

# M ORCHID S

# ORCHID

# newsletter

A newsletter for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society

September 2009



## president's message

Over the past several years, I've found that the month of September brings with it the same sort of internal stirrings that March does. A sense of anticipation for something still unarticulated. A whisper of hopefulness and renewal. I suppose this is a perfectly natural reaction to the coming of spring, but to give autumn the same billing seems a bit misplaced. While autumn happens to be my favorite of the four seasons, it's also tainted by the inevitable end result: winter. Winter is okay, but it struggles to maintain the same appeal that comes naturally to the other seasons. Spring doesn't suffer the same stigma.

I think it's also telling that as I've grown older, I tend to mark the passage of time in units of just two seasons. There's spring/summer and there's autumn/winter. I don't care much for the start of summer. It only means the days will soon start to shorten, even as the heat continues to swell. And while the beginning of winter can be a mini-celebration of longer day lengths ahead, it usually pales in comparison to all the other limitations imposed by winter.

So anyway, March and September are tops on my calendar. And as you've no doubt made the leap ahead of me, they also happen to be my two favorite months for orchids. March, obviously, is the date for our annual show. It's hard but energizing work, and I look forward to it each year. September is more laid back and represents something like a modest New Year's celebration for me. While I understand the need to break for the summer, the absence of regular meetings catches up with me by September. Even as my orchids are about to transition back to an indoor existence after spending the warm spring/summer months outdoors, I look forward to the shift from the shapeless hiatus to the regularity of seeing members again and sharing this common interest.

I happen to believe that the MOS offers a value proposition that is hard to match. It's what keeps me coming back and looking forward to this month. I hope you feel the same.

Gary

## Tom McBride is September Speaker

Tom McBride, our Show Table Chair, an AOS judge, and one of our local orchid gurus, will present the cumulative Show Table results from 2008-2009 at our September meeting. Tom keeps track of ribbon winners for every class, as well as every member who places a plant on the show table each month, loans plants for MOS or away show exhibits, and/or puts in an exhibit at our annual show. Ribbons count toward monetary awards, while loans and exhibits count toward points for free plants. For every three plant loans or exhibits, members will have the opportunity to pick out a seedling orchid plant of



their choice from the many different species and hybrids Tom provides at the September meeting. Tom will distribute monetary awards for the first, second and third place winners of each class.

This meeting always whets our appetites for growing more, bigger or better plants and starts our new orchid season with an enthusiastic scramble for new plants to add to our collections. Tom will also talk about what the Show Table judges look for each month and how to improve your chances of winning a ribbon.

<<Tom McBride speaking at the 2008 MOS workshop. Photo by Clark Riley.

### INSIDE

2  
4

June Show Table

Summer Fun: Fishing Creek Trip and  
The Little Greenhouse's Open House

5  
6  
9

Local AOS News

MOS Mentor-Protégé Program

Changes to the MOS Monthly Auction

# show table-june 2009

by Tom McBride



## Novice

1. Phal. Fireberry and Florida Snow x (West Wind X Savoie)  
- Janice Mazur (**shown above**)



2. Phal. Newberry Parfait 'Picotee' - Suzanne Gaertner (**shown above**)



## Home Grown

1. Paph. lantha Stage 'Tomcat' AM/ AOS - Mark Robbins (**shown above**)



2. Tie Lc. Irene Finney X Bl. Morning Glory - Ernie Drohan (**shown above**)

- Milt. Patricia Marie Linares '#1' - Bill Scharf
3. Tie Phal. Brother Enigma 'DeLeon's Cream Puff' - Marilyn Lauffer  
Phrag. Bel Croute - The Lundys

## Greenhouse Under 200 Square Feet

1. Enc. *alata* var. *parviflorum* - Eric Wiles



2. Paph. Lady Isabel - Lou Vadorsky (**shown above**)

## Greenhouse Over 200 Square Feet

1. Ren. Nancy Chandler 'Red Dragon' HCC/AOS - The Adamses
2. Ascda. Suksamran Sunshine - Cy Swett



3. Asctm. *ampullaceum* 'Nippon' - David Smith (**shown above**)

## Cattleya

1. C. Dupreana var. *coerulea* 'Kodama' - The Adamses



2. C. *intermedia* X Bl. Morning Glory - Eric Wiles (**shown above**)
3. Epi. (Cosmo Dream X Joseph Glow) - Chris Zajac



## Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Misty Green - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste (**shown above**)



2. Phal. Hybrid - Sarah Spence (**shown above**)
3. Tie Dor. *pulcherrima* X Phal. Buddah's Treasure - Chris Zajac  
Phal. (Brother Fortune X Taisuco Rosemary) - John Dunning

# show table-june 2009

continued

## Oncidium

1. Colm. Catatante 'Pacific Sun Spot'  
- Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste
2. Mtssa. Shelob 'Red Spider'  
- Cy Swett



3. Brsdm. Longlen 'Bill Switzer'  
- Chris Zajac (**shown above**)

## Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. Susan Booth - Eric Wiles
2. Tie Paph. Magic Lantern  
- The Adamses  
Paph. Gerd Rollke  
- Mark Robbins



3. Tie Paph. Mount Low - Val Lowe  
Paph. Vanda M. Pearman -  
The Lundys (**shown above**)  
Paph. Berenice - John Dunning  
(**shown top center column**)

## Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Mok. Salaya Red - Cy Swett
2. Den. Hybrid - Sue Spicer  
(**shown center of middle column**)
3. Den. Jacqueline Stocker  
- The Adamses



## Species

1. Gga. *galeata* - Eric Wiles



2. Tie Lyc. *candida* - Bill Ellis  
Den. *eximium* - Cy Swett  
(**shown above**)
3. Tie Den. *uniflora* - Chris Zajac  
Den. *hercoglossum*  
- The Adamses

## Miniature

1. Tolu. *sylvestris* 'El Gato' AM/AOS  
- The Adamses
2. Pths. *tribuloides* - David Smith



3. Den. *laevifolium* - Bill Scharf  
(**shown above**)



## First Bloom Seedling

1. Paph. Paul Parks - Clark Riley  
(**shown above**)
2. Paph. *stonei* - The Adamses
3. Paph. (Lady Isabel X *lowii*)  
- John Dunning

## Fragrance

No Awards Were Granted !



The Judges Choice of the Evening was Ren. Nancy Chandler 'Red Dragon' HCC/AOS, exhibited by the Adamses. (**shown above**)

The judges were Val Lowe, Jamie Riegel and Cy Swett. We had a total of 137 beautiful plants displayed on our spectacular show table this month!

# What Did The MOS Do This Summer?

by Eric Wiles

Do you remember back to school when your teacher made you write a report on your first day of school titled “What I did last summer”? I hated that assignment, one because I wasn’t very good at writing and two, because my summers were so busy that I couldn’t decide on one topic.

Well this year I was asked to do that same assignment. Fortunately now many years later I have one clear topic “What did the MOS do this summer?” The answer is activities.

This summer we had two very gracious greenhouse operations host our society for tours, education, and special sales incentives, which members could take advantage of.

Yes, wonderful open houses sponsored by Fishing Creek Orchids in July and The Little Greenhouse in August. The members who attended were able to view two very different operations. Fishing Creek was started as a retirement business and The Little Greenhouse as an evolving business that started by growing a wide variety of tropical flora eventually becoming a nationally-recognized orchid grower and regional icon for orchidphiles. Members could see that the proprietors of both companies are excellent horticulturists in their own right with different interests. Fishing Creek for example tends to carry more species plants and The Little Greenhouse carries more hybrids. Fishing Creek more pleurothalids and bulbophyllums and The Little Greenhouse more paphiopedilums and masdevallias. Each in itself devoted to the likes of its owners and the direction of their business.

For both of these events the treat was truly ours in an opportunity to share time with these professionals.

For all of us in MOS, thanks to both Fishing Creek Orchids and The Little Greenhouse.

# Fishing Creek Trip: *Ya Should’a Been There!*

Text and photos by Clark Riley

Six intrepid members of the Maryland Orchid Society made the gorgeous trip through the Pennsylvania summer countryside to visit our Society’s friend Stephen Male at Fishing Creek Orchids nestled between two ridges of the Allegheny Mountains. In addition to great company and gracious hospitality, the members were treated to a *tour de force* of horticultural excellence, both orchidaceous and non-orchid. We toured the greenhouse with its collection of beautiful and seldom seen species (and a few select hybrids). We left with a number of our favorites, especially since Steve’s instructions were “if you don’t see a price, ask. I may have extras.” Now don’t you wish you’d gone!



Left to right: Clark Riley, Laura Sobelman, Sarah Hurdel, Eric Wiles, Gary Smith, David Smith and Fishing Creek Orchids owner Steve Male pose amongst the treasures in Steve’s greenhouse.



# The Little Greenhouse Hosts Open House

by Gary Smith

On August 22 and 23 Tom McBride and Gary Krause generously opened their doors to MOS members for a special sale and tours of their facility. Tom treated us to a fascinating history tour of the greenhouses. Before Tom’s and Gary’s purchase in the 1970s, the prior owners grew mixed tropical plants and specialized in African violets under the name The Little Violet House. The name we now know was almost an afterthought to the planning that Tom and Gary put into the purchase and establishment of this local treasure. Tom discussed the systems in place for adding humidity, watering and light so as to meet the needs of plants in specific growing areas— cool, intermediate and warm. And since membership was a stipulation for being eligible for the sale discount, MOS picked up two new members in the process.

MOS thanks Tom and Gary for this rare opportunity and we hope they made a buck or two for their much appreciated efforts.

The Little Greenhouse is located at 9845 Harford Road, Parkville, MD 21234. The phone number is 410.661.4748.



Photo by Clark Riley

# LOCAL AOS NEWS

by Valerie Lowe

## July 4: National Capital Judging Center

The Little Greenhouse's plant of *Paphiopedilum* (*Paph.*) Magic Lantern 'Harford' was awarded an 81 point Award of Merit (AM). Their plant of *Paph.* Galen Fox 'Harford' was also awarded, receiving a 77 point High Class Certificate (HCC).

## July 15: Mid-Atlantic Judging Center

Jamie Riegel's plant of *Paph.* Sandy's Wild Turkey 'Cedarcrest' was awarded an 81 point AM.

## August 1: National Capital Judging Center

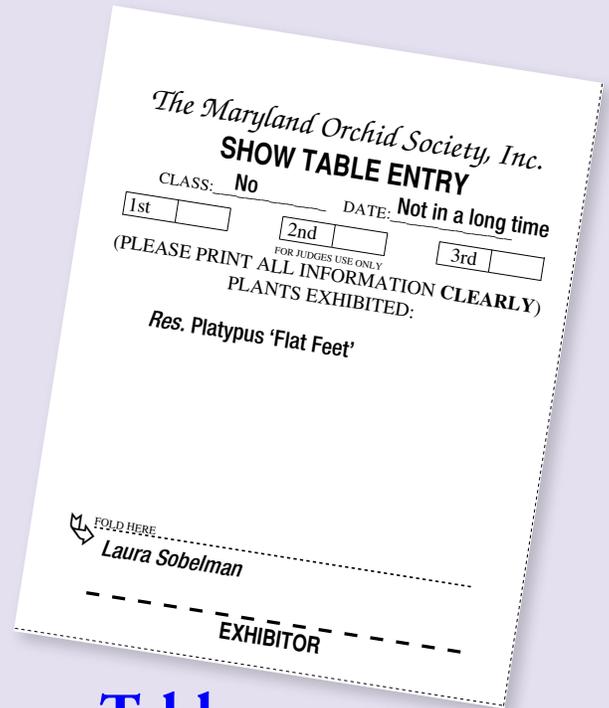
The Little Greenhouse's plant of *Brassia* Spider's Gold 'Caruso' was awarded an 82 point AM.

Valerie Lowe's plant of *Paph.* Mount Toro 'Maxa' was awarded a 77 point HCC.

## September 5, 2009: National Capital Judging Center

David Smith received a 92 point Certificate of Cultural Excellence for his plant of *Acianthera sonderiana* 'Turnberry'.

Valerie Lowe took two plants of *Cymbidium* Cooper Point to judging. One received a 77 point HCC ('Full Moon') and the other one received a 76 point HCC ('Maxa's Full Moon').



## Show Table Forms Available Online

To make your life (and Tom's) easier, show table forms can be downloaded and filled out before the meetings by going to <http://marylandorchids.org/showtable.html>. You can hand write the information or type it out on the pdf in Adobe Acrobat.

# BERKS COUNTY ORCHID AUCTION DATE and SITE CHANGE

The date for the Berks County Orchid Society orchid auction originally scheduled for Saturday, September 26, 2009 (rain date Sunday, September 27, 2009) has been changed to Sunday, October 4, 2009 at the Berks County Agriculture Building.

Inspection will be from 1:30-2:00 PM with the auction starting at 2:00 PM and continue until all plants are sold. Doors will open at 1:00 PM. Please enter through side door.

We have had a lot of interest expressed in the auction and in order to accommodate all parties, we feel an inside venue would be better with better seating and accessibility. Parking will also be much easier for all and is handicapped accessible.

As we mentioned before, these are the orchids of one of our members who is liquidating his collection. The Society is hosting the auction, with 50% of the proceeds of the auction going to the Society.

All are flowering size plants in various pot sizes from 4" to 10". Some are large enough for dividing. Many will be in spike at that time and some may in bloom. There is a selection of standard and miniature plants in various species.

Any questions, please contact Bob Hohl at [krh11340@ptd.net](mailto:krh11340@ptd.net) or Pat Golembiewski, President, Berks County Orchid Society at [PatGolem@aol.com](mailto:PatGolem@aol.com)

# The New MOS Mentor-Protégé Program by Bill Ellis

An important aspect of encouraging new and recently-joined 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 will be:

- 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) has been recruiting 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
- Bill Ellis
- Bill Scharf
- David Smith
- Eric Wiles

So far, we have two MOS members who would like to try out the Program as protégés. We hope other members will give it a try.

If you think you might be interested in connecting with a mentor for a while (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. We plan to place a colored sticker on the MOS name badges of mentors – the colors are yet to be chosen, but one color will mean “I'm available” and another color will mean “Not currently available - 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

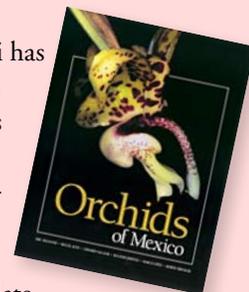
We are expecting to get a few more mentors to volunteer. Let Bill Ellis know if you are interested in being a mentor or a protégé.

He can be reached at:

billellis@ellislist.com  
443-520-8809

## Bibliophiles Needed

For the past three years Anne Minkowski has ably served MOS as its Librarian. During this time Anne prepared annual budgets, solicited recommendations for and ordered new books, kept an up-to-date inventory of library material, and administered the loan program that we offer to our members. Understandably, it came as a shock when she recently informed me of her need to step down from this post, one that she had performed so well. Sadly, Anne is relocating from Baltimore City to Hunt Valley and may not be able to participate in meetings and other activities as she had in the past.



Anyone interested in succeeding Anne as our next Librarian, please contact me. The term will end in June 2010. We have a job position description available, and I'm sure that Anne would be willing to provide a few pointers for prospective candidates.

Also, if any members residing in the Hunt Valley area would like to carpool with Anne to meetings, please inquire.

Gary

# THE 62ND NCOS ANNUAL SHOW OCTOBER 10-12, 2009

## U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM

On Columbus Day weekend, the National Capital Orchid Society will present its 62nd annual Orchid Show at the U.S. National Arboretum. Plan to visit, bring friends, see thousands of orchid plants in bloom, see top-quality orchid art, and add to your orchid collection. This is one of the best bloom seasons for orchids, so come prepared for a wonderful selection of orchids to see and buy!

As a special treat this year, Dr. Henry Oakeley, one of the foremost authorities on Lycastes and Anguloas, will present a lecture Saturday at 1:00 PM. These beautiful and unusual plants are rarely seen in shows. A limited number of copies of Dr. Oakeley's new book, "Lycaste, Ida, and Anguloas. The Essential Guide" will be available for purchase and signing. His book is over 400 pages and should be a wonderful addition to your firm's or society's library. Cost at the show is \$105USD (single copies by post from the UK to the USA are \$135) and copies can be reserved at the show price by e-mail to [henry.oakeley@virgin.net](mailto:henry.oakeley@virgin.net). See [www.oakeleybooks.com](http://www.oakeleybooks.com) for sample pages and reviews. Cash or checks accepted.



MOS Exhibit at the 2008 NCOS show.  
Photo by Barry Woolf

Visitors will receive, with purchase, a free copy of the NCOS Guide to Growing Orchids, with 60+ pages of information on how to grow and flower many types of orchids.

### Schedule

Saturday	8:30-9 am	Sales tent open for NCOS members only
	9 am - 5:00 pm	Sales tent open to the public
	10 am - 5:00 pm	Exhibit open to the public
Sunday	10 am - 5 pm	Exhibit and sales tent open to the public
Monday	10 am - 3 pm	Exhibit and sales tent open to the public

### Educational Lectures

Throughout the show, one hour educational lectures will be presented, covering topics of interest to orchid hobbyists.

Saturday	11:00 am	Growing Beautiful Orchids in Your Home
Saturday	1:00 pm	Anguloas and Lycastes
Saturday	3:00 pm	Repotting – Easy!
Sunday	11:00 am	Growing Beautiful Orchids in Your Home
Sunday	1:30 pm	Growing Cattleyas in Your Home
Sunday	3:00 pm	Orchid Viruses – Killing Your Orchids?
Monday	12:00 pm	Growing Beautiful Orchids in Your Home



# Fifth Annual Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium

Presented by an alliance of his orchid friends in Virginia

In conjunction with the American Orchid Society

**November 13 & 14, 2009**

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

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

Welcome: 7:30 PM - Rob Griesbach, Moderator

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

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

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

Welcome: 8:45 AM – Rob Griesbach, Moderator

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

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

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

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

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

4:30 - 5:30 PM - Plant Sales

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

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

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

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

Cavalier Room Rate for Huntington Symposium: \$89.00 • Cavalier Hotel Web site: [www.cavalierhotel.com](http://www.cavalierhotel.com)

**Register early. Space is limited.**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Registrant(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (for confirmation and additional symposium information) \_\_\_\_\_

Preview Party Only       Symposium Only       Both

Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Chargee my:     Visa       Mastercard

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Huntington Memorial Symposium. Return to: Dot Pierce, 917 Beryl Avenue, Virginia Beach, Va. 23464  
Symposium: [pierce.db@verizon.net](mailto:pierce.db@verizon.net) • Cavalier Hotel – For \$89.00 room rate ask for Huntington Symposium. Phone: (757) 425-8555

\*For additional information go to: [www.mycommunityis.com/tos/](http://www.mycommunityis.com/tos/)

# 2009 SUSQUEHANNA ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

The 2009 Susquehanna Orchid Society 26th Annual Show & Sale, "Orchid Follies," will be held **Friday, October 23 through Sunday, October 25 at Stauffers Of Kissel Hill, 301 Rohrerstown Road in Lancaster, PA.** This is a new and exciting location for us!

**Friday 12 - 8 pm, Saturday 9 am - 6 pm, Sunday 9 am - 5 pm**

## Schedule:

October 23 9 am to noon	Ribbon followed by AOS judging
October 23 noon to 8 pm	Exhibits open to the public, Sales as appropriate
October 24 9 am to 6 pm	Exhibits open to the public, Sales open
October 25 9 am to 5 pm	Exhibits open to the public, Sales open
October 25 5 pm	Tear down at 6 pm. Sales close at 5 pm.

There is no charge to exhibit. Commercial exhibitors are required to stage an exhibit and will be granted sales space commensurate with the size of their display. The SOS retains 15% of gross sales as commission.

Individuals and groups of individuals are welcome to exhibit. Individuals with just a few orchids to exhibit are invited to do so. "Walk-ins" will be accepted and entered in the Grower's Choice class.

The show is sanctioned by the American Orchid Society and will be judged by AOS judges. Ribbon judging will be done Friday morning until shortly after lunch.

The public is welcome to visit and enjoy the show, free of charge, as well as purchase orchids from our vendors.

## Membership Renewal

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 to:

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

or give them to Marilyn at the September meeting.



Marty Vittek auctions off a plant at the 2007 holiday party.

## Changes to the MOS Monthly Auction

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

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

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

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

# From the Ashes, a Rare Beauty Emerges

By [Adrian Higgins](#), Washington Post Staff Writer

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

The managers of Maryland's largest private nature preserve burned 240 acres this spring in the hopes of triggering the growth of long-dormant native plants. The plan worked, producing a rare hybrid orchid that has only been found in Maryland once before — 18 years ago.

Botanist Ron Wilson made the dazzling find in late July at the Nassawango Creek Preserve on the Eastern Shore, where the charred woodlands and prairies have responded with the appearance of rare native plants.

He found three specimens of a naturally occurring hybrid of the white fringed orchid and the crested yellow orchid. These species are uncommon enough, but the hybrid has only been found in Maryland once before — by Wilson and another botanist almost two decades ago at another Maryland site. It is known by its botanic name, *Platanthera x canbyi*.

"It's hard to explain to a non-botanist, but you go to site after site that has literally nothing as far as rare plants go, and find something like this," Wilson said. "It makes it all worth it." From ground-hugging, straplike leaves, the hybrid sends up a 12-inch flowering stalk in summer, but the blooms are lemon



One of the *Platanthera x canbyi* plants found in the Nassawango Creek Preserve. (Ron Wilson)

yellow in contrast to the white flowers of the white fringed orchid and the orange blooms of the crested yellow.

The controlled fires were set between March and May with the help of a \$55,000 federal grant and represented the largest annual burns to date at the 10,000-acre preserve, said Deborah Landau, conservation ecologist for the Nature Conservancy's Maryland/D.C. chapter.

The fires eradicate unwanted trees, shrubs and weeds; add nitrogen to the soil; and trigger responses from plants that evolved to grow after natural wildfires.

Wilson surveyed the areas last year and found seven white fringed orchids and no crested yellow orchids. This year, in addition to the appearance of the hybrid, Wilson found more than 50 white fringed and more than 20

crested yellow orchids. The fires have also encouraged the appearance of other rare plants, including sedges and grasses.

"To see such a dramatic change so quickly after the fire is a vindication, to see things that haven't been seen essentially in 70 years," Landau said.

*affiliated organization corner* by Valerie Lowe

## Orchid Digest

The special issue (Oct.-Dec. 2009) will highlight *Paphiopedilums* and *Phragmipediums*, including new species and hybrids, culture, and superb photography. To ensure that you receive your copy, join the Orchid Digest or renew your membership by the end of September!

## American Orchid Society

If you go to the American Orchid Society website ([www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)), you can access the following instructional videos:

- Removing a Damaged Leaf
- Removing a Keiki
- Potting a Keiki
- Anthocyanin
- Leaftip Dieback
- Where to Cut a Phalaenopsis Spike
- Root Loss
- Recognizing Virus Symptoms, part 1
- Boisduval Scale
- Recognizing Mite Damage

# orchid calendar 2009

Date: 09/17  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Event: MOS Meeting  
Location: First Christian Church Hall, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210  
Details: [www.marylandorchids.org](http://www.marylandorchids.org)

Date: 09/20  
Time: 12:30 PM  
Event: NCOS Meeting  
Location: United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958  
Details: [www.ncos.us](http://www.ncos.us)

Date: 09/20  
Time: 1:30 PM  
Event: SOS Meeting  
Location: Giant Supermarket, 3301 Trindle Rd, Camp Hill, PA  
Details: [www.susquehanna-orchid.org](http://www.susquehanna-orchid.org)

Date: 10/4  
Time: 1:00 PM  
Event: Berks County Orchid Society Member Orchid Auction  
Location: 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533-9709

Date: 10/9  
Time: 12:30 PM  
Event: NCJC Judging Session  
Location: United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958  
Details: [www.nationalcapitaljc.org](http://www.nationalcapitaljc.org)

Date: 10/9-12  
Event: NCOS Show  
Location: United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958  
Details: [www.ncos.us](http://www.ncos.us)

Date: 10/11  
Time: 2:00 PM  
Event: COS Meeting  
Location: Church of the Transfiguration, Braddock Heights, MD  
Details: [www.catocinorchidsociety.org](http://www.catocinorchidsociety.org)

Date: 10/11  
Time: 3:00 PM  
Event: Brookside Gardens Orchid Club Meeting  
Location: Brookside Gardens Visitor's Center, Wheaton, MD  
Details: [tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/BrooksideOrchids](http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/BrooksideOrchids)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Date: 11/8  
Time: 2:00 PM  
Event: COS Meeting  
Location: Church of the Transfiguration, Braddock Heights, MD  
Details: [www.catocinorchidsociety.org](http://www.catocinorchidsociety.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Date: 12/13  
Time: 2:00 PM  
Event: COS Meeting  
Location: Church of the Transfiguration, Braddock Heights, MD  
Details: [www.catocinorchidsociety.org](http://www.catocinorchidsociety.org)

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

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

# Maryland Orchid Society

## Officers

### President

Gary Smith  
410-349-7112  
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### Vice-President

Bill Scharf  
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[wilworks@hughes.net](mailto:wilworks@hughes.net)

### Treasurer

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### Controller

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410-366-9365  
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### Secretary

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## Past President

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Don Forester  
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## Committees

**Auction**  
Bill Ellis  
410-549-1530  
[billellis@ellislist.com](mailto:billellis@ellislist.com)

## Away Shows

Valerie Lowe  
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## Educational Activities

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## Show

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## Sunshine

Hilda Sukman  
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## House

Bill Soyke  
410-444-5465  
[Wsoyke@comcast.net](mailto:Wsoyke@comcast.net)

## Library

Currently open

## Membership

Manlyn Lauffer  
[jmlauffer@verizon.net](mailto:jmlauffer@verizon.net)

## Newsletter

Laura Sobelman  
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## Program

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## Refreshments

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## Show Table

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## Hospitality

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## ACS Representative

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Visit us on the Web at [www.marylandorchids.org](http://www.marylandorchids.org)  
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