

The Mid-American

Newsletter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress

February 2011

<http://www.midamericanorchids.org/>

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MEMPHIS IN MAY!

The Memphis Orchid Society invites you to join us for *A Celebration of Orchids* and the Mid-America Orchid Congress Spring meeting, 20-22 May 2011. We're planning a great orchid show and a memorable Mid-America weekend for all registrants. Both the show and congress will be held at the Holiday Inn Select ([Click here](#)) located at I-240 & Poplar (901-682-7881). Call or click early to reserve your room! Tell them you are with the Orchid Show for the special rate of \$109 per night.

Following are a detailed, combined schedule of activities and the MAOC registration form. We will be using the current Mid-America schedule for entries. If you have questions, just e-mail us (click on: Memphisorchids@gmail.com) or give us a call at 901-268-1445 (cell phone).

For societies wishing to enter an exhibit, e-mail us with details as to what size you would like. Early birds may unload Thursday night from 5-8 p.m.

We have four outstanding speakers scheduled for our Saturday lecture series with a variety of topics. Local member Susan Young starts off the session with insights in scrapbooking our orchids as well as memories. Member Bart Jones, a Tennessee native, will review the latest news from the local world of native Tennessee orchids. Troy Meyers of Meyers Conservatory (www.troymeyers.com) will provide encouraging conservation news from the world of laboratory propagation of orchids. Jay Pfahl, founder of the phenomenal website

International Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia (www.orchidspecies.com), will bring us the latest news from the internet and the continuing search for new photos. Both the above sites are hyperlinks – just click on them for direct website connection.

Our vendors can help with additions to your orchid collection plus our members will be around to assist with cultural questions. Our vendors are Stones River Orchids, Orchids Plus, Clown Alley Orchids, New Vision Orchids, Orchid Inn, Merkle Orchids, Orchid Babies and the incredible wood carvings of our local artist Kamran Kiani.

Donations are appreciated for the Mid-America auction preceding the Mid-America banquet on Saturday (just bring them by the registration table Friday or Saturday). This popular and entertaining event is Mid-America's main fundraiser, so make plans now to attend and bid generously to help support the conservation, education and research projects that Mid-America funds.

The Mid-America committee meetings at 7:00 PM on Friday are open to the public, so don't miss this opportunity to learn more about Mid-America's work on behalf of its member societies. The Mid-America business meeting on Sunday morning is also open, and we hope all affiliated societies will send their delegates to this important meeting.

We hope you'll come to Memphis to celebrate this wonderful world of orchids!

Charles and Susan Wilson, Show co-chairs

Speakers

Susan Young



Susan Young is an active member of the Memphis Orchid Society, an avid orchid enthusiast and Information Technology student. She is currently involved in preserving orchid photos on computer scrapbook pages.

Bart Jones



Bart Jones is currently the president of the Tennessee Native Plant Society, a past president of the Memphis Orchid Society, and a member of the Georgia Botanical Society, the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society, as well as the Nature Conservancy, the Wolf River Conservancy, the Swan Conservation Trust, Friends of the South Cumberland, and the North American Butterfly Association. Bart has led numerous field trips for these groups to see many of Tennessee's rarest plants, including many orchids. Bart is an Associate Scientist in the Department of Infectious Diseases at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Troy Meyers



Not many can claim that Nero Wolfe caused them to get into orchids. But after reading one of the classic mysteries back in the 1980's, Troy Meyers began to answer why anyone would want to have 10,000 orchids. Troy, originally an electrical engineer, created his seed lab in 1999, and closed his engineering business two years later. Since then, the lab has produced over 46,000 flasks, and distributed an estimated 470,000 plants in flask, pots, or compots. The goal of the lab is to make species available at low prices that make collection in the wild less economically attractive, and to continue to propagate species whose native habitat have been destroyed.

Jay Pfahl



Jay Pfahl became interested in orchids shortly after 1977 when he and his wife Carmenza moved to Key West, FL, where they opened Neptune Designs (custom designed jewelry). Since creating the Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia in 1999, Jay has documented to date over 12,439 species in 805 genera with photos or drawings. And if you think that is some kind record, he has also been Vice-president of the Key West Orchid Society since 1992.

Combined Schedule of Activities for MAOC and MOS Show

Thu, May 19, 2011:

5-8 pm - early arrivals can unload orchids into exhibit/sales halls

Fri, May 20, 2011:

8 am-7 pm - set up of exhibits/sales tables
(plant entry registration noon to 6 pm)

Sales area open from noon to 5 pm

Noon - 6 pm- Congress registration

5 -7 pm - Executive Committee meeting

7-9 pm - Committee meetings (open to public)

Sat, May 21, 2011:

Sales open 9 am-5 pm; Exhibits open noon to 5 pm

Judges/Clerks Breakfast 7-8 am
(restricted to active participants)

Ribbon judging starts at 8 am, followed
by AOS award judging

Judges/Clerks Working Lunch (when
convenient)

9 am -2 pm - Congress registration

2-5 pm- MAOC Lecture series (Paid registration
required for admission)

2:00 Susan Young - Scrapbooking with
Orchids

2:30 Bart Jones - The Native Orchids of
Tennessee

3:00 Troy Meyers - Orchid Propagation
for Conservation

4:00 Jay Pfahl - Orchids on the Internet

5:00-5:30 Auction Preview & Happy
Hour (open to public)

5:30 – 7 pm Live Auction & Happy Hour
(open to public; fundraiser shared by MAOC
and MOS)

7 pm Banquet (Ticket required)

Sun, May 22, 2011:

7:30-9 am - Affiliated Societies Breakfast
(Ticket required) - An informal meeting of all
orchid societies to discuss 'Finances & the
Local Society'

9-11 am - MAOC Business Meeting (Open
to public)

11-12 am - AOS Judges' Forum - Tom
Harper, Moderator (Open to public)

Sales and Exhibits open Noon to 4 pm
(breakdown at 4pm)

REMEMBER TO REGISTER FOR SUNDAY'S BREAKFAST/DISCUSSION

Plan to attend the MAOC Affiliated Societies
Breakfast on Sunday, May 22, 2011 in
Memphis, Tennessee. The discussion will
focus on FINANCES AND THE LOCAL
ORCHID SOCIETY. All societies face issues of
fundraising. This is an opportunity to share
ideas on innovative ways to cover the costs of
speakers, shows etc. Has your society
considered applying for 501(c) 3 status? We
will discuss the application process and the
costs.

The Affiliated Societies Committee welcomes
suggestions of topics to be discussed at future
MAOC meetings.

Mary Beth Mansour, Chair
Affiliated Societies Committee
mbmansour1@cox.net

SHOW IN KNOXVILLE

The Smoky Mountain Orchid Society
announces its Show:

March 4-6, 2011

West Town Mall, Knoxville, TN

Contact: Bonnie Armstrong, Show Chair

850 Promiseland Road, Blaine, TN 37709

865-828-8055

Email: willywar2@frontiernet.net

SHOW IN NASHVILLE

The Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee
announces its Spring Show:

Cheekwood Botanical Gardens, 1200 Forrest
Park Drive, Nashville, TN

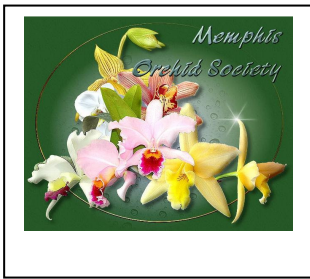
March 19-20, 2011

Contact: Jan Lawrence

615-481-6443

Email: jan161@comcast.net

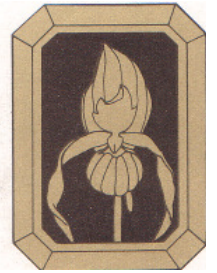
Web site: www.tnorchid.com



Mid-America Orchid Congress'

94th Meeting, held in conjunction with the

Memphis Orchid Society



2011 Show

May 20-22, 2011
Memphis, Tennessee

2011 Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress Registration

(Please type or print)

	First Registrant	Second Registrant
Name (for your badge)		
Society Affiliation		
Address		
City, State, Province, Zip		
Telephone		
E-Mail		
Will you be judging?	Yes No Status _____	Yes No Status _____
Do you wish to clerk?	Yes No	Yes No

	Before May 1st	After May 1st	First Registrant	Second Registrant	Total
Full Registration (includes free orchid & unlimited access to the lectures)	\$40	\$50			
Banquet Dinner at Holiday Inn (Saturday)	\$30	\$40			
Affiliated Societies Breakfast (Sunday)	\$21	\$30			
					Total

Banquet Entree Choice (Please select and mark one for first or second registrant):

___ 1st ___ 2nd **Vegetarian:** Eggplant Parmesan topped with melted provolone and house marinara, herbed rice blend, and seasonal vegetable melange

___ 1st ___ 2nd **Roast Beef:** Tender, slow-roasted beef smothered with mushroom sauce and served with whipped potatoes and seasonal vegetable melange

___ 1st ___ 2nd **Grilled Boneless Breast of Chicken:** Marinated and grilled boneless breast, sour cream whipped potatoes, and seasonal vegetable melange

Hotel Reservations:

Holiday Inn Select
I-240 & Poplar
Memphis, TN
901-682-7881

[Click here](#)

****Return this form with payment**

(check made to MOS) to:

Debra Baker
3617 Graves Road
Memphis, TN 38116

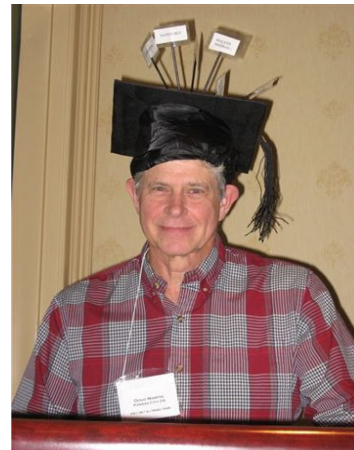
MAOC TO SHARE AUCTION 50/50 WITH HOST SOCIETY

The Mid-America Orchid Congress has created a new benefit for affiliated societies that host Mid-America meetings. Mid-America will donate to a host society 50% of the auction proceeds received at the hosted meeting. The first recipient will be the Memphis Orchid Society, host of the Spring 2011 Congress.

Mid-America attendees know that the Saturday evening auction is a fun-filled highlight of every Mid-America meeting. "It's Mid-America's main fundraising event, and now it will be a fundraising event for our host society as well," says Beth Martin, chair of the Mid-America Annual Meetings Committee. "We want to encourage more societies to host Mid-America meetings, and we know the societies are concerned about the financial aspects. We decided to split the auction proceeds because we see Mid-America meetings as a partnership between Mid-America and the host society. For the past few years our auctions have averaged close to \$3000, so we think it will be a significant help to a host society. The society can use their share to cover expenses of the Mid-America meeting, or maybe just build up their treasury." Because Mid-America is a 501(c)(3) organization, all donations of auction items are tax-deductible and winning bids may be partially tax-deductible.

The new benefit is available only to affiliated societies who host Mid-America meetings and are responsible for all meeting arrangements. In addition, Mid-America funds are available to help pay the expenses of a speaker at each spring and fall meeting. Mid-America can also provide a loan of up to \$2,500 (to be repaid at the end of the hosted meeting) for deposits and other up-front expenses. The Annual Meetings Committee can provide historical data and other information to societies interested in hosting a Mid-America meeting. For more information please contact Beth Martin, 913-248-8669 or bethdougmm@kc.rr.com.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Fellow Orchid Growers,

As I write this, many of us are still digging out from the "Great Blizzard of '11". With the temperatures predicted to dip back to near zero again soon, I can't help but wonder what sort of strange obsession is it that compels us to take our flowers to orchid shows in January and February in places like Kansas City, St. Louis and even Minneapolis? And yet we do! At least, spring is supposed to come early this year because the groundhog didn't see his shadow. That seems right, since there was no way the one that lives under our deck could have gotten out from under the snow to take a look.

For me spring can't come soon enough for many reasons, not the least of which is that it will bring with it our Spring Mid-America meeting, this year in Memphis, May 20-22. We will be hosted by the Memphis Orchid Society. Their organizing committee, chaired by Charles and Susan Wilson, has put together an exciting program with interesting speakers. You can find all the details and the registration form elsewhere in this issue. Please be sure to make your hotel reservations early, even if you are only thinking about going. We will be there for the barbeque weekend of the Memphis in May celebration. This is the biggest event in the city's year, and the hotels sell out weeks in advance. You can always cancel your reservation if you are unable to attend, but you won't be able to get a room if you wait until just before the meeting.

As yet we don't have a site for the Fall 2011 meeting. If your Society has a fall show, please consider hosting Mid-America this fall. It's a special opportunity for your members to meet orchid growers and hear speakers that you may not be able to bring to your monthly meetings. Contact our Annual Meetings Chair, Beth Martin, at bethdoug@kc.rr.com or 913-248-8669. She has compiled a spreadsheet with information about the MAOC meetings over the last five years. It will help you understand how your Society could host Mid-America this fall. Many societies think that they don't have enough members to put on Mid-America meeting. But if you're having a show, you're already doing the biggest part of it. Adding on an MAOC meeting really isn't a lot more work. Or perhaps your Society could join with one or two others to host a Congress jointly.

Also many societies worry about the cost. However, many Mid-America meetings over the last few years have made money or, at least, have broken even. Beth can show you how they did it. She has the data you need to plan successfully. And don't forget that Mid-America is now splitting our auction revenue 50/50 with host societies – see article on page 5 of this issue.

As an alternative, consider inviting Mid-America to hold its meeting in conjunction with your Show. We've done this twice in the last year, and both events were very successful.

Mid-America is at a crossroads. While several societies are seriously considering hosting us in the future, starting with spring 2012, I believe it would be detrimental to the Congress to miss the fall meeting this year. Please talk to your Society about hosting us this fall.

Sincerely,
Doug Martin, President

AOS CORNER

One benefit of AOS membership which is often overlooked is the Reciprocal Admissions Program, provided through AOS' affiliation with the American Horticultural Society. As an AOS member, you will have access to a wide array of botanical gardens, arboreta, and conservatories throughout North America offering special admission privileges and many

other benefits. For those AOS members who currently use this program, it provides benefits in excess of the cost of AOS dues. For more information and a listing of reciprocal locations in your, visit the AHS website at: http://www.ahs.org/events/reciprocal_events_online_directory.htm. There is an online directory which has the reciprocal admissions by state. The AHS also provides the following tips on using the Reciprocal Admissions Program:

- Before visiting any garden check the garden's website or call to verify hours of operation, confirm admission policy, and get the latest updates on programs and other information. For easy access, gardens have links to their web pages in the AHS online directory.
- Be aware that some special events are not included in the reciprocal benefits of the program. If you have any questions, please contact the garden you plan to visit.
- Present your current AOS membership card at the admissions counter or gift shop to receive the RAP benefit listed for that garden. Each card will admit only the individual(s) whose name is listed on the card. Some gardens may require a photo ID.
- Remember that the gardens you visit rely on admissions and donations to maintain their property and gardens for all to enjoy. Please support them by visiting their gift shops and/or making a contribution.
- The gardens with an asterisk next to their name do not offer reciprocal benefits but encourage you to visit.

I hope you all will explore this AOS membership benefit and support your local reciprocal botanical gardens, arboreta and conservatories soon.

Lynn Fuller, Chair, AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

KEY MID-AMERICA CONTACTS

OFFICERS

President: Doug Martin
913-248-8669; bethdoug@kc.rr.com
1st Vice President: Aileen Garrison
770-961-0449; aileeng5@bellsouth.net
2d Vice President: Jordan Hawley
859-225-6051
jordanbird00@insightbb.com
Secretary: Roberta Ginavan
712-487-3085; ginavan@verizon.net
Treasurer: Alexa Noel
513-469-8767; ahn6175@yahoo.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Affiliated Societies: Mary Beth Mansour
440-333-5364; mbmansour1@cox.net
AOS Liaison: Doris Asher
517-332-0004; asherdoris@juno.com
Annual Meeting: Beth Martin
913-248-8669; bethdoug@kc.rr.com
Audit: Judith Rapacz
608-274-3053;
jorapacz@facstaff.wisc.edu
Awards: Christine Chowning
859-278-5256;
c.chowning@insight.bb.com
Budget: Jan Yates
513-475-9771; jyates11@earthlink.net
Communications: Doris Asher
517-332-0004; asherdoris@juno.com
Constitution & Bylaws: Lowell Jacks
706-632-9818; ljacks@tds.net
Conservation: Russ Vernon
765-759-5991;
newvisionorchids@aol.com
Education & Research: Doug Hartong
770-594-7334;
catmando@mindspring.com
Historical: Lois Holmes
763-561-6380;
lois.holmes68@gmail.com
Orchidist of the Year: Tim Brooks
859-268-4567; timbrooks@aol.com
Show Schedule: Hermann Pigors, Co-Chair
847-428-8500; pigors@foxvalley.net
Lois Cinert, Co-Chair
630-739-1068;
george.cinert@att.net
Technology: Jeff Delmas
256-534-3332; jeff@delmasfamily.net
Ways and Means: Roberta Ginavan
712-487-3085; ginavan@verizon.net



CONTINUE TO BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF MAOC

Remind your Society to pay dues. As a member of the Mid-America Orchid Congress, your Society joins orchid societies in 17 states, as well as in Ontario, Canada, to fund education, research and conservation. The amount of dues is based on the number of members in your Society: \$0.50/member, \$15.00 minimum.

Dues forms are available from our Treasurer Alexa Noel (ahn6175@yahoo.com)

A completed form, listing the contact persons in your Society, enables MAOC to send the Congress's newsletter, The Mid-American, to members of your Society. The Mid-American informs your Society of issues related to the operation of a successful society, including changes in show schedule rules and classification.

Mary Beth Mansour, Chair
Affiliated Societies Committee

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Thank you, Charles and Susan Wilson, Doug and Beth Martin, Lois Cinert, Hermann Pigors, and Mary Beth Mansour for your articles and photos in this issue.

I welcome input – suggestions, corrections, and articles to be published are all welcome. Keep those e-mail messages coming!

Doris Asher, Editor
277 N Hagadorn Rd
E Lansing MI 48823
517) 332-0004
asherdoris@juno.com

HELPFUL INFORMATION FROM MAOC

Show Schedule Committee

The purpose of the Show Schedule Committee is to make it easy for you to ribbon judge your plants and related items at your orchid show. We try to make it as simple as possible, with some logic involved in sorting out your plants into groups. It should not be an occasion for anxiety.

In order to keep it simple and easy, we need your input. First, we need the record of how many plants you register in each category. This is best done shortly after your show, when the information is at hand. It can be a copy of your show schedule with the number written next to the class, or, if you use a computer program to register, you can usually produce a list from that. There are changes in growing and showing over time. We didn't have Phrag besseae in 1980, and we didn't have many multi-floral Phals. Both of those additions to our Show Schedule are the result of your input as you started growing and showing these plants. The kind of orchids available to us is always changing, and we need to change our Show Schedule to reflect those changes.

Second, we need to know how the Schedule is working for you. Do you use the class for Harlequin Phals? Do you prefer to have the Cattleya classes divided by plant size AND by flower size? Do you have problems with Paph colors? Are Phrags now becoming more complicated with the addition of Phrag kovachii hybrids? Are there questions about Exhibit classes? Is the Miscellaneous class getting too bulky again? How should it be split?

LET US KNOW!

We can't make this a document that is useful to you unless we hear from you. Show Chairs, Registrars, and all of you who register plants – send us your information! Please!

Hermann Pigors & Lois Cinert, Co-Chairs

Need Mid-America entry tags for registration of plants and exhibits at your Show?

Send check made payable to MAOC in the amount of \$30.00 for 1000 tags; remember to enclose address to which to send them.

Order from:
Hermann Pigors, Co-Chair
37W.793 Binnie Road
Dundee, IL. 60118
(847)836-0456
pigors@foxvalley.net

The Show Schedule Committee reminds local societies it is always an option for any society to expand or contract the number of classes to meet their needs. Simply delete the class and leave the numbering in place; to add a class, simply use a decimal or a letter, e.g., 8.5 or 8 A. The Committee plans to gather as much input as possible for the next revision of the Mid-America Schedule, currently planned for the year 2014. They welcome any input regarding the Schedule, but really need show plant entry data from all areas of Mid-America in order to make informed decisions for the 2014 revision.

Please send the number of entries in each class to:

Lois Cinert, Co-Chair
595 Sharon Way
Bolingbrook IL 60440-1350
(630) 739-1068
george.cinert@att.net

* * *

The Conservation Committee invites affiliated societies to submit proposals for funding for conservation projects to Chair Russ Vernon
12661 W SR 32
Yorktown, IN 47396
(765) 759-5991
newvisionorchids@aol.com

* * *

The current edition of the Mid-America Show Schedule as well as the current edition of the supplemental material edited by Lowell Jacks are all available on the Mid-America website (www.midamericanorchids.org) Lowell updates the supplemental material every six months.

* * *

For sale: MAOC CD published in 2005 entitled "Orchid names: a pronunciation guide" by Gerda Ferrington. \$10.00 each (\$13.00 each if need to be mailed to you). Send check made payable to MAOC to Alexa Noel, Treasurer,

8767 Apalachee Drive, Cincinnati OH 45249-2501; please include address to which to send them.

* * *

Mid-America Constitution & By-laws is available on the Mid-America website (www.midamericanorchids.org)

* * *

For advice or assistance in hosting a future Congress, contact Beth Martin (bethdoug@kc.rr.com; 15523 Johnson Dr., Shawnee KS 66217 (913-248-8669)

MID-AMERICA MEMBER SOCIETIES 2010

Alabama Orchid Society*
Ann Arbor Orchid Society*
Atlanta Orchid Society*
Batavia Orchid Society*
Blackhawk Orchid Society*
Blue Grass Orchid Society*
Central Indiana Orchid Society*
Central Iowa Orchid Society*
Central Kentucky Orchid Society*
Central Missouri Orchid Society*
Central Ohio Orchid Society*
Central Ontario Orchid Society
Eastern Iowa Orchid Society*
Essex County (Ontario) Orchid Society*
Grand Valley Orchid Society*
Greater Akron Orchid Society*
Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society*
Greater Cleveland Orchid Society*
Greater Lansing Orchid Society*
Greater Omaha Orchid Society*
Greater Pensacola Orchid Society*
Greater Toledo Orchid Society*
Gulf Coast Orchid Society*
Heart of Dixie Orchid Society
Illinois Orchid Society*

Illowa Orchid Society*
Kentucky Orchid Society*
Kingwood Orchid Society*
Lincoln (NE) Orchid Society*
London Orchid Society
Memphis Orchid Society*
Miami Valley Orchid Society*
Michiana Orchid Society*
Michigan Orchid Society*
Northeast Alabama Orchid Society*
Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society
Northwestern Michigan Orchid Society*
Orchid Growers Guild Inc. of Madison*
Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City*
Orchid Society of Greater St. Louis*
Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee*
Orchid Society of Minnesota*
Orchid Society of the Royal Botanic Gardens*
Paducah Orchid Society*
Peoria Orchid Society*
Prairie State Orchid Society*
Saginaw Valley Orchid Society*
Sioux Falls Orchid Club*
Smoky Mountain Orchid Society*
South Metro Orchid Society*
South Mississippi Orchid Society*
Springfield (MO) Orchid Society*
Three Rivers Orchid Society*
West Shore Orchid Society of Northern Ohio*
Windsor Orchid Society*
Wisconsin Orchid Society*

*Has renewed for 2010

Note: Jan Yates, former Congress Treasurer, has sent out the renewal notices for the 2010 membership year. If your copy has gone astray, please contact current Treasurer Alexa Noel for another copy (ahn6175@yahoo.com).

If your Society is not listed and you believe it is a member, please contact me. Or, if I have your Society listed as not yet having renewed for 2010 and you believe it has, let me know that as well. I will investigate! Doris Asher