



**Orchid News
Kentucky Orchid Society, Inc.
February 2020
Louisville, KY**

Newsletter Editor: Gloria Teague, glorchid@iglou.com

Have you paid your dues? See Linda Solley-Kanipe.

February 2020 Speaker: Pam LaRocco,
How to Prepare Your Blooming Orchids for Proper Display for an Orchid Show

Wednesday, February 12, 2020
Immanuel United Church of Christ
2300 Taylorsville Road
6:30 pm, Social hour, 7:00 pm Meeting

The President's Corner

I hope everyone is managing to survive the cold, seemingly lightless days of January! If you suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder, spending a little time with your orchids under lights may be just what the doctor ordered!

At our next meeting, we will hear from Pam LaRocco telling us how to prepare our plants for display in our homes and for shows. This is a very timely topic since we have the Dayton show coming up the very next weekend (Feb 14-16) and we hope that many of you who have orchids in bloom will be willing to enter them in the KOS display! Her tips will help us show them to best advantage. We will discuss details regarding the Dayton show that evening.

We will also discuss the upcoming Home and Garden Show where KOS will have a large booth for plants sales and will present several educational seminars during the three day event. We will be asking for volunteers to help with set up, sales, tear down, seminar presentations, and unpacking the orchids which we expect to arrive about a week prior to the event. Please be ready to sign up to help! This is one of our major fund raisers and we hope to have everyone participating.

We have a winner in our club Dendrobium project! Pam will reveal the winner and present the award at the February meeting. Hopefully any of you who are talented enough to have one of these little Pink Sparkles in bloom will bring them for show and tell that night.

In February, there will also be a beginner's corner on "Watering Your Orchid", presented by Anne-Marie Blanquaert-Bruyninx. This discussion will be held during our "social time" prior to the meeting.

Snacks this month will be from Michele Gross (sweet), Sandra Dittmeier, (savory) and Suzanne Spencer (surprise). Drinks/ice will be provided by Carla Cates.

Please check out our website (kyorchidsociety.com) for updates on our next meeting and all the upcoming orchid events in the area. We also have a Facebook page and, as of today, a Twitter account! All feedback appreciated.

Please enjoy this essay from the AOS on orchid care for January and February (written by Ned Nash and James Rose). There is more information of this sort on our webpage. We have a complete monthly orchid calendar which can be very helpful in keeping up with what your orchids need at various times of the year.

Jan Smith, President
smithroberts@mac.com

The Vice President's Corner

I know we're all anticipating Spring and it will be here soon. Along with Spring we can all look forward to upcoming Orchid Shows as well as our very own "Show and Tell" segment at the monthly meetings where we proudly display our blooming orchids.

At the February's meeting, Pam LaRocco will be our speaker and will show us how to prepare our blooming babies for proper display. Pam is a long time member of KOS and is well respected for her knowledge of orchids.

We hope to see you on February 12th.

Deanna Day, Vice President
Deanna7736@yahoo.com

Minutes

The KOS monthly meeting held at the Immanuel United Church of Christ @ 7:00 pm.

There were 43 members present. Welcome to visitors Julie, Paula & Bruce. Also new members Paula Covault and Jennifer were welcomed. Meeting minutes were presented. A motion was made and seconded to accept the January meeting minutes.

Old Business

President Jan Smith presented the 2019 Japps Award to Sal Locascio for Outstanding Service in 2019.

President Smith presented updates from the recent Board meeting by the new 2020 KOS Board members.

Changes in the Show & tell program outlined in the email sent to all members.

The new location of Raffle table will be at the front of the meeting room.

The Snacks Committee was asked to help setup and teardown the snacks table after every meeting. Carla Cates will supply ice and drinks for every meeting in 2020. Catherine Luckett volunteered to do cleanup and shutdown meeting room after every meeting. She asked that more people assist her.

If you have raffle plants to donate to the raffle table please let President Smith know in advance of the meeting.

Plant Doctor/Beginners corner will be available at each meeting when no Speaker/vendor will be selling plants.

The AOS Orchids Magazine will be available on the raffle table for members at each meeting.

The KOS participation in the Home, Garden and Remodeling Show was approved by the Board. This year we will have a 20 x 20 booth. Sal Locascio will co-chair and he is looking for another co-chair to assist. More to come at future meetings. The Show is February 28, 29, and March 1.

A new Committee structure was outlined for the year. The Locust Grove Show and Plant Sale needs a chairman/co-chairs; the Home, Garden and Remodeling Show chairman is Sal Locascio; KOS Annual Picnic, the hostess is Deanna Day; and the new Welcome Committee chairman is Dick Humke.

The KOS is participation in the upcoming Miami Valley Orchid Society Show and Mid-America Orchid Conference (MAOC) February 15-16, 6733 N. Springboro Park, Dayton, OH. Jan Smith, Gloria Teague, and Pam LaRocco have volunteered to setup/teardown the display. The MAOC is offering possible scholarship to orchid societies attending the MAOC show.

We have a couple of upcoming orchid shows in the near future. The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Show, February 29 - March 1, 1501 Eden Park Drive, Krohn Conservatory, Cincinnati, OH, needs a setup team. The Central Indiana Orchid Society Show, April 18-19, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Garfield Park Conservatory, Indianapolis, IN, needs a setup team.

Annual dues are due now. Please pay the treasurer, Linda Solley-Kanipe, your dues of \$25 per year.

New Business

Vice President Deanna Day introduced tonight's speaker, Mr. Brian Spitler from Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society speaking on The Diverse World of Dendrobiums and Their Cultural Requirements.

We have a winner for the 2019 Club Project! The name of the owner of this Den. Pink Sparkle will be revealed and prize given at the February meeting.



January Show and Tell

We had an amazing showing of 58 plants for scoring and 7 for exhibit only at our January meeting. The average points earned was 3.4 per plant. Friends, that is really impressive. Let's see if we can keep this going! I'm also hoping that more of our beginner growers will bring in their lovely plants for the group to see.

Show & Tell Plants – Growers/members presented their plants for growing information.

Topmiller miniature orchids

1st Place - *cymbidium* - Morinosei 'Yuyu' - Gloria Teague

2nd Place - *oncidium* - Twinkle 'Fantasy' (Onc. *cheirophorum* x Onc. *sotoanum*) - Jan Smith

Fanelli standard orchids

1st Place - *cymbidium* – unknown pink – Heidi Boel

2nd Place - *paphiopedilum* - Mele Moo (Paph. Mele Pops x Paph. Moving Lights) - Anne-Marie Blankaert

Plant Raffle---- was held for members and guests this evening.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next meeting is February 12, 2020.

Plant Doctor and Beginner's Corner will be back by popular demand for the 2020 year.

They are held between 6:30 and 7pm.

Plant Doctor is available every month. Bring in your troubled plants. We will try our best to determine what is ailing them. But do keep them isolated from other plants brought to the meeting.

Beginner's Corner will be held on months when our speakers are not offering plant sales.

Pam LaRocco, The Plant Dr.

pamlarocco@hotmail.com



Show and Tell for January



Monthly Checklist for January and February



Cattleya trianae 'Mary Fennel' HCC/AOS is a good example of this winter-blooming species.

Cattleya

Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak

spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions and bloom at their best.

Cymbidium

We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30 F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

Lycaste

The most glorious of all orchids, Lycaste, will be moving toward their flowering season. Make sure the palm-like leaves do not interfere with the emerging inflorescences. Tying them loosely together often is helpful. Some growers cut the leaves off at the pseudobulb, but this removes part of the attractiveness of this elegant orchid. Resist picking up the plant to inspect those beautiful buds and then setting it down in all different directions as the flower buds will be forced to re-orient themselves to the light source each time and will not open as nicely as they should. Keep plants a little drier

during the shorter days.

Odontoglossums

Odontoglossums and their intergeneric hybrids offer a great splash of color now. Though once thought of as being difficult to grow and requiring cool temperatures due to the emphasis on odontoglossum breeding, the new intergeneric hybrids made using *Oncidium* and *Brassia*, for example, are just the opposite. These plants are quite content in more intermediate conditions. New growths generally emerge in the spring, later forming beautiful plump pseudobulbs. Look for the flower spikes to emerge from the inner sheath of the pseudobulb. If your plant's pseudobulbs are shriveled, then the plants have been kept too dry or too wet. Inspect the roots to determine which condition prevailed. If the lead pseudobulb is large, plump and green (and back bulbs are shriveled) but no flower spike is evident, the plants may have been kept too dry.

Paphiopedilum

The standard *Paphiopedilum insigne*-derived hybrids, which are called "bull dogs" and "toads," are at their peak. Unlike most other orchids, they can even be potted while in bud. There really is no wrong time to pot a *paphiopedilum*, and no other orchid responds so favorably to fresh mix and a cleanup. Keep an eye on watering until roots begin to grow.



In the fall *Phalaenopsis* should start initiating flower spikes. Inflorescences should be well developed by mid-January.

Phalaenopsis

Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of *phalaenopsis* at orchid shows and sales.

Zygopetalum

For the most part, the flowering season will have ended for this group, providing the grower a chance to do some repotting. The plants will then have a chance to become well established before the hotter months of summer arrive. Most growers use bark mixes, but some exceptional results have been seen lately using rock-wool blends. You may want to try this mix, but do not change your whole collection over to this new media until you are sure it is right for you. First, experiment with a few plants to see how they respond.