



ORCHID NEWS

Kentucky Orchid Society, Inc.
February 2026
Louisville, KY

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The President's Corner

Letter from the President:

I hope everyone has "dug out" of the snowpack following the snowstorm and has stayed safe! Having fallen on ice 3 yrs ago when coming back from the greenhouse, I was reluctant to brave it this year. But after some snow clearing, I was able to get out there and begin repotting my slipper orchids. It was comforting to see that they have begun putting out new roots, in preparation for new growth in the spring. This is the perfect time to re-pot, so check your lady slippers and give them some new media. They should reward you for it. I find those types of orchids to be among the easiest to re-pot, as their roots are not tiny and they seem to come

Newsletter Editor: Michelle Berry
michorchid22@gmail.com

out of the media easily. Just be careful not to damage those pretty healthy growing root tips!

I hope you got to watch the AOS Orchid Culture Day last Sunday (Jan 25), as there was a good deal of practical information on slipper orchids and their culture. If you did not, you can still view the recorded presentations via the AOS website. AOS membership is \$56/yr and there is a huge amount of information there at your fingertips (for \$88 instead, you also get a printed copy of the AOS magazine). I highly encourage you to join. The webinar cost \$40 live, but you can now watch the entire thing (and many other presentations) as part of your membership. It is a great deal! Oh, and you get coupons for discounts on purchases at many of the online orchid vendors!

The 2026 orchid show season is beginning! Next weekend (Feb 6-8) is the Three Rivers Orchid Show in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Stephen Benjamin will take our plants to make a lovely 25 sq. ft. display. I hope you are generous in sending your plants for display. The Cincinnati Show will be coming up March 20-22, so mark your calendars! We will be looking for people to send plants, set up, and take down our display. This is always a big show and they have some good vendors. Make plans to attend.

Later this month, we will continue our education on hardy orchids, with a talk by Jeanne Reinhart from the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society on making your own bog to grow hardy orchids outdoors at your home. Jeanne is very active in NOPEs (The Native Orchid Preservation and Education Society). She can be helpful to those of our society who are interested in visiting some of these orchids in situ in Kentucky.

I am going to try a different approach to the Zoom presentation for those of you who cannot attend a meeting in person. I will attempt to use

my iPad to move about the room as other people speak (particularly for Show and Tell), so that virtual viewers can have a better view of the action.

Here is the link to the Zoom meeting this month:

Topic: KOS February Monthly Meeting

Time: Feb 11, 2026 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4911551123?pwd=ZnV2b3VFR3dSYUFnUlcwU2hEVjR2UT09&omn=86960045415>

Meeting ID: 491 155 1123

Passcode: 021021

Try this link to access some AOS information on Botrytis, a common fungal infection of orchids in cool damp conditions, as you might have in your growing space this time of year:

<https://www.aos.org/orchid-care/orchid-pests-and-diseases/botrytis>

Happy growing,

Jan Smith, President

jansmithroberts@gmail.com

The Vice President's Corner

Letter from the Vice President:

We all know we can grow orchids in a green house, off a tree, in a terrarium, in the ground and even on a small piece of wood or cork. The topic for this month's meeting is by Jeanne Reinhart who is going to talk about "Building a

Backyard Bog and Growing Ground Orchids". This will give us an idea of how to try a new way to make orchids grow in areas around your house. You can see how best to set up an area where you can get a new type of orchid to grow and take off! Bring some paper and a pen for your notes, because you're about to learn a new and fascinating way to grow orchids. Below is a bit about Jeanne and her extensive role in orchids.

Jeanne Reinhart is a retired math, biological science, and computer teacher. Having taught junior and senior high school for 41 years. She has been a secretary, treasurer, webmaster, and newsletter editor of the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society. She is currently the Treasurer, Communications chair, and newsletter coeditor for the Mid-America Orchid Congress and one of three founders of the Native Orchid Preservation and Education Society and at present the newsletter editor of Native Orchid Preservation and Education Society.

She has always been interested in growing plants as her parents were local florists. This encouraged her interest in unusual plants and trying to successfully grow them. Jeanne's husband and she are avid gardeners and are members of various societies-- Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society, Miami Valley Orchid Society, American Orchid Society, Native Orchid Conference Cincinnati Wildflower Society, Cincinnati Herpetology Society, Cincinnati Nature Center. Jeanne and her husband have traveled all over to view plants in situ including most US states, Canada, London, Peru, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand.

Jennifer Coy, Vice President
jenn_koi@hotmail.com

KOS February Meeting

Second Wednesday of the Month

Date: February 11, 2026

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 February Monthly Meeting
Time: Feb 11, 2026 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4911551123?pwd=ZnV2b3VFR3dSYUFnUlcwU2hEVjR2UT09&omn=86960045415>

Meeting ID: 491 155 1123

Passcode: 021021

January Meeting Minutes

KOS Meeting Minutes, January 14, 2025

A total of 22 members were present.
There were two new guests in attendance.
The previous minutes were approved.
Linda was absent, therefore there was no treasurer's report.

Old Business:

- The members were reminded to maintain the Church doors closed when coming in and out of the building.

- No orchid digest update as Pam was absent.
- No AOA magazine update as Anne Marie was absent.
- The KOS show will be held on September 7th, 2026.

New Business:

- Kristy will help Linda during the meetings when a lot of people come at the same time to pay the dues.
- A new table next to the raffle table will be set for Linda to handle the membership payments.
- A proposal to have the monthly meetings during wintertime held on Saturday afternoons was made to the society. This is to help people that can't drive at night so that they can come to the meetings. A survey will be sent to all members to help make a decision on this subject.
- The KOS will not participate in the Home and Garden show this year.
- On February 7th the 3 Rivers Orchid Society will have their show. This is four and a half hours away from us. Steve will go and can take plants. If any member has flowering orchids, please coordinate with Steve to take the plants.
- Sunday, January 25th, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm EDT, AOS will have the 8th Orchid Culture Day: "Step into the World of Slippers". The cost for viewing is \$40.00. Jan will send out a link for the webinar.
- MAOC Online presentation by Ron Parsons on Madagascar, A Land of Many Contrasts. This online presentation is free to KOS members and will be Sunday February 1st at 7:30 pm. Jan will send the link for it.
- The Indianapolis Orchid Show will be on April 24th to the 26th.

- The KOS will hire Shannons Smith to manage our social media platforms.
- The Kentucky Plant Show will be held in Owensboro on March 28th. The society will need 4 members to help transport the plants and set up the tables.
- Show & Tell was done by Stephen Benjamin.
- We had a very interesting talk by Tara Littlefield on "Native Kentucky Orchid Preservation".
- Raffle was held.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Yania Raquel Martinez Ondaro, Recording Secretary.

yaniayyoe@yahoo.ca

Show & Tell Winners - January 2026

1st Place: Bc.Maikai 'Mayumi'

- Carla Cates

2nd Place: Phal. United While Bear

- Larry Atwood

KOS Awards 2025 - Show & Tell Winners

We forgot to include the KOS Awards for 2025 Show & Tell Winners in last month's newsletter, which were presented at the December Holiday Party. Sorry for the miss! Congratulations to the winners!

Show & Tell Beginners:

3rd: Ethan Tewalt

2nd: Yania Martinez

1st: Jan Rager

Show & Tell Intermediate:

3rd: Danetta Willias

2nd: Linda Solley-Kanipe

1st: Stu Fleischaker

Show & Tell Experienced:

3rd: Michelle Berry

2nd: Anne-Marie Blancquaert

1st: Larry Atwood

Grower of the Year:

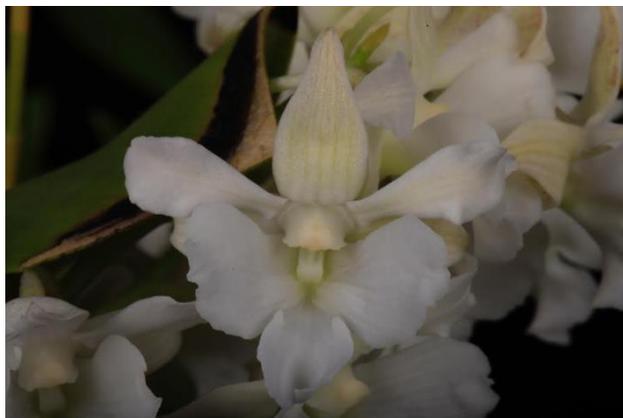
Anne-Marie Blancquaert-Bruyninekx

Japs Award:

Anne-Marie and Walter Blancquaert-Bruyninekx

January 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*

