



The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

March 2021

Website: www.marylandorchids.org



President's Message March 2021

There are two items of note on the Calendar this month. We enter spring, although I've probably been harping on the seasons too much already, so I'll just note that and move on. Second, and sadder, March marks the anniversary of the last time MOS met together face-to-face, as we put on our Annual Show and Sale at the Home and Garden Show last year. Everything following that has been canceled or converted to a ZOOM format, as it promises to be in the immediate future (at least through the end of this program/membership year). However, for those of you looking for the silver lining(s), 1) expanding our capability for electronic communication appears to be a real benefit that will continue to pay off in the future; and 2) I'm hearing rumblings from the membership about successes in scheduling COVID vaccinations, despite the relative shortage of vaccines. As our individual risks go down, we can be more justified in anticipating the future day when we can reconvene in person. That seems now to be worth at least a smile, if not a wild celebration.

So, what does March hold for us in the absence of our annual show? Basically we'll be focused on our monthly meeting on the 18th. It's always nice when much of the meeting is 'home grown.' This one will be better than many in that regard, as it will begin with a special treat! Instead of me droning on with announcements, for the first half hour, Bob and Sue Travers will host us for a virtual tour of their growing facilities. Bob's provided some background on that elsewhere in this Newsletter. Beth Ward of Waldor Orchids in NJ will be our virtual presenter focusing on *Neofinetia*. Again, there's more on her and that (thanks, Fay Citerone) deeper in the Newsletter. Our Virtual Show Table continues with its normal 'rules': please provide Fay (fay.citerone@gmail.com) by Wednesday the 17th with one or two photos of your plants in bloom in March with their full proper names (if known), and be prepared to say a few words about each.

Not exactly 'home grown,' but at least 'near-neighborly,' is the NCOS co-sponsored virtual Paph extravaganza on the 20th. Their Paph Forum has always been on the calendar for many of us, and I expect this will be well worthwhile, if your interests lie in that portion of the orchid spectrum. Again, there's more detail deeper in this Newsletter.

This feels a little shorter than some of my recent notes (you're welcome!). Be safe, stay healthy, and join us virtually whenever you can.

John

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March's Guest Speaker

Beth Davis

Beth is a third-generation orchid grower from Waldor Orchids located in Linwood, NJ. Waldor Orchids has been a family owned business since 1925. She has worked at the greenhouses for over 20 years doing many different jobs. Beth chaired the Ocean City Flower Show for four years and has worked with the International Amphibian Days Organization in Baltimore, MD. She also served on the Environmental Commission in her town and Sustainable Monroe's Green Team. Beth is currently in the American Orchid Society judging program studying as an associate judge.

Little Warrior in a Big New World: Neofinetia falcata history, culture and new hybrids.

Neofinetia falcata, has a particularly distinguished and rich history. The popularity of the Samurai orchid has expanded around the world, including Korea, Europe and most recently the United States. This is due to their varied leaf forms, leaf colors, flowers and fragrance. They are a distinct and fascinating orchid. Let's explore the history and culture of Neofinetia falcata along with the new breeding. With 91 first generation offspring, it has been bred with standard Vandas to Dori-taenopsis only expanding the legacy this plant is stamping on the orchid world.

Maryland Orchid Society News and Surrounding Events

Growing Space Virtual Walk Through

During March 18 meeting 'Question and Answer Session' 7:00 to 7:30 pm

I thought it would be nice to utilize some of the opening 30 minutes of a MOS Zoom Meeting for members to share a virtual walk through of their growing space. I plan on this being a live walk through so you will want to set your Zoom meeting to speaker view. I will be using my phone camera so once we start you will not see me - just my growing space.

Here is some basic information that may trigger questions as we go.

I am a home grower with my indoor space in the basement. The space is about 18' by 8'. Two walls are interior basement walls and the other two are 6mil plastic sheeting. The ceiling is a suspended ceiling, so the humidity is not directly in contact with the floor joists above. The floor is painted on garage floor epoxy OK to get wet.

Marc Kiriou's talk in May of 2019 was the trigger for me to move from fluorescent to LED Lighting, and to wrap my walls with reflective Mylar roll sheeting. The lighting is on a common circuit through a wall timer switch with battery backup. The circuit also includes 2 receptacles for plug in lights. Lights are on at 4 pm and off at 8 am. They run over night as we utilize time of use billing.

There are additional receptacles on different circuits always on to support fans and an evaporative humidifier. The humidifier is large capacity 6-gallon reservoir easy fill. This model has the advantage of its fan pushing room air through the wick filter back into the room. The smaller units typically pull air in and through the wick sending the moist air surrounding the fan before being dispersed into the room.

Water supply is from the laundry tub in the back of the basement where there is hose splitter attached and a hose coming into the growing space. The hose can reach all the plants and the humidifier, and the temperature controlled at the laundry tub.

I monitor temperature and humidity inside the space and outside the space with multiple min/max thermometer/hydrometers. They display over a 24-hour period with the clock starting when you put the battery in. I run a dehumidifier 24/7 in the back of the basement draining into the sump pump. Typical winter in the open basement temp min /max is 63/70 F and humidity 37/40 %. In the growing area we have 68/73 F and humidity 79/84 % max can get up to 95% after watering. The temperature differential is not as much as I would like and used to be larger when I was using the fluorescent lighting thanks to the ballasts.

My plants are clustered around the growing area by type, lighting requirements and temperature. All plants can be free watered with runoff collecting in tubs or buckets that get emptied through a screen into the sump pump. Now that we covered the technical stuff ENJOY the walk through. Ask questions, slow me down if I move the camera too fast.

Bob Travers -
Show Table



Laura's Blurb

There were 48 people on the February MOS Zoom meeting! Please join us next time. The door prizes— a gift certificate from Orchid Inn, and a Phalaenopsis Fuller's Sunset from The Little Greenhouse—were won by Sandy Reagan and Aaron Webb respectively. See you next month!

Laura Sobelman -
Vice President



Sarah's Blurb

The Maryland Orchid Society welcomes new members from the former Rock Creek Orchid Club...

Judith R. Shapiro (Adamson)
Cindy Walzak
Nina Stark Slapnik

Sarah Spence -
Membership

TO ALL MOS MEMBERS Send us your articles and photos

We would like the members to send in articles and or photos pertaining to orchids and the members that grow them.

Just jot down a paragraph or two about your favorite orchid and how you grew it, or maybe you read a small article you thought the members would enjoy reading.

Articles for each newsletter are due by the 1st of each month.

Each article and photo must have a title and include your name.

If the article is from another source and written by persons other than yourself please name the source and the authors name.

Send your articles and photos to barbarabuck2015@comcast.net and we will include it in the newsletter.

American Orchid Society and Surrounding Events

Paph Forum Joint Vitual Meeting

Hello! You are receiving this message as a past attendee at the NCOS Paph Forum. If you are one of those who indicated they weren't that excited about a virtual event, I am sending this in case you may be absolutely stir-crazy and have changed your mind. If not, I hope you will forward this to your orchid friends anyway, before you delete it.

In case you haven't already heard or seen information on line or from your orchid society newsletter, a joint virtual meeting of the Paph Guild and Paph Forum is planned for March 20th! Information on can be found on the websites of the National Capital Orchid Society (ncos.us/paph-forum/) and the Orchid Digest (www.orchiddigest.org). The program will include talks by four internationally known speakers on *Cypripedium* , *Paphiopedilum* , and *Phragmipedium* . We are working on setting up a virtual show table so that participants can post photos of their blooming slipper orchids from this year. Stay tuned to the NCOS Paph Forum web page for information on how to enter your photos (slipper orchids only, please!) and how to vote for your favorites. The three photos receiving the most votes will receive prizes, including a trophy for the People's Choice for the top vote-getter!

Please share this information with your other orchid friends. Thank you!

Roddy Gabel
President, National Capital Orchid Society





Let's Grow Together!

www.aos.org



2021 MARCH AOS Corner – for Affiliated Societies

The AOS Corner is for society representatives and newsletter editors: Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner completely, or in part, in their society publications.

We encourage use of the [AOS website](http://www.aos.org) by all members. <http://www.aos.org>
<https://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies.aspx>

You are invited to attend the [AOS VIRTUAL Meeting of the Members Saturday, March 13, 2 p.m. ET](#)
We recognize that many members of our community may be reluctant or unable to travel due to health mandates and other external factors. This virtual event ensures that you won't miss out.
Current AOS members will receive an email notification and coordinates to participate in the Meeting of the Members Virtual Town Hall gathering. There is no charge to attend this event but space is limited, so register today!

The 2021 Spring Members Meeting will be Virtual (Online)!

We recognize many members of our community may be reluctant or unable to travel due to institutional mandates and other external factors and this year's virtual event ensures that you won't miss out.

The meeting will be held using our GotoWebinar platform. Although there is no charge for this event, you must register to attend.

March 13th, 2021

MARCH 03-08, 2021

Get Ready! Bid on books, supplies, plants, collectibles, orchid of the month gift certificate, and more!
Auction item list updated frequently.

Online AUCTION

If you would like to donate an item for the auction please contact Jennifer Reinoso, Vice Chair, Development Committee Special Funding Committee jenniferr@aos.org

<https://aos.betterworld.org/auctions/aos-spring-auction-3>

Link goes live March 03, 8:00 a.m. EST

Please read the fine print on bid procedures before finalizing your bid
www.aos.org

GET READY, GET SET, BID! [AOS Auction](#) goes live March 03, 8 a.m. ET
<https://aos.betterworld.org/auctions/aos-spring-auction-3>

If you have an item you would like to donate to the auction, contact jenniferr@aos.org

AOS Committee Meetings are planned at various times prior to the Members Meeting. If you'd like to attend one or more of these, kindly contact the Committee directly for details. (<https://www.aos.org/about-us/committees.aspx>)

To attend the Affiliated Societies Committee meeting during this event, send a message to affiliated_societies@aos.org and we will add you to our meeting guest list.

<https://www.aos.org/news-and-events/event-calendar/2021/2021-03/aos-2021-spring-members-meeting.aspx>



Observations – Making Connections on Facebook

Are you wondering how I get insight into what is happening in the orchid world at the affiliated societies level? Quick answer - Facebook of course. Since I have become the editor of this newsletter, I have requested to join many orchid society Facebook groups. Some have qualifying questions to screen potential members. So far, when I say I am on the AOS Affiliated Societies Committee, I have been readily accepted to all groups. Since I administer my local society page and write this column, I do like to see how other societies are using their pages.

I browse through the different groups from time to time. Many encourage their members to post their orchid blooms, or run competitions for an orchid-of-the month photo voted on by page members. Some use their pages to communicate meeting notices, guest speaker announcements, field trips and special events.

For my society, I create monthly bloom table albums on our group page where all members can drop in their favorite orchid photo blooming in the current month. We set deadlines for entry before each monthly meeting and those photos are showcased on our Zoom meetings. Our members are happy to be able to talk about their particular plant at our monthly meetings. Until recently, Facebook allowed the creation of polls that included photos. After the Zoom, I created a poll with the entered orchid photos, complete with names, and set it up for our page members to vote. We awarded Orchid of The Month to the most liked species, and most liked hybrid. Unfortunately, Facebook does not offer the photo option on their polls any longer. Working on plan B.

Facebook group pages also offer the ability to schedule posts for future desired date and time release. You can schedule meeting reminders. I use this feature often, most recently for reminders that we need volunteers and trophy sponsors for our show. When I create a post, I always include a link to our society website. When I announce something exclusively for society members, I remind non-society page members how they can become dues paying members and get all the benefits of society membership with a link to our website.

Since our society hasn't met in person for a monthly meeting since February 2020, we needed to find an easy way to collect membership dues and keep our members engaged. Our society has a Square account credit card processing tool that we usually use once a year during our in person orchid auction. For a minimal service fee, transactions are deposited directly into the society bank account. Square now allows us to set up multiple point-of-purchase transactions. For the convenience of not handling currency, we have used this feature for membership dues and drawing tickets for our monthly orchid drawings. Our treasurer recently remarked that we have made more in sales from our orchid drawings on Zoom

than we did at face-to-face meetings. We are considering using Square for pre-purchase or touchless admission tickets to our upcoming orchid show.

Our society dues paying membership totals about 100, our Facebook group page membership numbers over 650 members. On our page, we have set up qualifying questions to become a member of our group. One reason is to keep our shared comments and advice pertinent to our growing area and another reason is because we sincerely want to meet and see these people at monthly meetings when we get back to meeting in person. It is obvious that there is a large pool of potential new society members to recruit from our Facebook page. With our current meetings by Zoom, we have managed to add several new dues paying members to our society, and we do hope to meet them soon. We invite all of our page members to our meetings whether in person or remotely.

If your society isn't on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/), it's worth creating a page. It's free, it's easy, it's another tool in our toolbox to keep our members connected. It can be more than just pretty pictures. <https://www.facebook.com/>

AOS Celebrates 100 Hundred Years

Make Plans Now to join us for this AOS Celebrates 100 Hundred Years

Make Plans Now to join us for this Historic Event

- [Registration](https://www.aos.org/news-and-events/centennial-celebration.aspx)
<https://www.aos.org/news-and-events/centennial-celebration.aspx>

- [Become a Sponsor](https://secure.aos.org/event/sponsor)
<https://secure.aos.org/event/sponsor>



How many of you are using webinars for your remote meeting presentations? If you are meeting remotely with an internet connection, as an affiliated society, you have access to all of the webinars. You can tune in live for any of the presentations or play the recorded version for your members. There is a full list of webinars on the AOS website. Want to resolve culture conundrums? Tune in live to a GREENHOUSE CHAT or select a recorded version that is indexed by topic for future viewing.

Webinars-Coming Attractions!

				
When	March 02, 2021 8:30pm EST Tuesday	March 09, 2021 8:30 pm EST Tuesday	March 13, 2021 2:00pm EST Saturday	April 08, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Star Search: Judging Angraecoid Orchids	Semi-Annual Meeting of the Members <i>Space is Limited Register NOW!</i>	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Beth Martin AOS Associate Judge	AOS Officers, Staff, Committee Chairs, Member Volunteers	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>
Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyhow!
Webinar announcements are posted on Facebook,
Instagram, and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.
Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to greenhousechat@aos.org

If your society does not have internet access, please contact Sandra Svoboda at sltsvoboda@gmail.com (NOTE: new email address) and request [a program, or multiple programs, from the recorded list](#). The video file(s) with instructions for use will be sent to you. Copy to a flash drive or copy to your computer hard drive and show the webinar at the meeting. This list has been updated and should be ready to view in the very near future.

<http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Webinars-for-Affiliated-Societies-7-24-19.pdf>

If you have an idea for a webinar topic, or would like to present a webinar for our members, this is your opportunity. We are flexible! We are always looking for interesting topics to share with our viewers. Choose a day convenient for you. You will need a prepared PowerPoint topic, an internet connection, and a computer with audio capabilities to present an AOS webinar.

Contact [Cheryl Erins](#) to be added to the AOS webinar line-up or for further information. She can arrange a webinar practice session to help you get familiar with the process. cerins@aos.org



Have you ever thought about becoming an AOS Judge?

The American Orchid Society Judging Program is willing to teach you to become an AOS Judge and is actively seeking orchid enthusiasts.

If You

- Have a love of orchids
- Want to learn more about orchids
- Are willing to contribute to the long-term health of AOS and its Affiliated Societies
- Desire to teach the public about orchids

Then Contact the AOS Judging Program at judges@aos.org for more information about how to become an AOS Judge.

From the AOS website... Insight to the World of Orchid Judging

[An excerpt on AOS Judging from Ernest Hetherington](#)

“When a person is introduced into the American Orchid Society’s judging system, they are told, or they grasp the realization, that the orchid world is vast: literally more than anyone can learn or know. Still, and I subscribe to the dictum, they must be knowledgeable. A judge must be ever learning, and here is the problem. The orchid world is expanding in technology, hybridizing, taxonomy and other areas. In our system there are many very good judges, still, with even the best, they must admit they are most knowledgeable in certain areas. Literally no person can know everything about judging orchids. This is the point of my commentary: I respect a person for saying the three little words — “I don’t know.” It has been my experience that when saying “I don’t know,” another judge who does know will give much appreciated and valuable information on the plant or line of breeding. When a judge has summed up everything they know or can learn about the plant they are judging, then, and only then, can they come to the moment of truth when they put down a score.”

To read the entire article: [https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Judges%20Forum/Hetherington Ernest Three Little Words Word .pdf](https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Judges%20Forum/Hetherington_Ernest_Three_Little_Words_Word_.pdf)

For other outtakes on different aspects of Orchid Judging, review the Judges' Forum on [aos.org](https://www.aos.org)
<https://www.aos.org/orchid-awards-and-judging/judges-forum.aspx>

ORCHIDPRO



AD | AOS (0 points)
Award #20196652



AQ | AOS (0 points)
Award #20211263



JC | AOS (0 points)
Award #20211276

AOS awards are granted on merit - Not every type of award receives a point score

AD (Award of Distinction)

Awarded once to a cross representing a worthy new direction in Breeding. The award is granted unanimously without scoring by the judging team assigned.

Paphiopedilum Hawaiian Moon AD | AOS (0 points)

(Paphiopedilum Silver Moon x Paphiopedilum Egret's Jewel)

Award No: [20196652](#), Hybridizer: Lehua Orchids, Exhibitor Stanley Luk , Photographer: Judy Higham

AQ (Award of Quality)

Awarded once to a cross exhibited by a single individual as a group of not less than 12 plants or inflorescences of different clones of a hybrid or cultivated species. At least one of the inflorescences must receive a flower quality award and the overall quality of the group must be an improvement over the former type.

Rhyncholaelia Aristocrat AQ | AOS (0 points)

'(Rhyncholaelia glauca 'Crystelle' AM/AOS x Rhyncholaelia digbyana 'Fiddler's Green')

Award No: [20211263](#), Exhibitor: Krull-Smith, Photographer: Kay Clark

JC (Judges' Commendation)

Given for distinctive characteristics that the judges unanimously feel should be recognized but cannot be scored in the customary ways.

Cattleya Rose Marguglio Szwed 'Big Bear's Marbled Queen' JC | AOS (0 points)

(Cattleya Melody Fair x Cattleya Circle of Life)

Award No: [20211276](#), Exhibitor: Ryan Kowalczyk, Photographer: Wes Newton

To find an AOS award type in OrchidPro - select *Full Search* on the Awards bar. From the ALL drop down menu, select AOS. From the Award Type drop down menu, fill in your desired award type. It's educational to see all of the different orchids and read their award descriptions. <https://op.aos.org/>

ORCHIDS MAGAZINE

Coming in March 2021

- Tom's Monthly Checklist
- For the Novice - Stakes by Carlos Macku
- Collectors' Item - Bulbophyllum section Macrobulbon by Charles Wilson
- Questions & Answers by Ron McHatton
- The New Refugium Botanicum - *Rhynchostylis gigantea* by Franco Pupulin
- Orchid People - Karen Kimmerle by Tom Miranda
- Orchids Illustrated - Augusta Withers: Flower Painter in Ordinary by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins
- Colombia's Tatamá National Park by Spiro Kasomenakis
- Orchid Roots by Fred Clarke
- Atlanta Botanical Garden: a beacon for orchid conservation by Philip Seaton
- Bulbophyllum (Trias) oblongum and Andrew Thomas Gage by Rudolf Jenny
- Lindleyana: Two New Species of Sudamerlycaste from Southwestern Ecuador, José Portilla, Hugo Medina and Iván Portilla

<https://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx>



Have your members [download](#) a free digital issue
<https://go.aos.org/freeissue201904>

AOS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

AFFILIATED SOCIETY BONUS - EARN AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS FOR YOUR SOCIETY

Affiliated Societies can earn a one-month extension on their AOS society membership for each new individual AOS member they recruit. If you start now, with twelve new AOS members, your Affiliated Society can obtain a FULL FREE YEAR OF AOS membership! Be sure and advise new members to note their society affiliation in the comments section online at checkout or on the printed membership form.

<https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/AOSJoinForm2020.pdf>

AOS Representatives, please remember to let your society members know that we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join the AOS today! Once they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources available to help make orchid growing enjoyable and successful. <https://secure.aos.org/store/register-renew>

Individual society membership and AOS Membership are not the same. Although affiliated, each requires separate membership dues. They won't miss out on this monthly benefit when they become an AOS member.

CARE TO SHARE?

Please share a PDF copy of your society newsletter in the Files section of our [Affiliated Societies Facebook page](#). Take a virtual visit to other affiliates. Exchange information with our online groups. We currently have 16.9K international followers on the AOS Instagram account. To participate on [Instagram](#), please email your photos to americanorchidsociety@gmail.com. The grower or society gets credit/tag for

photos. You may include any other information you wish to share about your orchid or event. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS>
<https://instagram.com/americanorchidsociety?igshid=16ixfciczky01>

If you would like to spotlight an issue or share news with other affiliated societies, we welcome your input. Let us know what you would like to see in this newsletter! If there is something within your society that is working extremely well – let's share it here. If there is something you could use help with – let us know. By chance, another affiliate may be able to offer a solution, or want to try something you have achieved. Your contributions are critical to bringing fresh, timely content to this publication each month. Please send your questions, solutions and submissions for the AOS Corner to eileenh@aos.org or askmasc@verizon.net

Thanks for meeting me down at the Corner!

Eileen Hector, AOS Corner - Affiliated Societies Newsletter Editor



Telephone: 305-740-2010 | FAX: 305-747-7154

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Subscription
American Orchid Society, PO Box 565477, Miami, FL 33256-5477

AOS/ODC Representative -
Valerie Lowe





American Orchid Society Member Newsletter

www.aos.org

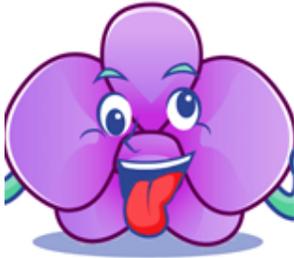
Support the AOS

Renew

Donate

A big THANK YOU to all who participated in the first ever AOS Speaker's Day aka Day of Orchid Culture last month! Excellent speakers, great attendance, and engaging participation. The Wheel of Orchid fortune was great fun too! Let's do it again, Shall we?

Orchid Madness



OrchidMadness is back by popular demand! Many of you may recall last year we ran our first orchid madness people's choice photo contest on Facebook. Based on your feedback, this year's contest will be run completely from our website with updates and photos shared on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Our membership and marketing committee hand selected 64 plants all of which received AOS awards in 2020. Plants will be randomly chosen to compete head to head, plant versus plant! We'll begin with 32 contests in 4 brackets of 8. Winners advance to the Sweetly Fragrant 16, the Great 8, the Favorite 4, and the finals will select champion.

Everyone is invited to join in the fun and vote for your favorites. [Details and match schedules will be announced at the AOS Town Hall meeting on Saturday, March 13th.](#)

March Issue of ORCHIDS

The March issue of *ORCHIDS* is now in the mail to current print members.

All Current AOS members can [log in to read it online now](#).

Our March issue presents three feature articles; Spiro Kasomenakis takes us to the Tatamá National Park in the Andean mountains of Colombia, Phil Seaton revisits the Atlanta Botanical Garden, its orchid collections and its conservation programs and Rudolf Jenny introduces us to *Bulbophyllum (Trias) oblongum* and Andrew Thomas Gage, curator of the herbarium of the Calcutta Botanical Garden during the latter half of the 1890s and first quarter of the 20th century.



Rounding out the March issue, Carlos Macku discusses stakes - something we all need, Fred Clarke talks about orchid roots, Charles Wilson teases us with *Bulbophyllum* section *Macrobulbon* - not for the space conscious and Tom Mirenda introduces us to Karen Kimmerle of Island Sun Orchids on Hawaii's big island. Franco Pupulin discusses *Rhynchostylis gigantea* illustrated with another spectacular watercolor by Silvia Strigari. Our Orchids Illustrated subject for this month is Augusta Withers, Flower Painter in Ordinary and José Portilla, Hugo Medina and Iván Portilla described two new species of *Sudamerlycaste* from Ecuador.

**Bidding is now open! The AOS Virtual
Spring Action is now LIVE!**

Conservation Grant Deadline Reminder

Though the deadlines for the Education and Research Grants have passed, you have until **March 14th, 2021** to turn in your Conservation Grant application for review.

[Click here](#) to download the conservation grant application.

Be sure to send your completed application to conservation_committee@aos.org.

Orchidist's Word of the Month

peduncle (pe-DUNK-ul):

Stalk of a flower-cluster or of a flower. The stalk of an inflorescence that bears the pedicels and flowers.



Great books, orchid plants & supplies, a one-year "Orchid of the Month" subscription, and much more!

Do not miss this opportunity to participate in our fundraising auction!

<https://aos.betterworld.org/auctions/aos-spring-auction-3>

Open to all. Please share our link! Bids will be accepted until **March 8th @ 8:00 PM EST**

Don't miss these webinars in March

Tuesday, March 9th, 2021 8:30 PM EDT



Angrecoid Hybrids - Join Beth Martin as he presents a survey of hybrids and awards in Angrecoid breeding. *Member Exclusive Webinar.*

Saturday, March 13th, 2021 2:00 - 4:00 PM EDT

Please remember to call ahead when planning to attend an orchid show, judging event, or garden!

Looking for Orchids?

Find vendors of orchid plants, seedlings, supplies, greenhouses, fertilizers, watering equipment, potting mixes, lighting setups and other orchid-related products in our online [Orchid Source Directory!](#)

Looking to visit a garden?

AOS Members enjoy free or reduced admission to and discounts at hundreds of gardens, conservatories, and arboreta nationwide. See a list of [participating gardens near you!](#)



[A great gift for the orchid lover in your life!](#)



AOS Members' Meeting Spring 2021 - This is the American Orchid Society Semi-Annual Members' Meeting normally held in person, but since we cannot, we hope you will join us for this virtual meeting. *Open to all.*

The 2021 Spring Members Meeting is almost here! There is still time to register. Join us on Saturday, March 13th



We recognize that many members of our community may be reluctant or unable to travel due to institutional mandates and other external factors and this Spring virtual event ensures that you won't miss out.

The meeting will be held using our GotoWebinar platform. *Although there is no charge for this event*, you must register to attend. [Click here to register today!](#)

After a successful registration you will receive an email with coordinates to join, as well as reminders to attend as we near the event The Spring Members gathering includes the Meeting of the Members and election as well as a Virtual Town Hall. Keep an eye out for it!

All members were sent an electronic proxy to vote in the upcoming election. **The deadline to execute your proxy (vote) is March 12th, 2021.**

In addition to the election, the Meeting of the Members will also feature AOS Judging personnel elevations and notices award presentations a Centennial Celebration

notices, award presentations, a Centennial Celebration update, and much more - including a **very special "reveal"** during the Town Hall.

Funded from a generous, private donation, the AOS commissioned world-renowned botanical artist [Angela Mirro](#) to commemorate our Centennial with a one of a kind original painting. The painting is finished, and it is amazing with gorgeous colors! The painting is a natural scene representing 10 species of Orchids of the Americas! Be among the first to see this truly unique piece of art as we reveal it publicly for the first time.

The painting will be auctioned off as part of our Centennial Celebration Gala in October. There will also be 100 limited edition prints produced on museum grade paper. Each will be individually numbered and hand signed by the artist. These will most certainly become instant collectors' items and sell out. We will be announcing details at the Town Hall on a special, AOS members only pre-order sale with instructions on how to reserve your signed, numbered print, before they are released to the general public.

For the most current updates [please visit our Members Meeting page](#).

See you there!

The Centennial Celebration Gala tickets & 2021 Fall Members Meeting Registration are now open!



March 2021 Update: [Sponsorship enrollment](#) is also now available in our website!

[Click here for event information, registration, ticket purchases, and accommodation details.](#) Updates will be posted in an ongoing basis, so check back often!

Any questions regarding the Centennial Celebration or the Fall Members Meeting can be directed to the AOS Headquarters (TheAOS@aos.org) or by telephone (305) 740-2010.

The Gala will be held on Saturday, October 30th, 2021 at the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida. We look forward to welcoming you as we celebrate this momentous occasion.

Hotel information, pricing and group code for reservation remains the same. If you have any questions, please contact AOS Headquarters by email or telephone.

You can become a sponsor of this momentous event by making your contribution at www.aos.org/donate and selecting "Centennial Celebration Fund" from the Distribution drop-down list.

Check out the Biltmore's website here and view this gorgeous venue: <https://www.biltmorehotel.com/>



We have contracted a special room rate for this event. Use booking/contract rate code 321 when you make your reservations directly with the hotel at (855) 311-6903.

On behalf of the Centennial Committee, we want to thank you in advance for your support of the American Orchid Society. With your help, our organization will continue to grow and fulfill our mission of orchid education, conservation, and research.

Don't forget, we have our [Centennial Celebration commemorative glasses available for purchase on our website!](#)



8oz screen printed champagne flute

15oz engraved goblet

Members-Only Book Sale!



As the world slowly begins to return to normal, we thought it would be a great time to announce a Members-only book sale for the month of March. We're pleased to offer our best seller, [The American Orchid Society Guide to Orchids and their Culture](#), at 50% off to members for the month of March!

With about 28,000 known orchid species and many thousands of hybrids to choose from, selecting the right orchid for your growing conditions can be challenging. This richly illustrated book will assist you in finding the information you need to select orchids that are right for you wherever you grow them.

This book covers the basics of orchid culture including sections on light, water, temperature, humidity, fertilizer, and specific culture information on the popular groups of orchids. You will find information on when and how to repot, orchid mounting, and how to grow orchids semi-hydroponically. There is a section on common orchid pests and diseases, and the Orchid Doctor answers many frequently asked questions. Featuring more than 450 color photographs, The American Orchid Society Guide to Orchids and their Culture covers everything you need to know to grow orchids successfully.

Get your copy today!

Seeking AOS Judges!



Become an AOS Judge

**The American Orchid
Society Judging Program
is seeking highly motivated
orchid enthusiasts to join
the judging ranks**

Contact us at judges@aos.org

If You:

- Have a love of orchids
- Want to learn more about orchids
- Are willing to contribute to the long-term health of the AOS and its Affiliated Societies
- Have a desire to teach the public about orchids

The American Orchid Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Then contact the AOS Judging Program at judges@aos.org for more information about how to become an AOS Judge.



Support the AOS while you shop

You can help the American Orchid Society simply by shopping at Amazon through their Amazon Smile program. Just go to <http://smile.amazon.com> every time you shop at Amazon.

When you checkout for the first time, you will be asked to designate your charity. Type in American Orchid Society in the search bar - We appear as "American Orchid Society Inc."

You can change the charity at any time, by following the directions on the About page.



American Orchid Society

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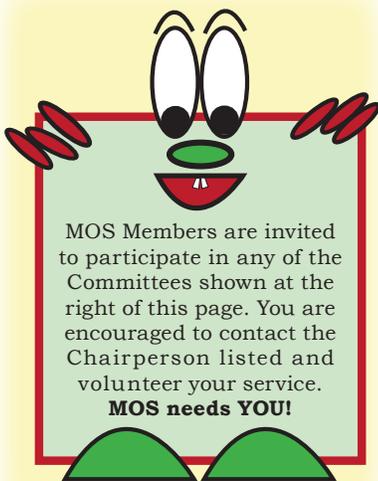
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MOS needs YOU!

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