

# Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter

## AAOS Festival

Our Orchid Festival is now less than two weeks away, and we hope to have a great show! Set-up for the show is March 16th; the show is open to the public Saturday and Sunday, March 17th and 18th. Hours for the show are 10-4:30 both days, however, the displays do not open until noon on Saturday because of judging. The vendors will open at 10 both days. There is a photographer's hour on Sunday in the auditorium from 9 am until 10.

### Our vendors in Room 125 and in the west lobby this year are:

Taylor Orchids  
Summerfield Orchids

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## President's Message

It is that time...Festival time! March 16 through March 18, we will need the help of as many of you as possible. Do you have an hour to spare either Saturday or Sunday of that weekend? We need help selling raffle tickets, answering visitor questions, helping the vendors and societies bring in their wares, teardown, etc. Linda Battison, lbattison@comcast.net or (810) 227-0120, is in charge of volunteers for this year's Festival. She will be able to let you know what help we need for the show.

Do you have a special, quick, and easy dish that you love to make? Why not share it at the Festival? We need food donations for this weekend. If you can make one dish or buy a dish or beverage, this will help immensely with our efforts. Susan Haddock, shaddock@comcast.net or (734) 994-0756, is in charge of Hospitality. She will be able to let you know what we need.

If you have any other Festival questions, please contact me at kahless66@yahoo.com or (734) 322-7230, or Ann Bommarito,

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Green Acres Orchids  
Natt's Orchids  
Oak Hill Gardens  
Littlefrog Farm  
Porter's Orchids  
J & K Orchids

In the auditorium:

Raising Rarities (cold-hardy Cypripediums and other terrestrial orchids for your garden!)

Home Re-Creations--Sue and Jim Gibney's information table

We just found out that Larry Galdes (Calypso Art Glass) won't be able to sell at our show this year. Luckily, Larry's Orchids (orchid-growing supplies vendor) was able to take the open spot with short notice.

We are expecting the usual group of neighboring orchid societies to put up displays, (Though we always hope that with the "home team advantage" we will have the best display!) If you have plants-- even one plant that you would like to show off, please bring it to the MBG auditorium either Thursday evening (time TBA) or Friday. You can send a list of your plants to Harry Winter in advance at [harwin@umich.edu](mailto:harwin@umich.edu) to help the registration process go more quickly. The sooner the better! Registration closes at 7 p.m on Friday (March 16th.)

Our speaker schedule this year includes talks from Alex Challis, Neal Foster, Don Garling, Jim Heilig, Rob Halgren and Kevin Griffin. We are looking for a few more speakers from within our membership who would like to share their own growing experiences, specialties, or information on a particular favorite genus. Talks could be geared either toward the beginner or more advanced grower. Please contact Ann Bommarito ([AnnieBomm@comcast.net](mailto:AnnieBomm@comcast.net), or call (734) 418-3134) or Kevin Griffin ([kahless66@yahoo.com](mailto:kahless66@yahoo.com), or at (734) 322-7230) if you are interested.

### **Tentative Speaker Schedule**

#### **Saturday, March 17th**

1:00 pm Neal Foster Orchid Growing--Not Difficult, Just Different  
2:00 pm Don Garling Orchid Pests and Diseases  
3:00 pm Jim Heilig Phalaenopsis Culture

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## AAOS Calendar

### March 16-18: AAOS FESTIVAL

**Mar 30-April 1:** Michigan Orchid Society show

**April 15:** AAOS mtg: Leo Schordje, Lycastes

**May 20:** AAOS mtg: Great Lakes Judging Program: Vandas

TBA: Summer Picnic

**Sept. 9:** AAOS mtg: Fred Clarke---  
Catasetums and Mormodes

## Ann Arbor Orchid Society 2006-7 Officers

**President** - Kevin Griffin 248-761-1272,  
kahless66@yahoo.com

**Vice President** - Ann Bommarito 734-418-3134,  
AnnieBomm@comcast.net

**Treasurer** - Harry Winter 761-5859, harwin@umich.edu

**Secretary** - Denise Nash 248-349-5482,  
djnash@comcast.net

**Director** - Alex Challis 971-6186, IcePenguin@aol.com

**Director** - Linda Battison, 810-227-0120, lcbattison@comcast.net

**Past President** - Paige Hartman GEHartman1@msn.com

**Hospitality** - Susan Haddock, 734-662-3222,  
shaddock@comcast.net

**Reception Committee** - Dottie Winter, 761-5859,  
harwin@umich.edu

**Library** - Duane Duman, George Parks. duman2@aol.com

**Membership** - Kevin Griffin

**Newsletter Editor** - Denise Nash

**Orchid Festival** - Ann Bommarito & Kevin Griffin

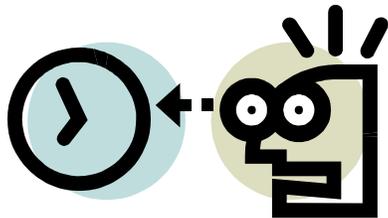
**Orchid Shows** - Alex Challis

**Programs** - Paige Hartman

**Publicity** - Neil Foster

### Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter

The AAOS meets monthly from September through May (excluding December) at the University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI. at 2:00 p.m., set up at 1:30. The AAOS Newsletter is published 8-9 times throughout the year, and is sent to all AAOS members. AAOS members and others are invited to submit articles or other information relating to orchids. The Ann Arbor Orchid Society is a 501(C)(3) educational and scientific organization, affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Mid-America Orchid Congress, and with the Orchid Digest Corporation.



## Newsletter Deadlines

If you have an article or submission for the newsletter, please email them to Denise Nash: djnash@comcast.net.

The deadlines for newsletter submissions are:

March 30, 2007

May 2, 2007

## **Sunday, March 18**

1:00 Rob Halgren Slipper Orchids

2:00 Alex Challis (TBA--possibly Orchid Species, or Growing Under Lights)

3:00 Kevin Griffin Easy Orchids

The more people we have participating and volunteering at our show, the more smoothly it runs, and the more fun we all have! Please volunteer your time and/or plan on donating food items for one of the meals we serve during the show. We need people to sit at hospitality tables, work in the lobby to greet people, walk around the auditorium to answer questions, set-up, tear-down, work in the kitchen setting up, serving, or cleaning up meals. Please contact Linda Battison (lcbattison@comcast.net) for general volunteering, and Susan Haddock (shaddock@comcast.net) for food donations and kitchen volunteering. At this point, I know we especially need a few people to help out on Friday setting up for the show.

Remember, there is a potluck dinner at MBG on Friday night (at 5:30 or 6 pm) for vendors, volunteers and AAOS members. Friday is really the day to show up before the general public does, to see (okay, BUY) all the cool plants first and have dinner!

We are still in need of trophy sponsors. About half of the trophies have been sponsored so far, please let me (Ann) know if you are interested. The cost is \$25. I'll put out an email soon showing which ones are left.

If you are interested in clerking during judging at the show, please contact Kevin or Alex. (Alex's email is icepengwyn@aol.com.) We usually need about 10-12 people for clerking. A few people have volunteered so far, but we need quite a few more.

### **Orchid magazine giveaway**

One more thing, if you have any old Orchids or AOS Bulletins that you would like to give away to the public, please bring them to show. This is also an opportunity for members to get copies of magazines which they do not have. Please note that any leftover magazines will be recycled.

If you have any questions about the show, please contact Ann (AnnieBomm@comcast.net, (734) 418-3134,) or Kevin (Kahless66@yahoo.com, (734) 322-7230.)

See you at the show!

## February Plant Table

Coelogyne chloroptera	G,O	Laura and Duane Duman
Coelogyne cristata	G,O	Laura and Duane Duman
Coelogyne sp.	L,O	Emma Edge
Masdevallia amplexa	G	Paige Hartman
Masdevallia princeps	G	Marilyn Lee
Oncidium ornithorynchum	G,O	Laura and Duane Duman
Paphiopedilum spicerianum	W,L,O	Kevin Griffin
Pleurothallis excelsa	G	Paige Hartman
Pleurothallis gheisbrechtiana	G	Paige Hartman
Sigmatostalix aristulifera	G	Marilyn Lee
Ascocenda Princess Mikasa	G,O	Laura and Duane Duman
Brassidium Shooting Stars 'Black Gold'	L,O	Kevin Griffin
Blc. Rustic Spots	L	Susan Haddock
Degamoara Winter Wonderland	G,O	Laura and Duane Duman
Masdevallia Confetti	L	Dottie Winter
Masdevallia Ken Dole	L	Dottie Winter
Miltonia Lennart Karl Gottling 'Red'	W,L	Kevin Griffin
Oncidium Kukoo	G	Alex Challis
Paphiopedilum Garnet Fire x charlesworthii	W	Kevin Griffin
Paphiopedilum Ruby Cicada	G	Alex Challis
Phalaenopsis x leucorrhoda (aphrodite x shilleriana)	G	Marilyn Lee
Sigmatostalix Okemos Gem	G	Marilyn Lee

Kevin Griffin carefully places a plant in the AAOS display at the Greater Lansing Orchid Society Show.



anniebomm@comcast.net or (734)  
418-3134.

Remember: This is supposed to be a fun time!!!!

One more thing...

Elections will be held for open board positions in May. The Nominating Committee, Jim Cather, Dee Stowell and Randy Long, is working to get nominations for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and both Directors positions. You may be called by one of the listed members of the committee to see if you would be interested in any of the positions. In April's newsletter, we will be posting a list of nominations for the board positions. Stay tuned!

Thanks,  
Kevin



Neal's BLC Pamela Hetherington 'Coronation' at the GLOS show

## GREATER LANSING ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

The GLOS show was held February 24 & 25 on the MSU campus. Set up was February 23. An excellent time was had by all who helped with the set up of the AAOS display. Kevin Griffin and Ann Bommarito were the leaders. Helpers included Harry and Dottie Winter, Susan Haddock, Linda Battison and Paige Hartman. 58 plants were registered and 14 earned ribbons. The ribbon winners were:

### First Place:

Randy Long--- Phal. Taipei Gold  
Linda Battison--- Dtps. Minho Diamond  
Denise Nash--- Trctm. pfavii

### Second Place:

Ann Bommarito---Paph. primulinum  
Neal Foster--- Blc. Pamela Hetherington  
'Coronation'  
Susan Haddock---B. Little Stars  
Randy Long--- Phal. Vianosa  
Kevin Griffin--- Phal. Ho's Amaglade  
'Bedford' x Zuma Blush

### Third Place:

Chuck Zill--- Sarcoglottis metallica  
Paige Hartman--- Phal. Tiny Berries x  
Timothy Christopher  
Paph. Leeanum  
Phal. Brother Cassangold  
Denise Nash--- Ascofinetia Cherry Blossom  
Phal. Sogo Rose

The display earned a third place ribbon. Also contributing plants were Jim Cather, Sandra Clark and Harry and Dottie Winter. Randy Long again transported the flower cart and helped out, too.

Clean up on a snowy, icy day was handled by Kevin Griffin, Randy Long, Linda Battison, Susan Haddock, Harry and Dottie Winter. Thank you to all who loaned plants and helped with the display.

## Raffle Table Etiquette

The raffle table is a place to re-home orchids that are extras, divisions, or simply plants that we no longer want, or to get rid of those that stubbornly refuse to bloom or thrive despite our best care (or worst threats). It also provides a practically free source of plants to society members while at the same time providing income to our club.

Please keep these things in mind when you are thinking about bringing plants for the raffle table. First, if there is any indication of a current pest infestation, please don't bring the orchid(s) for adoption. Also, if the plant appears to be virused or infected with some kind of disease, please don't put them on the raffle table. Bear in mind, too the difference between a plant that's just not doing well for you and one that is dying. We do reserve the right to throw out donated plants that look too ill or buggy to be part of the raffle. Remember that some of our less-experienced growers may not recognize what some pests or diseases look like, and might choose a plant from the raffle table that could infest their entire collection.

One of the best parts of our meeting's Show and Tell starts with someone saying "I got this last year off the raffle table. . . ." It's a great feeling to nurture an orphaned orchid that wasn't doing so well and turn it into a beautiful plant with our care. Let's keep the raffle table a safe source for new plants.

## Lynn O'Shaughnessy February Featured Speaker

Lynn O'Shaughnessy, a member of AAOS, was our featured speaker at the February 11th meeting. Her presentation of Easy to Grow Masdevallias was very interesting. She presented her information in a clear, organized manner with wonderful slides of blooming Masdevallias.

Lynn told us that "easy to grow" plants meant:

1. That they were warmth tolerant (house temperatures)
2. Drought tolerant for homes with lower humidity
3. Low maintenance, meaning they don't need too much more than regular repotting
4. They are hybrids and easier to grow than species
5. They are floriferous--they bloom easily.

When buying Masdevallias she suggested buying the biggest, healthiest growths available. If you can, create a situation with good humidity that will help these plants grow and bloom, such as a light cart with plastic around the sides, an Orchidarium or a terrarium with moss, or even trays of pebbles with water in the bottom. These will create more humid conditions. Lynn uses an Aqua Fog fan and hangs the plants in the fog stream. Air movement is very important.

Using good quality water, such as

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## Sponsorship Opportunities

### Trophy Sponsors

Total Investment: \$250



#### IDENTIFICATION

- Special Trophy with prominent sign in your name

#### ADVERTISING AND DISPLAY

- Special Listing in Show Program at the 19 WOC

#### INTERNET

- All Trophy Sponsors listed on the 19 WOC website

#### TICKETS

- 2 Complimentary Show tickets (one day)

19WOC is a 501(c) 3 corporation and your donation may be tax deductible.

Questions or more information, please call Amy Simons, Executive Director at 786-62-19WOC or email at [director@19woc.com](mailto:director@19woc.com).

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Please return this portion with payment to: 19WOC, PO Box 560937, Miami, FL 33256-0937

#### TROPHY SPONSOR

Name (as it should appear in the program):

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Phone: -----

Fax: -----

Address: -----

Email Address: -----

Amount enclosed \$ -----

Please make checks payable to 19WOC.

RO is necessary for all orchids. Lynn uses MSU fertilizer year around. She recommends keeping your growing area very clean---get rid of yellow leaves, old flowers or dropped flowers. When repotting use clean, sterile pots and when cutting plants you should use a new razor blade for each cutting. Masdevallias are very susceptible to mosaic virus.

Lynn repots her Pleurothallids every 6 months, mostly in spagnum moss or moss with seedling mix. Some plants are mounted on cork bark. Tree fern tends to dry to quickly.

Lynn showed slides of some of the easiest hybrids. A few of my favorites were:

Masd. strobilii x floribunda, Masd. Confetti (glandulosa x strobilii), Masd. Panama Pink (glandulosa x decumana), Masd. Mrs. Newburgh White (striatella x Peach Fuzz). Masdevallia decumana crosses have the pantalon shape. Frosty Man is decumana x Celtic Frost, Pixie Violets is decumana x coccinea. Masd. constricta is a white flower, but it allows the color from the other parent to dominate. Inca Snow is constricta x coccinea. Aquarius is M. constricta x davisii. I thought Masd. Orange Delight (Angel Frost x hirtzii) and Margie Hunter were very nice. Lynn recommended Masd. Sunrise Candy (Masd. Tuakau Candy x Bella Donna) as one that blooms very easily.

Lynn generously contributed two plants to an auction to raise extra money for AAOS. Lynn gives an excellent presentation. We are very lucky to have such an expert in Pleurothallids as a member of AAOS.

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Many THANKS to Randy Long for taking photos at the GLOS show for us.

