

MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

ORCHID

newsletter



News and information for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society

October 2010

president's message

Endless Opportunities

Greetings to everyone.

October is indeed a busy time of year for the Maryland Orchid Society. You'll notice several regular attendees of monthly meetings missing this month. They are in Lancaster, Pa., installing the second MOS exhibit in as many weeks. I am very grateful for their dedication and hard work.

As I began thinking about the fall and all the activities, shows and events we (the MOS) take part in, it became clear to me that the MOS offers virtually endless opportunities for its membership. Yes, by opportunity I do mean an occasion for us to help the Society, whether it's taking part in a repotting clinic, helping to install an exhibit, loaning plants for an exhibit or visiting an orchid vendor opening its doors for the MOS.

There are many opportunities to help the Society grow and be recognized. That is extremely important to us as a Society. It keeps us moving forward and thriving. The added benefit to this is that each of the events, activities, shows and organized trips offers us, the orchid grower, the circumstances to become better growers. If you have helped set up an exhibit, you already know what I'm referring to. There are always vendors and growers willing to share information. It's not just, "Does this plant look good here, does this color work here?" Just as often those conversations turn to, "How are you growing that?" "What sort of conditions are you using?" "What do you mean by a winter rest?" I've found growers on every level more than willing to share their knowledge and experiences, you just need to ask.

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October's Speaker Leon Glicenstein Talks Jewels

Leon Glicenstein, Ph.D., began growing orchids in 1954, and became assistant to the curator of orchids at the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, then Carl Withner, from 1957 to 1960. He has advanced degrees in Chemistry and Horticulture, with an emphasis on plant breeding, cytology, and cytogenetics. Working as a plant breeder for five years at Linda Vista S.A. in Costa Rica, he photographed, in the wild, approximately 80% of the then known orchid species of Costa Rica. He also found new species such as *Telipogon glicensteinii*, *Macroclinium glicensteinii*, *Pterichis leo* and *Lepanthes glicensteinii*. He won the second American Orchid Society Dillon/Peterson Essay Contest using one of his Costa Rican experiences. He has photographed many of the orchids in the Northeastern United States, Florida, and all of the orchids in



Photo by Dr. Judith Johnsrud

California, where he located some taxa not formerly known to exist there. As a respected lecturer, has given numerous conservation oriented programs both nationally and internationally, showing orchids growing in their native habitats.

Leon joined Hoosier Orchid Company in September 1998. As a breeder, as well as a grower, of orchids at Hoosier Orchid Company Leon specialized in working with members of the Pteruothalidae, Zygopetalinae, Gongorinae, Angraecoid, Jewel and Painted-leaf orchids, as well as other groups. He has created numerous novel and new combinations not before known, thereby extended our knowledge of generic relationships within the orchid family. Since

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INSIDE



September Show Table
Surah Hurdel's Judges' Choice Orchid



2009-2010 Show Table Winners
Award-winning MOS Exhibit at NCOS Show



Summer Activities
MOS Mentor-Protégé Program
Off to Great Start

Special thanks to Sarah Hurdel for the beautiful photos below of last month's show table plants!



Novice

1. Psy. Mendenhall 'Hildos' FCC/AOS (above) - Gregg Custis
2. Paph. Pinocchio - The Dagostins



Home Grown

1. Psy. Butterfly - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste
2. Tie Phal. Cordova 'Orchidphile' AM/AOS (above) - Gary Smith
Blra. Hawaiian Glacier 'Queen Anne' - Kathi Jackson
3. Tie Hab. *medusae* - Clark Riley
Enc. *mariae* - Bill Scharf



Greenhouse

1. Rhy. *retusa* (Column 1, bottom)- Eric Wiles
2. Blc. Dinh Thuy Yen 'Carmela' (above) - Craig Taborsky
3. Paph. Bella Lucia - Les Kirkegaard



Cattleya

1. Slc. Ginny Champion 'Prince' (above) - David Smith
2. C. Bactia - Craig Taborsky
3. Lc. Luminosa - The Adamases



Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Hybrid - Sarah Hurdel
2. Tie Phal. Hybrid - Sarah Spence
Dtps. Chain Xen Pearl - Gary Smith
3. Phal. *bellina* (above) - Jamie Riegel & Erin Hunt



Oncidium

1. Wils. Bouley Bay - Eric Wiles
2. Odbrs. Fangtastic Bob Henley - The Adamases
3. Mtssa. Dark Star 'The Orchidworks' (above) - Chris Zajac



Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. A. W. Sutton (above) - Mark Robbins
2. Paph. Henrietta Fujiwara - Clark Riley
3. Paph. Alien (below) - Laura Sobelman



continued on next page

Special thanks to Sarah Hurdel for the beautiful photos below of last month's show table plants!



Dendrobium

1. Den. Dark Night (above)
- Bill Soyke
2. Den. Hybrid - Jamie Riegel & Erin Hunt
3. Den. (Uniwai Royale X Wee Wonder) (below) - Norma Lynch



Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Bulb. Jersey (below)
- Eric Wiles
2. Tie Ctsm. Dragon's Treasure 'Gilberto' AM/AOS
- Valerie Lowe
Cycd. Wine Delight 'JEM' FCC/AOS - John Dunning
3. Tie Ascda. Hybrid - Gary Smith
Vasco. Pine Rivers 'Red'
- The Adamses



Species

1. Acianthera sonderana 'Turnberry' CCE/AOS - David Smith
2. Tie Barb. cogniauxiana - Bill Scharf
Hab. oligochista - Bill Soyke
3. Tie Cleis. simondii (above)
- The Adamses
Psh. vespa (below) - Eric Wiles



Miniature

1. Ornith. dolobratus - The Adamses
2. Sppm. rapax (below) - Bill Scharf
3. Tie Angcm. didieri - John Dunning
Pths. misera - David Smith



First Bloom Seedling

1. Paph. (fairianum X Hysinying Ruby Web) (above) - John Dunning
2. Paph. Deli Saint - Clark Riley
3. Paph. (moquettianum X greyii) (below) - The Lundys



Fragrance

1. Onc. Sharry Baby - Marilyn Lauffer
2. Pot. Misako Akatsuka X Blc. Ronald Hausermann - John Dunning
3. Dtps. Chiang Orange X Phal. Carribean Sunset (below)
- Gary Smith



The Judges Choice of the Evening was the Phalaenopsis hybrid exhibited by Sarah Hurdel (see more on page 4). The judges were Frank Dagostin, Gary Smith and Ernie Drohan. There were 107 beautiful plants on the show table!

the judges' choice: september 2010

September's Judges Choice of the Evening, Phal. Nola Bel, was exhibited by Sarah Hurdel. Following is how Sarah grows her beautiful plant.

Nola Bel, Purple Phalaenopsis

“ This plant was given to me in early 2007 by Eric Wiles, and it was the gateway plant to a serious orchid addiction. He encouraged me to tag along to help set up, and lend my plant for, the MOS exhibit at the Longwood Gardens show. After seeing the incredible variety of different orchids in person (and winning a second place ribbon!), I was hooked. Thanks Eric!

Initially, there were two plants in the pot — one with two spikes, the other with one. Still new to orchids, I managed to kill one of the two plants within a year — yet somehow the other grew quite well despite my poor growing conditions. I found that I became very good at growing nice foliage. However, it was not until I moved last year that I was able to coax any of my plants into bloom. I now have both an area in which I can keep the humidity levels high in the winter with day/night temperature fluctuations and a protected area outside to move my collection to in the summer.

The indoor growing area is about 6' x 9' with two light stands, each with three shelves lit by a four-bulb T-12 fluorescent fixture. There are two ultrasonic humidifiers, six fans, and a window seat for our “jungle cat”, who loves the heat and humidity as much as the orchids. In the winter I try to use rainwater, and do most of my

watering with a two-gallon pump sprayer to avoid overflowing the humidity trays. I fertilize (somewhat) regularly with an organic fertilizer containing humic acid, occasionally mix this with MSU fertilizer, or a fish and seaweed fertilizer, and sometimes I even remember to use a bloom booster. Apparently I did this year! I have gotten into the habit of repotting new plants as soon as possible into my own media, and any plants which are struggling or have only few roots go into clear ‘hospital’ pots so that I can easily monitor the root growth. Clear pots are also helpful to determine when it's time to water.



Photo by Sarah Hurdel

I did spend more time than I'd care to admit on preparing the plant for the show table. I decided it was time to make a serious attempt at staking a plant. . .now that I finally have a good number of plants in bloom with several shows to take them to. In the process, I snapped one of the spikes while trying to position it. Luckily, it did not break completely, and was still hanging by a thread. I immediately bent it back and wrapped it together with floral tape and wire to support it. I thought for sure it would be wilted by the time I was ready to leave for the meeting, but it still looked good. In fact, right now the rest of the buds have opened and new ones are developing. I'm grateful that the judges appreciated the overall presentation of my plant; I've been practicing! ”

2009-2010 show table winners

Novice

1st Charlotte Grahe - 13 pts.
2nd Janice Mazur - 12 pts.
3rd Kathi Jackson, The Dagostins - 8 pts.

Home Grown

1st Bill Scharf - 25 pts.
2nd Val Lowe - 9 pts.
3rd Chryss Mavrides, Mark Robbins, Bill Soyke - 7 pts.

Greenhouse Under 200 Square Feet

1st Lou Vadorsky - 16 pts.
2nd Jamie Riegel, Sue Spicer - 11 pts.
3rd Jos Venturina - 5 pts.

Greenhouse Over 200 Square Feet

1st The Adamses - 27 pts.
2nd David Smith - 17 pts.
3rd Cy Swett - 10 pts.

Cattleya

1st The Adamses - 20 pts.
2nd David Smith - 13 pts.
3rd The Lundys - 7 pts.

Phalaenopsis

1st The Adamses - 20 pts.
2nd Bill Soyke - 16 pts.
3rd Chryss Mavrides, Clark Riley - 6 pts.

Oncidium

1st Eric Wiles - 10 pts.
2nd Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste - 7 pts.
3rd Chris Zajac - 6 pts.

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1st Mark Robbins, David Smith - 14 pts.
2nd Valerie Lowe - 10 pts.
3rd The Adamses, Cy Swett - 7 pts.

Miscellaneous Hybrids

1st The Adamses - 17 pts.
2nd David Smith - 11 pts.
3rd Cy Swett - 9 pts.

Species

1st The Adamses - 22 pts.
2nd David Smith - 19 pts.
3rd Bill Scharf - 13 pts.

Miniature

1st David Smith - 19 pts.
2nd Bill Scharf - 18 pts.
3rd The Adamses - 15 pts.

First Bloom Seedling

1st Jamie Riegel - 13 pts.
2nd Valerie Lowe - 9 pts.
3rd The Lundys, Mark Robbins - 8 pts.

Fragrance

1st Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste - 13 pts.
2nd Craig Taborsky - 6 pts.
3rd John Dunning, Marilyn Lauffer, The Lundys, Norma Lynch, Chris Zajac - 4 pts.

Congratulations to the following members that had perfect attendance on our show table last year! Steve and Rachael Adams, Marilyn Lauffer, Valerie Lowe, Lee & Ann Lundy, Norma Lynch, Clark Riley, Bill Soyke, Bill Scharf and David Smith.

New Show Table Classes and Rules

The following rules govern the operation of our Show Table.

1. Exhibitors must own the plant or plants for at least six months. All plants should be groomed and free of pests.

2. Each exhibitor must fill out an entry form listing all plants. Use one entry for all plants shown in each class.

3. Plants to be judged must be on the show table by 7:30 p.m. sharp. Plants brought in after this time will not be judged. This is in fairness to the judges who must start judging promptly so they can finish and enjoy the program with the rest of us.

4. Show Table classes are:

A. Novice – The Novice class is intended for those who have been growing orchids for less than three years. Any type of orchid can be entered in this category. Novice growers may also enter plants in other applicable categories.

B. Homegrown – The Homegrown class is for those who grow orchids in any area that is not considered a greenhouse. Plants of any genera may be entered in this class.

C. Greenhouse – The Greenhouse class is for exhibitors who grow their plants in greenhouses of any size. Plants of any genera, species or hybrids, may be entered in this class. (The “Greenhouse Under 200 Square ft.” and “Greenhouse Over 200 Square ft.” classes have been combined to create this class.)

D. Cattleya – The Cattleya class is for the Cattleya alliance plant. Plants such as Cattleya, Laelia, Brassavola, and Sophronitis species and their hybrids may be entered in this class.

E. Phalaenopsis – The Phalaenopsis class is intended for Phalaenopsis, Doritaneopsis, and Doritis species and their hybrids. Other types of Phalaenopsis hybrids should be entered in other suitable classes.

F. Oncidium-Odontoglossum Alliance – The Oncidium-Odontoglossum Alliance is intended to be used for this type of species and hybrid plants. This includes Oncidium, Odontoglossum, Miltonia, Brassia, and other related genera.

G. Paphiopedilum – The Paphiopedilum class is intended for Paphiopedilum, Phragmipedium and other slipper orchid species and their hybrids only.

H. Dendrobium – The Dendrobium class is for Dendrobium alliance plants. All Dendrobium species and their hybrids may be entered in this class. (This is a new class.)

I. Species – The Species class is open to plants of any genera. Jungle collected and seed grown plants are both acceptable. The only requirement is that it must be a species.

J. Miscellaneous Hybrids – The Miscellaneous Hybrid class was created to give exhibitors another place to exhibit plants which cannot be entered in classes D, E, F, G and H. Plants which fall into any of these classes must not be entered in the Miscellaneous Hybrid class.

K. Miniatures – Plants entered in the Miniature class may not exceed six inches in any dimension, excluding the inflorescence. The measurements pertain to the plant only. Species and hybrids are both acceptable.

L. First Bloom Seedlings – The First Bloom Seedling class is for plants that are blooming for the first time. Both species and hybrids are acceptable. No meristems may be entered in this class, only seed grown plants should be exhibited in this class.

M. Fragrance – The Fragrance class will be judged for the most pleasing fragrance. Species and hybrid seed grown as well as mericlone plants may be entered.

N. Non-Competitive – The Non Competitive class is intended for educational purposes only. In this class, members are encouraged to exhibit plants that cannot be exhibited in any other class (e.g. owned less than six months, grower not wishing to compete, etc.)

5. The judges will award First, Second and Third place ribbons in each class. First place will receive three points, second place will receive two points, and third place will receive one point. Each exhibitor may not receive more than one ribbon per class. At the end of the year, the awarded points will be tabulated and the top three “point getters” in each category will receive cash prizes. In the case of a tie, prizes will be duplicated. The year for Show Table prizes will be September through June. Awards for previous year’s winners will be made at the September meeting.

6. After judging all plants on the show table, the judges of that evening will consider all the plants that received first place awards in each class. They will award one with a special award called “Judges’ Choice of the Evening.” This special award will earn the exhibitor a bonus plant to be given at the meeting.

7. Special “Exhibitor Points” will be given at each meeting. Each member exhibiting one or more plants will receive one point. Exhibitors may also earn extra “Exhibitor Points” by lending plants to the Society that are used in our Society exhibits. Each member who lends one or more plants for this purpose will receive one point for each show that their plants are used. At the end of the year, the points will be totaled and one seedling plant will be given for each three exhibitor points. Points will not carry over to the next year. Point totals will be used to calculate awards given at our September meeting.

LOCAL AOS NEWS

October 8: National Capital Judging Center in conjunction with the National Capitol Orchid Society’s Annual Show

The Little Greenhouse’s plant of *Dendrobium laevifolium v. albescens* was awarded an 83 point Certificate of Horticultural Merit (CHM).

Valerie Lowe,
Local AOS Chair

Award-winning MOS Exhibit at NCOS Show!

Thanks to the gracious loan of plants from Steve and Rachael Adams, Frank Dagostin, Suzanne Gaertner, Owen Humphrey, Sarah Hurdel, Marilyn Lauffer, Valerie Lowe, Anne Lundy, Janice Mazur, Norma Lynch, Jamie Riegel, Clark Riley, Mark Robbins, Bill Scharf, David Smith, Gary Smith, Bill Soyke, Sarah Spence, Cyrus Swett, Eric Wiles, Barry Woolf, Chris Zajac, and The Little Greenhouse, the Maryland Orchid Society was awarded the *Orchid Digest* Award for Best Amateur Exhibit in Show. Many thanks to Sarah Hurdel, Jamie Riegel, Bill Scharf, David Smith, and Gary Smith for helping me to install the exhibit and Sarah Hurdel, Jamie Riegel, David Smith, and Margaret Smith for helping take it down.



Photo by Barry Woolf

Valerie Lowe,
Away Shows Chair

First Place Ribbons

Aerangis biloba
 Aganisia x Kollensteinia
 Ceratostylis rubra
 Dendrobium laevifolium v. albescens
 Epidendrum difforme
 Masdevallia Fairy Princes
 Oncidium onustum
 Paphiopedilum Henrietta Fujiwara
 Paphiopedilum New Wine
 Phalaenopsis Cat's Paw Firebird 'Montclair' HCC/AOS
 Phragmipedium schlimii 'Wilcox'
 Pleurothallis univaginata

Owner

E. Wiles
 T. Mirenda
 A. Lundy
 The Little Greenhouse
 The Little Greenhouse
 W. Scharf
 D. Smith
 V. Lowe
 D. Smith
 G. Smith
 A. Lundy
 B. Woolf

Second Place Ribbons

Brassolaeliocattleya Greenwich 'Elmhurst', AM/AOS
 Cycnoches cooperi
 Dendrobium laevifolium
 Epidendrum nanum
 Masdevallia Fairy Princess
 Miltassia Dark Star 'The OrchidWorks'
 Neostylis Lou Sneary 'Colourful Blue'
 Paphiopedilum Henrietta Fujiwara
 Paphiopedilum New Wine
 Phragmipedium Noirmont 'Clemencia'
 Scaphosepalum ovulare
 Scaphosepalum rapax
 Stelis crescenticola
 Stelis oxypetala
 Trichoglottis philippenensis v. brachiata 'Vin-Mar', AM/AOS

S & R Adams
 E. Wiles
 The Little Greenhouse
 S. Hurdel
 W. Scharf
 C. Zajac
 S & R Adams
 O. Humphrey
 D. Smith
 C. Zajac
 S & R Adams
 W. Scharf
 E. Wiles
 B. Woolf
 B. Woolf

continued

Third Place Ribbons

Beallara Patricia McCully 'Pacific Monarch'	S. Spence
Brassavola cucullata	S & R Adams
Cirropetalum Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry', FCC/AOS	M. Robbins
Cycnoides Wine Delight 'JEM', FCC/AOS	W. Scharf
Dendrobium hybrid	W. Soyke
Dockrilla rigida	S & R Adams
Encyclia livida	S & R Adams
Habenaria medusae	C. Riley
Liparis lyoni	B. Woolf
Maxallaria reichenheimiana	B. Woolf
Miltassia. Aztec 'Betty Ho', HCC/AOS	B. Woolf
Mokara (Bangkhutian Gold x Sayan)	C. Swett
Ornithophora radicans 'HMO Petie Prince	B. Woolf
Paphiopedilum Hsinying Fair Pulse	G. Smith
Paphiopedilum Hsinying Alien	C. Swett
Paphiopedilum New Wine	D. Smith
Phalaenopsis White Moon	C. Swett
Phragmipedium Calurum 'Cinderella Slippers'	C. Zajac
Phragmipedium Conchiferum	M. Lauffer
Prosthechea vespa	E. Wiles
Psychopsis Butterfly	J. Riegel
Renanetia Sunrise 'Prasong', AM/AOS	S & R Adams
Sopholaelia Smoking Mirror	D. Smith
Wilsonara Aloha Sparks 'Halloween'	S. Spence

Honorable Mention

Bulbophyllum unitubum	S & R Adams
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Best Amateur-grown Species Plant in Show

Aerangis biloba	E. Wiles
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Best Miniature Plant in Show

Dendrobium laevifolium v. albescens	The Little Greenhouse
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Best Amateur-grown Vandaceous Plant

Aerangis biloba	E. Wiles
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Best Amateur-grown Pleurothallid

Pleurothallis univaginata	B. Woolf
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Best Amateur-grown Oncidium

Oncidium onustum	D. Smith
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Best Amateur-grown Miniature

Scaphosepalum rapax	W. Scharf
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Best Amateur-grown Miscellaneous

Agnesia x Kollensteinia	T. Mirenda
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Best Amateur-grown Phragmipedium

Phragmipedium Noirmont 'Clemencia'	C. Zajac
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Best Amateur-grown Dendrobium

Dendrobium laevifolium v. albescens	The Little Greenhouse
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Best Amateur-grown Phalaenopsis

Phalaenopsis Cat's Paw Firebird 'Montclair' HCC/AOS	G. Smith
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Best Amateur-grown Cattleya

Epidendrum difforme	The Little Greenhouse
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Activities! Activities!!

Well, what an adventure since our last meeting; we had lots to do! For those of you who weren't there, Little Brook Orchids in Lancaster, Pa., has certainly been evolving—once a florist shop, now a state-of-the-art orchid nursery.

Today they are specializing in Phalaenopsis and are working hard to gain a large catalog of species. Likewise, they have a huge Vanda collection, plus a lot of other very nice stuff!

Our hosts for the day were very gracious and many of us left at the end of the day with some really neat things. I hope that one day we get to visit them again with the MOS.

Little Brook Orchids' greenhouse has a wealth of exotic and rare plants. Photos by John Pyfer, Jr.



Our next “to do” for October was our first annual members-only re-potting clinic and Educational Work Shop. I hope that everyone who was there got something out of it. The weather was great. David and Margaret once again offered up their place to help the society, so an extra special thanks to them! We had enthusiastic and eager members, willing and informative mentors, and lots to do.

The participants were told of varied techniques for re-potting, discussed when to re-pot and how to deal with overgrown plants that you can't get out of the pot. Then they re-potted their plants with assistance from the mentors present. (Thank you, Bill Ellis, for getting our mentorship program under way; it should be a big help!)

So now these participants are our affirmed re-potting experts! (Well, maybe not experts, but they are more informed and able than before.) Should the participants need more help, the mentors are available to help them. (See more on page 10 of this newsletter about the Mentor-Protégé Program.)

Let us know if we need an advanced re-potting clinic for special needs.

Thanks to all for now. Keep your eyes and ears open for our next event and join in the fun!

-Dr. Eric P. Wiles,
Activities and Education Chair

october education corner

For October's meeting, David Smith will be doing the education corner. He will be talking about “Unusual and Easy Orchids to Grow for the Novice.” If you have questions about plants, feel free to bring them in to the Orchid Doctor.

orchid tip of the month

When Barbara Buck first started growing orchids, she was disheartened to see some of the new buds dropping from her plants. She called Tom McBride at The Little Greenhouse and he asked her if she grew geraniums nearby. Geraniums and apples give off ethylene gas that causes buds to drop from orchids.





Presents

Orchid

2010 Fall Judged
Orchid & Rare Plant
Show & Sale

Follies



Friday, October 22

9am-8pm

Saturday, October 23

9am-6pm

Sunday, October 24

9am-5pm

at



Garden Center
301 Rohrerstown Road
Lancaster, PA • 717-397-4718

Vendors

Fishing Creek Orchids
Little Brook Orchids
Stony Brook Orchids
J & L Orchids
Brennan's Orchids
Orchid Enterprise
Just Pat Orchids
Chaz Smith Orchids
Carnivorous Plant Nursery
Dragon Agro Products
Fay's Creations
Betty Lou Zimmerman's Village Art

FREE Seminars

Friday, Oct. 22
4pm • Potting Orchids for Success 5pm • Classic Orchids
Saturday, Oct. 23
11am • Choosing an Orchid to Grow in Your Home
12pm • Growing Award Winning & Specimen Orchids
1pm • The Art of Successful Phalaenopsis Growing
2pm • Semi Hydroponics, How to Waterproof your Plants
3pm • Orchids Companion Plants
4pm • Cacti for your Home
Sunday, Oct. 24
11am • The Diversity of Orchids
12pm • Care & Culture of Perfect Phalaenopsis
1pm • Demo: Using Orchids in Flower Arrangements
2pm • How to Select Your First Orchid
3pm • Growing Rupicolous Leolias

Repotting Station up to 8" pots (\$) • Orchid Doctor

For more information & directions: www.skh.com



The MOS Mentor-Protégé Program

by Bill Ellis

An important aspect of encouraging new and recent MOS members to continue growing orchids is helping them successfully grow and bloom their orchids. Our Beginner's Corner is a key part of helping newer orchid growers. We hope that an Orchid Growing Mentor-Protégé Program will be another way to help new and existing members, and ensure their long-term success with orchid growing.

The main elements of the MOS Mentor-Protégé Program are:

- Experienced MOS orchid growers who will serve as Mentors
- New, recently-joined, and less experienced current MOS members who want to participate as Protégés in a mentoring program
- An organized process to help Protégés meet and select a Mentor suitable to their needs, and with whom they feel comfortable
- An array of potential learning activities for Protégés with the Mentor they have selected
- A mutually agreed upon duration of the Mentor-Protégé relationship
- A few simple rules to define the Mentor-Protégé relationship, to ensure a comfort level for all participants

So – what exactly are the benefits to a Protégé of participating in this Program? Here are some potential learning activities for Protégés that could be arranged with a Mentor:

- Call or e-mail the Mentor for advice, or help with an orchid culture problem, such as pests, bud drop, leaves yellowing or burned, or selection of pots, media, or orchids, etc.
- Visit the Mentor's orchid collection – see the Mentor's growing conditions, orchid specialties, and culture techniques; share cuttings
- Invite your Mentor to visit your orchid collection – discuss which orchids are growing the best, the overall health of your orchids, possible changes in your growing conditions, controlling pests and diseases, sources of equipment, fertilizers, pesticides, virus control
- View orchids on the MOS show table together with your Mentor, and discuss their merits, rarity, and/or culture challenges

- Visit an orchid show or meeting at another orchid society with your Mentor
- Visit an orchid vendor together to buy orchids.

The Ad Hoc Mentor-Protégé Committee (Bill Ellis, Ann Lundy, and David Smith) recruited volunteer Mentors based on their success in growing orchids and regular attendance at MOS monthly meetings. Mentors who have volunteered so far include:

- Rachael and Steve Adams
Orchid Growing Environment: 15 x 20 foot greenhouse
Orchid Favorites: Grow about 1,000 species and hybrids of all kinds
Orchid Growing Experience: 9 years
- Bill Ellis
Orchid Growing Environment: Cold weather- indoor 4 x 4 x 8 foot Wardian case with T5, T8, & T12 fluorescent lights over tubs of water
Warm weather- screened outdoor enclosure under translucent roof
Orchid Favorites: Grows about 50 orchids, mostly species, including Dendrobiums, Lycastes, Cattleyas, Laelias, & Phalaenopsis
Orchid Growing Experience: 10 years
- Bill Scharf
Orchid Growing Environment: Cold weather – indoors, under lights and in windows; two 400 W metal halide lights and fluorescent T8 lights; intermediate to cool growing area in basement, and warm growing area upstairs; humidifier in all areas
Warm weather - half of orchids (especially warm growers) are moved outdoors
Orchid Favorites: Grows about 150 species and hybrids, especially Masdevallias, Pleurothallids, Miltoniopsis, wide variety of other genera and grexes
Orchid Growing Experience: 12 years
- David Smith
Orchid Growing Environment: 16 x 21 foot lean-to partly-below-ground greenhouse
Orchid Favorites: Grows mostly species, including miniatures; Dendrochilums, Pleurothallids, Paphiopedilums, miniature Phalaenopsis
Orchid Growing Experience: 30 years

- Eric Wiles
Orchid Growing Environment: Cold weather – 16 x 16 foot greenhouse attached to house
Warm weather - Greenhouse and outdoors (hanging from tree limbs)
Orchid Favorites: Grows about 500 hybrids and species of all types
Orchid Growing Experience: 10 years

If you think you might be interested in connecting with a Mentor (we suggest an agreement of about 6 months to start), here are some suggested criteria for picking a Mentor:

- Someone who lives near your home
- Someone you feel comfortable with, after meeting them at a meeting
- Someone who grows their orchids under conditions similar to yours: windowsill, lights, greenhouse, etc.
- Someone who likes similar orchids: hybrids, species, Cattleya alliance, Phalaenopsis, Lady Slippers, etc.

The committee will be providing a written list of Mentors, with their interest and growing styles. A green sticker on the MOS name badges of Mentors will mean "I'm available." A red sticker will mean "I'm not currently available but ask about my waiting list." Mentors may decline a request if they believe that there are strong differences, such as in orchid interests or in physical locations.

Some useful rules to agree upon, or modify to suit, with your Mentor:

- No phone calls after 9 PM Sunday through Thursday
- No phone calls before 9 AM
- No visits to home of Mentor or Protégé without prior agreement

If you are interested in being a Mentor or a Protégé contact Bill Ellis at billellis@ellislist.com, or 443-520-8809.

ORCHID AUCTION

MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

NEW DATE & LOCATION

Saturday, November 13, 2010

American Legion Dewey Lowman Post 109
1610 Old Sulphur Spring Road, Halethorpe, MD 21227

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 pre-priced "instant auction" plants, and supplies from Quarter Acre Orchids.

♥ Lunch and a full line of refreshments available on site.

♥ Free admission and registration.



Contact Bill Ellis at (443)-520-8809 for more information or visit www.MarylandOrchids.org

The 6th Annual Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium and AOS Members Meeting

October 27- 31, 2010

Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel • Virginia Beach, VA

GO TO: www.mhsymposium.org

MOS Library Reminder

A reminder to MOS members that if you checked out books or publications at the June or any other meetings, please bring them back ASAP so that others may enjoy them as well. Make sure to see me at the meetings when you are returning books so that I can check in the books. If you return the books to the shelves without letting me know, I will think that the book is still out.

Thank you,
Norma Lynch, MOS
Librarian



President's Message continued from page 1

By volunteering your time at an MOS-sponsored event, or helping at an away show or even attending an open house, you are helping the Society. It's not always easy or comfortable to get involved for the first time. Once you do, you'll be glad you did. Opportunities abound to help the Society continue to move forward and thrive and by doing so, help yourself become a better grower, a common goal we all share.

Happy growing,

Bill

Leon continued from page 1

the demise of Hoosier Orchid Company. Leon has been consulting with other orchid companies on growing orchids from seed. He is presently taking images of orchids in habitat in Ecuador and Peru which may lead to more programs.

A strong conservationist, Leon was past chairperson of the American Orchid Societies Conservation Committee, and has been a member of this committee for decades. He represented the AOS at the international conservation meeting in Costa Rica in 2007.

Membership Renewal—Renew your membership today!

In August, 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 the address below or give them to Marilyn at the next meeting.

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

maryland orchid society

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The *MOS Newsletter*, published monthly by the Maryland Orchid Society September through June, shares the latest news of our orchid community. Please submit your comments to sobelman1@verizon.net

We invite articles, notices, etc. for inclusion in our newsletter. The deadline for inclusion is first Sunday of the month.

Contributors: **Bill Ellis • Sarah Hurdel • Valerie Lowe • Norma Lynch • Tom McBride • Bill Scharf • Laura Sobelman • Eric Wiles**

The MOS brings together people interested in orchids to promote and encourage orchid culture, preservation, education, propagation, hybridization, and all other orchid-related activities of interest to its members. Benefits of membership include a subscription to the Newsletter (e-mail and web), voting rights, borrowing privileges from the MOS Library, monthly guest speakers, local judging, valuable door prizes, and much, much, more!

If you are interested in orchid culture and would like to meet others with similar interests, we cordially invite you to join the ranks of Marylanders already enjoying the benefits of membership in the Maryland Orchid Society.

Visit us on the Web at www.marylandorchids.org
Maryland Orchid Society
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