



ORCHID *newsletter*



News and information from the Maryland Orchid Society

Nov. 2023

President's Message

All Hands!

I suspect I've used that header before, but I'm having trouble feeling very guilty about the redundancy. The fact that so many of our activities require, and receive (!), the wholehearted support of large portions of our membership is one of the strengths of the MOS, and one of the joys that make serving on the Board of Trustees so rewarding.

This time, of course, we're mobilizing for the Annual Auction on the 11th. What's not to love about this event?! We reach out to a large group of orchid lovers who are not (yet) MOS members. We get to dress up in our funky yellow T-shirts and embroidered blue shirts and work together intensely for a day with our orchid friends and fellow addicts. We explore (and acquire!?) new species and hybrids all gathered together vying for our attention. Those new orchids often come to us as bargains, but hopefully not too deeply discounted; because, not by any means last, if we're successful, we'll make enough money for MOS to support our other activities for the rest of the year!

And for those who can contribute healthy plants to the sale tables, a special thanks!

So please make time to join us in Catonsville on the 11th. If you signed up at the last meeting, wonderful! If not, come anyway. Set-up begins at 8:30 a.m. and we can always use the help – even (especially) if we're (pleasantly!) surprised to see you.



If you can, let me (marylandorchid.president@gmail.com) or Aaron Webb (awebb71574@aol.com) know, but if you forget, no big deal! I hope to see lots of you there and pulling together.

HEADS UP: The **December** meeting is rescheduled to the second Thursday (14th) to allow a bit more separation from Christmas. Looking even further ahead, the **February** meeting is pushed back to the fourth Thursday (22nd) to allow our team to set up the MOS display at the NCOS show the prior week.

As usual stay safe and healthy, grow beautiful orchids, and share them with us.

John Heinbokel
November 1, 2023

Local AOS News

The National Capital Judging Center will be meeting on December 9, starting at noon. The venue will be the Saint James United Methodist Church located at 12470 Old Frederick Road in Marriotsville, MD 21104.

Valerie Lowe

Our November Speaker is Sarah Hurdel Discussing *Bulbophyllums*

Sarah is the owner of Needmore Orchids, an artist, orchid blogger, exhibitor and accredited AOS judge. She maintains a collection of well over 600 orchids under lights in her basement, including a large number of *Habenaria* species and hybrids. Even without a greenhouse, her plants and exhibits have received AOS award recognition for culture, flower quality, and design. She enjoys sharing her orchid obsession with others through in-person and virtual presentations to societies across the US and Canada. Her talk combines her love of orchids, photography, and illustration with experienced advice and a sense of humor. Sarah currently has two blog pages featuring her orchid photography and cultural information—Something About Orchids on Facebook and Blogspot.

Sarah is taking pre-orders before our meeting at her website:

needmore-orchids.myshopify.com/

Please order by November 14.



Novice

1. Masd. Redwing 'Harford' - Robin Neukam
2. Phal. No ID - James Canfield

Homegrown

1. Hab. Flamingo 'Rubenesque' - Bob Travers
2. Tie C. *warneri* v. *coerulea* x C. *Lawre-mossiae* - Kathi Jackson
Phal. Home Depot - Amanda Gallegos
3. Masd. Maui Gold 'Harford' - Robin Neukam

Greenhouse

1. Dar. Fuchs Cream Puff x Rhyn. *coelestris* - Jos Venturina
2. Lc. Cormelia 'Kalapana' - Clark Riley

Cattleya

1. Epi. Little Miss Sunshine - Bob Travers
2. Tie Epc. Hsiang Yu Gold Coast - Dave Smith
Ctna. Why Not - Chris Zajac
Slc. Love Castle - Clark Riley
3. Tie Rlc. Thaksina Gold 'No. 3' - Bob Johnston
C. CG Roebling 'Beachview' - Mai Conaway

Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Home Depot - Amanda Gallegos
2. Tie Phal. NoID 'CostCo' - Brandt Braunschweig
Phal. Gan Lin DenPasar - Robin Neukam
3. Tie Phal. Sun Spots - Sarah L. Spence
Phal. *violacea* v. pink 'Wilson' - Chris Zajac

Paphiopedilum

1. Paph. Prince Edward of York - Mai Conaway
2. Tie Paph. Noid - Danielle Gent
Phrag. Grande 'Upperco' HCC/AOS - Bob Travers
3. Tie Phrag. Don Wimble - Aaron Webb
Phrag. Cardinale - Brenda Logan

Dendrobium

1. Den. Purple Star - Chris Zajac
2. Den. NoID - John Heinbokel
3. Den. Aussie's Pixie - Bob Travers

Oncidium

1. Alcra. Pacific Nona 'Hilo Stars' - Chris Zajac
2. Tie Onc. Sweet Sugar 'Lemon Drop' - Eric Wiles
Onc. Heaven Scent 'Redolence' - Brandt Braunschweig
Onc. Chaculatum - Amanda Gallegos
3. Bllr. Tropic Lily 'Hilo Spaceship' - Danielle Gent

Miscellaneous

1. Fdk. Dark Thereafter x Ctsm. Jose Abalo - Chris Zajac
2. Tie. V. Roberts Delight x (teres?) - Phuong Tran and Rich Kaste
Hab. Michigan - Clark Riley
3. Tie. Hab. Conure x Red Hybrid - Fay Citerone
Cym. Chen's Ruby 'Gold Tiger' - Eric Wiles

Species

1. Css. *retisquama* (hort. Rubra) - David Smith
2. Coel. *mossiae* - Bob Travers
3. Bfr. *aurea-fulva* - Bob Johnston

Miniature

1. Ste. *microchilus* - David Smith
2. Scgl. *punctulata* - Bob Travers

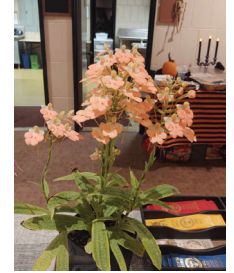
First Bloom

1. Hab. Tilda '#3' - Joel Graham

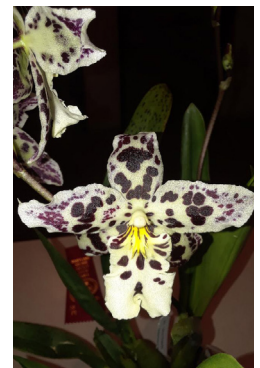
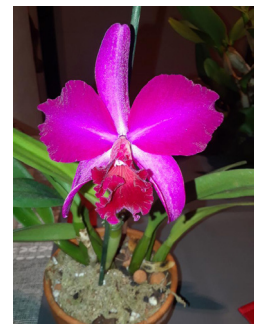
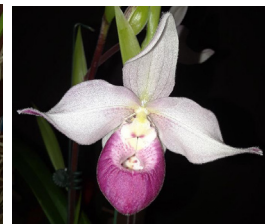
Fragrance

1. Lc. Dorothy Fried 'Royal Robe' - Eric Wiles
2. Tie Asc. Princess Mikasa 'Blue' - Fay Citerone
Phal. *belina* - Robin Neukam
3. Tie Ascf. Hsinying Starlight - David Smith
Blc. Bryce Canyon 'Splendiferous' AM/AOS - Clark Riley

Wow what a spectacular show table! We had a total of 84 blooming plants on the tables with good distribution across categories and from members ranging from novice to seasoned. Plants were displayed from 28 different households! It is a great pleasure to manage the judging for such a vibrant society and you should be proud of your contributions to the monthly show table! Our judges' choice for the evening was Dar. Fuchs Cream Puff x Rhyn. *coelestris* brought in by Jos Venturina and it was a massive and well bloomed specimen. Thank you to our judges for the evening: Kathi Jackson, Laura Sobelman and Bob Johnston with some additional help from Dave Smith. Additional exhibitors not mentioned above were Jill Allen, John Dunning, Diane Elam, Wanda Kuhn, Joy Marlow, Laura Sobelman, Maria and Norm Zickuhr.



Above photos: Jill Allen



Above photos: Aaron Spence

A Message from Aaron Webb: Annual Auction Chair



The MOS auction is just around the corner. The Auction is a major source of revenue for the Maryland Orchid Society to support our Operating Expenses (Speakers, Awards, Door Prizes, Shows, and more).

[MOS Annual Auction November 11, 2023.](#)
[Knights of Columbus Hall, 1010 Frederick Road,](#)
[Catonsville, MD 21228.](#)

The Annual Auction is a wonderful opportunity to add to your collection at a reasonable price! Your plant donations are key to our success! Have a plant you can't bloom or not thrilled with it, donate it! Healthy and pest-free plants only please. Your plant donations are tax deductible! *Plants that perform well: Species plants, particularly rare ones, in bloom Phragmipediums, Paphiopedilums, Catasetinae, Habenaria, Blooming Cattleya alliance plants.* Please see September MOS Newsletter for full plant donation check list.

Please bring your donation plants to the hall on Nov 11 between **9 AM and 10:30 AM**. Please remain with your donated plants to help assign your Lot Numbers and help to value them for 'Instant Auction Pricing' or to determine if they should be on the 'Live Auction Tables'.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING: Volunteer Sign Up Sheet at October 19 Meeting

Time	Actions
8:30-9:15 AM	Arrange Tables, Chairs, Gridwall, Sound System, Screen, Computer Workstations Set up plant donation receipt, bidder registration, box, and checkout stations Please bring boxes and newspaper Rope off instant auction area Place Purchased Plants for Live Auction on Round Tables Snacks for volunteers (coffee, donuts)
9:15 -11:15 AM	Check In Donated Plants and Lot Number Sticker Price for Instant Auction (donor should come with anticipated price) *Donors with more than 5 plants: Please send a list of your plants to Bob Travers by Nov. 5th and we will try to pre-allocate lot numbers* Segregate Donated Plants for Live Auction Plant donors should stay with plants until they are assigned lot number and priced Instant Auction Preview is closed until 11:30 AM
11:00 on	Bidder Registration Begins
11:30 AM	Full Auction Preview Begins, Man Computer Stations, Boxing Station, Checkout and Pay Station
Noon	Live Auction Begins, Auctioneers, Pictures on Screen
4 PM	Auction Close: Cleanup completed by 4:30 PM which includes removal of all leftover boxes and newspaper

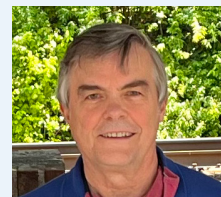
Friendly Fungi Are Needed for Orchids — Really?

So often in basic texts on orchids, I read something to the effect, “specific mycorrhizal fungi are needed for orchid seed germination and growth in the wild.” I find this quite frustrating. It is a massive over-simplification and discourages many from efforts at orchid conservation.

It is certainly true that SOME orchids are dependent on association with fungi, the fungi providing initial food and the orchids providing host homes. These orchids would include some like the Coralroot orchids and some deep forests terrestrials that you are unlikely to grow. But there is little evidence that fungi are required for the germination of epiphytic species such as Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, and such. Indeed, many

terrestrials from bright habitats, such as Disas and Calopogons sprout readily in the absence of fungi. In our hobby, the role of fungi is taken over by humans in the laboratory, providing perfect nutrients in culture. Yields can be near 100% in many cases compared to less than 1% in the wild.

So, the next time you hear someone say, “orchids need special fungi to grow,” give a friendly smile, let them know it’s a bit more than that, and invite them to share the amazing stories of our favorite flowers.



ZOOM Survey: Summary of Results, October 2023

MOS began using ZOOM to facilitate its meetings largely out of necessity, when it became obvious in fall 2020 that the COVID-19 outbreak was going to prevent our usual meetings for some time to come. Simply canceling meetings, as we did earlier in 2020 would not be an acceptable strategy any more. In those early days, when it was ‘ZOOM or nothing,’ we learned how to organize meetings that included our usual News and Announcements; Show Table, albeit without judging; Programs; and, somewhat clumsily, the occasional auction. Board of Trustees meetings worked reasonably well utilizing ZOOM. Summer meetings, focused on Virtual Show Tables, were also initiated. Shows, Annual Auctions, and Workshops were beyond our reach, but we were an active society again!

More recently, when in-person meetings became feasible again, we realized that members who still felt vulnerable to COVID or who could no longer drive that late to attend, could still participate, if we provided a ZOOM option – essentially our current hybrid format. ZOOM also permitted us to ‘host’ presenters with logistic constraints that would have previously eliminated them from our programs.

So, with that as prelude, the MOS Board of Trustees was challenged at its July 2023 meeting with a set of related questions: Is the use of ZOOM, and the options it permits (for members or guests to attend remotely, for speakers to present remotely, for members to display their plants via a Virtual Show Table) a net benefit to the MOS? That is, do its benefits outweigh its costs? As well, are there ways to increase those benefits or decrease those costs?

A survey was prepared and distributed to all members via email in September 2023. Twenty-one members responded; the compilation of those responses is available on the MOS Web Site. I can offer a few general conclusions from having pulled that compilation together, but I do not intend to go into details. The full, compiled results are available to members. I invite you to explore them:

1. I suspect the respondents are weighted to those members who, at least occasionally, use the ZOOM option.

2. Cast votes were clearly in favor of the current hybrid meeting format that uses ZOOM. For some fraction of our membership, the ZOOM option fosters the continuation of their memberships. There were suggestions for improvement, however.

3. No other question reached that level of consensus:

- ZOOM speakers appear to be at least tolerated, but concerns and suggestions were frequently volunteered in the free-form comments.
- The Virtual Show Table seems also to be generally favored, although there were significant concerns expressed about its current format, with several constructive suggestions on the need to, and how to, reduce its footprint.

I expect the Board of Trustees will be revisiting these questions with the assistance of these survey results before its next regular meeting in late January. I invite each MOS member to review the survey results (https://marylandorchids.org/images/ZOOM_Survey_Compilation2.pdf) and provide any further comments or reflections to me (marylandorchid.pres@gmail.com) to be shared with the Board. Thank you.

John Heinbokel
30 October 2023

MOS Welcomes the following new members...

Joy Marlow
Bert Graham
Amanda Gallegos



Sarah Spence
Membership Chair

MOS 2023-2024 Calendar

(NOTE: Still some question marks)

November 11, 2023 – Annual Auction (set-up begins 8:30 am; all helpers welcome!)

November 16 – Monthly Meeting

December 14, 2023 – Monthly Meeting/Holiday Party (NOTE: SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH)

January 2024 – Rawlings Conservatory Show (Show Table Points Awarded to Participants)

11 – SET-UP (Plants Needed)

12 - 14 – On Display (Volunteer Attendants Needed)

January 18 – Monthly Meeting

January 20 – NCOS Paph Forum

January 25 – Board of Trustees Meeting (Location TBD ??? ZOOM???)

January - February 2024: Susquehanna OS Show (Show Table Points Awarded to Orchid Loaners)

January 31 – Set-up (Plants and Designers Needed)

February 4 – Tear-down

February 2024 – NCOS Annual Show (Show Table Points Awarded to Participants)

15 (Th) – Set-up (NOTE: MOS Feb monthly meeting rescheduled to February 22)

18 or 19 (Su or M) - Tear-down

February 22 – Monthly Meeting (NOTE: FOURTH THURSDAY TO AVOID CONFLICT WITH NCOS SHOW)

March 2024: MOS Annual Show & Sale (Show Table Points Awarded to Participants)

5 (Tu) - Staging set-up

6 (Wed) – Set-up exhibits

7 (Th) – AOS Judging; Preview sale 3-6 PM

8 – 10 (Fr-Su) – Show open to public

March 21 – Monthly Meeting

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 Newsletter.

Paphiopedilum canhii – Extinction at the Speed of the Internet (...or, maybe not...)

This does not really qualify as ‘news,’ but it’s new to this contributor, so I’ll foist it off on the rest of you. Still, it matches other Miscellany themes, e.g., geographic diversity, discovery, and environmental issues, so it’s not too far off the mark.

The two linked articles are a bit longer and denser than usual for this piece, so a quick summary is appropriate. In 2009 a new orchid, *Paphiopedilum canhii* was discovered in northwest Vietnam. Harvesting and commercial exploitation began immediately and aggressively. Extracting from that first article (it’s still worth reading and is the source of the figures here; https://www.researchgate.net/publication/288701667_Field_survey_of_Paphiopedilum_canhii_from_discovery_to_extinction):

Extensive exploitation of *Paphiopedilum canhii* started immediately after its discovery in mid-2009. ... the internet was filled with images of this new flower. Illustrated publication of this new species in the world-renowned American Orchid Society *Orchids* magazine stimulated market demand and supported a rapid price escalation—at least 10,000-15,000 mature and juvenile specimens were collected. Direct observation in nature indicates that about 99.5% of the population was extinguished in only six months of exploitation.

But that was not the end of the story. Just a few months after the first publication (in 2014) another article announced the discovery of another population of *Paph. canhii* just across the border in Laos.

(https://www.researchgate.net/publication/288701579_Paphiopedilum_canhii_in_Laos_Phou_Phachao_Mountain_-_Mountain_of_Paphiopedilum_canhii)

I haven’t, yet, dug out the fate of the Laotian population. And just to add more to the mix, since then, a beautiful new miniature species, *Paphiopedilum rungsuryianum*, has been discovered in the same area. Perhaps there’s a future Miscellany (or two) lurking here.

Submitted by John Heinbokel, October 30, 2023..

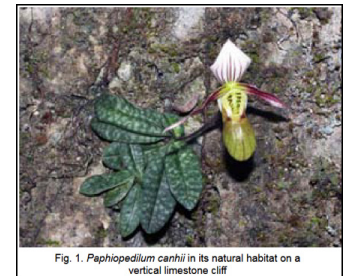


Fig. 1. *Paphiopedilum canhii* in its natural habitat on a vertical limestone cliff



Fig. 8. *Paphiopedilum canhii* in local nurseries of Dien Bien City



MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership: Annual Membership Dues are **\$30.00** per **Membership Year** [Sept 1 (current year) through Aug 31 (following year)] for all single, joint, or family memberships **residing at the same address**. **New members** joining after January 1 of the current year will be valid until August 31 of the following year. To be included in the **Society Roster** dues must be received by September 30. Please advise the Membership Chair if you do not want your information published in the Roster. **Members** are entitled to fully participate in the meetings and events, earn show table points for annual awards and advanced event notifications. MOS Roster and Newsletters are delivered to **Members Only** email.

Monthly Meetings are held on the Third Thursday of the month, September through June 7PM-10PM at Woodbrook Baptist Church • 25 Stevenson Lane • Baltimore, MD 21212.

NEW MEMBER **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** **SINGLE** **DUAL** **FAMILY**

Name (Primary Member)	
Names (Associate) residing at the same address	
Address	
City, State Zip	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	
Email Address	

Signature		Date			
			MM	DD	YYYY

\$30 Due **Cash** **Check**

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Maryland Orchid Society (MOS). Please return this form to the Membership Chair in person or mail to

MOS Membership Chair • 4506 Keswick Road • Baltimore, Maryland 21210

OR

Electronic Payment via PayPal [Membership | PayPal](#)

Credit cards accepted (fees apply). Email the fillable completed membership form to: Membership Chair marylandorchid.membership@gmail.com **and**

Treasurer marylandorchidtreasurer@gmail.com

Maryland Orchid Society

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The *MOS Newsletter*, published monthly by the Maryland Orchid Society September through June, shares the latest news of our orchid community.

We invite articles, notices, etc., for inclusion in our newsletter. The deadline for inclusion is the first day of each month.

The MOS brings together people interested in orchids to promote and encourage orchid culture, preservation, education, propagation, hybridization, and all other orchid-related activities of interest to its members. Benefits of membership include a subscription to the Newsletter (e-mail and web), voting rights, borrowing privileges from the MOS Library, monthly guest speakers, local judging, door prizes, and much, much, more!

If you are interested in orchid culture and would like to meet others with similar interests, we cordially invite you to join the ranks of Marylanders already enjoying the benefits of membership in the Maryland Orchid Society.

Visit us on the Web at www.marylandorchids.org
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Open. PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

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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 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 p.m. and adjourns at approximately 9:30 p.m. Members may also attend via Zoom.