

Memphis Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

April 2013

www.memphisorchids.org



Carter & Holmes
Chuck Pintner

Wild, Weird, &
Wonderful Orchids
Peter Lin

AOS Affiliated
Lynn Fuller

Angraecum germinyanum
Photo courtesy of Peter Lin

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Forrest Brem

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AOS Representative
Charles Pintner

President's Column

Now that spring is finally here, the 2013 season of the Memphis Orchid Society is well underway. Now that most of the heavy lifting has been taken care of (thanks in large part to VP Jim Harwell putting together our speaker series, and our show committee's organization of our show), there's just the final preparations for the show when we can relax a bit and let the events of the year unfold. I don't have a lot to report from the Orchid Office other than an update passed on to me by Mrs. Kathrine Perryman about signage for the show. Memphis Botanic Garden is unsure that the new electronic sign will be ready for the show. If it is, we can use it free of charge. If it is not, we can use our old sign, however, we will need to come up with some sort of supporting structure to display it. We can discuss it at the meeting. Other than that, we have some great programs on the horizon and it looks to be another great year for us.

On a related note, we have been blessed with a better than average number of visitors and potential new members, and I have been very pleased with all the thought and good faith everyone put forth to make our visitors and new members feel welcome. Great job everyone, hopefully our efforts will culminate in the continued growth of our society. Keep it up everyone, I see all of our hard work is constantly paying off by improving our already great Society.

Finally, I've been thinking a lot about the Show and Tell part of our meeting, and by comparing what we do with what other societies do, I began to develop a thought. Here goes. All of us come to the meetings for certain reasons, and seeing cool orchids is top among those reasons for many of us, and while our Show and Tells are always great, I think there's room for improvement. I have a feeling that some of us do not bring in orchids for show and tell because we have large, diverse collections and "regret" winning that trophy at the expense of another member with a younger, smaller, or less diverse collection. On the other hand, I'd bet a lot of plants never make it to show and tell because of the thought, "How could my plant compete with those growers who always win?" I was thinking of increasing the amount of plants at Show and Tell by creating two divisions of competitions, one for "newer growers and small collections" and one for "experienced growers with larger collections". Just something to think about and discuss later. That's all for now, see you this weekend!!!

Forrest Brem

Memphis Orchid Society 2013 Calendar

1/27 'The Judge, The Hunter, The Thief, and The Black Orchid'
Film

2/24 Ernie from Enlightened Orchids - Growing Orchids the Enlightened
Way'Growing Under Fluorescent Lights

3/24 Orchid Swap, Sell & Auction

4/28 Peter Lin from Diamond Orchids

May 17-19 Memphis Orchid Society Show and Sale
Orchids Around the World

6/23 Dr. Forrest Brem - Green Growers and New Members
Appreciation / Orientation Day

7/28 Dr. Martin Motes - A Bright Future for Vandas

8/25 Art Chadwick From Chadwick and Sons Orchids - 'First Ladies and their
Cattleyas 1929 to present'

9/22 Linda Wilhelm - The Magnificent Stanhopeas

10/27 Harry Phillips from Andy's Orchids

11/24 Tom Mirenda – Smithsonian Institute

12/8 Christmas Party

Wild, Weird, and Wonderful Orchids

a portrait of oddities in the Orchid world

Peter T. Lin will be presenting a talk on: Wild, Weird, and Wonderful Orchids. This fast paced PowerPoint Presentation will take you on a journey of some of the world's most strange, bizarre, yet wonderful orchid species! From Bulbophyllums to Zootrophion, there is much diversity in Orchid flowers. We'll take a look at Orchid flowers that have wild colors, have crazy lips, or are fringed, hairy, or just alien looking!

Peter started growing orchids over 25 years ago, but then stopped due to school and starting a career. It wasn't until about ten years ago that the orchid "bug" came back and he is now heavily involved once again. He is an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society and a hybridizer of Mini-Catts. He enjoys meeting with other orchid enthusiasts, and can often be found at various orchid shows and societies around the country. He also has thousands of photos of his orchids that he maintains on Flickr. You can view them by typing this address into the internet:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/minicatt/collections/>



Masdevallia erinacea

Photo courtesy of Peter Lin

Due to limited growing space, Peter likes to specialize in Miniature Orchids, both species and hybrids, and has received numerous AOS awards. His other interests in orchids include Dendrobiums, Angraecoids, and Neofinetias. He maintains a collection of a thousand or more orchids at his home in Southern California in three small greenhouses, as well as in the house under fluorescent lights. Peter will be bringing an assortment of plants for sale. You can also pre-order off his catalog and receive a 10% discount. The catalog can be downloaded from his website: www.diamondorchids.com

Lin.petert@yahoo.com or call: 909-573-6751



Bulbophyllum tingabarinum
Photo courtesy of Peter Lin

Wheather It's Cold...

For those of us who grow our orchids outside in the summer here in the Memphis area, it's time to prepare your outside growing areas.

Remember that tender foliage subject to filtered windowsill light or artificial lighting will be sensitive to direct sunlight. Even your high light tolerant plants will burn if not protected, just ask me. I try to make my initial introduction to the elements when the weather forecast is for cloud cover and rain. Also, even if long term temperature projections are for warmer nights, i.e. in the 50's or above, be watchful of our crazy Memphis area temperature fluctuations.

I've already moved some of my more cold tolerant Dendrobiums out doors but have had to protect them this past week when night temperatures in the high 30's and low 40's were predicted. The mostly cloudy weather we've had this past week is helping to harden them to the brighter outdoor light.

Checking the Memphis area weather history shows normal temperatures to range from the low of 55 deg at night with daytime highs of 75 for the rest of April. May averages are for the lows between the mid 50's and low 60's with highs around 78 at the beginning of the month going up to the mid 80's by the end of the month.

A May record low of 35 was recorded on 5/29/1989.

Chuck Pintner

Carter & Holmes Order

Carter and Holmes Orchids offers orchid societies discounts of 25% a small handling and shipping charge for group orders shipped to one address. If we can get enough orders together I will be happy to handle the transactions. If you don't have a current C&H catalog you can view it on line at www.carterandholmes.com.

After you make your selections please email them to me at chuckpsinbox-orchids@yahoo.com. Include catalog name and number with any included letters as well as the pot size if noted.

If you have any questions please contact me at 901 755-7742.

**Thanks,
Chuck Pintner**

Debra Talk\$ Money & Trophy Sponsorships

If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2013, it is that time again. Dues are \$25.00 per family and you can renew with a check or cash. If you won't be at the meeting you can mail it to me at 3617 Graves Road, Memphis, TN 38116. Your renewal includes the Monthly Newsletter, Meeting and Guest Speaker reminders, upcoming out of town shows, and the occasional informational emails.

Also 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.

Trophy Sponsorship information:

Members please note that I need to have all sponsors received by may 3rd so that the Show Brochures can be printed.

Memphis Orchid Members - Trophy Sponsorships:

If you haven't reserved your spot for one (or more) trophy's in our coming show this year, there is still time to do so! The minimum donation to sponsor a Trophy is \$25 and can be made in honor of or in memory of or anonymous.

The continued support we receive from you all helps to keep us from operating in the red! You can mail your payment now or pay at the April meeting. Check or cash will be accepted along with how you want the trophy sponsorship to read.

For the Members who have already made a donation Thank You.

**I'll see you at the meeting!
Debra Baker**

March Meeting Minutes



March's meeting began with refreshments and The Annual Orchid Swap.

2012 accounting records were discussed and were available for viewing.

May Orchid show was discussed concerning the display, food, and trophy sponsorship.

The New Orleans Orchid Show will be added this year which takes place two weeks after our Memphis May Show.

Cattleya repotting for the Memphis Botanic Garden will take place on 4/13/13. Volunteers need to contact Paul.

Memphis African Violet Show will held at the Whispering Woods Hotel in Olive Branch MS on May 11 & 12, 2013.

Chuck Pintner suggested placing an order with Carter & Holmes which can qualify for a 25% discount if minimum \$\$ amount is reached. Please contact Chuck via email if interested.

Show & Tell winner Dr Forrest Brem with his Paph. Delrosi.

Paul Garner



AOS Affiliated

Welcome to the newly elected members of the Board of Trustees of AOS. At the Members' meeting held in March in San Diego, California, Fred Clarke was re-elected to the Board of Trustees for a three year period and Harry Gallis, David Toyoshima, and Carol Zoltowski were newly elected for the same three year period. For more information on these new Trustees' background information may be found on the AOS website. In addition, Alan Koch, Tom Etheridge, and Linda Wilhelm are the outgoing Trustees.

In addition at the Trustees and Members Meeting, Frank and Taylor Slaughter of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, each received separate AOS Silver Medals for their dedicated service to the AOS. Taylor for her service to the AOS judging system, as the first chair of the Governance Committee and service as a member of the Board of Trustees in various capacities for a number of years. Frank received his award for his service to the technology needs of the AOS. Direct-mail marketing assistance for AOS Affiliated Societies' Shows is available the purpose of promoting the shows, seminars, and special society events via direct mail from the AOS's Membership Services Department. Please contact AOS well in advance of your anticipated mailing with the states, countries, or zip or postal code ranges you are interested in obtaining. While this service is free of charge to affiliated societies, AOS would appreciate a donation to help defray costs associated with producing and mailing these lists (if print copies are requested). Contact the Society's Membership Services Department at 305-740-2010.

Interesting Orchid Hybrid Trivia from AOS Website

The total number of grex names in the register is currently 154,660 (as of now). This figure increases daily. Each year The International Orchid Register adds between 3000-4000 new hybrids.

The most popular genera for hybrids are:

Phalaenopsis — 31,382

Paphiopedilum — 23,871

Cymbidium — 14,688

Dendrobium — 11,910

So far there are about 2349 hybrid generic names, but not all of these are in use.

There are about 5,600 species involved in hybridization.

Lynn Fuller, Chair

AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

AOS Checklist

May & June

Cattleya

The last of the spring-flowering types -- those that flower from a ripened hard pseudobulb -- will be finishing, while the first summer-blooming types will be showing buds on their rapidly growing, soft pseudobulbs. Both may need potting, as signaled by deteriorating mix, this month. The spring bloomers present no problems, as you will be dealing with fully ripe, well-hardened pseudobulbs. They will be ready to root on the mature front pseudobulb and will establish quickly. The summer bloomers, will be brittle and may be in bud. Nonetheless, experienced growers know that unless potted now, they may not root later, as this type tends to be seasonal in its rooting behavior. Stake the lead growth to avoid breakage. May can still present some changing light conditions that can lead to burning of the foliage if the plants have not been properly acclimatized. Allow them to build up their tolerance to higher light gradually. Changing light and temperatures can also be the source of some frustration when trying to determine when plants need watering. While cattleyas will be entering into a period of rapid growth starting this month, they have still not built up sufficient momentum to be significantly slowed by your missing a day or two of watering owing to dark weather. As always, it is safer to err on the dry side than on the wet. It is important, though, especially to the summer bloomers. Too much shade will cause rapidly developing inflorescences to droop unattractively.

Paphiopedilum

The Paphiopedilum Maudiae types will be well into their season now, so a careful eye should be used toward staking. Do not be too anxious to stake, however. Many of this type, if staked too soon, will develop nodding flowers that do not face the observer. It is better to allow the flowers to ripen naturally, then support the spike right below the ovary for best display. This is especially common in Paphiopedilum fairrieanum-derived hybrids. If you have to do something when you first see the emerging spikes, just put the stake in the pot next to the spiking growth. Not only will this help you, but you will be able to see where the spikes are, so you can continue to pay attention to their development. The multifloral types will be entering their most active growth phase, so lots of light, water and fertilizer are called for to mature their large growths. Many will be spiking in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for the emerging inflorescences. These may benefit from earlier staking than most, as the inflorescences grow so quickly in some cases that they can be quite soft. Again, best support is right below the ovary of the first flower. This will allow the most natural presentation of the blooms.

Phalaenopsis

Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for potting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior. The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant. This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on Doritis background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the summer season. Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne pathogens and viral contamination. Phalaenopsis are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

Contributed by Chuck Pintner