



The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

May 2020

Website: www.marylandorchids.org

2020 May's Acting President's Message



Acting President's Message

Spring has sprung and it is beautiful! Azaleas, dogwood trees, flowers and grass, are growing and fully in bloom. Lots of spring showers; the grass has been cut four times. And yet here we sit, limited in our enjoyment.

Thankfully, our orchids are contributing to our well-being.

As you probably suspect, the May 21st meeting has been cancelled. We will make a decision about the June 18th meeting as we get closer to that date. It will depend on the Governor and how many persons over the number of ten he says may gather.

IF the June meeting is cancelled, the election of officers will take place in September. The slate of Nominees is as below...

Slate of Nominees

PRESIDENT

John Heinbokel

VICE PRESIDENT

Laura Sobelman

TREASURER

John Dunning

SECRETARY

Ellie Martin

PAST PRESIDENT

Sarah Spence

DIRECTORS

Brenda Logan

Diane Elam

This is also the time in which members may volunteer or write-in nominees to add to the slate. Please check with whomever you would like to add to the slate, to make sure that they are willing to serve. Let a member of the nominating committee—Laura Sobelman, Clark Riley, or Bob Travers—know your recommenda-

tion. We will list the final recommendations to be voted on at the June meeting. "Election of officers (other than immediate past President) shall be by ballot at the June meeting, or, if no June meeting is held, at the next following monthly meeting, and a plurality of votes".

Everyone... please stay well. Hopefully, we will soon be together again to share our love of orchids and enjoy each other's company.

Sarah



Happy Belated Mothers Day from all of us to all of you

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*February's 2020
Show Table Winners by Tom McBride*

Will all you flowers please come home? We promise to keep you 6' apart and we will wear masks.



Tom,
we miss your educational chats.

Maryland Orchid Society News & Surrounding Events

Bob's Corner



ACADIAN MOS ORDER A HUGE SUCCESS

From Bob Travers

I believe our MOS Order with Acadian Supply as part of their Society Pallet Order Program has been a huge success. It all started back in December with a discussion with David Smith, Eric Wiles and me, with David saying he was thinking of ordering Orchiata Bark. We discussed that it had been years since we last made a Society purchase. Within the span of the December and January monthly meetings we were off and running. Hoping to make the half pallet best price break, I can report we managed to greatly exceed.

I want to thank the society members for participating; there were 25 members ordering which is about a quarter of the Society. We ended up with a 2 pallet order including Bark, SpagMoss and Tree Fern.

A Special thanks go to:

Clark Riley for converting my word "order form" to a fillable PDF, managing several mailings of information to all, and lastly helping to sort orders and deliver one of the residential clusters. Danielle Gent and Chris for offering their garage for our order receipt and its distribution.

The picture shows orders staged for individual members grouped by residential clusters in their garage. John Dunning for managing the financial consolidation and payment to Acadian Supply. Residential cluster pickup members included David Smith, Mark Robbins, Suzanne Gaertner, Brenda Logan, Tom Krajewski, Clark Riley and myself including very few individual pickup. In consideration of the COVID-19 outbreak and guidelines we felt it necessary to avoid having everyone pick up individually, and defined residential clusters and asked for volunteers to pick up for and distribute to their cluster.

Thank you for stepping up and we managed to complete this initial pickup all in one day.

Additionally there was a small surplus of funds collected which is providing a \$153.94 donation to the Maryland Orchid Society.

THANKS TO
ALL, THIS IS AN
EXAMPLE OF OUR
THRIVING
SOCIETY AT
WORK.



Clark's Corner



We are all orchid growers. The family we adore was originally described in the very first botanical names index by Linnaeus in the 1750s, based on the European wildflowers he called *O chis* (for fun, look up what orchis means!). Some of those originally described *Orchis* species still carry that genus name.

One wonderful species that originally had that genus name is our own native Showy Orchid — originally *Orchis spectabilis*, now (since 1833) *Galearis spectabilis*. It is not rare in the eastern United State and Canada and is relatively easy to grow when treated to the same conditions that *Trilliums* like. As best I can tell, it has never been grown commercially from seed and has not been used in hybrids. It is quite common locally in places like Gunpowder Park and can be found by the millions in the Great Smokey Mountains.

The photo of this local plant was taken by Randall Peck.





Program Notes – May 2020
John Heinbokel, Chair, MOS Program Committee
1 May 2020

Happy May Day everyone. Life in the Heinbokel household is quiet and annoyingly devoid of offspring (they refuse to put us fragile geezers at greater risk for COVID19), but we remain healthy so far. I hope you all have also managed to avoid the 'plague' in our midst.

Our monthly meetings **will not** occur until our Governor Hogan approves the starting date. And, our scheduled speaker, Tom Mirenda from Hawaii, has canceled his extensive speaking tour up the east coast.

To keep everyone as up to speed as possible at this point (you saw some of this last month):

- We've already canceled Rob Griesbach's March presentation and our April meeting with Beth Davis from Waldor Orchids. We'll reschedule both presentations when possible.
- Our May 21 meeting is cancelled — Tom Mirenda's originally scheduled presentation on 'Herding Catts'. In that case we'll work to schedule him later, if he sets up a new visit to our part of the country, or possibly via Zoom, if we can't get him physically in the same room with us.
- I am hopeful that our June speaker, B.J. Ramsay, presenting on orchid photography, will be able to join us as scheduled. Of course that is largely out of any of our control, and we'll know better as we get closer to that date.

One compensation for our COVID19 limitations, however, is that the American Orchid Society has opened to the public both their upcoming Webinars and their extensive collection of previously recorded ones. Many of these had been restricted to AOS members. If you are interested, you can access their catalog at <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>. NOTE: since we will not meet on May 21, you can watch Fred Clarke presenting what for us will be an encore on Aussie Dendrobiums. So, if you missed our November 2019 meeting with Fred, or just want to review his cultural advice, this would be a great opportunity.

So, bottom line (as I wrote last month and still seems relevant): the real world is intruding on our plans and no one knows how soon we'll return to something resembling normality. Still, having to postpone a presentation on *Neofinetia pales* in comparison to the sacrifices and the suffering of some in our community. Hang on, stay focused on priorities, be there for each other, stay healthy, and know that when it's safe we'll gather together again and pick up with 'orchid business' where we left off.

AOS Orchid Society News & Surrounding Events



Support the AOS

A Message from AOS Staff

AOS Staff continues to work remotely in observance of State and County lockdown orders for Miami-Dade county. However, we are still able to answer your phone calls, emails, process memberships, and process award payments.

Shipping of book orders, membership cards, welcome kits and other items requiring handling in the office is unavoidably delayed until the governor's order is lifted.

If you need your membership number for online purchases, or any other reason, kindly contact us - we can readily provide you with that information. You can reach us at (305) 740-2010, 9AM to 5:30PM EDT, Monday through Friday.

AOS Staff - Naya, Sandra, Victor & Daniella

2021 Centennial Celebration



In less than year from now, the American Orchid Society will be celebrating its 100th birthday!

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

May Issue of ORCHIDS

May 2020 Issue CoverThe May issue of ORCHIDS is now in the mail to current print members.

Our publisher Allen Press is currently still considered an essential business in the state of Kansas and the May magazine has been mailed on schedule. Delays with postal service may apply depending on your location.

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

Our May issue features the conclusion of Fred Clarke's series on Catasetinae with What's in a Name - the genus Fredclarkeara. Andrew Coghill-Behrends continues his series on small-flowered phalaenopsis and Sergey Skoropad delights us with an article on orchid fine-art jewelry.

UPDATE on AOS Judging and Judging Centers

Due to COVID-19 concerns, a majority of spring shows and monthly judgments have been canceled or postponed. Beginning this month and beyond, our AOS Judging Centers will announce whether or not to resume regular monthly judging based on the decisions of local and state officials, which may not be the same across the nation. Please check your Judging Center Facebook pages and websites for specifics before you set out to exhibit your orchids. If the center does not have a website or Facebook page, please reach out for the [Judging Center Chair](#) for direction.

At this time we already know that the following Judging Centers have canceled their May meetings:

Mid-America Judging Center
Toronto Judging center
National Capital Judging Center
Carolinas Judging Center
Pacific Central Judging Center
Chicago Judging Center
West Palm Beach Judging Center
Florida-Caribbean Judging Center
Houston Judging Center

We are in the midst of planning for this event, including our Centennial Celebration gala scheduled for April 10th, 2021 in Coral Gables, FL. Proceeds from this special evening will help support the advancement of the American Orchid Society's vital programs in Education, Research, and Conservation.

Are you interested in becoming a sponsor for the Centennial Celebration? [Click here to donate now!](#) Make sure to designate your donation to the Centennial Celebration fund.

Orchidist's Word of the Month carotenoid (ka-RA-ten-oyd):

A type of naturally occurring fat-soluble pigment responsible for the yellow through orange shades of flower color.

Orchid Events Calendar. Click to view events.



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!

Give a gift membership.



A great gift for the orchid lover in your life!

Call or email ahead before making any arrangements.

If there is a question is about the status of an AOS sponsored show, please check with the show contact listed on the events calendar on the left column.

Don't miss these webinars in May

Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:30 PM EDT

Greenhouse Chat - Join Dr. Ron McHatton, AOS Chief Science Officer, as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Have your questions answered by our resident orchid expert! Please send your queries to greenhousechat@aos.org two days prior to the chat. *Open to all.*

Monday, May 18, 2020 8:30 PM EDT

Click to go to the Webinars Page! **Best Practice for Buying Plants** - Erik Sauer will explain what to look for when buying orchids so that you can be sure to get healthy plants that will thrive. Member Exclusive Webinar.

Thursday, May 21, 2020 8:30 PM EDT

Australian Dendrobiums with Fred Clark - Learn about exciting new hybrids based on Australian dendrobiums from the section Dendrocoryne with Fred Clarke. *Member Exclusive Webinar.*

Your OrchidPro Tip of the Month

In order to help you take advantage of your OrchidPro application and make the best use of its extensive features, we will be providing "quick tips" on a regular basis. OrchidPro is one of the great benefits of your AOS Membership. Let us begin!

The first quick tip is "How to Customize your OrchidPro." There are several options to customize OrchidPro. They are found under the "Application Settings" option in the drop-down menu below your name. (You must be logged in with your membership credentials.)

Once you click the "Application Settings" link, you will see the "Application Settings" screen:

OrchidPro allows you to change the basic color scheme for your system. Some users prefer a darker color scheme if they are working at night. Others prefer a higher contrast to see the text better during the day. This only affects the background color and text. Pictures will be displayed in full color regardless of the color scheme that you choose.

You also have the option here to indicate whether you will be using a mouse or a touch screen (iPad or touch screen PC) as your primary input device. This option will make selecting item (aka, "clicking") easier for your specific device. Remember to "Save Changes"! Any options saved in these settings will remain for all of your OrchidPro sessions until you elect to change them.

Next time, we will cover "Search Preferences." Explore and Enjoy!

The Development Committee is looking for new members!

The AOS Development Committee is looking for several new members that can help us work on fundraising campaigns. The hours to invest are minimal, until the Fall when we have a couple of telephone meetings. New team members bring new ideas, concepts, and energy to the team.

The role of the Development Committee is to advise the Board on fundraising policy matters and help carry out the operations of the Society with respect to development and fundraising. The Committee ensures that the AOS's total development program is in concert with the AOS's mission, strategic direction, and needs. [Full description can be found here.](#)

Contact Cheryl Erins at cerins@aos.org. Thank you!

Coming this Fall!
The Annual Magazine Supplement

This year, the special supplemental issue of ORCHIDS magazine will focus on “Spots and Stripes” This edition is sure to delight with information and a celebration of color with stunning photography. It will be included with your October issue of Orchids magazine. Another great benefit of your AOS membership.

Remember, your donations to the Annual ORCHIDS Supplement help make this publication possible. [Donate by clicking here.](#)
[2020 Supplement Preview](#)



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

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Valerie Lowe -
AOS/ODC Representative & Away Shows

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MOS Members are invited to participate in any of the Committees shown at the right of this page. You are encouraged to contact the Chairperson listed and volunteer your service.
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.