

# Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter

## January Meeting

Please welcome Alex Challis, our speaker for the January meeting. Alex has his Masters Degree in Botany at UM. He has been growing orchids since 1981. Alex has been an AOS Life Member since 1984, and a judge since 1992.

Alex worked at Great Lakes Orchids in Romulus in the mid 1980's, at Hoosier Orchids from 1989 to 1993, and has been working at New World Orchids since 1997.

The title of his presentation is "The Good Bad & Ugly of the Orchid World" in which he will look at various orchid species and how they have adapted to attracting a vast range of pollinators.

After the meeting please join us for dinner at Charlie's Mediterranean restaurant on Carpenter Rd.

## President's Message

Happy New Year!!! Welcome 2008! I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday. We are welcoming the new year with Alex Challis speaking on the Bulbophyllum alliance on January 13th.

A few weeks after this, on February 2 and 3 will be the Grand Valley Orchid Show in Grand Rapids. Of course, we will need your help with this show, either for display set up on February 1, or tear down on February 3. You will definitely hear more about this at the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. You will also hear more about other upcoming orchid events including our annual orchid festival in April.

See you at the next meeting and Happy New Year!

Kevin

### *In This Issue:*

January Speaker.....	1
President's Message.....	1
What's Flowering?.....	2
Hospitality Volunteers.....	2
SVOS Show Report.....	3
Want Ads.....	4
AAOS Calendar.....	5
AAOS Officers.....	5
Newsletter Deadlines.....	5
Mid-America Report.....	6
Tricks of the Trade.....	8
AOS Update.....	8





### What's Flowering?

I purchased this "miniature" cymbidium as a seedling from Oak Hill several years ago. I was thrilled when I saw 3 spikes on it this fall! It has a total of 28 flowers.

Cymbidium culture is easy for me, and although they are large plants, I am always tempted to buy more, even when I don't have room for them. The flowers are so beautiful, and they come in many colors: white, green, pink, and brownish red.

I grow this plant in my greenhouse, against the southern window in winter. They like sun, and they like to be fertilized heavily while in active growth, usually in the months of January through July. I move my cymbidiums outdoors in summer, because most are cooler growing plants and the greenhouse can get very hot in the summer. Outdoors, the night temperatures start to drop in mid Au-

gust, they are usually ready and willing to spike for me.

Cymbidiums like to be pot-bound, and dislike being repotted. So try to resist repotting until the pot splits open with roots! When you repot, be careful with the roots, trying not to damage them. Use the smallest pot possible. Water your cymbidium lightly after repotting until it gets established.

I love the "day lily" look of cymbidiums and find them enjoyable even when they are not in flower!

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### Hospitality Volunteers

The volunteers for the January meeting are Riki Marquis and Paige Hartman. A BIG thank you to everyone that brings in food for our meeting!!



## SVOS Show, Nov. 24-25, 2007

On the day after Thanksgiving, Denise Nash and Randy Long loaded Denise's van with staging and plants. Dottie & Harry Winter filled a carload with orchids, greenery, and tools. They drove up to Midland and set up a 50 sq. ft. display in the Saginaw Valley Orchid Society's annual Thanksgiving weekend orchid show. Blooming orchids for the display were provided by Denise, Randy, Dottie & Harry, Paige Hartman, Janet Hinshaw, Judy Lobato, Chuck Zill, and John Olszewski. Dottie wrote the plant labels because Paige was ill. Fortunately, Paige was much improved by Sunday, so was able to come for take-down.

The set-up was relatively fast and easy, and displayed the 36 orchids nicely. The display was accented with greenery from Dottie and a collection of rustic birdhouses provided by Denise and Randy. The exhibit won a third place ribbon in class, behind a couple of more traditional moss & driftwood displays in the same class. More than half of the plants (19) were awarded ribbons, 6 first place, 4 second place, and 9 thirds. Ribbon winners were:

First:

Paphiopedilum Oriental Imp	Denise Nash
<i>Laelia rubescens</i>	Paige Hartman
Paphiopedilum Maudiae 'The Queen'	Paige Hartman
Phal.(Tiny Berries x Timothy Christopher)	Paige Hartman
Phalaenopsis Showpiece	Randy Long
Vanda Kasem's Delight 'Blue'	Randy Long

Second:

<i>Phalaenopsis equestris</i>	Dottie & Harry Winter
<i>Maxillaria</i> species	Denise Nash
Masdevallia Cassiopia 'Gothic'	Paige Hartman
(Oncidium Auntie Baby x <i>Odontoglossum cirrhosum</i> )	Randy Long

Third:

Brassocattleya Star Ruby 'Xanadu'	Denise Nash
<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum</i>	Denise Nash
Herbertara Cat's Meow	Denise Nash
<i>Maxillaria variabilis</i> 'Black-eyed Susan'	Denise Nash
Paphiopedilum Susan Tucker 'Yuletide'	Denise Nash
Paphiopedilum (Hsinying Maru x <i>fairrieianum</i> )	Paige Hartman
<i>Phalaenopsis equestris</i>	Paige Hartman
Sophrrolaeliocattleya Lamp Lighter	Judy Lobato
Phragmipedium Sorcerer's Apprentice	John Olszewski

Continued on Page 4.

## WANT ADS



### Growing Equipment Sale

Dee Stowell is selling her orchid growing equipment. There are plant stands in several sizes, florescent light stands (table top size), a light cart with trays, trays with grids, and two HID lights. She has humidifiers too. All the equipment was used indoors and is in perfect condition. If you are interested please give Dee a call. She can give you details of dimensions, sizes and wattages. Her phone number is 734-878-2945 or email: [deestowell@charter.net](mailto:deestowell@charter.net)



Volume 16 Issue 1

Continued from page 3.

Show report, Continued:

Harry and Dottie, as is their wont, stayed all weekend at the very nice Holiday Inn that hosted the show in their conference center. They saw to it that the display was kept in shape and watered. In addition to Paige and husband George, Randy and his friend Frank came for take-down on Sunday afternoon. In only 45 minutes, the takedown and pack-up were complete, and we returned home in near record time. Many thanks to everyone that came to help, and to everyone who contributed plants for the display. We hope to have even more of you participate, by contributing your blooming plants, and/or coming to help set up or take down, at our next show. The Grand Valley OS show at the Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids is the first week-end in February, and always a great venue for an orchid show. Set up will be on February 1, with take down on February 3. Hope to see you there!



January 2008



## AAOS Calendar

**JAN. 13, 2008:** Alex Challis, "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of the Orchid World"

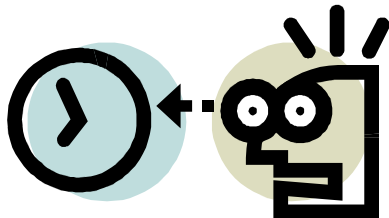
**Please note new date!! Saturday!!  
FEB. 16:** Harold Koopowitz

**MARCH 9:** Hermann Pigors, Topic TBA

**APRIL 11-13:** AAOS Festival

**APRIL 27:** Special meeting: Beginner's Workshop

**MAY 18-19:** Great Lakes Judges Seminar



### Newsletter Deadline

If you have an article or submission for the newsletter, please email them to Denise Nash: [djnash@comcast.net](mailto:djnash@comcast.net).

The deadline for the next newsletter submission is: February 8, 2008

## Ann Arbor Orchid Society 2007-08 Officers

**President** - Kevin Griffin 248-761-1272, [kahless66@yahoo.com](mailto:kahless66@yahoo.com)

**Vice President** - Ann Bommarito 734-418-3134, [AnnieBomm@comcast.net](mailto:AnnieBomm@comcast.net)

**Treasurer** - Linda Battison 810-227-0120, [lcbattison@comcast.net](mailto:lcbattison@comcast.net)

**Secretary** - Robin Johnson 734-482-6416, [robinjo@umich.edu](mailto:robinjo@umich.edu)

**Director** - Alex Challis 734-971-6186, [IcePenguin@aol.com](mailto:IcePenguin@aol.com)

**Director** - Vivian Lin, 734-741-1984, [VHL@umich.edu](mailto:VHL@umich.edu)

**Past President** - Paige Hartman GEHartman1@msn.com, 734-846-7864

**Hospitality** - Susan Haddock, 734-662-3222, [shaddock@comcast.net](mailto:shaddock@comcast.net)

**Reception Committee** - Dottie Winter, 734-761-5859, [harwin@umich.edu](mailto:harwin@umich.edu)

**Library** - Duane Duman, George Parks. [duman2@aol.com](mailto:duman2@aol.com)

**Membership** - Randy Long, 810-599-0384, [Boomerj2@aol.com](mailto:Boomerj2@aol.com)

**Newsletter Editor** - Denise Nash, 248-349-5482, [djnash@comcast.net](mailto:djnash@comcast.net)

**Orchid Festival** - Ann Bommarito & Kevin Griffin

**Orchid Shows** - Alex Challis, Paige Hartman

**Programs** - Paige Hartman, Alex Challis

**Publicity** - Neal Foster

**Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter** - The AAOS meets monthly from September through May (excluding December) at the University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI. at 2:00 p.m., set up at 1:30. The AAOS Newsletter is published 8-9 times throughout the year, and is sent to all AAOS members. AAOS members and others are invited to submit articles or other information relating to orchids. The Ann Arbor Orchid Society is a 501(C)(3) educational and scientific organization, affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Mid-America Orchid Congress, and with the Orchid Digest Corporation.

**REPORT TO MID-AMERICA AFFILIATED SOCIETIES  
MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS  
KANSAS CITY, MO, NOVEMBER 16-19, 2007  
By Doris Asher**

The Fall 2007 Mid-America Orchid Congress, dedicated to the memory of Clif and Vivian Walters, was held November 16-18, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Independence, Missouri. The 117 registrants were hosted by the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City to a well-planned weekend of outstanding speakers, award-winning exhibits and gracious hospitality.

The registrants began the weekend viewing the exhibits while enjoying elegant hors d'oeuvres at the Preview Party. Twelve vendors in the commercial area tempted the party goers. The weekend included a visit to the unique Birds' Botanical greenhouse in a limestone cave. Unusual exhibits included Doug Martin's exhibit of *Lindenia* prints & Beth Martin's display of Moorcroft pottery. The highlight of Saturday's banquet was a serenade by Tom Miranda, an AOS judge from Fairfax, VA, and Smithsonian Institution Museum Specialist for the Orchid Collection.

Attending a Mid-America Orchid Congress is an opportunity to hear internationally recognized speakers. The speakers were: Dr. Richard Warren, the Shirley Burr Moore Memorial Lecture, "Lost Orchids of the Organ Mountains, Brazil". Dr. Warren discussed the permanent loss of species as a result of deforesting an area for commercial purposes. Tom Miranda - "Herding Cats: A Beautiful Trail through Difficult Phylogeny". This very technical subject was presented for general understanding. Tom Miranda explained DNA technology results in an advanced understanding of genera with name changes. James Rose - "Culture & Hybridization of Reedstem Epidendrums. Hybridization has changed epidendrums in both size and color. Tom Harper discussed his experience as a guest lecturer at the 2007 International Phalaenopsis Alliance Symposium in Taiwan.

Tom Larkin chaired the 29 judges in six teams as they evaluated the 500-plus entries in 27 exhibits. The judges awarded the AOS Show Trophy to the exhibit put in by the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City. Fifty-six orchids were evaluated for AOS awards and following eight received them:

1. Blc Red Passion 'Passionate Vision' (Lc Mary Ellen Carter x Blc Owen Holmes) AM/AOS 81 pts, New Vision Orchids (Yorktown, IN)
2. *Cynorchis uniflora* 'Orchid Renaissance' CHM/AOS 81 pts, Chuck Hanson (Glenwood, IA)
3. Slc Yellow Warbler 'Hoosier' (Sc Love Fresh x S cernua) AM/AOS 86 pts, Hoosier Orchids (Indianapolis, IN)
4. Rsc (*Rhynchosophrocattleya*) Mark Koch 'Lone Jack' (Rsc George King x Sc Beaufort) HCC/AOS 79 pts, Alex McConnell (Lonejack, MO)
5. *Cischweinfia sheehaniae* 'Savannah Bird' CCE/AOS 91 pts, David Bird (Birds Botanicals) (Blue Springs, MO)
6. *Oeceoclades roseovariegata* 'Desert Soliloquy' CHM/AOS 84 pts, Steve Marak (Springdale, AR)
7. *Scaphosepalum rapax* 'Hickory Wind' CCM/AOS 88 pts, Glenn Lessenden (Platte City, MO)
8. *Phalaenopsis Sogo Yukidian* 'Iowa' (P Taisuco Kochidian x P Yukimai) AM/AOS 80 pts, Dr Robert Bannister (Iowa Orchids) (Des Moines, IA)

Special Mid-America trophies were also awarded:

1. Mid-America Perpetual Trophy for the most outstanding exhibit by an affiliated society: Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City
2. Clifford and Vivian Walters Award for the best oncidium alliance plant: *Cischweinfia sheehaniae* CCE/AOS owned by David Bird of the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City
3. Memoria Raymond McCullough award for the best epidendrum/encyclia: *Encyclia ciliare vignigeria* owned by Al Martz of St Louis
4. Christine M. Chowning Angraecoid Award for the best angraecoid species: *Angraecum leonis* owned by Judy Elms of Springfield, MO

ACTION TAKEN BY MAOC:

Discussions with Michigan Orchid Society for Spring 2008 MAOC & Lecture Series in conjunct

Continued on page 7.

Continued from page 6.

tion with their Palm Sunday Orchid Show

MAOC application to become 501(c)3 nonprofit organization has been submitted to the IRS  
Conservation grants to 5 projects. Process for requesting grants: submit proposal to Russ  
Vernon, 12661 W SR 32, Yorktown IN 47396; be prepared to report progress

Orchidist of the Year: Beth Martin. Beth was honored for her years of service on the Constitu-  
tion & Bylaws Committee, as Congress Secretary for several years, undertaking the office of  
President during an especially difficult time in the history of the Congress, and, most re-  
cently, stepping up to host this particular Congress when there was no host society.

The auction netted \$2580.

New By-laws & Constitution approved --available on MAOC web-site  
([www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org))

2008-09 Officers:	President	Mark van der Woerd
	1st Vice Pres.	Russ Vernon
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.	Karen McBride
	Secretary	Doris Asher
	Treasurer	Jan Yates

#### INFORMATION FOR LOCAL MAOC ORCHID SOCIETIES

Effective January 1, 2008, show registration tags increase in price to \$30/1000. Order: Dr. Tom  
Ott; 22 Algonquin Lane, St. Louis, MO 63119 (314)961-3088. Check payable: MAOC.

Show Schedule Committee requests all shows send numbers of entries in each class to Barbara  
Nuernberger, 27 Colony Dr., Oberlin, OH 44074

AOS benefits to local societies: \$5 rebated to local society for each new member for AOS – must  
list name of society on membership form; 50% reduction in advertising rates in Orchids for  
societies

The Affiliated Societies Breakfast addressed “Keeping Orchid Society Membership Relevant in To-  
day’s Society.” Items discussed:

An orchid society is an opportunity to discuss with other orchid growers the application of  
culture specific to area;

The importance of welcoming new members-introducing new members to experienced  
growers. Encourage new growers with a Beginners Group as well as a show table lim-  
ited to plants grown by new growers

The importance of quality newsletters

Plan to attend the next Mid-America Orchid Congress. The topic of the Affiliated Societies Break-  
fast will be “Crisis in Leadership”

If the Affiliated Societies Committee can assist your society, please contact us:

Mary Beth Mansour  
20780 Valley Forge Dr.  
Fairview Park, OH 44124  
(440) 333-5364  
[mbmans@cox.net](mailto:mbmans@cox.net)

Doug Hartong  
540 Saddle Lake Dr.  
Rosewell, GA 30071  
(770) 594-7334  
[catmando@mindspring.com](mailto:catmando@mindspring.com)

Doris Asher  
277 N. Hagadorn Rd.  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
(517) 332-000 4  
[asherdoris@juno.com](mailto:asherdoris@juno.com)

Roberta Ginavan  
14025 300<sup>th</sup> Street  
Treyner, IA 51575  
(712) 487-3085  
[ginavan@verizon.net](mailto:ginavan@verizon.net)

## Tricks of the Trade – Trash It or Rescue It?

By Allen Morr – Reprinted from the Illinois OS Newsletter,  
April, 2003

All of us have been faced with the decision to trash an orchid we have nearly killed. If it is a favorite, and you have some patience, often times it can be rescued. If it has not failed due to disease or an onslaught of bugs, remove the orchid from its pot. You will probably discover the roots are rotted or almost non-existent. Wash off all the potting mix, and with sterile scissors or a razor blade, trim away the "mushy" roots. Treat the cuts with a fungicide such as Physan 20, or dust with cinnamon ~ a natural fungicide! Next, wrap a small ball of dampened sphagnum moss (preferably New Zealand sphagnum) around the roots and tuck into the corner of a suitably sized Ziploc bag. Seal the bag and pin a corner to the wall of your greenhouse or growing area where there is plenty of light. Leave the bag tightly closed (watering not necessary) and after 4-6 months you should be rewarded



This cattleya is not quite ready for repotting. Fresh out of it's bag with a new growth, but there are no new roots to help it along!

with new roots.



This oncidium had few good roots. So I unpotted it and trimmed off most of the dead ones. I left a few on to anchor the plant in the bark when I repot it. It has been in a zip-lock bag for 2 months, and it is now ready to be potted (but kept a bit on the dry side).

### AOS UPDATE!

For those of you that have allowed your AOS membership to lapse due to the high cost of membership, take a moment to reconsider. The AOS has a special offer, 2 years of membership (including a \$30 gift certificate on a \$100 purchase from a selection of orchid vendors) for the low price of \$99.95. This offer expires on 3/31/08. See the following Web page for details:  
<http://www.aos.org/aos/MemberLogon/MembershipCategories.aspx>