

# MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY ORCHID newsletter

News and information for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society

May 2012



## president's message

### Value Added

That's a term we have all heard, probably way too often, which makes us somewhat numb to the concept behind the phrase.

While taking part in the MOS Board meeting a couple of weeks ago, that term came to mind as I listened to the many great ideas and enthusiasm for bringing those ideas to fruition. The MOS truly has value to offer its membership through our many events and activities such as The Annual Auction, where members and guests can find their favorite plant at often far less than retail prices and can see the plant before purchasing it. The Spring Show brings vendors from around the country, offering top quality plants at good prices and free advice from the grower... in

person, not a common occurrence these days. The MOS Workshop, held right after the Spring Show, is a perfect way to get hands-on instruction from experienced MOS members who are always willing to help. For an even closer look at repotting, the MOS Members Only Repotting Clinic is usually held for a small group with very individual attention given to each member.

Then, of course, there are the MOS monthly meetings where members and guests are treated to one of the best Show Tables in the region. I hear this often from speakers and guest members from other societies. This is an incredible opportunity to speak directly to the grower and get first-hand information on how the

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## Mark Werther to Speak on Equitant Oncidium

We welcome back Mark Werther of Sentinel Orchids (Radnor, PA) as program speaker at our May meeting. Mark last spoke to the MOS in 1993 but remains active after all these years in the orchid trade, American Orchid Society (AOS), and regional societies. Mark's talk will be on Equitant Oncidium, and he will have many examples in bloom on his sales table to highlight this subject. You may also visit his website ([www.sentinelorchids.com](http://www.sentinelorchids.com)) for additional sale plants that can be delivered to the meeting.

Mark Werther was hooked on orchids at the young age of 16. He established Sentinel Orchids in 1987. His firm now focuses on making divisions of select plants available to the discerning collector. An interesting service available from Sentinel is orchid collection evaluation, wherein

you can have your collection assessed for desirability, condition, and monetary value and be provided with recommended growing methods.



Mark has been an accredited AOS judge since 1987, serving several job positions at the Mid-Atlantic Judging Center. He has authored several AOS Bulletin articles and is active in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society (SEPOS). Over the years, Mark has garnered more than 100 AOS awards with an emphasis on Broughtonia species and hybrids and C. (formerly Slc.) Tiny Titan. Combining his architectural practice with his love of orchids,

Mark has also consulted on several private and public greenhouse and conservatory installations.

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AOS Corner

Don't Don't Don't

# april 2012 show table

by Tom McBride

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

## Novice

1. Phal. Hybrid - The Hallameyers

## Home Grown

1. *C. skinneri* 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS - The Lundys
2. Tie Phrag. Schroderae 'Jubilee' AM/AOS - Val Lowe  
Paph. Frank Hughes - Mark Robbins  
Phal. Blond Beauty - The Dagostins
3. Tie Phal. Keiki King - Bill Soyke  
Mps. Lillian Nakamoto - Bill Scharf

## Greenhouse

1. *C. Irene Holquin* 'Brown Eyes' AM/AOS - Michael Moran
2. *C. skinneri* 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS - Barbara Buck
3. Tie Den. Nora Tokunaga - David Smith  
Epi. *parkinsonianum* - Cy Swett



## Cattleya

1. *C. skinneri* 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS - Michael Moran
2. Tie *C. intermedia* var. *coerulea* (above)- David Smith  
*C. Lucky Gem* 'Sarah' AM/AOS - Gary Smith & Sarah Hurdel
3. *Lc. Culminant* 'La Tuilerie' - Barbara Buck



## Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. *lueddemanniana* - The Adamses
2. Tie Phal. *honghenensis* - David Smith  
Phal. Sogo Fairyland (column one, bottom)- Bill Soyke
3. Tie Dtps. Taida Salu - John Dunning  
Phal. Nobby's Amy - Sarah Spence

## Oncidium

1. Odcdm. Wildcat 'Rainbow' - Lou Vadorsky
2. Brs. Rex 'Sakata' - Cy Swett
3. Mps. Bert Field 'Leash' - The Dagostins

## Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. Bel Royal - John Dunning
2. Tie Paph. Gerde Rollke - Mark Robbins  
Phrag. Andean Fire - Lou Vadorsky  
Phrag. Belle Hogue Point - Bill Soyke  
Paph. *philippinense* - Steve Schneider
3. Tie Paph. Mount Toro - The Adamses  
Paph. *chamberlainianun* var. *latifolium* - Val Lowe  
Paph. Ho Chi Minh - Clark Riley  
Paph. (Hsinying Glory X *charlesworthii*) - Gary Smith & Sarah Hurdel



## Dendrobium

1. Den. *brymerianum* 'Malvern' AM/AOS - David Smith
2. Den. *sulcatum*- The Adamses
3. Den. Roy Tokunaga - Cy Swett

## Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Ascda. Bangsai Delight - The Adamses
2. Asc. Cherry Blossom - Bill Scharf
3. Tie Strs. *speciosus* X Pel. *species* (right)- Clark Riley  
V. Hybrid - Sue Spicer



## Species

1. Mgm. *falcatum* (below)- The Adamses
2. Pths. *grobyi* - David Smith
3. Tie Den. *unicum* - Michael Moran  
Phal. *cornu-cervi* 'Red' - Gary Smith & Sarah Hurdel



## Miniature

1. Neof. *falcata* 'Gojyofukurin' - The Adamses
2. Ob. *species* - David Smith
3. Tulm. Red Berry - Bill Scharf



## First Bloom Seedling

1. Phrag. Fliquet - The Lundys
2. Tie Paph. Liberty Taiwan - The Riegels  
Paph. *delenatii* (above)- Lou Vadorsky
3. Ble. *murasaki* - Sue Spicer

## Fragrance

1. Rl. *digbyana* 'Mrs. Chase' AM/AOS - The Lundys
2. *C. Hybrid* - Chris Zajac
3. Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' AM/AOS - John Dunning

The Judges Choice of the Evening was *C. skinneri* 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS (below), exhibited by Michael Moran. The judges were Val Lowe, Gregg Custis and Judi von Mehlem. There were an incredible 133 beautiful plants displayed on our show table this month!



# April Orchid Workshop (see article on next page)



# Outstanding Orchid Workshop Adds New Members

**T**hank you. I'm truly amazed. Amazed, that our organization has the ability to bring together such a fine event when it seems that participation by the general public may be lagging thanks to a difficult economy. This year the MOS post show education and repotting seminar attracted 37 die-hard orchid enthusiasts to enjoy a day of interesting conversation, demonstration and participation, all in the name of these beautiful plants. We were treated to excellent lecturing in a very comforting



style from Valerie Lowe, Sarah Hurdel, and David Smith. A fine lunch was served thanks to Margaret Smith and Anne Lundy. Assisting throughout the day in various capacities were Laura Sobelman, Deborah Dade, Sarah Spence, Gregg Custis, Eric Wiles II, and Owen Hurdel (If I have forgotten anyone else, my apologies).

As a result of our efforts we were fortunate enough to gain several new members for our organization that share our orchid

addiction. I look forward to seeing these new members at our upcoming meetings and seeing them at our future events. Likewise, I look forward to seeing our membership once again in upcoming years hold future seminars with as much excitement and fervor as this past one. Thank you so much again everybody.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Eric Wiles  
Activities Chair

## calendar

Note the following events:

For more events visit: [https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=ke0gdgeah30i7ovjtb9qfr4r2o@group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/New\\_York&gsessionid=OK](https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=ke0gdgeah30i7ovjtb9qfr4r2o@group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/New_York&gsessionid=OK)

## Stay Tuned for These Upcoming Speakers

The following are tentatively scheduled as MOS speakers for 2012:

June	Erich Michel, Michel Orchid Nursery (Mooresville, IN)
September	Tom McBride, Show Table Results

## Maryland Orchid Society Board of Trustees Meeting July 26

The next quarterly meeting of the Board will be held at the home of Margaret and David Smith. Arrive as early as 6:30 PM to enjoy a light meal and refreshments. (Please consider bringing a side dish or refreshment.) Open to all members. Please RSVP to the Smiths or Bill Scharf.

## 2012 MOS Nominating Committee Recommendations

The MOS Nominating Committee would like to recommend the following slate of Officers to the Membership:

<b>President:</b>	Eric Wiles
<b>Vice President:</b>	Sarah Spence
<b>Controller:</b>	Mary Chiu
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Chip Hiebler
<b>Secretary:</b>	Sarah Hurdel
<b>Director:</b>	Gregg Custis Chris Zajac

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Lowe, Nominating Committee Chair  
Joan Roderick  
Chip Hiebler

# A Job Well Done: Kudos on the Orchid Workshop

This letter from a grateful participant was e-mailed to Eric Wiles shortly after Mos' April workshop.

Hi Eric,

This is a thank you note from a very grateful participant in the seminar held yesterday, April 14th at St. David's. I am a super novice. I received my first Orchid, probably purchased at Home Depot, a year ago in February after my Dad passed away. I have raised African Violets successfully but never tried Orchids. My orchid stayed in bloom for quite awhile, then went dormant. Through no knowledge of my own, it started growing a third spike and bloomed in time for Dad's anniversary. The puppy is still in bloom although it will soon be out.

I work with a person who told me about the Orchid Show at Timonium. Leaving the husband at home, I went to the show. I bought three plants. Then about two weeks ago, I was at our Safeway in Parkville and they had some really, to me, beautiful plants so I had to buy two more. Now I have 6.

The seminar yesterday taught me so much. I took good notes so as to remember a lot of what was said. Today was watering day and I started to really look at my plants. Three were packed in moss and still way too wet from last weeks watering. I re-potted them with the mulchy stuff I bought at the show so they would all be on the same schedule. Then as I was looking at one Orchid, I noticed mealy bugs. Wouldn't have had a clue what they were had I not attended yesterday. Please tell Sarah that I got the same perverse pleasure out of eradicating them with the alcohol as she does. It was wonderful.

I am, by no means, an Orchid aficionado after yesterday but I really enjoyed being able to look at my plant and have some idea about what to do with them. I missed the potting part as I had another engagement at 3:00 so I had to leave early for a bull roast with some friends. When I told my friend Michelle where I had been in the morning, she was jealous. She had Orchids in Florida when she lived there. She told me that she had seen a "blue" one last weekend at Home Depot that looked dyed and was much more expensive than the others. I had to smile when I could tell her that indeed it was dyed and that I had learned that trick at the seminar.

I would like to join the MOS but would be a very limited member. I work full time, have a family of a husband, 4 big dogs and cats. I volunteer for Pets On Wheels and sit on the Board of Directors for the Opticians Association of Maryland. I also Volunteer at my church so I am kind of a busy person but if I can join the Society and be a member at my own pace, I might be able to do that.

I know this is lengthy but I just wanted to thank everyone for such a wonderful program. I have been a speaker at seminars and an instructor of opticianry in the past. I really enjoyed my day with all of you.

If you feel so inclined, please pass along my thoughts, especially to the speakers and organizers of the seminar. Oh and one more thing, the lunch was wonderful. Take care and stay well.

Lin Formwalt

## An Update From the AOS Members' and Trustees' Meeting—Wichita, Kansas

Announcing the election of new AOS Officers for the upcoming 2012-2014 period:

Sandra Tillisch-Svoboda, President  
Tim Brooks, Vice President  
Fred Missbach, Vice President  
Karen McBride, Treasurer  
Max Thompson, Assistant Treasurer  
Jean Hollebhone, Secretary

And the election of the following AOS Trustees for Three-Year Terms Ending in 2015:

Jeanne Buchanan  
Norman Fang  
Mario Ferrusi  
Ron Giles  
John Ingram  
Frank Smith

Biographical information about all the trustees and officers are located on the AOS webpage ([www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)). In addition to the elections, the various AOS committees and Trustees held their meetings. Throughout the year, I will be writing about some changes and additions to membership in the AOS that were discussed at these meetings.

During the Town Hall Meeting, the attendees were given an update on the progress of the move to Fairchild Botanic Gardens. The staff is still getting acclimated and are currently in very small temporary space. As some construction is completed at Fairchild, AOS will be able to acquire more office space. In the meantime, most functions are up and running on schedule and most of the needs of the membership are being met.

AOS would like to thank all of you for your patience and understanding during their move to the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. The new phone and fax numbers have been installed and are: Phone: (305) 740.2010; Fax: (305) 740.2011. They are requesting that the Committee Chair emails should continue to be the first line of contact. A listing of those email addresses are on the website as well.

Lynn Fuller, Chair  
AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

### MASTER GROWER SERIES

## Don't - Don't - Don't - Don't - Don't

(Reprinted From The Newsletter of the San Francisco Orchid Society) Stan Sullivan  
Article submitted by Norma Lynch

1. Don't plan a definite day for watering. Determine moisture condition of potting medium (not on top, but down where the roots are), and water accordingly.
2. Don't stick to the "book." If a plant is not doing well from suggested environmental conditions, try placing it where heat, light, moisture, or air circulation is different. Often, a plant will respond to just a slight change in one or more conditions.
3. Don't keep small seedlings with adult plants. They need less light and more moisture. A light misting several times a day is especially beneficial to little seedlings.
4. Don't water lightly. Wet the potting medium, then go back later and water profusely. This leaches out residual alkali accumulating in the pot.
5. Don't crowd plants. Air circulation is very important. It is better to have fifty healthy plants than a hundred invalids.
6. Don't fail to cull your plants. Many seedlings are not worth keeping after you see them bloom. Admit you bought a "dog," and throw it out — unless you are raising plants for foliage.
7. Don't forget periodic preventive maintenance of equipment. Why wait to clean and oil tools, motors, etc., after they fail? Sometimes the results can be disastrous.
8. Don't wait until new leads are distorted and set before staking. Reshape them before they look like an octopus or a corkscrew.
9. Don't guess at measurements when mixing solutions. Some chemicals have disastrous effects or no effects at all when proportions are changed. Don't add a pinch more to strengthen the mix — follow directions. Don't mix two insecticides or fungicides, unless compatibility is established.
10. Don't apply insecticide or fungicide irregularly. Set up a regular program, and don't wait for an epidemic.

# SHORE ORCHID FESTIVAL

Held at Silva Orchids



Friday, June 8 - Sunday, June 10, 2012 • 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

## *Guests to include*

- Andy's Orchids
- Black Jungle Terrarium Supply
- Brennan Orchids
- Cal-Orchid
- Canaima Orchids
- Fishing Creek
- J&L Orchids
- Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies
- Little Brook Orchids
- Main Street Orchids
- Oakhill Gardens
- Orchid Phile
- Piping Rock
- Seed Engei
- Silva Orchids
- Stony Brook Orchids
- Suwada Orchid Nursery
- Ten Shin Gardens
- Waldor Orchids



Bus & van groups welcome

Easy access from major highways

Free orchid workshops on Saturday & Sunday for beginners & experienced growers

Food vendors on site • Rain or shine • All activities tented

635 Wayside Rd. • Neptune, NJ • 732-922-2635  
Visit our website for more information [www.silvaorchids.com](http://www.silvaorchids.com)

## Value Added continued from page 1

plant is being grown. Our beautifully done newsletter features good information as well from MOS members, the American Orchid Society and one feature I'm very proud of, the Judges Choice article. This was developed to offer all members detailed information on growing what the judges for the evening deemed Best Plant on the Show table. You may be surprised that the conditions given the plant fit your conditions. The Education Corner, held monthly at the meetings, was conceived specifically to educate and inspire new and novice growers. It's a casual open forum that encourages conversation, questions and answers. A true value for new growers.

One area which has not been taken full advantage of is the Mentoring Program. This program is there for you, the member. The mentors are, Bill Ellis, Bill Scharf, David Smith, Steve and Rachael

Adams and Eric Wiles. We are there to answer any questions you may have on a specific plant or genera. We can discuss conditions and culture and if one of us is not sure of the answer we will point you to another mentor that does. This is an easy and comfortable way to get the answers you need. Look for the green sticker on our name tags and ask away. We're happy to be of help.

There is nothing like personal connections and conversations to find the information you need. We have a very friendly and open membership that is always ready to be of help. You just need to take advantage of the Value of the MOS.

Happy Growing,

*Bill*

## New Members

The MOS would like to welcome new members:

Lilly Mosley and Harry Leffmann  
Debbie Stadd  
Diann Due  
Ann Bain  
Kristine and Lanz Karfgin  
Rita Shapiro  
Steven and Harriet Schneider  
Amanda Gallegos  
Alexander and Wanda Kuhn  
Lin and Gregory Formwalt

# 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 Hurdel, Norma Lynch, Tom McBride, Bill Scharf, David Smith, Gary Smith, Laura Sobelman and Eric Wiles. If I missed anyone, I truly apologize.**

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