction-proof backup of the genetic diversity of these species. However, seed-banking is not widely used for orchid conservation, yet, probably due to the evidence emerging that the seeds might have a shorter than expected lifespan under conventional seed bank conditions (dry storage at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). The causes of such accelerated viability loss in orchid seeds remain unknown and is a key outstanding question in orchid conservation biology that needs answering.

An association between lipid crystallization and poor storage at subzero temperatures has been suggested for seeds and fern spores. One of the best means of determining such risks is thermal analysis. Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) can be used to rapidly characterize the physical properties of seeds at different temperatures (often down to  $-100^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). DSC, therefore, has the potential as a high-throughput, non-invasive tool to observe lipid phase transitions and understand variability in storage performance of seeds stored in seed banks (Hamilton et al. 2009)

A complete study of European orchid seeds' behaviour during low-temperature storage in seedbanks is needed to understand the poor storage performance of some species and to inform optimized ex-situ conservation options for these species.

The research idea arises from this need and involves two seedbanks:

The Tuscia Germplasm Bank (TGB) at Tuscia University, Viterbo (Italy), one of the very few European facilities devoted to ex-situ conservation of orchid seeds and the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (UK), home to the Millennium Seed Bank (MSB), the largest seedbank worldwide.

The objectives of this project are:

1. To define the storage performance of seeds of the European orchid genera through viability assessment and longevity studies
2. To characterize biophysically the crystallization/melting patterns of orchid seeds by thermal profiling in DSC results
3. To investigate the relationship of poor storage performance (1 above) of orchid seeds stored dry at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  with their lipid crystallization and melting dynamics (2 above) through thermal analysis using Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC).
4. To predict the optimal storage temperatures for long term storage of orchid seeds, likely by avoiding freezing damage promoted by lipid crystallization and melting.

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## Don't miss these webinars in June

Tuesday, June 8th, 2021 8:30 PM EDT

**What Makes a Good Orchid Show Exhibit?** - A topic that many have asked about. What makes a good exhibit? What are judges looking for when you set up your exhibits? Join Marc Burchette and find out! He will take us on a little journey to better understand what makes one exhibit better than another. Good for all societies to attend and learn for all your future shows! *Member Exclusive Webinar.*



Thursday, June 17th, 2021 8:30 PM EDT

**Greenhouse Chat** - Join Dr. Ron McHatton, AOS Chief Science Officer, as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Have your questions answered by our resident orchid expert! Please send your queries to [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org) two days prior to the chat. *Open to all.*



**Coming in October 2021!**

**Vandaceous Orchids**  
Supplement to volume 90, Orchids magazine

ROBERT FUCHS *Large-flowered Vandas*  
 ROBERT FUCHS *Smaller Flowers, Dazzling Color: Breeding with the Former Ascocentrum*  
 MARTIN MOTES *The Other Vandas: New Directions in Breeding*  
 JIM COOTES *Philippine Renanthera Species*  
 PATRICK VUURMAN *Rhynchostylis and its Hybrids*  
 GARY YONG GEE *Aerides*  
 STIG DALSTÖM *Cool-growing Vandaceous Orchids of Bhutan*  
 KEN JACOBSEN *Growing Award-winning Sarcophilus*  
 JASON FISCHER *Influenced by the Wind Orchids: Hybrids of the Former Neofinetia*  
 SYNEA TAN *Growing Award Winning Vandas in My Basement*

As in the past, our annual supplement is largely underwritten by donations from our members. Even a small donation enables us to continue producing these in-depth special issues on specific groups of orchids.

Please consider making a donation.



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visit us at [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)

Our Supplement to the 90th Volume of ORCHIDS Magazine, expected to drop in October 2021 - **Vandaceous Orchids!**

Your **donations to the Annual ORCHIDS Supplement** help make this publication a reality!

To make your contribution to this year's supplement, click the down arrow on the 'DISTRIBUTION' section and select 'Annual ORCHIDS Supplement' from the dropdown menu.

Thank you for your support

### Coming Soon, new AOS Books!



**The 2021 Fall Members Meeting will be held in conjunction with the AOS Centennial Celebration.**

We are looking forward to welcoming all AOS Members and Friends to our first "in-person" meeting since 2019! Help us celebrate 100 years of Orchids in Coral Gables, Florida this October.

All manner of activities are planned for the Members Meeting - AOS Judging, Orchid Conservation speakers, a Live Auction, and more!

To Commemorate our Centennial, a special Celebration Gala will be held on Saturday, October 30th at the historic Biltmore Hotel.

**Your Registration fee includes:**

- Goodie bag
- Exclusive Meet & Greet Reception - Wednesday, October 27th @ 6:00 PM
- Complimentary transportation to and from East Everglades OS show (including box lunch) on Thursday, October 28th
- Preferred seating at the auction
- Access to all lectures



American Orchid Society  
 Florida Centennial Branch  
**Registration is only \$100**  
 Register at <https://secure.aos.org/event/register>  
\*Gate tickets sold separately.

### It is not too early to register for 2021 Fall Members Meeting!

2021 Fall Members Meeting Registration Open

**It will be held in conjunction with our Centennial Celebration in Coral Gables, Florida.**

The web pages are regularly updated. Check often for the most up-to-date information or call us at (305) 740-2010.

A beautiful and historic venue will host our Fall Members Meeting and Centennial Celebration.

All manner of activities are planned for the Members Meeting - AOS Judging, A Speaker series focused on Orchid Conservation, Live Auction, and more!



## AOS Centennial Gala Banner

**Sponsorship enrollment** is still available in our website!

Updates will be posted in an ongoing basis, so check back often!

Any questions regarding the Centennial Celebration or the Fall Members Meeting can be directed to the AOS Headquarters ([TheAOS@aos.org](mailto:TheAOS@aos.org)) or by telephone (305) 740-2010.

The Gala will be held on Saturday, October 30th, 2021 at the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida. We look forward to welcoming you as we celebrate this momentous occasion.

Hotel information, pricing and group code for reservation remains the same. If you have any questions, please contact AOS Headquarters by email or telephone.

You can become a sponsor of this momentous event by making your contribution at [www.aos.org/donate](http://www.aos.org/donate) and selecting “Centennial Celebration Fund” from the Distribution drop-down list.

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Check out the Biltmore’s website here and view this gorgeous venue: <https://www.biltmorehotel.com/>

We have contracted a special room rate for this event. Use booking/contract rate code 321 when you make your reservations directly with

On behalf of the Centennial Committee, we want to thank you in advance for your support of the American Orchid Society. With your help, our organization will continue to grow and fulfill our mission of orchid education, conservation, and research.

Visit the AOS Gift Shop to obtain your AOS Glassware. Whether you choose a set of Centennial Commemorative flutes or the logo-engraved stemless wine glasses, your membership discount makes it even a better deal. *Celebrate in style!*



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## American Orchid Society

PO Box 565477, Miami, FL 33256-5477  
Phone: (305) 740-2010 | Fax: (305) 747-7154

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# Maryland Orchid Society Officers and Committees

## Officers

### **PRESIDENT**

John Heinbokel 410-517-1460  
[heinbokel@hotmail.com](mailto:heinbokel@hotmail.com)

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Laura Sobelman 410-615-2445  
[lmsobes@gmail.com](mailto:lmsobes@gmail.com)

### **TREASURER**

John Dunning 443-687-6878  
[princetiger@gmail.com](mailto:princetiger@gmail.com)

### **SECRETARY**

Ellie Martin 410-647-6796  
[2elliemartin@gmail.com](mailto:2elliemartin@gmail.com)

### **PAST PRESIDENT**

Sarah Spence 443-570-3495  
[slspence@live.com](mailto:slspence@live.com)

### **DIRECTOR**

Diane Elam 240-793-9981  
[dianeelam@yahoo.com](mailto:dianeelam@yahoo.com)  
Brenda Logan 443-687-6272  
[bllogan8@comcast.net](mailto:bllogan8@comcast.net)



## Committees

### **AOS/ODC REPRESENTATIVE**

Valerie Lowe 410-599-2923  
[vlowe14@comcast.net](mailto:vlowe14@comcast.net)

### **AUCTION**

Aaron Webb 410-419-1312  
[awebb71574@aol.com](mailto:awebb71574@aol.com)  
Sarah Spence

### **AWAY SHOWS**

Valerie Lowe 410-599-2923  
[vlowe14@comcast.net](mailto:vlowe14@comcast.net)  
Sarah Hurdel

### **EDUCATION and ACTIVITIES**

Eric Wiles (Activities) 410-984-2180  
[winvet88@yahoo.com](mailto:winvet88@yahoo.com)  
Sarah Spence  
David Smith (Education)  
410-526-0179  
[fpsakes1@aol.com](mailto:fpsakes1@aol.com)

### **HOSPITALITY**

Margaret Smith 410-526-0179  
[fpsakes1@aol.com](mailto:fpsakes1@aol.com)  
Teena Hallameyer  
Brenda Logan

### **HOUSE**

Marc Kiriou 443-509-0084  
[gothiclord01@yahoo.com](mailto:gothiclord01@yahoo.com)  
Ernie Drohan  
Bob Johnston  
Randy Hallameyer  
Clark Riley

### **LIBRARY**

Wanda Kuhn 410-286-3868  
[kuhnwa@verizon.net](mailto:kuhnwa@verizon.net)  
Suzanne Gaertner

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Sarah Spence 410-243-3377  
[slspence@live.com](mailto:slspence@live.com)  
Laura Sobelman

### **NEWSLETTER**

Barbara Buck 443-371-7596  
[barbarabuck2015@comcast.net](mailto:barbarabuck2015@comcast.net)  
Laura Sobelman  
Sarah Spence

### **PROGRAM**

Fay Citerone 443-326-8541  
[fay.citerone@gmail.com](mailto:fay.citerone@gmail.com)  
John Heinbokel

### **REFRESHMENTS**

Barbara Buck 443-371-7596  
[barbarabuck2015@comcast.net](mailto:barbarabuck2015@comcast.net)  
Teena Hallameyer  
Brenda Logan

### **SHOW**

Marc Kiriou 443-509-0084  
[gothiclord01@yahoo.com](mailto:gothiclord01@yahoo.com)  
Gary Smith  
Sarah Hurdel  
Valerie Lowe  
Sarah Spence

### **SHOW TABLE**

Thomas McBride 410-661-4748  
[orchidudes@aol.com](mailto:orchidudes@aol.com)  
Joel Graham  
Bob Travers  
Clark Riley

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Joel Graham 814-441-2090  
[jegmicrobe@gmail.com](mailto:jegmicrobe@gmail.com)

### **SUNSHINE**

Pat Schiavi 410-526 6544  
[paschiavi@yahoo.com](mailto:paschiavi@yahoo.com)

### **WEBSITE**

Clark Riley 410-591-9201  
[DrRiley@aol.com](mailto:DrRiley@aol.com)

The MOS meets at the Woodbrook Church, 25 Stevenson Lane, Baltimore, MD 21212, the third Thursday of each month, September through June. The Show Table setup begins at 7:00 p.m. followed by judging at 7:30 p.m. The Education Corner and Library open at