

Overtures

A Communications Instrument for Society Members and Other Interested Parties

What's inside:

April News	p. 1
Judging Notes	p. 2
February POTM	p. 3
Upcoming Shows	p. 4
OSO Show Pictures	p. 5
January Pictures	p. 9
What's Ahead	p. 11

Volume XXIX Issue 3
April 2024



**ORCHID
SOCIETY OF
THE OZARKS**
OSO-WEB.ORG

*Stimulating interest in
Orchids and their culture as
a nonprofit, educational
organization ...*

The Orchid Society of the Ozarks meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. Annual dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for joint membership.

President: Tim Kral
tkral@uark.edu

Vice-president: Steve Voorhies

Treasurer: Lols Geren
lgeren@uark.edu

Editor: Steve Marak
samarak@glzmoworks.com

April Notes

April meeting is April 21st

at the usual place, NWTI in Springdale, at our usual start time of 1:30 pm.

We have several topics for discussion, including OSO's participation in the BGO Plant Sale and the Tulsa show, both of which are the following weekend (April 26-28). Lois Geren is heading up the exhibit team, so please look over your plants for anything you could contribute to the exhibit and be sure to let Lois know at the meeting!

We'll also have our usual business meeting, judging, and door prizes, so bring those blooming plants!

2024 show report

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 2024 show a success! Our sister societies, who supported us with exhibits, the AOS judges, who came from all over our region, the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks staff, who helped in many ways (including allowing us to use some of their greenhouse space to unpack and prepare our sale plants!), everyone who came to the show, and of course our members, who once again stepped up and helped out everywhere. See pictures, courtesy of Art Evans, later in the newsletter. And congratulations to Suzanne Miller, who won the Most Artistic trophy for the OSO exhibit!

OSO also put in an exhibit at the Springfield show two weeks after ours. Thanks to Sarah Waddoups, who put the exhibit in, and congratulations to Sarah as the OSO exhibit won the Show Trophy! We'll have pictures of that in next month's newsletter.

Judging Notes from February

This month 6 members entered a grand total of 25 plants for our Feb. judging! Many members were cossetting their plants for the show and brought them to use in the society exhibit which led to a special award of Most Artistic! Thank you for making our program a success. We're all here for the orchids. Seeing lots of unique orchids in bloom is a big draw for our attending members. Since the show in March was in lieu of a meeting, Feb. is the last ribbon judging to report on. February's judging resulted in a first and second in Dendrobiums for Tim Kral and a first, second, and third in Phalaenopsis for Barb Sweet. Jack Heflin received a second and third in Catts and a third in Misc. Steve and Cathy scored a second in Misc. and a first in Species, *Oeoniellia polystachis*, which also was awarded the plant of the month! Paul Bowen received a first in Cattleya, Oncidium, Vanda and Misc., as well as second in Dendrobium and second and third in Species.

Total Points and standing to date are:

1. Russ and Jim---4 plants at 55 points
2. Paul Bowen--8 plants at 52 points
3. Barbara Sweet---7 plants at 36 points
4. Steve and Cathy Marak--5 plant at 30 points
5. Diana Danforth-- 5 plant at 20 points
6. Tim Kral—4 plants at 19 points
7. Jack Heflin—6 plants at 16 points
8. Laura Wilkins – 5 plants at 15 points
9. Art Evans—4 plants at 15 points
10. Susie Miller—1 plant at 5 points

All members are encouraged to bring their blooming plants for display and judging at our regular meetings. Special thanks to those who “volunteer” to participate in judging the plants each month. We love to see your bloomers!

Plant of the Month from February

Oeoniella polystachys - Exhibited by Cathy & Steve Marak

How long have you had the plant (approximately)? We think since 2014.

Where did you get it? It's a Madagascan plant and was part of a (legal, with all permits!) group import.

Where do you grow it (windowsill, sunroom, greenhouse, terrarium)?

We grow the plant mounted and hanging on a gridded panel in a greenhouse with other Angraecoids and miniatures in what would probably be considered Phalaenopsis light. There is some Spanish moss on the mount and also around the grid which probably helps maintain humidity. It is in an area with good air movement (there is a fan that blows on the plants about 3 ft away).



Oeoniella polystachys close up of flowers

Anything else special (potting media, fertilizing, fun story)?



A well-grown plant with multiple spikes from the Memphis exhibit at our show

The blooms are fragrant. While we have only managed one spike at a time the Memphis society had a plant in their exhibit which had multiple blooms (see photo). That is something we can work toward.



Overall showing the mount and Spanish moss

Upcoming Shows & Judgings Around Our Region

April 26-28, 2024

Tulsa Orchid Society Show & Sale, Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S Peoria Ave, Tulsa, OK

May 4-5, 2024

Oklahoma Orchid Society Show & Sale, Will Rogers Gardens Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK

May 11, 2024

Mid-America Judging Center monthly judging, noon, Missouri Botanical Garden, Commerce Bank Center for Science Education, 4651 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, MO

May 18, 2024

Great Plains Judging Center monthly judging, 10:30 am, Beech Science Center, 100 College St., Winfield, KS

May 17-19, 2024

Memphis Orchid Society Show and Sale, Memphis Botanic Garden, 750 Cherry Rd, Memphis, TN

June 8, 2024

Mid-America Judging Center monthly judging, noon, Missouri Botanical Garden, Commerce Bank Center for Science Education, 4651 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, MO

June 15, 2024

Great Plains Judging Center monthly judging, 10:30 am, Beech Science Center, 100 College St., Winfield, KS

Pictures from the OSO show, by Art Evans



More pictures from the OSO show from Art Evans



More pictures from the OSO show from Art Evans



More pictures from the OSO show from Art Evans



Pictures from the February meeting



More pictures from the February meeting





**ORCHID
SOCIETY OF
THE OZARKS**
OSO-WEB.ORG

ORCHID SOCIETY OF THE OZARKS

PO Box 2142
Lowell, AR 72745-2142

President: Tim Kral
tkral@uark.edu

Visit www.oso-web.org
and click the "Join" link
Dues \$10 individual, \$15 joint

Editor: Steve Marak
3460 Roma Dr
Springdale, AR 72762
samarak@gizmoworks.com

*A non-profit, educational
organization stimulating interest in
orchids and their culture.*

www.oso-web.org

Webmaster: Bruce Brown
webmaster@oso-web.org

On Facebook:



@

[http://www.facebook.com/pages/
Orchid-Society-of-the-
Ozarks/166606350108921](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Orchid-Society-of-the-Ozarks/166606350108921)

Like us, post your pictures or
comments, join the community!

What's Ahead ...

April 21, 2024, 1:30 pm – TBA

May 19, 2024, 1:30 pm – TBA

June 23, 2024, 1:30 pm – **Note: 4th Sunday!** Jyotsna Sharma, Ph.D., and U of A graduate, will speak on orchid conservation.

The President's Musings ...

Here are three interesting orchid facts:

1. Orchids grow on every continent except Antarctica

The success of orchids is in part due to their versatility. They grow almost everywhere: only Antarctica, some desert countries, and a handful of very isolated islands don't have any native orchid species. They have diversified to grow in a huge variety of habitats, from arctic tundra to tropical rainforest, and from swamps to mountaintops and desert-like environments.

2. The world's only underground flowers belong to an orchid

Orchids can grow on trees (epiphytic), on rocks (lithophytic) or even, uniquely among plants, entirely underground. Three of the four critically endangered Australian underground orchids (*Rhizanthella*) complete their entire lifecycle underground, including flowering. How they are pollinated remains mysterious, apart from in the case of the western underground orchid *Rhizanthella gardneri*, which is the only plant known to be pollinated by termites.

3. Orchids have the smallest seeds of any plant

Unlike most seeds, orchid seeds contain no food store. This means the seeds are the size of dust, and rely on fungi to germinate, which they parasitize to obtain nutrients for energy. One orchid seedpod can contain up to 3 million seeds.

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/garden-inspiration/houseplants/orchid-facts>

Tim