

MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

ORCHID

newsletter



News and information for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society

February 2011

president's message

Greetings to everyone.

As I put pen to paper, or more accurately fingers to keyboard, I am once again watching snow drift down from the sky. I realize I am in a very small minority when I say, I don't mind. In fact I like it, I always have. I find it relaxing and inspiring. With that said, I hope Mother Nature gets it out of her system before March 11.

March 11...opening day for the Maryland Orchid Society's largest and most intensive event of the year, The Spring Show, known this year as "Orchids, A Symphony of Color." I hope this year's theme will excite and inspire you to take part and be part of this major event. I want to continue my conversation from the January meeting. There are so many ways to expand your orchid network and knowledge. The week-long event begins on Tuesday, March 8, set up of the Show staging, exhibit space and sales tables. We need 10-12 people, the more the better, it makes the work go

faster. Wednesday, March 9, brings in the vendors and exhibitors to install the beautiful exhibits. We need member exhibits as well. Remember you can install just three plants or a 100 square foot exhibit, whatever you're comfortable with. You can do it on your own or team up with friends. Thursday, March 10, is AOS judging of exhibits and flowers. Consider clerking for the judges. It is a unique opportunity to be shoulder to shoulder with AOS judges as they discuss exhibits, plants and specific flowers throughout the Show. This opportunity comes only once a year, so please take advantage of it. Do not pass up the gathering of the year—the MOS Preview Party and Pre-Show Sale on Thursday evening in Horticulture Hall, beginning at 7:30 pm. Friday, March 11 is a rush, literally, as the doors open at 10 am and the orchid-hungry crowd spills into Horticulture Hall. Orchid enthusiasts are immediately greeted by an impressive Little Greenhouse exhibit, which stops everyone in their tracks, and a

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Chris Frye, February's Speaker, Will Talk About Orchids Native to Maryland

Our February speaker, Christopher Frye, is going to show a short film he made with PBS about Maryland native orchids, then discuss native orchids with our members and answer questions.

Chris is employed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Heritage Service and has served as Maryland's State Botanist since 1996. Chris received his BS from Catawba College in Salisbury, N.C., majoring in biology with a strong emphasis on field botany and conservation biology. Chris received a fellowship to Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC where he obtained his MS in 1993, defending a thesis on the population genetics of the common Crane-fly orchid, *Tipularia discolor*. Chris considers himself a life-



long student and is currently an advanced special student in the graduate school at the University of Maryland, College Park where he has been honing his skills in biological statistics and mathematical ecology. Chris is actively involved with students at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Chris describes his job as "the most fascinating and rewarding vocation that one could hope for; no two days are alike and I am constantly challenged to grow and learn." Chris is best known for his work on sedges (*Carex*) and shadbush (*Amelanchier*) but has a special affection for the genus *Cleistes*: "the first time I saw it [*Cleistes bifaria*] I thought that someone had put a silk flower in the soil as a lark; it was so pretty that for a few moments I didn't think that it was real." As

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7 January Judges' Choice Goes to Eric Wiles

show table - january 2011

by Tom McBride

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



Novice

1. Paph. (Spotalen X Duncan York) (above)- Gregg Custis
2. Phal. Green Star - Janice Mazur



Home Grown

1. Paph. Screaming Eagle (above)- Mark Robbins
2. Tie Colm. Jungle Monarch - Marilyn Lauffer
Paph. (Hsinying Inspiration X Sue Franz) (below) - Bill Scharf
3. Bilra. Marfitch 'Howard's Dream' AM/AOS - Bob Storm



Greenhouse

1. Angcm. Veitchii (above)- Eric Wiles
2. Tie Pths. palliolata - David Smith
Paph. Susan Booth - Lou Vadorsky
3. Tie Cym. Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade' AD/CSA (below)- Jamie Riegel & Erin Hunt
Den. atrovioleaceum - The Adamases



Cattleya

1. C. Green Dragon (below)- Eric Wiles
2. Bc. Maikai 'Louise' AM/AOS - Barbara Buck
3. Bc. Spotted Clown 'Goodwood' - The Lundys



Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Everspring Gentle 'DeLeon's Pastel' - John Dunning
2. Phal. Smart Thing - The Adamases
3. Phal. Champion Lightning 'Splash' - Barbara Buck



Oncidium

1. Odcdm. Sunlight 'HOF' (above)- Owen Humphrey
2. Mtssa. Kauai's Choice 'Tropical Fragrance' AM/AOS - Sarah Hurdel
3. Tie Colm. Jungle Monarch - Eric Wiles
Btcm. Little Dragon 'Carmela' - David Smith



Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. Michael Koopowitz - Mark Robbins
2. Tie Paph. venustum - Jamie Riegel & Erin Hunt
Paph. (Adilene Babdilla X Skip Bartlett) - David Smith
3. Paph. Mount Toro (above)- The Adamases

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

Dendrobium

1. Den. *spectabile* - The Adamses
2. Den. *spectabile* - Jamie Riegle & Erin Hunt
3. Den. Susan Takahashi - Chris Zajac



The Judges' Choice of the Evening was Ang. Veitchii, exhibited by Eric Wiles. See more on page 7 about how Eric grows his plant. The judges were Marilyn Lauffer, Bill Soyke and Laura Sobelman. There were 134 beautiful plants displayed on our show table!

Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Fdk. After Dark 'Black Pearl' (above)- Michael Moran
2. Lyc. Lucianii - Eric Wiles
3. Ascda. Motes Goldpiece 'Wirat' HCC/AOS (below)- Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste



Species

1. Ang. *sesquipedale* - Michael Moran
2. Tie Pths. *immersa* - David Smith
Den. *goldschmidtianum* - The Adamses
3. C. *perciviliana* 'Summit' FCC/AOS (center column, top)- Gary Smith

Miniature

1. Masd. *wagenariana* (above)- Bill Scharf
2. Asctm. *pumilum* - Eric Wiles
3. Sppm. *ovulare* - The Adamses

First Bloom Seedling

1. Ang. *sesquipedale* - Eric Wiles
2. Paph. Sander's Pride - Mark Robbins
3. Paph. Michael Koopowitz - John Dunning

Fragrance

1. Angcm. Crestwood 'Tomorrow Star' (third column, top)- The Lundys
2. Tie Lc. Aloha Case 'Ching Hua' - Mark Robbins
B. *cordata* - Jamie Riegel & Erin Hunt
3. Blc. Ronae Eugene - John Dunning

MOS
 THE MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY IS SEEKING ARTWORK TO
WANTS
 BE SUBMITTED FOR THE MARCH 11-13 ART SHOW HELD
YOUR
 AS PART OF THE ORCHID SHOW. AS AN MOS MEMBER, WE
ART
 ENCOURAGE YOU TO SUBMIT YOUR ORCHID CREATION
WORK
 CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR THE EXHIBITOR PACKET



Philadelphia Flower Show— AOS Call for Volunteers

Earlier this year we learned that the American Orchid Society would have the opportunity to participate in the Philadelphia Flower Show after a long hiatus. As some of you may be aware, the Philadelphia Flower Show is the premiere flower destination, being the longest running and largest show in the country. Things are now falling into place. We are fortunate to have award-winning designer/coordinator Michael Bowell, the assistance of other seasoned individuals for the initial planning stage and the support of many people connected with the event who are thrilled that the AOS is back!

In addition, this event presents the best opportunity for outreach to potential new AOS members or renewals in a very long time so, of course, we need assistance meeting and greeting visitors as part of the AOS display, answering orchid questions and telling the AOS story hopefully with the positive result of adding to our membership. This is an opportunity for a free admission to the show.

What we are looking for is a commitment of at least 3-4 hours between Sunday, March 6th and Sunday, March 13th. More specifically, we must cover our area: Sundays, March 6 & 13: 8 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday, March 7 to March 11: 10 am to 9:30 pm Saturday, March 12: 8 am to 9:30 pm with at least 3 hosts per approximate 3-4 hour shifts (of course with appropriate breaks). Daily show passes will be made available for admission into the show for our volunteers. In addition, if you are available, there will be a need to assist in the breakdown of the exhibit beginning at 6 pm on Sunday, March 13th.

Due to the generosity of one of our AOS members there will be a hospitality room in a nearby hotel available during the early part of the week, Sunday, March 6 through Tuesday, March 8 for us to go to for rest and snacks. We will do our best to have a similar area available for the remainder of the show but cannot promise this now. Just the opportunity to attend this prestigious show is worth the trip and helping the AOS with this important project will be very satisfying. Look at your calendar, figure out when you can be with us and how you would like to help out, then let us know when we can depend on your assistance. Perhaps you have friends who might like to be a part of this exciting activity, so please have them contact us as well. Information on the show may be found at: <http://www.theflowershow.com/Showinfo/index.html> including links to accommodations surrounding the Convention Center and other links or information on location or transportation details.

If you are interested in helping out, please reply to both of us at the e-mail addresses below. We would appreciate knowing your plans as soon as possible

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Cell: 302-438-7699
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Chair, AOS
celebrateorchids@aol.com
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Cell: 804-852-3453

education corner

Valerie Lowe Shares Exhibit Tips at the March Ed Corner

For all of you gearing up to exhibit at the annual show, the March meeting's Education Corner is not to be missed. Valerie Lowe, an AOS-accredited judge, will talk about the necessary ingredients for an award-winning exhibit. Learn how to primp your plants and gussie them up, and arrange your exhibit for the best possible awards!



Becky Wiles' 2010 exhibit won the First Time Best Hobbyist's Award.



Patty Kelt's 2010 Exhibit

MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

ORCHID SHOW & SALE MARCH 11-13

FRI. & SAT. 10-9 / SUN. 10-6

Thousands of blooming orchids on display and for sale.
Free tours and seminars.

In conjunction with the Maryland Home and Garden Show. Timonium, MD

For directions and details visit:
www.mdorchids.org



orchid web resources

Like all newsletters, the *MOS Newsletter* is only as good as the people who contribute to it. We can always use ideas for and help with articles to publish in the newsletter. This new column—Orchid Web Resources—provides helpful Web sites offering orchid-growing tips. This month I am featuring Web sites related to slipper orchids. Below are links to the Slipper Orchid Reading Room from <http://www.ladyslipper.com>:



Guide to Buying & Growing Your First Paph.
- December 00
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/1stpaph.htm>

Paphiopedilum: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- December 00
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/paphfaq.htm>

Checklist for Growing Problems - December 00
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/chklst.htm>

Names and Naming - October 00
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/name.htm>

Use of Coconut Husk Chips as a Potting Mix Base Superior to Bark - September 00 - updated March 04
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/coco3.htm>

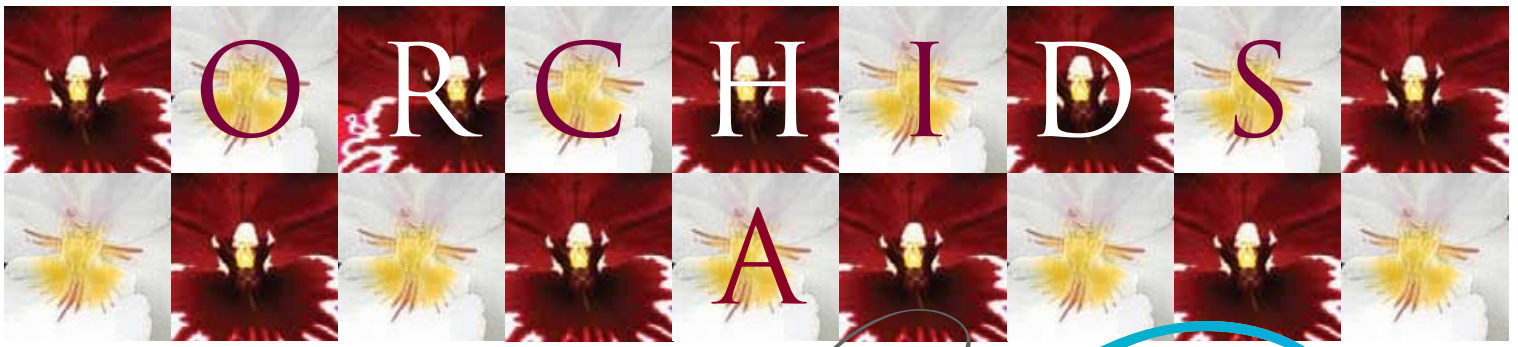
Notes on Fertilizer use, Calculations, pH and Alkalinity (getting down to the practical nitty-gritty) - March 02
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/fert.htm>

Deflasking and Compotting Slipper Orchids New Method with Fantastic Results! - August 99
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/compot2.html>

Pictorial of Paph Roots - September 00
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/paphrts.htm>

Aphid, mealybug and scale Photo Identification
<http://www.ladyslipper.com/insects.html>

If you have any other favorite Web sites to add to this list, or any other orchid-related articles you'd like to publish in the newsletter, please e-mail Laura at sobelman1@verizon.net.



Symphony of
Color

THE MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

Cordially Invites Members, Friends & Family to the 2011 Preview Party and Sale.

*Thursday, March 10, at 7:30 pm in Horticulture Hall at the
Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium, Maryland.*

*Menu will Include: an Assortment of Appetizers, Choice of Entrée, Vegetable and Salad,
Dessert, Coffee, Tea and Soda. BYOB optional.*

PLEASE RSVP BY MARCH 1 to BILL SCHARF

7768 Fulton School Road, Felton, Pa. 17322

(cut here)

YES! I/WE PLAN to ATTEND

*Please enclose this reservation slip and your check to the Maryland Orchid Society
and return by March 1, 2011 to Bill Scharf.*

NAME _____

NUMBER of MEMBER RESERVATIONS, \$25.00 each _____

NUMBER of NON-MEMBER RESERVATIONS, \$30.00 each _____

the judges' choice: nov. 2010

Four score and well maybe it was about three weeks ago, our judges brought forth to the monthly meeting, a Judges' Choice award decision conceived in the overall perfectness of an orchid plant, and dedicated to the proposition that all monthly show table plants are not created equal. In January, Eric Wiles' *Angraecum* won the Judges' Choice Award. Here is a description of how he grows it into a beautiful specimen plant.

“ This angrecoid voted judge's choice is a hybrid of *Angcm. sesquipedale* and *Angcm. eburneum*. It is a large growing angraecoid with white/greenish fragrant flowers lasting 2-3 months and blooming in December. This plant was purchased from the NCOS show/sale from the group of plants being sold by members. This is the 1st time it has bloomed for me. I treat it like my other vandaceous plants only differing in the fact I give it slightly less light and keep it a little drier than the vandas. The plant is very hardy and growing freely with simple care. The plant is fertilized usually on a whenever I can get to it basis; concentrating on spring and summer. It is given ½ strength foliar fertilizer of whatever is available. It seems to me that angraecums are more forgiving than



Photo by Sarah Hurdel

vanda's. I would suggest that if you want to try something a little different, that flowers at a time when most orchids are sleeping, try an angraecum but be patient when waiting for blooms. ”

Two Orchid Exhibits in D.C.

The delicate orchid is the focus at two museums this month: An exhibit at the Sackler Gallery examines orchids in Chinese paintings between the 15th and 19th centuries, and

“Orchids — A View From the East” which opened January 29 at the Natural History Museum, displays live flowers. These exhibits are a joint effort of the Smithsonian Gardens, the U.S. Botanical Gardens, the U.S. National Arboretum, and the Freer and Sackler Galleries.



The Orchid Exhibit Family Day is February 26 from 11 am to 3 pm, offering a fun-filled day of free activities in conjunction with the exhibition *Orchids: A View From The East*. The event includes stamp art, calligraphy and photo taking with a human-sized orchid! Visitors can even pot their own orchid to take home. Orchid experts from the Smithsonian and United States Botanic Garden will be available all day to answer questions and tell visitors about unique plants from their collections that will be on display for this one day only.

Says Tom Miranda, orchid collection specialist at the Smithsonian Institution, “Proving that there is always more to learn, our staff got out of its comfort zones and learned a tremendous amount about the history of orchid culture in Asia.”

Both exhibits are free.

Sackler:

Jan. 15 - Jul. 17
www.asia.si.edu
202-633-4880

National History Museum:

Jan. 29 - Apr 24
www.mnh.si.edu/exhibits/orchids/
202-633-1000

National Capital Orchid Society
33rd Annual
Orchid Auction
www.NCOS.us



Saturday, March 5th, 2011 ~ 11AM to 3PM
Bidder Preview: 10:00am

Behnke Nurseries Co.
11300 Baltimore Ave, Beltsville MD, 20705
301-937-1100

Free Admission
BBQ vendor

Lots of very rare and unusual orchids. This is one of the largest
Orchid Auctions in the country.

Checks / VISA / MasterCard welcome

Get Your Mitts on Some Mugs

As you know if you help at the Show you receive an etched glass mug from the Show Committee as a way of saying thanks for your help. Over the years we have collected a number of extra mugs and now's your chance to grab one or add to your current collection. I have a limited number of commemorative mugs to offer at \$3.00 each, that's less than 1/2 price. Here are the years I have and the number available:

2007 – (5), Orchids Around the World

2008 – (5), Orchids in Your Home

2009 – (8), Nature's Kaleidoscope

2010 – (4), Orchids, A Feast for the Senses



Bill Scharf,
MOS President
willworks@hughes.net

calendar of events

For more society- and orchid-related events go to:

http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=ke0gdgeah30i7ovjtb9qfr4r2o%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/New_York

You might need to copy and paste the link into your Web browser. There is also a link on the Maryland Orchid Society Web site (marylandorchids.org) to this event calendar.

Woodstream Open House

This winter our intrepid members went out into the freezing cold to enjoy the splendor of Woodstream Orchids' open house. According to owner Bill Goldner, a Paph and Phrag enthusiast, January is the best time to come witness his plants in bloom. They produce a beautiful flush of colors after the plants are just starting to awaken for the spring. Bill offered his generous hospitality and a discount on

sales plants at his facility. All in all an enjoyable experience for all attendees.

Thanks so much, Mr. Goldner, for the pleasure and opportunity you afforded us at your open house.

Eric Wiles, DVM
Education Chair



The Little Greenhouse's Angest. Aurora 'Harford' AM/AOS from the 2010 show.

member attendance

There were 46 MOS members at the January meeting.

MOS Board of Trustees Meeting

Lou and Barbara Buck are hosting our next Board of Trustees Meeting on April 28. Arrive at 6:30 pm to get a head start on light food and refreshments. (Please consider bringing a dish to share.) The meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Board meetings are open to the general membership, but please RSVP at BarbaraBuck@comcast.net if you plan to attend.



Pirouetting Through the Paphs

MOS members and friends take a shopping break to pose amongst blooming beauties.

2011 National Capital Orchid Society Paphiopedilum Forum February 19

The 31st annual Paph Forum will feature internationally-renowned speakers, an unparalleled selection of Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium plants for sale by leading vendors, a show table featuring hundreds of slippers in bloom, ribbons and trophies for outstanding show plants, door prizes, American Orchid Society judging, and a silent auction to benefit The Slipper Orchid Alliance (SOA).

To donate selected and awarded plants and other items to SOA for their silent auction, please contact Barbara Tisherman at btisherman@aol.com. The auction is concurrent with the Paph Forum.

Space is limited to 140 people and pre-registration is required. Please e-mail Gordon Slaymaker at Gordon.slaymaker@verizon.net to be sure there are still openings. Please visit the NCOS website for further details regarding the 2011 Program and Schedule, Plant Exhibition Guidelines, Plant Entry Form, and further Meeting Registration Information and registration form. Content should be on the website in the next week or two. <http://www.ncos.us/ncos>

Date: Saturday, February 19, 2011

Location: Behnke's Nursery, 11300 Baltimore Ave, Beltsville, MD 20705, (301) 937-1100
<http://behnkes.com/website/>

Time: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Speakers: *Stig Dalstrom* – Florida
Orchid Explorer, Taxonomist, and Artist
“A Slipper Cornucopia including, a Phrag. kovachii update; Cultural experiments with Phrag. besseae, “besseae”-delassandroi, fischerii, and andreetteanum; Successful cultivation of Cyps in Florida”

Dr. Norito Hasegawa – California
Paphanatics, unLimited
“What’s New with Paphs”

Ron McHatton, PhD. – Florida
AOS COO and Director of Education
“New Approaches to Pest & Disease Control”

Bryan Ramsay – Maryland
National Capital AOS Judging Center
“Overview of Recent Slipper Awards”

Invited Vendors: (Plants) Alfredo Manrique, Péru; Bloomfield Orchids, NY; Floradise Orchids, VA; June’s Orchid Estate, FL; Marriott Orchids, NC; Orchid Enterprise, VA; Orchidview Orchids, SC; Paphanatics, CA; Parkside Orchids, PA; Pine Crest Orchids, VA; Salzman Orchids, NY; Woodstream Orchids, MD.

(Supplies) Quarter Acre Orchids, VA.

(Orchid Design Gifts) Celebrate Orchids! VA; Stig Dalstrom, FL.

(NCOS Member Plant Sales) Members current on 2011 dues and pre-registered for the Forum may sell slipper orchids.

The entry fee of \$50.00 includes lunch and a door prize ticket.

Bus Trip to Longwood Gardens on March 26!!

The National Capital Orchid Society (NCOS) is sponsoring a Bus Trip to the South East Pennsylvania Orchid Society Orchid Show at Longwood Gardens on Saturday, March 26, 2011

Sit back and enjoy your fellow orchid society members' company while a professional driver takes us to/from Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pa., to attend the South East Pennsylvania Orchid Society's Orchid Show. You'll be in awe of the thousands of beautiful orchids displayed by individuals, societies and growers from several countries. Many of these plants will win awards during American Orchid Society (AOS) judging.

NCOS and many other orchid societies and vendors, will have an exhibit in this show! You can also buy orchids from 20 different vendors from two continents. While at the show, you can enjoy guided tours and informative talks, explore four acres of orchid accented indoor garden planting beds containing more than 30 horticultural highlights such as Amaryllis, Butterfly bush, Hyacinths, Primroses, and Winter red-hot poker. Wander through several of the Longwood Garden greenhouses, walk the grounds to see outdoor horticultural highlights such as conifers, hollies, Winter Aconites and Witch Hazels, and visit the gift shop. To learn more about Longwood Gardens, visit their website at: <http://www.longwoodgardens.org/>

Advance registration and payment required. The bus can accommodate a total of 47 passengers. Registrations will be recorded in the order they are received along with check. You will be e-mailed to acknowledge receipt of your check and your reservation. Any future notices will be sent via e-mail. We must have at least 43 passengers or the bus trip will be cancelled.

Cost: \$55 per person (NCOS member), \$60 per person (non-NCOS member)

Price includes bus fare and an admission ticket into Longwood Gardens. The bus trip does not include lunch. You may bring your own snacks and lunch or enjoy Longwood's café (reservations not required) or fine-dining restaurant (reservations recommended).

To register:

- 1) Make check payable to National Capital Orchid Society;
- 2) In memo line write "Longwood Bus Trip";
- 3) Provide your e-mail address for confirmation and future communication;
- 4) Send payment to: Kevin Hill, NCOS President
3003 Laurel Avenue
Cheverly, MD 20785-3150

Deadline for registration and payment: Saturday, February 26, 2010, For questions call: Kevin Hill, 301-322-4617

Schedule:

7:00 am Bus arrives at Virginia pick-up location
Mt Vernon Recreation Center
2017 Belle View Blvd
Alexandria, VA 22307-1362

Directions: From 495, take Exit 177A toward Route 1 South; left at first traffic light (Fort Hunt Rd.) Go one mile to Belle View Blvd.; Rec Center on right corner. Park in upper level lot.

7:45 – 8:00 am Bus arrives at Maryland pick-up location
Calverton Shopping Center
Front of Giant Food Store

Directions: From Capital Beltway take 95 North, Exit 29B toward Calverton, Shopping center is immediately on right.

8:15 am Depart Maryland pick-up location
10:30 am Arrive at Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA
5:30 pm Depart Longwood Gardens
8:00 pm Maryland Drop-off at Calverton Shopping Center
8:45-9:00 pm Virginia Drop-off at Mt Vernon Recreation Center



President's Message continued from page 1

sales space filled with thousands of blooming orchids waiting for a new home.

We need lots of help Friday through Sunday to make this happen. We need people in the sales area boxing plants, checking plants, making and handing out boxes. We'll need people to walk around the exhibits, to answer questions, and point customers to the sales area to find the orchid they're looking for. We'll need greeters for the Hospitality table and, of course, people to help take down the Show on Sunday. All total we need about 50 MOS volunteers. Please sign up to help at the Show. This event can happen only if we the members make it happen.

I look forward to another fantastic Show

and to seeing you there. Don't hesitate to ask Joan Roderick or me, if you have any questions at all.

Happy growing!

Bill

Save these dates for the 2011 Show:

March 8: Staging set-up 10:00 am

March 9: Exhibit installation

10:00 am – 6:00 pm;

March 10: Exhibit and AOS Flower

judging 9:00 am, MOS Preview

Party 7:00 pm

March 11: Show opens to the public

at 10 am – 9 pm.

March 12: Show Open 10 am – 9 pm;

March 13: Show open 10 am – 6 pm,

Tear down at 6 pm.

Chris Frye continued from page 1

State Botanist, Chris is responsible for maintaining Maryland's list of the rare, threatened and endangered species and is curator of the department's plant collection, the Tawes Herbarium in Annapolis. Chris is actively involved in research and his research interests are very broad. With wife Jennifer, Chris has been examining patterns of plant and insect diversity on inland sand dunes on the Eastern Shore, with students at Salisbury University, he is examining the population genetics of the federally endangered *Harperella* (*Ptilimnium nodosum*), and with colleagues at the University of Maine, Chris is examining the systematics, ecology and evolution of *Amelanchier*. Chris spends a lot of time in the field and this past summer Chris was busy reviewing the conservation status of several of our native brome-grasses (*Bromus*).

Sue Spicer
Program Chair

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: **Sarah Hurdell • Tom McBride • Bill Scharf • Laura Sobelman • Sue Spicer • 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.

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