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# Message from the President



**Serena Tinkerbelle**

Greetings.

Here we are again at the end of another growing season. As we look over our collections we may be amazed at the quantity of orchids we now own! With plenty of opportunities throughout the year to acquire these treasures, either during our yearly show, the internet, fellow members, or our guest speakers, it is hard to turn away from such beautiful plants.

Asking yourself how to store all of our collection for another winter season? I will bite the bullet and cull but it is going to be difficult. Pulling out the less than desirable from my mix. If any of you have to face this daunting task I feel your pain!

Tom Harper of Stones River Orchids will join us this month. Be sure to bring some extra cash to support our guest speaker.

See you at the meeting.

**Jimmy Harwell**  
**President**

# MOS 2015 OFFICERS

<b>PRESIDENT:</b> <b>VICE PRESIDENT &amp; PROGRAMS:</b> <b>TREASURER/Acting Recording Secretary:</b> <b>SECRETARY:</b>	<b>JIMMY HARWELL</b> <b>DAVID POTTS</b> <b>DEBRA BAKER</b> <b>OPEN</b>
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<b>Other Volunteer Functions:</b> <b>HOSPITALITY SECRETARY:</b> <b>GREETERS &amp; ORIENTATION:</b> <b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</b> <b>WEBMASTER AND FACEBOOK:</b> <b>SOCIETY PHOTOGRAPHER:</b> <b>SHOW CHAIRS:</b> <b>PUBLICITY:</b> <b>AOS REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	<b>ELLEN WATSON</b> <b>BILL &amp; NANCY DETLING</b> <b>RORY THEEUWES</b> <b>MELISSA GARNER</b> <b>MARCUS VALENTINE</b> <b>MARK MILLS</b> <b>KATHARINE PERRYMAN</b> <b>CHUCK PINTNER</b>
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## Up Coming Show Schedule Fall 2015:

September 25-27	Chicagoland Orchid Festival Mid-America Orchid Congress	Naperville, IL
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## MEMPHIS ORCHID SOCIETY 2015 CALENDAR

September	27	2:00	Tom Harper	Stones River Orchids Growing Phalaenopsis Orchids
October	25	2:00	Richard Lockwood	Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee The Nutrients Your Orchids Need to Grow
November	22	2:00	Janet Lamborn	Agdia, Inc. Virus and Disease Detection in Orchids
December			<b>HOLIDAY PARTY</b>	



**V. Yip Sum Wah**  
**Source: Melissa Garner**

## **AUGUST MEETING MINUTES**

President Jimmy Harwell opened the meeting welcoming everyone for coming and seeing new faces in the crowd. Refreshments today are provided by Debra Baker, Forrest Brem and Judy Holzer and coffee by Dorothy Goode.

We received acknowledgement of our annual donation to the Atlanta Judging Center. We also submitted our May 2016 Show American Orchid Society Application which has been accepted.

Adrian Giles is downsizing his collection and he has a seedling growing unit, free. The unit is in 2 pieces; light unit and a base. The estimated size is 6 feet high, 4 feet wide and 3 feet deep with lots of jars and stoppers.

We received our first out of town invitation from HODOS (Heart of Dixie Orchid Society) to be held April 1, 2 & 3, 2016 in Huntsville AL. MOS will respond accepting their invitation. Debra also sent out the revised Directory to the Membership via email. Reminder of the Fall MAOC in Naperville, Illinois information was emailed to the membership July 28, 2015.

Marilyn LeDoux will not be coming to the 2016 Memphis Show. If you want to purchase plants she can ship or you can visit her at the St. Louis or Springfield shows. Also, Melissa Garner volunteered to get plants when she attends her monthly Judging Center Student Class.

Congratulations to Debra Baker and Doug Mallory for their awarded plants at the St. Louis Judging meeting on August 8, 2015. The AOS Website is now showing awarded plants. Be sure and visit the site.

Visitors – Mr. and Mrs. White (they have visited before) and Mrs. Jean Claus.

**Show and Tell:**

Randy Bayer - *Catasetum* 'Donna Wise'

Forrest Brem - *Peristeria elata* and *Rodriguezia secunda* x *lanceolata*

Leanne Burton – *Rhyncholaeliocattleya Blast Furnace*, *Chrisnetia Green Light*, Phrag Jason Fischer, Paph Henrietta in the Mist

Fenwick Chappell – *Vanda Yip Sum Wah*

Melissa Garner – *Mexipedium Xerophytican*, *Papillionanda Patricia Low*, *V. Su-Fun Beauty 'Orange Belle'* AM/AOS, *Dendrobium brachescen*, LC Miss Wonderful

Nancy Detling – *Brassolaelia Morning Glory 'Remer'*

Debra Baker – *Epidendrum nocturnum*, *Miltonia Caroline Yellow Splendor 'Lennette #1'*, *Miltonia Honolulu 'Wane's Best'*, *Christensonia vietnamica* x sib, *Laeliocattleya Sylvan Sprite 'Blythe Spirit'*

First Place: Forrest Brem - *Peristeria elata*

Second Place: Forrest Brem - *Rodriguezia secunda* x *lanceolata*

Third Place: Leanne Burton – *Rhyncholaeliocattleya Blast Furnace*

Even though our speaker has plants for sale we held a quick auction on 2 plants donated from Adrian Giles, they were in bloom, if we wait for next the meeting, flowers would be gone. Dr. Chappell also brought in some AOS and Orchid Digest magazines. We then stopped for Refreshments.

Our speaker this month is Kristen Uthus who worked for and then brought New World Orchids from our friend and past speaker Glenn Lehr. She thanked David and Jeannie Potts for their hospitality during her visit. Her presentation was on *Neofinetia falcata* now called *Vanda Falcata*. The Japanese treasure these plants which are enjoyed each day for their form, leaf color being solid green or variegated, roots and flowers. The Japanese grow these in sphagnum moss reporting them every year. There are 2200 forms, they are heat and cold tolerant, blooming once a year.

In ancient times the Rich and Noble (Shogun or Samurai) could only afford these highly collectible plants. Stories abound of fights to protect them or steal them. They would be protected with gold or silver cages. Only the most wealthy or privileged visitors were allowed to see them, and made to hold rice paper over their mouths to protect these precious plants from germs.

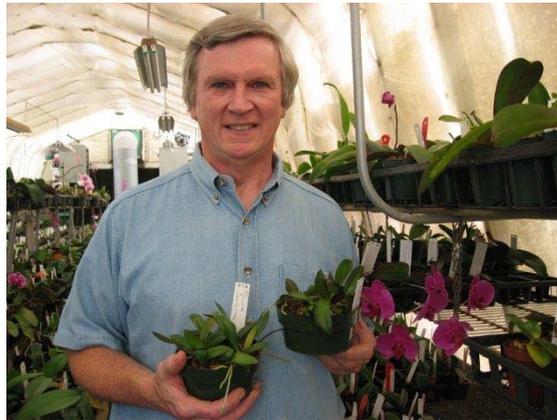
The plants are purchased for their leaf types, roots and plant forms. The plant can produce new growths which may or may not resemble the plant at all this is called morphing. Lighting needs are moderate to low. They are perfect for indoor growing on a windowsill. They are small fairly slow growing plants. They need to dry out between watering (crispy) to stay happy.

Kristen feels that these plants are the easiest to grow and that everyone would be able to grow these successfully. Though these are grown in sphagnum moss, it is believed that using the net pots allow the root to dry between watering. Kristen may even change over and grow these without sphagnum moss – just bare root. For shows or presentations you would add moss then remove. But you can actually grow these in anything you want (mounter, moss, bark or bare root), just be sure that they dry out completely. Do not allow them to stay wet – the roots will rot. Fertilizer weekly, temperature 90's to 30's but not freezing. They do not require a cold period to bloom.

Next month our Speaker will be Tom Harper, *Phalaenopsis* grower extraordinaire. See you then.

Debra  
Acting Recording Secretary

# SPEAKER



## Tom Harper

Tom began growing orchids on a windowsill in 1967. By 1975, he had registered his first orchid hybrid and founded Stones River Orchids as a business. A long-time supporter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress, Tom served as its President, Vice-President and Mid-American Editor (the MAOC newsletter).

Tom is also a founding member of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance (IPA) in 1989 and has served in many responsible positions including Vice President, President, and IPA Journal contributor on many occasions. Currently he serves on the Board of Directors as the Immediate Past President of the Alliance and is the Southeast Region 12 Representative.

He has been an active member in the Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee since 1967 serving as President, Vice President, and Trustee. He is Show Chair for the upcoming Mid America Orchid Congress and Tennessee Capital Orchid Show in Franklin, TN in March of 2015.

Tom assisted in writing and editing the Phalaenopsis species section of the soft cover Ortho book entitled Complete Guide to Orchids. He has written several articles on Phalaenopsis for Orchids, Orchid Digest and the IPA Journal. Recently he assisted in editing Phalaenopsis – The Genus in Pictures to be released by the IPA in the spring of 2015.

Tom has traveled coast to coast and internationally speaking on various aspects of Phalaenopsis. Tom lectured at the 16th World Orchid Conference in 1996 in Brazil, and the 19th WOC in January 2008 in Miami. Additionally, he was invited to speak in March 2005 and again in 2007 at the Taiwan International Orchid Show and Symposium in Hsinying, Taiwan, Republic of China. He returned to Taiwan in 2010 and plans to travel there again soon. Most recently, he spoke at the 15th Annual International Phalaenopsis Alliance meeting in the United Kingdom in June 2009.

In 2008, he received his first FCC/AOS on Dtps. Brother Success, 'Laura' (The highest award given by the American Orchid Society) at the Heart of Dixie Show in Huntsville, Alabama.

He has been an accredited American Orchid Society judge since 1984 and is based in the Atlanta Judging Center. In the fall of 2014, he moved to Senior Judge after 30 years as an active judge.



**Bc. Hoku Gem 'Super Spots'**  
**Source: Melissa Garner**

## **VISITOR AND MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

We welcomed three visitors to our August Meeting. Mary White and her husband are repeat visitors. Mary is a Master Gardener who visited last year in November and also in November of 2010. We were happy to see you back.

Jean Klaus is a first time visitor. She had acquired a Phalaenopsis and wanted to learn how to care for it. David Potts determined it needed repotting. Since she had the orchid with her, David took it home, repotted it and returned it to her that afternoon. Jean told me she is an African Violet grower. I was also before buying that first purple phal. I suspect a lot of us started with African Violets before discovering orchids. Jean, we wish you luck with your orchid and hope it won't be your only one.

See you all Sunday.  
Bill and Nancy

# FALL MEETING OF THE MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS

Naperville, IL  
September 25-27, 2015

The Mid-America Orchid Congress fall meeting coincides with the Chicagoland Orchid Festival. This festival is held at two commercial greenhouses, Orchids by Hausermann and Natt's Orchids. MAOC registration will include transportation to visit both Orchid Fest venues on Saturday. Registrants can shop for orchids from a vast array of plants for sale by the host greenhouses as well as "guest growers," and enjoy presentations by world-renowned orchid specialists.

If you prefer to visit the Orchid Fest on your own, plan to join us Saturday evening for the ever-popular and entertaining Mid-America auction, followed by a casual dinner and another orchid lecture (advance reservations required) at the Chicago Marriott Naperville (1801 North Naper Boulevard, Naperville, IL 60563). AOS judging and all other MAOC activities will be held at the Marriott. For more information, contact Beth and Doug Martin at [bethdoug@kc.rr.com](mailto:bethdoug@kc.rr.com).

Here is a tentative schedule of activities:

## Friday, September 25

4:00 – 7:00 pm	MAOC Registration
5:00 – 7:00 pm	MAOC Executive Committee meeting
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Meetings of other MAOC Committees

## Saturday, September 26

8:00 – 8:30 am	MAOC Registration
8:30 am	Bus leaves Marriott for Hausermann's
11:00 am	Bus leaves Hausermann's for Marriott
12:00 – 1:30 pm	AOS judging at Marriott (Optional: Attendees may order lunch from the Marriott restaurant)
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch on your own
1:30 pm	Bus leaves Marriott for Natt's (Departure may be delayed if AOS judging is not concluded)
4:00 pm	Bus leaves Natt's for Marriott
5:00 – 5:30 pm	Mid-America Auction preview (Cash bar)
5:30 – 7:00 pm	Mid-America Auction
7:30 pm	Pizza party and speaker

## Sunday, September 27

7:30 – 9:00 am	Affiliated Societies Breakfast "Mentoring Members to Assume New Roles Within Your Society"
9:00 – 11:00 am	Mid-America Business Meeting
3:00 pm	Chicagoland Orchid Festival closes

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Make your reservations at the Chicago Marriott Naperville before September 4, 2015 to get the MAOC rate of \$104 plus tax. You can call the hotel at (630) 505-4900 or click the link below:

[Book your group rate for Mid America Orchid Congress](#)



**Peristeria elata**  
**Orchid of the Month**  
**Forrest Brem**



**Rodriguezia lanceolata**  
**August Show and Tell 2nd Prize**  
**Forrest Brem**

## **MOS Announcements:**

**Name Tag.** If you would like a Memphis Orchid Society Name Tag, the cost is \$8.00 for a pin tag and \$10.00 for a magnet tag. See Debra Baker

**Fertilizer** is now available at \$4.50 per bag. See Debra Baker

## 2015 MOS REFRESHMENT VOLUNTEERS

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SWEETS</b>	<b>SAVORIES</b>	<b>DRINKS</b>
January 25	Nancy Detling	Cynthia Spangler & Ruth Williams	Randy Bayer
February 22	Fay LeVine	Doug Mallory	Andrea Price
March 22	Dixie Henderson	Mark Mills	David Potts
April 26	Sue Hall	Laura Evans	Marc Valentine
May	<b>SHOW – NO REGULAR MEETING</b>		
June 28	La Nelle Lindsey	Ellen Watson	Ellen Watson
July 26	Emily Linn	Linda & George Bond	Hunter Shepard
August 23	Forrest Brem	Debra Baker	Judy Holzer
September 27	Emily Linn & Hunter Shepard	Carlos Rivera	Don & Rory Theeuwes
October 25	Dorothy Goode	Ronnie & Susan Young	Sue Hall
November 22	Leanne Burton	Paul & Melissa Garner	Don & Rory Theeuwes
December	<b>Holiday Party</b>		

# TIPS & TRICKS

## Dosing System

(Courtesy of: Melissa Garner)



I don't know about y'all, but I have been on the lookout for a better dosing system that has a gentle stream rather than the harsh spray from the Gilmour. Most systems are either cumbersome or expensive.

I got the idea to hunt around on the internet to see if I could find someone who modified the Gilmour. Voila! I found a blog where someone took the Gilmour and added a Melnor wand with tubing and got it to work.

I modified his by using braided vinyl, but I had to use a heat gun to stretch it and I went outside the wand tube and clamped rather than inside and clamp. I felt I would have fewer leakage issues.

Also, I ran a test on mine and at the "10" setting, I am getting 4oz per gallon so that tells me that my Gilmour is either dirty or my water pressure is not 60PSI. Probably is more like 45 or 50 PSI.

Now I don't have to worry about damaging my orchid flowers with a harsh spray.

Here is the link: <http://forums2.gardenweb.com/.../cheap-fertilizer-injector-m...>

Here are the parts you need.

Melnor wand (available at Home Depot) \$8

5/8" OD / 3/8" ID Braided Vinyl - a short piece about 3" (I had to buy a 10' roll, but you can find smaller pieces if you look) \$10 for the entire roll.

2 metal clamps (size 7/8" and 1") - \$2

Gilmour Professional no remix sprayer (remove the black tip)

Heat gun or a flame. Heat gun is safer.

Big needle nose pliers

Flathead screwdriver

Unscrew the handle from the Melnor wand to reveal the metal end tube. This is where you will slide the tube on and clamp.

You need to use a heat gun and a pair of big needle nose pliers to stretch the tube. Try to stretch only the side that will slip onto the wand and not the Gilmour nozzle.

Try to get a tight fit but make sure you get the tube well over the notch that is in the metal so that you don't get a spray leak.

Slide the larger clamp onto the tube and tighten with a flathead screwdriver.

Slide the smaller clamp onto the tube (it will be snug)

Slide the other end of the tube onto the Gilmour nozzle (make sure to remove the black directional tip).

Tighten the clamp.

Done and ready to test.

To avoid blowback spray, you can use the shower, the full, or the stream setting on the wand. Other settings will cause a spray blowback from the Gilmour pressure release.

Test your fertilizer by filling the sprayer to 10oz setting. Set your TBSP dial to "10." The TBSP setting means you have to remove the little brass reducer on the top of the dial. Set the wand on the shower mode and spray into a one gallon container or bucket. When you hit one gallon, look at the oz setting. If you have standard 60 PSI water pressure, you will have used 5 oz per gallon (mine tested at 4 oz per gallon). This will give you the baseline for your fertilizer strength.

Cheap and easy!

Melissa Garner