



# The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

A monthly newsletter for the members and friends of the Society

November 2016

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



## The President's Message

'Tis the season for...raking leaves, house cleaning, stocking up on groceries, shopping, cooking, family, decorating, excitement, anxiety, fatigue and depression. Oh, what to do, what to do? Take a moment to spend some quality time with your orchids. For me, preening and pampering my plants is one way to relieve the stress that comes from all the holiday "hustle and bustle". The rewards are great...spikes, blooms, fresh O<sub>2</sub> to breathe and quiet (they don't talk back). Then I remember all of the people, things, and blessings I have to be thankful for. Here's wishing you and yours a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Speaking of being thankful, the Auction Committee...Aaron Webb, Joan Roderick and Sarah Spence, extend a big "thank you" to all who volunteered their time, energy and plants in making the MOS Annual Auction a great success.

Just in case you might forget, the program for the December meeting is our "bring a dish" Holiday party so come hungry. Please let Barbara Buck know what you will be bringing to add to the feast.

*Sarah*

## November's Guest Speaker



**Fred Clarke**

Sunset Valley Orchids

"Catasetum Species, Hybrid and their Culture"

Catasetums are from the Tribe Cymbidieae. Individually, it has been considered an orchid oddity, or "botanical," of interest mainly to the seriously addicted enthusiast. These plants have a brief deciduous period in winter, when the plants need a definite dry rest period bordering on neglect. These robust orchids are native to lowland tropical forests in Central and South America and are usually grown in warm or intermediate conditions.

Commercially, Catasetum, have occupied a small market niche on the edge of a sea of Cymbidiums, Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Dendrobiums, Epidendrums, and so on. Until recently, they have not attracted much attention from hybridizers, but in the past several years some spectacular hybrids have been produced, receiving great acclaim and an increasingly large collection of awards from the American Orchid Society.

This talk will feature a wide screen computer slide show on some of the species, new hybrids and plant culture of Catasetums. The presenter will be Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids in Vista.

Bio cont'd on page 3

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# October's 2016 Show Table Winners by Tom McBride

## Novice

1. Bulb. (Elizabeth Ann X fascinator) - The Zickuhrs
2. Psy. Mendenhall 'Hildos' FCC/AOS - Laurie Nardinelli

## Home Grown

### 1. Enc. Chiapas - Bob Travers

2. Tie Gmk. Mem. Harold Starkey - Kathi Jackson  
V. Hybrid - Brenda Logan
3. Tie Blc. Hawaiian Leopard 'Mei Long' - Jenny Hildebrand  
C. Caudebec 'Carmela' - Bob Johnston  
Phal. Hybrid - Judi von Mehlem

## Greenhouse

1. L. pumila - Clark Riley
2. Tie Neost. Lou Sneary 'Colorful Blue' - The Adamses  
Pot. Love Avenue 'Serenade' - Barbara Buck  
Dar. Charm - David Smith

## Cattleya

1. Pot. Love Tapestry - Clark Riley
2. Tie Blc. Mahina Yahiro 'Mashima' - Barbara Buck  
Slc. Hazel Boyd 'Apricot Glow' HCC/AOS - Bob Johnston
3. Tie Blc. Hawaiian Stars - Jenny Hildebrand  
Blc. (Aloha Case X Hunting Island) 'Hawaii Purple' -  
Janice Mazur

## Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Jai Ho's Pink Girl - John Dunning
2. Phal. bellina 'Montclair' AM/AOS - Sarah Hurdel &  
Gary Smith
3. Tie Phal. Hybrid - Owen Humphrey  
Phal. Hybrid - Sarah Spence

## Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

### 1. Paph. henryanum - Michael Moran

2. Tie Paph. Mamie Wilson - John Dunning  
Paph. Petula's Presence - Sarah Hurdel &  
Gary Smith
3. Phrag. (hartwegii X Spot On) - Joel Graham

## Dendrobium

1. Den. Big Alex - Chris Zajac
2. Den. capituliflorum - The Adamses
3. Den. Hybrid - Wanda Kuhn

## Oncidium

1. Milt. Earl Dunn 'Dark Lip' - Bob Johnston
2. Odcdm. Wildcat 'Yellow' - Norma Lynch
3. Tie Wils. Space Mine 'Red Rondevous' AM/AOS - John  
Dunning  
Odt. My Dog Spot 'Waterfield Dalmation' -  
Eric Wiles

## Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Cym. Osborn - David Smith
2. Tie Bulb. A-Doribil Anna Roth - The Adamses  
Ctsm. (denticulatum X Louise Clark) - Joel Graham
3. Tie Zygo. Red Valley - John Dunning  
Lys. Red Jewel 'Sweet Baby' - Eric Wiles

## Species

1. Gchls. dasypogon - The Adamses
2. Tie Coel. monilorachis - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith  
Aergs. luteo-alba var. rhodosticta - Arne Schon
3. Tie Bulb. grandiflorum - Bob Johnston  
Iso. linearis - Eric Wiles

## Miniature

### 1. Lep. calodictyon - David Smith

2. Tie Dcm. chrysotopis - The Adamses  
Orpha. radicans - Eric Wiles
3. Tie C. Tiny Toshie 'Sweetheart' AM/AOS - Sarah Hurdel &  
Gary Smith  
Bulb. tingabarinum - Bob Johnston

## First Bloom Seedling

1. C. labiata var. rubra - Michael Moran

## Fragrance

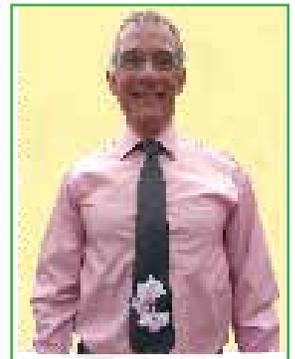
1. V. falcata - David Smith
2. Blc. Hawaiian Nightlife - Clark Riley
3. Onc. Hybrid - Mary Chiu

## Judges Choice of the Evening

**The Judges Choice of the Evening**  
was Enc. Chiapas, exhibited by  
Bob Travers.

Thank You to our judges who were,  
Kathi Jackson, Brenda Logan and  
Joan Roderick.

Our show table had an incredible  
display of 114 beautiful flowering  
plants.



A special THANKS to all that make our show table such a  
great success!

**MORE ABOUT CHIAPAS**



**Bob Travers plant  
Encyclia Chiapas was  
the Judges Choice of  
the Evening at  
October's' meeting  
night.**

Encyclia Chiapas was first registered with the RHS in 1964 by W.W.G.Moir as a primary Hybrid between Encyclia adenocaula (pollen parent) and Encyclia cordigera (seed parent). My plant was obtained from a former MOS President Southgate "Bud" Hammond (1982-1983). This plant is a remake of the hybrid by Bud. Bud Hammond passed in October of 2004, so I most likely received this plant in the late 1990's before I kept a log of my collection.

The parents are both native to Mexico and can range south to Columbia. This suggests a strong requirement for high light levels. My success did not come until I could support the light requirement. My whole orchid collection winters in the basement under lights and summers outside in a shade stand at about 70% shade. The first time I recollect bringing this plant to MOS Show table was the spring of 2014. Over that winter we had made major modification to the growing area in the basement to improve light availability. This area is now under a triple bank of 6 tube High Bay T8 fluorescent lights that come on at 4pm and off at 8am.

This summer the plant was repotted as spikes appeared. Staking was done twice as the spike grew. The first flower opened Sept 16, and is still in bloom. This plant is also seen in the National Capitol show picture in last month's newsletter. It was also considered there by AOS judging though not awarded. It was suggested to improve the flower count to grow in a still higher light environment. Next summer I will consider growing Encyclia Chiapas outside the shade stand.



Submitted by Bob Travers,  
MOS member

**Fred Clarke's Bio continued from page 1**

Fred Clarke has been growing orchids for 35 years and has been hybridizing for 25 of those years. With over 28 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery; Sunset Valley Orchids, located in San Diego, California.

He is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Although developing Cattleya hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new Australian Dendrobiums and Paphiopedilum hybrids plus some others to be named if they work out! His pioneering work in Catasetum intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, Fredclarkeara After Dark, which produced "the blackest flower ever witnessed". This grex has received eight FCC's and over 41 awards worldwide.

Fred is an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region. His plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society.

Fred will be bringing plants to sell, pre-orders are welcome, go to his website: [sunsetvalleyorchids.com](http://sunsetvalleyorchids.com) and pick out the plants you would like Fred to bring with him. Send Fred an email to [fred.clarke@att.net](mailto:fred.clarke@att.net), give him your order and your name and identify yourself as a member of Maryland Orchid Society and ask him to bring your order with him to Maryland for our Nov. 17th meeting.

There will be no shipping charge to you and you will receive a 10% discount. The pre-order deadline is November 13th. to Maryland for our Nov. 17th meeting. There will be no shipping charge to you and you will receive a 10% discount. The pre-order deadline is November 13th.

# Maryland Orchid Society News and Surrounding Events

Our October speaker Mr. Kim Feddersen left us some flyers to pass on to our members who missed his program. Here are some rules of thumb for successfully growing Paphiopedilum and Phragmipediums.

## Fair Orchids The Slipper Grid

	Light reqmt	Temp	Water when
<b>sub-genus Paphiopedilum</b> <i>Single flowered</i> <i>barbigerum, boxallii, charlesworthii, coccineum, druryi, exul, fairieanum, gratixianum, helenae, henryanum, hermannii, hirsutissimum, insigne, markianum, tigrinum, tranlienianum, villosum &amp; their hybrids</i>		Interm	Moist
<b>sub-g Sigmatopetalum (Barbatum)</b> <i>Maudiae types</i> <i>acmodontum, appletonianum, argus, barbatum, bourgainvilleanum, bullenianum, callosum, ciliolare, dayanum, fowlei, hennisianum, hookerae, javanicum, lawrenceanum, mastersianum, mahrianum, papuanum, purpuratum, sangii, schoseri, sukhakulii, superbiens, tonsum, urbanianum, venustum, violascens, wardii, wentworthianum &amp; their hybrids</i>	 Like Phalaenopsis	Interm+	Moist
<b>sub-genus Brachypetalum</b> <i>Succulents/white flowers</i> <i>bellatulum, concolor, godefroyae, leucochilum, niveum, thaianum &amp; their hybrids</i>		Interm+	<b>DRY</b>
<b>sub-genus Parvisepalum</b> <i>Balloon slippers</i> <i>armeniicum, delenatil, emersonii, hangianum, malipoense, micranthum, vietnamense &amp; their hybrids</i>		<b>Varies</b>	Moist
<b>sub-genus Cochlopetalum</b> <i>Sequential multi-florals</i> <i>chamberlainianum, glaucophyllum, liemianum, primulinum, victoria-mariae, victoria-reginae &amp; their hybrids</i>		Interm+	Moist
<b>sub-genus Polyantha</b> <i>Simultaneous multi-florals</i> <i>adauctum, aianthum, gigantifolium, gianauigerum, naynaianum, kolopakingii, lowii, ooi, parishii, philippinense, platyphyllum, praestans, randsii, rothschildianum, sanderianum, stonei, supardii, wilhelminae &amp; their hybrids</i>	 Like Cattleya	Interm+	Moist
<b>Mexipedium</b> <i>xerophyticum</i>		Interm+	Moist
<b>Phragmipedium</b>	Like Cattleya	Interm	Moist
			<b>Stand in Water</b>

Sep, 2016

Continued on page 4

# Fair Orchids Repotting Paphs & Phrags



Young Paphiopedilum & Phragmipedium grow by adding new leaves from the center or top of the fan, while older leaves at the bottom of the fan wither and dry out. As a result the **root crown** slowly rises out of the mix, unless you replot the plant and seat it lower in fresh mix.

Photo to the left shows a single growth Paph, that has been in the pot for 2-3 years. It has 2 new fans forming, but they are at least 1/2" above the mix, so this plant is in dire need of repotting.

## Root crown

Mature multi-growth plants grow faster than seedlings & 1-2 growth plants. New fans often consist of just 4 leaves, which typically grow in less than 1 year. For the larger multi-floral types, it takes somewhat longer, so there the issue of plants rising out of the mix rarely occurs.

The next photo shows a blooming size seedling, which was in mix that had turned to 'mud'. It is a typical plant, so I am using it to demonstrate how deep to place Paphs & Phrags in the pot (please see the close-up of the base of the fan).



Notice the new root appearing just below the root crown (**red dotted line**). New growths will form behind one or both of the two lower leaves (A & B), slightly above the current root crown. Roots on the new growths emerge at the base of the growth, which must be just below the medium surface.

That is why the plant needs to be potted as deep as shown by the **blue dotted line**. And finally the freshly repotted plant.

Some experts replot their most valuable Paphs annually. I tend to go 18-24 months (occasionally longer

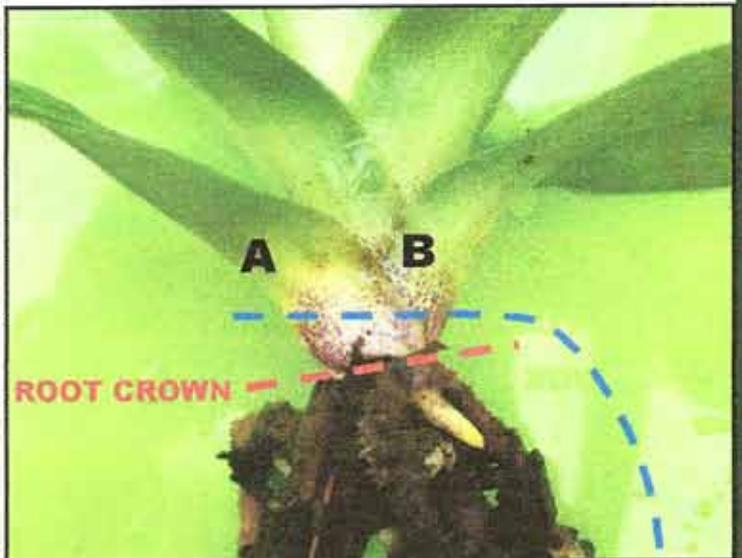
if the mix is still good), repotting only when the mix goes bad or the plant has outgrown the pot. **Phrags sitting in water should be repotted annually.**

- Paphs & Phrags do best, when slightly **under-potted**. Select the smallest possible pot, that will hold the plant and still allow watering into the pot.
- Single growth plants: **Centered in the pot.**
- Mature plants should be placed slightly off center, with old growths closer to the edge, and more space in front of the new leads.

Paphs & Phrags can be grown in almost any mix (except soil & ProMix), as long as you water accordingly. Please refer to 'The Slipper Grid' for details.

Paphs & Phrags can be repotted at any time of the year, **even while in bud or flower** - just be careful not to break the flower stem. This makes 'slippers' one of the easiest orchid groups to work with.

**NOTE:** Many Paphs do not set roots from new growths till the 2nd year, so do not be in a hurry to divide plants. To assure adequate roots on each new plant, I recommend having 2-3 mature fans in each new division.



May, 2014.  
Updated October, 2014

*Maryland Orchid Society  
2016/2017 Calendar*

- November 12, 2016** – Annual Auction
- November 17, 2016** – Monthly Meeting
- December 15, 2016** – Monthly Meeting/ Holiday Party
- January 19, 2017** – Monthly Meeting
- January 26, 2017** – Board Meeting
- February 2, 2017** – SOS Show Set up
- February 16, 2017** – Monthly Meeting
- March 7-12, 2017** – Annual Spring Show and Sale  
March 7 – Set-up staging  
March 8 – Set-up exhibits  
March 9 – AOS Judging; Preview sale 6-8 PM  
March 10 – 12 – Show opens to public
- March 16, 2017** – Monthly Meeting
- March 23, 2017** – SEPOS Show Set up
- April 1, 2017** – Spring Workshop
- April 20, 2017** – Monthly Meeting
- April 27, 2017** – Board Meeting
- May 18, 2017** – Monthly Meeting
- June 15, 2017** – Monthly Meeting

*Marilyn's Corner*

**Welcome to our new members**

Vilma and David Anderson  
Kate Blom

There were 60 members in attendance at our October meeting.

Submitted by Marilyn Lauffer - Membership

*Norma's Corner*

**Library News**

The MOS library has been re-organized to make the library more user friendly. The library cabinet is located in a side room. If you can't find it, ask. We have added new titles, so take a few minutes and browse the books. We ask that you return borrowed books at the next meeting. Thank you.

Submitted by Norma Lynch - Library

Contents for the MOS Newsletter for the 2016-2017 fiscal year is due at the end of the first week of each month.

The following dates are the deadlines for submitting content to the newsletter editor. Please submit your information to [barbarabuck2015@comcast.net](mailto:barbarabuck2015@comcast.net).

- November 5, 2016; Meeting date 11/17
- December 3, 2016; Meeting date 12/15
- January 7, 2017; Meeting date 1/19
- February 4, 2017; Meeting date 2/16
- March 4, 2017; Meeting date 2/16
- April 8, 2017; Meeting date 4/20
- May 6, 2017; Meeting date 5/18
- June 3, 2017; Meeting date 6/15

## 8 Ways to Kill Your Orchid

By Danny Flanders

Orchids are some of the easiest plants to grow if given the proper exposure, potting mix and right amount of water.

It's just not fair: Orchids have this bum rap for being some of the most finicky plants to grow. And don't even talk about getting a second bloom out of them. Most frustrated indoor gardeners just toss them once that last flower's gone.

Yet, the truth is orchids are some of the easiest plants to grow if given the proper exposure, potting mix and right amount of water. Just ask Becky Brinkman, longtime manager of the Atlanta Botanical Garden's Fuqua Orchid Center, home to one of the country's largest collections of species orchids. There, envious visitors corner her every day for advice on what they're doing wrong with their own plants. So much so, that Becky has come up with her Eight Ways to Kill Your Orchid:

### 1. Water it every day.

The most frequently asked question is "Do you water the orchids every day?" The answer is, "No, but we check them every day." Checking means looking at the potting mix to see if it's dry. A good grower learns to recognize the change in color that accompanies the drying process.

### 2. Establish a watering schedule for your orchid. Make it conform to your schedule. Water it on the same day of the week that you go to the gym, or the grocery store, or the car wash.

This one is really tempting. But let's say it's September. Did you notice that yesterday was one and a half minutes shorter than the day before and that the sun is now lower in the sky than it was in July? Your plant did. So, two months from now, when your orchid receives one less hour of light and considerably weaker light intensity, does it make sense to water with the same frequency?

### 3. Water your orchid whenever you water your other plants.

Convenient, yes. Good horticulture, no.

### 4. Water your Phalaenopsis orchid with ice cubes.

Tell me you don't do this. In nature a moth orchid seldom experiences temperatures below 60 degrees. And you're thinking about applying ice water to its roots? Why not just put it in the freezer for a day?

### 5. Find out where your orchid is native to and water it when the Weather Channel says it's raining there.

This strategy wouldn't work even if you and your houseplant lived in its country of origin. Microclimate matters more to an orchid than macroclimate. Even if your condo is located in the rain forest, the kitchen window microclimate where your potted orchid resides is different from the microclimate within the tree canopy outside.

### 6. Force it to live its entire life in a beautiful pot with no drainage holes, in a dense soil mix, and smothered with florist's moss.

I know you received it from the florist this way, and it looks great, I admit it. But shouldn't they know better? The florist's priority is how the plant looks, not how well it grows.

### 7. Force it to live its entire life in the same soil mix that the grower put it in.

After two years an orchid mix is history. Orchids in conventional peat moss-based houseplant soil should be sold with "Buyer Beware" stamped on the pot. The structure of peat moss (and composted pine bark) is too fine and too dense to be a good long-term medium for plants that in nature grow in trees. It retains loads of water and breaks down quickly. Peat-based mixes are cheap, widely available, uniform, sterile and lightweight (meaning inexpensive to ship). Young orchids reach flowering size rapidly in this mix, saving production time and labor, and then can be swiftly passed along to the consumer.

### 8. Bring your orchid to the Garden's Orchid Care Clinic on the coldest day in January. On the way home leave it in your unheated car while your visit every store in the mall.

Oh no. More blood on my hands.

Becky's bottom-line basic advice is this:

- Plant your orchid in a coarse-textured potting mix that promotes air circulation, such as the combination of bark/charcoal/perlite.
- Give it intense sunlight (an east-facing windowsill is good).
- Let the plant dry out a little between waterings.
- Don't overdo it with the fertilizer (cut the dosage by half for these light feeders).

Submitted by Norma Lynch - Library



# *AOS News and Surrounding Area Orchid Events*

## **FINAL REMINDER**

### **11<sup>th</sup> Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium**

*Presented by an alliance of his orchid friends in Virginia*

**November 11th & 12th, 2016**

#### **Hotel**

Colonial Plaza - Williamsburg  
3032 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA  
Call (757) 565-2600 for Reservations

*Colonial Plaza-Williamsburg Rate for Symposium: \$79 per night, Plus Tax  
Rate goes up to \$89 per night 30 days prior to meeting. Let hotel reservation know you are  
with the Huntington Memorial Symposium to get special rate.*

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#### **Symposium: Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM**

Buffet Dinner (included in registration) Cash Bar and Plant Sales - 6:00 PM  
7:15 PM - Introduction - Rob Griesbach  
7:30 PM - Peter T. Lin - Diamond Orchids - "Wild, Weird and Wonderful Orchids"  
8:30 PM - Panel Discussion

#### **Symposium: Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 8:45 AM – 4:00 PM**

8:45 AM - Introduction - Rob Griesbach  
9:00 AM - Mark Reinke - Marble Branch Farm - "Encyclia's"  
Plants to be entered for **AOS Judging** by 10:00 AM  
10:30 AM - Sam Tsui - The Orchid Inn - "Paphiopedilum's"  
12:00 - 1:00 PM - Buffet Lunch (included in registration) and plant sales  
1:30 PM - John Stubbings - Clown Alley Orchids - "Orchids in Heaven"  
2:15 PM - AOS Judging Results

#### **VENDORS**

Waldor Orchids - [www.waldor.com](http://www.waldor.com)  
Orchid Inn - [www.orchidinnusa.com](http://www.orchidinnusa.com)  
Marble Branch Farms - [www.marblebranchfarms.com](http://www.marblebranchfarms.com)  
Clown Alley Orchids - [www.clownalleyorchids.myshopify.com/](http://www.clownalleyorchids.myshopify.com/)  
Diamond Orchids - [www.diamondorchids.com](http://www.diamondorchids.com)

**\*\*For additional information and Online Registration go to:  
[www.mhsymposium.org](http://www.mhsymposium.org)**

### 2016 Registration Form

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

Additional Registrants(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Only (\$50) \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Only (\$50) \_\_\_\_\_ Combination(\$95) \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to Huntington Memorial Symposium**

Return to: Joanne Bryan, 932 Darby Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23464

\*For additional information and Online Registration go to: [www.mhsymposium.org](http://www.mhsymposium.org)

*Holiday Inn Rate for Symposium: \$79 per night, Plus Tax  
Rate goes up to \$89 per night 30 days prior to meeting. Let hotel reservation know you are  
with the Huntington Memorial Symposium to get special rate.*

#### **Added Information**

Leon Glicenstein will be presenting a talk on Habenaria at the National Capital Judging Center on December 3, 2016 starting at 10:30 am.



#### **November 5, 2016: National Capital Judging Center**

Sarah Hurdel's plant of Cattleya Minibeau 'Sweetie' received a 79 point Highly Commended Certificate (HCC).



Respectfully submitted by Valerie Lowe -  
AOS representative, and MOS Away Show Chair

# Maryland Orchid Society Officers and Committees

## Officers

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- Joan Roderick
- Sarah Spence

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- Sarah Spence

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