

The Calypso

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The Newsletter of the Greater Lansing Orchid Society

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CALYPSO DEADLINE:

March 2 for the March issue

The purposes for which the Society is organized are to create an awareness of orchid culture; to foster the preservation of native species of orchids; to support research and development of orchid culture; and to hold meetings, lectures, and exhibitions.

JANUARY 17th MEETING:

Presbyterian Church, Okemos
Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for:

- Plant shopping
- Experienced Society members will be available to answer questions and help problem solve orchid growing issues
- Please have refreshments in place prior to start of meeting.

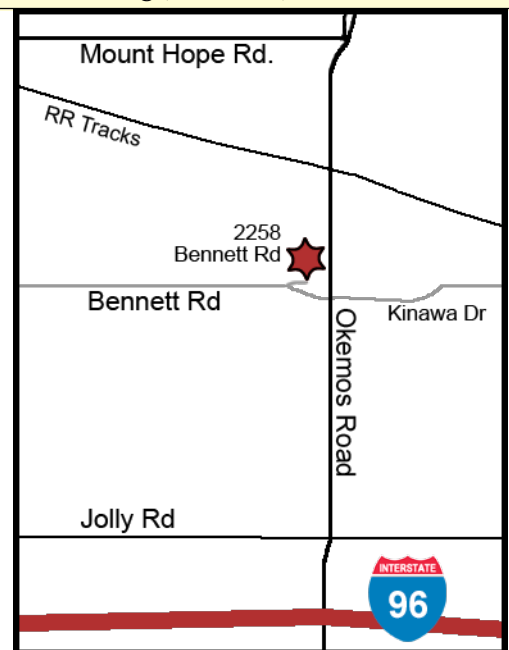
Meeting will start promptly at 7:00 pm

For the last two years, GLOS has held a "Round Robin" session at our January meeting. This seems to be popular with our members, so we will do it again this year. We will have a similar session with three tables, each one addressing a different orchid-growing topic:

- o Mounting Orchids: Jim Heilig
- o Terrariums: Rob Halgren
- o Preparing Plants for Shows: Dot Potter Barnett

As last year, we will have no vendor at this meeting. Instead, we will try another GLOS member's plant sale. This is an opportunity for you to pass on any divisions or seedlings you would like to share, and to purchase plants from other members. Any member may participate as a seller or a buyer. Please, inspect your plants closely for signs and symptoms of pests and disease. If something looks suspicious, leave it at home to help prevent others from taking pests home. Plants should also be as correctly labelled as possible. If the plant is an "unknown," then indicate such. Members set their own price for the plants they bring. If you are not sure what a plant is worth, ask someone at the meeting.

- GLOS will provide stickers to write the seller's name, and price on them. These stickers should be placed on the plants being sold.
- Purchases will be totaled up at a single location-a member helping the treasurer.
- The stickers will be used to tally the total sales for each selling member.
- The week following the sale, GLOS will send a check to each member who sold plants, less 20%. Proceeds from each meeting help to cover costs of bringing speakers to our meeting.
- Members selling plants have the option of placing unsold plants on the raffle table, if they so desire. There will not be a silent auction table at this meeting.
- Sales are between members, not GLOS and members.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- Rob Halgren

I hope you all had a happy holiday season. Because I teach, this is the time of year that I catch up on sleep, like a bear. Unlike a bear, I also try to re-pot all my Paphiopedilums over the holidays. The days are finally getting longer (not that my plants can tell under the lights in the barn), but for lady-slippers it is always a good time of year to re-pot, and this is the only time I have for that massive undertaking. It is taking me a bit longer this year because I'm trying to do it right. Every plant has to be handled, no skipping plants for later. I'm spraying everything as I take it out of pot, in an (probably futile) attempt to get rid of those last few pesky mealybugs. They hide in the pots! When I'm done with repotting Paphs, I'm going to pick up and spray all the other plants.

I've also made an early New Year's resolution. Our November speaker, Fred Clarke, said something that really stuck with me. To paraphrase, "if it isn't growing, throw it out. Why waste precious space on a plant that doesn't perform?" So true, but so very hard to do. We all think we can save that Phal with two limp leaves and one stubby root. And we probably can, sometimes. But is it really worth it? Every plant in your collection costs you something. True, it cost you something to purchase, but it also costs you time and money to maintain, and the space that another plant could grow in. If it doesn't grow well, it is like an old car – you can keep fixing it, but at some point you are better off getting a new one. There are some plants that I can't throw away, ones with sentimental value, given to me by old friends who I will never see again. OK, those I'll keep. But I will be ruthless with the rest of them. So, that is my resolution – this year I will compost the plants that struggle, or always seem to be infested with some pest, or just never bloom. I encourage you to try this as well. At the end of the year your collection may be smaller, but it will be better. A lot better.

IN MEMORIAM: This year's GLOS February Show is dedicated to the memory of the three members we have lost since last February's Show: Lynda Walker (Registration), Renate DeZacks (Corsages for TV Studios), Kris Garling (Hospitality and Clerking). How we miss you!

THANK YOU, MARY HENMAN! -submitted by Christa Forrester on behalf of the GLOS Board

It is often quite a struggle to get members of organizations to undertake tasks, but we GLOS members could take a lesson from new member Mary Henman. Mary joined the Society on August 31, 2014, and has taken on a large project on our behalf!

In case you have not yet heard, we are trying to spruce up the display area for our upcoming Orchid Show (February 28-March 1). We realized the walls in the Conservatory are unsightly, and for this 32d Show, we shall have the north wall (on your right as you enter the Conservatory) covered with panels of black fabric as a nice background for the orchid exhibits. The fabric is purchased, and ready to be sewn.

New member Mary Henman, who lives in Flint (!), offered to sew the backdrop panels and prepare them for hanging Thursday evening before our Orchid Show. Mary drove from Flint to the Show site several times to help measure and advise on what would be best for this project. GLOS extends a very special thank you to a very special new member for all the time she has donated to our beautification project.

Thank you, Mary!

GLOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **January 17 - GLOS General Meeting - GLOS mini-workshops**
- **January 24-25 - Grand Valley OS show in Grand Rapids.** Carol Ann Stuht and Dot Potter Barnett will set-up. Carol and Pete Ostlund will take-down. Dot will collect plants at her home Wed. evening, Jan. 21st after 5:30 pm. If that doesn't work for you, please contact Dot or Carol for other arrangements.
- **February 9 - GLOS Board Meeting at Ioana Sonea's.** GLOS members welcome
- **February 28-March 1 - GLOS Show and Sale (Lots of info throughout this issue)**
- **March 21 - GLOS General Meeting - TBA**
- **March 28-29 - Michigan OS Show -- GLOS needs volunteers for this show**
- **April 18-19 - Ann Arbor OS Show -- Jerrie Nichols is in charge of the GLOS Display**

Calling all GLOS members: When you are at the Show, please wear your Society name badge so that our visitors know you are someone whom they can ask for help.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2014 GLOS MEETING - submitted by Doris Asher

President Rob Halgren called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. with 38 people present. There were six guests, one of whom, Lynn Thelen, Director Bob Guilford's daughter, joined before the end of the evening. In addition, Michael Bukala paid for a lifetime membership as did renewing member Ann McConnelee. All visitors received a complimentary raffle ticket.

Our Show (February 28-March 1) – Show Chair Pete Ostlund updated the members on plans. Given the recent, sudden death of Kris Garling, co-chair with Leslie Behm for the Show's Hospitality Committee, Pete and Leslie are seeking someone to work with Leslie. Mike Underwood volunteered to staff a table at the Meridian Mall indoor farmers' market a Saturday during the month of February; in addition to himself and Ioana, he is looking for one additional volunteer. Dot Barnett presented the potential flyer for the Show. We will have copies available for distribution at the January meeting; Dot will also send the flyer to members via email for them to make copies for their use.

Doris Asher asked the membership to supply orchids for the Society's exhibit in the Saginaw Valley Orchid Society Show scheduled for the Thanksgiving weekend. She is collecting plants at her house from 3 – 8 pm on Wednesday, November 26th.

Rob explained the rules for the raffle and the silent auction.

Jim Heilig did an excellent job discussing the plants brought in for the show-and-tell table.



The program of the evening was Fred Clarke from Sunset Valley Orchids, Vista, CA speaking on: "Australian Dendrobiums." Fred's presentation was beautifully illustrated with photos of the species and hybrids including substantial information on effective culture. Members enjoyed shopping among the orchids that Fred brought for sale.

Mary Henman, Dot Barnett, Ioana Sonea, and Dottie Winter provided delicious refreshments. Dottie Winter, Ioana Sonea, and Michael Bukala volunteered for refreshments in January.

Ioana settled up the silent auction; Mike Underwood called out the raffle winners. Numerous members pitched in to put the meeting room into good order at the end of the evening.

Rob adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

REMINDER: WEAR YOUR SOCIETY NAME TAG

A message from the GLOS Membership Committee (Doris Asher, Chair; Dot Potter Barnett, Member)

Your Society's Membership Committee has changed the way we handle the GLOS name tags -- members are responsible for their own name badges.

As an incentive to wear the name tag, which is very nice for visitors and for those of us with failing memories (!), anyone who wears the badge AND purchases even one raffle ticket at \$1.00 per ticket will get a complimentary raffle ticket.

Wear your badge to the meeting. Let's help everyone greet everyone by name by wearing a name tag.

Wear your badge. Get a raffle ticket!

➔ Thanks to Mary Henman, Ioana Sonea, Dottie Winter and Dot Barnett for the great treats at this meeting. Dottie Winter, Ioana Sonea and Michael Bukala volunteered for January's refreshments.

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8, 2014 GLOS BOARD MEETING - submitted by Doris Asher

President Rob Halgren called the meeting to order at Doris' home at 6:58 p.m. Present: Doris Asher, Dot Barnett, Christa Forrester, Jim Heilig, Pete Ostlund, and Ioana Sonea. Guests: Leslie Behm, Marilyn Lee, and Jerrie Nichols. Absent: Bob Guilford.

GLOS Show (February 28-March 1, 2015)

Pete called on Hospitality Chair Leslie Behm, who sought help in finding someone to replace Kris Garling on the Show's Hospitality Committee. Various people promised to look for recent reports from Kris detailing her purchases for food at the Show. Leslie to follow up on list of items (perhaps rely on past reports provided by Doris) and identify specific areas where she needs assistance.

Music during the Show – Dot raised the subject of providing music at this year's Show. Much discussion; no decision.

Orchid plants (instead of corsages) for 2 local tv studios – in the absence of Renate DeZacks, Pete Ostlund is looking for someone to take an orchid in bloom and Show flyers to the local NBC and the CBS television studios as publicity on the Thursday and/or Friday morning prior to the Show. Dot to follow up with Porters to obtain flowering orchids.

Honoring our three deceased members – Doris raised the question of how best to honor Lynda Walker, Renate DeZacks, and Kris Garling, all of whom were active workers at our Shows and all of whom died since last year's Show. Dot will design a poster. The Best-of-Show Trophy will now be "The Don and Kris Garling Memorial Best-of-Show Trophy. In the Show Schedule Doris will add the line "This Show is dedicated to the memory of Lynda Walker, Renate DeZacks, and Kris Garling, all of whom died since our last Show."

AOS affiliation is now okay – Ioana has paid for GLOS for two years. (GLOS' AOS membership was set to expire before our Show.)

Black backdrops for the display area – Pete reported that Christa Forrester and Mary Henman have ordered enough cloth to make backdrops to cover the north wall of the display area.

Orchids-in-Use – Chair Marilyn Lee requested \$100 for backdrops for the orchids-in-use area. Approved.

Society exhibit – Jim will take responsibility for this.

Doris has begun spending the approved \$400 for orchid books for sale at the Show – so far, she has ordered about \$200 worth – at good discounts. She continues to solicit used orchid books from members – also to sell at the Show.

Doris reported that we have now received AOS approval for judging at our Show. The Show appears in the December issue of Orchids magazine.

Pete reported on the vendors who have committed to come. New vendors this year are Leo Schordje from Zion, IL and Barry Jones from Loveland, OH.

Treasurer's report

Current report – October 13 – December 6 – Ioana reported income of \$2,165 and expenses of \$798 for a net increase of \$1,367. Largest sources of income included memorial gifts for Kris Garling and Renate de Zacks (\$1,525), dues (\$176), and the November meeting raffle/silent auction (\$149). Expenses included \$557 for October and November speakers Norito Hasegawa and Fred Clarke, AOS affiliation for two years (\$125), and funeral flowers for Kris Garling (\$116).

Year-to-Date – July 1- December 8 – income \$3,348; expenses \$1,640 -- for net income of \$1,708.

Total assets – \$13,172, of which about \$11,000 is in nine CD's with differing maturity dates

Finance Committee – Ioana (Chair), Rob, Kris Garling . Ioana and Rob met and recommended that the budget for 2014-2015 be identical to that for 2013-2014. Approved.

Membership report – Doris – Since the October 13th report, we have received renewals for two individuals for membership year 2014-2015, one of which was for a life membership – Ann McConnelee. In addition, Michael Bukala paid ahead by buying a life membership as well. Alex Challis has also renewed. At our November meeting, new member Lynn Thelen joined – Lynn is Director Bob Guilford's daughter. We lost longtime member Kris Garling, who died. We currently have 102 members in 86 households. At this same time last year, we had 98 members in 84 households.

Life Members: 37 (36.2%)

Households getting Calypso electronically: 64 (74.4%)

Households needing paper copies: 22 (25.6%). Calypso costs us \$144 annually. This amount is partially offset by donations that some paper members contribute – now requested on dues form.

Last Year's Membership: at its largest, the 2013-2014 membership year totals were 113 people in 96 households.

Membership Roster -- For people needing one, Doris had paper copies of the current membership roster dated 11/17/2014, which Dot had distributed via email.

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BOARD MEETING MINUTES, cont'd

Away Shows

Saginaw Valley Show (Thanksgiving weekend) – Doris reported. Lynn O'Shaughnessy's design won the AOS Show Trophy for the exhibit. Ioana exhibited the best-of-show plant, which also received two AOS awards. The host Society is losing their facility which is closing; in addition, they would like to change the weekend for their Show. The Treasury has reimbursed Doris \$100 toward her expenses.

Michiana Show (October 25-26) – Marilyn set up the exhibit; Rob brought it home. Marilyn will be requesting reimbursement for her travel expenses.

Grand Valley (January 24-25) – Carol Stuht and Dot will set up; Pete will help with takedown

Michigan Orchid Society (March 28-29) – Rob may be available to prepare our exhibit for MOS March 28-29, 2015

Ann Arbor Orchid Society (April 18-19) – Jerrie will be in charge

Programs

January – multiworkshop format with three topics. Brainstormed about possible topics and presenters. Will have member sales again following the same format as at last January's meeting. Rob will handle the members' sales as he did last year. Jerrie will handle the sale of Kris Garling's orchids, which are at Dot's (Dot recently received them and has repotted all and treated them for insects). We will have our raffle but no silent auction. Rob may auction off a nice plant or two if needed. Possible topics: preparing orchids for display (Lynn O'Shaughnessy? Or Dot?); mounting orchids (Jim); terrariums (Rob).

March – Neither Rob nor Doris can attend; Pete can chair the meeting; Ioana can open the Church and transport the equipment and refreshments supplies from Doris' to the meeting. Brainstormed about possible speakers. It is the first meeting after the Show; perhaps a speaker aiming at beginning growers would be appropriate.

October – which Saturday to be determined based on the meeting room's availability – Ioana will check with her liaison at the Church – Jack Shumaker would like to do a meeting similar to the October 18th, Norito Hasegawa meeting ; he plans to invite Chris Purver, the orchid curator from the Eric Young Orchid Foundation on the Island of Jersey. Board approved this multi-society meeting in 2015, details to be determined. Rob will work with Jack on the meeting.

New business

GLOS Orchid Classes at Van Atta's Greenhouse and Flower Shop in Haslett – Jerrie is organizing two orchid classes for beginning growers for the two Saturdays prior to our Show and two more for the two Saturdays following our Show. All four classes are at 11 am.

GLOS "Vendor Policy" – Grand Valley Orchid Society contacted Rob about refunding table fees in the event of some catastrophe. GLOS's policy is no refunds, although, of course, we are free to make an exception if warranted.

Next Board meeting – Monday, February 9th, 7 pm, at Ioana' house.

Rob adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

WILL YOU CLERK FOR US? - submitted by Doris Asher

We need help with clerking during ribbon judging at this year's February Show. Clerks assist the judging teams in finding the plants entered in the class, preparing the ribbons for the winning entries, placing the ribbons on the winners, and recording the winners in the Society's official record. Your time commitment is for Saturday morning, February 28th, beginning at 7:30 a.m. (we provide you a light breakfast) and lasting until ribbon judging is concluded, about 11:00 a.m. The exact ending time depends on how many entries we have in this year's Show and how many judging teams we have to do the work. We need about thirty clerks. If we do not get enough AOS judges coming to our Show, Judging Chair Lynn O'Shaughnessy will use some of our more knowledgeable clerks to serve as lay judges in order to get the ribbon judging concluded in a timely fashion so we can admit the public to see the exhibits. All clerks are invited to be the Society's guests at the Judges' Luncheon held at the Show at about noon.

You do not need experience as a clerk in order to volunteer. We have written instructions for you, and will place you on a team with more experienced people. We want you to enjoy your first experience!

In addition to conventional clerking in the orchid portion of the Show, we need two people to clerk for Marilyn Lee in the Orchids-in-Use competition and two people to clerk for Carol Stuht in the Art competition -- she appreciates any volunteers, but especially tall persons!

To volunteer or to ask questions, please contact Chair of Judging Activities Doris Asher at 332-0004 or e-mail asherdoris@juno.com

REPORT: GLOS AT SAGINAW VALLEY - submitted by Doris Asher with Photos from Lynn O'Shaughnessy

Twelve GLOS members contributed two flower arrangements, assorted, beautiful foliage plants and 36 orchids in 27 different classes at the 49th SVOS Show. These orchids and arrangements captured 26 ribbons, five trophies including the best-of-show trophy and two AOS awards (on one plant). Oh, yes! And, by the way, the 50-square-foot-exhibit featuring Sharon Johnson's beautiful gray rounds won the trophy for best society exhibit and the AOS Show Trophy – these latter honors due to the artistic skill of Lynn O'Shaughnessy, who, with Doris Asher, set up the exhibit Friday and returned on Sunday afternoon to take it back to Doris' house. Society President Rob Halgren helped Doris and Lynn with takedown Sunday. Members of the Saginaw Valley group provided superb assistance both in unloading our rental van Friday afternoon and also reloading it on Sunday afternoon. Thank you so very much to them!

The star of the exhibit – dare I say of the entire Show – though, is Ioana Sonea and her gigantic Phalaenopsis Brother Little Yellowboy, which is anything but "little." It got the blue and the trophy for best Phalaenopsis; the blue and trophy for best specimen plant; and the best-of-show

trophy. As if that were not enough, the judges pulled it and awarded it both an Award of Merit of 80 points and also a Certificate of Cultural Merit of 88 points. Sheesh!!

Winners of 1st place ribbons:

& Trophy (best Vanda) - *Aerides quinquevulnera* v *calayana* (Dot Barnett)

& Trophy - Arrangement (Marilyn Lee)

& Trophy (best Dendrobium) - *Dendrobium Nora Tokunaga* (*atroviolaceum* x *rhodostictum*) (Dot)

& Trophy (best Phal) - *Phalaenopsis Brother Little Yellowboy* (*Ho's Amaglad* x *Brother Imp*) (Ioana Sonea)

& Trophy (best specimen plant & Best of Show & AM 80 pts & CCM 88 pts) - *Phalaenopsis Brother Little Yellowboy* (Ioana)

Arrangement #2 (Marilyn)

Dendrobium Hybrid -- 4 inflorescences; dark purple antelope (Ioana)

Gastrochilus acutifolius (Dot)

Paph. barbigerum fma album -- two flowers; green and white (Bill Cadman)

Paph. In-Charm Topaz (*helenae* x *Pacific Shamrock*) -- six flowers; yellow (Bill)

Phalaenopsis Harmony Rose – 2 inflorescences; small, red flowers (Ioana)

Phalaenopsis Hybrid – white w colored lip (Georgian Franczyk)

Phalaenopsis Limelight (mericlone) -- yellow with pink lip (Marilyn)

Phalaenopsis Sogo Grape 'Fireball' AM/AOS (*Super Stupid* x *Princess Kaiulani*)

(Julie Bishop)

Phalaenopsis Vivian -- rich pink (Dea Bishop)

Winners of 2d place:

Gastrochilus obliquus (Larry Watson and Kherwin Cheng Chua)

Paphiopedilum concolor var. *chlorophyllum* (Dot)

For First Bloom Seedling class -- *Paphiopedilum* (*Olympic Halo* x *Stone Lovely*)

(Marilyn)

Phalaenopsis Hybrid -- pink multifloral; two inflorescences (Bill Bergman)

Phalaenopsis venosa (Larry and Kherwin)

Renanthera matutina (Dot)

Stenocoryne aurea-fulva ('*Marisa*' x self) -- small orange flowers (Dot)

Tuberolabium quisumbingii -- cream flowers pink lip (Dot)

Winners of 3d place:

Cattleya Crystelle Smith 'BK Orchids' (*Beaufort* x *loddigesii*) (Marilyn)

For Specimen Plant class -- *Paph. In-Charm Topaz* (*helenae* x *Pacific Shamrock*) -- six flowers; yellow (Bill)

Phalaenopsis Sogo Diamond (*New Cinderella* x *Minho Princess*) -- desert tones (Dea)

Judges pulled for consideration of an AOS award but the plant was not successful - *Paphiopedilum Fairly Sauced* (*Sorcerer's Stone 'Yellow Magic'* x *fairrieanum album 'Surprise'*) -- one flower and one bud (Larry and Kherwin)

Thank you, one and all!



*Congratulations,
Ioana!*

GLOS TREASURER'S REPORT - Covering Period from 10/14/2014 – 12/06/2014, submitted by Ioana Sonea**Income:**

1. Main sources of income were dues, donations in the memory of Renate de Zacks and Kris Garling, and the November meeting.
 - a. renewals – 4 members renewed during this period for total income of \$176.00 (2 life memberships, Mike Bukala and Ann McConnelee)
 - b. donations in the memory of Renate de Zacks, Kris Garling and others totaled \$1525 (including a very generous donation of \$1000 from Doris Asher)
 - c. \$250 for trophies (10 trophies paid for to date)
 - d. The November meeting brought in \$149.00 (\$71 from the silent auction and \$78.00 from the raffle)
 - e. Donations for postage of the Calypso totaled \$65.00
2. Total income for period: \$2165.

Expenses:

1. Main expenses for the period were our October and November meetings: Speaker's expenses for Norito Hasegawa (\$125) and Fred Clarke (\$432) for a total of \$557.00
2. AOS affiliation (2 years) \$125.00
3. Flowers for Kris Garling \$115.95
4. Total expense for period: \$797.95

Net income for October 14 – December 08: \$1367.05

Year-to-Date – 7/01/2014 – 12/08/2014

Income: Total income from July 01 through December 08: \$3348.08

Expenses: Total expenses from July 01 through December 08: \$1639.13

Overall, we have had a net income of \$1708.95 for the period.

We have total assets of \$13 172, \$11 000 of which is in nine CD's with differing maturity dates.

ORCHID CULTURE CLASSES - Submitted by Jerrie Nichols

Greater Lansing Orchid Society and Van Atta's Greenhouse are once again presenting Basic Orchid Culture classes as part of their winter education series. There are four classes, all taught by GLOS members. Classes are held at the Van Atta's Greenhouse on Old M-78 in Haslett on Saturdays at 11am. The first class is on "Why won't my orchid bloom" Saturday, February 14, 11am. The second class " Growing Phalaenopsis" is on February 21, 11am. The third class is all about repotting, and will be held on March 3, 11am. And the final class is about "Life beyond Phalaenopsis". This class will be held on March 14, again at 11 am. Hope you can join us. If you need more information, please contact me or Van Atta's.

GLOS MEMBERS SHOW THEIR GENEROSITY – 2015 SHOW TROPHY SPONSORS - Doris Asher

Once again, Society members have come through, underwriting all of the trophies for our Show this February! The trophies will be prepared by Larry Galdes and Joy Suphattra's Clay Flowers.

You can save yourself a postage stamp by paying Treasurer Ioana Sonea in person at our January 17th meeting. A check or cash is equally welcome – the cost is \$25.00. Checks payable to GLOS may also be mailed to Ioana Sonea, Treasurer, 3740 Chippendale Dr., Okemos MI 48864.

Thank you, donors, very much.

This year's sponsors are:

| <i>Exhibits</i> | <i>Sponsor</i> | <i>Exhibits</i> | <i>Sponsor</i> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Open | Pete Ostlund | Pleurothallid Alliance | Lynn O'Shaughnessy |
| Exhibits, Society | Pete Porciello | Miscellaneous Genera | The Garling Family |
| Exhibits, Amateur | Anonymous GLOS Members | Specimen Plant | The DeZacks Family |
| Cattleya Alliance | Littlefrog Farm | Art | Harry & Dottie Winter |
| Cypripedium Alliance | Dot Potter Barnett | Photography | Carol Ann Stuht |
| Phalaenopsis | The DeZacks Family | Orchids in Use (Amateur) | Andrea Bishop |
| Vanda and Ascocenda | Renie Gatny-Smith | Orchids in Use (Professional) | Julie Bishop |
| Brassia and Miltonia | Christa Forrester | Don & Kris Garling | |
| Oncidium Alliance | Don & Jane Farrelly | Memorial Best of Show | Jan Szyren |
| Cymbidium Alliance | Dawn & Sherwin Kittle & Betty Harvey | AOS Show Trophy – Outstanding Exhibit | Greater Lansing Orchid Society |
| Dendrobium Alliance | Bob Guilford | | |

CASH FOR BEST ESSAY



The Mid-America Orchid Congress invites you to enter their essay contest for 2015: the topic is "My Most Exciting Orchid-Related Experience" -- and win up to \$100.00! The essay should be no more than 500 words in length and submitted no later than September 1, 2015, to Doris Asher (asherdoris@juno.com) – winners will be announced at the Congress' Sunday Business Meeting in the fall of 2015 – date and place to be announced. You do not need to be present to win. First prize wins \$100.00; second, \$50; third, \$25. All three prize-winning essays will appear in future issues of the Congress's newsletter, The Mid-American.

For more information or if you have questions, contact Doris Asher via email (or by phone (517-332-0004).

MY PROBLEM WITH ORCHIDS IS... (This essay was written for this year's MAOC contest)

By Lynn O'Shaughnessy

...they are an addiction.

I loved gardening and had been growing an assortment of houseplants for many years that included an interest in a few African Violets and various members of the cactus family. At the time I married my husband, my small collection was doing pretty poorly, but nevertheless, I brought the plants into my new home and began to try to breathe some life into them. It was then that my husband asked the question that he sometimes thinks he never should have asked, "Can you grow something with a flower on it?"

The next day I visited a commercial greenhouse a few towns over and came home with an orchid in bloom along with some literature on where I could order more. I joined a "blooming orchid of the month" club with another commercial firm who sent me a beautiful blooming orchid every month like clockwork. I placed my first mail order and received 6 seedlings, not having any idea how long it would take for them to bloom. It didn't matter, though, I was now an orchid grower and my collection was expanding.

About a year later, only two Christmas cactuses remained of my houseplant collection and my orchid collection had swelled to 40 plants. I was beginning to find out that keeping some of them alive was a challenge because not all orchids could survive given the same cultural conditions. Repotting? No one had told me about that. Then someone mentioned that I could get lots of information by joining an orchid society, so I did. I joined three of them.

Orchid societies were great! I had a chance to be with other addicts who were very eager to share about their successes and failures. I learned about repotting and which orchids liked it bright or shady, wet or dry. I tweaked my meager growing area to try to accommodate as many of them as I could. And did I tell you that an orchid society was a great source of obtaining more orchid plants? It was an addicts dream!

Fast forward eight years and I had filled my sunroom to the brim. The corner of my basement housed another 800 orchids or so under lights and in Orchidariums. I had humidifiers and fans running to keep my orchids comfortable and plastic stapled to the ceiling of the basement to keep the house comfortable...or maybe that was to keep my husband happy? Even with all of these lovely orchid plants, I couldn't wait to get my next fix. New orders came in at least twice a month. I knew what was coming next.

Nine years after buying my first orchid plant, I moved into my brand new greenhouse. Now I was a real orchid grower! Does it ever get old growing orchids? Not really. And, yes, I can grow something with a flower on it.



GLOS ROSTER

Returning Member

Rebecca Schuon
6251 E Lake Dr.
Haslett, MI 48840-8990

Notice to all GLOS members: if any part of your contact information changes, please notify Doris Asher or Dot Potter Barnett.

Recent changes will appear in the next Roster.

FEBRUARY 2015 GLOS SHOW CHAIRS AND HELP REQUEST - submitted by Pete Ostlund

The following members have agreed to lead certain efforts to make our 2015 show a success.

AOS Judging - Lynn

Art Exhibits - Carol

Orchids in Use - Marilyn

Flyers/Floor Brochures - Dot

GLOS exhibit – Jim H.

Hospitality - Leslie

Information Table – Emily (with help from any other willing member)

Judging Activities/Registration - Doris

Parking Permits - Ioana

Direction signs - Ioana

Publicity - Pete P.

Staging/Lay Out - Jerrie and Pete P.

Vendors/Exhibitors - Pete O.

MSU Liaison – Ioana

Classes – Mike U.

Children's corner: Diane and Michael B.

Sunday Tear Down – **We Need Your Help!**
(see below for more details)

But we'll need help from you to make the show a success. The one thing we always hear back from vendors and exhibitors is how much they appreciate the help we provide them and how friendly we are. Below are some possible areas you could help in making the show a success:

In the weeks prior to the show, prepare your orchids for our display (you can learn how to do this at our January meeting). Make sure the orchids are clean and pest free. Jim Heilig is leading our display efforts.

By Wednesday night prior to the show, provide Jim the names of the orchids you are putting in the GLOS display so Jim can prepare labels and complete other paperwork and planning. He'd appreciate this information a few days earlier if possible.

Thursday night prior to the show we set up the vendor tables and display area. We could use some helping hands. This usually runs from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Most of the effort is in moving and setting up tables, and preparing the tables (putting on covering and edging).

Thursday or Friday morning (very early): deliver orchids to two local TV stations as part of our publicity effort

Friday:

- o Bring your orchids to MSU prior to noon if you haven't contacted Jim to make other arrangements in advance of the show. More directions will come prior to the show.
- o Help vendors and exhibitors unload their orchids and material for the show. Help is needed from noon to 7:00 or 8:00 pm. You don't need to be there that entire time. Your bonus is early viewing of orchids that will be for sale.
- o We need your food! Although a main course is the pizza, we supplement it with other entrees donated by members who also bring in desserts, salads and other goodies. Workers get fed around 6:00 (the society covers the cost of the pizza).Saturday:

Saturday:

- o Breakfast is served early for the judges and clerks. If you haven't clerked before, this is a good way to learn what to look for in an orchid flower. You'll hear the judges discuss the merits of the flowers they are judging. You'll be teamed with experienced clerks. We try to make this fun, but it does involve about 3 hours (starting at 8:00 AM) on your feet finding orchids and placing ribbons. I've done this for a number of years, and learn something new each year. Consider volunteering to be a clerk if you haven't done this before.
- o We need your food (more food, eating is important)! Lunch is served around noon for the judges and workers. A good part of lunch is catered, but members also bring in desserts and salads and other goodies.
- o Consider helping out at the information table. We usually have 2-3 members take turns sitting at the information table. The public has questions about GLOS, what we do, about their orchids, etc. If you know a little bit, you probably know more than most people. If you can't answer a question, there is usually a member walking by that can help out.

Sunday

- o Consider helping at the information table (see above)
- o Tear down: At 4:00 on Sunday the show ends.
 - The people renting us the tables want to pick them up Sunday around 5:45
 - Vendors and exhibitors want to leave and leave quickly. What takes 1 day to set up is all torn down and cleaned up within 2 hours (4:00 – 6:00). Hopefully the vendors are leaving with only a few orchids left. If you can wheel a cart, move a cart, carry a box of orchids, you can help.
 - Help cleaning up: everything needs to be put back the way it was before the show
 - Take exhibit material back to our storage area

NOTE FROM MARILYN LEE: To all members who would like to enter a floral arrangement in our Feb. orchid show there will be printed design schedules at the January meeting. Members are encouraged to enter designs and Marilyn Lee will have orchid blooms for those that need them.

GLOS MEMBERS DORIS ASHER AND GREG FILTER IN THE (ORCHID) NEWS

When the Mid-America Orchid Congress (MAOC) met in Columbus, OH, on November 9th, the delegates re-elected Doris Asher to a second term as the Congress' 29th President.

There is a tradition in the MAOC that each President wears a distinctive headpiece. Doris' is a white, furry halo called the "circle of life". Hanging from the circle are her award-winning Slc Circle of Life, a pair of walking shoes, the big M because she graduated from the University of Michigan, a banana because she eats healthy, and a replica of the judging award form because she is an American Orchid Society judge. Each time she presides, she must wear her "hat"!

The other officers elected in Columbus:

1st Vice President, Dr Jim Newsome from the Alabama Orchid Society
2d Vice President, Janice Yates from the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society
Secretary, Cheryl Erins from the Batavia Orchid Society
Treasurer, Alexa Noel from the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society

At the American Orchid Society's Members Meeting in Orlando on November 1st, AOS President Frank Smith presented the **AOS Silver Medal of Achievement to Greg Filter** for his tireless volunteer commitment and dedication to the Society in overseeing and developing its various information services projects. Greg serves as Chair of the Society's Information Technology Committee. The AOS Silver Medal is awarded to an individual in recognition of distinguished single-project contributions for outstanding service to the AOS or the orchid community.

Congratulations, Greg!

THE MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS



Doris and her "hat" presiding at the Columbus Mid-America (Photo: Lynn O'Shaughnessy)



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT, FRANK SMITH - DECEMBER 4, 2014

Dear AOS Member,

First and foremost, thank you. Thank you for being part of something special. Something big. You are part of a community of like-minded people who share a singular passion – the love of orchids. You are the American Orchid Society. Without your membership and support, we wouldn't be here.

Great things are happening at the AOS. We've been successful in securing the location of our library at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and are beginning construction. A project made possible through donations by many people over many years. We're moving toward scanning in all the old Orchids magazines and AOS Bulletins in order to make them available to membership on our website. Our membership numbers are growing! In large part, thanks to the tireless efforts by our IT committee and volunteers. They're working hard to make our IT services better and easier for you. We're continuing our highly successful webinar series. Each month, renowned experts enlighten us on fascinating orchid topics.

And of course each month, there's our beautiful, informative, award-winning Orchids magazine. Available in print and online.

We exist to serve you. Your valued support and contributions make all the projects previously described and much more possible – educational resources and opportunities, research, orchid conservation, and a world-class awards and judging system. We humbly ask for your continued support, now more than ever. Your gift is extremely important to the American Orchid Society. It provides resources that make an immediate impact. Your gift can make all the difference. We very much appreciate unrestricted gifts that can be used where they will have the most impact. If you'd like, you can specify your gift to a particular program: education, conservation, research, the color-fund/annual supplement, or to support our continuing IT projects. Please consider making as generous a gift as you can. Donations can be made to our website at www.aos.org/store/donate.aspx or by calling (305) 740-2010. The AOS is a 501(c)3 organization, so donations before December 31 can qualify for tax benefits associated with year-end giving. The AOS is here for you. And with your generous support, we'll continue to be. The AOS is a volunteer organization, so your help is incredibly important. Remember, you're part of something special. Something big. You're an integral part of the American Orchid Society. Your donation will make a world of difference. So thank you.

Best wishes for the coming year.

Littlefrog Farm **JUMP IN!**
Rob Halgren, PhD.



<http://littlefrogfarm.com>
 rob@littlefrogfarm.com

PO Box 27573
 Lansing, MI 48909

PORTER'S ORCHIDS 

Royston Rd. at St. Joe Hwy., Grand Ledge, MI
 Usually Open Tues-Sat, 10 am - 4 pm
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<http://portersorchids.com> 517-622-4188

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 Monroe, Michigan 48162

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E-Mail:
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The Grand Valley Orchid Society's 17th Annual Orchid Show held at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

orchid show
 January 24-25, 2015



Orchid Displays: Saturday 12-5 pm, Sunday 11am-5 pm / Orchid Sales: Saturday 9 am-5 pm, Sunday 11 am-5 pm

FREE EVENT

FREDERIK MEIJER
 Gardens & Sculpture Park

Grand Valley Orchid Society
 For more information visit us at:
[Facebook.com/grandvalleyorchidsociety](https://www.facebook.com/grandvalleyorchidsociety)

MeijerGardens.org   
 100 Wood East Blvd., Grand Rapids, MI

**USED ORCHID BOOKS WANTED;
 USED ORCHIDS MAGAZINES WANTED**

Do you have some orchid books that you no longer want? How about current issues of Orchids magazines – those within the last twelve months or so? At last year's Orchid Show, we sold numerous used books donated by various Society members. Visitors to the Show snapped them up very quickly and, because the books were donated, the Society made 100% profit. We would like to use the issues of Orchids to entice prospective members to the American Orchid Society.

Because this service is so popular, we would like to offer inexpensive, used orchid books again at this February's Show. Since GLOS is an IRS not-for-profit 501(c) 3 organization, you may deduct the value of the books you give us. The Society will be happy to provide you a receipt for your gift.

Some of you brought Doris books to the Society meetings this fall, but we need many more. Please consider giving such books (and 2014 issues of Orchids) to Secretary Doris Asher, who will hand them on to the Chair of the Show's Information Table

Looking for a place to recycle your fluorescent tubes/bulbs? www.cleanlites.com, at 655 Hull Rd, Mason, MI 48854 (517) 676 0044 Will accept florescent tubes-all sizes-for the price of \$0.25 each any time of year



FOOD HELP NEEDED FOR THE 2015 GLOS SHOW!

Please sign up to bring food for the workers at the 2015 Greater Lansing Orchid Society Show at MSU. Write what type of food you plan to bring. Please bring it to the MSU Horticulture Display Greenhouses on Friday evening, February 27th before 5:30 pm to accompany our main course, pizza. Tell the parking attendant you are with the Orchid Show. We feed about 80 workers between 6 – 7 pm. If you can't donate food, please consider a donation of money for the purchase of food and drink.

Name _____ Phone no. _____

Salad _____ Soda _____

Desserts _____ Water _____

Fruit/Veggies _____ Snacks _____

Donation for food and drink for Friday night or Saturday (breakfast, lunch) \$ _____

Please give this form to Leslie Behm at the January meeting or email Leslie at behm@msu.edu.

Helpers for food service are needed for Friday evening setup and Saturday morning/noon. Please contact Leslie at 517-668-1331. *We need volunteers!*

NOTE FROM MIKE UNDERWOOD: For the last 2 years on the Saturday before our show, we have been setting up an informational table at the Meridian Farmers Market at the mall. We have received great positive feedback from the public there. Last year, we spoke to over 100 people who told us that they wanted to attend the show after meeting us, and hooked several new members too. I have made arrangements to do this again this year from 10 AM to 4 PM, Saturday, 2-21, and am in need of more volunteers to help us out for part or all of the day. It is great fun and you get to speak to a lot of the public about orchids, no great experience necessary. Also if you have an unusual orchid that can make great conversation starters, we could use it too. They do not need to be show quality, just something to attract the public's eye. Call or email me if you can help. Mike Underwood mike@avi-sci.com 989-224-9227