



2020 MARCH AOS Corner – for Affiliated Societies

The AOS Corner is for society representatives and newsletter editors: Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner completely, or in part, in their society publications.

IMPORTANT! Distribution of the AOS Corner

The AOS Corner is sent to multiple emails (AOS rep, Newsletter editor and General Society mailbox). A number of affiliates (general mailboxes) appear to have opted out of receiving AOS emails. Please be aware that this prevents you from receiving the AOS Corner. If you are not receiving the AOS Corner at all your current society contacts, be sure to submit an update for your contacts.

If you opt out of email, you will miss important notifications, including renewal notices. Having renewals sent to the general mailbox is always a good reminder especially when the AOS rep role has transitioned to a new person not yet on the email list.

We encourage use of the **AOS website** by all members. <http://www.aos.org>

Sharing Our Passion

Who has not experienced the joy of that first bloom? Who has not experienced the delight of new growth? Who has not been swept away as they stepped into a room full of orchids at an orchid show? We relive all of these feelings repeatedly when we share our lives with orchids.

I had a little surgery scheduled a few weeks ago. As I was getting prepped, I asked the doctor when I could resume my regular routines. I told him I had to be at a big business meeting the next day. He said, "It's Saturday. No business meetings on Saturday." I explained to him that our Orchid Judging Center was having their semi-annual business meeting and monthly orchid judging. He remarked that orchids were the only plants his wife could keep alive. The nurse preparing me for surgery said, "Orchids? I grow orchids." She whipped out her mobile phone and showed us pictures of orchids around her home garden. I invited her to our next society meeting. I had just enough time to text the flyer for our March orchid show and the link to our society website before I was wheeled away. You never know where you will find another orchid friend! Let's remember to take a moment out of our busy world to breathe in and share the beauty of orchids.

Remember to check in with us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS/) and [Instagram](https://instagram.com/americanorchidsociety?igshid=16ixfciczky01)!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS/>
<https://instagram.com/americanorchidsociety?igshid=16ixfciczky01>

MARCH Focus: Let's Meet Down on the Corner

The American Orchid Society
SPRING MEMBERS MEETING


Hosted by the **California Sierra Nevada Judging Center**

20/20 Vision of Orchids Show and Sale
April 15 - 19, 2020

at the **Embassy Suites Sacramento Riverfront**
in Sacramento, CA

- Scott Barrie, Keynote Speaker
"The Latest in Sarcocylus"
- Orchid Displays and Plant Sales
- Preview Event
- AOS Judging
- Live Auction
- Beautiful Setting in Old Town Sacramento - Close to it All!

For more information
visit the News and Events page on www.aos.org


American Orchid Society
Education • Conservation • Research

DID YOU KNOW? There are local gatherings for orchid enthusiasts from every level of growing and every walk of life. You are cordially invited! AOS Members Meetings take place twice a year in the USA. They are especially for members and prospective members of the American Orchid Society. It is a wonderful way to meet others who share our passion for orchids. The schedule of events includes guest speakers and award presentations, committee meetings and a Town Hall gathering to hear all the current news on what keeps the wheels of the AOS turning. Dedicated volunteers gather to plan their strategy for the

next six months. Everyone attending is welcome to sit in on a committee meeting and hear what's happening behind the scenes to bring you the best of AOS. There's usually an orchid show and AOS Judging. There is food, friendship, and a fund-raising auction of orchids and orchid-related items. Register NOW for the next **AOS Members Meeting** in Sacramento, California, USA, April 15-19, 2020. You will not regret it! <http://www.aos.org/news-and-events/members-meetings.aspx>

DID YOU KNOW? If you have been reading ORCHIDS magazine and The President's Message over the last two years, you know there are many AOS volunteers. Our AOS President has recognized the efforts of every major committee in the AOS. Open the front pages of the magazine and you will find the listing of Officers, Trustees, and a lengthy list of Committee Volunteers. We don't do it to see our name in print. We do it because we care about the organization. We do it to bring you the content you see here and on the website. We do it because we love orchids. Our committees are always looking for dedicated members that are willing to contribute to the success of the AOS. We all have special skills to share. Collectively we make a stronger organization. There is a place for you too. Contact the chair of any committee and ask how you can help.

REMINDERS

Insight for our **AFFILIATED SOCIETIES**

<http://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies.aspx>

AFFILIATED SOCIETY BONUS - EARN AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS FOR YOUR SOCIETY

Affiliated societies can earn a one-month extension on their AOS society membership for each new individual AOS member they recruit. If you start now, with twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can obtain a FULL FREE YEAR OF AOS membership! Be sure and advise new members to note their society affiliation on the printed membership form or in the comments section online at checkout.

2020 **updated membership** rates and membership material NOW on the AOS website!

<http://www.aos.org/about-us/aos-membership.aspx>

Check out the Complete Affiliated Benefits Package

<http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Benefits-of-being-an-Affiliated-Societies-Member-v5.pdf>

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? An affiliated society may use recorded webinars for presentations at their monthly meetings. With Wi-Fi access, it's easy! Webinars are an internet-connected audiovisual presentation. You can view from anywhere that you have an internet connection via Mac, PC or even your mobile device. It's easy to find the **scheduled webinars** and to register on the AOS website. You will find the link here: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

If you do not have internet access, you can contact the AOS Education Committee, Sandra Svoboda at stillisch@cox.net and request **a program from the recorded list**.

<http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Webinars-for-Affiliated-Societies-7-24-19.pdf>

The video file with instructions for use will be sent to you. Copy the file to a flash drive or copy it to your computer hard drive and show the webinar at the meeting.

Webinars-Coming Attractions!



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| When | March 19, 2020 8:30pm EST Thursday | March 31, 2020 8:30pm EST Tuesday | April 23, 2020 8:30pm EST Thursday | RECORDED WEBINARS at your convenience |
| Topic | Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i> | Junior Orchid Show A Success Story | Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i> | Culture, Judging, Pests and Diseases, Greenhouse Chats indexed by topic |
| Presenter | Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer | Barb Schmidt AOS Education Committee member | Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer | AOS Members, Judges, Concerned Conservationists, Scientists & More |

To view **REGISTRATION is REQUIRED:** <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyway!

We digitize the webinars and they are available to view at your leisure from the same webpage.

Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

If you want to view independently from home, you can join live, either on your computer or by phone.

ALL past webinars are recorded, and Greenhouse Chats are indexed by topic, for future viewing.

FOR YOUR SOCIETY MEMBERS

Remember to let your society members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources available to help make orchid growing enjoyable and successful. *Individual Society membership and AOS Membership are not the same. Each requires separate membership dues. AOS members have exclusive access to thousands of awarded photos in OrchidPro! Sign on to the AOS website. Click on your name on the top right side of the page to find the dropdown menu. Select OrchidPro. Be inspired!*



CULTURE CONNECTION

CULTIVATE, to grow in a prepared medium

Visit the AOS website for a [Monthly Checklist on Orchid Care](#)

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/march-april-checklist.aspx>

MARCH: The Month of Snow Flowers

Step Into Spring and Enjoy a New Growing Season by Thomas Mirenda

SLEET, SNOW, HAIL, FREEZING RAIN and wintry mixes dominate the weather reports this month, making for treacherous travel. We leave our abodes and workplaces each day at our peril, usually only to perform or acquire the bare necessities. Perhaps it was Freudian, or just wishful thinking on his part, but my local news weatherman, obviously tired of delivering bad news all month, floundered a bit while trying to describe today's forecast. The teleprompter may have read "snow flurries and rain showers" but our man instead predicted "snow flowers." I laughed and looked out the window, but the only flowers to be seen were inside on a phalaenopsis. Perhaps he's an orchid grower too, because that is exactly what March brings us each year: A glorious array of orchid flowers. Coincidentally, even though February is the month where we humans reveal our affection for each other on Valentine's Day with orchids and other flowers, we needn't restrict ourselves and should continue such loving gestures through the year. The gift of an orchid is an unmistakable sign of passion and affirmation (unless you're giving one of those stinky bulbophyllums). Even those orchids might be appropriate gifts for your boss, or someone you've divorced.

SOMETHING'S COMING The air is humming, and spring is dangling in the air as the weather starts to change. Crocus and daffodils are opening outside, harbingers of the wonders of spring about to burgeon forth. As the days elongate and the sun rises higher each successive date, the action begins inside. Plants such as catasetums and dendrobiums, left dry most of the winter, are starting to produce new roots, and while it's a bit early still, repotting and renewed watering are imminent. This is true of many other orchids, including cattleyas, cymbidiums and phalaenopsis hybrids that you should prepare for the onslaught of spring repotting that is about to begin. Be ahead of the game and get fresh potting supplies — pots, potting mix, wire products and fertilizer — so you'll be able to attend to plants as they need attention.

PRETTY AND PERKY Even though most orchids are at the starting gates ready to produce next year's growths, many are still in glorious bloom. Luckily, there are orchid exhibits throughout the spring to show off these beauties. However, once exhibited, you may want to remove those old inflorescences (unless you've made seed capsules on them). Spike production and flowering is energetically hard on

plants, and the removal of the inflorescences will divert energy toward the new growths, so important for future flowering and the orchids overall health and longevity. Always use a sterilized blade whenever excising spikes or leaves to prevent the spread of viruses from plant to plant.

SCOUT FOR INTRUDERS With the advent of new growths and senescence of flowers come some unwanted parasites. This is a prime month for aphids to appear on new growths of pleurothallids and old oncidium inflorescences. Mealybugs are sometimes found on the backs of phalaenopsis flowers and the undersides of their leaves, where these insects are less likely to be washed away by the watering hose. Safer Soap or Sunspray Oil applications are usually adequate to quell small infestations of these soft-bodied insects, but be vigilant. These innocuous creatures are insidious and, if allowed to travel from plant to plant, with their sucking mouthparts are also implicated in the spread of viruses.

TAKING STOCK As plants come out of dormancy, you may want to move them to more accessible spots in your growing area. In the autumn, dormant plants were rightly moved to areas where they'd be less likely to be struck by stray sweeps of the hose. Now, some of those plants, such as habenarias and galeandras, will need to be in the forefront of your collection so they are not forgotten or ignored as they come out of dormancy. This is also a good time to consider which plants performed well in the past year. With so many new species and hybrids available, culling your collection to make room for something new keeps your orchid growing fresh and exciting, plus the donation of plants to an auction table may encourage and inspire a new orchid grower to enter the astounding world of orchids. *(As pertinent now, as it was then - Reprinted with permission ORCHIDS VOL. 78, NO.3, MARCH 2009)*

AOS members have access to over 2,050 articles published between the years 2003 - 2009 and 2011 – 2018 through the [digital archives](http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx).

<http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx>

Worth the Read - ORCHIDS March Preview

Orchids Illustrated - *Phaius* by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins

Each month in ORCHIDS the Orchids Illustrated column highlights a specific genus and occasionally a specific species. The article often includes a single stunning current photograph of the subject matter, historical references, dated antique plates, and botanical drawings. It is interesting to see the different naming conventions used throughout the years. It is no wonder that we will never learn all there is to know about orchids. Check out this group of terrestrial orchids and learn how they have been recognized through the years in the orchid world.

Don't miss out! Membership offers something for everyone - Coming in ORCHIDS March 2020

- For the Novice - Nutrition by Ray Barkalow
- Collector's Item - *Zootrophion* Hybrids by Leon Glicenstein
- Judges Corner - Being a judging team captain by Bill Thoms
- *Caularthron* and its Hybrids by Jean Allen-Ikeson
- The Joys of Small Phalaenopsis by Andy Coghill-Behrends
- *Psychopsis limminghei* by Rudolf Jenny

LOOK for *your* awarded orchids in the sixteen-page awards gallery in each issue of ORCHIDS! The magazine awards gallery features all of the awards granted month by month in the previous year.

VIEW the beauty and diversity of the **most recently awarded orchids on the AOS website!** Exhibits are also included in the latest awards gallery. Check it out to get some great ideas for your next display.

<https://secure.aos.org/orchid-awards.aspx>



Award: 20204851/ AOS Show Trophy 84 pts.

North Jersey Orchid Society Show (Wayne, NJ) Rutgers University, Douglass Cook Student Center

Exhibitor: North Jersey Orchid Society **Photographer:** Maurice Garvey



Left **Award:** 20202800 *Phragmipedium America* 'George's Delight' AM/AOS 83 pts.

(*Phrag. Les Dirouilles* x *Phrag. kovachii*)

Dallas Center Monthly Judging (Dallas, TX) Garland Senior Center

Exhibitor: George A. Bogard **Photographer:** David Gould

Right **Award:** 20204852 *Dendrobium roslii* 'Carol' AM/AOS 80 points

North Jersey Orchid Society Show (Wayne, NJ) Rutgers University, Douglass Cook Student Center

Exhibitor: Maurice Garvey **Photographer:** Maurice Garvey

Please send your comments, questions and submissions for the AOS Corner to

askmasc@verizon.net or affiliated_societies_committee@aos.org

Thanks for meeting me down at the Corner!

Eileen Hector, AOS Corner - *Affiliated Societies* Newsletter Editor