



Mid-America Orchid Congress

Fall Business Meeting
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Buffalo, NY
November 13, 2016

Call to Order – President Doug Hartong called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. He thanked all for coming and added a big thank you to the Niagara Frontier Orchid Society for all their hard work in organizing and hosting this lovely show.

President Hartong then called Doris Asher up to the front where he presented her with a stunning cobalt-blue embossed vase etched with several Paphiopedilum fairrieanum flowers, a gift on behalf of the MAOC for her service as President from 2014-2015. This was executed by Larry Mayse of Nature Glassworks.

Secretary's Report – Secretary Cheryl Erins called the roll, and the following affiliated societies were present:

Alabama Orchid Society
Atlanta Orchid Society
Greater Akron Orchid Society
Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society
Greater Omaha Orchid Society
Gulf Coast Orchid Society
Memphis Orchid Society
Michigan Orchid Society
Mobile Area Orchid Society
Northeast Alabama Orchid Society
Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee
Orchid Society of the Ozarks
South Metro Orchid Society
Windsor Orchid Society

Ann Arbor Orchid Society
Batavia Orchid Society
Greater Cleveland Orchid Society
Greater Lansing Orchid Society
Greater Pensacola Orchid Society
Heart of Dixie Orchid Society
Miami Valley Orchid Society
Niagara Frontier Orchid Society
Northland Orchid Society
Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City
Orchid Society of Minnesota
Smoky Mountain Orchid Society
West Shore Ohio Orchid Society

Absent:

Blue Grass Orchid Society
Central Iowa Orchid Society
Central Indiana Orchid Society
Central Missouri Orchid Society
Essex County (Ontario) Orchid Society
Greater Toledo Orchid Society
Illinois
Kentucky Orchid Society
London Orchid Society
Michiana Orchid Society
Northwestern Michigan Orchid Society
Orchid Society of Gr. St. Louis
Paducah Orchid Society
Prairie State Orchid Society
South Mississippi Orchid Society
Central Ohio Orchid Society
Central Ontario Orchid Society
Central Kentucky Orchid Society
Eastern Iowa Orchid Society
Greater Cleveland Orchid Society
Grand Valley Orchid Society
Illowa Orchid
Kentucky Orchid Society
Mansfield Orchid Society
Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid
Orchid Growers Guild of Madison
Orchid Society/the Royal Botanic Garden
Peoria Orchid Society
Saginaw Valley Orchid Society
Springfield Orchid Society

Approval of Minutes: President Doug Hartong then asked for any corrections to the minutes from the Spring meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio. The motion to approve the minutes as written was made and passed. The minutes will be posted on the website.

Treasurer Report- Treasurer Michele Little reported the Year to date totals of \$6919.16 in expenses and income of \$6296.00. She mentioned that the balance of the Shirley Burr Moore fund will be 6766.71 after payment of the speaker fee for Niagara Frontier. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report passed and will be attached with the minutes.

Committee Reports:

Affiliated Societies: Chair Mary Beth Mansour reported the Committee met on Friday November 11, 2016, with these members present: Doris Asher, Roberta Ginavan, and Jim Newsome. Susan Wilson and Judith Rapacz was excused. The Committee discussed the following items:

- Little Egypt Orchid Society will be dropped from the participating societies for non-payment of dues.
- Mary Beth was sending letters to 16 societies that have not paid. Forty one out of 57 have paid.
- Sue Charles of Niagara Frontier has been appointed to the Committee
- Thirty people attended the breakfast on Sunday November 13, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Buffalo, NY. The topic 'Selecting Programs' generated interesting discussion including identifying speakers, AOS webinars and additional information will be available in the Mid-American.
- The topic for the Breakfast meeting in Omaha, NE, March 24-25 2017 will be "What's Your Problem?"

A motion to accept the report passed.

AOS Liaison Report: AOS Liaison Doris Asher reported on the Fall AOS member meeting at the Huntington Library and Museum, San Marino, Ca. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes of this meeting. Of note: We sadly recognize the passing of Mario Ferrusi, Toronto, and Alvin Bolt, Atlanta. Also noted was that the Judges Committee bestowed Judge Emeritus status to Lowell Jacks and posthumously to Mario Ferrusi.

The next AOS meeting will be held in conjunction with the Redland Orchid Festival in Homestead Florida the third weekend in May, and will feature a day at the Fairchild, according to Cheryl Erins, AOS Trustee, to see the beautiful new library and the exhibit, Orchids through the Artists' Eyes, featuring the framed Reichenbachia prints belonging to the AOS.

A motion to accept her report passed.

Annual Meeting: Beth Martin thanked the Niagara Frontier Orchid Society for their hard work and the great organization. The next meeting of the MAOC will be March 24-26 in Omaha, Nebraska with no hosting society, in conjunction with the Greater Omaha Society Orchid Show. Peter T. Lin has accepted as a speaker. Peter Tobias from the Orchid Conservation Alliance will talk on the Orchids of France as the dinner speaker. The show will be at the Lauritzen

Gardens. The hotel and other details coming soon and will be posted on the website sent to the society reps.

Beth said there are no further invitations, except for the West Shore Orchid Society hosting Spring of 2018, on the last weekend in April. Speakers include Tom Miranda and Claude Hamilton. For the Fall of 2018, the MAOC has been invited to meet at the show in Kansas City, hosted by the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City. If anyone wants to discuss hosting a MAOC, to please call her.

Motion to accept her report passed.

Audit: The audit is done in the spring, so no report at this time.

Awards: Jan Yates, filling in for Christine Chowning who is no longer able to attend, reported the following awards for this show. The Mid America trophy went to the West Shore Orchid Society. The Raymond McCullough Award for best Epidendrum/Encyclia went to Epi. Green Hornet owned by Phyllis Lobbins. The Christine Chowning award for best Angraecoid species went to Angraecum distichum, owned by Windswept in Time Orchids, owners Edgar and Kim Stehli. The AOS Show Trophy went to Windswept in Time Exhibit, with 83 points. The Clifford and Vivian Walters award for best Oncidium Alliance plant went to Duviera Hilo Firecracker owned by Kim Stehli. The Delbert Lowell Jacks Award for best specimen plant went to Brassavola grandiflora owned by Kim and Edgar Stehli. There were no AOS flower quality awards. Jan reported that we had 26 displays, and 277 judged entries. There were 19 judges and one student and two probationary judges present.

Budget: Janice Yates reported the proposed Budget, which is attached as Addendum 3. Of note, The Executive Committee voted to upgrade the website and pay for monthly maintenance fees/or annual whatever is best, and that will impact the budget this year. We received \$1615 in auction income and that will be split with the Niagara Frontier Orchid Society.

Communications: Chair Alexa Noel reported that we have not done much on the website, but there are requests to add pictures of our events, prizes awarded, etc. Some go out in the Mid-American, but we could have more on the website. It was agreed that we would put off Facebook for a while until we find someone who is willing to put in the time literally on a daily basis. Hopefully we can get the website upgraded and that will help allow pictures, articles and other things on the site to help societies. There were some suggestions as to web hosting from some members in attendance. Mary Beth Mansour added that it is not helpful if the representatives for the societies do not distribute the Mid-American. Everyone in each society should know and learn what the MAOC does for them.

Motion to accept the report passed.

Conservation: Chair Russ Vernon was unable to attend. Doug Martin reported on the Committee's work. The committee met by email prior to the Congress. Bill Morrison and Doug Martin were able to attend. The MAOC has been providing continual financial support of \$400 each to three public orchid collections for the purchase of orchid species. These are: the Cleveland Botanic Garden, Cleveland, OH., the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, Como Park, St. Paul, MN and the Wheeler-Thanhauser Orchid Collection and the Species Bank at Ball State University, Muncie IN.

The fourth group is the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society that recognized a need to save the *Calopogon tuberosus* and *Pogonia ophiglosoides* growing in a local bog which was being dried to work on the local dam. The repairs are completed. The water table is now rising and the seeds which they gathered are germinating and will be replanted. The monies requested will assist them in the project.

The budget request this year is \$2000 as in the past. They will hold \$400 in reserve in the event of another request. The full report is attached as an Appendix to the minutes.

Lois Holmes commented that The McNeely Conservatory had completed their virus testing and destroyed all the virused plants, about 50% loss rate, save for one priceless plant that has now been isolated from all the others in the collection.

Motion to accept the report passed.

Constitution and By-laws: No report at this time.

Education and Research: Chair Cheryl Erins reported that she and Doug Hartong met on Friday night and that while there are projects to be worked on, there is no progress report at this time as we have been unable to add things to the website. We have webinars and educational seminars ready to put out there. As reported, discussions are underway as to what to do with the website.

Historical: Chair Lois Holmes read a report from 1995 when Lowell Jacks was President of the MAOC. She mentioned that there have been 5 presidents from Atlanta and gave a little history lesson of the MAOC down memory lane. She talked of the conservation awards, classifications by F. L. Stephenson, and what life was like back then. She showed a piece of artwork from Mickey Nax, a clay tray, hand painted which will be for the Omaha Auction. Lois will chair the Essay Contest and provide for judges of essays, in hopes of resurrecting interest. The essay contest was won by Linda Sizer for "Taxonomists." The theme was "Why I would like to know more about." This was a very good look at taxonomy and the effect on orchid collectors.

Report Accepted

Orchidist of the Year: Chair Lowell Jacks read the report for the award for the Orchidist of the Year. The award this year went to Lois Cinert, for her involvement in MAOC, her work with her Judging Center, which she is incoming chair and being an all around good person involved with orchids. Cheryl Erins accepted the award and the plaque on her behalf and will deliver in person in Chicago.

Show Schedule: Co Chair Hermann Pigors sent a letter to President Hartong asking for the increase in price of the show registration tags. The Executive Committee had voted to increase as per his request to \$35.00/1000 tags and will be put out on the website. Lois Cinert had reported that the committee did not meet and there was nothing much to meet about due to the fact that they are waiting for the reclassifying of the *Dendrobium* group before making any changes to the show schedule. Any society can adapt the MAOC show schedule to meet their own individual preferences.

Motion to accept the report passed.

Technology: Chair Brian Spitler was not present to give a report at this time.

Ways and Means: Chair Roberta Ginavan reported that the auction totaled \$1615.00 with \$431 in raffle tickets sold. The auction total will be split with the Niagara Frontier Orchid Society for hosting us this Fall. The Raffle item, a lovely glass plaque donated by Hermann and Dorothy Pigors, went to Doug Martin. There may be a bit more money due to the silent auction items which were not completely paid for.

Motion to accept the report passed.

Nominating Committee: Chair Doris Asher read the report: The officers to be voted on at this meeting are:

President: Doug Hartong

1st VP: Jim Newsome

2nd VP: Alexa Noel

Secretary: Cheryl Erins

Treasurer: Michele Little

There being no nominations from the floor, the motion was passed for these officers to be elected for 2017.

New Business: There being no New Business,

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Cheryl Erins, Secretary

Addendum: Treasurer Report

2016 Fall Treasury Report

Niagara Frontier Orchid Society

Nov 11

Currently out of 61 societies we have a total of 41 that have paid their dues, Mary Beth will be contacting the remaining 20 that have not paid their dues.

Expenses to date

Conservation Speaker Fee: \$750

Supplies: \$24.10

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Trophies: | \$523.94 | |
| Judging Center Donations: | \$900 | |
| Printing of tags | \$808.01 | |
| Trust Fee | \$50 | |
| Conservation Grants | \$1200 | |
| Award | \$224.7 | |
| Auction payments | \$2213.50 | |
| AOS Membership | \$125.00 | |
| Essay Winner | <u>\$100.00</u> | |
| | \$6919.16 | |
| | | |
| <u>Income to date</u> | | |
| Society dues: | \$1146.5 | |
| Donations: | \$200 | |
| Tags | \$210 | |
| Auctions | \$2239.50 | |
| Seed Money Returned | <u>\$2500.00</u> | |
| | | \$6296.00 |

Addendum: BUDGET

The Budget Committee, consisting of myself, Alexa Noel and James Newsome, met off and on during the weekend of the Niagara Frontier Orchid Society MAOC, to discuss and revise the 2017 Budget to present during the business meeting.

The 2017 budget reflects two issues for next year: that both the spring and fall Congresses will likely be held in conjunction with, not hosted by, a member society. That means, for each meeting, income from registrations and meal purchases and expenses to pay the caterer/hotel for the meals and speakers are line items in the budget. For a hosted MAOC Congress, those items are part of the host society's budget. In addition, at the Executive Committee meeting, the committee approved exploring a business to redesign the web site and provide routine updates - the former a one-time expense, the latter an annual one. So, with those two items in mind, the

proposed budget for 2017 is as follows:

Income

Auction

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Spring (in conjunction with Gtr Omaha OS) | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Fall (in conjunction with society TBD) | 2,500.00 |
| Donations & Honoraria | 600.00 |
| Investment Income | 50.00 |
| MAOC registrations (for spring/fall MAOCs) | 5,000.00 |
| MAOC Congress meals “ “ | 4,000.00 |
| Show Tags | 250.00 |
| Society Dues | <u>1,500.00</u> |
| | \$ 16,400.00 |

Expenses

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Bank Charges | \$ 25.00 |
| Conservations Grants | 2,000.00 |
| Conservation Speaker (Endowed Fund) | 750.00 |
| Filing Fee (State of Ohio) | 50.00 |
| Judging Center Support | 900.00 |
| Liability Insurance | 550.00 |
| MAOC Expenses (spring/fall) | 4,000.00 |
| MAOC Congress meals (spring/fall) | 4,000.00 |
| Newsletter | 50.00 |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Officer Expenses | 100.00 |
| Shirley Burr Moore Fund (Endowed Fund) | 1,500.00 |
| Trophies (all but one Endowed) | 550.00 |
| Web Site Development | 2,000.00 |
| Annual Charge for maintenance | <u>300.00</u> |
| | \$ 16,825.00 |

A few comments about the expenses – the Mid America Orchid Congress provides

\$ 150 financial support to each of six AOS judging centers in its area. Members of the Executive Committee investigated whether cheaper officers' liability insurance could be found and concluded that the current policy was very competitively priced. The Shirley Burr Moore Fund supports the keynote speaker for each fall Congress meeting; for a speaker from within the states, the amount is up to \$750; for an international speaker, the amount is up to \$1,500. The MAOC awards trophies to outstanding plants in specific genera at the spring and fall Congress meetings; only the trophy given to the outstanding society exhibit is paid from general revenue, all other trophies are supported by endowed funds. (A list of trophies and when they are awarded is on the web site.)

Because the web site development is a one-time expense, the budget was approved although it is a few hundred dollars in the red, on paper. When expenses supported by endowed funds are pulled out of the budget, it is well in the black.

The 2017 budget was approved by voice vote at the business meeting November 13, 2016.

Janice Yates

Budget Committee Chair

ADDENDUM: AOS LIAISON REPORT

MAOC AOS Liaison Report

Buffalo, NY

November 13, 2016

Since I last reported to you at our meeting in Cincinnati on March 20 of this year, there have been two Members Meetings of the AOS: Asheville NC (April 13-17) and the Huntington Library in California just last month (October 19-23). The following personnel changes, with a Mid-America connection, took place in these two sessions:

These Mid-America judges (or judges with a Mid-America connection) were **promoted from Probationary to Accredited:**

Marie-Odile Benoit-Biancamano (Toronto)

Ed Cott (Great Lakes)

Ann DePrez (Cincinnati)

Charles Wilson, Editor, The Mid-American (Pacific Northwest)

Susan Wilson, Editor, The Mid-American (Pacific Northwest)

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

Tyler Jones (Mid-America)

Christelle Kapfer (Toronto)

Michele Little (Cincinnati)

Synda Nelson (Chicago)

Brian Spitler (Cincinnati)

One Mid-America person **transferred:** Jim Heilig (accredited) from Great Lakes to Pacific Central

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

Ben Boers (Toronto)

Stanley Luk (Toronto)

One Mid-America judge has become **senior judge**: Stephen Helbling (Cincinnati)

One Mid-America judge has returned from **Leave of Absence**: Erich Michel (Cincinnati)

One Mid-America person **resigned** from the judging program: Notahianjanahary Andriananjamanantsoa Herinandrianina (Student) (Toronto)

These Mid-America people became **retired judges**:

Christine Chowning (accredited) (Cincinnati)

Hermann Pigors (emeritus) (Chicago)

Jeff Whitfield (senior) (Atlanta)

With regret, we note the **deaths** of two Mid-America judges:

Alvin Bolt (accredited) (Atlanta)

Mario Ferrusi (accredited, emeritus) (Toronto)

These Mid-America people became **judges emeritus**:

Mario Ferrusi (accredited) (Toronto) – honor awarded posthumously

D. Lowell Jacks (accredited) (Atlanta)

These people are Center Chairs and Vice Chairs in Mid-America for 2017:

Atlanta: Lowell Jacks (Chair); Gail Furniss (Vice Chair)
Chicago: Lois Cinert (Chair); Nile Dusdieker (Vice Chair)
Cincinnati: Jordan Hawley (Chair); Alexa Noel (Vice Chair)
Great Lakes: Greg Filter (Chair); Sandy Ohlund (Vice Chair)
Mid-America: Nathan Bell (Chair); David Taylor (Vice Chair)
Toronto: Joyce Medcalf (Chair); Theresa Kennedy (Vice Chair)
Montreal: Michel Tremblay (Chair); Andre Levesque (Vice Chair)

The Judging Committee chose the 2015 Special Annual Awards at the Huntington meeting. This orchid from Mid-America received one of these prestigious awards:

The Benjamin C. Berliner Award for the best *Lycaste* – *Lycaste Irodori* ‘Akai Kuchibibiru’, FCC/90; exhibited by Orchids Ltd; submitted by Chicago JC

Some general news items from the AOS which you may find of interest:

Greg Filter, the Chair of the AOS IT Committee (and the Chair of my Judging Center) tells me that the AOS will be absorbing the Australian awards and that their judging system will be using Orchids Plus. In more news from the recent meeting at the Huntington Library, Greg tells me that the Society’s membership is up a little, and that the AOS finances are strong.

The AOS Membership and Affiliated Societies Committee is offering a new Facebook page for affiliated societies – this is a Facebook group designed specifically to address the needs of the AOS’s affiliated societies. This provides the AOS another avenue to maintain contact with its societies.

The Society continues to have an active program of webinars, which are very popular. Take a look at the AOS website (www.aos.org) to see the extensive list of topics which are available.

The spring AOS Members’ Meeting will be in Coral Gables, FL, May 17-21, and I plan to be there.

Doris Asher

Addendum Conservation Report

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee met by email in the weeks preceding the Buffalo congress as only two members, Bill Morrison and Doug Martin were able to attend the congress.

MAOC has been providing continuing financial support for the work four groups. We provide funds to three public orchid collections for the purchase of orchid species. These are:

The Wheeler-Thanhauser Orchid Collection & Species Bank at Ball State University, Muncie, IN

The Cleveland Botanical Garden

The Marjorie McNeely Conservatory at Como Park in St. Paul, MN.

The fourth group is one of our affiliated societies, Greater Cincinnati OS. Some of their members recognized a threat to two species of orchids, *Calopogon tuberosus* and *Pogonia ophiglosoides*, growing in a local bog. The dam creating a nearby lake needed to be removed and rebuilt. During this process the water table would fall and cause the bog to dry and threaten the continued existence of the orchids. Prior to the dam removal, society members collected seeds from both species and sent them to a lab to be germinated. Currently, the new dam is nearly complete and the water table is rising. The orchid seeds have germinated and are ready to be replanted. When the orchids are ready to come out of flask, members of the society will grow them for a year or two until they are ready to be planted out the bog is again a suitable habitat.

MAOC has provided funding for the early stages of this project and we have been asked for funds to continue the work. This year, primarily for the replanting of the seedlings.

The conservation committee requests from the Congress a budget of \$2000, as we have received in the past, \$400 for each of these projects and an additional \$400 to be held in reserve in the event that we receive another worthwhile grant request, as we often do.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Martin, Acting Chair

Addendum Annual Meeting Report

Annual Meeting Committee Report

November 16, 2016

The Annual Meeting Committee thanks the Niagara Frontier Orchid Society for hosting this MAOC. We enjoyed meeting and working with members of the society, and we congratulate them on a very successful orchid show and meeting.

The Mid-America Orchid Congress will hold our Spring 2017 meeting in Omaha, Nebraska, on March 24-26, 2017. This meeting will be hosted by the Mid-America Orchid Congress and held in conjunction with the Greater Omaha Orchid Society's annual orchid show and sale. Peter T. Lin of Diamond Orchids will be one of our speakers. A second speaker has tentatively accepted our invitation but not yet confirmed. Information and registration materials will be provided via emails to society reps, in the Mid-American and on the MAOC website.

We currently have no invitation from a host society for the fall 2017 meeting, so the Annual Meeting Committee is beginning to plan the meeting. The committee requests information about Fall orchid shows where we might meet, particularly in the eastern part of the Mid-America region. We will

announce details for the fall meeting via emails to society reps, in the Mid-American and on the MAOC website.

Our Spring 2018 meeting will be held in Cleveland, Ohio and hosted by the West Shore Orchid Society of Northern Ohio. A society representative will provide an update at the MAOC business meeting.

Finally, we have received an invitation from the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City to host the Fall 2018 meeting. The Annual Meeting Committee has accepted this invitation on behalf of the MAOC.

At this time the following future MAOC meetings have been approved by the Congress:

| Meeting | Location | Dates | Host |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|--|
| Fall 2016 | Buffalo, NY | November 11-13, 2016 | Niagara Frontier Orchid Society |
| Spring 2017 | Omaha, NE | March 24-26, 2017 | Mid-America Orchid Congress |
| Fall 2017 | TBD | TBD | Mid-America Orchid Congress |
| Spring 2018 | Cleveland, OH | April 27-29, 2018 | West Shore Orchid Society of Northern Ohio |
| Fall 2018 | Kansas City, MO | TBD | Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City |

The Annual Meeting Committee is ready to assist any societies interested in hosting a Mid-America meeting. Please contact Beth Martin at 913-248-8669 or dougbethm@gmail.com for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Martin, Chair

