

The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

November 2021

Website: www.marylandorchids.org

President's Letter for November



I looked back over last month's letter and saw that I led with 'Thanks' to the membership – specifically for making our first hybrid meeting work. Perhaps it's redundant to keep with that theme, but I feel a need to acknowledge where the MOS fits more broadly in my sense of thankfulness in this month where we specifically acknowledge that emotion. And YES, I am thankful, especially in these times of pandemic isolation, for you all in the MOS: for your friendship, your enthusiasm for these sometimes weird and frustrating plants, and for your willingness and commitment to share your knowledge and experience to make us all better at this common endeavor. So, if I haven't said it to you individually, THANK YOU!

Now, returning to the more routine. It shouldn't be news that our annual November auction has been canceled and that we'll be partially compensating with a second Member Plant Sale at December's monthly meeting. Brief blurbs elsewhere in this Newsletter expand on those points.

Our November meeting (on the 18th) will feature Greg Griffis from Longwood Gardens. Fay Citerone has provided more information on him and his presentation in this Newsletter. We will again be organizing that meeting as a hybrid one, continuing our efforts to improve the quality of that experience for all members. If you will be participating virtually, don't forget to pass one or two pictures of orchids from your collection that are in bloom this month (to Fay.Citerone@gmail.com). Those virtual submissions will help you earn participation points, even if they're not eligible for judging.

Finally, COVID case rates compiled by the CDC are falling for Baltimore County, where we meet, which is great news. CDC still classifies Baltimore County transmission (as of October 31) as 'substantial,' however; so we anticipate that masks will still be required and no snacks will be provided. Perhaps we can relax in December!

So, as I've been saying for well over a year now: Be safe and stay healthy. Oh yes, and grow beautiful orchids!

John Heinbokel

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MOS Show Table Results

Greenhouse

1. V. (Rattana X coerulea) - Jos Venturina
2. Cyc. warszewiczii - Michael Moran

Cattleya

1. Blc. Mem. Crispin Rosales 'Costa Mesa' AM/AOS - Bob Johnston
2. B. perinnii - Arne Schon
3. Tie Ett. Hsiang Yu 'Gold Coast' - Dave Smith
Lc. Pixie Gold - Bob Travers

Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. cornu-cervi 'Linda' HCC/AOS - Michael Moran
2. Phal. Hybrid - The Soykes
3. Phal. Summer Rose 'Blue Star' - Diane Elam

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Phrag. Andean Fire - Laura Sobelman
2. Paph. Honey '#10' - Nicole Allen
3. Paph. Hawaiian Tea 'Susan J' HCC/AOS - Bob Travers

Dendrobium

1. Den. hibiki 'Tiny Bubbles' - Michael Moran
2. Den. Nida Stripe - Bob Johnston
3. Den. Caronii Darci - Craig Taborsky

Oncidium

1. Bcdm. Little Dragon 'Carmela' - Joel Graham
2. Pyp. Mendenhall 'Hildos' FCC/AOS - Danielle Gent
3. Tie Trctm. Ollie Palmer - Bob Johnston
Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder' CCE/AOS - Bob Travers

Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Dar. Fuchs Cream Puff X Rhy. coelestis - Jos Venturina
2. Ascda. Brighton Gold - Fay Citerone
3. Tie Neost. Fuchs Ocean Spray - Fay Citerone
Hab. Thai Dancer - Clark Riley

Species

1. Bulb. rothschildianum - Michael Moran
2. L. anceps - Bob Johnston
3. Ddc. formosanum - Arne Schon

Miniature

1. Har. retrocalla - Brenda Logan
3. Aergs. biloba - Dave Smith

First Bloom Seedling

1. Aer. odorata - Michael Moran
2. Hab. Michigan - Joel Graham

Fragrance

1. Blc. Spring Dawn X Lc. Mem Robert Strait - Bob Johnston
2. C. bowringiana X Rl. digbyana - Craig Taborsky

The Judges Choice of the Evening was a V. (Rattana X coerulea) , exhibited by Jos Venturina.



Thank You to our judges who were Danielle Gent, Sally Over and Chris Zajac. Our show table had an incredible display of 56 beautiful flowering plants.

A special **THANKS** to all that make our show table such a great success. It is truly breathtaking!

November's MOS Guest Speaker

The talk will be:

'The Genus Tolumnia: Small Wonders of the Caribbean'

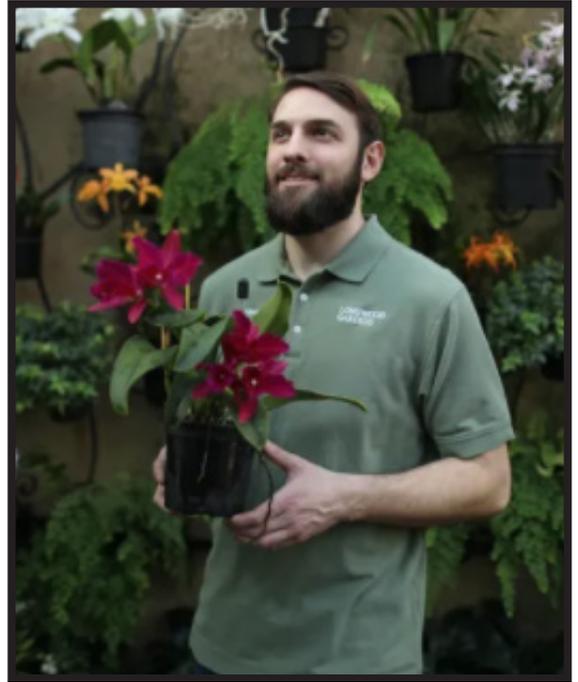
The genus Tolumnia is a fascinating group of Oncidium relatives from the Caribbean islands. They have many unique qualities and characteristics that make them interesting and easy to grow. We'll go through the species and hybrids, and of course talk a lot about culture. Join us as we discover this wonderful little genus with a whole lot to offer both novice and advanced grower alike!

Greg Griffis first became aware of orchids in 2009. He first heard about them through a college friend, who had always admired orchids. Studying at West Chester University, from which he graduated with a degree in Music Education, put him in close proximity to Longwood Gardens. He attended the 2010 Longwood Orchid Show where he purchased his first orchid.

One plant quickly became twenty or so, and before long he was hooked. In 2010 he visited Parkside Orchid Nursery for the first time, and by Summer 2011 he was working part time for Tom Purviance and John Salventi. He studied under their tutelage while working for them, and when they sold the nursery in 2012, he was hired by the new owners as the Grower and Manager of Parkside Orchid Nursery. He managed Parkside for one year, before leaving to grow orchids in Hawaii.

He worked for Hilo Orchid Farm for more than a year, spending a large amount of time working with Paphiopedilum, as well as Intergeneric Oncidiinae and Miltoniopsis. At the beginning of 2015 Greg began working as the orchid grower at Longwood Gardens. There he grows all of the major genera of orchids, and has been part of cultivating a collection of terrestrial orchids from around the world, as well as many other rare and unusual orchids.

He will be bringing plants to sell



Maryland Orchid Society News and Surrounding Events

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NOT ALL ORCHID PESTS ARE ABOVE GROUND

As you bring your plants in from their summer vacation, be aware you may be bringing in pests below the surface of your potting media. There are two broad classes of these pests: those that feed on the orchids, and those that accelerate the breakdown of your potting mix. Either way, they degrade the health of your plants.

Those that feed on the orchids. These would include various scale insects, sow bugs, and the larvae of insects like white fly. They may be small and slow feeders, but orchids are generally slow growers and these pests sap the strength of your plants. *Those that accelerate the breakdown of your potting mix.* These would include millipedes, sow bugs (again), beetles, and roaches. They feed on the fungi breaking down your mix and spread fungal spores through their feces.

For both groups, the best control is frequent repotting. After shaking the old mix from your plants, rinse them with a spray of tepid water. If you find scale, treat it with a safe control like insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, or an insect growth regulator. One of the best times to apply these measures if you have a small to medium sized collection is when you bring the plants in.

Sarah's Corner



MOS welcomes new member RODDY GABEL

Miscellany

An Every-Once-in-a-While (Monthly?) Item of Potential Interest to the MOS Membership

Have you run into a resource that provides some useful information or just an oddity related to our passion for orchids? Please share that discovery with your friends and colleagues of the MOS. Please submit your findings to John Heinbokel (jheinbokel@hotmail.com), for inclusion in a future New

From the Gables Insider, July 8, 2019

The information provided here is, perhaps, a bit dated and MOS members who spend time in South Florida may already be well aware these efforts to re-establish self-sustaining populations of native orchids in urban landscapes in that part of the state. In any case, it's a striking example of how volunteers and students can be mobilized to support critical conservation projects.

<https://fairchildgarden.org/science-and-education/science/million-orchid-project/>

<https://gablesinsider.com/million-orchid-project-gets-extended-have-you-seen-them/>



Contributed to MOS Newsletter by John Heinbokel, October 2021.

NOVEMBER AUCTION NOT-QUITE-NEWS-ANymORE

The MOS Board of Trustees held a special meeting on Tuesday, Sept 21, 2021 to discuss the upcoming Annual Auction, scheduled for the second Saturday in November. We took several actions with several consequences.

1. We will **NOT** be holding that November auction. We were concerned about asking folks to gather indoors in a relatively small space for several hours during this time of COVID. Hopefully this is no longer news.
2. We know this will have impacts on members' plans to expand their collections, or to donate surplus plants to this MOS fund-raiser. There are financial implications for MOS as well.
3. We are exploring whether or when we can reschedule the auction in the Spring with minimal conflicts with the local show season. More on that as we learn more.
4. Member plant sales during the October and December monthly meetings will partially compensate for the impact of stepping away from the November event. See elsewhere in this, and the December Newsletters for details on those sales.

Members' Plant Sales

To help alleviate some of the impact of canceling the November auction, the Board of Trustees chose to open two of our upcoming meetings to the sale of members' plants. As would have been the case with the auction, all proceeds of these sales will go to MOS. Plant donors will be eligible for tax deductions for charitable contributions.

Keep in mind that plants in bloom are the most desirable; non-blooming plants will be easier to sell if the donor can provide a photo of it in bloom. As with the Show Table, we ask that all plants be healthy, disease- and pest-free, and as accurately labeled as possible. At both meetings, any plant that does not sell will need to go home with the donor.

1. **OCTOBER** monthly meeting has gone by.
2. **DECEMBER** monthly meeting: This is our traditional holiday party with no outside speaker. All members will be able to contribute plants. Specific plans will be announced at the November monthly meeting and in the December Newsletter after we've fully digested our experience in October.



American Orchid Society News and Surrounding Events



2021 NOVEMBER 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>

We are entering a season of thanksgiving, grateful to have made it through another year. Many of us have faced and overcome challenges of growing and showing orchids as the pandemic reluctantly lessens its grip on the world. Now is the time to thank our orchid friends who have helped us through it. In every society there are members who deserve recognition for their contributions. This is a good time to let them know they are appreciated.

Certificates of Appreciation

Each affiliate is eligible to receive annually two Certificates of Appreciation for presentation to valued members of your own group. The beautiful certificates may be requested at any time from AOS headquarters. There is no cost to the society. The certificates are suitable for framing and presentation at your next meeting or end of the year get-together. Please allow sufficient time for processing and mailing. Phone: (305) 740-2010, Fax: (305) 747-7154, Email: TheAOS@aos.org

About Us - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

[Affiliated Society FAQ \(aos.org\)](http://www.aos.org)

Q. So what does the Affiliated Societies Committee do?

A. We have several duties assigned to us by the American Orchid Society Board of Trustees. We are the interface between affiliated orchid societies, AOS Representatives and the AOS. We assist societies by sending them information for their board, their membership, and their newsletters. We receive information, concerns, and suggestions, and forward it to the appropriate staff person or committee. If your society does not have contact with the AOS please let us know and we will set up the necessary communications.

<https://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies/affiliated-society-faq.aspx>

We Are Your National Volunteers

Let us Know What We Can Do For You

Valued Members and Volunteers

An organization is only as good as its members. The AOS is deeply indebted to the many talented and dedicated volunteers who give their time and service to encourage a widespread interest in orchids. They advance the mission of the AOS more than they will ever know. *Please contact any of us if you would like to join our committee.*

Affiliated Societies Committee

affiliated_societies@aos.org
 Denise Lucero, Chair
 Chad Brinkerhuff, Lois Dauelsberg, Edna Hamilton, Eileen Hector (vice-chair), Candace Hollinger, Donna Petitt, Graham Ramsey, Alex Rodriguez
 Staff liaison: Naya Marcano

Q. What do the AOS Representatives do?

[AOS_Rep-duties.pdf](#)

A. AOS Reps are typically appointed by their society president or board. The AOS Rep communicates with the Affiliated Societies Committee. If the rep receives communications, they pass them on to the board, newsletter editor or the membership. They also send society information to the Affiliated Societies Committee. We suggest they say something about the AOS to the entire membership at each meeting, and make sure there are AOS applications available for society members.

https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/AOS_Rep-duties.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 [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/join/new-membership>

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>

*Individual society membership and AOS Membership are not the same.
 Although affiliated, each requires separate membership dues and benefits may vary.*

Webinars-Coming Attractions!





When	November 09, 2021 8:30pm EST Tuesday	November 17, 2021 8:30pm EST Wednesday	WEBINARS ON DEMAND Watch Recorded Webinars Any Time
Topic	Orchid Collection Tour The Huntington Botanical Gardens	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Species and Hybrids, Pests and Diseases, Culture, Judging, Greenhouse Chats
Presenter	Brandon Tam Orchid Collection Specialist, AOS Judge	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	www.aos.org/orchids/webinars

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry.
 Register anyhow!
 Webinars are recorded and available to view at your leisure.
 GREENHOUSE CHAT Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.

Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to:
greenhousechat@aos.org

Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook, Instagram and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.



Your Personal Library!

ORCHIDS
archived
on the AOS
website

Reprint:

TOM'S MONTHLY CHECKLIST

November: The Month of Maturity by Thomas Mirenda

Fall Marches On

While my expanding midsection and philosopher's furrows in my brow may not win me any beauty contests, I've found that when I strive to do good works, am kind to myself and others, learn as much as I can each day and share that knowledge, however incomplete, I might still be worthy of a cultural award one day.

SLOW THE SPIGOT

Along with days being shorter with the winter solstice approaching, temperatures are cooler, skies are grayer and the nights are longer. Most orchids (except Southern Hemisphere terrestrials, such as *Pterostylis* or *Disa*) are requiring far less water than they did in spring and summer. Cattleyas should now have mature growths with sheaths, and cymbidiums should show large fat pseudobulbs and the cone-shaped beginnings of inflorescences, while phalaenopsis should be elongating the spikes they initiated last month. Water and humidity are still necessary for these orchids to progress toward flowering, but less is definitely more this month. Certain orchids from seasonally dry habitats, such as dendrobiums, habeniarias and catasetums, should be left extremely dry starting now, to the point where the plants drop some leaves. This, though disconcerting, is part of their culture and often necessary for blooming. It should be noted here that many of the pseudobulbous species orchids from Mexico and Central America (*Lycaste*, *Encyclia* and many others) are experiencing the beginning of their dry season now and should be watered and fertilized accordingly for the next few months.

PESTER THE PESTS

If your plants summered in the yard, by now any pests that may have come inside with your orchids for the winter will have made themselves known. Make sure to treat any infestations promptly. Most outside insects do not fare well in the greenhouse, and can be eradicated with ease, but it is the sucking parasites that one must start watching for. Without the benefit of rain and beneficial insects, mite populations often explode, particularly on soft leaved orchids such as lycastes or phaius. If undetected, these can do significant damage. Look for small webbing on the undersides of leaves and a "silvering" effect on the upper surface. This is due to the dying of cells from the sucking arachnids. Mites are inhibited by high humidity and can be controlled (in a small collection) by regularly wiping the undersides of the leaves with a wet sponge or rag with insecticidal soap. Larger collections need spraying with a miticide.

WHAT'S AT STAKE

With many orchids, particularly phalaenopsis and cymbidiums, sending out spikes, it is advantageous to start guiding the inflorescences with stakes. Even if the spike is too short to tie at this juncture, setting a stake in the pot near the newly emergent inflorescence is a good reminder that a spike is coming and the plant should be treated with the utmost delicacy. Longer spikes can be tied and guided upward to avoid crossing and tangling with other inflorescences. Once inside, many orchids begin to slough off old leaves and growths from previous years, no longer needed by the plant in the diminishing light. Such leaves and tissues should be removed to avoid rotting in winter.

TEMPERATURES

Cooler-growing plants — masdevallias, draculas and cooler growing oncidiums — are thriving now. Take advantage of the natural drop in temperatures to encourage new growth and blooming in these sensitive species. Any hardy orchids such as bletillas, cypripediums and cremastras that you may have planted outside will benefit greatly from an insulating mulch of pine needles spread deep enough to hold some heat yet fine enough to allow sprouts to develop in the early spring. In the greenhouse, search out *any broken windows*

or other sources of drafts that can really hurt your orchids in midwinter. A little attention to this now will prevent heartache in December when the damage has been done.

— Tom Miranda has been working professionally with orchids for over three decades and is the past chair of the AOS Conservation Committee. He is an AOS accredited judge in the Hawaii Center ([email: biophiliak@gmail.com](mailto:biophiliak@gmail.com))

[ORCHIDS Magazine \(aos.org\)](http://www.aos.org)

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

DID YOU KNOW?

Besides reviewing the one hundred most current awards, you can also find additional reference [resources](#) in OrchidPro.

DID YOU KNOW?

Exhibits can be awarded more than a beautiful, engraved crystal brick. Silver, Gold, Educational and Artistic Certificates can also be granted to outstanding exhibits.

THE WALTER OFF EXHIBIT AWARD

The Walter Off Exhibit Award is given to the winner of an AOS Show Trophy Award, Silver Certificate, Gold Certificate or Educational Award recognized as the most outstanding example of these types of awards given at an AOS sanctioned orchid show during the previous calendar year. The Award shall be determined based upon the submissions of photograph(s) from each judging center of its nomination for the award. This award was established in the fall of 2017 and endowed by donations to honor Walter Off, exhibitor and teacher of exhibition. If your society has won the AOS show trophy, a Silver or Gold Certificate, or an Educational Exhibit award, your exhibit may be eligible for this award.

Need ideas about setting up an exhibit during show season?

OrchidPro contains a combined total of 975 awards to exhibits other than the Show Trophy: 462 Silver Certificates, 170 Gold Certificates, 176 Educational Exhibit Certificates, and 167 Artistic Certificates.



American Orchid Society Silver Certificate 'Avant-Garde 2015' SC/AOS (89 points)
Award No: 20152713, Exhibitor: Hilo Orchid Society, Photographer: Glen Barfield



American Orchid Society Gold Certificate GC/AOS (94 points)
Award No: 20174632, Exhibitor: Cal-Orchid, Inc., Photographer: Arthur Pinkers



Silver Certificate shall be awarded to the exhibit that wins the AOS Show Trophy if the average of all scores is between 85 and 89 points.

Gold Certificate shall not be limited in number at any show. The Gold Certificate shall be awarded to the exhibit that wins the AOS Show Trophy if the average of all scores is at least 90 points.

Any accredited judge may nominate other exhibits for Silver or Gold Certificates to be scored according to the Point Scale used for the AOS Show Trophy.

Educational Exhibit Certificate Awarded to an educational exhibit that furthers the knowledge and education of the public regarding orchids.

Artistic Certificate Awarded to an outstanding exhibit which the judges consider to be exceptionally artistic. No restriction shall be applied to the class of exhibitor, whether amateur, commercial, or professional florist. The award shall be given only upon the unanimous decision of the judging team assigned.

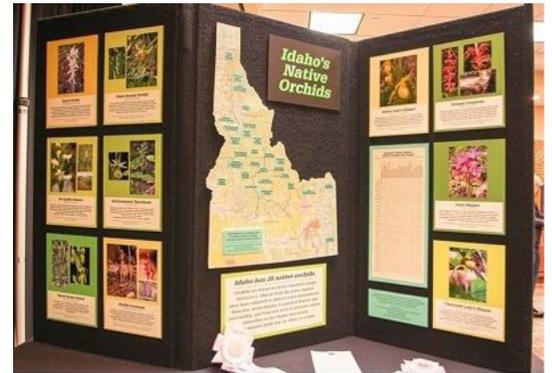
Review the complete criteria for each award in the Judging Handbook. 6.3 Awards for Display of Plants, Flowers, and Educational Material

Take Advantage of ALL Membership Benefits When you go to the AOS website on the right-hand side you will find a member sign-in menu. Click there.

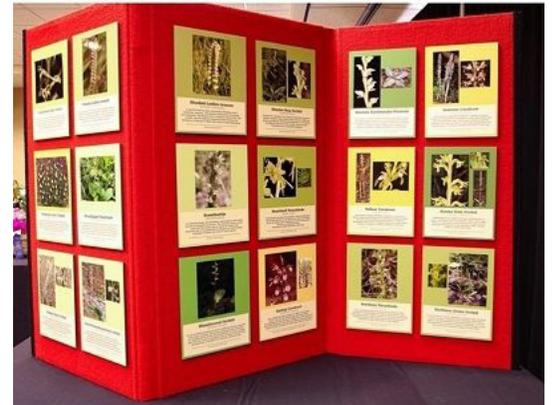
Sign-in to the AOS website with your email and password. Be sure to use the email that you entered on your membership application.



American Orchid Society Artistic Certificate 'Hab Haven' AC/AOS (93 points)
Award No: 20191636, Exhibitor: Joel R. Edwards, Photographer: Katie Poyeur



American Orchid Society Educational Exhibit Certificate 'Idaho Native Orchids' EEC/AOS (96 points)
Award No: 20185856, Exhibitor: Chriss Meredith, Photographer: Sue Birnbaum



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

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If you do not have an email address contact the office for assistance and they can change your password for you.

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Not a Member?
Join Now

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A drop-down menu should appear. Here you will find your account information. If you are viewing with your society sign-in, you will see your society information.

This is where you will access your membership card, OrchidPro and several other benefits specifically for AOS members.

If you are a two-year member, you will see discount coupons for the AOS Elite Advertising Partners. All Partners offer a minimum 5% discount to AOS members. Elite Partners offer a \$30 coupon to use towards a purchase of \$100 or more (terms and conditions may apply).

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



American Orchid Society | PO Box 565477 | Miami FL 33256-5477
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VALERIE LOWE - AOS/ODC REPRESENTATIVE /AWAY SHOWS



The 2nd Edition of A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species is now available!

Spectacular Four Book Set

**A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species
by Ron Parsons and Mary E. Gerritsen**



With 2270 pages and over 3080 incredible photographs, this book set covers 500 miniature orchid species across more than 117 genera, as well as photos (with cultural information) of an additional 500 species that were not presented in the first edition. Multiple images of each species illustrate the color variations, and there are hundreds of photographs taken in situ. In addition to detailed entries of the individual species, you will find information on growth habits, shapes of pseudobulbs, leaves etc, habitats, and a meticulously detailed chapter on miniature orchid culture. If you love miniature orchids, you will enjoy a visual feast within these volumes!

The retail price of this incredible four volume set is 199 pounds sterling, plus shipping. Each set weighs 12.8 kg (a little over 28 pounds). Books are sold only as complete sets, and the only source for the books will be the publisher, Redfern Natural History Productions, located in the United Kingdom.

We are offering a special discount on bulk orders placed by orchid societies in the USA or Canada. Basically, if a society orders 10 sets (or more) of the books which must be sent bulk to a single address, the shipping is FREE. This is a savings of nearly US\$80 per set, or for 10 sets, \$800.

Ordering is simple: click on the group order button above, or go to:
www.redfernnaturalhistory.com/product/miniature-orchid-standard-edition-set-of-four-volumes-ten-set/

Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species

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Maryland Orchid Society Officers and Committees

Officers

PRESIDENT

John Heinbokel 410-517-1460
heinbokel@hotmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Laura Sobelman 410-615-2445
lmsobes@gmail.com

TREASURER

John Dunning 443-687-6878
princetiger@gmail.com

SECRETARY

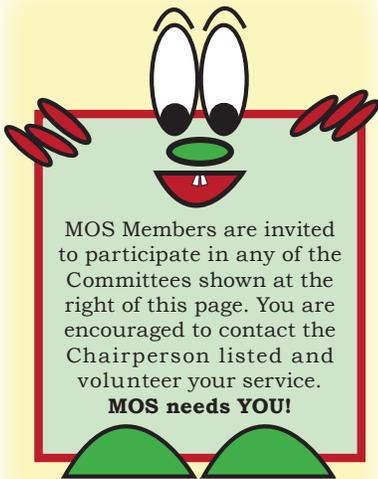
Ellie Martin 410-647-6796
2elliemartin@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Sarah Spence 443-570-3495
slspence@live.com

DIRECTOR

Diane Elam 240-793-9981
dianeelam@yahoo.com
Brenda Logan 443-687-6272
bllogan8@comcast.net



Committees

AOS/ODC REPRESENTATIVE

Valerie Lowe 410-599-2923
vlowe14@comcast.net

AUCTION

Aaron Webb 410-419-1312
awebb71574@aol.com
Sarah Spence

AWAY SHOWS

Valerie Lowe 410-599-2923
vlowe14@comcast.net
Sarah Hurdel

EDUCATION and ACTIVITIES

Eric Wiles (Activities) 410-984-2180
winvet88@yahoo.com
Sarah Spence
David Smith (Education)
410-526-0179
fpsakes1@aol.com

HOSPITALITY

Margaret Smith 410-526-0179
fpsakes1@aol.com
Teena Hallameyer
Brenda Logan

HOUSE

Marc Kiriou 443-509-0084
gothiclord01@yahoo.com
Ernie Drohan
Bob Johnston
Randy Hallameyer
Clark Riley

LIBRARY

Wanda Kuhn 410-286-3868
kuhnwa@verizon.net
Suzanne Gaertner

MEMBERSHIP

Sarah Spence 410-243-3377
slspence@live.com
Laura Sobelman

NEWSLETTER

Barbara Buck 443-371-7596
barbarabuck2015@comcast.net
Laura Sobelman
Sarah Spence

PROGRAM

Fay Citerone 443-326-8541
fay.citerone@gmail.com
John Heinbokel

REFRESHMENTS

Barbara Buck 443-371-7596
barbarabuck2015@comcast.net
Teena Hallameyer
Brenda Logan

SHOW

Marc Kiriou 443-509-0084
gothiclord01@yahoo.com
Gary Smith
Sarah Hurdel
Valerie Lowe
Sarah Spence

SHOW TABLE

Thomas McBride 410-661-4748
orchidudes@aol.com
Joel Graham
Bob Travers
Clark Riley

SOCIAL MEDIA

Joel Graham 814-441-2090
jegmicrobe@gmail.com

SUNSHINE

Pat Schiavi 410-526 6544
paschiavi@yahoo.com

WEBSITE

Clark Riley 410-591-9201
DrRiley@aol.com

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.