

MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

ORCHID

newsletter



News and information for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society

March 2014

In March, MOS Features a Round Table Panel

In March, in lieu of an individual speaker, MOS will be featuring a panel discussion with diverse, experienced MOS growers. The panel will be ready to offer up all the advice you need to help grow and bloom your new-found treasure from the show. We encourage you to bring in your favorite new plants or a long-time, not-so-reliable bloomer and put the panel to the test. We're confident they'll be able to point you in the right direction to get your orchid blooming in your growing conditions. Feel free to share your own knowledge and secrets to blooming and re-blooming your selected orchid.

SEPOS Needs Clerks

The SEPOS show is April 11 - 13 in Philadelphia (see page 6 for details) and they need clerks to help with judging Friday, April 11. If you are interested, please contact Gail Sklar at gjsklar@gmail.com.

education corner

The March Education Corner will feature Bill Scharf discussing the successes of this month's annual show. Members are also welcome to join in and give their feedback.

David Smith

Rhizanthella gardneri

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
Article provided by David Smith

Rhizanthella gardneri, also known as Western Underground Orchid, is a plant in the orchid family, discovered in the spring of 1928 in the wheatbelt of Western Australia.

Jack Trott had bent to investigate an odd crack that had appeared in his garden's soil, and had noticed a sweet smell that arose from the ground. Scraping away the soil, he soon uncovered a tiny white flower, about half an inch across, growing underground. What he had found was an entirely new type of orchid. The discovery generated such excitement that a wax model was toured around the British Isles.¹

The white leafless plant is made up of a fleshy underground storage stem (or tuber), which produces flower head consisting of around 150 tightly packed, tiny flowers.² Unlike any other orchid in Australia, the Western Australian underground orchid remains completely underground for its whole life. Not being able to obtain the sun's energy, it instead feeds on the broom honeymyrtle, a shrub. It is linked to it by a mycorrhizal fungus¹ named *Thanatephorus gardneri*.³

This particular orchid is a myco-heterotroph as it relies completely on the broom honeymyrtle and fungus for its nutrients and carbon dioxide. Having



Photo by Fred Hort

Western Underground Orchid *Rhizanthella gardneri*

received this from the fungus the plant is then able to convert the water, nutrients and carbon dioxide into the energy needed for growth and maintenance.

The plant blooms in May and June and measures 2.5–3 cm. The flower head contains 8 to 90 small dark maroon flowers.

Rhizanthella gardneri reproduces vegetatively by which it can produce three daughter plants. They also undergo sexual reproduction, and underground insects such as termites and gnats are known to pollinate the flowers,² attracted by the

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February 2014 show table

by Tom McBride

Novice

No Entries

Home Grown

1. *C. skinneri* 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS - Marilyn Lauffer
2. Tie Paph. (Hilo Jewel X *fairieanum*) - Owen Humphrey
B. Little Stars - Kathi Jackson
Phal. Hybrid - The Soykes
3. Tie Phal. Everspring Light - John Dunning
Phal. Everspring Light - Norma Lynch

Greenhouse

1. Den. Dream 'Ace' - The Adamases
2. Tie Lyc. *andreetae* - David Smith
Opst. Mem. Mary Natrass - Eric Wiles
3. Cattlianthe Gold Digger 'Orchidglade' - Barbara Buck

Cattleya

1. Cattlianthe Gold Digger 'Fuchs Mandarin' - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
2. Tie Lc. Rojo 'Barbara' - The Adamases
Blc. Mem. Grant Eichler 'Lenette' HCC/AOS - Michael Moran
Epi. Prince Valley '#1' - Chris Zajac
3. Tie Lc. Love Knot 'Diamond Lake' - David Smith
Slc. Anzac 'Orchidhurst' - Bob Travers

Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Hybrid - The Soykes
2. Tie Phal. Sogo Vivien - Judi von Mehlem
Phal. Jiao's Pink Girl - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
3. Phal. Stripes on Snow - John Dunning

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. Magical Venus 'Hampstead' AM/AOS - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
2. Tie Phrag. Cardinale 'Wilcox' - Marilyn Lauffer
Paph. (Hsinying Web X *fairieanum*) - Chris Zajac
3. Paph. Dreaming Green - Bob Johnston

Oncidium

1. Odcdm. Sunlight 'Pacific Punch' - Eric Wiles
2. Rdcdm. Orchidom Outstanding X Onc. Tom's Beauty - Chris Zajac
3. Psy. Mendenhall - Owen Humphrey

Dendrobium

1. Den. Wonder Nishii - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste
2. Tie Den. denudans - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
Den. *kingianum* - Bob Travers
Den. *aggregatum* - Eric Wiles
3. Den. *faciferum* - The Adamases

Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Zygolum Louisendorf - The Soykes
2. Tie Coel. Bird in Flight - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
Ctsm. Kengar Phantastes - Eric Wiles
3. Phcal. Kryptonite 'Ursula' - John Dunning

Species

1. Ddc. *tenellum* - David Smith
2. Ddc. *wenzelii* - The Adamases
3. Pln. *formosana* - Clark Riley

Miniature

1. Pths. *species* - Sarah Hurdel & Gary Smith
2. Tie Lep. Imcalso - Val Lowe
Masd. Maui Lollipop - Clark Riley
Crypocentrum *latifolia* - David Smith
Phal. Sogo Ibis 'Little Maruko' - The Soykes
3. Tie Porroglossum *meridional* - The Adamases
Campylocentrum *ornithorybachum* - Eric Wiles

First Bloom Seedling

1. Paph. Michael Koopowitz - The Adamases
2. Phrag. Pink Panther - Eric Wiles
3. Tie Paph. Wenshanense - John Dunning
Slc. Circle of Life X Lc. Jose Dias Castro - Michael Moran

Fragrance

1. Lc. Culminant 'La Tulerie' - Marilyn Lauffer
2. Blc. Gladys Oumae 'Roy' HCC/AOS - Bob Johnston
3. Trpl. *suavis* - The Soykes

The Judges Choice of the Evening was Den. Dream 'Ace', exhibited by The Adamases. See page 3 for how the Adamases grow this awesome plant. Thank you to our judges who were Joel Graham, Marilyn Lauffer and Joan Roderick. Our show table had an incredible display of 153 beautiful flowering plants.



U.S. Botanic Garden Trip Planned

MOS is planning a field trip April 26, 2014, 10:15 a.m., to the U.S. Botanic Gardens Conservatory in D.C., which currently is featuring *Orchid Symphony*.

Experience the incredible elegance of an orchid symphony. The U.S. Botanic Garden features exuberant displays of orchids nestled among whimsical topiaries and musical fountains. Illuminated by an orchid chandelier, the Garden Court will sing the praises of beautiful orchids.

The Conservatory features orchids from all over the world in a multitude of environments. Come see desert orchids, jungle orchids and even orchids used in medicine and cooking against the gorgeous backdrop of the U.S. Botanic Garden collections.

Orchid Symphony is a collaboration between the U.S. Botanic Garden and Smithsonian Gardens. If you are interested in joining us for a private tour, contact Laura Sobelman or Gregg Custis.

See more at: <http://www.usbg.gov/exhibits#sthash.iRMdkFsz.dpuf>

IDEAL LIGHT RANGES IN FOOT-CANDLES

Plant Name	Light range in foot-candles									
	Low	1,000	1,500	Medium	2,000	2,500	3,000	High	3,500	4,000
<i>Brassavola</i>										
<i>Brassia</i>										
<i>Cattleya</i>										
<i>Cymbidium - Standard</i>										
<i>Cymbidium - Miniature</i>										
<i>Dendrobium</i>										
<i>Epidendrum</i>										
<i>Laelia</i>										
<i>Ludisia</i>										
<i>Masdevallia</i>										
<i>Miltonia</i>										
<i>Odontoglossum</i>										
<i>Oncidium</i>										
<i>Paphiopedilum</i>										
<i>Phalenopsis</i>										
<i>Phragmipedium</i>										
<i>Sophranitis</i>										
<i>Vanda</i>										

Chart provided by Bill Scharf

Don't Miss These MOS Speakers!

Deborah Dade has a thrilling speaker line-up planned for MOS' 2014 monthly meetings. Following is a list of confirmed list of speakers:

March: MOS Panel to be determined

April: Trey Pyfer, Little Brook Orchids, *Common Orchid Pests Pest and Fungi Management*
Trey will be taking pre-orders. Please call Little brook Orchids at 717-394-1000.

February judges' choice

by Rachael Adams

Dendrobium Dream 'Ace'

Dendrobium Dream 'Ace' was registered in 1970 by Jiro Yamamoto of Yamamoto orchids. It is a nobile hybrid but was bred to require little to no rest period, unlike other nobile-types. I do not give it a winter rest. It blooms heaviest in late winter (February-March) but it will also produce flushes of flowers a few times throughout the year. It is a vigorous grower and bloomer and has a compact bushy growth habit. The only downside is that the flowers do not last as long as some of my other nobile hybrids.

Typically the greenhouse is kept at 65-70 degrees in the winter for the daytime temperature and 55-60 degrees at night. However on clear sunny days in the winter the temperature may go up to 80. Summer temperatures are typically much warmer. I often use a 20-20-20 fertilizer and it is fertilized periodically when the rest of the greenhouse is fertilized. I do switch fertilizers but I do not have any specific brand preferences and I will also incorporate fish emulsion. The greenhouse is fertilized most heavily in spring and



summer during active growth. In terms of light, Den. Dream 'Ace' hangs near the top of the greenhouse and receives the same amount of light as the cattleyas. It is grown in a wood basket with standard orchid bark media and is overdue to be repotted. I am planning on putting it in a larger basket this spring. It has been a rewarding

plant to grow and is among the most trouble-free plants I own.

Editors' note: You can see from the above photo that Dream 'Ace' took many more awards at this year's show, including best Dendrobium in the show.

Spring 2014 American Orchid Society Members' Meeting and Show

Orchids A Growing Obsession • April 30– May 4, 2014

The Orchid Society of Minnesota is very pleased to host the Spring 2014 American Orchid Society Members' Meeting and Show April 30th through May 4th, 2014. This event will be held in conjunction with meetings and events of the Mid-America Orchid Congress, Slipper Orchid Alliance, International Phalaenopsis Alliance, Pleurothallid Alliance and Angraecoid Alliance. The website is up with full information at www.orchidsagrowingobsession.com.

The event headquarters is the Doubletree by Hilton located at I-494 and Hwy 100 in Bloomington, Minnesota. They offer complimentary airport shuttle service to and from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport (MSP Terminals 1 and 2). All events are located in this hotel which has free guest parking. Guest rooms will be available at a reduced rate of \$99 while they last in the reserved room block prior to the cutoff date of April 8, 2014. This rate is available for three days before and three days after the show dates for those who wish to extend their stay. There are numerous restaurants near the hotel including TGIFridays (in the same parking lot). The hotel is located on the "494 Strip" of Bloomington with restaurants and shopping nearby... including the Mall of America. The hotel does offer complimentary shuttle service to the Mall of America for its registered guests. Following is the hotel reservation link. No password or code is needed: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/OSM2014> If you prefer to call, their number is 952-835-7800.

The keynote address will be given by Chris Purver of the Eric Young Orchid Foundation. The speaker line-up includes Jerry Fischer, Alan Koch, Carlos Fighetti, Jason Fischer, Russ Vernon, Cordelia Head, Harry Phillips and Kathy Creger.



Chris Purver

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to hear the top names in orchids share their knowledge.

Our Exhibition Chair is Joe Acebo. Exhibitor setup will begin Wednesday morning at 7:00 a.m., April 30th. Plant and Exhibit Registration will be open on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. We encourage your participation in this AOS-judged show by staging an exhibit showcasing your member's growing efforts and creativity. Exhibits should follow the class structure as set forth in the current MAOC Show Schedule. We will provide you with table-top or floor space as your needs require, and we can discuss any other needs you might have once you've confirmed your participation. Space is limited so please contact Joe directly at joeacebo@charter.net.

Our Vendor Sales Chair is Ross Hella. Sales will open Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. with the Preview Party. As of January 2014, our vendor spaces are full; however you may contact Ross at hellapad@dishmail.net with inquiries. Vendors include Andy's, Deerwood, Cal-Orchids, Gold Country, Ingram's Better Books, J&L, Krull-Smith, Natt's, New Vision, Orchids Ltd, Orchidabilia, RK Gems, and

art work by Jacque Rosenau & Kathy Creger.

This will be an AOS judged show with Ribbon Judging on Thursday morning, May 1st, followed by the AOS Judges' Luncheon at noon and AOS Judging at 1:00 pm. The Preview Party is Thursday evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. This year's theme is "tropical casual"... so wear your favorite Hawaiian orchid shirt and relax!

The Show & Sales area will be open to the public Friday, Saturday and Sunday (May 2-4) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are offering the public a \$1 off general admission coupon at numerous locations and on our web site. Beginners' Lectures will be offered on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Full Participant Registration includes the Preview Party, AOS & MAOC Auctions and access to all lectures and meetings as well as the show and sales areas. There will be a Banquet following the Auction on Saturday evening at the hotel. This promises to be a pleasurable & entertaining evening and we certainly hope you will join in the fun.

For show registration, go to www.orchidsagrowingobsession.com and click on the Registration tab. Please be sure to read the instructions/hints before you begin your registration process.

Come join us at this don't miss event!

Kim Livingston
Show Chair

Rhizanthella gardneri

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fragrance. The pollinated flower will then take six months to mature. In all studied flowers these were not dispersed and eventually decayed, thus releasing their seeds.² It may be, however, that native marsupials were important dispersal agents,² but substantial findings are hard to come by as only 19 mature specimens of the orchid are known to currently exist in the wild and only 300 specimens have been collected to date.



The species is endemic to Western Australia, six populations are currently known; these are found in the central wheatbelt near to the town of Corrigin and from locations close to the south coast.²

Conservation

The species is classified as Vulnerable on the 1997 IUCN Red List of Threatened Plants,⁴ and listed on Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).⁵

Large areas of bushland have been developed for agriculture in much of southern Western Australia, and it is likely that this loss of habitat is one of the main causes of the reduced population of *Rhizanthella gardneri*.² Further threats to habitat include drought, the encroachment of salt and a decline in health of the host plant.¹ Remaining populations of the underground orchid are isolated in the fragments of habitat that persist today.²

Three of the known populations of *Rhizanthella gardneri* are protected within nature reserves,² and a concerted initiative has been launched to safeguard this species

for future generations.¹ A partnership between the Millennium Seed Bank of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Australia's Endangered Species Program and Perth's Kings Park and Botanic Gardens are undertaking DNA fingerprinting and seed-banking of this rare orchid in an attempt to establish a propagation programme.¹

References

This article incorporates text from the ARKive fact-file "Rhizanthella gardneri" under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License and the GFDL.

1. Dixon, K. (2003) Underground orchids on the edge. *Plant Talk*, 31: 34 - 35.
2. Jump up to: a b c d e f g h Hågsater, E. and Dumont, V. (1996) *Orchids: Status Survey and Conservation Action Plan*. IUCN/SSC Orchid Specialist Group, IUCN, Gland.
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4. Walter, K.S. and Gillett, H.J. (1998) 1997 IUCN Red List of Threatened Plants. Compiled by the World Conservation Monitoring Center, IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.
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Member Update

Please join the Maryland Orchid Society in warmly welcoming the following new members:

**Randall Carroll
Denis and Christine D'Arbela
Rick and Susan Bunting
Joseph and Danielle Muckenthaler**

The February door prize, a Phal. 'Pure Silk' from the Little Greenhouse, was won by Janice Mazur.

local aos news

March 1: National Capital Judging Center: *Paph.* Spiderman 'Harford's Gabriel' belonging to The Little Greenhouse was awarded an 81 point Award of Merit (AM).



David Smith's plant of *Masdevallia princeps* 'Emma Kate' received an 83 point AM.



March 6: National Capital Judging Center in conjunction with the Maryland Orchid Society Show:

Sarah Hurdel's plant of *Paph.* Deperle 'Sweetheart' received an 81 point AM.



Valerie Lowe

SEPOS International Orchid Show and Sale

April 11–13, 2014

*See the Academy transformed into
a magical world of orchids*

Free with general admission

- Popular and rare orchids for sale
- Thousands of exquisite orchids on display
- Talks, activities, and special displays
- Judging by AOS

Participating vendors from around the world:

Andy's Orchids, CA

Ecuagenera, Ecuador

Fishing Creek Orchids, PA

Hang-A-Pot, FL

J & L Orchids, CT

JustPat Orchids, PA

Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies, NH

Little Brook Orchids, PA

Lois Duffin Orchids, PA

Main St. Orchids, PA

Marlow Orchids, NY

Mount Prospect Orchids, NJ

Ooi Leng Sun Orchids, Malaysia

Orquideas Katia, Colombia

The orchidPhile, CT

Piping Rock Orchids, NY

Seed Engel, Japan

Stony Brook Orchids, NJ

Sunisa's Clay Flowers, VA

Ten Shin Gardens, Taiwan

The 5 Senses, PA

Waldor Orchids, NJ

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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. Please submit your comments to sobelman1@verizon.net

We invite articles, notices, etc. for inclusion in our newsletter. The deadline for inclusion is first Sunday of the 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, valuable 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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