



ORCHID NEWS

Kentucky Orchid Society, Inc.
July 2026
Louisville, KY

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Newsletter Editor: Michelle Berry
michorchid22@gmail.com

The President's Corner

Letter from the President:

Happy 250th birthday to the USA! Thank goodness that the oppressive heat let up a little bit for the holiday. However, it is still very hot, so make sure that your outdoor orchids get plenty of water and are receiving the correct amount of sun, as they can sunburn more easily in the extreme temperatures. The humidity certainly does not need any supplementation, however. 😊

I hope you are not tired of picnics, because the KOS annual picnic is coming up on Saturday, July 25, at Debbie Hanna's home in Lagrange. After the potluck dinner, we will have our annual orchid auction. If you have a plant that you

would like to share, please let Pam LaRocco know so she can make up a catalogue of the plants that will be offered. She would like a picture of the plant as well as its name. Also, let her know how many of your family will attend and the type of dish you will bring. KOS will provide the meat for the meal. Come ready to buy a few new orchids!

With all the interest in the founding fathers and the early days of the USA, I thought it might be fun to review some of the history of KOS and its "founding fathers". KOS was founded in November of 1958, so we should start thinking about having our own 70th birthday party in 2028! There were 20 paid members. The president was Clara Fanelli and Eugene Hartmann (Gwen Hartmann's husband) was secretary-treasurer, beginning with a treasury of \$35.50. James McCulloch, who you may know, was on the original Board of Directors. In the first few months, the group took a field trip by bus to Lexington to see Bluegrass Orchids, heard about "Corsages and French Bouquets", and watched a movie on Cymbidiums. KOS became an affiliated society of the American Orchid Society in January 1959, and a member of the Mid America Orchid Congress a year later. You can learn more on our website, in the KOS History section. Check it out! at www.kyorchidsociety.com While you are there, view our calendar of upcoming events and our information on the upcoming meeting.

The Ohio Valley Orchid Fest is to be held on August 21-23 in Kettering, Ohio. You can register for the events at www.ohiovalleyorchidfest.com and get a discount if you register early. If you need Orchiata, you can order bags of it on the website, for delivery to the event. There will be KOS members attending and I am sure that we can get your order home with someone if you are not attending yourself. However, you need to

order online by Friday, July 10, to be sure you will have what you want.



Debbie Hanna provided this photo of misting fans available at Lowe's. She has a similar fan in her greenhouse, which her plants love. Maybe it would be useful to you as well? Thanks for the tip, Debbie!



KOS was at Waterfront Botanical Gardens on June 25, making a presentation on Oncidium orchids, with a hands-on demonstration of potting of an Oncidium seedling. There were 16 attendees who took home their new orchid. Six KOS members volunteered their time and were invaluable in making this event a success. Thanks to everyone who helped in this endeavor! Photos by Sal Locasio are below.



Jen will tell you about our speaker this month, who will be discussing Phragmipediums. For those of you who are slipper orchid enthusiasts, this is a "must see" presentation. If you cannot be present, join us by Zoom!

KOS Admin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: KOS July 2026 Monthly Meeting
Time: Jul 8, 2026 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4911551123?pwd=ZnV2b3VFR3dSYUFnUlcwU2hEVjR2UT09&omn=86130663620>

Meeting chat link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/jc/86130663620>

Meeting ID: 491 155 1123

Passcode: 021021

Jan Smith, President

jansmithroberts@gmail.com



The Vice President's Corner

Letter from the Vice President:

This month our speaker is Graham Ramsey! He will be doing a presentation that will concentrate on basic Phragmipedium culture. Repotting needs along with the use of different potting mediums and techniques. With a brief history about Phragmipedium breeding sprinkled in!

Graham was bitten by the orchid bug about 20 years ago. His first orchid was...you guessed it, a white phalaenopsis. It wasn't until his mother-in-law sent him home with two boxes full of not white phalaenopsis that he became obsessed. Next came joining the Western North Carolina Orchid Society. From there it was Board member, Vice President, President, and Annual Show Chair (for 11 years). Graham is currently serving on the AOS Membership and Marketing Committee and the Affiliated Societies Committee. Did I mention Graham does home propagation? He has registered 16 of his own hybrid crosses and has received over 55 AOS awards, 11 of them on the new hybrids.

Thank you so much!

Thank you,

Jennifer Coy, Vice President
jenn_koi@hotmail.com

KOS July Meeting

Second Wednesday of the Month

Date: July 8, 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 July Meeting

Time: July 8, 2026 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4911551123?pwd=ZnV2b3VFR3dSYUFnUlcwU2hEVjR2UT09&omn=86130663620>

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.

July:

Sweet: Debbie Hanna

Salty: Need a volunteer

Savory: Anne-Marie

June Meeting Minutes

KOS Meeting Minutes, June 10, 2026

Call To Order

Meeting started at 6:30pm.

- There were 34 members in attendance and 2 new guests
- The previous minutes were approved.
- Treasurer's Report: Locust Grove Garden Fair sales totaled \$2696 in cash, \$1110 from Square and \$512 from Venmo and \$376 from plants leftover. Total profit was \$723. Our bank account has a current balance of \$3100 dollars.

Old Business:

- Orchid Digest: No update from Pam. She hasn't received the magazine yet.
- Orchids mag/AOS-Anne-Marie: The AOS magazine from last month was received and was brought to the meeting. We haven't received one for this month yet.
- Zoo orchids update by Diana: We have a few orchids in their greenhouse that need care. We are looking for volunteers that can go at least every 2 weeks to care for the orchids. If interested, email Diana and she can arrange the access and details to start going.
- Our Show is September 25-27; Co-chairs Jan Smith and Stephen Benjamin; Debbie Hanna, Sal Locascio and Pam Martin have agreed to train as co-chairs
- Show progress update by Stephen Benjamin: all is lined up in terms of venue, judges and vendors. We lost one vendor this year: the Jewelry lady due to her pregnancy. We will use her space for the repotting area. The invitations to the orchid societies will be sent out soon.
- REMINDER: first Saturday meeting will be in October.

- Name tags have been ordered and should arrive soon for those who requested them.
- Waterfront Botanical Gardens-KOS to present three educational presentations on orchids. One on general care and culture of orchids was completed in May and Jan had the help of Catherine Luckett (many thanks). The reviews were very good. Next one on Oncidiums (June 25), and one on Semi-Hydro potting (Sept 16)-Pam LaRocco. The last two will include potting of orchids. Will need volunteers to help students as they pot, promote KOS; one or two people! Send Jan an email if interested.
- Memphis Orchid Show was on June 5-6. Many thanks to Stephen Benjamin who pulled it all off by himself. Only two members sent plants, but we got 22 ribbons!
- Shirts-Jan brought a sample shirt. Members may order; navy or lavender in men and women's sizes. \$34 each. If interested, sign up for one and select the color and size.
- Plants- 22 plants left from Locust Grove were brought to the meeting to be sold at 10 % discount.

New Business:

- Pam LaRocco responded to a call from a man who had just lost his girlfriend (Lori Coates) after an illness. She had several orchids (40) which they wanted to donate. Pam went to the home, got the orchids, catalogued them, and repotted some. Some came for the raffle, and some may be at auction. Pam is housing some and I have some at my place. Many thanks to Pam.
- July 25th is our PICNIC and AUCTION; at Debbie Hanna's home in Lagrange; noon-3:30pm; bring a dish, a chair, your drinks, and a plant for the auction.
- DATE: Saturday, July 25th • TIME: Noon to 3:30-ish • PLACE: Debbie Hanna's home in LaGrange

- RSVP: Sign-ups will be at the June and July meetings (How many people/ what you will bring)
- Contact Pam LaRocco by text or email with a picture of the plant you are donating to the auction.
- RSVP before JULY 18th to Pam.
- July meeting speaker next month TBD.
- Jan got an email from a woman who is organizing Festival Colombiano on July 18th in downtown Louisville. There will be food, music, and vendors. She invited KOS to be a vendor, since Colombia is home to so many orchids. The date of our picnic was unclear, and I declined but told her we may be interested next year. Any feedback?
- Ohio Valley Orchid Fest will be August 22-23 in Dayton Ohio. KOS won't have a display, but individuals can bring their plants for judging. For details about the show visit: <https://ohiovalleyorchidfest.com>
- The AOS Board of Trustees will hold their fall board meeting in association with our show this fall. They will be attending the lasagna dinner that we hold for volunteers and vendors on Friday evening, after the set-up of the show. They will be at the show, and one will be giving a presentation at 2 pm, probably on Saturday.

Show & Tell Winners:

- 1st place: No ID Phal. Owner: Yania Martinez Ondaro
- 2nd place: *Oncidium sphacelatum*. Owner: Heidi Boel.

Speaker: Barb Schmidt, member of the AOS Board of Directors, gave a wonderful talk about "Orchids: Rooted in History"

- Raffle was held.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Yania Raquel Martinez Ondaro, Recording Secretary.

yaniayyoe@yahoo.ca

Show & Tell Winners - June 2026

1st Place: Phal NOID variegated

- Yania Martinez

2nd Place: *Oncidium sphacelatum*

- Heidi Boel

Upcoming Events

KOS Annual Summer Picnic - Saturday, July 25th
(More information below)

Ohio Valley Orchid Fest - August 22-23

Kentucky Orchid Society Show & Sale -
September 26-27

KOS Annual Summer Picnic & Plant Auction

July 25, 2026

Hi friends! Summer is here and the time for our annual KOS Picnic and Plant Auction is just around the corner. As always, the club will provide Barbeque, buns, and all the paper goods. As members, we are asked to provide a dessert or side, enough to serve ourselves and family plus extra to share with the group. Everyone brings their own beverage. RSVP is a must so that adequate meat can be ordered and purchased for

all. When you RSVP you will need to know how many people are coming and what you are bringing. We will try our best to encourage a good variety of food and balance between food and dessert. Please bring your own beverages.

The plant auction follows lunch and plants are member-provided. So please begin now to make divisions of your larger plants or set aside a plant or two that you'd like to rehome to make room for something new. New is good, right? Please send me a photo of your plant and flower if available and its name. Make sure to have some sort of a label on the pot when you bring it. I will send out a "catalogue" of all plants being auctioned by Friday, July 24, so please get these to Pam LaRocco by text or email well before that. My contact info is in the KOS Directory.

Here's what you need to know:

- DATE: Saturday, July 25th
- TIME: Noon to 3:30-ish
- PLACE: Debbie Hanna's home in LaGrange

RSVP: Sign-ups will be at the June and July meetings (How many people/ what you will bring)

Contact Pam LaRocco by text or email.

- RSVP before **JULY 18th** to Pam

I look forward to seeing all of you! The food and social time are always the best. The auction is definitely spirited, and the auctioneers and our KOS "Vanna White" are a riot.

June 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!





Kentucky Orchid Society Show & Sale Flyer

Here's a preview of the flyer for the KOS Orchid Show & Sale happening later this year



KENTUCKY ORCHID
SOCIETY

2020
show & sale

- AOS judged show
- orchids for sale
- free admission
- daily seminars
- potting table
- daily raffle

SEPT 26 10-5
SEPT 27 12-4

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
330 N Hubbards Lane

find us online at kyorchidsociety.com

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