



The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

A monthly newsletter for the members and friends of the Society

May 2018

Website: www.marylandorchids.org

The President's Message

I think we can now say... **Spring is here!** If it's after "Mother's Day", we can assume it is safe to put our tomato plants out, at least that is what my Grandfather always told me and I guess we could say that goes for orchids too. I hang my orchids in wire baskets on my dogwood tree and on a shaded fence. Just to be sure the ants don't take up residence, I stick an ant bait spike in the pots. By the way, hanging wire baskets are a great deal at the Dollar Tree store if you go early in the season. When I first started raising orchids, I put my Phals outside. They got sunburned even though they were in shade...that was a heart-breaking lesson. Now I keep them inside, spreading them out to fill the space left by my plants that escape to the outside and everyone is happy!



The Nominating Committee has brought forth the following persons for nomination to the indicated positions for the 2018-2020 term...

- Director – Mark Kiriou
- Director – John Heinbokel
- Secretary – Ellie Martin
- Treasurer – John Dunning
- Vice President – Laura Sobelman
- President - Joan Roderick

At the upcoming May 17th meeting, the general membership will have the opportunity to nominate others for the above positions as stipulated in the Bylaws Section 2, (b)...

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Our May Speaker Bert Akitake Growing Vanilla Plants



Our speaker this month is Bert K. Akitake, MD. Bert is currently the president of the Maui Orchid Society, and has been their president for the past five years. He often speaks to Maui groups and meetings about growing orchids in general and also in the growing of vanilla. He is not a commercial grower, but an enthusiast who has become particularly interested in vanilla culture. He grows his orchid plants around his home in Wailuku, Hawaii, where the warm weather is very favorable to growing orchids outside.

He has been an orchid enthusiast for over 20 years, and actively growing orchids for 15 years. Approximately 10 years ago he began growing vanilla when he happened upon a gentlemen who was selling vanilla cuttings at the local swap meet. Since that time he has learned many vagaries that can happen when growing the vanilla pod. He became successful, and was able to understand the processing and production of Vanilla pods that are acceptable for sale.

His presentation will be from a grower's prospective to vanilla culture, with emphasis on practical tips associated with vanilla care.

Submitted by
Jean Hedrick -
Program



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April's Show Table Winners by Tom McBride

Novice

1. Phal. Hybrid - Monica Sparber

Home Grown

1. Sc. Minibeau 'Sweetie' HCC/AOS - Sarah Hurdel, Gary Smith & Owen Humphrey
2. Tie Slc. Hazel Boyd 'Apricot Glow' HCC/AOS - Bob Johnston
Psh. cochleata - Bob Travers
3. Tie Phrag. Bel Croute - John Dunning
Zygonesia. Cynosure 'Blue Birds' - Aaron Webb

Greenhouse

1. Slc. Lucky Chance - David Smith
2. Slc. Spirit of Seventy-Six X Lc. Spring Fires - Clark Riley
3. Slc. Jewel Box 'Scheherazade' AM/AOS - Barbara Buck

Cattleya

1. Blc. Irene Holquin 'Brown Eyes' AM/AOS - Michael Moran
2. Tie Blc. Mem. Grant Eichler 'Lenette' HCC/AOS - Bob Johnston
Slc. Margaret Alice Glisson - David Smith
3. Tie Blc. Mem Grant Eichler 'Lenette' HCC/AOS - Barbara Buck
Guar. skinneri var. alba - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste

Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Golden Angel - The Zickuhrs
2. Tie Phal. Taida Lovely 'D' - John Dunning
Phal. Sweet Talk - Suzanne Gaertner
3. Tie Phal. Hybrid - John Heinbokel
Phal. Hybrid - Norma Lynch
Phal. Hybrid - Chris Zajac

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Paph. Hilo Black Wings - John Dunning
2. Tie Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz - Chris Bauer
Paph tigrinum - Sarah Hurdel, Gary Smith & Owen Humphrey
Phrag. Sedenii - Laura Sobelman
3. Paph. Susan Booth - Sarah Spence

Dendrobium

1. Den. aggregatum - Michael Moran
2. Tie Den. Aussie Chip - Sarah Hurdel, Gary Smith & Owen Humphrey
Den. Victorian Bride - Chris Zajac
3. Den. Micro Chip - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste

Oncidium

1. Brs. Spiders Gold 'Caruso' AM/AOS - Deborah Basel
2. Cda. Louis Posey - Clark Riley
3. Tie Milt. White Truffle 'Bright Eyes' - John Dunning
Odcdm. Wildcat 'Golden Red Star' - Bob Johnston

Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. Ascda. Sufun Beauty 'Orange Belle' - Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste
2. Gram (elegans X scriptum) - John Dunning
3. Gptm. Starburst 'Parkside' AM/AOS - Fay Citerone

Species

1. Guar. skinneri 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS - Michael Moran
2. Tie Paph. lowii - John Dunning
Psh. vittelina - Sarah Hurdel, Gary Smith & Owen Humphrey
3. Mal. latifolia - Joel Graham

Miniature

1. Lpt. bicolor - Michael Moran
2. Bulb. lasiochilum 'Fx's Red Lip' - Sarah Hurdel, Gary Smith & Owen Humphrey
3. Tie Soph. Wild Fire - David Smith
Cap. uliginosa - Eric Wiles

First Bloom Seedling

1. Paph. (Prince Edward of York X anitum) - John Dunning

Fragrance

1. Phal. japonica - Michael Moran
2. Rl. digbyana - Eric Wiles
3. Tie Lc. Drumbeat 'Heritage' HCC/AOS - Bob Johnston
Lc. (Melody X Persepolis) - Wanda Kuhn

The Judges Choice of the Evening

was

Paph. Hilo Black Wings, exhibited by John Dunning.

Thank You to our judges who were, Kathi Jackson, Janice Mazur and Aaron Webb.

Our show table had an incredible display of 131 beautiful flowering plants.

Special THANKS to all that make our show table such a great success. It is truly breathtaking!



Submitted by Tom McBride

Maryland Orchid Society News and Surrounding Events

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April, 2018 Judges' Choice

**Paph.
Johanna Burkhardt
X
Rothschildianum**

Hybrid vigor is the genetic resilience to be gained by crossing unrelated plants of the same species, but of different varieties, that result in an increase in genetic diversity or fitness. Practiced in agriculture for thousands of years, this technique can produce enhanced plants and animals for show purposes. Accordingly, the cross of Paph. Johanna Burkhardt (Rothschildianum X Antitum) back to Paph. Rothschildianum may produce a more vigorous plant with larger and darker blooms than either parent possesses.

Last summer I purchased a couple of five leaf seedlings of this cross from Sophie's Orchids via Amazon that showed the beginnings of second growths. With one of them I was able to demonstrate hybrid vigor on the April MOS show table. My usual slipper orchid culture technique is to immediately sprinkle about a quarter teaspoon of powdered cinnamon (a mild antiseptic) about the base of the plant and repeat every 4 or 5 months. I water with Baltimore City tap water every other day from the top down until there is gentle seepage out of the bottom of the pot. Once a month the watering is with 20-20-20 fertilizer at one fourth strength. Leaves that begin to yellow are pruned at the base to retard possible infection. I repot whenever the medium becomes too hardened to allow water to immediately flow through and/or when medium is pushed up due to root crowding within the pot. The

second of the two seedlings was repotted later and has yet to spike. Recently, this cross is being referred to as "Paph. Paradise".

From John Dunning

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"Nominations from the membership at large may be made in writing by a petition signed by at least fifteen (15) voting members of the Society and delivered to the President prior to the adjournment of the monthly meeting (if any) of the Society in May following such report, or, if there is no monthly meeting in May, prior to the end of May. Nominations for all offices shall be closed at the adjournment of the May monthly meeting, or, if no monthly meeting is held in May, at the end of the last day in May."

Election of Officers by the MOS membership will take place at the June 21st meeting.

Some dates to put on your calendar...

- Annual Members and Family Picnic – July 15, 2018, 3:00 p.m.
- First Board Meeting with our new officers – July 26, 2018 at the Smith's
- Member set-up at Maryland State Fair - August 20, 2018
- First monthly meeting of the 2018-2019 year – September 20, 2018
- Members Potting Workshop at the Smith's – Sept 22, 2018, 10:00 am
- Annual Orchid Auction – November 10, 2018



Sarah

photo by Aaron Spence

Dr. Clark's Corner



Want to Grow Native Orchids?

Despite their cold and heat tolerance, despite their living in our region, native orchids are not always the most garden-friendly plants

Often they may have very specific habitat requirements that are hard to match in our gardens.

Here are three which have proven fairly durable:

1. Large Yellow Ladyslipper (Cypripedium pubescens) and its hybrid. These do well in an open shade wildflower garden. If you can grow Trilliums, Bloodroot, or Solomon's Sea chances are you can grow Cypripedium pubescens.
2. Ladies Tresses (Spirantes odorate "Chadd Ford"). This clone is so widespread that many people don't know its an orchid. Likes wet feet, such as the edge of a water garden or stream. As long as adequate moisture is guaranteed, it can take up to full sun. Makes a spectacular specimen.
3. Grass Pink (Calopogon tuberosus). If you grow carnivorous plants, stick a few of these in with them. They are reliable and if happy, will self-seed.

Submitted by Dr. Clark Riley - Show Table



Marilyn's Corner

New Members

Mary Baranoski
Cherie and Steve Christy
Janet and Bill Hinton
Larry Siegel and Shirley Brenton

64 MOS members & friends attended April's meeting

Submitted by Marilyn Lauffer - Membership

David's Corner



For the May education corner, I'm going to consider a topic that needs to be refreshed every year: *grooming, staking, and labeling show table plants.*

The show table is possibly the most important aspect of our meetings, after the main program. However, without going into detail, there are times when it **is** the most important. Every member, from their first novice exhibit to the most experienced, feels good after a plant receives a ribbon, especially a blue ribbon.

In this Education Corner, I want to help all members strive towards blue ribbons. **How?**

1. Start by exhibiting your very best plant or plants.
2. **To be continued in the Education Corner!**
- 3.

Submitted by David Smith - Education



photo by Aaron Spence

The MOS Spring Work Shop was a Success!



Sarah Hurdel



Who Said Potting Is Hard?

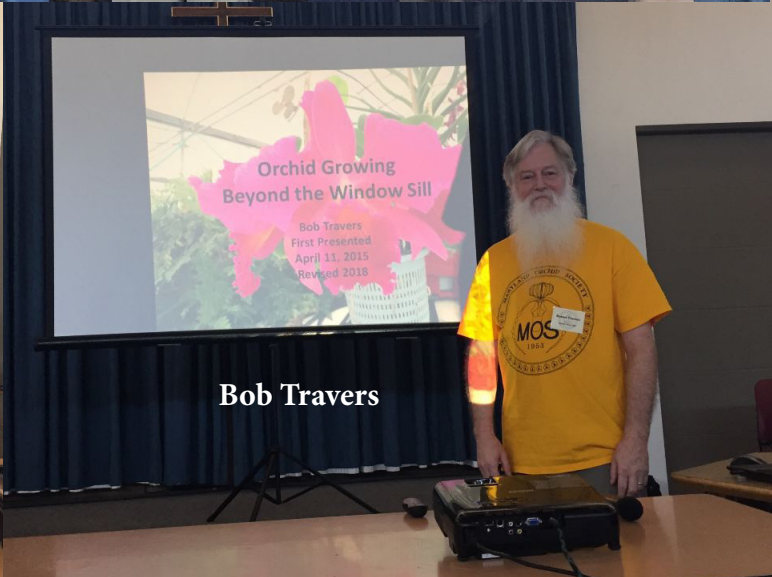
Some of the MOS Spring Work Shop Volunteers



Our Volunteers



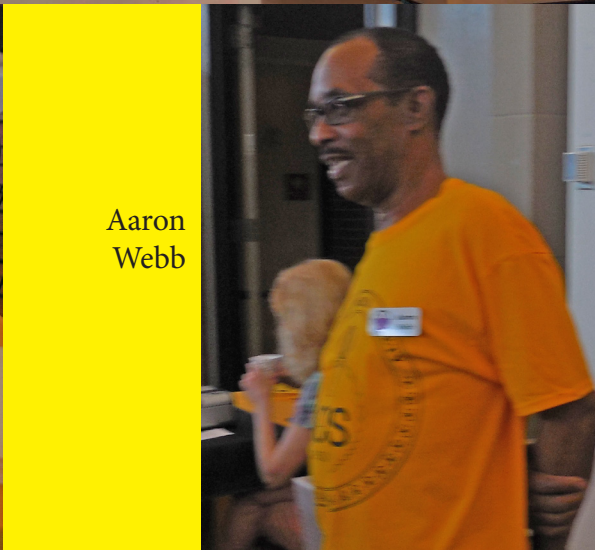
Dr. Clark Riley



Bob Travers



Laura Sobelman & Charlotte Grahe



Aaron Webb

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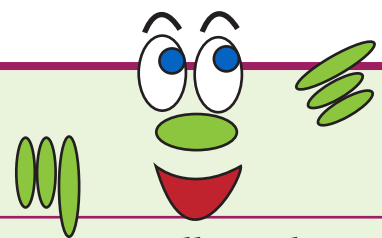
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Attention all members...

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!