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newsletter

A newsletter for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society

September 2008



president's message

Last weekend I was looking for an excuse to not do yard work, so I decided to finally update the information in my orchid database with some of the latest *Cattleya* alliance genus name changes from the last decade or so. Some *Brassavola* to *Rhyncholaelia*; Brazilian *Laelia* to *Sophranitis*; a couple *Cattleya* to *Guarianthe*. Simple stuff, or so I thought. Well several hours later, after running down all the related progeny of these species that are in the background of my collection, I arrived at some really unexpected results. It turns out that I had a bunch of imposters. I expected the *Laelia* influence to drop in favor of *Sophranitis*, and I even anticipated the odd *Rhynchoscattleya* here and there to replace my familiar *Brassolaeliocattleya*. What I didn't expect was the menagerie of exotic names that now sat on my shelves: *Bishopara*, *Leonara*, *Guarisophleya*, *Sophychea*, *Thwaitesara*, *Peetersara*. Say what? And the abbreviations are even worse: *Bish*, *Len*, *Gsl*, *Sha*, *Rsc*, *Thw*, *Pee*. *Pee*? You're kidding?!

Anyway, I took two lessons from this:

1. Change is inevitable.
2. While some change is good, some is bad, or at least has unintended consequences.

Not exactly new observations, but aside from orchid nomenclature, I see a direct analogy to how we should

approach each new MOS year. We are members of this society and look forward to each new year in large measure because of the legacy of great work that occurred in years past—procedures and traditions that should be retained to ensure an enjoyable and successful future. On the other hand, progress implies change. And we've got a long (and undoubtedly growing) list of ideas that I introduced at the July Board of Directors meeting that, let's face it, if adopted, will require that we occasionally move a step away from certain comfort zones to which we've grown accustomed.

Personally, I'm extremely excited about the possibilities for the future of the MOS, and I look forward to promoting both its stability and its advancement. And I look toward the Board to ensure that we deal with change in a productive manner and with foresight (and maybe a little luck) to avoid unintended consequences that we might come to regret later.

Thanks for your help in the coming year. Let's have some fun.

Gary

P.S. To see the species composition of some of the weird, wonderful names mentioned in this column, see page 7.

Tom McBride to Speak at September Meeting

Tom McBride, our Show Table Chair, an AOS judge, and one of our local orchid gurus, will present the cumulative Show Table results from 2007-2008 at our September meeting. Tom keeps track of ribbon winners for every class, as well as every member who puts a plant on the show table each month, loans plants for MOS or away show exhibits, and/or puts in an exhibit at our annual show. Ribbons count toward monetary awards, while loans and exhibits count toward points for free plants. For every three plant loans or exhibits, members will have the opportunity to pick out a seedling



orchid plant of their choice from the many different species and hybrids Tom provides at the September meeting. Tom will distribute monetary awards for the first, second and third place winners of each class.

This meeting always whets our appetites for growing more, bigger or better plants and starts our new orchid season with an enthusiastic scramble for new plants to add to our collections. Tom will also talk about what the Show Table judges look for each month and how to improve your chances of winning a ribbon.

IN
THIS
ISSUE



Annual Central PA Seminar

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Board Minutes, April 2008

Fourth Annual Merritt Huntington Symposium

Annual Central PA Orchid Seminar by Valerie Lowe

Photos by Beng Light

The event was held on August 10 at the West Hanover Township Recreation Center, just outside of Harrisburg, PA. It was attended by orchidists from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. The event, which has been held annually, was organized by William Wertz, a retired AOS judge.



The first speaker was Leon Glicenstein, an orchid hybridizer from Hoosier Orchids of Indiana. He spoke about a wide variety of Jewel orchid genera, such as *Anoetochilus*, *Aspidogyne*, *Dossinia*, *Goodyera*, *Ludisia*, *Macodes*, *Mesandenella*, *Nephylaphyllum*, as well as some “painted leaf” orchid genera such as *Cyclopogon*, *Habenaria*, *Pelexia*, *Sarcoglottis*, *Spiranthes* and *Stenoglottis*. He also presented slides of some of the hybrids he has made, both inter- and intrageneric: *Dossinyera* Tapestry, *Stenosarcos* Vanguard, *Dossinodes* Indra’s Web, *Anoetodes* Charlotte’s Web, *Anoetochilus* Cosmic Spark. Leon had several plants available for sale, a real treat since Hoosier Orchids was closing its doors at the end of August.



Fred Clark, an AOS judge and owner of Sunset Valley Orchids, gave an educational talk on the *Catasetinae* Alliance, which includes the genera *Catasetum*, *Mormodes*, *Cynoches*, and *Clowesia*. He gave pointers on culture, illustrated the gender differences in the flowers of *Catasetum* and *Cynoches*, and presented slides of the hybrids amongst the genera, culminating in *Fredclarkeara* After Dark. Several of the plants of this grex are truly black and have received high awards from the AOS.

The next speaker was John Dunkelberger, an AOS judge out of State College, PA. John gave a very interesting discourse on miniature *Cymbidiums*. He outlined the species from which most of today’s hybrids are descended: *Cym. devonianum*, *Cym. eburnum*, *Cym. goeringii*, *Cym. canaliculatum*, *Cym. ensifolium*, and *Cym. pumilum*. Today’s hybrids have been bred down in size such that they can be grown and bloomed on the windowsill!

During lunch, the audience was treated to an American Orchid Society Judging session chaired by Valerie Lowe, an AOS judge out of Baltimore, Maryland. The brief introduction on the forms that need to be filled out, how the plants should be groomed for presentation, and what the judges were looking for in flower quality or plant culture was given. Then the judges got down to the business of evaluating the 20 plants that had been submitted for judging. A photographer was on hand to digitally capture the images of the six awarded plants, while another set of judges wrote descriptions of the plants for publication in *AQPlus/Awards Quarterly*.



Cism. barbatum

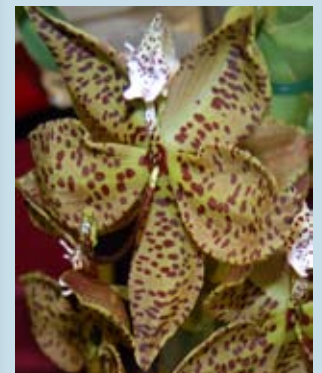
Cism. barbatum (left) shown by Stephen Male of Fishing Creek Orchids, received a High Class Certificate (HCC).



Cyc. Jean Monnier

Cyc. Jean Monnier shown by Stephen Male of Fishing Creek Orchids, received an AM from the AOS. This is an example of a primary hybrid between *Cyc. cooperi* and *Cyc. barthiorum*.

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Annual Central PA Orchid Seminar

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Steven Shifflet, an AOS judge out of Virginia and proprietor of Floradise Orchids, presented a talk on *Vanda* hybrids, which included a lot of tips on culture. He had several cut-flower examples of the hybrids that hobbyists could grow and bloom. He also had several types of pots and potting media and demonstrated which type of media should be used with which pots to get the most out of your Vandaceous plants.



Eric Wiles



Agcm. Longiscott

The last speaker of the day was again Fred Clark. This time he instructed the audience and the judges on what to look for in award quality *Catasetinae*. He showed images in which a plant had received an HCC (75-79 points) on a male flower and later received a higher award on a female flowering!

All the speakers brought plants for sale and many happy orchidists left with full arms.



Cat. Peckhaviensis



Lc. Atalanta Lane

HOOSIER ORCHID COMPANY

Hoosier Orchid Company Closes Its Doors

It is with regret that we note the end of an era in the orchid industry. After 19 years of business, the owners of Hoosier Orchid Company have decided to shutter their greenhouse doors as of 30 August 2008. They are currently in the process of inventorying their stock and will soon offer plants for sale in grouped lots via a sealed-bid, in-house auction. Visit www.hoosierorchid.com for more details.

NEW MEMBERS

The MOS would like to welcome the following new members:

Tatiana Mel, Susan Rice and Susan Snyder

2008 calendar

other stuff

Date: 18 September
Time: Show table 7:30 PM; Meeting at 8:00 PM
Event: Maryland Orchid Society Meeting
Location: First Christian Church, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210
Details: www.marylandorchids.org

Date: 8 – 13 October
Event: National Capital Orchid Society Show
Location: U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
Details: www.ncos.us

Date: 10 October
Time: 12:30 PM
Event: National Capital Judging Center Judging Session
Location: U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
Details: www.nationalcapitaljc.org

Date: 16 October
Time: Show table 7:30 PM; Meeting at 8:00 PM
Event: Maryland Orchid Society Meeting
Location: First Christian Church, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210
Details: www.marylandorchids.org

Date: 17 - 19 October
Event: American Orchid Society Fall Members Meeting
Location: Hotel DuPont, Wilmington, DE and Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA
Details: http://www.aos.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Members_Meetings&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=4485

Date: 19 October
Time: Show table 1:00 PM; Meeting at 2:00 PM
Event: National Capital Orchid Society Meeting
Location: U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
Details: www.ncos.us

Date: 24 - 26 October
Event: Susquehanna Orchid Society Show
Location: Stauffers of Kissel Hill, 51 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Details: www.susquehanna-orchid.org

Date: 1 November
Time: 12:30 PM
Event: National Capital Judging Center Judging Session
Location: U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
Details: www.nationalcapitaljc.org

Date: 7 - 8 November
Event: Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium
Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4453 Boney Rd, Virginia Beach, VA
Details: www.mycommunityis.com/tos/

Date: 16 November
Time: Show table 1:00 PM; Meeting at 2:00 PM
Event: National Capital Orchid Society Meeting
Location: U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
Details: www.ncos.us

Date: 20 November
Time: Show table 7:30 PM; Meeting at 8:00 PM
Event: Maryland Orchid Society Meeting
Location: First Christian Church, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210
Details: www.marylandorchids.org

Date: 29 November
Time: Preview 11:00 PM; Auction at 12:00 PM
Event: Maryland Orchid Society Auction
Location: Sykesville-Freedom District Fire Department Social Hall
Details: www.marylandorchids.org

Date: 6 December
Time: 12:30 PM
Event: National Capital Judging Center Judging Session
Location: U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
Details: www.nationalcapitaljc.org

Date: 7 December
Time: Show table 1:00 PM; Meeting at 2:00 PM; Party at 4:30 PM
Event: National Capital Orchid Society Meeting
Location: U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002
Details: www.ncos.us

Date: 18 December
Time: Show table 7:30 PM; Meeting at 8:00 PM
Event: Maryland Orchid Society Meeting
Location: First Christian Church, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210
Details: www.marylandorchids.org

November MOS Orchid Auction

Bill Ellis is accepting donations for the November 29 orchid auction. Please contact him at billellis@ellislist.com

Speaker Hosts Needed

The MOS needs members to host MOS speakers while they are in town. Please contact Gary Smith at garysmith@qis.net if you are interested.

Membership Renewal

In July, Marilyn Lauffer, the MOS Membership Chair, snail mailed membership renewal reminders. If you have not done so already, please make checks payable to the Maryland Orchid Society and send back your renewal forms to:

Maryland Orchid Society
P.O. Box 5651
Baltimore, MD 21210

or give them to Marilyn at the September meeting.

Inclement Weather Policy

If a snow emergency is declared or in effect in either Baltimore City or Baltimore County as of noon or later on the day of our meeting, the scheduled meeting will be cancelled. Snow emergencies lifted before noon will not cancel a meeting. Refer to the Maryland Coordinated Highway Action Response Team (CHART) website (http://www.chart.state.md.us/StormInfo/snow_emergency_plans.asp) for the latest snow emergency information.

We will distribute an email message to members confirming a cancellation as soon as it is known. Information may also be posted on the MOS website.

board meeting minutes

April 10, 2008

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Orchid Society was held at the home of Marilyn Lauffer at 7:30 p.m. on April 10, 2008.

Members of the Board present: Bill Ellis, Marilyn Lauffer, Valerie Lowe, Ann Lundy, Lee Lundy, Tom McBride, Clark Riley, Bill Scharf, David Smith, Gary Smith, Laura Sobelman, and Cyrus Swett.

Others present: Sue Spicer.

The President, Ann Lundy, called the meeting to order. In the absence of the Secretary, Lee Lundy was asked to act as recording secretary for the meeting.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were approved.

The Treasurer, David Smith, reported on the finances of the Society. He will be moving funds from our checking account to an account with a higher yield.

The Controller, Lee Lundy, reported on discussions with S & L Productions, which conducts the Maryland Home and Garden Show in March of each year of which the MOS Show has been a part. After discussion, the Board adopted a motion approving acceptance of the offer by S&L to hold the 2009 MOS Show in the same venue (with the second weekend of the Maryland Home and Garden Show) on the same terms and conditions as the 2008 Show.

The Education Chair, Eric Wiles, reported on plans for a workshop to be held on April 12, 2008, at St. David's Church in Baltimore. A potential trip to the Smithsonian was discussed, and the Education Chair will look into available times, specific arrangements, and logistics.

The Auction Co-Chair, Bill Ellis, reported that he would make the necessary payment to reserve the same venue for the MOS 2008 annual auction (the Saturday after Thanksgiving) as that in which the Auction was held in 2007.

The Away Shows Chair, Valerie Lowe, announced changes in plans for 2008 away shows; no MOS exhibit is planned for the NCOS show, and it is possible that there will be no MOS exhibit for the SOS show.

The Membership Chair, Marilyn Lauffer, reported that there were 18 new members from the 2008 Show.

The Nominating Committee Chair, Cyrus Swett, reported that the Committee is close to having a slate to recommend to members at the MOS April meeting in accordance with the Bylaws.

The Program Chair, Ann Lundy, reported on expected speakers for the upcoming meetings.

The Show Chair, Bill Scharf led a discussion of Show issues. He will get in contact with the *Baltimore Sun* regarding the advertising charge we received.

The Newsletter Chair, Laura Sobelman, reported on developments regarding the newsletter.

The President, Ann Lundy, announced that a sale of the plants owned by Charlie Geis, late Life Member of the Society, would take place at his former residence on April 19, 2008.

Valerie Lowe announced the Central Pennsylvania Orchid Seminar on August 10, 2008, which will cost \$30 per person. She proposed, and the Board by motion adopted, that the Society would subsidize Society members who wish to attend to the extent of \$10 per member, so that any member who wants to attend may do so for a cost to the member of \$20, provided that the member makes payment to Valerie Lowe by June 30, 2008.

A discussion of monthly meeting show table classes was held. Consolidation of greenhouse classes and adding a dendrobium class are under consideration.

The Web Site Chair, Clark Riley, announced that the MOS web site was now on a FiOS server, resulting in higher speeds.

Bill Ellis, who had agreed at the preceding Board meeting to head a mentor program for new MOS members, will present proposed details of the program at the July Board meeting.

It was announced that the Society would have the opportunity to make an Orchid Digest award of merit to a Society member annually.

The Board determined that the next meeting would be held July 10, 2008, at the home of David and Margaret Smith. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 pm.

Congratulations to Clark Riley

Congratulations to Clark Riley who on 6 September at the National Capital Judging Center received a Highly Commended Certificate (HCC) for *Zelenkocidium Memoria Harold Starkey 'Bold Gold'*. Clark notes that this orchid was one of the free plants given out for end-of-year show table points. Another reason to not miss the September meeting!



Photo by Clark Riley

FOURTH ANNUAL MERRITT HUNTINGTON MEMORIAL SYMPOSIUM

Presented by an alliance of his orchid friends in Virginia in conjunction with the American Orchid Society

November 7 & 8, 2008

**Crowne Plaza Hotel
4453 Bonney Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia**

Preview Party: Friday, November 7, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**7:00 PM - Ron McHatton, PhD, "Sex in the Greenhouse"
8:00 PM - David Mellard - "Terrestrial Orchids"**

**Symposium: Saturday, November 8, 8:45 AM – 5:30 PM
Plants to be entered for AOS Judging by 10:00 AM**

**Welcome: 8:45 AM – Rob Griesbach, Moderator
9:00 - 10:30 AM - John Odom, Odom's Orchids, "43 Years of Growing Cattleyas"
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Frank Smith, Krull Smith Orchids, "Appreciating Modern
Paphiopedilum Hybrids"**

**Buffet Lunch (included in registration) and plant sales 12:00- 1:30 PM & 4:30 - 5:30 PM.
Speakers & additional vendors featuring various genera will participate in the sales area.**

**1:30 - 3:00 PM - Stephen Champlin, Floralia Orchids, "Overview of Brazilian Species"
3:00 – 4:30 PM - Panel Discussion and Judging Results
4:30 - 5:30 PM - Plant Sales**

**Symposium Registration (includes buffet lunch): \$40.00
Preview Party (heavy hors d'oeuvres): \$30.00
Combination Symposium & Preview Party: \$65.00**

Crowne Plaza: \$89.00 room rate for Huntington Symposium

Early Registration suggested Due to Limited Space

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Additional Registrant(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Email _____

Preview Party Only **Symposium Only** **Both Preview Party and Symposium**

**** We prefer to forward confirmation and additional symposium information by Email**

Check enclosed for \$ _____ Visa or Mastercard# _____ Exp. Date _____

**Please make checks payable to Huntington Memorial Symposium
Return to: Dot Pierce, 917 Beryl Avenue, Virginia Beach, Va. 23464
Symposium: pierce.db@verizon.net
Crowne Plaza – For \$89.00 room rate ask for Huntington Symposium. Phone: 757-473-1700
For additional information go to: www.mycommunityis.com/tos/**

I thought you'd like to see the following table of species composition mentioned on page one.

A Cattleya by Any Other Name...

Nothogenus	Abbreviation	Natural Genera
<i>Bishopara</i>	<i>Bish</i>	<i>Broughtonia x Cattleya x Sophronitis</i>
<i>Guarisophleya</i>	<i>Gsl</i>	<i>Cattleya x Guarianthe x Sophronitis</i>
<i>Leonara</i>	<i>Len</i>	<i>Cattleya x Caularthron x Guarianthe x Laelia x Rhyncholaelia x Sophronitis</i>
<i>Peetersara</i>	<i>Pee</i>	<i>Broughtonia x Cattleya x Rhyncholaelia x Sophronitis</i>
<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i>	<i>Rlc</i>	<i>Cattleya x Rhyncholaelia (Nope, no Laelia)</i>
<i>Rhynchosophrocattleya</i>	<i>Rsc</i>	<i>Cattleya x Rhyncholaelia x Sophronitis</i>
<i>Sophcychea</i>	<i>Sha</i>	<i>Encyclia x Prosthechea x Sophronitis</i>
<i>Thwaitesara</i>	<i>Thw</i>	<i>Cattleya x Guarianthe x Rhyncholaelia x Sophronitis</i>

Maryland Orchid Society

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