

**Annual Meeting of Members, Wichita, Kansas  
Saturday April 28, 2012 — 9:00 am**

**Chris Rehmann, President — Presiding**

Trustees and Committee Chairs are reminded that your attendance is required at Saturday's Annual Meeting. Additionally, Committee Chairs' reports at the Annual Meeting must be brief capsulizations of your group's efforts for the past year, and not item-by-item summaries of your Committee's meeting(s). Thank you for your cooperation.

**Call to order** **Chris Rehmann**

**Proof of due notice of meeting** **Karen McBride**

Proof of due notice was contained in the February issue of Orchids.

**Declaration of quorum** **Karen McBride**

**Annual report of President** **Chris Rehmann**

I view things differently about the current status of the AOS.

My business began in a two-car garage that was no more than 600 square feet with three full-time people and a two-man survey crew, with files, prints, map files, desks, even some chairs.

AOS began in no more ostentatious facilities at Harvard.

We are in the process of re-birth of the AOS.

We have an advantage over Gordon Dillon in that:

- Our "Orchids" magazine is a premier publication.
- Our judging system is one of, if not the premier system in the world.
- Our history is full and rich with "content" which we will begin sharing.
- We have a gift from Jeff Bradley, which will be fully paid by Jeff that will allow us to post searchable copies of the *Bulletin* and *Orchids* magazines to the Members Only section of our website.
- Our new relationship with Fairchild is in its infancy and will be a huge benefit to the AOS.
- Our financial issues have been resolved and corrected so that we are in complete conformance with our non-profit status.
- We are reorganizing our AOS staff. This is a great opportunity to inject new spirit and energy into the AOS.

We are not done – we are just beginning our rebirth. I am happy to say that our new slate of officers and trustees come with many talents to add to the great group of people who have supported me in these last two years.

Sandy, I see the Society as beginning its re-birth. I feel fully confident that you and your team of officers and trustees will begin a new strategic process. The Society cannot be what was. The world has changed – so must we.

You have my full support because we both love and hold dearly the American Orchid Society.

**Annual report of Treasurer**

**Peter Furniss**

While much has been done, a great deal more is left to accomplish. In the past two years the AOS has sold its buildings and property in Delray Beach and relocated to Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Coral Gables, Florida. The society has no debt and Ron McHatton has just hired Melana Davison to fill the vacancy the society has had for so long in accounting.

What needs to happen now is to overhaul the accounting system to accurately portray the AOS as it exists now and for the future. Internal controls need to be reviewed and updated to ensure the members, as well as the society's auditors, are comfortable with all of the financial details of the day to day operations. The society must adhere to the rules and regulations of its corporate domicile or relocate. This refers to its legal home, not physical.

Other reports will outline the problems the society faces with membership decline which is the lifeblood of the AOS, dwindling advertising revenue for Orchids, and lessening contributions - particularly unrestricted.

Costs have been closely monitored such that the operating losses this year have not ballooned when money from admissions and the retail store ceased. I deeply appreciate the countless number of hours Ron McHatton has worked to cover just about every facet of the operation, in particular acting chief financial officer.

Your new Treasurer will find a multitude of areas to tackle in order that the AOS flourish at its new home. Please give her your support.

**Annual reports of Standing Committees:**

**Report of the Research Committee**  
No written report submitted.

**Dr. Carol Zoltowski**

**Report of the Conservation Committee-**  
See attached report.

**David Horak**

**Report of the Library/Archives Committee** Dr. John Ingram  
No written report submitted.

**Report of the Publications Committee** Greg Allikas  
No written report submitted.

**Report of the Information Committee** Ted Kellogg  
No written report submitted.

**Report of the Membership Committee** Barbara Noe  
No written report submitted.

**Report of the Judging Committee** Dr. Harry Gallis  
No written report submitted.

**Report of the Education Committee** Sandra Svoboda  
See attached report.

**Report of the Governance Committee** Taylor Slaughter  
No written report submitted.

**Report of the Development Committee** Norman Fang  
No written report submitted.

**Presentation of certificates to retiring Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairs**

**Election of Officers and Trustees**

**Call for related business to come before members Chris Rehmann**

**Report of Nominating Committee** Tom Etheridge

**Report of proxies** Karen McBride

We have received 684 proxies for the slate and 24 proxies against the slate nominated. In addition, there are 25 additional votes in the meeting for the slate. Four invalid proxies were received.

**Vote** Tom Etheridge

**Introduction of new Officers and Trustees** Tom Etheridge

**New Trustees: Jeanne Buchanan, Ron Giles, John Ingram**

**New Officers:**

**President – Sandra Tillisch-Svoboda**  
**Vice President – Tim Brooks**  
**Vice President – Fred Missbach**  
**Treasurer – Karen McBride**  
**Assistant Treasurer – Max Thompson**  
**Secretary – Jean Hollebhone**

**Remarks/Call for additional business**

**Sandra Tillisch-Svoboda**

**Adjournment**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen McBride, Secretary**

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Conservation Committee of the American Orchid Society  
Annual Report to the Membership**

In the last year the following activities have been notable:

- The August 2011 issue of Orchids magazine was dedicated to Orchid Conservation and was both beautiful and informative. This particular issue provided the perfect opportunity to introduce the membership to the concept of crowd funding and an opportunity to collaborate with the Nature Conservancy to protect the orchid rich Myrtle Head Savanna in North Carolina. Unlike our typical solicited and vetted grant proposals that would be recommended to the Board for possible funding, this project was intended to allow AOS members to directly support this project themselves.

The overall participation and response has remained meager but the appeal remains open with recent activity. As of April 11, \$5,883 had been raised toward the goal of \$10,040. I am aware of donations since then that would bring the total to at least over \$6,000. Achieving the target amount remains an important goal. We hope that if you have not yet joined in, to check out the conservation projects area of the website for details. I sincerely want to thank those from the AOS membership, local orchid societies, Officers and members of the Board, the Conservation Committee and other committee chairs who have generously contributed thus far and for their support of this effort. There are many people who need to be thanked for their efforts in making it happen, especially: the Conservation Committee, Jim Watson, Lynn Fuller and Barbara Noe. I also

want to give special and ongoing thanks to Ron McHatton, Greg Allikas and Susan Wayman in consideration of the extra and ongoing work this has imposed on them

- The Conservation Calendar taskforce headed by Leon Glicenstein in conjunction with the Publications Committee are in the last stages of producing what will be the 2013 AOS Conservation Calendar. We have selected 16 beautiful images of orchids in their habitats from around the world from eight international photographers. Each photographer has submitted a short caption for each of the images. There are images from Ecuador, United States, Papua New Guinea, Viet Nam, Mexico, Guatemala, China, Europe, Australia, and Venezuela.
- Over the winter, the inventory catalog of the AOS Live Orchid Collection comprised of some 2600 live plant accessions, was cleaned up and updated to provide the most accurate and up-to-date nomenclature as possible prior to moving to Fairchild. Hopefully it will assist the Fairchild staff and make the integration of these plants into their collection an easier process.
- Recently the committee completed a review of four grant proposals submitted for possible funding. The committee has recommended to the Trustees that one particular project be funded if possible: Leonid V. Averyanov, PhD, Dr.Sci. – Orchid Flora of Relict Karstic Formation in Central Laos (Vientiane province, Vang Vieng and Kasi districts), amount requested, \$6500.  
This is a continuation of his research in Indochina which the AOS has previously supported. Little botanical research has taken place in Laos and the flora is poorly known but of what is known, there tends to be a high degree of endemism. Expeditions to other similar karstic limestone areas of Laos and neighboring Vietnam have resulted in the discovery of many new orchid species and genera; many of these have been horticulturally desirable such as many new Paphiopedilum species. While it was noted this is largely a research project, it was generally felt that his work has significantly expanded the knowledge and understanding of the orchid flora of this part of the world. It has benefited horticultural, orchid research and provides a better understanding of potential conservation needs of the region.

Several other projects are in the works and hopefully can be reported at the 2013 Spring meeting.

Respectfully submitted  
David Horak, Chair

**MEMBERS' MEETING**  
**APRIL, 2011**  
**WICHITA, KS**  
**EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Strategic Plan for the AOS Education Committee:**

To implement the mission of the AOS to enhance the educational opportunities for our members and members of local orchid societies.

**Charge:** To increase member educational benefits and help in marketing the AOS to new members.

**ONGOING PROJECTS :**

- Developing Children's material for orchid education to include material for a Children's Corner at orchid shows will be available for Affiliated Societies on the AOS Website.
- Update slide sets available to Affiliated Societies and create programs with voice over so there will be an additional option to reading a script
- Increase and improve educational content of the website.
  - Three repotting Spanish language culture video have been produced and edited by John and Sandy Stubbings with Salvador Ortiz from Clow Alley Orchids. They include repotting cattleyas, phalaenopsis, and dendrobiums.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sandra Tillisch-Svoboda  
AOS Education Committee Chair