MOS *Newsletter* June 2026

News and Information from the Maryland Orchid Society

June 18, 2026 Program Speaker
Carol Allen
"Integrated Pest Management"



Carol Allen has been involved in many aspects of gardening and horticulture since childhood and likes to describe herself as a committable plant-a-holic.

She has over 30 years' experience in the horticulture industry with special interests in Integrated Pest Management and tropical plants of many kinds, especially orchids.

Carol enjoys helping people understand how to care for their plants and holds monthly orchid diagnostic and repotting clinics in the Washington Metro area. She figures she has worked on about 1000 hobbyist-grown orchids per year over the last 20 years.

After serving a term as supervisory horticulturist at the United States Botanic Garden Conservatory, Carol returned to college and earned a degree in horticulture. Fascinated by the interaction of pest and prey, she went on to complete her master's degree in plant science at the University of Maryland concentrating on the pathology of virus transmission in orchids. Carol has taught a wide range of horticultural topics and biological sciences at local colleges and universities and enjoys speaking to various plant groups and societies about plants. Readers are informed and entertained by her column in the *Washington Gardener* magazine on pest issues.

Carol confesses to growing a wide range of plants in and around her home that she shares with cats and pet snakes.

June 18, 2026 MOS ELECTION

- Membership, whether single, dual or family, is considered one voting membership.
- Secretary affirms Quorum.
- A uniquely numbered paper ballot will be distributed to membership for in-person voting.
- Zoom poll will be conducted for Zoom membership to vote.
- Paper ballots are collected at the conclusion to the meeting announcements.
- Secretary records Zoom results for inclusion in the tally.
- President and Secretary tally the votes during the program and announce the results at the conclusion of the program.
- New officers assume their roles at the conclusion of the June meeting.

Uniquely Numbered Ballot to Cast Your Vote

MOS Election Ballot JUNE 18 2026
2026-2028 Officers

Ballot # 26-001	**Slate of Nominees**
President	Marc Kiriou
Vice President	Jill Allen
Secretary	Joy Marlowe
Treasurer	Courtney Bounds
Director	Nicole Halperin
Director	Todd Jackson
Director	Robin Neukam
Select All Vote Here →	☐ Yes ☐No



Presidents Message

Here we are at the beginning of June. We are nearing the end of our program year as I am concluding my term as President, and the Society sets to elect and welcome its new leadership team with the Officer election at the June meeting.

As the 36 Presidents before me have done, I wish to express my personal gratitude to each society member for your unwavering support during these past 2 years. Your volunteerism, thoughts, ideas, commitment, love of orchids, and willingness to share have allowed this society to continue supporting its original purpose for 73 years.

To paraphrase Eric Wiles again, "To me this organization is like an extended family. We may have highs and the occasional low, but we always figure it out and come together with a better Society than before. Remember that the best cakes start out messy — batter gets on your hands, you have to breaks some eggs, mix it up a bit, let it bake for a while, and at the end come out with a wonderful dessert."

Wait a minute, it's only June we are not done yet. Our program year is September to June, but we operate all year long. In June we will have the pleasure of Carol Allen discussing integrated pest management, perfect before summer, and the installation of new Officers. During the summer hiatus of in-person meetings and newsletters, we will have our picnic in July and Zoom virtual show table sharing in July and August is a wonderful opportunity to learn how we grow our great plants. The new leadership team will have its first board meeting in July, The state fair exhibition in late August first opportunity to collect show table point towards next year, and in September before our first meeting our first away show with the National Capitol Orchid Society at their new venue at the Montgomery County Fair grounds. Don't worry, email blasts will continue to keep you informed.

Look for communications from Marc Kiriou, pledge your continued support to new leadership team. Have a safe and happy orchid growing summer. Don't forget to save your potting divisions for the Auction. Take photos for the virtual show table and division labels.

Thank You, the honor of being your President has been a labor of Love. *Bob Travers*



Congratulations to our Hospitality Chair Vincent Russo, he has been accepted into a 9-month Maryland Conservation Corp program starting in August.



MOS Summer Picnic! July 18, 2026 (or Rain Date) 3 pm -- ???

Please mark your calendars for the annual MOS Picnic, scheduled for 3 pm on Saturday, July 18, 2026. Suzanne Gaertner will be hosting this year (THANK YOU!) and can accommodate a rain date of the following day (same time), if necessary.

All MOS members and families are welcome!

As in recent years, responsibility for picnic logistics is shared. Suzanne will provide the space to set up, a grill, and a lawn (for seating, bocce, and perhaps other amusements).

MOS will provide (cheese)burgers, hot dogs, accoutrements, water, and a skilled grill master.

MOS members should please plan to bring a pot-luck contribution (appetizer, salad, side, dessert, more interesting beverage) and sufficient lawn chairs for your family. We also depend on a few members to show up a bit early to help set up and to stay late to help clean up.

Please RSVP to John Heinbokel (activities@marylandorchids.org ; 802.922.8686), ideally by July 10, with number attending, what you will bring, and whether you can help pre- or post-picnic. The RSVP is important, both so we can best plan logistics (although we can always accommodate last minute additions!) and so we know who to contact should the rain date need to be activated.

Suzanne's Address: 12885 Folly Quarter Road Ellicott City

Suzanne elaborates: We are in a neighborhood called Glenelg Manor Estates, right next to the Glenelg Country School. There are 7 or 8 courts in here. Each one is Folly Quarter Road. When you come in to the neighborhood stay to the right. Make the first right, make the next right, we are at the end on the right. GPS usually comes right to us. Trouble starts when the driver says "This can't be right. We can't still be on Folly Quarter Road." Listen to your GPS!

Calendar of Events

June 18 MOS Monthly Meeting
July 16, 2026– Summer ZOOM Show Table #1
July 18, 2026 MOS Picnic *Rain Date July 19*
July 23 2026 Board Meeting In Person **TBD**
Aug 20, 2026– Summer ZOOM Show Table #2
August 27 – 30, 2026 Maryland State Fair **TBD**
Sept 18-20, 2026 NCOS Show & Sale
Sept 24, 2026 Monthly Meeting
Oct 15, 2026 Monthly Meeting
Nov 14, 2026 Annual Auction
Nov 19, 2026 Monthly Meeting



There are currently no new members.

Jill Allen, Membership Chair

Education Corner Schedule & Topics

Education Chair, Chris Zajac
Arne Schon, Larry Desiano



Any MOS member may volunteer to present a topic with basic, practical content for the novice grower: a 15-minute presentation followed by a 15-minute Q and A session. Topic suggestions welcome!

The education corner runs 7:15 to 7:45 p.m.

June 18 'Watering and Fertilizing Orchids' Arne Schon

Education *Orchid Clinic* June 18, 2026 6:45 to 7:10 pm



- Any member may present a distressed orchid suspected to have an infection, pest, or improper culture issue. So if you are not sure why your orchid looks unhappy, this is your chance to find out why.
- If unable to bring the orchid in for examination, the less desirable option is presenting several photos.
- A member of the Education Committee or other knowledgeable member will assess the orchid for a likely cause for distress, suggesting possible remediation.
- Any plant to be examined must be packaged to ensure isolation of any pathogen. The isolation will need to be continued until transport home. The Education Committee will be responsible for cleanup of contaminated surfaces.
- Any conclusion regarding the reason for an orchid's distress is based on the personal experience or knowledge of the examiner. There may be no discernible or agreed upon reason for the distressed orchid.

Thank you to all for your input on this new venture
Chris Zajac

1st Orchid Clinic on May 21 Recap
Four members brought in 5 plants and 1 member provided cell phone photos of a distressed plant.



Miscellaneous Meeting Information *Vincent Russo, Hospitality Chair*

There were 49 in attendance in person and 3 on Zoom at the May Meeting.

Door prizes:
1. Ludochilus Tucks Angels 'Judy'
2. Habenaria Kōtuko

Door Prize winners:
1. Courtney Bounds
2. Mai Conaway

Auction Plants:
1. C. Louis Chaton
2. Phal Fuller
3. Phrag Pink Floyd
4. White Grids
5. Habenaria Rose Finch
6. Bulb Falcatum
7. Phal Noid

Auction Winners:
1. Courtney Bounds
2. Clark Riley
3. Todd Jackson
4. Leon Glicenstein
5. Courtney Bounds
6. Diane Elam
7. Chris Zajac

Virtual Show Table May 21, 2026
9 Exhibitors 25 Plants *submitted by Mai Conaway*



Phalaenopsis NOIDs
Pat Schiavi



Lycaste Little Kitty 'Uzra #1' x Lycaste Little Kitty 'Uzar #'2"
Joy Marlowe



Ascofinetia Cherry Blossom
Ellie Martin



Dendrobium apphyllum Jos Venturina

May Show Table Pictures





















AOS Corner ***Submitted by Valerie Lowe, AOS Representative***

LOCAL AOS NEWS

National Capital Judging Center

The NCJC meets at the **Saint James United Methodist Church, 12470 Old Frederick Rd., Marriottsville, MD 21104**. AOS Judging will start at noon. Everyone is welcome to come, whether you have plants you want considered for an American Orchid Society Award or not. Judging is open to the public, and we invite anyone to bring their plants in to be judged**.**

The National Capital Judging Center

June 6 – NCJC - Business meeting & Judging - St. James UMC – 8:30 – 4:30
July 11 – NCJC – St. James UMC – 11:00 – 4:30
August 1 – NCJC - St. James UMC – 11:00 – 4:30
September 5 – NCJC - St. James UMC – 11:00 – 4:30
September 18- NCOS Show, Montgomery County Fairgrounds (501 Perry Parkway, Gaithersburg, MD 20877)
October 3 – NCJC - St. UMC – 11:00 – 4:30
November 7 - NCJC Business Meeting & Judging– 8:30 – 4:30
December 5 - NCJC - St. James UMC – 11:00– 4:30

MOS-2026 - National Capital Judging Center See AOS Awards at the MOS March 2026 Show



American Orchid Society - American Orchid Society
Webinars - American Orchid Society
Outdoor Orchid Care - American Orchid Society
Orchid Care - American Orchid Society
Community & Events - American Orchid Society

Orchid Digest

The Huntington and Orchid Digest Present Speakers Day 2026 In Person or Vitual
https://www.orchiddigest.org/202-speakers-day
Saturday, June 20, 2026 10:00 AM - 7:30 PM 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino, CA 91108

Speakers
Jack Zhu Beyond the Bloom: Variegation and Culture of Cymbidiums, including Cymbidium lancifolium
Nicholas Rust TERRESTRIAL **-** In-depth, expansive look into the terrestrial orchids of the world with a focus on in situ specimens.
Dr. Daniel L. Geiger Fascination of the Overlooked Miniature: Oberonia
Jason L. Downing Ph.D The topic will be the speaker's choice

More May Show Table Pictures






Board of Trustees Report to Members

May 14, 2026 Board Meeting was called to order.
Quorum confirmed by the Secretary
Minutes from January 15, 2026 board meeting approved.
Policies Approved : Policy and Procedure, Membership Dues, Philanthropy Special Committee, Document Retention: Books and Records, Recurring Financial Obligations, Request for Reimbursement

Guidelines Approved: Orchid Clinic Guidelines:
Procedures Approved: Casting and Recording Votes, Monthly Meeting Auction
Job Descriptions Completed: All Officers and Most Committee Chairs
Completed old business reviewed.

Treasure's Report

- **Statement of Activity Sept. 1, 2025 through May 6, 2026**
  Revenue exceeded expenditures, bulk of expenses paid for fiscal year, tracking to be under fiscal year budget.
- **Financial Position as of May 6, 2026**
  Bank and Investment Accounts balances support continued operation of the Society.
- **MOS Show 2026 P & L**
  break even, rental of gridwall from fairgrounds was a cost savings

Committee Reports

ACTIVITIES: Rawlings Exhibition one of the high points in our program year. Spring Introductory Workshop best participation since COVID. Summer Picnic will be hosted by Suzanne Gaertner. Plan to participate in State Fair (2026).
AUCTION: Knights of Columbus hall is not available on Nov. 14, 2026 due to construction, return deposit check is in the mail.
AWAY SHOWS: Silver Certificate for the MOS exhibit at the SEPOS show. We are scheduled to exhibit at the NCOS show in September at the Montgomery County fairgrounds; set up on September 17. For 2027, SOS will be holding their show Jan. 29-31; set-up is Jan. 27. As NCJC (National Capital Judging Center)Vice-Chair, the show schedules for our Center is VOS is holding show judging on March 5. NCJC meets on March 6. Suggest we have MOS show judging March 11. I'm already recruiting judges since CPOS wants show judging on March 13.
EDUCATION: The Education Corner continued its tradition of providing monthly pre-meeting presentations. **Orchid Clinic** Starting with the May meeting and monthly afterwards, the Orchid Clinic will be conducted 30 minutes prior to the Education Corner. Members may present distressed orchids for diagnosis and suggested remedies. The Education Committee is proposing to forward selected orchid e mailed questions to all 3 of the Education Committee members for a response. The questions initially come to the Education@marylandorchids.org address then forwarded to our personal e mails.
HOSPITALITY: I've continued my regular routine of handing out Door prize tickets for headcount, Door prize/Auction Plants, and their respective winners. Zoom moderator has helped me keep track of Zoom Attendance. I've also made an effort to educate any new members or visitors about the function of the Door prize drawing and auction.
MEMBERSHIP: Total memberships 115. Total Members 160. This includes 15 new members since October. .Continue to improve new member packet Ensure that there are membership forms at all MOS activities.
NEWSLETTER: Bylaws required elements of covering news, activities, meeting notices, program, show table results are submitted on time. Job Description elements of president's message, calendar of events, new members are easily attainable.

PROGRAM: The budget was $2000. Including the May program, we will have incurred $2,100 in expenses, with an additional projected $280 for travel expenses. That brings the total to $2380 for 2025-2026. I expect the June expenses to be minimal. Speaker schedule, bios and pictures are stored on a shared drive in google workspace.
REFRESHMENTS: Refreshments YTD actual expenses are $1,082.10 to the YTD budgeted amount of $1,390.00. I expect to end the year on or below budget. Food, beverage and supplies have met the needs of the (on average) 50 attendees per meeting, with very little to no leftovers. Feedback has been positive on food items and hot coffee/tea, and is always appreciated.
SHOW: Maryland Home & Garden Show is scheduled the 2nd weekend is March 12-14, 2027. NCJC is available for judging on March 11, 2027. Anticipate furniture rental cost increase.
SUNSHINE: Discuss the possibility of purchasing a one-year membership to an electronic card app. Handwritten notes are especially meaningful and should continue to be used for sympathy cards, get-well, and larger donors. We discussed using electronic cards primarily for volunteer thank-you messages. This could allow us to acknowledge more people in a timely and cost-effective way. We could also personalize messages with MOS images, such as the logo.

New Business

Election of Officers June 18 Meeting: Procedure for Casting and Recording Votes and Ballot approved.
Annual Auction November 14: Catonsville Presbyterian Church selected for 2026 Auction site.
Member Survey Direction Approved. This will encompass utilization of google forms for membership application and renewals incorporating surveys, potential of use of a digital platform executable through computer or cell phones.
Education Committee Board approved request to establish a new shared drive folder for members accessible space within MOS Google workspace with read and download access authorization for a repository of educational and reference materials, does not require establishment of individual accounts.
Orchid Questions submissions to process under study.
Philanthropy Team request for reimbursement approved for 1st disbursement of orchid plants purchased from Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology Ltd. to embellish Rawlings Conservatory collection.
Sunshine E Card Thank You Notes approved.

Show Table May 21, 2026 *Joel Graham*

Novice
1. Psy. Kalihi 'Big' - Kathleen Spicer
2. Phal. Noid - Michael Keller

Homegrown
1. Mps. Breathless 'Brilliant' - Luis Molina
2. Tie: Phal. Liu's Triprince - Kathi Jackson
   Phal. Liu's Berry - Wanda Kuhn
3. Tie: Bc. Little Birds - Wangqu Liu
   Phal. Angel's Kiss - Sarah Spence

Greenhouse
1. L. Harmill - Clark Riley

Cattleya
1. Epc. Serena O'Neil - John Heinbokel
2. Tie: L. *purpurata* 'Rosa Cereja' - Chris Zajac
   Blc. Hawaiian Lightning 'Fiesta' - Bob Johnston
3. Rth. Ines M. Quiles 'Fair Orchids' - Maria & Norm Zickhur

Phalaenopsis
1. Phal. Noid - Amanda Gallegos
2. Tie: Phal. Spring Blush - Wanda Kuhn
   Phal. Freeride - Barbara Pralle
   Phal. Miki Dancer - Wangqu Liu
3. Tie: Phal. Taisuco Stripe - Jill Allen
   Phal. Marisa - Marilyn Lauffer
   Phal. bellina - Kathi Jackson

Paphiopedilum
1. Paph. Lebaudyanum - Joan Geckle
2. Tie: Mxdm. *xerophyticum* - Sarah Hurdel
   Phrag. Nutmeg - Aaron Webb
   Paph. Spectacular Peacock - Mai Conaway
3. Tie: Paph. Herbert Bernhart - John Heinbokel
   Paph. Hawaiian Tea 'Susan J' AM/AOS - Robert Travers

Dendrobium
1. Den. Noid - Joan Geckle
2. Tie: Den. Noid - Jason Overgard
   Den. Jiaho Candy - Sarah Hurdel
3. Tie: Den. Tsiku Jesulin - Chris Zajac
   Den. *sanderae v. luzonicum* - Luis Molina

Oncidium
1. Ons. Wildcat 'Golden Red Star' - Luis Molina
2. Tie: Psy. Kalihi 'Big' - Laura Sobelman
   Onc. Nola Belle - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste
3. Tie: Tol. Jairak Tufferfish - Todd Jackson
   Psy. Mendenhall 'Hildos' FCC/AOS - Robert Travers

Miscellaneous Hybrids
1. Masd. Falcata - Clark Riley
2. Tie: Gptm. Starburst 'Parkside' AM/AOS - Kathleen Spicer
   Zglm. Luoisendorf 'Rhein Moonlight' - Luis Molina
3. Hab. Housefinch - Sarah Hurdel

Species
1. Ddc. *sp.* - Sarah Hurdel
2. Tie: Paph. *helenae* - Wangqu Liu
   Chsch. *viridiflora* - Courtney Bounds
   Paph. *phillipinense* 'Khairul-Barial' AM/AOS - Arne Schon
3. Rstp. *brachypus* - Brandt Braunschweig

Miniature
1. L. *sincorana* - David Smith
2. Tie: Phal. *parishii* - Arne Schon
   C. Beau's Apricot Gem - Robert Travers
3. C. Exotic Red Extreme - Wangqu Liu

First Bloom
1. Paph. Chou-yi Rookie - Mai Conaway
2. Paph. *haynaldianum* - Wangqu Liu
3. Bro. *sanguinea* - Arne Schon

Fragrance
1. Trgl. *cirrhifera* - David Smith
2. V. *falcata* - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste
3. B. *nodosa* - Jason Overgard

One of the strongest show tables we have seen with 119 plants exhibited by 34 exhibitors, great job! The show table was a delight of diverse hybrids and species and several impressive specimen plants. **The judges' choice for the evening went to a towering Ons. Wildcat 'Golden Red Star' brought in by Luis Molina**. Our judges for the evening were Christine Kennedy, Donna Cameron-Ohem, and Chris Zajac. Exhibitors not mentioned in the placings above were Fay Citerone, Diane Elam, Sussane Gaertner, Brenda Logan and Eric Wiles. Only one meeting left to score points for the 2025-2026 season, so lets make the upcoming meeting a good one!



The Judges' Choice Ons. Wildcat 'Golden Red Star' brought in by Luis Molina.

MOS Newsletter
Published 10 months per year September to June.
Articles due the 26th of the month.
Articles welcome.
Comments? newsletter@marylandorchids.org

MOS MEETINGS 3rd Thursday September thru June
Woodbrook Church • 25 Stevenson Lane • Baltimore, MD 21212
Show Table setup begins at 7 p.m., judging at 7:30 p.m.
The Education Corner and Library open at 7:15 p.m.
The program commences at 8 p.m. and adjourns at approximately 9:30 p.m. Members may also attend via Zoom

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Officers and Committee Chairs

PRESIDENT	Bob Travers president@marylandorchids.org
VICE PRESIDENT	Marc Kiriou vicepresident@marylandorchids.org
SECRETARY	Diane Elam secretary@marylandorchids.org
TREASURER	Brenda Logan treasurer@marylandorchids.org
PAST PRESIDENT	John Heinbokel
DIRECTORS	Joy Marlowe director1@marylandorchids.org Robin Neukam director2@marylandorchids.org
ACTIVITIES	John Heinbokel activities@marylandorchids.org *Robin Neukam*
AUCTION	Aaron Webb auction@marylandorchids.org *backup open*
AOS/ODC Representative	Valerie Lowe *backup open*
AWAY SHOWS	Valerie Lowe *backup open*
EDUCATION	Chris Zajac *Arne Schon, Larry Desiano*
HOSPITALITY	Vincent Russo hospitality@marylandorchids.org *backup open*
HOUSE	Clark Riley *Bob Johnston*

LIBRARY	Wanda Kuhn *Chris Zajac*
MEMBERSHIP	Jill Allen membership@marylandorchids.org *Sarah Spence, Nicole Halperin*
NEWSLETTER	Susan Travers newsletter@marylandorchids.org *Laura Sobelman, editor* *John Heinbokel*
PROGRAM	Fay Citerone program@marylandorchids.org *Mai Conaway*
REFRESHMENTS	Kathi Jackson refreshments@marylandorchids.org *Brenda Logan, Diane Elam,* *Marilyn Lauffer*
SHOW	Marc Kiriou *Valerie Lowe, Laura Sobelman,* *Larry Desiano* show@marylandorchids.org
SHOW TABLE	Joel Graham *backup open*
SOCIAL MEDIA Representative	Joel Graham *Susan Travers*
SUNSHINE	Pat Schiavi sunshine@marylandorchids.org *Joy Marlowe*
Website Technology Communication Chair	Clark Riley info@marylandorchids.org *backup open*

MOS Needs You!
Please Volunteer to help on a Committee

www.marylandorchids.org
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