

Overtures

A Communications Instrument for Society Members and Other Interested Parties

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Volume XXV Issue 12

December 2020



**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.

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December News!

Upcoming Programs

All usual OSO activities are still on hold due to the pandemic. We'll have another virtual meeting this coming Sunday, December 20th (our usual 3rd Sunday). The invitation will be sent in a separate email. We have several items of business to conduct this month – two proposed by-law amendment, and to elect officers for 2021. Members should already have received the December Newsletter Supplement, with details of the proposed by-law changes, the business meeting minutes from November, and the Treasurer's reports. If you are a member and did NOT receive that email, please let me know!

New OSO Facebook Group

We've added an OSO Group on Facebook along with the OSO page we already had. If you liked the page, we encourage you to join the group – it will be easier for you to post pictures of your plant, questions, etc. there. Search Groups for "Orchid Society of the Ozarks", or use this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2640406932837737>

We still encourage everyone to like the OSO Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Orchid-Society-of-the-Ozarks/166606350108921>

Please send pictures of your plants, stories about your plants, tips you've learned about growing your plants, and so on, for the Newsletter!

Know Your Enemy!

Common Greenhouse Weeds

“Nothing is certain but death, taxes, and weeds.” Next in the series is *Phyllanthus tenellus*, “long-stalked Phyllanthus”. It’s a member of the leafy family, which is not well known to most of us. It’s native to the Mascarene Islands, east of Madagascar, and possibly other nearby tropical areas, but has become a successful weed across several continents, including North America, both in greenhouses and outdoors in warm seasons. A few of its relatives are grown intentionally by terrarium plant specialists.

As weeds go, this one is not as bad as many – no tuber, root system goes only a few inches deep, easy to pull. But it does share the prolific nature of most weeds. The flowers are very small, just a millimeter or two across, but still manage to make many seeds. And as with most weeds, the seeds will germinate nearly anywhere, and will be producing seeds of their own faster than you can believe. (This is almost diagnostic for weeds in itself – no plant you actually want to grow reproduces this fast!)



News from the AOS

We thank the American Orchid Society for allowing us to use these AOS Corner items in our newsletter! Even if you're not an AOS member, there are lots of free resources available to everyone ... and of course we encourage you to join. AOS membership includes digital access to "Orchids" magazine, including digital archives of more than 350 issues dating back to 1932! Please visit the AOS web site at: <http://www.aos.org>

You can also find the AOS on Facebook! The [American Orchid Society Facebook group page](https://www.facebook.com/groups/52597049839/) has exceeded 35,000 members. Group members post photos and videos of their blooming orchids, ask questions, add comments and share their passion for the flowers we all love. In real time too. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/52597049839/>

Webinars-Coming Attractions!






When	December 02, 2020 8:30pm EST Wednesday	December 16, 2020 8:30pm EST Wednesday	January 07, 2021 8:30pm EST Thursday	January 13, 2021 8:30pm EST Wednesday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Orchid Conservation Projects in Florida and Cuba	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Mounting Your Orchids Best Practices
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Lawrence Zettler Biology Professor, Illinois College	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Michael Coronado Production Manager & VP, RF Orchids

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? An Affiliated Society may use recorded webinars for presentations at their monthly meetings. With Wi-Fi access, it's easy! Webinars are an internet-connected audiovisual presentation. You can view from anywhere that you have an internet connection via Mac, PC or even your mobile device. It's easy to find the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You will find the link here: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

To view **REGISTRATION is REQUIRED:** <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>
Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyhow!

ALL webinars are recorded and available to view at your leisure. GREENHOUSE CHAT Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing. Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

Pictures from the greenhouse ...





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

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

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

What's Ahead ...

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all "normal" in-person OSO events are cancelled until further notice. Our next virtual meeting is next Sunday (our normal 3rd Sunday). See page 1 for more information. Please visit the OSO Facebook page, and join the OSO Facebook group.

Just for Fun ...

Orchid-related things that are a bit different, fun, and suitable for social distancing. If you know of something like that, please send it along.

More on vanilla! A researcher at the University of Florida is sequencing the genome of several species of vanilla:

<https://www.growingproduce.com/farm-management/vanilla-plant-growth-success-for-florida-found-in-the-genes/#Tinsel/151267/4>

Twenty species new to science, including four species of orchids, were found in the Zongo Valley in Bolivia:

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-9054889/Tiny-frog-species-series-finds-Andean-sky-islands.html>

(You'll have to scroll down past the Devil-eyed Frog and various snakes and moths to see an orchid.)

A beautiful new species of *Aerides* was recently discovered in the Philippines:

<https://mb.com.ph/2020/12/12/spectacular-stunningly-beautiful-orchid-discovered/>