

**Mid-America Orchid Congress
Fall Business Meeting
Independence, Missouri
October 28, 2012**

President Aileen Garrison called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. She thanked the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City for hosting our fabulous meeting and welcomed visitors. In keeping with her spirit of having fun, she opened the meeting with a humorous story.

Roll Call:

The following societies were represented:

Alabama Orchid Society	Kentucky Orchid Society
Ann Arbor Orchid Society	Memphis Orchid Society
Atlanta Orchid Society	Miami Valley Orchid Society
Batavia Orchid Society	Michigan Orchid Society
Central Indiana Orchid Society	Northeast Alabama Orchid Society
Central Iowa Orchid Society	Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City
Central Ohio Orchid Society	Orchid Society of Greater St. Louis
Eastern Iowa Orchid Society	Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee
Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society	Orchid Society of Minnesota
Greater Lansing Orchid Society	Orchid Society of the Ozarks
Greater Omaha Orchid Society	Smoky Mountain Orchid Society
Greater Pensacola Orchid Society	South Metro Orchid Society
Gulf Coast Orchid Society	Springfield Orchid Society
Heart of Dixie Orchid Society	Three Rivers Orchid Society
Illinois Orchid Society	West Shore OS of Northern Ohio
Illowa Orchid Society	Windsor Orchid Society
	Mobile Area Orchid Society

The following societies were absent:

Blue Grass Orchid Society	Kingwood Orchid Society
Central Kentucky Orchid Society	Little Egypt Orchid Society
Central Missouri Orchid Society	Lincoln Orchid Society
Central Ontario Orchid Society	London Orchid Society
Essex County (Ontario) Orchid Society	Michiana Orchid Society
Grand Valley Orchid Society	Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society
Greater Akron Orchid Society	Northwestern Michigan Orchid Society
Greater Cleveland Orchid Society	Orchid Growers Guild of Madison
Greater Toledo Orchid Society	Sioux Falls Orchid Society
Orchid Society of the Royal Botanic Gardens	Saginaw Valley Orchid Society
Paducah Orchid Society	Southern Mississippi Orchid Society
Peoria Orchid Society	Wisconsin Orchid Society
Prairie State Orchid Society	

Secretary Susan Wilson asked for any corrections or visitors to be added to the roll. She asked for any corrections to the minutes from the April 2012 meeting in Indianapolis, with hard copies presently available. The motion to approve the minutes as written was passed. She announced to President Aileen Garrison that we do have a quorum.

Treasurer's Report - Alexa Noel reported we are in the black. Year-to-date 2012 income is \$9,515.82 with expenses thus far of \$6,758.39 for a net income of \$2,757.43, about twice as much as 2011, giving us a total as of 10/23/12 of \$78,715.65. Our restricted funds total \$35,751.79, or 45%. Those figures could change some by year-end as we will have some investment dividends to add to it. She noted that trophy funds are not included either but she will have the final 2012 figures for the Spring 2013 meeting. The report was accepted and approved. (See attached report.)

MAOC Membership Report – Alexa Noel reported that due to the hard work of Mary Beth Mansour and Doris Asher the payment of members dues are going well. There are presently 13 societies that have not paid. We ended 2011 with everyone paid except Blackhawk and Paris, KY. There has been no response for two years and according to the By-laws, these two societies shall be dropped from the roll. The report was accepted and approved.

Committee Reports

Affiliated Societies - Mary Beth Mansour reported the committee met at 7 p.m. on October 26, 2012 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Independence, MO. In attendance were members of the committee: Doris Asher; Jim Newsome; Roberta Ginavan & Mary Beth Mansour. Judith Rapacz was unable to attend. The president of the Illinois Orchid Society, Victor Lentini, attended the meeting. Topics discussed were the following: the topic for the Sunday Breakfast "Security & Insurance" and documents developed by the committee - WHY SHOULD YOUR SOCIETY JOIN MAOC, and WHY SHOULD I ATTEND A MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS. These documents have been posted on the MAOC web-site. The committee has also contacted the societies who have not paid 2012 dues.

The topic "MARKETING & ADVERTISING TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS" has been selected for the Spring 2013 MAOC meeting in Ann Arbor.

The Affiliated Societies Breakfast was held Sunday, October 27, 2012 with 41 people attending. The topic "Security & Insurance" produced an informative discussion. Details will be reported in THE MID-AMERICAN. The report was accepted and approved.

Annual Meeting – Beth Martin thanked the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City for hosting such a wonderful Congress. The Heart of Dixie Orchid Society had to withdraw their invitation to host our Spring 2013 meeting, so the committee made arrangements with the Ann Arbor

Orchid Society to meet in conjunction with their Orchid Festival on April 19 - 21, 2013. The information can be found on a postcard in your registration bag. Two speakers have been arranged. One will be Patricia Harding, M.D., who will be giving two talks, "Orchid Conservation through Ecotourism in Columbia and Ecuador" and "Oncidiums of Brazil", one of which will be at the banquet. The other speaker will be Gary Meyer, Ph.D., who will speak on "Dracuphilia – Gothic Romance". She encouraged everyone to take some postcards for distribution to their home society.

The Fall 2013 Congress will be co-hosted by the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society and the Miami Valley Orchid Society. The dates of the meeting will be October 18 – 20, 2013, to be held at the spectacular Dayton Art Institute in Dayton, Ohio. Janice Yates announced a save-the-date postcard available in the exhibit hall here and the speakers would be Holger Perner, who will speak on Chinese Paphs, Chris Purver from the Eric Young Foundation who will speak on Oncidium taxonomy reclassification, Eric Michel who will speak on Phal species, and Lynn O'Shaughnessey who will speak on growing small species. Our banquet speaker will be Angela Murrow, a wildlife artist. Since the Dayton Art Institute is helping with the public relations we're hoping that having her as a speaker may bring in some of the artists in the community. We hope to have all the hotel and conference details on the MAOC website soon.

The Spring 2014 meeting will be April 29 - May 4 in Bloomington, Minnesota. We will be hosted by the Orchid Society of Minnesota in conjunction with the AOS and Slipper Alliance meetings. Doug Martin commented that for this Congress AOS has agreed to move their auction to Friday night so MAOC can have the auction on Saturday night. We appreciated their accommodation.

The Fall 2014 meeting is still open. An invitation to host the Spring 2015 meeting has been extended by the Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee in Nashville, Tennessee. The motion was made and approved to accept the invitation. Tom Harper of Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee extended a warm invitation to all to attend in Nashville. The report was accepted and approved.

There was a brief intermission for Roberta Ginavan to show the raffle item and make final raffle ticket sales.

AOS Liaison – Doris Asher reported that since we met in Indianapolis last April, there has been one members' meeting of the American Orchid Society -- on April 25 – 29, 2012, in Wichita, KS, hosted by the Kansas Orchid Society. At that time, Californian Sandra Svoboda became the new President of the AOS, and Tim Brooks and Fred Missbach became Vice Presidents.

Also in Wichita, these Mid-America judges were **promoted from Probationary to Accredited:**

Gilberto Arrieche (Toronto)

Jim Newsome (Atlanta)

Joyce Medcalf (Toronto)

Gail Schwarz (Toronto)

These Mid-America judges were **promoted from Students to Probationary:**

Andre Coutere (Toronto)

James Lurton (Cincinnati)

David Taylor, Ph.D. (Mid-America)

Three Mid-America people became **students in the Judging system:**

Carol Butcher (Toronto)

Christelle Kapfer (Toronto)

Brian Spitler (Cincinnati)

One Mid-America judge changed to **Senior Judge:**

John Doherty (accredited) (Toronto)

These Mid-America judges **retired:**

Margaret Baird (Toronto)

Jean Metcalf (Great Lakes)

These Mid-America judges **requested leaves of absence:**

Gilberto Arrieche (probationary) (Toronto) – 6 months beginning December 2011

Joe Gordy (probationary) (Atlanta) – one year beginning October 2011

One Mid-America person **returned from leave of absence:**

Paul Batz (student) (Toronto)

One Mid-America judge **transferred:**

Marian Morton (accredited) from Great Lakes to Pacific Northwest

With regret, the **death** of the following judge was noted:

Albert Gugeler (Emeritus, Great Lakes)

Some developments in the AOS, which may be of interest to you.

1. The AOS reported that it is “in the black” financially and is focusing on attracting members and retaining current members with increased programming and new services to members.
2. The latest in its series of supplements arrived with the October issue of Orchids magazine – this one is “Cynoches: species and hybrids” by George F. Carr, Jr. and Fred Clarke.
3. The AOS Nominating Committee is accepting applications for trustees in the Society. If you are interested in serving on the AOS Board of Trustees, you may contact Committee Chair George Hatfield. The Society elects new officers and trustees at our spring meeting in March in San Diego.
4. The American Orchid Society has its next meeting two weeks from now, November 15-18, 2012, in Portland, OR, hosted by the Portland Orchid Society.

Doris asked if Treasurer, Karen McBride, had any big news from AOS. She reported that Orchids magazine would be going digital. Hardcopies would be continued in the USA but there would be an additional charge for overseas mailings.

Mark van der Woerd called for a round of applause for the elevated Judges present, Jim Newsome and David Taylor.

The report was accepted and approved.

Audit – No report.

Awards – Janice Yates reported that she was filling in for Chair, Christine Chowning, who suffered a fractured coccyx (tailbone) and as a result is undergoing physical therapy. She expressed MAOC’s condolences. Jan stated there were 554 flowers in the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City’s orchid show at this meeting. Thirty-one flowers were pulled for AOS evaluation and 13 awards were given; 6 AM’s, 2 HCC’s, 3 CCM’s, 1 CBR, and 1 Educational Exhibit Certificate awarded to the Angraecoid Alliance. The AOS Show Trophy was awarded to Exhibit 1, the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City, which also received an 86 point AOS Silver Certificate.

The Fall MAOC award winners were:

The Mid-American Trophy – Most outstanding exhibit staged by an affiliated society of The Mid-America Orchid Congress – Exhibit 18, Springfield (MO) Orchid Society

The Clifford and Vivian Walters Award – Best Oncidium alliance plant – *Oncidium Cischweinfia sheehaniae*, Exhibitor Judy Elms, Springfield (MO) Orchid Society

Raymond McCullough Memorial Award – Best Epidendrum/Encyclia – *Encyclia ceraotites*, Exhibitor Michel Orchids, Indianapolis, IN

The Christine M. Chowning Award – Best Angraecoid species – *Angraecum didieri*, Exhibitor Suzanne Hobbs, Ozark Orchid Society, Springdale, AR

The report was accepted and approved.

Budget – Janice Yates reported the following proposed 2013 budget;

Income:

Auction	Spring (in conjunction with meeting)	\$2,500
	Fall (society hosted show, revenue shared 50/50)	\$1,250
Dividends		\$50
Donations and Honorarium		\$600
Interest		
MAOC Loan (repaid in 2013)		\$2,500
MAOC Registrations		
	Spring 2013	\$3,000
MAOC Shows and Tags		\$250
Society Dues		<u>\$1,500</u>
	Total	\$11,650

Expenses:

Bank Charges		\$25
Conservation Grants		\$1,600
Conservation Speaker (endowed)		\$750
Filing Fee (Ohio state charity filing)		\$50
Judging Center Support		\$600
MAOC Congress Meeting (Spring 2013)		\$3,000
MAOC Loan (to Greater Cincinnati and Miami Valley OS for Fall 2013)		\$2,500
MAOC Newsletter		\$50
Officer Expenses		\$100
Postage		\$50
Shirley Burr Moore Speaker (endowed)		\$1,500
Trophies (all but one endowed)		<u>\$550</u>
Website Development		
	Total	\$10,775

Report was accepted and approved.

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Communications – Doris Asher reported that she has distributed one issue (May 2012) of the Mid-American since we met in Indianapolis in April. Doris thanked everyone who contributed information, articles, photos, and computer expertise to that issue. As has become the norm, she was able to distribute the Secretary's draft minutes from the Indianapolis Business Meeting in the same emailing, thus saving duplication of work. In addition, in early September 2012 and again in early October, she did mailings which were invitations/reminders for this Independence meeting. Throughout the six-month period, she fielded several inquiries from members of our affiliated societies, answering some and referring some to appropriate Congress leaders.

The cost of the May Mid-American and special September/October mailings was minimal -- \$9.00 for copying and postage to send paper copies to individuals lacking email. Her mailing list consists of more than 664 records, although I did not send a copy to all 664. Copies go to the chairs of Mid-America judging centers and at least two people from each affiliated society, preferably the president and the Mid-America representative. Another favorite contact is the editor of the society's newsletter if I know who that is. I send copies to everyone attending the business meeting at the previous Congress. In all cases, I urge recipients to share the newsletter and the information in it as widely as possible throughout their society. In addition, each issue is posted on the Congress' website:

www.midamericanorchids.org.

For all mailings in paper, I enclose a plea for an email address and for each issue I gain a few additional email addresses, which will curtail even further the expense of photocopying and postage or future issues.

I expect to prepare an issue immediately after this meeting in Independence in which we report on what has happened here and advertise upcoming meetings of the Congress.

I welcome input/ideas/articles! I thank all of the individuals who have contributed to the eleven issues I have prepared since my appointment as Editor in the fall of 2008.

At the Indianapolis Congress meeting in April, we decided to revive the Mid-American essay contest, which existed some twenty years ago. The "inaugural" topic was "Why _____ Is My Favorite Orchid Genus" – with the writer filling in the blank. People were welcome to write about his/her favorite orchid or species within a genus. The essays could be no more than 500 words in length; the deadline for submission was October 1. Prizes are \$100 for first place; \$50 for second, and \$25 for third prize. And the winner is...!!

The Committee received just two entries, an essay from Ed Cott (Windsor Orchid Society) and a poem from Susie Hanna (Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City) and has decided to offer two second prizes of \$50 each. Both entries will appear in the upcoming Mid-American. Thank you, Ed and Susie, for your entries – and congratulations!

The Committee would like to run the essay contest for a second year to see if there is more interest in participation in a follow-up contest. We propose the same prize structure and a deadline for submission of entries of October 1, 2013. The topic will be “Travels with Orchids”.

In March, 2011, Brian Spitler from the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society accepted appointment as the Congress’ webmaster, and he has accomplished great things in his first couple years. All of the sections of the website have been updated and enhanced. Necessary changes are now being made in a timely manner. In addition, he and Treasurer Alexa Noel developed the capability for us to register online via the website for our Congress meetings when registration is managed by the Mid-America Orchid Congress. Thank you, Brian, for providing us with this important communication link. As with The Mid-American, Brian needs content for the MAOC website. Please look at the website (www.midamericanorchids.org) and make suggestions and provide content.

Although Brian was not able to attend this meeting, he has asked me to announce a new service to our affiliated societies – Brian offers to set up one to three static website pages and set up the hosting for MAOC affiliated societies lack websites but want one. Brian will not charge for his services. To host a basic account on the internet costs about \$6/month with companies such as Go Daddy, which is where the MAOC, Cincinnati, and a variety of other sites are located. If this offer is of interest, feel free to contact Brian and talk it over with him: publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org is his email address. Brian believes about ten of our member societies lack websites; in these days of media bombardment potential members of societies expect to find them on the web -- at least where they meet, what time, etc. and a way to get in touch. Brian reports that the Greater Cincinnati Society has had quite a few folks who have come to them as a result of Google searches they did after receiving an orchid and wanting to know how to care for it. Today Google is the new Yellow Pages. The report was accepted and approved. President Aileen Garrison displayed a hard copy of The Mid-American and commended Doris for her efforts of which she received a round of applause.

Conservation – Russ Vernon reported the committee met on October 26, 2012. Members present were Russ Vernon, Susan Wilson and Doug Martin. It was reported that all grant

applications received in 2012 have been funded. The grants approved included: Como Park Conservatory in St. Paul, MN - \$400 for species acquisitions, Cleveland Conservatory - \$400 for acquisitions of Costa Rica Biome species, Wheeler-Thanhauser Orchid Collection at Ball State University, Muncie, IN - \$500 for acquisitions of Cattleya/Paphiopedilum species.

Other possible projects under consideration, including funding for 2012, as there are still some funds available; 2012 Cypripedium species propagation and conservation and 2013 Birmingham Botanical Garden. Russ reported that the Wheeler-Thanhauser Orchid Collection has \$1M in-house for Phase One expansion. Phase Two and Three are pending. He also called for more projects for conservation funding from the membership. The report was accepted and approved.

Education and Research – Doug Hartong reported the committee met at 7PM on Friday, October 26, 2012 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Independence, Missouri. In attendance were Doug Hartong, Chair and new member Cheryl Erins. Other members of the committee were absent. I am looking forward to working with Cheryl in future projects as she is helpful and energetic! Topics of discussion requiring further investigation included:

....Improving MAOC website accessibility and basic internet searching; helping members access our site quickly and using other valuable research tools

....Educating member societies regarding electronic ribbon judging programs, how to use them, and reaching a standard electronic judging program for all societies.

He called for copies of registration programs currently being used for comparison. The report was accepted and approved.

Historical – Lois Holmes found the MAOC Cookbook published in 1995 while Lowell Jacks was President. She had him to bake a recipe from it, Chris Chowning's Hawaiian Banana Bread. Lowell passed out a delicious treat for all the members. Lois handed out copies of recipes from the cookbook.

Lois also reported the passing of a longtime Mid-American, Ralph Holman, of the Orchid Society of Minnesota. You may not remember him but you would know his work with Omega 3 for Hormel. He is honored in the Hormel Museum. The report was accepted and approved.

Orchidist of the Year – Lois Holmes recalled the past year brought lots of hard work from some of its members, and maybe longer than just one year, and it was really nice to acknowledge these instrumental, hard-working members with this award each year. She called for a vote from the membership to which she received a swift response from 5 energetic members with sealed envelopes. Lois announced the vote was unanimous for “The Big D”, the Diligent, the sometimes Delightful, Doug Martin. He received a standing ovation and the award. He was unusually speechless. The report was accepted and approved.

Show Schedule - Lois Cinert reported that the committee met on October 26, 2012 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Independence, Missouri. Members present were; Lois Cinert, Nile Dusdieker, Nathan Bell and Tom Harper. Absent was Co-Chair Hermann Pigors. Topics discussed were changes to the Phragmipedium listings (to include the Kovachii group), the large miscellaneous class, Cattleya classes listing the size of flower, Paphiopedilum color descriptions, and changes to the photography classes.

In January, 2013, our work of four years will affect the following changes to the show schedule; the elimination of classes 46a and 52a, Phalaenopsis with harlequin markings, and the inclusion of Prosthechea in class 10, Epidendrum and Encyclia species, and class 11, Epidendrum and Encyclia hybrids and intergenerics. This will also remove Prosthechea from class 16, Cattleya allied genera other than above.

These changes will be made by Lowell Jacks in his “MAOC Classification” update which is available for free downloading at the MAOC website. There are no new recommendations to be considered at this time. Lois did call for the societies to send her a report of how many entries they had per class at their shows to help the committee stay in-tune with needs for future changes in the show schedule.

Discussion ensued about the use of the MAOC Show Schedule by some Western U.S. societies. It was offered to mail an invitation to them for possible membership by the Affiliated Society Committee Chair, Mary Beth Mansour. The need to educate our affiliated societies regarding their ability to add additional classes with suggested ABC categories was also discussed and any changes they do make should be sent to this committee. The report was accepted and approved.

Ways and Means – Roberta Ginavan thanked all those who made Saturday night’s auction such a success. Those persons include all who donated, bid on or bought items, as well as the clerks, runners and auctioneers who worked at the auction. The committee very much appreciated

the guest appearance of “Dolly Martin” and her twin, “Dilly.” Special thanks were given to Karen McBride who called the auction in the absence of Doug Martin, and special recognition was also given to “Dilly” who substituted for Doug. The “M-D” auction team certainly provided a dose of laughter for the attendees.

Total income from the auction was \$2,695. Of this, \$1,347.50 will be given to the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City for hosting the MAOC meetings and \$1,347.50 will be retained by MAOC.

The Ways and Means Committee met electronically between the last meeting and this one to accept the gracious offer by Anna Lee Boyett’s family, made via Aileen Garrison, for the limited edition bowl featuring Ghost orchids which has been this meeting’s raffle prize. Income from raffle ticket sales is \$770. Lois Cinert was the winner of the raffle. The report was accepted and approved.

Old Business

Aileen Garrison announced the official addition of the Technology Committee and turned the podium over to new Chairman of the Constitution and By-laws Committee Charles Wilson. Charles read Article XIV for addition to the By-laws; “There shall be a Technology Committee, consisting of the MAOC Webmaster and two (2) or more individuals appointed by the President. Its function shall be to maintain and upgrade the MAOC website, prepare and maintain an electronic orchid registration program and schedules for MAOC meetings, and work with the President and the Congress on such other electronic and technological issues as requested. The Committee shall report to the Congress at each meeting. The Technology Committee shall consist of Chairman Brian Spitler, Rick Noel, and Jeff Delmas”. The amendment was accepted and approved.

New Business

Doug Martin had two pieces of new business; first he recommended MAOC make a monetary donation to AOS. He had spoken with Ron McHatton at AOS and asked for needed areas for funding. He made the motion that MAOC donate \$2,000 to the AOS Color Fund. The motion was approved. Doug urged member societies to encourage membership to AOS.

The second item Doug had for new business was a recommended donation to the Smithsonian affiliated group, North America Orchid Conservation Center, in honor of Tom Mirenda’s wonderful serenade to Latisha (Tish) Hall, Heart of Dixie Orchid Society member. Tom is developing a reputation for singing for donations as a fundraiser for this center. The

recommended amount of \$500 was accepted and approved.

Past-President, Mark van der Woerd, confessed he had some unfinished business from his Presidency. He was supposed to give the next President, Doug Martin, a welcome gift. The gift that was made for him didn't make it in one piece through the mail so the artist had to recreate it. He presented the hand delivered gift to Doug and had Beth Martin join Doug for acceptance due to their dual role in the official duties. The beautiful vase and dish were graciously accepted and Beth was presented fresh flowers to go in the vase.

Nominating Committee Chair, Doug Martin, thanked the members for their work this year, Beth Martin, Doris Asher, Mark van der Woerd and Russ Vernon. He thanked this year's officers for their work and introduced the new slate of Officers for 2013; President – Aileen Garrison, 1st Vice-President – Doug Hartong, 2nd Vice-President, Dr. Jim Newsome, Treasurer – Alexa Noel, Secretary – Susan Wilson. He opened the floor for new nominations. There being none, motion was approved and accepted.

Aileen Garrison reported the request by the AOS's Education Coordinator, Jean Issacson, to add the MAOC educational CD by Gerta Ferrington on 'Orchid Pronunciations' to its website. The Executive Committee is recommending approval with the language to be: "Funded by MAOC, narrated by Gerta Ferrington". The motion was approved and accepted.

Motion for Adjournment was made by Charles Wilson who called for ratification of the business held in this meeting and commended all the committees for their good work. The motion was approved and accepted.

Adjournment by President Aileen Garrison at 11:50 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary, Susan Wilson