

# ORCHID *newsletter*



News and information for Maryland Orchid Society members

May 2015

## *president's message*

I think we can now say...**Spring is here!** It's after Mother's Day. We can assume it is safe to put out our tomato plants. At least that is what my grandfather always told me and I guess we could say that goes for orchids too. I hang my orchids in wire baskets on my dogwood tree and on a shaded fence. Just to be sure the ants don't take up residence, I stick an ant bait spike in the pots. By the way, hanging wire baskets are a great deal at the Dollar Tree store if you go early in the season. When I first started raising orchids, I put my Phals outside. They got sunburned even though they were in

shade...that was a heart breaking lesson. Now I keep them inside, spreading them out to fill the space left by plants that escape to the outside. Everyone is happy!

To our new members...we welcome you to place your blooming plants on the monthly Show Table. Show Table rules can be found on page 5 of the member roster. If you are unsure as to where your plant should be placed, do not hesitate to ask any member for assistance or Tom McBride, our Show Table Coordinator.

*Sarah*

## *upcoming events*

### **MONTHLY MEETING**

The next monthly MOS meeting will be held May 21, 2015.

### **BOARD MEETING**

The next board of trustees meeting is July 23 at the home of David and Margaret Smith. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 7:30. All members are welcome to attend. Please let the Smiths know if you are attending and if you would like to bring a dish or drink.

## **This Month's Speaker is Ray Barkalow**

This month, Ray Barkalow of First Rays Orchids will talk about "Biological Treatments in Horticulture." His focus is on the use of organic, biological treatments—bacteria and fungi—for pest control, and for stimulation of the plants' defenses and growth. Ray will take pre-orders via their online store ([shop.firstrays.com](http://shop.firstrays.com)). Use the "MDOS" coupon code to avoid shipping charges. He requests that no pre-orders be made prior to one week before the meeting.

As a young child, Ray lived a couple blocks from Walter Off and Waldor Orchids in Linwood, N.J., and knew about the greenhouses, but didn't give it another thought. His father was transferred to England in the 60s, and they lived quite close to a preeminent orchid grower and breeder, Black & Flory, who originated

almost 1000 hybrids. Later they moved to northwest Washington, D.C., and the Maryland suburb of Kensington was a high school stomping ground. The biggest coincidence, however, happened when he met a college friend at a public greenhouse while volunteering to work on their orchid collection. "I didn't know you were into orchids, Roger," brought peals of laughter from others. That's when I learned that his father was Merritt Huntington, owner of Kensington Orchids and an officer of the AOS!

Ray's orchid growing began when he was a Ceramic Engineering student at Georgia Tech. After about a year of volunteering his time at the public greenhouses in Piedmont Park—now the Atlanta Botanical Gardens—the orchid grower there gave him a big, "floofy" purple cattleya.

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## **Member Update**

There were 62 members at the April meeting. The door prize, a Blc. Pamela Hetherington 'Coronation' FCC/AOS was won by Charlotte Grahe.

Please welcome Cathy Merson; Veronica and Michael Moore; Alicia and Marshall Bryan; Christine Kniska-Ward; and Ernest and Billie Phillipp, Joyce Kent, Pamela Quist-Krause and Ed Krause as new MOS members.

## **Be Sure to Check Out the IOSPE**

The International Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia is exactly that—an encyclopedia of 17,983 orchid species in 863 genera with descriptions and photos of each. As an online orchid *Bible*, it lists the plants' preferred conditions as well when the flowers tend to bloom and if they are fragrant. This is an invaluable resource that every orchid grower should take advantage of. Visit <http://www.orchidspecies.com>

### Novice

1. Paph. Star Dreaming - The Zickuhrs
2. Tie Stsc. Vanguard - Anne Headrick  
Psy. Butterfly - Wanda Kuhn
3. Phal. Hybrid - Jen Goessling

### Home Grown

1. Cyc. Wine Delight 'JEM' FCC/AOS - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
2. Tie Phrag. Paul Eugene Conroy - Valerie Lowe  
Phal. Cassandra - Bob Travers  
Paph. (*sukhakulii* X *wardii*) - Aaron Webb
3. Tie Brs. New Star - John Dunning  
Gur. *skinneri* var. *alba* - The Zickuhrs

### Greenhouse

1. Cym. Orchid Conference 'Green Cascade' - Craig Taborsky
2. Tie Den. *amethystoglossum* - The Adamses  
Soph. *coccinea* - Clark Riley
3. Trgl. *cirrhifera* - David Smith

### Cattleya

1. C. Irene Holquin 'Brown Eyes' AM/AOS - Michael Moran
2. Tie Lc. Golden Sands 'Elizabeth' AM/AOS - Bob Johnston  
Gur. *skinneri* var. *alba* - Norma Lynch
3. Tie Epi. *melanoporphoreanum* - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith  
Lc. Trick or Treat X Pot. Love Passion - Kathi Jackson  
C. Jose Marti 'Mother's Favorite' - Eric Wiles

### Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Jiaho's Pink Girl - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
2. Phal. *lueddemanniana* - The Adamses
3. Tie Phal. Taida Golden Diamond 'Taida Black' - Kathi Jackson  
Phal. Hybrid - The Soykes

### Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. *rothschildianum* - Joanna Hager
2. Tie Paph. Mamie Wilson - Owen Humphrey  
Paph. Monsoon Novaluna 'Hampstead' HCC/AOS - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
3. Tie Paph. *hirsuttissimum* - The Adamses  
Paph. Mamie Wilson - John Dunning

### Oncidium

1. Brs. Rex 'Waiomao Spottles' FCC/AOS - John Dunning
2. Vuyl. Carnivale 'O Kiku' - Chris Zajac
3. Tie Psy. Mendenhall 'Hildos' FCC/AOS - Laura Sobelman  
Colm. Jungle Monarch - Eric Wiles

### Dendrobium

1. Den. *amethystoglossum* - Chris Zajac
2. Den. *eximium* - The Adamses
3. Tie Den. *laevifolium* - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith  
Den. *jenkinsii* - David Smith  
Den. *nobile* 'Merlin' - Craig Taborsky

### Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Asc. Cherry Blossom 'Carmela' - Brenda Logan
2. Zygolum Louisendorf - The Soykes
3. Stsc. Vanguard 'Fireball' JC/AOS - Wanda Kuhn

### Species

1. Gur. *skinneri* 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS - Michael Moran
2. Tie Bulb. *falcatum* var. *velatinum* - The Adamses  
Phrag. *piercei* - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
3. Tie Enc. *tampensis* - Sarah Spence  
Sarc. *septodites* - Craig Taborsky

### Miniature

1. Pths. *luctuosa* - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
2. Tie Microterangis *harriotiana* - David Smith  
Zygostates *allenii* - Eric Wiles
3. Tie Den. *lichenastrum* 'Harford' - The Adamses  
Aergs. *luteo-alba* var. *rhodosticta* - Dave Smith

### First Bloom Seedling

1. Paph. Berenice - Valerie Lowe
2. Tie C. Oconee X Slc. Circle of Life - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith  
Pol. *paniculata* - Bob Johnston
3. Tie Paph. Madeline - John Dunning  
Phrag. (St. Ouen X Pink Panther) - Joel Graham

### Fragrance

1. Phal. *japonica* - Chris Zajac
2. Lc. (Drumbeat X Bonanza Queen) 'Walomao Spring' - John Dunning
3. Masd. *livingstoneana* - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith

The Judges Choice of the Evening was Gur. *skinneri* 'Casa Luna AM/AOS (below), exhibited by Michael Moran. Thank You to our judges who were, Mary Chui, Gregg Custis and Deborah Dade. WOW, what a show table ! Our largest ever with 165 beautiful plants being displayed. A special THANKS to all that make our show table such a great success!



The May 2015 AOS Corner- From the desk of Laura Newton, Membership and Affiliated Societies Chair

The upcoming Webinars:

On 5/27/15 at 8:30p.m. EST, John Salvanti will present - Orchid Nutrition, Taking the Mystery out of Feeding Your Orchids. This is for members only.

On 6/10/15 at 8:30p.m. EST, Ron McHatton will present another Greenhouse Chat. This webinar is open to all!

The May issue of *Orchids* has many great articles, which you may have already seen if you are a current AOS member, but for those of you who are not, here is some of what you will find inside this issue of our monthly bulletin, which should entice you into becoming a member.

Embreea- a monster orchid in 3D, by Thomas Miranda, gives a great overview of this fascinating genus of enormous, yet short-lived flowers.

Disas by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins, is a beautifully illustrated look at many variations in color of this African genus.

There is a new series of articles called Growers Profile, highlighting a different grower each month. This month we get to peak into Paph Paradise and proprietor David Sorokowsky with a Q&A that gives up some insight into how you can start with a "box store" purchase and end up in a full-blown addiction into growing, hybridizing and selling award-winning orchids, as explained in the questions that Kathy Barrett asks.

Selecting a Pot by Sue and Terry Bottom, is a great tutorial on how to select the perfect pot for your plant, for your growing conditions.

Sarchochilus- Modern Breeding Lines and Plant Culture, by Scott Barrie and Fred Clarke, gives an in depth look at the new and excitingly colorful hybrid in this Australian genus.

In Brazil with Francisco Miranda, by Stig Dalstrom, is a wonderful article that showcases Brazilian orchids in their native habitat.

Orchid Shows taking place this month (for more in-depth information, please check out the complete calendar on [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)):

Maui Orchid Society Mothers' Day Show  
May 7 – 9, 2015  
Maui Mall, 70 East Kaahumanu Ave.,  
Kahului, Maui, HI

Oklahoma Orchid Society "Annual  
Mother's Day Show & Sale"  
May 9 – 10, 2015  
Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Center,  
3400 NW 36th, Oklahoma City, OK

Orchid Society of California "Mother's  
Day Weekend Orchid Show & Sale"  
May 9 – 10, 2015  
Lakeside Park Garden Center Nursery,  
666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA

Orchid Society of Northwestern  
Pennsylvania Show  
Palms Banquet Room at Boston's, 8071  
Peach St., Erie, PA

South Central Washington Orchid Society  
2015 Orchid Show & Sale  
May 9 – 10, 2015  
Tri-Tech Skills Center, 5929 W Metaline,  
Kennewick, WA

Volusia County Orchid Society Show  
May 9 – 10, 2015  
Volusia County Fairgrounds, Hester Bldg.,  
3100 East New York Ave., Deland, FL  
Saturday, May 9, 2015  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 232  
Durham Road, Madison, CT

Memphis Orchid Society Show  
May 15 – 17, 2015  
Memphis Botanic Garden, 750 Cherry  
Rd., Memphis, TN

Redland International Orchid Festival  
May 15 – 17, 2015  
Redland Fruit & Spice Park, 24801 SW  
187th Ave., Homestead, FL

Foothills Orchid Society "Calgary Orchid  
Show"  
May 23 – 24, 2015  
Triwood Community Centre, 2244  
Chicoutimi Drive Nst, Calgary, Alberta,  
Canada  
May 23 – 24, 2015  
Grand Traverse County Civic Center, 1213  
W Civic Center Drive, Traverse City, MI

New Orleans Orchid Society Annual  
Show & Sale  
Lakeside Shopping Center, 3301 Veterans  
Memorial Blvd., Suite 209, Metairie, La

Another great thing that you can find on our website is the new "Kid's Corner" tab, by Sandy Stubbings of the education committee. She provides great ideas on how to encourage and foster interest in orchids for the young children in our lives, so please check it out!

I have enjoyed sending the AOS Corner out for the past year, but alas my term as chair has come to an end.

George Hatfield, an AOS Trustee, will be taking over as chair of the Membership and Affiliated Societies Committee.

George is a fabulous orchid grower and Judge. I look forward to seeing his vision for our societies!

Let's grow together,

Laura Newton

## *clark's corner*

by Clark Riley

**Laelia Zip is (*tenebrosa* x *milleri*, Rod McLellan Co. 1965). It combines strong stems from both parents, the rich colors of *tenebrosa* and the brilliance of *milleri*. Acquired from Peter T. Lin, I suspect in association with Fred Clarke's breeding programs. This is a truly rewarding grex. Grows warm.**



by David Smith

For the May meeting, the Education Corner will be concerned with mounting small orchids and “potting” in slat baskets. Both of these growth strategies provide excellent drainage and somewhat higher humidity, but require more frequent watering. They also require a growing area that can handle the water drips. However, for growers who are willing to adapt their growing areas, these can be quite successful. There are some orchid plants which do not fare well



in a pot, so baskets and/or mounting are the answer. Also, there are many desirable orchids with sprawling growth habits which also do not adapt to pot culture, for which a basket works well. There will be sample plants, both mounted and “basketed” so that a curious grower can get an idea of what to do. And, finally, there will be some small growing plants available for novice, or otherwise, growers to try at no charge.

For the June Education Corner, Sarah Hurdel will present about either orchid photography or another orchid-related topic. Then, the September Education Corner will start all over again with an introduction to various executive officers and committee chairs and their duties. They will also suggest many activities available for which members may volunteer. After all, the best way to become familiar with the society is to participate in the many available activities.

Other topics slated for the 2015-2016 year involve Aaron Webb presenting about volunteering and presentations about phalaenopsis culture and Cattleya hybrid culture. Maybe John Dunning can be persuaded to present a continuation of his well received program about paphs and phrags. And, what goes on at an AOS judging session and what is an orchid judge, plus what does all of that alphabet soup surrounding orchids mean? There will be other programs as well!

Finally, don't forget the MOS members' annual picnic on August 15 at Eric Wiles's farm, the potting clinic on September 26 at my house, the orchid auction on November 14, our show in March, and the introduction to orchids and care program in April. There are many events and shows for which volunteers are needed, so don't overlook those. And don't forget that all are invited to the executive board meetings in January, April, July, and October.

## Ray Barklow from page 1

It took him about two years to kill it via the typical root rot-desiccation cycle torture, and at the time, he simply “did not kill plants,” so he was determined to learn more and got addicted like everyone else. Needless to say, in the 40+ years since, he learned that he is a very effective plant killer. (Isn't it true that you're not an orchid-growing “pro” until you have killed your weight in plants?)

During his professional career, he has had many opportunities to travel internationally and put together an extensive collection of orchids from around the world. That travel schedule (averaging 13 flights a week for over three years at one point) led to a great deal of experimentation involving keeping plants healthy and happy during his absences, and that's what led to the development of Semi-Hydroponics.

First Rays came into being by accident – literally – courtesy of a greenhouse heater and alarm failure on a 7°F night in January of 1994. They lost that entire 20-year collection of plants from around the world. After a few months, a new heater and alarm were purchased and written off as business expenses, even though he had no idea how he'd make a business out of orchids.

Shortly thereafter, he divided the first couple of replacement plants he had purchased, created a text-only web page listing them, and offered the extra divisions to the Internet orchid community via a post to the Comp-U-Serve Gardening Forum. Within three hours he had two orders, and knew how he'd make it a business.

Ray says the best part about the exposure that First Rays has given him 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.

### Newsletter Submissions

Content for the MOS Newsletter for the 2015 fiscal year is due at the end of the first full week of each month. The following dates are the deadlines for submitting content to the newsletter editor. Please submit your information to [sobelman1@verizon.net](mailto:sobelman1@verizon.net).

June 6, 2015; Meeting date 6/18



# 5<sup>th</sup> Annual *Cattleya Symposium*

**Co-sponsored by:**

University of Florida Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences  
St. Lucie County IFAS Extension Service  
American Orchid Society  
Odom's Orchids, Inc.



American Orchid Society  
Education. Conservation. Research.



## 2015 Speakers

Jeff Bradley/Texas  
Gene Crocker/South Carolina  
Keith Davis/North Carolina  
Makoto Hanajima/Japan  
Armando Mantellini/Florida  
Dr. Aaron Palmateer, Ph.D/Florida  
Ed Skvarch/Florida  
Alek Zaslowski/Brazil

**Friday August 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup>**

Indian River Research and Education Center  
2199 South Rock Road  
Fort Pierce, FL 34945

Host Hotel: Holiday Inn Express & Suites 772-464-5000

Participating Hotels: Fairfield Inn & Suites 772-462-2900  
Hampton Inn 772-828-4100  
Comfort Inn 772-409-1420  
Best Western 772-409-1740

Photos: Greg Allikas and Steven Herman



Register online at [www.odoms.com](http://www.odoms.com) or email [odomsorchids@comcast.net](mailto:odomsorchids@comcast.net)

# 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 the end of the first full week of each month.

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

The MOS meets at the Woodbrook Church, 25 Stevenson Lane, Baltimore, MD 21212, the third Thursday of each month, September through June. The Show Table setup begins at 7:00 p.m. followed by judging at 7:30 p.m. The Education Corner and Library open at 7:15 p.m. The program commences at 8:00 p.m. and adjourns at approximately 9:30 p.m.