



ORCHID *newsletter*

News and information from the Maryland Orchid Society

JANUARY 2025



President's message

Let's begin with KUDOS for December – the membership turned out for the holiday party with 59 folks either in person or on Zoom. The show table was spectacular see Joel's summery. Kathi Jackson provided and coordinated a fabulous spread of great eats. The Smithsonian Field Trip presentation had those who couldn't attend hoping they can go the next time.

As we turn from the holidays, it's time to check out and mark your calendars, we have a lot coming up to participate in. See my "Invitation to Another MOS Show Year" article.

January has three events for us, The Rawlings Exhibition with setup on Jan. 9, quickly followed with our Monthly Meeting Jan. 16, with MOS's own Chris Zajac presenting "Growing Dendrobium" Chris has brought in many great dendrobiums on the show table. Marc Kiriou will present the education corner for January 'How to Bloom Orchids'. January will close with the setup at our first Away Show of the year, the Susquehanna Orchid Society (SOS) set up on Jan. 29th at Hershey Gardens. Look for an email blast from Valerie Lowe with particulars. This is just the start of another exciting calendar year ahead for the Maryland Orchid Society.

Enjoy, Participate, Learn, Share, Engage, Celebrate our 70th / 72nd Anniversary.

President's Announcements

- ❖ Robin Neukam has joined the Activities committee assisting John Heinbokel Chairman.
- ❖ I have identified the members of the special committee to Review the MOS Bylaws. Members include Kathi Jackson, Marc Kiriou, Joy Marlowe, Gary Smith, Bob and Susan Travers, Dr. Eric Wiles. We have held our first two meetings during December, plan two more in January and look to update the board in February board meeting.
- ❖ Based on feedback during the December monthly meeting the society will begin efforts for a consolidated Society potting materials buy. Jill Allen will coordinate. More information to come. I have asked Robin Neukam to assist Jill with this, it is a big behind-the-scenes effort.
- ❖ Also, Jill will coordinate the purchase of Embroidered Denim Shirts. We expect to buy only what is ordered, no surplus or extras. More information to come.

Bob



Rawlings Exhibition 10 – 12 January 2025; Set-up, 9 January 2025

John Heinbokel; Chair, Activities Committee

Thanks to all who signed up to contribute plants and/or staff the exhibition; the list from our December meeting looks wonderful. I'll be touching base with those volunteers in the week or so before the exhibition, but for anyone who didn't sign up, there's still time and opportunities to contribute. I can think of three reasons you might want to do so:

Community: This is a great service opportunity for us to share our knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm with other (potential?) orchid growers in the community.

MOS: While we're reaching out, we can promote our upcoming March show at the Fairgrounds and recruit new members for the society.

Self: There are actually several benefits here.

Display Practice: This is an opportunity to begin grooming your plants for display, a skill that will pay off during the AOS-sanctioned shows later in the year.

Show Table Point: Plant contributors earn a participation point for new orchids next September.

Just Plain Fun: Schmoozing with fellow orchid enthusiasts is such a kick! It's probably the best opportunity we have all year to just chat up our passion for orchids with like-minded folks.

If you are interested in volunteering plants and/or time, we'll be setting up Thursday morning (9 Jan) and staffing the display 11am – 3pm on Friday and 10am – 4pm on Saturday and Sunday. Email me (activities@marylandorchids.org) if you want to sign up or have any questions

marylandorchids.org



Thursday January 16
Christopher Zajac
will be our speaker
His topic will be
'Growing Dendrobium'

I have been an MOS member and orchid grower for 20 years. My first attempt to grow an orchid, or any plant, was a den-phal (arching inflorescence) dendrobium I picked up on a Home Depot trip. With beginner's luck, it survived. That sparked my interest to continue growing orchids. My dendrobium collection now numbers about 40 plants. Year around bright light promotes enough growth and flowering that one dendrobium a month can be presented for MOS judging. I am a hobby dendrobium grower, not an expert. The information in my presentation has been recently obtained from published Dendrobium books, the Orchids magazine, personal conversations along the lines of "How do YOU grow this? ", and lots of trial and error



MOS Welcomes the following new members... Jill Roman and Steve Noga

Jill Allen, Membership Chair

Welcome back renewal members



February 8th LADYSLIPPER ENTHUSIASTS SAVE THIS DATE!

The 45th Annual NCOS Paph Forum on Saturday, February 8, 2025, will showcase internationally renowned speakers, an unparalleled selection of Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium plants for sale by leading vendors, a show table featuring hundreds of slippers in bloom, ribbons and trophies for outstanding show plants, door prizes, and American Orchid Society judging. It's an event you don't want to miss!

[North Chevy Chase Christian Church](#) 8841 Kensington Parkway Chevy Chase, MD 20815

[44th Annual Paphiopedilum Forum | National Capital Orchid Society](#)

Education Corner Schedule and Topics 2025

Any MOS member may volunteer to present a topic with basic, practical content for the novice grower: a 15-minute presentation followed by a 15-minute Q and A session. Topic suggestions welcome! Your Education Committee: Chris Zajac or Arne Schon.

The education corner runs 7:15 to 7:45 p.m.

January 16 'How to Bloom Orchids' Marc Kiriou

February 20 'Fertilizing Orchids' Arne Schon

March 20 'How to Grow Cattleyas'. Bob Johnston

April 17 'Growing Phragmipediums' Aaron Webb



Miscellaneous Meeting Information by Vincent Russo, Hospitality Chair

There were 56 Attendees in person at the November Meeting.
3 + host on Zoom

Door prizes

Bulbophyllum Phalaenopsis

(Source: Jos Venturina)

Paph California Girl 'Free Spirit' x

Paph Thundercat 'Power House'

Door Prize winners

Joel Graham

Larry Pando

Auction Plants

Zygo NOID

Smithiana (Red) Jams Surprise x

Stormy Day

Blc. Guess what 'SVO' AM/AOS x L.

Seagulls 'Red'

Angraecum *leonis*

Phal Sogo Diana

Lc. Trick or Treat 'Orange Rock'

Dendro QF Akala

Auction Winners

Mai Conaway

Nicole Allen

Marc Kiriou

Sarah Spence

Todd Jackson

Courtney Bounds

Marc Kiriou

MOS Show Table December 19, 2025, Joel Graham

Novice

1. Phal. No Name - Pauline Brissett
2. Phal. No Name - Adrienne Kaspar

Homegrown

1. Cym. Cumberland Blues 'Dark Red' - Luis Molina
2. C. *walkeriana* 'Khairul Bariah' AM/AOS - Arne Schon
3. Tie: C. *trianaei* - Mai Conway
Lc. Tokyo Magic x Rth. Georgia Peach - Bob Johnston

Greenhouse

1. Onc. Tsiku Marguerite 'Mem. Mark O. Robbins' CCE/AOS - Jos Venturina
2. Tie: Epc. Don Herman 'Spots' - Eric Wiles
Blc. Heron's Ghyll - Craig Taborsky
3. Rlc. Mark's Valentine - Clark Riley

Cattleya

1. Eplc. Volcana Trick 'Fireball' - Bob Johnston
2. Tie: B. Grand Stars - Arne Schön
L. *purpurata alba* - Robin Neukam
3. Tie: Blc. Goldenzelle 'Lemon Chiffon' - Eric Wiles
C. *percivaliana* - Craig Taborsky

Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Unimax Angel Love - Chris Zajac
2. Phal. Christmas Mystery Noid - Wanda Kuhn
3. Tie: Phal. Chia E Yenlin - Bob Travers
Phal. Noid - Courtney Bounds

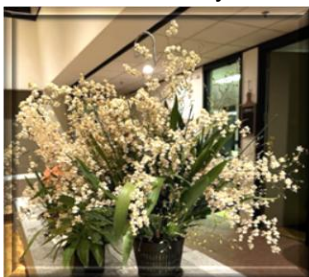
Paphiopedilum

1. Paph sanderianum - Robin Neukam
2. Tie Paph. Lady Isabel - Aaron Webb
Paph. Hawaiian Tea 'Susan J' AM/AOS - Bob Travers
3. Tie Paph. Barb Hella - Brenda Logan
Phrag. Cardinale 'Wilcox' - Marilyn Lauffer
Phrag. Cardinale - Jill Allen
Phrag. Nicole Tower - Chris Zajac

Dendrobium

1. Den. Yaya Victoria - Luis Molina
2. Den. *speciosum* - Chris Zajac
3. Den. Thames Blue - Brenda Logan

Judges Choice: *Oncidium* Tsiku Marguerite 'Memoria Mark O. Robbins' CCE/AOS by Jos Venturina



Oncidium

1. Onc. Opalescent 'On The Edge' - Diane Elam
2. Tie Onc. Cholita Cuecana - Luis Molina
Onc. Twinkle 'Red Flame' - Jill Allen
3. Rrm. Helmut Rohrl - Bob Travers

Miscellaneous Hybrid

1. Cydc. Wine Delight - Jos Venturina
2. Tie: Ctsm. Diana's Dots - Chris Zajac
Masd. Claret Chalis 'Harford's Wine Festival' AM/AOS - Robin Neukam
3. Tie: Cym. Great Sepia - Clark Riley
Lyc. Lemon Twist - Mai Conway

Species

1. Rhy. *gigantea* 'Red' - Robin Neukam
2. V. *nana* - Brenda Logan
3. Tie L. *anceps* - Bob Johnston
Angcm. *leonis* - Arne Schön
Dmd. *stenopetala* - Bob Travers

Miniature

1. Tsx. *blaisdellii* - Brenda Logan
2. Lpt. *unicolor* - Joel Graham
3. Tie: Bar. *dusenii* - Fay Citerone
Slc. Beau's Apricot Gem - Bob Travers

First Bloom

1. Phrag (Sorcerer's Apprentice x Estelle Getty) - Joel Graham

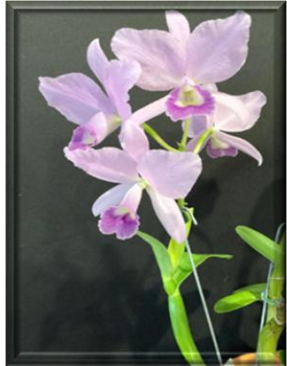



Fragrance

1. Epc. Serena O'Neill - Bob Travers
2. Blc. (William Ferrell x Kaboom) - Robin Neukam
3. Rlc. Donna Kimura 'Volcano Queen' - Wanda Kuhn

The Mighty MOS Show Table was truly flexing some muscle for this December meeting and holiday party. There were 97 blooming plants on the show table (and a few more in bloom in the auction), and many were well bloomed specimen plants! Just spectacular, and what a great crowd to enjoy an evening with! The judges' choice for the evening was Onc. Tsiku Marguerite 'Mem. Mark O. Robbins' CCE/AOS brought in by Jos Venturina. The judges for the evening were Fay Citerone, Marc Kiriou, and Luis Molina. Other exhibitors not mentioned above were Karen Blandford, John Dunning, Kathi Jackson, Joy Marlowe, David Smith, Phuong Tran and Rich Kaste, and Maria and Norm Zickhur.



Virtual Show Table December 19, 2024 11 blooming plants from 5 exhibitors

BLC Louis McNeil Susan Gaetner	Dendrobium nobile Judith Shapiro Adamson	Paphiopedilum Emerald Mele Monica Sparber	Paphiopedilum Fairly Sauced Mai Conaway
			

Notice: Post Office Box Closed

MOS has closed our Post Office Box on 9/26/2024, mail forwarded to President for 1 year. Refer to your 2024-2025 Roster for mailing addresses.



January 10-12

Rawlings Conservatory Show

Jan 9 Set Up

January 10 – 12 Hospitality Volunteers
Plants & Volunteers Needed
(Show Table Points Awarded to Participants)



January 29- Feb 2

Susquehanna Orchid Society Show

1st Away Show @ Hershey Gardens

29 – Set-up (Plants and Designers Needed) February 2 – Tear-down
Take Wednesday Jan 29th off and have fun with us installing a MOS exhibit! Great learning experience!

Loan us a plant and earn a show table point or even better a AOS award. Support our sister society. Look for the blast email 'Valerie's Call for Plants.

February 6th MOS Board Meeting Zoom 7PM

The MOS will conduct its next Board of Trustees Meeting on 6 February 2025 via Zoom. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM sharp. All Board meetings are open to the general membership. If you plan to attend, please contact Clark Riley to be included on the Zoom invitation.



March 2024 Spring Show Update

We are no longer inching toward the Spring Show. In fact it feels more like "barreling" at this point. Time to start thinking about your individual or team exhibit. We will need lots of help to make the show another success. This is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow Society members and have some fun. Awards Sponsors

Wanted! Stay tuned for more information.

4 (Tu) - Staging set-up (volunteers needed)

5 (Wed) – Set-up exhibits

6 (Th) – AOS Judging; Preview Sale 3-6 PM
(clerking volunteers needed)

7 – 9 (Fr-Su) – Show open to public
(hospitality volunteers needed)

9 (Su) –Tear Down 6 PM (volunteers needed)

AOS Corner Submitted by Valerie Lowe, AOS Representative

LOCAL AOS NEWS:

National Capital Judging Center (NCJC)
[National Capital Judging Center](#) The NCJC will be meeting on January 4th and February 2nd, 2025 at the Saint James United Methodist Church located at 12470 Old Frederick Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104. AOS Judging will start at noon. Everyone is welcome to come, whether you have plants you want considered for an American Orchid Society Award or not.



SAVE THE DATE!
AOS 2025
Spring Members
Meeting
April 9th - 12th, 2025
Annapolis, MD

Orchid Vendors, AOS Judging, Workshops, Great Speakers, Auction & More!

Hosted by the North American Orchid Conservation Center (NAOCC)
a program of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)
Host Hotel: Crowne Plaza Annapolis
173 Jennifer Road Annapolis, MD.

MOS Members Recent Awards

Dr. Griesbach's plant of Paphiopedilum Angel Hair 'Golden Eagle' received an 83-point Award of Merit (AM) from the American Orchid Society.



Clark's Corner

Orchids in the Year 2025

The landscape of orchid culture continues to shift, in most cases for the better. Think back to the year 1825 — a mere 200 years, a blip in human agriculture time. Orchids

were the domain of wealthy aristocrats, the only ones who could afford the transport from the tropics and their orchids' low survival rate. They — or their gardeners — were just figuring out how to keep orchid roots happy. A rich man's — most were men, of course — hobby.

Think back to 1925 — a mere 100 years ago, with some people still alive to remember. There were many more people growing orchids, including a number of commercial nurseries. The main potting material was Osmunda fiber, the roots of a swamp fern. In the firms in New Jersey and Massachusetts, most of the plants were imported plants. These were the days before quarantine and import controls. Those that survived propagated by division only, with single excellent clones fetching hundreds of dollars — thousands in 2025 dollars adjusted for inflation. We raised hybrids by sowing the seeds on the Osmunda of mother plants, resulting in maybe a dozen or so plants per cross, if any. 1925 was the year Waldor Orchids was established!

In the following century, fir bark would replace Osmunda, with massively greater access to potting material. Laboratory seed propagation would be introduced allowing propagation of thousands of plants from crosses. Improved transportation would allow the rapid distribution of plants with little loss. The American Orchid Society was founded leading to judging standards and the dissemination of cultural wisdom. Thousands of new species would be introduced to the orchid world. In the 1960s, cloning entered our world and the best of the best became available to us all. Plastic pots were introduced. Yeah, before that there were only terra cotta pots.

So, here we are on the brink of a new century. What revolutions lie ahead? We'll see more new species with rapid spread of information on how to grow them. Better, faster communication on new techniques. New hybrids with easier culture in an expanded rainbow of colors and fantastic shapes. More people interested in orchids through their first purchases in grocery stores and at fine shows throughout the year.

In short, your life as a member of our society of orchid lovers is about to get more exciting and rewarding than any time in the last 200 years. Happy New Year 2025.

Invitation to Another MOS Show Season 2025 *Bob Travers*

January begins a multi-month whirlwind of activity in support of MOS participation in Rawlings, three [3] away shows as well as our own show.

You are cordially invited to support/participate/volunteer MOS have another successful 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 9 - 12	Rawlings Conservatory Hours and Directions - Official Website of the Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory & Botanic Gardens - Druid Hill Park Baltimore, MD	Baltimore, MD	Jan 9 Staging Displays of MOS members Plants Jan 10 -12 Need folks for manning information table. 10 am-4 pm Jan 12 Teardown 4 pm. Week before our monthly meeting Contact John Heinbokel/ Robin Neukam
Feb 2 - 4	SOS - Susquehanna Orchid Society Susquehanna Orchid Society	Hershey Conservatory, Hershey, Pa.	Jan 29 Need plants, help staging and exhibit setup, start 8-9 AM Feb 2 teardown 4-5 PM Contact Valerie Lowe
March 4-6 & 7- 9	MOS – Maryland Orchid Society Maryland Orchid Society Home Page	Timonium Fairgrounds MD.	Need MOS Exhibitors March 4 Help for Staging Set Up March 5 Exhibit Setup March 6 Clerks for judging March 7, 8, 9 Manning for information and sales check out March 9 Show teardown Week before our monthly meeting Contact Marc Kiriou
April 3-6	SEPOS – Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid society. Home SEPOS	Oaks Expo Center, 100 Station Ave, Oaks, PA 19456	April 3 Need plants, help staging and exhibit setup, start 8-9 AM April 6 teardown 4-5 PM Week before our monthly meeting Vendors not participating at other regional shows. Contact Valerie Lowe
Sept 18-21	NCOS – National Capitol Orchid Society National Capital Orchid Society National Capital Orchid Society (ncos.us)	Homestead Gardens, Davidsonville MD	Sept 18 Need plants, help staging and exhibit setup, start 8-9 AM Sept 21 teardown 3-4 PM Sept 25 Our monthly meeting moved out Contact Valerie Lowe

If considering exhibiting in the MOS Show

Next month will include an article on exhibiting. However, I would encourage those who have not yet joined the American Orchid Society to do now. Our MOS Show is judged by American Orchid Society Judges guided by the AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY HANDBOOK ON JUDGING (Effective March 21, 2021).

This is available to you online as an AOS member. Also, as AOS members you have free access to their library of Webinars, I would recommend the following AOS webinar: [Webinars - American Orchid Society](#)
This webinar will walk you through the elements considered in Exhibit Judging and Preparation.

Preparing your Plants to Show

First and foremost is to have your plants in tip-top condition.

- 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.
- Free of pests and evidence of past pest infestations
- Clean Leaves and remove dead inflorescences and leaves.
- 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.
- 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

- 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.
- Check the spelling accuracy by a web search. You may need to recreate your plant label.
- 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.
- 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.
- Confirm with Exhibit Leader pick-up or delivery details.
- **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.**
- 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.

Calendar of Events 2025

January

10-12 Rawlings Conservatory Show
Jan 9 Set Up Plants & Volunteers Needed
(Show Table Points Awarded to Participants)

16th Monthly Meeting

29- Feb 2 Susquehanna Orchid Society Show
@ Hershey Gardens
29 – Set-up (Plants and Designers Needed)
February 2 – Tear-down
(Show Table Points Awarded to Orchid Loaners)

February

6th Board of Trustees Meeting: Zoom 7PM
Members Welcome, contact Bob Travers for Zoom Invite



February 8th SAVE THIS DATE! LADYSLIPPER ENTHUSIASTS

The 45th Annual NCOS Paph Forum on Saturday, February 8, 2025, will showcase internationally renowned speakers, an unparalleled selection of

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium plants for sale by leading vendors, a show table featuring hundreds of slippers in bloom, ribbons and trophies for outstanding show plants, door prizes, and American Orchid Society judging. It's an event you don't want to miss! [North Chevy Chase Christian Church](#)
8841 Kensington Parkway Chevy Chase, MD 20815
[44th Annual Paphiopedilum Forum | National Capital Orchid Society](#)

20th Monthly Meeting

March

7-9 MOS Annual Show & Sale @ Timonium Fairgrounds
4 (Tu) - Staging set-up (volunteers needed)
5 (Wed) – Set-up exhibits
6 (Th) – AOS Judging; Preview Sale 3-6 PM
(clerking volunteers needed)
7 – 9 (Fr-Su) – Show open to public
(hospitality volunteers needed)
9 (Su) –Tear Down 6 PM (volunteers needed)

20th Monthly Meeting

April

3-6 SEPOS Show @ Greater Philadelphia Expo Center
April 3 – Set-up (Plants and Designers Needed)
April 6 – Tear-Down
(Show Table Points Awarded to Orchid Loaners)
TBD MOS Spring Workshop

17th Monthly Meeting

April 9th - 12th, 2025
AOS 2025 Spring Members Meeting
Orchid Vendors, AOS Judging, Workshops, Great Speakers, Auction & More! Crowne Plaza Annapolis
173 Jennifer Road Annapolis, MD.

May

15th Monthly Meeting

June

19th Monthly Meeting

July

TBD Board of Trustees Meeting

July or August

TBD MOS Picnic

August - Sept

TBD Exhibit at Maryland State Fair (Show Table Points Awarded to Participants)

September

18-21 NCOS Show @ Homestead Gardens
Sept 18 – Set-up (Plants and Designers Needed)
Sept 21– Tear-down
(Show Table Points Awarded to Orchid Loaners)

25th Monthly Meeting

[Changed due to conflict with NCOS Show]



Maryland Orchid Society Celebrates 72 Years Since Inception 70 Years Incorporated Platinum Anniversary Symbolizes Strength & Endurance

Our Maryland Orchid Society began in 1953 not as a formal organization, but rather as an idea, a wish, a desire to be able share with a community our interest in Orchids and learn from said community. How did they progress from ideas, wishes and desire to a formal organization? incorporated 2 years later in 1955, which is still strong and functioning 70 years later as we enter 2025. The answer is pretty straight forward and still in evidence today – It extends from their/your individual desires, wishes and ideas to your personal enthusiasm, initiative, commitment, persistence and enjoyment found by becoming an engaged member of this community the Maryland Orchid Society, Inc.

You may ask, why incorporation? I expect the answer is similar to my wish expressed in the August newsletter Presidents' message "My wish is for the members we have now and those who join over the coming years to each also enjoy 36 years of MOS Membership and the ever-expanding appreciation of the simplicity and intricacies of growing orchids." Inherent in this wish is that the society/community exists beyond my tenure and is available for future enthusiasts to discover.

If you share my wish, now is the time to engage in your society. MOS provides a multitude of opportunities to participate. As you become more familiar with who is doing what, remember there is always room for you to join in. Step up, join a committee of your choosing, there is work to do. You can identify new ways to do things, make those suggestions, don't leave your thoughts or ideas unspoken!

Being incorporated does come with requirements for the Society to establish and maintain a governance structure. MOS for its 70 years has been a non-profit organization and maintained by an all-volunteer staff structure whose time is freely given, and the corporation definition as Perpetual.

Our elected Officers carry out 2-year terms and our committee chairs are appointed. This group of functions is where I wish to discuss Succession. Ultimately, it's in your hands.

Society doesn't maintain a list of member skills or capabilities; they tend to bubble up as we get to know each other. My secondary wish to paraphrase Gary Smith from his January 2010 Presidents Message is 'through the constant effort that the society manages (hopefully) to deliver the benefits that entice members, both tenured and new, to independently recognize their personal skill sets, step up, offer skills and volunteer. However, the point I'm trying to make is that members never seem more satisfied than when they're interacting with other members. Once members are engaged, volunteerism isn't such a big deal anymore, because it flows more naturally from a desire to be more engaged.'

I will use the Successful Succession title over the next several months to highlight areas for you to consider engagement. I will touch on three now, Financial, Away Shows and MOS Annual Show.

Financial – The Bylaws require I appoint a finance committee to review annually the financial books and records of the Society. I would like to identify a volunteer society member who has financial and accounting experience to participate in this committee preferable not currently engaged in MOS governance. This could be an introduction to support stepping up to the Treasurer role when the current Treasurer completes its second term and is then term limited. I would also like two additional volunteers, one with previous non-current MOS Governance experience and one general member. Those interested please contact Bob Travers.

Away Shows – Play an integral part of our mission and support the reciprocal engagement of our regional sister societies in participating in our MOS Annual Show. The society currently participates in 3 away shows a year including National Capital Orchid Society, Susquehanna Orchid Society, and South Eastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society. Show setup days are usually week days so those considering will need to plan to take vacation days or see if their employer provides a support program for those who volunteer to non-profit activities. The Away Shows committee is looking to develop new leaders for the Chair position and Staging support. It will take time for someone to grow into this position so please consider talking with Valerie or Bob so we can begin mentoring.

MOS Annual Show - The Show Committee Chair is responsible for planning and executing the annual orchid show and sale. The MOS Annual Show committee is looking to develop new leaders for the Chair position and establish supporting subcommittees. It will take time for someone to grow into this position so please consider talking with Marc or Bob so we can begin mentoring.

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., 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. 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 26th day of each month.

Officers		Committees Chairs	
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