



Orchid News
Kentucky Orchid Society, Inc.
March 2022
Louisville, KY

Newsletter Editor: Michelle Berry, michorchid22@gmail.com

The President's Corner

From the President:

As I write this, it is cold and rainy and it makes me really long for Spring! I can't wait to put my orchids outside where I'm certain they will be much, much happier. Since I don't have a greenhouse (or even very much good window space and light) my babies need to get outside. I hope all of your plants are doing well, whether they are in your house or in a greenhouse. Please be sure to send photos of your blooming plants to Jan for posting on the KOS website and to Pam and Debbie for Show & Tell. Even if you send photos "for display" and not to be judged for awards, we still want to see them!

Our March 9th meeting will be on Zoom. The meeting will open up at 6:15 pm for social time and we will start the business meeting at 6:30 pm. The meeting link is below and I hope to see all of you there!

KOS Admin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: KOS Admin's Zoom Meeting

Time: Mar 9, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88131098759?pwd=TXNuT1VoYjI3TVZzaVZKU0x3M29UUT09>

Meeting ID: 881 3109 8759

Passcode: 412247

Deanna Day, President

Deanna7736@yahoo.com

The Vice President's Corner

From the Vice President:

March: the difficult to deal with month, transition from winter to spring according to the calendar at least, unsettled weather certainly here in the Ohio River valley. Looking through some old Orchid magazines, Dr. Miranda called it 'the quisquos' month. As a writer he likes words and is enthralled with a word with two q's in. The latter is relative when you have one q in your last name!

It is the time to start thinking and planning for repotting your orchids. March and April are the best

months for repotting, before they go to ‘summer camp’ outside! Observe your plants and when the roots are the right length, repotting will reward you with strong growth resulting in good flowering.

We all look forward to this month not only can we all be Irish for a day, but finally the days really lengthen, we have to spring forward with our clocks and the spring bulbs in the garden will start their yearly show. Once this month is passed, we are looking forward to orchid shows and as you all know there are two scheduled in our area for April, being: ‘Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society’ show the second weekend of the month and the ‘Central Indiana Orchid Society’ show the fourth weekend of the month. I’m sure we are all looking forward to these shows after such a long ‘interruption’!

We are still meeting via Zoom and this month’s speaker will be Maurice Garvey who will be telling us about growing orchids in an orchidarium. See attached bio.

I still plan another Zoom speaker for April and we all hope that by then we can review the pandemic, so far, all the data are pointing in the right direction. The month of May could bring about a long awaited change!?

After this month’s meeting I will send out instructions for ordering from our last vendor, our February choice, being <https://orchidinnusa.com/> , Sam Tsui.

Stay healthy and safe, happy orchid growing.

Anne-Marie Blancquaert.

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Bio Maurice Garvey, our March speaker:

Maurice has been growing orchids for over 42 years. He started growing on his apartment’s west facing windowsill. Floral carts were another experiment that did yield much success. After the floral cart experiments Maurice built his first enclosed growing area. Clearly, this environment was successful for growing all those things that require 50% humidity all year. For the last 20 years, Maurice has been

growing in commercially manufactured Orchidariums, growing many species and hybrids with tremendous success and having numerous plants in flower most days of the year.

In Maurice’s presentation, he discusses many facets of growing in a contained environment, globe, tank or orchidarium. He explains why some things must be one way and that other variables in the overall environment are not as critical as he once thought. He is currently modifying his cases for LED lighting. Over the years, Maurice has won AOS awards, many show ribbons and did co-chair many award-winning show exhibits. In addition, Maurice is an award photographer for the American Orchid Society’s North East Judging Center in New Jersey, he has served on several American Orchid Society committees, is a past President of the Manhattan Orchid Society and he has served in many other Board positions for the Manhattan Orchid Society and the Greater New York Orchid Society.

Maurice has always grown in an apartment and says that growing in an apartment is a challenge; however growing orchids in cases or terrariums opens the door to possibilities unavailable to the windowsill grower. He urges all orchid growers to try this method of growing.

Currently, Maurice is concentrating on Asian terrestrials, Dendrobiums, Phalaenopsis species and Bulbophyllum.

Minutes

KOS VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2022

We had 18 attendees. The minutes of the January meeting were approved and seconded as presented in the newsletter. The Treasurer's report was presented by Linda Solley-Kanipe and was approved by the membership present.

Old Business:

Dues for 2022, \$25. President Day asked that we please send a check to Linda or pay on Venmo (@KOSadmin). Dues are due by March 1, 2022. Once paid you can pick up your club project plant from Jan or Pam.

New Business:

1. President Day suggested we continue virtual meetings. We may consider in-person meetings as Covid subsides. Right now, it's too early to decide.

2. President Day asked for discussion on attending the upcoming Cincinnati Show. It was agreed that our club would attend and put up a display. S. Benjamin & P. LaRocco will setup our display and Jan Smith will collect plants in her greenhouse for the event. J Crafts and S. Locascio volunteered to return plants on close of show on Sunday.

3. United Church of Christ has sent a contract for this year to use their facility for in person meetings. The club voted to sign the contract so that we would have a place to meet. The new monthly charges are \$150 a month – 3 times what they use to be. We will have to set up our own chairs, video screen etc. and have limited use of the kitchen facilities. S. Locascio & J. Crafts will be investigating a new location while we are holding on to the Church.

4. Our Vendor of the month is Natt's Orchids. Our order has been placed. S. Benjamin will pick up the orders the last weekend of Feb. They will be at Jan's Greenhouse for pickup by members. Sam Tsui will be our vendor of the month for March. We will use his website to order.

5. President Day has listed dates for upcoming shows & Events:

Cincinnati Show: April 9 & 10 – we will attend.

Central Indiana Orchid Society show: April 23-24 – will decide next meeting.

Locust Grove Fair: May 13-15 – we voted to attend, L. Solley to chair.

Home & Garden Show, Louisville: May 20-22 – we voted NOT to attend

MVOS Orchid Fest: Aug. 26-27 -Virtual

Chicagoland Orchid Fest: Sept. 23-25-Virtual

6. Nopes has been accepted as an affiliated Society of AOS. D. Day has their schedule of events for 2022 and a membership form too.

7. JANUARY Speaker: Shared with MVOS. Manny Aiybar speaking on "Tolumnias of Dominican Republic"

SHOW & TELL: Not held because of time.

PLANT RAFFLE: 5 Winners were drawn this month. Pick up your plants at Jan Smith's House.

Meeting Adjourned.

Sal Locascio, Recording Secretary
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Show & Tell Winners for February 2022

Topmiller:

1st Place: *phalaenopsis* (unknown pink) - Heidi Boel

2nd Place: *phalaenopsis* (unknown Purple) – Heidi Boel

Fanelli:

1st Place: *phalaenopsis* – *shillerinana* – Stu Fleischaker

2nd Place: (*rhyncostylis gianiyea*” Spot “ x *rhyncostylis* Makrsuranalee) – Janet Crafts

There were a few errors in the January Show & Tell plant descriptions. Here are the corrections:

Topmiller:

1st Place: *dendrobium* [Den.] Buttercup (Den. Rolfeae x Den. *signatum*) – Larry Atwell

2nd Place: *cattleya* [C.] Valda (1901) *cattleya* [(syn sic. Sl.) Valda (1901) *cattleya* x *brassavola nodosa* - Deanna Day

Fanelli:

1st Place: *oncidium* Tsuki Ctt. Mauquerite – Karen Bloom

2nd Place: *catasetum* unknown - Larry Atwell
Tie

2nd Place: *Epicatanthe* [Ett.] ‘Volcano Queen’ (Ctt’ Trick or Treat x Epi *stamfordianum*) - Jan Smith

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www.kyorchidsociety.com or on Facebook
at Kentucky Orchid Society

Did my *Paphiopedilum* ‘Song of Love’ forget it is blooming?

From Anne-Marie Blancquaert

Paphiopedilum ‘Song of Love’ was purchased in 2009 from Carter & Holmes as a small plant in a 2.5” pot. It is a primary hybrid between *Paph. liemianum* x *Paph. lowii*. Belongs to the section of ‘Multiflorals’. *Paph. liemianum* belongs to the subgenus Cochlopetalum and *Paph. lowii* to the subgenus Polyantha and together with *Paph. lynniae* and *Paph. richardianum* makes up the *Paphiopedilum lowii* Complex¹.

It bloomed for the first time in 2013 one spike with three flowers. It waited two years to bloom, again one spike with three flowers. It bloomed next in 2016 and 2018 with one spike with two flowers, took two years off and in 2021 gave one spike with four flowers at least that was what I thought would happen.



Pictures taken on the 23rd of August 2021

To our surprise the flower spike which started in August of 2021 kept on growing and as a successive bloomer, it did not stop at four flowers. By October a second spike appeared and started blooming. The first spike is still going strong in January 2022, I had to tape two stakes together to support the spike and place the round clear 4.5” plastic pot in a heavier clay pot to keep it upright. It’s kind of ‘top heavy’! We are now on flower seven with eight and nine as buds being present; and on the second spike we have flower three still open and four and five as buds visible.



By the 10th of November 2021 the first spike was on its fifth flower and the second spike's first flower opened up.

It was rather challenging to take pictures. My black posterboard as background is not high enough and moving this plant from the greenhouse to the house for picture taking is another challenge as you can see on the picture with the pink yardstick, the spike is taller than the yardstick. Furthermore, they do not like the temperature (cold) difference from greenhouse, garage, house and back.



Black tablecloth hung over top cabinet doors till ground. Place plant on ground, yardstick next to it and try to take decent picture! Picture was taken on the 13th of January 2022. At that time, the first spike had still 6th and 7th flower open. The second spike had 1st, 2nd and 3rd flower still open.

I have no idea what is going on, why the plant decided to do this.

How do I grow it?

The greenhouse is a lean-to to the garage hence it is 24 feet long by six feet deep and east facing. (The north side of the greenhouse is a brick wall insulated with two-inch-thick styrofoam). The plant is in the north east corner so in the fall before the heating system goes on there is a time of cooler temperatures which helps to initiate flower spikes, together with a day-night time drop of at least 10°F. It is also the warmer section of the greenhouse when the greenhouse is heated because of the insulation on the north facing brick wall and the fact that the heating system enters the greenhouse from the north side. (It is an intermediate to warm grower). Greenhouse thermostat settings in winter are 55°F at night and 68°F during the day. There are two sensors in the greenhouse (SensorPush)² which allows me to monitor and record the temperature and the humidity via an App on the cell phone. They love brighter light which is provided by LED in winter (can take between 2000-3000 fc, like Cattleyas), good air movement provided by fans and supplemented with crushed eggshells for extra calcium (I'm using rain water for watering which is Ca²⁺ poor). A great publication about calcium and magnesium as micro nutrients for orchids in general can be found in this link from the St Augustine orchid society:

<https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/CalciumAndMagnesiumbySueBottom.pdf>

Potted in a clear round plastic pot (as mentioned above) in Waldor medium³, kept moist during the growing months and cut back on water in the winter months. I use release fertilizer (add in spring) and MSU fertilizer at quarter strength twice a month during growing period, cut back in winter to once a month.

All the Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums did not spent the summer outside last summer, reason is twofold: better control of light since some do require higher light and protection from a critter (never caught the culprit in the act!) which the year before bit off the majority of the flower buds from *Paph. spicerianum* when outside.

Currently the plant looks very healthy and the flowers are developing normal. New shots are there with the potential for blooming the next season, whenever this next season will be. Not sure how this will progress other than what it has been doing since August of last year.

Happy orchid growing!
Anne-Marie Blancquaert

References:

1. **The Genus Paphiopedilum.** A treatise on the conduplicate-leafed slipper orchids of Asia. Guido J. Braem (in collaboration with Sandra L. Öhlund).
2. SensorPush greenhouse temperature and humidity sensors (via Amazon).
3. Waldor medium, Frank A. Off bought his greenhouses from the Waldor Corporation in England in the 1952. The company requested and he complied to use the name Waldor to his outfit, to give them overseas exposure for their business. Experienced in Paphiopedilum growing they came up with their own medium which consist of: "*Fine and Medium fir bark, charcoal, sponge rock, and our secret mix of organic materials.*" More information at <https://www.orchidnerd.com/> and <https://www.waldor.com/>