



# The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

June 2020

Website: [www.marylandorchids.org](http://www.marylandorchids.org)

## 2020 June Vice-President's Message



Dear Orchidophiles,

Right now, people cannot be with the ones they love, can't purchase the things they want or need, or even find them in stores, nor can they get the health care they need. They can't travel as they'd like, or even leave their homes very much.

This happened in 1914, 1918, and 1940, to your grandparents or parents during WWI, the Spanish Flu, and WWII. However we are incredibly more fortunate than they. We still have love and beauty all around us—in the faces of our children and grandchildren on video chats, the fluttering of a butterfly's wings, orchids and other breathtaking flowers, birds, all around us. Take a deep breath. Count your blessings and appreciate your surroundings. The world is a wondrous place, and like our ancestors, we are resilient and we will heal.

MOS will again not be holding a meeting in June. We will pick up in September with the Board of Officers vote:

### Slate of Nominees

#### PRESIDENT

John Heinbokel

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Laura Sobelman

#### TREASURER

John Dunning

#### SECRETARY

Ellie Martin

#### PAST PRESIDENT

Sarah Spence

#### DIRECTORS

Brenda Logan  
Diane Elam

This is also the time in which members may volunteer or write in nominees to add to the slate. Please check with whom-

ever you would like to add to the slate, to make sure that they are willing to serve. Let a member of the nominating committee—Laura Sobelman, Clark Riley, or Bob Travers—know your recommendations. We will list the final recommendations to be voted on at the September meeting.

Please stay well. Reach out to your fellow MOS members and gab about orchids. Be careful, stay positive, and love one another. Peace out.

*Laura*



### **Marc's New Digs**

Marc Kiriou, MOS Show Chair, recently bought a new home. He plans to eventually put up a greenhouse outside, but in the meantime, installed a 10' x 10' grow tent in his basement. He says for now it's still a work in progress.

Below are photos of his new growing space.  
(See more on page 5)

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2020

*Show Table Winners by Tom McBride*

*Will all you flowers please come home? We promise to keep you 6' apart and we will wear masks.*



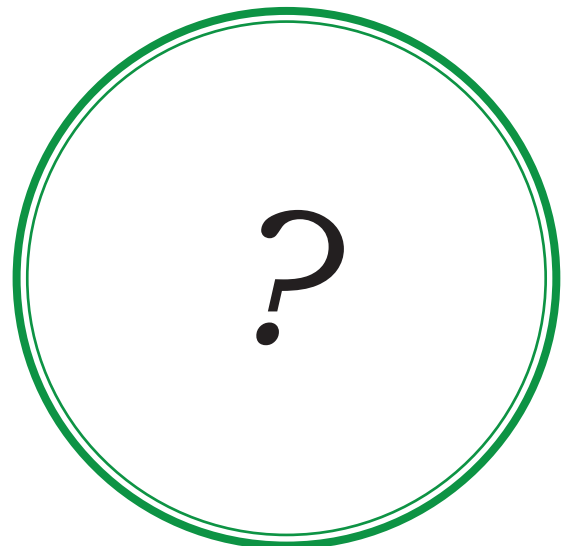
Tom,  
we miss your educational chats.

**Something new**

Some members have recommended we start a new column which will give members a chance to show off their prize orchids.

1. Orchids must be grown by you.
2. Orchids must be in full bloom.
3. Please include a photo of yourself with the plant.

Hopefully this will show other members you who you are and your method of growing the orchid.



# Maryland Orchid Society News & Surrounding Events

## About White Orchids

Orchid flowers comprise the whole range of the rainbow, with combinations not found in any rainbow. Because of their usefulness and charm, growers often seek out the white varieties of species and hybrids otherwise pink or purple. These colors are produced by a class of pigments called anthocyanins. They are produced by a chain of enzymes under genetic control. When the chain is disrupted by genetic mutations, production can be reduced or eliminated altogether. In the case of anthocyanins, this is seldom fatal, though such variants may not be as vigorous.

Red flowers are a combination of pink or purple anthocyanins on top of yellow flavonoids. Mutants that stop flavonoids are invariably fatal. Thus, the alba equivalent in a red flower would be the yellow or flava form.



Pictured is Bletilla striata "alba". You will notice that it's not crystalline white but rather a very, very light pink. Technically, it should be "albescens," meaning almost white. Very pretty

### Clark's Corner



### CULTURE CONNECTION

**CULTIVATE**, to grow in a prepared medium

Visit the AOS website for a [Monthly Checklist on Orchid Care](#)

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/may-june-checklist.aspx>

### June: The Aromatic Month

#### Letting the Nose Do the Shopping When Searching for New Orchids

By Thomas Miranda

**A VERITABLE FEAST FOR THE SENSES**, June — of "busting out all over" fame — is a great time for your orchid collection. Although there may not be scads of plants in bloom, there is tremendous activity. Personally, I find the new growths of orchids almost as exciting as the flowers. Many of the orchids that bloom in the upcoming summer heat are also among the most fragrant. Some, such as brassias, brassavolas and stanhopeas, smell delicious. Others, such as average bulbophyllums, could drive you out of the greenhouse on a hot summer day. My *Bulbophyllum echinolabium* attracts myriad flies with its fetid aroma. I tend to leave it outside where I can get away from the odor if it gets too strong. When I do, it usually comes back inside in the autumn with a capsule or two. With its 1-foot- (30-cm-) long flower, it's far too cool an orchid to reject for a minor flaw such as foul fragrance. Besides, it's great fun to let unsuspecting friends take a whiff.

**LET ME OUT** June is when you can safely put most of your orchids outside for the summer. The fresh, naturally moving air, rainwater and excellent dappled light under backyard trees make for superb growing conditions. Cooped up all winter, many orchids grow by leaps and bounds when moved outside. For best results, look for a spot where there is air movement, bright but semishaded conditions, or a spot with early morning sun and shade in the afternoon. Some types, such as cattleyas, vandas and cymbidiums, need more light than others, such as miltonias, psychopsis and most maxillarias, so multiple sites may be necessary to meet the requirements of orchids in a mixed collection. By observing your plants you can make informed decisions on where they should go for the summer.

*Acting-President Sarah Spence  
Introduces...*



*John Heinbokel -*

Biographic Sketch  
Nominee for MOS President  
June, 2020

As a relative newbie on the nominated slate of MOS candidates for office, I'm responding to Sarah Spence's request to provide a brief biographical statement prior to the election.

I am currently retired (since 2016, when we moved to Baltimore to be near family and I joined the MOS), after a rather convoluted career that began in Baltimore in 1977 as a biological oceanographer at Johns Hopkins; moved to Vermont to teach at and chair the Science & Math Department at a small women's college; evolved, with the closure of that college in 2000, to being a partner in a small modeling, simulation, and group facilitation consultancy; and finally ended with a relatively brief stint with the Defense Intelligence Agency in VA. I began growing orchids during my first residency in Baltimore (meeting my then relatively near neighbors Tom and Gary at the Little Greenhouse in the early 1980's I've never been much more than a novice grower (having probably killed fewer than 100 orchids in my life), although the size and variety of my collection has grown since returning to Baltimore with both the time and a better growing environment to devote to them and the encouragement and advice of the MOS membership. I've been fortunate for the past two years to serve as Chair MOS' Program Committee, giving me a chance to interact with other local societies and with orchid experts around the country.

When I began talking to the Nominating Committee in February about advancing my name for the MOS Presidency, it was clear that what I could offer lived in the areas of organizational and communication skills and available time to devote to the task. Fortunately there is abundant technical skill throughout the Society (making up for my lack), the membership is diverse and active (Fred Clarke was powerfully struck by that last November), and the Society has a history of being well run and financially solvent. There is always room to tweak and improve an operation (primarily here, I believe, to keep the membership growing in size and engagement and to watch for new opportunities to reach out to the local community), but nothing cried out to be 'fixed.' Basically, just don't break it!

Since February, however, emergence of COVID-19 and the resulting cancellation of our annual workshop and four monthly meetings have revealed unanticipated issues that need resolution but which also present some balancing opportunities. Reviewing membership processes and finances will be important in the more uncertain organizational climate. Developing a 'virtual meeting' capability will reduce the disruptions should the outbreak continue or recur. Additionally, routine use of such new capability during 'normal' meetings may permit members to participate if circumstances prevent their attendance and may open our Society to meaningful participation by MD residents who reside too far from Baltimore to ever attend in person. The good news is that we have the resources and skills to meet those challenges; it should be fun to work with you all to make it happen!



**Program Notes – May 2020**  
**John Heinbokel, Chair, MOS Program Committee**  
**5 June 2020**

Welcome to summer, weather-wise, if not quite according to the calendar yet. We continue to be consistent, although perhaps not very interesting, in our devotion to safety. Four meetings in a row shot down to the COVID-19 outbreak! Hopefully we'll be able to get our four canceled speakers lined up for presentation slots next year; that'll make the job of the Program Committee a lot easier than it might otherwise have been. I also expect we'll be spending some time and energy this summer learning how to provide a virtual meeting space via ZOOM or another of the available programs. In that case, as we move into next year, we'll have some viable virtual options for 'getting together' for a meeting even if we can't all share space in the same room.

We were looking forward this month to hosting Bryan (BJ) Ramsay as our presenter. BJ is associated with the National Capital Judging Center of the AOS, where he serves as their photographer for documenting awarded plants. If you enjoy browsing the gallery of awarded plants that is presented each month in Orchids magazine (a publication of the AOS), then you've seen some of his work, perhaps without realizing it. Our hope was that he would be able to present some guidance, hints, and tricks to help us be able to create some high quality images if or when the spirit moved us. Keep your fingers crossed that we'll be able to reschedule in the not too distant future.

Best to all.  
John Heinbokel

Marc's New Digs (from page 1)

# AOS Orchid Society News & Surrounding Events



## Let's Grow Together!

www.aos.org



### 2020 JUNE AOS Corner – for Affiliated Societies

**The AOS Corner is for society representatives and newsletter editors: Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner completely, or in part, in their society publications.**

**We encourage use of the [AOS website](http://www.aos.org) by all members. <http://www.aos.org>**

### Volunteering with a Passion for Orchids

An insatiable thirst for learning more about orchids found me joining our local American Orchid Society Affiliate, Tampa Bay Orchid Society, and volunteering at the local Florida North Central Judging Center monthly judging sessions. I broadened my horizons when I became involved on the national level as a volunteer with two [American Orchid Society committees](http://www.aos.org/about-us/committees.aspx). <http://www.aos.org/about-us/committees.aspx>

If you are wondering where you might fit in, take a moment and review the committee **Job Descriptions** and volunteer expectations. Every volunteer brings a different skill set to the American Orchid Society and there is a place for you. Check out the first few pages of any issue of ORCHIDS to find the list of National Volunteers and the committees they serve. <http://www.aos.org/about-us/job-descriptions.aspx>

Years ago when I joined the roster of AOS committees, the group currently known as the Affiliated Societies Committee (ASC), was known as the Membership and Affiliated Societies Committee (MASC). Through the years, committees were redefined and there are now two distinct committees to serve the AOS membership. The ASC, and the Membership & Marketing Committee are two places I hang my hat. I do it for the love of orchids. If you want to feel needed and appreciated, volunteers are welcome on all levels!

### Help Wanted - AOS Webinar Presenters

Webinars are a conduit to share our orchid knowledge. They are generally limited to a one-hour audio-visual presentation that is recorded for future viewing through a link on the AOS website. Most presentations are prepared ahead in PowerPoint and presented with live audio on a selected date. They take place in the evening, Monday through Friday, usually at 8:30 p.m. Eastern time.

We know there are wonderful, successful growers out there with all sorts of great information on growing and maintaining a healthy orchid collection. We are currently looking for someone to share and present segments for the Best Practices for a Healthy Orchid Collection series. Orchid growing is not a one-size-fits-all endeavor, certain practices can help us on the road to success. Understanding our orchids is a good place to start.

We are flexible! We are always looking for interesting topics to share with our viewers. Choose a day convenient for you. You will need a prepared PowerPoint topic, an internet connection, and a computer with audio capabilities to present an AOS webinar

Contact [Cheryl Erins](mailto:cerins@aos.org) to be added to the AOS webinar line-up or for further information. She can arrange a webinar practice session to help you get familiar with the process. [cerins@aos.org](mailto:cerins@aos.org)

Cheryl Erins adds, "We are also looking for members for the **Development Committee**". <http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/JobDesc/2018-Development-Committee.pdf>

**WHAT ARE WEBINARS?**

An Affiliated Society may use recorded webinars for presentations at their monthly meetings. With Wi-Fi access, it's easy! Webinars are an internet-connected audiovisual presentation. You can view from anywhere that you have an internet connection via Mac, PC or even your mobile device. It's easy to find the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You will find the link here: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

**To view REGISTRATION is REQUIRED:**

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyhow!

ALL webinars are recorded and available to view at your leisure. GREENHOUSE CHAT Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.

Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)

Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook, Instagram and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.

If your society does not have internet access, you can contact the AOS Education Committee, Sandra Svoboda at [stillisch@cox.net](mailto:stillisch@cox.net) and request **a program from the recorded list** . The video file with instructions for use will be sent to you. Copy the file to a flash drive or copy it to your computer hard drive and show the webinar at the meeting. <http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Webinars-for-Affiliated-Societies-7-24-19.pdf>

When	June 16, 2020 8:30pm EST Tuesday	June 23, 2020 8:30pm EST Tuesday	July 14, 2020 8:30pm EST Tuesday	RECORDED WEBINARS at your convenience
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	How to Successfully Grow Coelogyne	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Culture, Judging, Pests and Diseases, Greenhouse Chats indexed by topic
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Charles Wilson AOS Judge, Committee Member Education and Conservation	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	AOS Members, Judges, Concerned Conservationists, Scientists & More

**REMINDERS**

Insight for our **AFFILIATED SOCIETIES**

<http://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies.aspx>

**Check out the Complete Affiliated Benefits Package**

<http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Benefits-of-being-an-Affiliated-SocietiesMember-v5.pdf>



**Have you recently changed leadership in your society? New AOS Representative? New President? New Newsletter Editor?**

To continue receiving the AOS Corner we must receive your **updated Affiliate information.** <http://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies/affiliated-society-update-form.aspx>

**AFFILIATED SOCIETY BONUS**

**EARN AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS FOR YOUR SOCIETY**

Affiliated Societies can earn a one-month extension on their AOS society membership for each new individual AOS member they recruit. If you start now, with twelve new AOS members, your Affiliated Society can obtain a FULL FREE YEAR OF AOS membership! Be sure and advise new members to note their society affiliation on the printed membership form or in the comments section online at checkout.

Remember to let your society members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources available to help make orchid growing enjoyable and successful. *Individual society membership and AOS Membership are not the same. Although affiliated, each requires separate membership dues.*

2020 **updated membership** rates NOW on the AOS website!

<http://www.aos.org/about-us/aos-membership.aspx>

**ROYALTY BEWARE** Water and debris falling into the crowns of phalaenopsis outdoors can cause various types of fungal and bacterial rot, so many growers choose to leave these plants inside. But as long as the plants are covered to protect them from excessive rain and falling leaves, they usually do well with the natural day and night temperatures offered by the backyard habitat. Mounted plants often increase exponentially when offered rainwater and fresh air. When mounting phalaenopsis, position the plants so the crown and leaves point down to prevent water and leaves from gathering.

**LIQUIDITY** Aside from keeping money in your portfolio, this month it's important to keep up with watering. Not only are plants growing quickly and needing copious moisture and fertilizer, but with newly repotted plants, fresh mix may take some time to be infused with moisture. Although most people soak their mix overnight before repotting to avoid potting desiccation stresses, the mix is still easily dried out. One must be aware that these newly repotted plants should receive extra attention in the form of careful observation, watering, and high humidity until they're fully established later in the summer.

**GOT POTS?** The longer days and warmer temperatures, especially those experienced by plants set outside, have shifted orchid metabolisms into overdrive. Take advantage of this surge of growth and establish plants into fresh mixes. It is a great time to take divisions. Your orchids will likely put out another growth to replace anything you remove. Removing old, gnarly backbulbs is advisable. These needn't go in the trash. Often your local orchid society has someone who'll nurse these backbulbs and divisions into saleable plants that might turn up at a future charity auction or plant sale. It's okay to share the wealth with new orchid growers. At times such as these, we want to encourage more people to get into the hobby. I know when I started, the gift of a division from an experienced grower was treasured and kept me engaged and involved (and indebted) to mentors in my society.

**INTO THE FIELD** Now is the prime time to see many wild orchids that may be growing near you. Get a field guide, grab the kids or your dog, or hook up with friends and step outside. There are marvels nearby waiting to be discovered in their native habitats. Nothing could be better for your psyche and soul than to hike in a natural area and find wild hidden orchid treasures. Now's the time to explore for native orchids. I encourage you to get out there. (As pertinent now, as it was then - Reprinted with permission *ORCHIDS VOL. 79, NO.6, June 2010*)

### **AWARDS GALLERY**

**MEMBERS** can **VIEW** the beauty and diversity of awarded orchids in every issue of **ORCHIDS magazine**. <http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx>

PLUS everyone can check the [most recently awarded orchids on the AOS website](#). Exhibits are included in the latest awards gallery

### **From Our South American Affiliate**



**Award No: 20196990**, Date: Nov 14, 2019

American Orchid Society Gold Certificate 'Exhibit 20-22' GC | AOS (92 points)

Event: Asociacion Vallecaucana de Orquideologia Show (Cali, Colombia)

Exhibitor: Sociedad Colombiana de Orquideologia, Photographer: Juan Carlos Uribe

## Orchid Pro



Orchid Pro, the premier tool for studying awarded orchids is included with every AOS membership. Features include flower details, measurements, and description of each awarded orchid or exhibit. <https://op.aos.org/>



**Award No: 20201346**

*Cattleya Brabantiae*  
'Frank Smith' FCC | AOS (94 points)  
(*Cattleya aclandiae* x *Cattleya loddigesii*)  
Exhibitor: Krull-Smith  
Photographer - Wes Newton



**Award No: 20203715**

*Cattleya amethystoglossa*  
'Put Me In The Zoo' AM | AOS (80 points)  
Exhibitor: Ben Oliveros and Orchid Eros  
Photographer - Glen Barfield

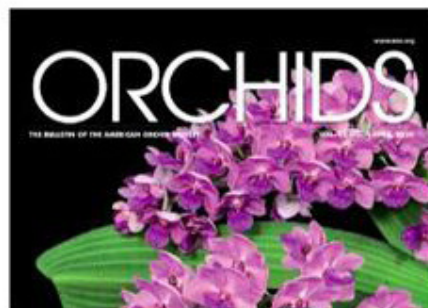
**AOS members have access to over 2,050 articles published between the years 2003 - 2009 and 2011 - 2018 through the digital archives.**  
<http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx>

### Back Issues



**May 2020**

The May 2020 issue contains articles from "What's in a Name - The Hybrid Genus *Fredolarkeara*" to "Growing Challenges: Flexible, Affordable Growing Spaces" and more.



**April 2020**

The April 2020 issue contains articles from "Judging Exhibits" to "The Best of the Best: The 2018 American Orchid Society Annual Awards" and more.



**March 2020**

The March 2020 issue contains articles from "Caularthron and Its Hybrids" to "Small-Flowered Phalaenopsis - Part 1: The Miniature Multiforals" and more.

### Worth the Read - ORCHIDS June Preview

- The New Refugium Botanicum - by Franco Pupulin
- Orchids Illustrated - Japanese Orchids
- Rare and Threatened Orchids of Central Africa, Part 1
- A Few Jewels of Colombia's Warm, Intermediate and Cool Habitat

Remember to check in with us on **Facebook and Instagram!**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS/>

<https://instagram.com/americanorchidsociety?igshid=16ixfciczky01>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/52597049839/>

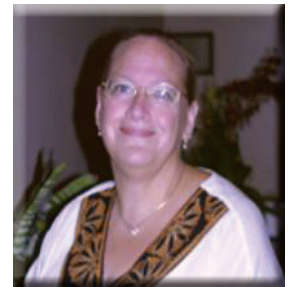
Please send your questions and submissions for the AOS Corner to  
[askmasc@verizon.net](mailto:askmasc@verizon.net) or [affiliated\\_societies\\_committee@aos.org](mailto:affiliated_societies_committee@aos.org)

Thanks for meeting me down at the Corner!

**Eileen Hector, AOS** Corner - **Affiliated Societies** Newsletter Editor

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**Valerie Lowe -**  
AOS/ODC Representative & Away Shows



# Maryland Orchid Society Officers and Committees

## Officers

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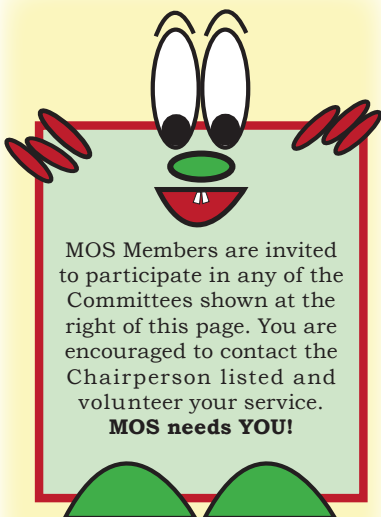
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Clark Riley

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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 7:00 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 8:00 p.m. and adjourns at approximately 9:30 p.m.