



ORCHID NEWS

Kentucky Orchid Society, Inc.
August 2025
Louisville, KY

In this Newsletter:

<i>The President's Corner</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>The Vice President's Corner</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>August Meeting Information</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>July Meeting Minutes</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Show & Tell Winners</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Beginner's Corner, by Anne-Marie</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Show & Tell Gallery</i>	<i>7</i>

Newsletter Editor: Michelle Berry
michorchid22@gmail.com

The President's Corner

Letter from the President:

I hope everyone who attended the KOS picnic and auction enjoyed himself as much as John and I did. The food you brought was wonderful, the company was great, and the auction was quite successful. The sun could have been a little less intense, but at least we had no rain! I was impressed with the quality of the plants that were auctioned and trust that people are happy with their purchases.

Our next KOS event is our August meeting on August 13 at 6:15 pm. We will concentrate on preparations for our annual Show and

Next Meeting: August 13, 6:15pm | All Peoples Unitarian Church | 4936 Brownsboro Rd, 40222

Sale, which will be in a mere 2 weeks from the meeting time. Stephen Benjamin will discuss what steps to take to get your plants in tip-top shape for the show and the process of registering your plants will also be reviewed. We may also have a presentation on orchid pests by Gilbert Duggins, one of the vendors who will be selling plants at the show.

We will be in need of volunteers to help with all aspects of the show. We will have sign-up sheets at the meeting for many of those roles. If you are a new member, this is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow members and to learn a lot more about orchids. The show itself is always beautiful and there are many opportunities to purchase new plants, orchid related clothing, and jewelry!

The show will be set up on Friday, Sept 5. Judging will occur on Saturday morning and the show will be open to the public 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday and noon to 4 pm Sunday. There will be a lasagna dinner for volunteers Friday evening, a breakfast at 7 am Saturday morning, and a potluck lunch on Saturday. We always have great leftovers for Sunday afternoon!

PLEASE mark your calendars for Sept 5, 6, and 7th!

If you are unable to join us for the monthly meeting in person, please join by Zoom:

Topic: KOS August Meeting

Time: Aug 13, 2025 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4911551123?pwd=ZnV2b3VFR3dSYUFnUlcwU2hEVjR2UT09&omn=89721612287>

Meeting ID: 491 155 1123

Passcode: 021021

Jan Smith, President

jansmithroberts@gmail.com

The Vice President's Corner

Letter from the Vice President:

Hello everyone! Happy August! We are finally into the "Dog Days of Summer," and our thoughts can now begin to turn toward Autumn, and our show. Hopefully everyone will have a plant or two to put in our display! Our speaker this month will be Stephen Benjamin, who will share with us how to best register and ready our plants for our upcoming show. I always find this information to be very helpful, and am certain you will as well.

Happy growing!

Kathy Revell, Vice President

kathyrevell@yahoo.com

KOS August Meeting

Second Wednesday of the Month

Date: August 13, 2025

Time: Beginner's Corner & Social time -
6:15pm
Business meeting - 6:45pm
Program - 7:00pm

Format: In person and on zoom

Location: All Peoples Unitarian Church,
4936 Brownsboro Rd, Louisville, KY 40222

Zoom Meeting:

Topic: KOS June 2025 Zoom Meeting
Time: Jun 11, 2025 06:30 PM Eastern Time
(US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4911551123?pwd=ZnV2b3VFR3dSYUFnUlcwU2hEVjR2UT09&omn=87196410715>

Meeting ID: 491 155 1123

Passcode: 021021

Reminder - Snack Signup:

This is a reminder that if your name is below, you signed up to bring a snack to one of the monthly meetings.

August

Sweet: Debbie Hanna

Salty: Pam Martin

Savory: Linda Solley-Kanipe

July Meeting Minutes

KOS Meeting Minutes, July 9, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Janet Smith at 6:30 pm.

There were 35 people present, including one new member and one visitor.

The minutes were approved.

The treasury report was given by Linda- we are in good shape.

OLD BUSINESS:

- It was suggested that the address of the church be in the newsletter.
- Pam had nothing to report on from Orchid Digest.
- Anne-Marie thanked everyone for their condolences regarding the death of her mother. She stated we are now receiving the AOS magazine. Also asked that the information in the beginner's corner be added to the newsletter.
- The KOS picnic will be Saturday 7/26 from 12-5 at Janet Smith's house. KOS will provide meat, soft drinks, water and tea. Bring a dish and if you want an adult beverage- bring your own. A sign-up sheet was passed around and if not signing of up today- then RSVP to Pam LaRocca. If you have a plant to donate to the auction- send a name and picture of the plant to Janet. The money made from the auction will go to KOS. The pool will be open if you want to swim.
- Orchid Fest is 8/21-24 in Dayton, Ohio. This includes an AOS meeting and a Mid-America meeting. There

will be 8 vendors. The registration fee of \$75 includes access to the pre-view party, vendor, orchid show, all speakers, meals, a goody bag and a \$25 gift certificate to spend on a vendor. You can register at ohiovalleyorchidfest.com. There is Orchid bar and sphagnum moss for pre-order.

- Stephen gave an update on the Fall Show & Sale. We will have 8 vendors - Natts, Ecuagenera, Dancing Dogs, Orchids & More, Mei Ling, Anytime Orchids, Flasks & Flora, and Lady Orchid House. More details and sign-up sheets will be available at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Jen has names badges- if you requested one- please see her to pick it up.
- The August Meeting will be Gilbert Duggins talking on Orchid Pests.
- Show & Tell 1st place- Anne-Marie Paph Angel's Flight (Philippinense x Alma Gevaert); 2nd place- Jan Raeger Blc. Sharon King 'Volcano Queen'
- Cheryl Erin gave an entertaining and informative talk on Everything Vandaceous and other orchids. She encouraged everyone to attend Orchid Fest.
- Raffle was held

Meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm

Danetta Willias, Recording Secretary
danettabw@gmail.com

Show & Tell Winners - July 2025

1st Place: Paph Angel's Flight (Philippinense x Alma Gevaert)

- Anne-Marie Blancquaert

2nd Place: Blc. Sharon King 'Volcano Queen'

- Jan Raeger

July Beginner's Corner: Orchids as Houseplants

Anne-Marie Blancquaert graciously shares her Beginner's Corner presentation

Their Looks, Their Likes, Their Dislikes. Did you know?

Their 'Likes'

- Most like bright light but no direct sun, north- or east-facing windowsill.
- Most like regular watering and misting, preferably with rainwater.
- Most grow in bark-based orchid mix, rather than in traditional houseplant soil.

Their 'dislikes'

- Most dislike direct sun or too little light.
- Most don't fare well in dry air, so mist regularly.
- Tap water can be harmful certainly if softened.
- Dislike standing in water, roots will rot.
- Dislike cold drafts, may cause bud drop of flowers.

Their looks

- Orchid flowers come in a vast array of shapes, sizes and exotic colours.
- The petals can be striped, speckled or strangely patterned.
- Flowers can be single, held in clusters on slender stems.
- Orchid leaves can be clumped, long and arching, thick and glossy or even patterned

Did you know?

- Phalaenopsis are the most popular for growing as houseplants.
- They love our house environment.
- Their blooms last a long time.
- Their flower spray looks exotic.
- Good choice for beginners, since they are not fussy.

What should you consider before you take the plunge and fall prey to this addiction?!

You're on the right track! You joined an orchid society! Within the society, you will find a wealth of information:

- Decades of orchid growing experience.
- People eager to share plants, seedlings, supplies, etc.
- Expand your collection with raffle plants, leftover plants from sale events, plants from shows.

Don't forget to do some research: books, trustworthy websites, American Orchid Society, talking with growers/vendors at orchid shows and sales.

Let's look at it from a 'business standpoint'

What are the resources you need:

- What you will be able to grow depends on where you will grow it.
- Windowsill growing
- Artificial light growing in converted room or basement
- Grow tent

- Greenhouse
- Outdoors

How much time can you provide for your plants?

- Need regular watering and fertilizing
- Need regular repotting
- Need to be checked for diseases and pests

How much money are you willing to spend?

- Pots, media, humidity trays, LED lights, fertilizer, chemicals, stakes and clips etc.

Windowsill Growing

Pros:

- Easier to control temperature.
- Can grow cooler growing orchids (Masdevallia, Dracula, Miltoniopsis).
- Stable indoor conditions means less attention needed.
- Easy to provide extra light if needed.

Con:

- Lack of light.
- Limited space because the plants need to be 'in the window' for sufficient light.
- Difficult to grow mounted plants, humidity too low (would have to water every day).

Placement:

- East facing window: best for most orchids.
- West facing window: works well, careful for heat during summer.
- North facing window: only good for orchids from the cloud forest.
- South facing window: highest light, for 'sun' orchids, careful for heat!
- Plants should never be more than 3 feet away from the window. Plants need to be able to 'see' the sun! Photosynthesis!
- In the winter there is a shortage on light in our northern latitude, supplementing artificial light may be needed to set flowers in some orchids.

Which orchids to grow?

- East - West facing windows (2-5 hours of direct sunlight):
 - o Paphiopedilum; Phalaenopsis; Oncidiinae, dendrobiums, bulbophyllums, Neofinetia (now Vanda).
 - o Some Paphiopedilum and some Phragmipedium.
- North facing windows (< 2 hours of direct sunlight):
 - o Pleurothallids, bulbophyllums, miniature species
 - o Some Paphiopedilum and some Phragmipedium.
- South facing windows (>5 hours of direct sunlight):
 - o Cattleya (Cattleya-adjacent)
 - o Some Vanda (Vanda-adjacent)
 - o Some dendrobiums

July Show & Tell Gallery

Thank you to the members who brought their blooming orchids for Show & Tell and to Stuart Fleischaker for taking pictures of them!





*Visit us at our website
www.kyorchidsociety.com or on Facebook at
Kentucky Orchid Society*