



# The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

A monthly newsletter for the members and friends of the Society

November 2018

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

## The President's Message



Due to my current health situation, I am taking a temporary sabbatical leave as President of the Maryland Orchid Society. Past President, Sarah Spence has agreed to act as Interim President with the assistance of Laura Sobelman, Vice President. As soon as my health permits, I will resume the duties of President. In the meantime, please direct all MOS inquiries to Sarah Spence (cc Laura Sobelman & myself).

I appreciate the support of the members of the MOS and ask for the continued support of Sarah & Laura during this time.

On a side note, planning for the Spring Show is ongoing and on track. The Show will take place on March 8th, 9th and 10th. I will be contacting individuals in the next few weeks to form a Show Committee. If you are interested in helping with the Show planning, please email me.

Thank you all for your thoughts & prayers, but most of all, your support for the MOS during this time. I look forward to the day I can resume my responsibilities as MOS President.

I miss you all.

*Joan - President*

## The Vice President's Message



During this time of year, the light outside fades early and we gather around with family to celebrate our respective holidays. We should also celebrate the light and joy our orchids and friends bring us. No matter your choice of orchid or holiday, please make the most of this wondrous season.

Thank you, everyone who helped out and/or donated plants to the November auction, as well as those who purchased plants to support the MOS. The event was an outstanding success and the third most financially successful in the past 12 years.

At the December 20 meeting, we will not have a speaker, but will be holding our exciting annual holiday and awards party. Barbara Buck (410-551-9374 / [barbarabuck2015@comcast.net](mailto:barbarabuck2015@comcast.net)) will be coordinating the menu, so let her know what you will be bringing. In addition, we will be announcing and celebrating our Members' Choice Awards for Leadership and Service. And, we will be having our always-spectacular show table, so don't forget your blooming plants!

Also in December, we will be running a plant swap; for each plant you bring, you may take one plant. Learn more from Program Chair John Heinbokel.

In January, we will be presenting a member panel focused on building show displays – small to large; selecting and organizing plants; and collaborating to allow small scale growers to work together to build incredible displays for our annual show in March.

MOS is having a show at the Rawlings Conservatory again on January 11,12, and 13, 2019. It is a beautiful and fun event, so please consider volunteering, donating plants, and/or visiting to show your support. See Sarah Spence for more information.

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*Novembers's 2018 Show Table Winners by Tom McBride  
was cancelled due to inclement weather*

## Tom will host our December monthly Show Table.

Submitted by Tom McBride - Show Table



### *The Vice President's Message (cont'd from page one)*

The Woodstream Orchids Peak of the Blooming Season Open House and Sale is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, January 12 and 13, 2019, with the snow day for the following weekend, January 19 and 20, 2019. Visit [www.woodstreamorchids.com](http://www.woodstreamorchids.com) for more information. The Paphiopedilum Forum at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., is scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 2019. **Register** for the Paph Forum at [www.ncos.us.org](http://www.ncos.us.org).

That's all she wrote. Grow long and prosper and may the orchids be with you.

*Laura - Vice President*

#### **MISSING**

We are missing at least two reels of extension cords. If you borrowed them, please return at the December meeting. Thank you.

Submitted by Sarah Spence - Past President

## COMING ATTRACTION

Monthly Meeting  
Plant Swap // Give Away  
December 20, 2018

Traditionally, December's MOS meeting is a Holiday Party with a typical Show Table but without a formal presentation/speaker. This year will be no exception, but we will revisit past years' activities by providing a setting for members to swap or give away plants from their collection. We'll advise later on how this will be specifically organized, but the intent is to exchange plants without the exchange of any money. More to follow; stay tuned.

Submitted by John Heinbokel - Program



# *The Maryland Orchid Society Calendar 2018/2019*

December 20, 2018 – Monthly Meeting/  
Holiday Party

January 11,12,13, 2019 – Rawlings  
Conservatory Show

January 17, 2019 – Monthly Meeting  
January 24, 2019 – Board Meeting

February 1, 2019 – SOS Show Set up  
February 21, 2019 – Monthly Meeting

March 5-10, 2019 – Annual Spring Show  
and Sale

March 5 – Set-up staging

March 6 – Set-up exhibits

March 7 – AOS Judging; Preview  
Sale 3-6 PM

March 8, 9,10 – Show opens to public

March 21, 2019 – Monthly Meeting

April 4, 2019 – SEPOS Show Set up

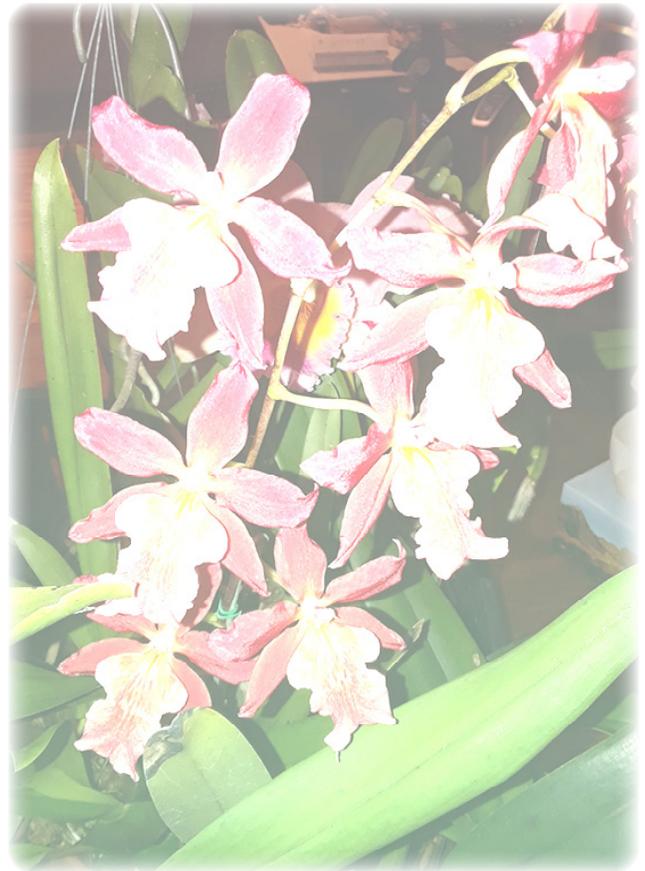
April 13, 2019 – Spring Workshop

April 18, 2019 – Monthly Meeting

April 25, 2019 – Board Meeting

May 16, 2019 – Monthly Meeting

June 20, 2019 – Monthly Meeting



Submitted by Joan Roderick - President

# Maryland Orchid Society News and Surrounding Events



Sarah Spence represented  
Maryland Orchid Society  
at the  
2018 Science Symposium  
at the  
Baltimore City Community  
College.



“Professor” Sarah Spence represented MOS at the 2018 Science Symposium at the Baltimore City Community College on November 8. The Science Symposium was first presented 5 years ago as a collaboration among STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) students and faculty.

As a faculty member, Sarah played an important part in the organization of the first Symposium in 2013. STEM students research and present informative displays and perform experiments and demonstrations for attendees. Faculty members presented displays of their various “hobbies”. Industry sponsors-demonstrated their latest scientific equipment.

This year, over 200 high school students were invited and attended the Symposium, viewing the numerous exhibits.



## David's Corner



**December** we will not have an Education Corner. We will restart in January, with maybe a return to some more orchid taxonomy.

Submitted by David Smith -  
Education Corner

## Dr. Clark's Corner



# When you want a little more ...

Our Maryland Orchid Society is blessed with some of the finest orchid growers in the world. That's not simple boasting. Those who have travelled to other societies know it's true. Even so, it's a really good idea to visit other great venues to hobnob with your fellow wizards.

Here is a tiny selection of some U.S. shows and events from near to far that will help you to grow and develop your growing skills:

## Sarah's Corner

**MOS  
Welcomes Our New Members  
of  
2018**



Vilma and David Anderson  
Mary Carol Baranoski  
John Bersch and daughter Melissa  
Cherie and Steve Christy  
Mai Conaway  
Pamela Forest  
Libby and Scott Francis-Baxter  
Jennifer and Peter Goessling  
Shirley Gregory  
Susie and Timothy Hanmaker  
Janet and Bill Hinton  
Debbie Lippincott  
Bettye' McLeod  
Andrew and Tammy Murphy  
Devika and K.B. Nair  
Ben and Beverly Nees  
Sandy and Brian Reagan  
Lindy Reef  
Patricia and Lawrence Schiavi  
Craig Sherman  
Larry Siegel and Shirley Benton  
Kenny Stevenson and daughter  
Kimberly Stevenson Parks  
Cindy Ward  
Barbara Wise

Submitted by Sarah Spence - Memberships



### The Paph Forum

Washington, DC, January 26, 2019. Best of the best slipper growers:

<https://ncos.us/paph-forum/>

### The Pacific Orchid Expo

San Francisco, February 21-24, 2019. Exhibits and vendors from around the world including Asia. See (and buy) things you didn't even know existed:

<http://pacorchidexpo.org>

### Redlands International Orchid Festival,

Homestead, Florida, May 17-19, 2019. Exhibits and vendors from around the world including South America:

<https://www.redlandorchidfest.org>

### Long Island Orchid Festival

Oyster Bay, New York, May 31 - June 2, 2019. World class orchid lectures and vendors:

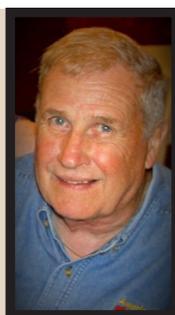
[http://www.longislandorchidsociety.org/orchid\\_festival.html](http://www.longislandorchidsociety.org/orchid_festival.html)

See you there?

Submitted by Dr. Clark Riley - Show Table

### Ernie Drohan

Please keep Ernie Drohan, one of our longest memberships, in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers from surgery.



*The Member's Spotlight*



*To Our  
Members  
and  
Friends*

*From the Computer of the Graphic Designer,  
I wish you the happiest of  
Holiday Cheer!!!*

**Happy Holidays! Come join us for**



*The Little Greenhouse  
Orchids*

## **OPEN HOUSE**

**for Maryland Orchid Society members**

**Saturday, December 15, 2018**

**9:00 AM until 5:00 PM**

**We are increasing your discount for this one-day event to 25% off of ALL regularly priced plants!**



**Members may enter to win a  
\$50.00 Gift Certificate.**

**9845 Harford Road • Baltimore, MD 21234**

**410.661.4748**

# **COME ON DECEMBER!!!**

*National Capital Orchid Society News  
and Surrounding Events*

# *Paphiopedilum Guild 2019*



**Save the date:  
January 19-20, 2019**



**Hyatt Santa Barbara, 1111 E. Cabrillo Blvd.,  
Santa Barbara, CA**

**Registration is \$95 per person and it includes  
Lectures and Saturday night dinner.**

***REGISTER NOW***

See details including the speakers list on the Paphiopedilum  
Guild website.

Click this link for the details: [\*Paph Guild Website\*](#)



# Let's Grow Together!



www.aos.org



**THE DECEMBER 2018 AOS CORNER**– From the desk of Denise Lucero, Vice Chair, American Orchid Society Affiliated Societies Committee ([Affiliated\\_Societies@AOS.org](mailto:Affiliated_Societies@AOS.org)).

**For newsletter editors:** Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner, in whole or in part, in their society newsletters. We encourage promotion of AOS website use by your members.

## **AFFILIATED SOCIETIES**

We've just returned from the Fall AOS Member's Meeting in Apopka, Florida, held in conjunction with the 19th International Slipper Orchid Symposium. It's always great to catch up on all that's happening within the organization and take stock of our recent accomplishments, like membership breaking 10,000! We had committee meetings face to face and set new goals for future development. What can be better than spending time with orchid friends? 'Save the Date' details will soon be sent out to all AOS members for the Spring meeting which will be in San Diego, California. Details just went up on the website at <http://www.aos.org/news-and-events/members-meetings.aspx>. We welcome you to join us!

Keep watching the Affiliated Societies page on [AOS.org](http://www.aos.org). It's one of the places you'll be seeing changes on the AOS site. New content is being added and updated each week. Some affiliate information will only be made available to members, so just make sure you are logged into your account be sure you are accessing all information that's available to our affiliates. How to guides and articles are available on a new indexed page in the Affiliated Societies page of the website titled Guides and Articles. We hope you will find it easy to navigate and quickly locate the society topic you are looking for.

If you are renewing affiliation membership online, remember to log in to your society account and not use own personal account to assure funds are directed to the account intended. If you are an AOS representative or President renewing society membership, take an extra minute or two to fill out your society contact information to maintain currency. Many society roles change this time of year along with the start of new program years. The online form is accessible as part of the membership payment process or can be found here and updated at any time <http://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies/affiliated-society-update-form.aspx>.

As we reach the end of the year in the December issue of ORCHIDS our AOS President, Susan Wedegaertner, expresses gratitude to all those who so generously donate not only money but their time and plants to the AOS. These people and their dedication are what ensure that the AOS continues to thrive. They are appreciated for their success and thanked.

Also, remember that if a speaker cancels last minute, or there's no budget for nationally recognized expert speakers you can use, consider an American Orchid Society webinar as a meeting program! Other societies already have, and it is a wonderful resource to allow you to hear the experts. Go to the Affiliated Societies webpage at [AOS.org](http://www.aos.org) for a list of webinars that are available. Contact Sandra Svoboda at [stillisch@cox.net](mailto:stillisch@cox.net) and request the programs and Instructions. We recommend you request at least 3 topics and video files will be sent to you. You can copy the file to a flash drive or copy it to your hard drive and show the webinar at the meeting.

We're always looking for ideas to bring kids into the world of orchids. You can check out <http://www.aos.org/orchids/kids-corner/kids-sorting-boxes.aspx> for making an easy Kids' Corner sorting activity of your own at your next orchid show. All it takes is some crafty people, some loving volunteers and a table. This one's really versatile for kids of all ages. See other articles for instructions on how to create activities we've tested out or make up your own great activities. Please share your ideas and experiences with the Education Committee at [sstubbings@comcast.net](mailto:sstubbings@comcast.net)

Thanks again for all the pics that you are sending in for the Instagram feed. Our Instagram Administrator, Candace Hollinger, sends her appreciation to you all. It's wonderful to see such a variety of everything orchid that's enjoyed around the globe. Please remind your members that we would love pics of how they grow, what's blooming now or anything they love about orchids. Please continue to send your photos and short videos to: [americanorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:americanorchidsociety@gmail.com). Be sure to send a short caption explaining your photo. Also, if you are bilingual and can include your caption in English plus your other language(s)—it will help with our universal outreach.

Remember to check-in on our Facebook Group Page for Affiliated Societies of the American Orchid Society. The response has been great, many thanks to all of you who added pics of show banners. We can all learn from what has been successful for other societies. Let us know how your show went and what was successful for you or what didn't quite make the mark. Our administrator, Chad Brinkerhuff, monitors the feed and is a great resource for all that the AOS has to offer. Keep us up to date on what's going on at your local society and let us know how we can help you.

Also, remember we have a List of Speakers to help you plan society meeting programs. You will now find the Affiliated Societies link on the home page under the "About Us" heading.

**And... Here's a link to check it all out - <http://www.aos.org/>**

## **CULTURAL**

### **TOM'S MONTHLY CHECKLIST - November: The Month of Murmurings**

#### **Watchful Eyes Notice Details Necessary to Grow the Best Orchids**

**By Thomas Miranda, originally published in ORCHIDS, November 2011**

Communication can take many forms; talking, writing, singing, tweeting (and not just for birds). Then there are the nonverbal ways we connect with each other: body language, facial expressions, pheromones, even possibly psychic phenomena. Sometimes I think writing — sitting alone at a keyboard trying to compose a salient and engaging communicate to persons unknown — is a strange and solitary, even a lonely, endeavor. One might ask, "Are these just murmurings in the dark?" Of late, I've come to realize that writing for Orchids is a powerful thing. I've learned that the earnest industry of writing for my readers each month has earned me friends around the world that I would never have met in a thousand lifetimes without this platform and opportunity. Recently, a dear friend of mine going through a difficult time said that she felt like a plant in the wrong environment: a vanda in the masdevallia house, or an epiphyte in terrestrial medium essentially denied the basic things necessary for her to thrive. We, as humans, have the tools to communicate our problems to each other and reach out for help. But the murmurings of orchids are much harder to discern. Subtleties abound in orchid culture and as their stewards we must endeavor to interpret what they are telling us in their own language. The best growers are sensitive and develop an ineffable connection to their plants. I've seen it and it is a beautiful thing I hope to develop someday.

TURN, TURN, TURN: For most of us in the Northern Hemisphere, the outside world has morphed considerably since June. The days are shorter, the temperatures cooler and our moods are settling into indoor mode. Perhaps we don't realize how much more time we spend outside when it's warmer, but it is a simple truth. Orchid plants are also sensitive to these seasonal turns. Even if you supply them with the same heat, moisture, fertilizer and humidity year-round, they are still likely to slow down in winter. This is not only a natural but often a necessary part of an orchid's life cycle. The cooler temperatures and shorter photoperiod in November are often the triggers for plant metabolism to slow and spike initiation to begin.



Many Cattleya species, such as this *Cattleya percivaliana* 'Teresa' HCC/AOS bloom reliably at specific times of the year. Their dependence on seasonal temperature and photoperiod must be understood to bloom them successfully, especially in the house. Grower Carlos Cahiz; Photographer Greg Allikas.

**WINDOWSILL WOES:** One mistake many growers, particularly those who grow indoors, often make is to provide their plants with constant temperatures and watering year-round. Even in tropical orchid habitats there are seasonal changes. Granted, these are not as radical as the changes we see as we approach the poles, but those subtle fluctuations in temperature, rainfall and light levels are the factors that allow plants to thrive and bloom in season. Allow cattleyas and standard dendrobiums to get much drier than you would in summer when they are in active growth. Cattleyas and other orchids from seasonally dry habitats are deciduous (losing their leaves during the dry season) and serious damage can occur if they are drenched with water at this time. Your plants will murmur their needs to you by dropping some leaves or sprouting some new roots or growths. You must learn what those murmurings mean for the individuals in your collection.

**EVER SO LIGHTLY:** Another pitfall of the winter for indoor growers is our propensity to stay up late. Orchids that bloom in season are sometimes triggered by photoperiod. In other words, they are genetically programmed to bloom when the day length shortens in midwinter. Think of poinsettias and Christmas cactus, for example. If your lights are on until midnight where your plants are growing, they might sense they are experiencing a long summer day rather than the long cool winter night that would trigger blooming. Many cattleyas are like this, producing blooming sheaths by the autumn, but not developing buds until the nighttime temperatures and daylengths are right. Greenhouse growers rarely experience these kinds of problems because they don't cohabit with their orchids day and night. Greenhouses tend to provide more naturalistic seasonal and daily temperature and photoperiodic fluctuations than we can provide for our houseplants. But just being aware of this potential drawback is often the cure. While not always possible, keeping your orchids in a room you rarely use at night can help them bloom in season.

**MITE MAKES RIGHT? :** I think not. Mites are probably the most insidious pest you may come across on orchids during the winter. Encouraged by the lower humidity situations of most winter growing spaces, less frequent watering and less likelihood of getting washed away by a strong spray of the garden hose, mites can proliferate quickly in such conditions and cause serious damage. While softer-leaved orchids, such as miltonias or lycastes, seem especially susceptible, I believe mites can damage the new tender growths of more succulent orchids too and may be responsible for many abnormalities we see later on when these damaged growths mature. Look especially on the undersides of leaves for what appears to be dust or even tiny cobwebs. These tiny arachnids can suck the life out of individual cells from underneath and damage will eventually appear on the upper surface of leaves as an almost silvery effect. Mites are ubiquitous and can't really be completely avoided, but a gentle washing of the underside of affected leaves with a solution such as Safer Insect Killing Soap will seriously slow them down. Larger collections infected with mites may require the use of a commercial miticide for adequate control.

**Tom Miranda** has been working professionally with orchids for over three decades. He is an AOS accredited judge and is the chairman of the American Orchid Society's Conservation Committee. He recently coauthored *The Book of Orchids: A life-size guide to 600 species from around the world.* ([email: biophiliak@gmail.com](mailto:biophiliak@gmail.com)).

#### UPCOMING WEBINARS

It's easy to find the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You'll find the link under the All About Orchids tab. If you check there, you will find any webinars that have been scheduled after the production of the monthly Corner.

#### **What makes a great Vanda?** with Robert Fuchs

Wednesday, December 12th, 2018 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST *Open to all*

Please join premier Vanda grower, AOS Judge, and AOS Vice President Robert Fuchs as he talks about the beautiful Vanda Alliance and gives us judging tips as to what makes a good Vanda.

**Register now** using this link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7644174664979492355>

**Note:** After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the seminar. It's easy to find the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You'll find the link under the All About Orchids tab. If you check there, you will find any webinars that have been scheduled after the production of the monthly Corner.



*Vanda Amy Mitchell 'Crownfox Pink Lady' FCC/AOS;*  
Photographer: Greg Allikas

**WHAT ARE WEBINARS?** Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

**WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE?** The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

**THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE** will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- The New Refugium Botanicum - TBD
- Form Meets Function - White Fringed Orchids by Thomas Mirenda
- For the Novice - Leaf-Spotting Fungi in Cattleyas, Part 2 - Cercosporoid Fungi by Sue Bottom
- Orchids Illustrated - The Genus Renanthera by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins
- Exploring Central and Eastern Madagascar by Johan and Clare Hermans
- Beauties of the Beast: Cattlianthe Chocolate Drop and its hybrids by Jean Allen-Ikeson
- Orchid Photograph of the Week - a collection of some of the best submissions for 2018



Photograph of the week  
11/21/2018  
*Masdevallia pleurothalloides*  
Photographer: Wiel Driessen

**YOUR SOCIETY CAN EARN FREE AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS:**

Upcoming shows are a good time to encourage new membership to AOS. Affiliated societies can now earn a one-month extension of their AOS society membership for each new AOS member that they refer (note: membership renewals don't count). Make sure to note your Society Affiliation in the comments section of the application.

*With twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can have a FULL YEAR OF FREE AOS membership!* Be sure to have membership applications with your society's name already filled in and available at your club meetings!

Remember to let your members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources at their disposal making growing orchids even more enjoyable and successful.

Digital Access to Over 350+  
past issues of Orchids magazine extending back to 1932!

**ALSO FEATURED IN ORCHIDS MAGAZINE!**

16-page award gallery of breath taking pictures of recently awarded orchids.



*Paphiopedulum Shadw Walker 'Blood Moon' AM/AOS,*  
Photographer : Bryan Ramsey

**RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON THE AOS WEBSITE:**

See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new “Latest Orchid Awards” page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. *Free to members and non-members.*

*Rhyncattleanthe Princess Takamado 'Jocelyn' AM/AOS;*  
Photographer: Ramon de los Santos



Let's grow together,  
Denise Lucero

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FL 33256-5477

American Orchid Society | PO Box 565477 | Miami FL 33256-5477  
Telephone: 305-740-2010 | FAX: 305-747-7154

AOS/ODC News are submitted by our AOS/ODC Representative -  
Valerie Lowe



# Maryland Orchid Society Officers and Committees

## Officers

### **PRESIDENT**

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### **SECRETARY**

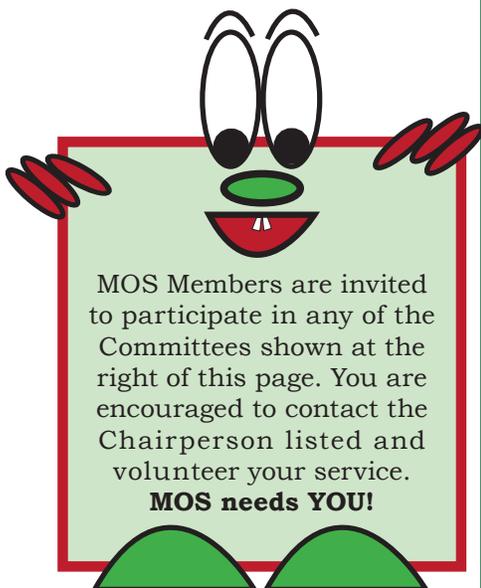
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## Committees

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Laura Sobelman  
Sarah Spence

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Teena Hallameyer  
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Sarah Hurdel  
Valerie Lowe  
Sarah Spence

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Clark Riley

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