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ORCHID

newsletter



A newsletter for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society

Show issue 2008

president's message

This special Show issue of the newsletter brings you pictures of judging, exhibits, the sales area and some of our wonderful volunteers as well as results of the AOS judging and a brief list of major award winners. It was a strenuous week on a hard floor with cold, windy conditions for a few days and rain the day the Show opened but, in the end, we all survived and had a good time. The vendors enjoyed the show (and the food we brought in Friday and Saturday night), the public was awed by the beautiful displays and all of the orchids for sale — and (although our total sales were down from last year) we were pleased with the results.

Sunday night our set-up crew, plus a few more helpers, took down all of the backdrops for the displays, removed the plastic from the tables, put away the sales area equipment and supplies and then took everything to the storage shed before heading home. To these staunch men and women (yes!) with pickup trucks and/or strong backs who worked late to quickly get everything put away until next year, we owe a heartfelt round of applause!

And to all of our members who worked at the Show, set up displays and bought orchids (!) and helped to make it a terrific Show again — THANK YOU for a job well done!

Ann Lundy

Gold Rush By Gary Smith

The American Orchid Society grants a wide variety of awards to individual growers, individual orchid clones, groups of orchids, and cut flowers and arrangements. Our annual show typically produces a half dozen or more awards that recognize individual plants of exceptional flower quality. But as special as these are, there is another type of award that makes uncommonly regular appearances at our show—the AOS Show Trophy. And the consistent recipient is, of course, The Little Greenhouse.

The AOS Show Trophy is meant to “encourage excellence by recognizing in competition the best collective material meritoriously displayed in public exhibition.”¹



What I didn't know until this year is that while casting ballots for a favorite exhibit, judges must also numerically score the exhibit. A winning exhibit that garners an average of at least 90 points (out of 100) is also granted a Gold Certificate. On the point scale, this is analogous to the best (and rarest) of the flower quality awards, the First Class Certificate or FCC. This year we congratulate Tom McBride and Gary Krause for achieving this special recognition for their wonderful exhibit.

¹American Orchid Society Handbook on Judging and Exhibition. 11 Edition. Delray Beach, FL: American Orchid Society. 2002



ORCHID WORKSHOP

YOU'RE INVITED

The Maryland Orchid Society is presenting a workshop on orchid growing, culture and care.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2008

from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at St. David's Church,
4700 Roland Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210.

There will be demonstrations, discussions, hands-on training in repotting, media, and growing techniques.

To reserve a space, call 410-366-9365 or send your check for \$15 (includes lunch) to MOS, P.O.Box 5651, Baltimore, MD 21210.



Behind the Scenes of Ribbon Judging By Gary Smith

There are many critical jobs associated with our annual show. An incomplete short list would include venue planning, vendor management, financial planning and reporting, physical set-up, and banquet and food. Sometimes just showing up to volunteer on a particular day can be vital contribution. (Thank you volunteers!) I'd like to elaborate on one particular job and the person who has quietly served that role for many years.



David Smith visits the Hydrofarm display at this year's show.

For the benefit of those readers who have not experienced the fun of working during the days before the show officially opens to the public, there are three basic activities that occur. Tuesday is dedicated to physical set-up; Wednesday is devoted to the installation of exhibits; and Thursday—the day before opening—belongs to judging. As I've written previously, judging is my favorite day of the show. The communal act of rewarding our members and other exhibitors with colorful ribbons and awards is very satisfying and hard to beat.

Since at least 1993, David Smith has served as Judging Coordinator for the MOS show. Such long-term, uninterrupted service to the society is not unheard of (I know of a couple of others), but it is quite exceptional and deserves our acknowledgement and appreciation for a job well done. But after 14 years, David began to consider the merits of giving up this role in favor of concentrating on his

other (dare I admit, more important) Treasurer duties. So last year when David finally asked for some help transitioning his Judging Coordinator duties to someone else, I jumped at the opportunity.

The Judging Coordinator performs a number of related but somewhat disparate tasks. First, he is keeper of the class schedule, suggesting and implementing incremental improvements over previous years' schedules. This is primarily a clerical

task but requires coordination with the Show Chair and committee and everyone involved with the design, ordering, and collections for award plaques. With the help of our Chief Judge, Linda Kennedy, we refactored a few of our slipper, Phalaenopsis, Cattleya, and Dendrobium classes. And then on judging day, we made executive decisions to add Dendrochilum, Lycaste, and Miscellaneous classes.

Another duty of the Judging Coordinator is to establish the procedures used by the clerking teams to ensure that the day runs smoothly. Conscripting and training of clerk volunteers follows hand-in-hand with this—a task that was challenging this year because of a cancelled January monthly meeting.

The third major coordinator duty is to design and order ribbons for the event. What most readers may not know is that

there are no stock ribbons for sale that would be appropriate for our show. Our ribbons are custom assembled and printed with our logo, a class name, and optionally a sponsor name. I had the benefit of starting with a legacy established by David Smith. Doing this work from scratch would have been exceedingly difficult and time-consuming (a resource in short supply prior to the show).

The duties I've described thus far are those for which the Judging Coordinator is traditionally responsible. But there is a growing sense within the Show Committee that judging automation software will be an increasingly important factor, and the writing certainly seems to be on the wall if one looks at other regional orchid shows. Consequently, I set one other goal for myself this year and decided to enter all ribbon judging results in a Microsoft Access database of my own design. (One thing the reader needs to understand about me is that I design databases the way that other (normal) people do crossword or Sudoku puzzles. Life is just one big data model to me, so being able to merge this avocation with my orchid passion is selfishly rewarding.) I'm happy to report that once the laborious work of data entry was complete, I was able to slice-and-dice the data in a number of ways previously impossible. It was particularly gratifying to hand out personalized results summaries to each exhibitor on Sunday and take the opportunity to thank each for his/her participation. I hope that this groundwork will serve as the scaffolding for full-blown automation software next year or at least help to elucidate the innumerable requirements involved in adopting someone else's solution.

To close, I hope that next time you see David Smith, you'll take a moment to thank him for his dedicated service to the MOS. I also hope that this article gives you a glimpse of the behind-the-scenes work that goes into the planning and execution of our annual show, and that you'll consider getting (or staying) involved in a fashion complementary to David's.

2008 NCS show results

AWARD	SPONSOR	ENTRY	EXHIBITOR
Best Commercial Exhibit	The Gerald Brown Memorial Award	Commercial Exhibit, 100-Square-Foot	The Little Greenhouse
Best First-Time Hobbyist Exhibit	The Duggan Award	Hobbyist Exhibit, 6-Square-Foot Table-Top	Sarah Spence
Best Table-Top Exhibit	The W. Pitts Riley Memorial Award	Hobbyist Exhibit, 9-Square-Foot Table-Top	David Smith
Best Hobbyist Exhibit	The Buck Award	Hobbyist Exhibit, 50-Square-Foot	Steve and Rachael Adams
Best Orchid Society Exhibit	The Kensington Orchids Award	Society Exhibit, 100-Square-Foot	National Capital Orchid Society
Runner Up Orchid Society Exhibit	The Kensington Orchids Award	Society Exhibit, 50-Square-Foot	Catoctin Orchid Society
Best <i>Bulbophyllum</i> Alliance in Show	The Sobelman Award	<i>Mgm. falcatum</i>	Fishing Creek Orchids
Best Commercial <i>Cattleya</i> Alliance	The Swett Award	<i>C. intermedia v. coerulea</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best Hobbyist <i>Cattleya</i> Alliance	The Bud Hammond Memorial Award	<i>Iwan. Apple Blossom</i>	Susquehanna Orchid Society
Best <i>Laeliinae</i> in Show	The George W. Murray Memorial Award	<i>C. intermedia v. coerulea</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best <i>Cymbidium</i> Alliance in Show	The Adams Award	<i>Cym. Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'</i>	Catoctin Orchid Society
Best Commercial <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Species	The Sifleet Award	<i>Paph. primulinum</i>	Marriott Orchids
Best Commercial <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hybrid	The Travers Award	<i>Paph. Franz Glanz 'Monarch'</i>	Marriott Orchids
Best Hobbyist <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Species	The Howard King Memorial Award	<i>Paph. insigne v. sanderae</i>	David Smith
Best Hobbyist <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hybrid	The Charlie Geis Memorial Award	<i>Paph. (Sierra Lace x fairrie anum)</i>	Steve and Rachael Adams
Best <i>Phragmipedium</i> in Show	The Memorial Anne Woods Lowe Award	<i>Phrag. Grande</i>	Susquehanna Orchid Society
Best <i>Cypripedium</i> Alliance in Show	The Ota Award	<i>Phrag. Grande</i>	Susquehanna Orchid Society
Best Commercial <i>Dendrobium</i> Alliance	The Bill Ellis Sr. Memorial Award	<i>Den. tetragonum</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best Hobbyist <i>Dendrobium</i> Alliance	The Jos A. Venturina Award	<i>Den. spectabile</i>	Steve and Rachael Adams
Best <i>Dendrobium</i> Alliance in Show		<i>Den. tetragonum</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best Commercial <i>Epidendrum</i> Alliance		<i>Epi. Penns Creek 'Luscious'</i>	Woodstream Orchids
Best Hobbyist <i>Epidendrum</i> Alliance		<i>Epi. stamfordianum v. roseum</i>	Steve and Rachael Adams
Best <i>Epidendrum</i> Alliance in Show	The Wiles/Holdridge Award	<i>Epi. Penns Creek 'Luscious'</i>	Woodstream Orchids
Best Commercial Miniature		<i>Max. juergensii</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best Hobbyist Miniature	The Pete Lynch Memorial Award	<i>Ddc. curranii</i>	David Smith
Best Miniature in Show	The Margaret Smith Award	<i>Max. juergensii</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best Hobbyist Miscellaneous Genera		<i>Coel. flaccida</i>	Cyrus Swett
Best Commercial <i>Oncidium</i> Alliance	The Dorothy Powell Kelt Memorial Award	<i>Odcdm. Wildcat 'Golden Red Star'</i>	Arbec Orchids
Best Hobbyist <i>Oncidium</i> Alliance	The Helen Soyke Memorial Award	<i>Brsa. Mem. Bert Fields 'Amy'</i>	Cyrus Swett
Best <i>Oncidium</i> Alliance in Show		<i>Odcdm. Wildcat 'Golden Red Star'</i>	Arbec Orchids
Best Commercial <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Alliance		<i>Phal. gigantea</i>	Woodstream Orchids
Best Hobbyist <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Alliance	The Little Greenhouse Award	<i>Dtps. Minho Princess</i>	Tina Wood
Best <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Alliance in Show	The Gary Smith Award	<i>Dtps. Minho Princess</i>	Tina Wood
Best Commercial <i>Pleurothallid</i> Alliance		<i>Masd. schroederiana</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best Hobbyist <i>Pleurothallid</i> Alliance	The Dot Ellis Award	<i>Pths. truncata</i>	Marty Vittek
Best <i>Masdevallia</i> in Show	The Scharf Award	<i>Masd. Aquarius</i>	Steve and Rachael Adams
Best <i>Pleurothallid</i> Alliance in Show	The Scharf Award	<i>Masd. schroederiana</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best <i>Vanda</i> Alliance in Show	The Mrs. Benigna Venturina Award	<i>Ascf. Cherry Blossom</i>	National Capital Orchid Society
Best Grower's Choice Plant	The Lee Sheubrooks Memorial Award	<i>Rhv. Blue Lightning</i>	Les Kirkegaard
Best First-Bloom Seedling in Show	The Jack L. Robbins Memorial Award	<i>Phrag. Penns Creek 'Cascade'</i>	Woodstream Orchids
Most Pleasing Fragrance	The Lee-Young Award	<i>C. hybrid</i>	Les Kirkegaard
Best Commercial Species	The Clark Riley Award	<i>Phal. gigantea</i>	Woodstream Orchids
Best Hobbyist Species	The John Gardner Memorial Award	<i>Pths. truncata</i>	Valerie Lowe
Best Species in Show		<i>Mgm. falcatum</i>	Fishing Creek Orchids
Best Interpretation of Show Theme	The Lundy Award	Hobbyist Exhibit, 25-Square-Foot	Valerie Lowe
Best Plant in Show	The Huntington Award	<i>Angcst. Aurora</i>	The Little Greenhouse
Best Specimen Plant in Show	The Smith Award	<i>Mgm. falcatum</i>	Fishing Creek Orchids
IPA Award		<i>Dtps. Minho Princess</i>	Tina Wood
SOA Award		<i>Paph. Franz Glanz 'Monarch'</i>	Marriott Orchids
ODC Award		Hobbyist Exhibit, 50-Square-Foot	Steve and Rachael Adams
AOS Show Trophy		Commercial Exhibit, 100-Square-Foot	The Little Greenhouse
Best Art in Show	The P. Jean Soyke Memorial Award	Art, Color Photography	Jack Gellen

2008 MGS show winners



Best Grower's Choice Plant
Rhv. Blue Lightning - Les Kirkegaard



Best Commercial Exhibit, Commercial Exhibit, 100-Square-Foot, AOS Trophy Award - The Little Greenhouse



Best Hobbyist Exhibit, 50-Square-Foot, ODC Award— Steve and Rachael Adams



Best Hobbyist Miscellaneous Genera,
Coel. flaccida—Cyrus Swett



Best First-Time Hobbyist Exhibit, Hobbyist Exhibit, 6-Square-Foot Table-Top—Sarah Spence. Photo courtesy of Sarah Spence



Best Hobbyist Species and Best Hobbyist *Pleurothallid* Awards, *Pths. truncata* —Marty Vittek

Photo by Jim Winner



Third Place, Three Blooming Orchids— Ann Lundy



Second Place, Grower's Choice *Epidendrum* Alliance, *Epi. paniculatum*



First Place, Three Blooming Orchids— Bill Soyke



Honorable Mention, Three Blooming Orchids— Willie and Hanna Jarde!



Second Place, Three Blooming Orchids— Nancy Duggan



First Place, Three Cypripedium Alliance, Mark Robbins



Best Interpretation of Show Theme, Hobbyist Exhibit, 25-Square-Foot—Valerie Lowe

2008 MGS show



Margaret Smith and Bill Ellis



Judi von Mehlem and Mary Chiu



Sarah Spence



Ann Lundy say, "Show me the money."



Robert Johnston and Stephanie Jarrell



Clark Riley and Eric Wiles



Eric Wiles gives a tour of the orchid exhibits.



Phuong Tran



Second Place, Grower's Choice *Paphiopedilum*, *Paph. malipoense*—David Smith



Don Forester, Lee Lundy and Donna Helm



Tom McBride

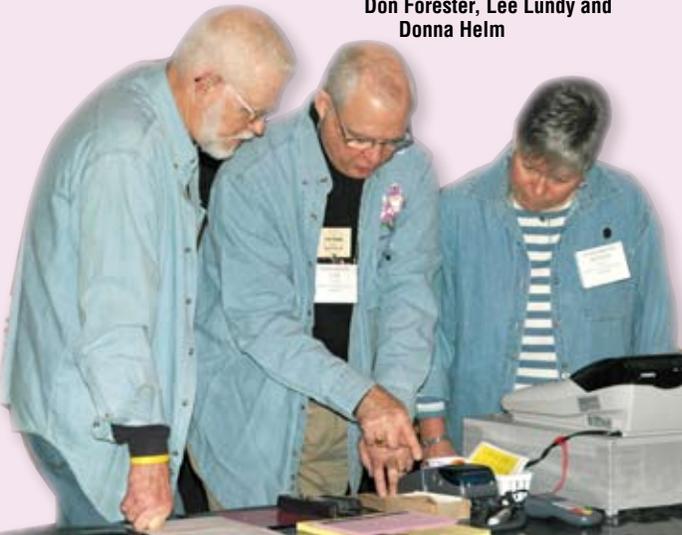


Photo by Clark Riley

2008 MOS show



Barbara Buck mans the MOS table



Photo by Clark Riley



Photo by Clark Riley



Photo by Jim Winner



2008 MOS show



Photo by Jim Winner



Photo by Jim Winner



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