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ORCHID

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newsletter



A newsletter for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society

October 2009

president's message

It started innocently enough when I spotted a used 50-gallon aquarium for sale on the porch of a neighbor down the street from me. I wasn't entirely sure what I'd use it for, but at \$20 it seemed too good of an opportunity to pass up. The Fishing Creek Open House was just a couple of weeks away, so when the time came, I decided to go with an open mind. I came home with a couple of interesting Pleurothallis and a Maxillaria. Parkside's Summer Orchid Fest followed just six days later and did not disappoint. I indulged myself with another Pleurothallis and two more Masdevallia. The Little Greenhouse held its open house a month later, and the half-price Masdevallia offer was too much to resist. Four more Masdevallia. Finally to top things off, I picked up two Masdevallia hybrids as end-of-season awards at our September meeting.

I recount this story for two reasons: First, never, ever add up the expenses associated with your orchids. You'll be appalled. After

adding 12 plants, a new stand, some decorative Mopani wood, a new T5 light fixture, timer, and now EcoWeb mats (from our speaker this month), my \$20 steal of an aquarium shares more characteristics with a confidence scheme where I was the mark. Those sneaky orchids did it to me again. And this time it was cute little miniatures. And I know that I'm not done. There's room for more plants, especially if I find a new home for six Phalaenopsis species seedlings and commit to mounting a few new plants.

The second point is that you shouldn't ever assume that you know where this orchid hobby will lead you. I never thought I'd seriously try growing miniatures. At the monthly show table, I've been known to question why I should be interested in any plant whose flowers I can't even see. And how long (measured in hours) do you think one of these little darlings would last in my

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Ray Barkalow is October Speaker

Our speaker this month is Ray Barkalow of First Rays Orchids. First Rays came into existence as the result of a devastating accident in 1994 when a heater and then temperature alarm failure froze Mr. Barkalow's 20-year-old private collection. Using a perhaps unlikely strategy for paying for a new heater and alarm, Ray went into business as an orchid grower, opening First Rays as a fledgling internet business (www.firstrays.com).



Thanks to extensive business travels and an engineer's mindset, Ray originated and developed a semi-hydroponic culture technique for growing orchids to keep his plants happy during his absences. He has 35 years of experience growing orchids, 15 years growing orchids semi-hydroponically, and enjoys sharing his

knowledge with orchid societies across the country. He remarks on his Web site, "The best part about the exposure that First Rays Orchids has given me is the ability to communicate with folks from around the world on the fascinating subject of orchids. Sharing the obsession is second only to growing the plants."

Orders placed via his web site by 11 October will be delivered at our meeting. Please enter "MOS pre-order" in the comments section of the on-line order form.

<https://www.firstrays.com>
e-mail: raybark@firstrays.com
Phone: 888-227-3744

INSIDE



September Show Table
2008-2009 Show Table Winners



Upcoming SOS Show
Save Shelf Space for the MOS Annual Auction!

show table-sept. 2009

by Tom McBride



Novice

1. Ctsm. Susan Fuchs - Sarah Hurdel (above)
2. Onc. Sharry Baby - Suzanne Gaertner



Home Grown

1. Hab. medusae - Clark Riley (above)
2. Ctsm. Olga - Chryss Mavrides
3. Tie Hab. chlorina - Val Lowe
Den. laevifolium - Bill Scharf



Greenhouse Under 200 Square Feet

1. Mtssa. Dark Star 'Orchidworks' - Lou Vadorsky (above)



Greenhouse Over 200 Square Feet

1. Bulb. (Elizabeth Ann X fascinator) - The Adamses
2. V. (Rosa Cole X Charlie Ash) - Les Kirkegaard (above)
3. Den. phalaenopsis var. compactum 'Harford' HCC/AOS - David Smith



Cattleya

1. C. Fort Mott 'Leopard' - Les Kirkegaard
2. Blc. Malworth 'Orchidglade' FCC/AOS - Barbara Buck (above)



3. Bl. Yellow Bird - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste (above)



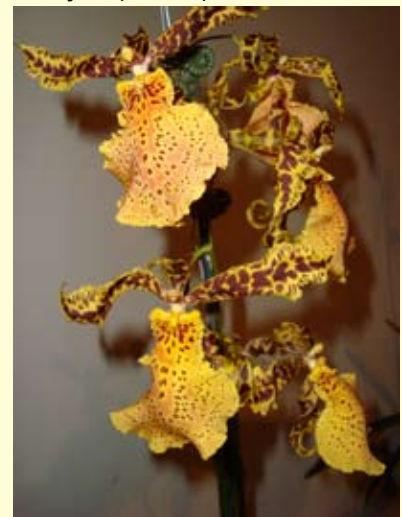
Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. bellina - The Adamses
2. Phal. Hybrid - Bill Soyke (above)
3. Phal. violacea - Chryss Mavrides



Oncidium

1. Rdza. secunda - Clark Riley
2. Psy. papilio - Craig Sherman (above)
3. Alkra. Hilo Ablaze 'HOF' - Chris Zajac (below)



show table - sept. 2009

continued



Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. Lyro Blackhawk - Val Lowe (above)



2. Paph. Gilbert Blythe - Judi von Mehlem (above)
3. Paph. *bellatulum* - Clark Riley

Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Den. Salaya Minist - The Adamses (top center column)
2. Tie Vsco. Thai Sky - Jamie Riegel
Cyc. William Clark - David Smith
3. Sngl. Neptune - Clark Riley



Species

1. *Cirr. medusae* 'Orchidglade II' - The Adamses



2. *Phal. equestris* 'Riverbend' AM/AOS - Chryss Mavrides (above)



3. Tie Coel. *usetonua* - Sue Spicer (above)
Hab. *rhodochila* 'Mellow Glow' - Clark Riley

Miniature

1. *Acianthera sonderana* CCE/AOS - David Smith (top right column)
2. *Ornth. dolobratus* - The Adamses
3. *Zootrophon atropurpureum* - Eric Wiles



First Bloom Seedling

1. Paph. Sakara Pink - Clark Riley
2. Paph. (*Anhinga* X *charlesworthii*) - The Lundys (below)



Fragrance

1. C. Hybrid - Norma Lynch (above)
2. Ddc. *cobbianum* 'Loch Raven' - Don Forester

The Judges Choice of the Evening was *Acianthera sonderana* CCE/AOS, exhibited by David Smith. The judges were Craig Sherman, Sarah Hurdel and Norma Lynch. There were 86 plants on the show table!

Date: 10/15
 Time: 7:00 PM
 Event: MOS Meeting
 Location: First Christian Church Hall, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210
 Details: www.marylandorchids.org

Date: 10/18
 Time: 12:30 PM
 Event: NCOS Meeting
 Location: United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958
 Details: www.ncos.us

Date: 10/18
 Time: 1:30 PM
 Event: SOS Meeting
 Location: Giant Supermarket, 3301 Trindle Rd, Camp Hill, PA
 Details: www.susquehanna-orchid.org

Date: 10/23-25
 Event: SOS Show
 Location: Stauffers of Kissel Hill, 301 Rohrerstown Road; Lancaster, PA 17603
 Details: www.susquehanna-orchid.org

Date: 10/29
 Event: MOS Board of directors meeting
 Location: Sarah Spence's home
 Details: www.marylandorchids.org

Date: 11/7
 Time: 12:30 PM
 Event: NCJC Judging Session
 Location: United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958
 Details: www.nationalcapitaljc.org

Date: 11/8
 Time: 2:00 PM
 Event: COS Meeting
 Location: Church of the Transfiguration, Braddock Heights, MD
 Details: www.catoctinorchidsociety.org

Date: 11/8
 Time: 3:00 PM
 Event: Brookside Gardens Orchid Club Meeting
 Location: Brookside Gardens Visitor's Center, Wheaton, MD
 Details: tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/BrooksideOrchids

Date: 11/13-14
 Event: Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium
 Location: Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel, 42nd & Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA
 Details: www.mycommunityis.com/tos

Date: 11/15
 Event: IPA Region 13 Fall Meeting
 Location: Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel, 42nd & Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA

Date: 11/15
 Time: 12:30 PM
 Event: NCOS Meeting
 Location: United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958
 Details: www.ncos.us

Date: 11/15
 Time: 1:30 PM
 Event: SOS Meeting
 Location: Giant Supermarket, 3301 Trindle Rd, Camp Hill, PA
 Details: www.susquehanna-orchid.org

Date: 11/19
 Time: 7:00 PM
 Event: MOS Meeting
 Location: First Christian Church Hall, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210
 Details: www.marylandorchids.org

Date: 11/28
 Event: MOS Auction
 Location: Sykesville Freedom District Fire Department, 6680 Sykesville Road, Sykesville, Maryland 21784
 Details: www.marylandorchids.org

Date: 12/5
 Time: 12:30 PM
 Event: NCJC Judging Session
 Location: United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958
 Details: www.nationalcapitaljc.org

Date: 12/13
 Time: 12:30 PM
 Event: NCOS Meeting
 Location: United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958
 Details: www.ncos.us

Date: 12/13
 Time: 2:00 PM
 Event: COS Meeting
 Location: Church of the Transfiguration, Braddock Heights, MD
 Details: www.catoctinorchidsociety.org

Date: 12/13
 Time: 3:00 PM
 Event: Brookside Gardens Orchid Club Meeting
 Location: Brookside Gardens Visitor's Center, Wheaton, MD
 Details: tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/BrooksideOrchids

Date: 12/17
 Time: 7:00 PM
 Event: MOS Meeting
 Location: First Christian Church Hall, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210
 Details: www.marylandorchids.org

2008-2009 Show Table Winners by Tom McBride

Novice

1st Suzanne Gaertner - 17 pts.
 2nd Janice Mazur - 14 pts..
 3rd Kathi Jackson - 10 pts.

Home Grown

1st Bill Scharf - 19 pts.
 2nd Ernie Drohan - 14 pts.
 3rd Mark Robbins - 8 pts.

Greenhouse Under 200 Square Feet

1st Lou Vadorsky - 13 pts.
 2nd Jos Venturina - 12 pts.
 3rd Les Kirkegaard - 10 pts.

Greenhouse Over 200 Square Feet

1st The Adamses - 27 pts.
 2nd Cy Swett - 15 pts.
 3rd David Smith - 13 pts.

Cattleya

1st The Adamses - 23 pts.
 2nd Michael Moran - 12 pts.
 3rd Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste - 6 pts.

Phalaenopsis

1st The Adamses - 15 pts.
 2nd Bill Soyke - 7 pts.
 3rd Kathi Jackson, Cy Swett and Chris Zajac - 4 pts.

Oncidium

1st The Adamses - 10 pts.
 2nd The Lundys - 7 pts.
 3rd Don Forester - 6 pts.

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1st The Adamses - 18 pts.
 2nd Mark Robbins and David Smith - 11 pts.
 3rd The Lundys - 6 pts.

Miscellaneous Hybrids

1st The Adamses - 13 pts.
 2nd Jos Venturina - 12 pts.
 3rd Eric Wiles - 6 pts.

Species

1st The Adamses - 19 pts.
 2nd David Smith - 17 pts.
 3rd Bill Scharf - 11 pts.

Miniature

1st Bill Scharf - 19 pts.
 2nd David Smith - 18 pts.
 3rd The Adamses - 9 pts.

First Bloom Seedling

1st Clark Riley - 22 pts.
 2nd The Adamses - 14 pts..
 3rd Les Kirkegaard - 7 pts.

Fragrance

1st Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste - 9 pts.
 2nd The Lundys and Craig Taborsky - 5 pts.
 3rd Marilyn Lauffer and Cy Swett - 4 pts.

Congratulations to the following members who had perfect attendance on our show table last year! Steve & Rachel Adams, Marilyn Lauffer, Anne Minkowski, Clark Riley, Bill Scharf and David Smith.

Orchid Follies

2009 Fall Orchid and Rare Plant Show

Presented by:



Located at:



Friday, Oct. 23 9am-8pm
Saturday, Oct. 24 9am-8pm
Sunday, Oct. 25 9am-5pm

Free Guided Tours • Free Culture Lectures
Orchid Doctor • Repotting Station (\$)

Orchid Vendors:

Brennan's Orchids
Fishing Creek Orchids
Just Pat Orchids
Little Brook Orchids
Marriott Orchids
Orchids Enterprise
Seagrove Orchids
State College 3
Stony Brook Orchids

Additional Attractions:

First Rays Semi Hydroponics • Orchid Supplies • Blue Moon Pottery
Demuth Prints • Plant Photos by Don Frey
Award Winning Acrylic & Oil Paintings by Irene Miller
Hand Decorated Objects from Betty Lou's Treasures
Light Weight Cement Planters by Ray Koermer
Penn State Master Gardeners • Susquehanna Orchid Society

Unique & Rare Plant Vendors:

Asiatica *variegated & other rare plants for home & garden* • Lancaster Bonsai Society
Peace Tree Farms *rare & showy Begonias & Cacti* • Pine Knot Farms *cutting edge Hellebores*
Carnivorous Plant Nursery *wide variety of insectivorous plants*
Putnam Hill Nursery *Passifloras, Phaius & Amorphophallus*

For more information & directions: www.skh.com

Please note: If you have plants you would like to lend for this show please contact Valerie Lowe at vlowe14@comcast.net. You can bring them to the October MOS meeting.

Fifth Annual Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium

Presented by an alliance of his orchid friends in Virginia

In conjunction with the American Orchid Society

November 13 & 14, 2009

Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel • 42nd & Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach , Virginia

Preview Party: Friday, November 13, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Welcome: 7:30 PM - Rob Griesbach, Moderator

7:45 PM -Walter Off, Waldor Orchids, (Cattleyas)

Symposium: Saturday, November 14, 8:45 AM – 5:30 PM

Plants to be entered for AOS & Ribbon judging by 10:00 AM

Welcome: 8:45 AM – Rob Griesbach, Moderator

9:00 - 10:30 AM - Hadley Cash, Marriott Orchids, (Paphiopedlums)

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Norris Williams, PhD, University of Florida (Oncidiinae Nomenclature)

Buffet Lunch (included in registration) and plant sales 12:00 - 1:30 PM & 4:30 - 5:30 PM .

1:30 - 3:00 PM - Bill Thoms (Bulbophyllums)

3:00 – 4:30 PM - Panel Discussion and Judging Results

4:30 - 5:30 PM - Plant Sales

VENDORS: Waldor Orchids, Marriott Orchids, Seagrove Orchids, Floradise Orchids, Bill Thoms. The Orchid Trail

If paid by Oct. 15: Symposium Registration (includes buffet lunch): \$45.00

Preview Party (includes full dinner buffet): \$45.00 • Combination Symposium & Preview Party: \$80.00

After Oct. 15: Preview Party & Symposium: \$50.00 each • Combination Symposium & Preview Party: \$90.00

Cavalier Room Rate for Huntington Symposium: \$89.00 • Cavalier Hotel Web site: www.cavalierhotel.com

Register early. Space is limited.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Additional Registrant(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail (for confirmation and additional symposium information) _____

Preview Party Only Symposium Only Both

Check enclosed for \$ _____ Chargee my: Visa Mastercard

Card No: _____ 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 • Cavalier Hotel – For \$89.00 room rate ask for Huntington Symposium. Phone: (757) 425-8555

*For additional information go to: www.mycommunityis.com/tos/

Maryland Orchid Society Annual Auction

Saturday, 28 November 2009

Sykesville-Freedom District Fire Department
(6680 Sykesville Road, Sykesville, MD 21784)

Preview 11:00 AM Auction 12:00 to 4:00 PM

Hundreds of orchids in bud or bloom from respected
local and nationally recognized growers.

Plus prepriced "instant auction" plants.

Free registration

Contact Bill Ellis at (410) 549-1530 for more information
or visit www.MarylandOrchids.org

*** * * * * 3rd Year at this Location * * * * ***



Changes to the MOS Monthly Auction

The monthly orchid auction is a vital part of the MOS spectrum of member services. It gives members the chance to acquire species and hybrids often unavailable commercially yet grown in our local environment. Additionally, it contributes positively to the organization's bottom line. (The annual profits from the auctions are roughly equivalent to 30 annual membership dues.)

However because of its burgeoning popularity, the auction contributes to the meeting running a bit long into the night. In May and June 2009, we started experimenting with ways to decrease the time required to hold the auction. We are continuing the experiment in October by holding a silent auction for excess plants.

- When at least 15 lots are received for auction, the first 10 lots will be sold via our regular interactive auction.
- All lots received after the first 10 will be sold via a silent auction.
- Silent auction lots will be open for bidding until the beginning of the meeting. At that time, bidding will be closed. The winning bidder for each lot will be announced at the end of the meeting.

Please let your board members know if these changes are working to your satisfaction. We treasure your input!

Don't Forget to Renew Your Membership!

President's Message

continued from page 1

un-air-conditioned environment during the summer. Yet my plants not only made it through the worst of the summer heat but seem to be thriving, putting up one new leaf after another. For the sake of full disclosure, I didn't simply grab up every plant that was the right size. I did my homework and selected only intermediate- and warm-growing species. I'm now convinced that warm-growing *Masdevallia* do exist. I've also been much more dedicated than before to regular watering and misting. (I really should be growing succulents and cacti based upon my track record.) Of course, adding up the price tag does have the one benefit of providing motivation to succeed.

So buy and grow what you like to grow, but when pitted against 25,000+ species and 100,000+ hybrids, don't think for a moment that your apparently staid hobby doesn't have a few surprises in store for you if you give it half a chance.

Gary

New MOS Members

The MOS would like to welcome Frank and Shirley Dagostin, Helen Faddis, Royce Faddis, Chrissy Mavrides, Christine Picard and Ellen Rhudy as new members. Please greet them warmly at the next meeting.

Maryland Orchid Society

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