



Tom Miranda has been the Orchid Collection Specialist at the Smithsonian Institution for the last 10 years.

For February's Speaker, MOS is Privileged to Have Tom Miranda

Tom Miranda has been the Orchid Collection Specialist at the Smithsonian Institution for the last 10 years. There he cares for and curates an extremely diverse collection of orchid species and hybrids from all over the world. His position includes developing and producing huge educational exhibits using the collection plants that last up to 4 months and are visited by hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Trained originally as a Marine Biologist, Tom made the switch to plants and orchids in his late 20s while living in

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Study Shows Orchid Mantis More Attractive To Their Prey Than Real Orchids

15 October 2013

The orchid mantis is famous for its remarkable similarity to the orchid flower, but researchers from Macquarie University have now discovered that its unique form of deception not only attracts its prey by resembling a blossom, but is in fact even more attractive to pollinators than the real flower.

Since its discovery in South East Asia more than a century ago, the rarity and elusive nature of the orchid mantis has made it difficult for scientists to understand why and how it has evolved this bizarre appearance.

Researchers James O'Hanlon and Marie Herberstein from Macquarie University, along with Gregory Holwell from the University of Auckland mounted an expedition to Malaysia to study the orchid mantis. They observed that the body of the orchid mantis was attractive to flying insects, demonstrating how their flower-like appearance has evolved to lure in unsuspecting pollinators searching for nectar in flowers.

"What really surprised us was the fact that the orchid mantises were even more successful at attracting pollinators than real flowers," said O'Hanlon.



Researchers from Macquarie University have now discovered that the orchid mantis' unique form of deception not only attracts its prey by resembling a blossom, but is in fact even more attractive to pollinators than the real flower.

"Their bright floral colours and petal shaped legs create a tantalizing lure for insects. So it seems that orchid mantises not only look like flowers but also beat flowers at their own game.

"After more than a century of conjecture we provide the first experimental evidence of pollinator deception in the orchid mantis and the first description of a unique predatory strategy that has not been documented in any other animal species."

Their findings have been published in the Chicago Journals for The American Society of Naturalists.

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january 2014 show table

by Tom McBride



Novice

1. Lc. (Starting Point X Robert Strait) (above)- Wanda Kuhn
2. B. Little Stars (below)- Benjamin Sims
3. Onc. Twinkle - Jenny Hildebrand



Home Grown

1. Paph. Pinocchio (above)- Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
2. Tie Epi. *garcianum* 'Clevelands' CBR/ AOS - Owen Humphrey
Den. *faciferum* - Bill Scharf
3. Tie Paph. Michael Koopowitz - Valerie Lowe
Epc. Renee Marques (below)- The Soykes



Greenhouse

1. Vasco. Pine Rivers 'Pink' - The Adamses
2. Tie Epi. *capricorni* - Clark Riley
Den. Stardust (above)-Eric Wiles
3. Tie Lc. Gold Digger 'Orglades Mandarin' - Suzanne Gaertner
Bulb. *ambrosia* - David Smith

Cattleya

1. Epc. Renee Marques - The Adamses
2. Tie Blc. Glen Maidment 'Aranbeem' - Bob Johnston
Mini-Catt Grouping - David Smith
3. C. *perciviliana* 'Summit' FCC/AOS - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith



Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Isin Fantasy (above)- John Dunning
2. Phal. *aphrodite* - The Soykes
3. Tie Phal. Hybrid - Janice Mazur
Phal. *pantherina* - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. (Sauk X Maude Rook) - The Adamses
2. Tie Paph. (Hilo Jewel X *fairieanum*) (top col. 3) - Owen Humphrey
Phrag. Fritz Schomberg - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
Paph. Pont au Bre - Chris Zajac
3. Tie Paph. (London Wall X Limerick) - John Dunning
Paph. Hsinying Gold - Joan Roderick
Paph. Rosy Dawn - Eric Wiles



Oncidium

1. Onc. *sphacelatum* - Eric Wiles
2. Odcdm. Wildcat 'Bobcat' (below)- Chris Zajac
3. Odbrs. Fangtastic Bob Henley - The Adamses



Dendrobium

1. Den. *denudans* (below)- Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
2. Tie Den. Jaquie Stocker - The Adamses
Den. Nobile Hybrid - Wanda Kuhn
3. Tie Den. Liberty White - John Dunning
Den. Red Emperor 'Prince' - Eric Wiles



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january judges' choice by Rachael Adams

Paphiopedilum Mesquakie (Sauk x Maud Rook)

Paphiopedilum Mesquakie (Sauk x Maud Rook) was registered in 2004 by Arnold Klehm. Paphiopedilum Sauk is a complex hybrid (Gigi x Burpham) while Maud Rook (Maud Read x Black Rook) is a maudiae type hybrid. We purchased this plant as a small unbloomed seedling from Ratcliffe Orchids in 2005. It has grown well and blooms reliably in mid-late winter. The flowers are long-lasting and while not award quality, are large and colorful on a fairly compact plant.



Rachael

MOS

THE MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY IS SEEKING ARTWORK TO

WANTS

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YOUR

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ART

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WORK

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For more information contact Laura Sobelman. sobelman1@verizon.net

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Free tours and seminars.

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

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www.mdorchids.org



Big MOS Show and Sale is Next Month!

The MOS Show, "A World of Color," is now upon us—just a few short weeks away, beginning March 7. Members are excitedly planning exhibits and primping their plants.

Now it is time for our Society to turn our full attention to our Show. There is much to do prior to the Show and the Show committee has been working on those tasks for quite awhile.

Here are the dates you'll need.

Tuesday, March 4 – Set-up staging

Wednesday, March 5 – Exhibitor Set-up

Thursday, March 6 – AOS Flower and Exhibit Judging, MOS Preview Party & Sale

Friday, March 7 – Show opens to the public. 10 am – 6 pm

Saturday, March 8 – Show open to the public. 10 am – 9 pm

Sunday, March 9 - Show open to the public. 10 am – 6 pm

Please keep these dates in mind as we'll need as much help as we can get. The Show is our largest and most work intensive activity of the year. It is a perfect opportunity to support the Society through your volunteer efforts as well as by attending the Preview Party and purchasing plants at the Show. It is critical that we have a good turn out from our Society. Please be sure to put it on your calendar and support the MOS. Please sign up using the sign-up sheets at the February meeting or contact me. willworks@hughes.net

There are so many opportunities for you to volunteer your time and effort. Help set up staging on March 4 at the Fairgrounds, help organize and hang the art show, put in an exhibit by yourself or with a group of friends, any size from 3 plants to a 100-square-foot exhibit, volunteer to help with judging and be part of a clerking team on March 6, and be sure to attend the Preview Party on the evening of Thursday, March 6. You'll get first choice of all the plants available from our talented vendors. Show off your creative abilities by

entering the always impressive art portion of the Show. Also consider helping promote and advertise the show through Facebook and other social media, and handing out ad flyers. We will need many people from Friday, March 7 through Sunday, March 9 at the Show. We'll need help in the sales area, making boxes, boxing plants, answering questions from eager buyers and being part of the Hospitality area. Another less obvious way to support the Society is to sponsor a glass award. (See the list of available awards to sponsor below).

It is extremely important that we get as much help as possible and support our vendors by purchasing plants. Please consider being part of this extremely important event.

Happy Growing,
Bill Scharf
Show Chair

Dinner and an Orchid Show!

Joan Roderick and I take pleasure in inviting you to be part of the most rewarding event of the year, the 2014 MOS Preview Party and Sale. **That's right. Dinner and an Orchid Show! That can not be beat. Enjoy the fellowship with friends and a delicious dinner and then race them to the sales area for your orchid dessert! There is limited seating so please sign up quickly. See the ad and response form on page 5.**

Thanks,
Bill

Be Immortalized, Honor a Loved One, Support MOS. Sponsor an Award.

MOS show trophies are awarded to the best plant or exhibit in that particular category. Anyone can sponsor an award (just \$35 each!), which monetarily and emotionally supports the MOS and allows you to honor someone, including yourself, with their name etched in glass. Here is the list of available awards to be sponsored for 2014.

- Best Cattleya Alliance in Show
- Best Oncidium Alliance In Show
- Best Lycaste in Show
- Best Commercial Cattleya Alliance
- Best Commercial Paphiopedilum Species
- Best Commercial Dendrobium Alliance
- Best Commercial Epidendrum Alliance
- Best Hobbyist Epidendrum Alliance
- Best Commercial Miniature
- Best Commercial Miscellaneous Genera
- Best Hobbyist Miscellaneous Genera
- Best Commercial Oncidium Alliance
- Best Commercial Pleurothallid Alliance
- Best Hobbyist Phragmipedium
- Best Foliage Plant in Show



A few on the bazillions of the MOS glass show trophies David Smith has won in the past years. Photo by David Smith.

A world of Color

THE MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

Cordially Invites Members, Friends & Family to the 2014 Preview Party and Sale.

*Thursday, March 6, 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, 2014 to Bill Scharf. 7768 Fulton School Road, Felton, PA 17322*

NAME(S) _____

NUMBER of MEMBER RESERVATIONS, \$25.00 each _____

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

Orchid Mantis continued from page 1

James C. O'Hanlon, Gregory I. Holwell and Marie E. Herberstein (2013) *Pollinator Deception in the Orchid Mantis*. The American Naturalist <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/10.1086/673858.pdf?acceptTC=true&acceptTC=true&jpdConfirm=true>

Read more: <http://www.mq.edu.au/newsroom/2013/10/15/study-shows-orchid-mantis-more-attractive-to-their-prey-than-real-orchids/#ixzz2ridf1UTa>

Also watch this riveting video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=FUKyETJZqM8&desktop_uri=%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DFUKyETJZqM8

(article provided by Sarah Hurdel)



For February's Speaker, MOS is Privileged to Have Tom Miranda continued from page 1

Hawaii. Since then he has worked with orchids at NY Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden and an extensive private collection at Greentree Estate in Long Island. Tom was also the floor manager at the New York International orchid Show for many years during this period.

For the last 6 years, Tom has contributed two columns each month for *Orchids* magazine and is developing a new book based on those writings. Tom travels frequently around the U.S. and internationally, making presentations to diverse audiences, from scientists to the general public, about orchid ecology, pollination biology, strategies for orchid conservation. He is passionate about seeking collaboration between the worlds of Botanic Gardens, the hobbyist community, commercial growers and scientists to work together toward the goal of protecting orchids and their habitats.

Currently working on a project to coordinate and centralize North American orchid conservation efforts, Tom hopes to extend the influence to other parts of the world where orchids are imperiled.



from the education and activities chair

I would like to thank Sarah Hurdel for her presentation in January about some of her techniques for staking inflorescences and grooming for exhibition. She had demonstrations, hands on, questions. If there are members who would like a follow-up for next year, let me know. John Dunning has already agreed to a follow-up about Paphs and Phrags for next year!

For this month, Valerie Lowe will tell you everything that you need to know about preparing and entering a small exhibit into the annual show. The more exhibits that we have, the better the show, so load Bill Scharf up with a lot of work to layout a place for many more exhibits, from three for effect, to tabletops, to floor exhibits, to Grower's Choice, to educational exhibits, to art exhibits. The sky's the limit (or at least the exhibition hall ceiling.)

David Smith

Member Update

The MOS is pleased to announce that Gary Krause has received a life membership.

Please join the Maryland Orchid Society in warmly welcoming the following new members:

Yigal Rappaport, Danielle Rappaport, and Linda Nardinelli

The January door prize, a *Dendrochillum* species, was won by Ben Sims.

There were 47 members at the holiday meeting.

For those of you who have ordered *Orchiata* or sphagnum, Michael Moran has graciously agreed to house the supplies until it is picked up. Please contact Michael to pick up your medium from him.



Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Lyc. Shoalhaven - David Smith
2. Hab. Regnerii 'Indiana Rose' (above)- Clark Riley
3. Tie Cym. Nagalex - Bill Scharf
V. Pachara Delight 'Pachara' FCC/JOGA - The Soykes

Species

1. Pths. *sclerophylla* - David Smith
2. Tie Rhy. *gigantea* - The Adamses
Ang. *sesquipedale* - The Dagostins
Chy. *bractescens* - Eric Wiles
3. Pths. *hoffmannseggiana* - Bill Scharf

Miniature

1. Epi. *polybulbon* - Eric Wiles
2. *Mediocalcar decoratum* - The Adamses
3. Tie Den. *hellwingianum* - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
Platystele stenostachya - David Smith



First Bloom Seedling

1. Paph. *Wenshanense* (above)- John Dunning
2. Phal. *amboinensis* (4N) - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith



Fragrance

1. Blic. Pink Sherbert (above)- Bob Johnston
2. Onc. Twinkle 'Red Fantasy' - Chris Zajac
3. Cym. Nagalex - Eric Wiles

The Judges Choice of the Evening was Paph. (Sauk X Maude Rook), exhibited by The Adamses. See page 3 for how they grow this wonderful orchid. Thank you to our judges Barbara Buck, Bill Scharf and Aaron Webb. Our show table had an incredible display of 160 beautiful flowering plants.

US Botanic Garden Trip Planned

MOS is planning a field trip in March or April to the U.S. Botanic Gardens Conservatory in D.C., which currently is featuring *Orchid Symphony*.



Experience the incredible elegance of an orchid symphony. The U.S. Botanic Garden will feature exuberant displays of orchids nestled among whimsical topiaries and musical fountains. Illuminated by an orchid chandelier, the Garden Court will sing the praises of beautiful orchids.

The Conservatory will feature orchids from all over the world in a multitude of environments. Come see desert orchids, jungle orchids and even orchids used in medicine and cooking against the gorgeous backdrop of the U.S. Botanic Garden collections.

Orchid Symphony is a collaboration between the U.S. Botanic Garden and Smithsonian Gardens. Stay tuned for more details. If you might be interested, contact Laura Sobelman or Gregg Custis.

See more at: <http://www.usbg.gov/exhibits#sthash.iRMdkFsz.dpuf>

Don't Miss These MOS Speakers!

Deborah Dade has a thrilling speaker line-up planned for MOS' 2014 monthly meetings. Following is a list of confirmed list of speakers:

February: Thomas Mirenda, Smithsonian Gardens' orchid specialist

March: MOS Panel to be determined

April: Trey Pyfer, Little Brook Orchids,
Common Orchid Pests
Pest and Fungi Management

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April 11–13, 2014

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Hang-A-Pot, FL
J & L Orchids, CT
JustPat Orchids, PA
Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies, NH
Little Brook Orchids, PA
Lois Duffin Orchids, PA
Main St. Orchids, PA
Marlow Orchids, NY

Mount Prospect Orchids, NJ
Ooi Leng Sun Orchids, Malaysia
Orquideas Katia, Colombia
The orchidPhile, CT
Piping Rock Orchids, NY
Seed Engel, Japan
Stony Brook Orchids, NJ
Sunisa's Clay Flowers, VA
Ten Shin Gardens, Taiwan
The 5 Senses, PA
Waldor Orchids, NJ

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VP Represents MOS at Science Symposium

On November 19, 2013, Sarah Spence was invited back to Baltimore City Community College to take part in the second annual Science Symposium representing the Maryland Orchid Society with a display of her orchids. "Professor" Spence retired from Baltimore City Community College in June after 45 years of teaching in the Natural and Physical Sciences Department.

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.

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
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Baltimore, MD 21210