



ORCHID *newsletter*



News and information from the Maryland Orchid Society

Jan. 2024

President's Message

Into a New Year!

Happy New Year, all! My thanks to all who helped us wind up 2023 with a wonderful Holiday Party and conclusion to our 2023 Annual Auction. We had such a rich collection of plants that we ran out of time in November with roughly 60 plants still looking for homes. We gave about 20 away as door prizes at the Holiday Party, but still netted over \$1000 in additional proceeds for what was a tremendously successful Auction. Everyone involved in that project has my sincere thanks!

We are now entering the truly busy time of our year, with an exhibition, four shows, and a workshop all lined up in the next four months. Please keep your eyes open for updates and volunteer solicitations. First up on our list is the Rawlings Exhibit, which

sets up on Thursday, January 11 and runs the following Friday – Sunday. Plant donations are still needed and more volunteer staffing of the Exhibit would be helpful. Watch for an email blast on that in the near future!

Our first Away Show is the Susquehanna OS one in Hershey, PA. Watch for more specific volunteer opportunities to provide plants and help set up our display on Wednesday, January 31 and take down on Sunday, February 4. Also, we have the first of our two yearly Board of Trustees meetings on Thursday, January 25. I'm guessing that will be a virtual meeting, but we'll confirm (or correct) that supposition as we get closer. All members are welcome to attend and participate.

Also, please mark your calendars; February's meeting is pushed back to the 4th Thursday of the month (February 22) to avoid conflict with the NCOS Show.



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

John Heinbokel
December 31, 2023

Our speaker for January 18th will be Kelly McCracken



Kelly McCracken is an expert at growing under light and her talk is on growing under artificial lights. She will share some of her knowledge with us.

Kelly will speak to us via ZOOM.

Kelly McCracken is an avid orchid hobbyist and breeder. She enjoys growing miniature specimen plants with a particular affection for Dendrobium, Angraecoids, and Sophronitis. She is currently working as US representative of Tropical Exotique, a Thailand-based orchid company.



Novice

1. Phal. Trader Joes - Robin Neukam
2. Phrag. Sedenii - Sherrie Rashid

Homegrown

1. Lc. Ahmad Sheikhi 'Mendenhall' - Kathi Jackson
2. Tie Lc. Gaskell-Pumila 'Azure Star' HCC/AOS - Arne Schon
- Masd. Swallow 'Harford's Sunrise' - Robin Neukam
3. Lc. Amphion 'Cherry Pie' - Bob Johnston

Greenhouse

1. Lc. Rosette Warland x C. Chocolate Drop - Eric Wiles
2. Tie Pths. *picta* - David Smith
- C. Hazel Boyd 'Lillian Pitta' - Craig Taborsky

Cattleya

1. C. *intermedia* x Bc. Morning Glory - Eric Wiles
2. Tie B. Little Stars - Chris Zajac
- Lc. Tristar Bouquet 'Hawaii' - Phuong Tran and Rich Kaste
3. Tie C. Cognac - Craig Taborsky
- Slc. Rajah's Ruby 'Sweetheart' - Kathi Jackson
- L. *alaorii* x S. *wittingiana* - David Smith

Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Noid - Amanda Gallegos
2. Phal. *equestris* 'Loch Raven' HCC/AOS - Jill Allen
3. Phal. Whole Foods - Robin Neukam

Paphiopedilum

1. Paph. Ice Age - Mai Conanway
2. Tie Phrag. *besseae flavum* - Joel Graham
- Paph. *venustum* - John Heinbokel
3. Paph. Gerda 'Magifica' AM/AOS - Eric Wiles

Dendrobium

1. Den. Little Pam - Chris Zajac
2. Den. Noid - John Heinbokel

Oncidium

1. Onc. *ornithorhynchum* 'Rose' - Fay Citerone
2. Onc. *varicosum* - Brenda Logan
3. Tie Blra. Marfitch 'Howard's Dream' - Craig Taborsky
- Wils. Brennan Scott 'Burfield Hof #1' - Eric Wiles

Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Cycd. Taiwan Gold 'Orange' - Mary Li
2. Neost. Lou Sneary 'Bluebird' - Fay Citerone
3. Fdk. After Dark 'Sunset Valley Orchids' - Aaron Webb

Species

1. Aergs. *luteoalba var rhodosticta* - Arne Schon
2. Tie Epi. *porpax* - Brenda Logan
- Pls. *misera* - David Smith

Miniature

1. Masd. *decumana* - David Smith
2. Phal. Evarise Blue Angel 'Purple Halo' - Sarah L. Spence
3. Lept. *unicolor* - Eric Wiles

First Bloom

1. Hab. *carnea* x Hab. Pegasus - Joel Graham

Fragrance

1. Blra. Big Shot 'Pink Panther' - Diane Elam
2. Onc. Tsiku Margerite Hof #1 - Eric Wiles

We had a good showing of 72 blooming plants on the show table for our holiday party and last meeting of 2023. This show table was notable for a good showing of species and primary hybrids. The chair offers some gentle reminders on show table etiquette, please one entry slip per category per exhibitor. Also please groom and stake your plants and put recently watered plants in a saucer, lest your entry slip get sogged and lost. Our judges were Wendy Coch, Marc Kiriou and Wanda Kuhn. The Judges choice of the evening went to Cycnodes Taiwan Gold 'Orange' brought in by Mary Li. We all remember this plant from last year and it came back with seven spikes all at peak bloom! Additional exhibitors were Brant Braunschweig, Wendy Coch, Wanda Kuhn, Barbara Pralle, Clark Riley, Vincent Russo, Phuong Tran/ Rich Kaste, and Norman and Maria Zickhur.



Photos: Aaron Spence



Paphiopedilum Forum

The 44th Annual Paphiopedilum Forum will take place on January 20, 2024 from 8am-4pm at the North Chevy Chase Christian Church (8814 Kensington Parkway, Chevy Chase, MD 20815). Registration information is available at [NCOS.us](https://www.ncos.us).

Susquehanna Orchid Society (SOS) Show

The Maryland Orchid Society will be installing a 50 sq. ft. exhibit at the 2024 SOS Show. The venue is the Milton and Catherine Hershey Conservatory at Hershey Gardens (170 Hotel Road, Hershey, PA 17033). Set-up is Wednesday, January 31, 2024 starting at 9 am; everything has to be done and packed up by 5 pm. I will be picking up borrowed plants starting on Saturday, January 27, 2024. Anyone wishing to donate plants to this exhibit can contact me at vlowe14@comcast.net or at 410.599.2923. Tear-down of the exhibit is on Sunday, February 4, 2024. Everyone is welcome to come and set-up the exhibit or help to tear it down.

National Capital Judging Center (NCJC)

The NCJC will be meeting on February 3, 2024 at the Saint James United Methodist Church located at 12470 Old Frederick Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104. There will be an education session starting at 11 am. Judging starts at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend, whether you have plants you want considered for an American Orchid Society Award or not.

National Capital Orchid Society (NCOS) Show

The Maryland Orchid Society will be installing a 50 sq. ft. exhibit at the 2024 NCOS Show. The venue will be the Homestead Gardens located at 743 West Central Avenue, Davidsonville, MD 21035. Set-up is Thursday, February 15, 2024 starting at 10 am and continuing until 5 pm (this includes all plant registration). I will be picking up borrowed plants starting on Saturday, February 10, 2024. Anyone wishing to donate plants to this exhibit can contact me at vlowe14@comcast.net or at 410.599.2923. Tear-down of the exhibit is on Sunday, February 18, 2024 from 3 pm-5 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and help with the exhibit installation or help to tear it down.

Valerie Lowe, MOS Away Shows Chair



Maryland Exhibit at the Susquehanna Orchid Society Show, January 2023.
Photo: Sarah Hurdel

Orchids in the Wild Tours 2024

<https://orchidconservationalliance.org/ecotours/>

An orchid blooming in its native habitat is one of the miracles of the natural world that every orchid lover should see at least once. The OCA offers trips to see “Orchids in the Wild” in orchid-rich environments all over the world, including here in North America. Over the past 15+ years we have organized trips to Mexico (Chiapas), Brazil (Atlantic Rain Forest, Minas Gerais, Rio Negro, Serra Bonito, Bahia, Espirito Santo), Ecuador (multiple trips), Colombia (multiple trips), southern China (Guang Xi, Yunnan), western China (northern Yunnan, Sichuan), Thailand, Papua New Guinea, France, Sicily, Crete, Mainland Greece, Switzerland, Cape of South Africa, Madagascar (multiple trips) and the Ohio Valley (USA). These trips are a lot of fun, and you will come home with many wonderful orchid, scenery and cultural photos, and likely many new friends. The tour groups are small, and are often a mix of orchid experts and newbies. For some it is their first trip outside of the USA. For others, it is the first time they have ever seen an orchid growing in the wild. Our trips are also very educational: once you see how orchids grow in nature, you will be better able to provide the conditions that will make them thrive for you. After you have seen habitat destruction first hand, you will also appreciate how important it is to preserve the remaining primary forests. Orchids in the Wild tours take you to places you would never see otherwise. Our tours are led by experts on the orchids of the region who know where, and when to find the orchids. The tours vary in degree of physical difficulty, discussed in the description of each tour. We can also design small group custom tours, see Bespoke Orchid Tours.

Orchids in the Wild tours for 2024:

March 20-30 Orchids of Rhodes

April 15-28 Orchids of Nepal

May 27-June 8 Orchids of Spain

May 31-June 10. Brazil: Orchids of the Rio Negro

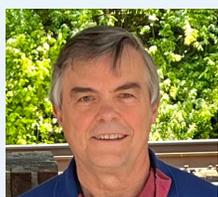
July 13-21 Orchids of Newfoundland

September (dates TBD) Brazil: Orchids of the Atlantic Rainforest

October 1-October 14 Orchids of Yunnan

October 31 – November 21, 2024 Orchids of Madagascar

Orchid New Year's Resolutions 2024



1. *Repot!* Some of our members (I'm thinking about you, Bob(s)) are really diligent about repotting. Fresh media, and sometimes a bigger or smaller pot, will do wonders for the health of your orchids' roots and by extension the whole plant. Repotting time is decision time on whether to go for a specimen or fewer growths. Single growth clones don't lend themselves to specimen plants.

2. *Update your lighting.* If you grow indoors under fluorescent lights, it might be a good time to consider LED lights. An LED shop light at a big box or hardware store is not expensive and may even pay for itself in savings over a few years.

3. *Clear out your deadwood.* Most of your plants are vigorous and regular bloomers. But there's that one that just limps along. Throw it out! Unless it's a really rare clone, there are too many fine plants out there that will give you more satisfaction.

Bulb. *graveolens* (syn. *Cirrhopetalum graveolens*) - 
©2009 Greg Allikas

4. *Try something new.* Maybe a genus you've never grown before. I used to be terrible with *Bulbophyllums*, but then tried them again with advice from several members. Now they're regular bloomers and they make me happy.

5. *Get involved in the Maryland Orchid Society.* We have shows, both near and far, workshops, and auctions. Help is always appreciated and you will learn SO MUCH. Even cleaning up a little after the meetings and returning the tables to their proper places is greatly appreciated by the people who stay late to get the meeting room in order.



MOS 2023-2024 Calendar

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 Orchid Loaners)

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

18 - 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 Orchid Loaners)

5 (Tu) - Staging set-up

6 (Wed) – Set-up exhibits

7 (Th) – AOS Judging (Clerks Needed);

Preview sale 3-6 PM

8 – 10 (Fr-Su) – Show open to public

March 21 – Monthly Meeting

April 2024 – SEPOS Show (Show Table Points Awarded to Orchid Loaners)

April 4 – Set-up (Plants and Designers Needed)

April 7 – Tear-Down

April 2024 TBD ??? – MOS Spring Workshop

April 18 – Monthly Meeting

May 16, 2024 – Monthly Meeting

June 13, 2024 – Monthly Meeting (Election of Officers for 2024 -26)

July 18, 2024 – Virtual Show Table (ZOOM)

July 25, 2024 – Board of Trustees Meeting (Location TBD???)

July or August 2024 (TBD ???) – MOS Picnic

August 15, 2024 – Virtual Show Table (ZOOM)

August - September 2024: Maryland State Fair (Show Table Points Awarded to Participants)

Invitation to Another MOS Away Show Season 2024 By Bob Travers

January begins a four-month whirlwind of activity in support of MOS participation in four away shows as well as our own show. You are cordially invited to support/participate/volunteer MOS have another successful Away Show Season. Add the dates to your calendar, maybe plan a vacation day or two to join the fun and learning opportunities.

MOS Show Participation Calendar			
Dates	Show	Location	Notes
Jan 12 - 14	Rawlings Conservatory Hours and Directions - Official Website of the Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory & Botanic Gardens - Druid Hill Park Baltimore, MD	Baltimore, MD	Jan 11 Staging Displays of MOS members Plants Jan 11-14 Need folks for manning information table. 10 am-4 pm Jan 14 Teardown 4 pm. Week before our monthly meeting Contact John Heinbokel
Feb 2 - 4	SOS - Susquehanna Orchid Society Susquehanna Orchid Society	Hershey Conservatory, Hershey, Pa.	Jan 31 Need plants, help staging and exhibit setup, start 8-9 AM Feb 4 teardown 4-5 PM Contact Valerie Lowe
Feb 16-18	NCOS – National Capitol Orchid Society National Capital Orchid Society National Capital Orchid Society (ncos.us)	Homestead Gardens, Davidsonville MD	Feb 15 Need plants, help staging and exhibit setup, start 8-9 AM Feb 18 teardown 3-4 PM Feb 22 Our monthly meeting moved out Contact Valerie Lowe
March 8- 10	MOS – Maryland Orchid Society Maryland Orchid Society Home Page	Timonium Fairgrounds MD.	Need MOS Exhibitors March 5 Help for Staging Set Up March 6 Exhibit Setup March 7 Clerks for judging March 8, 9, 10 Manning for information and sales check out March 10 Show teardown Week before our monthly meeting Contact Marc Kiriou
April 5-7	SEPOS – Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid society. Home SEPOS	Oaks Expo Center, 100 Station Ave, Oaks, PA 19456	April 4 Need plants, help staging and exhibit setup, start 8-9 AM April 7 teardown 4-5 PM Week before our monthly meeting Vendors not participating at other regional shows. Contact Valerie Lowe

continued

Preparing your Plants to Show

- **First and foremost is to have your plants in tip-top condition. This applies to all show opportunities.**

- o Accurate legible Plant label (helpful if it can be pushed into the pot at show time) Plant Owners initials or name should be marked with Sharpie on the plant pot and not on paper labels when lent for away shows.
- o Free of pests and evidence of past pest infestations
- o Clean Leaves and remove dead inflorescences and leaves.
- o Well Staked for show and or transportation. Staking begins as inflorescence grows. Do not change orientation to light as buds appear. Try to color coordinate staking and attachments to stakes with the color of the inflorescence growth. Colored floral tape helps with this. Butterfly clips are distracting and not encouraged.
- o Pack for transport – Plants should be recently watered and not dripping. If a plant is top-heavy place into a larger pot with gravel or a wet clay pot. Stabilize plant(s) in boxes with bunched paper. For transit you may need to protect the inflorescence and flowers by covering flowers with tissue paper, not plastic. Do not leave plants in a car parked in sunshine for hours. Owner's initials or name should also be marked with Sharpie on your boxes. Arrange plants within boxes to avoid transport damage.

- **Considerations for lending plants**

- o Make an electronic list of the plants you are lending. Excel, Word, Email, whatever works for you. Identify the Owner of the plants. Measure flower size! Email the list to the Exhibit Leader

as soon as possible. The Leader may start the plant registration before being at the show. It is easier to remove a plant than work in a new one at the show.

- o Check the spelling accuracy by a web search. You may need to recreate your plant label.
- o Where there is no ID - indicate NOID what the plant is and color of flowers or description of foliage – yes there are orchid foliage classes in exhibits. The Exhibit Leader will determine how to register and enter the plant.
- o Remember you are lending a plant to help build the best possible exhibit. Please only lend what has top qualities. The plant will be out of your environment for at least a week, and we need the inflorescences to be near peak as we build the exhibit. If your flowers at home are beginning to wane keep them at home these may be deemed unexhibitable.
- o Confirm with Exhibit Leader pick-up or delivery details.
- o If bringing your plants to the show for inclusion, please plan your travels to arrive at the show site by 9:00 AM. The later the plants arrive makes it extremely difficult to rearrange the exhibit for late inclusion.
- o Lending exhibitable plants for an away show exhibit will yield the Lender one MOS show table point, however it does not guarantee inclusion in the exhibit.

Rawlings Conservatory Exhibit

11 January 2024 (set-up)

12 – 14 January 2024 (on display)

14 January 2024 (tear-down; 4pm)

Each January MOS collaborates with the Rawlings Conservatory to put on an exhibition that combines our collections of blooming orchids with the Conservatory's extensive holdings. It's a marvelous kick-off to the spring show season and gives us a chance to shine in front of a small but enthusiastic local audience. MOS members have two ways to contribute:

1. Loan plants to the exhibit (a show table participation point is awarded to each member loaning one or more plants). We'll

set up roughly between 11am and 3 pm on Thursday, 11 January. Please consider bringing any blooming plants to the Conservatory at that time. If transport is a problem, contact John Heinbokel (jheinbokel@hotmail.com; (802) 922-8686) and we'll see what we can arrange. If you plan to bring plants please let John know what time to expect you so that we can coordinate the set-up. Loaned plants should be retrieved late Sunday afternoon.

2. Staff the exhibit. We get to answer questions, point out interesting aspects of our plants, chat with fellow orchid enthusiasts, and gently recruit new members for MOS (no heavy sales pressure required; folks tend to recruit themselves!).

We also provide some subtle security for our plants. All in all, it's a blast, but the more the merrier! Sign-up sheets were available at the December Holiday Party; contact John Heinbokel (email above), if you wish now to sign up. Time slots are:

Friday, 12 January, 11am – 3pm

Saturday, 13 January, 10am – 1pm;
1pm - 4pm

Sunday, 14 January, 10am – 1pm;
1pm - 4pm



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.