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## BCOS Meeting and Program

Thursday, May 16, 2024

Regular Meeting 7:30pm

Churchville Nature Center  
501 Churchville Lane  
Churchville, PA 18966  
Show Table Setup-7:00 p.m.

### PROGRAM: Orchid Hunting in Ecuador : Frank Cervera

is a biologist who has been studying the ecology, biology, and taxonomy of the genus *Phragmipedium* throughout natural populations for the past twenty-five years. His journey with *Phragmipedium* started in the 1980s when one of his ecology professors introduced him to orchids that led him to buy a plant of *Phrag. longifolium*. After many years of trying to get a sense of which *Phragmipedium* species were which, and why he was killing so many plants, Frank decided to take the matter into his own hands. Frank's twenty-five-year sojourn to the jungles of Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Guyana and Brazil studying the genus *Phragmipedium*, the taxonomy, ecology, and culture has given him unique access to the source material. Along the way, Frank has met some of the most well-known names and personalities in the *Phragmipedium* community. He has been to some of the most famous, and infamous, orchid nurseries in South America at critical times in the history of the genus and asked them to retell their stories. Frank has had the unique opportunity of going straight to the source and examining plants and flowers through extensive field research. Frank currently works in the financial services industry and resides, along with his family and his orchids, in New York. Frank will have plants for sale.



## President's Message

Dear BCOS Members,

We had a very successful auction on May 4, 2024 at Churchville Nature Center. Huge thanks to the following people who donated time and/or plants: Clara Huntzinger, Alan Block, Chuck Keiser, Jean Norton, Dave Carrick, Lisa and Tom McIsaac, Mitch Paroly, Ritamarie and George Feio, Diane and Ray Pascalli, Joan Kopchik, Lynda Zeigler, Chris Hermann, Deb Shull, Bill Malone, Vera Nakonechny, Frank Kern, and Thora Williams. I know that more of our people would have been there to help out, but there were some unavoidable schedule conflicts and other obligations. All in all... people had fun, we made money for BCOS, and people got some amazing bargains with the great plants that were donated.



Our next big event will be an opportunity to show off your culinary skills at next month's Annual Pot-Luck Dinner and Awards Ceremony where everyone will bring a dish, and each member family will get a blooming orchid. **Guests of members are invited!** Folks with a last name starting from letter A to L should bring a side dish or salad, folks with a last name starting from letter M to Z should bring a main dish. Next year, it will be the reverse. Please bring enough to share... generally enough for 4 people. BCOS will provide paper goods, flatware, a sheet cake, water and soda. Please remember that county regulations prohibit alcohol. There will be a show table, but no speaker.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on May 16, 2024.

Sincerely,

Sandy 215-801-9406 [skern0713@aol.com](mailto:skern0713@aol.com)

## SHOWTABLE AWARDS - April

### Windowsill Growers

	Genus	Species	Clone	Grower
<b>Cattleya</b>				
1st	Bak	Cotton Candy		Thora Williams
2nd	Cattleya	Anita Boye		Sandy Kern
3rd	No ID			Dave Carrick
<b>Cymbidium</b>				
1st	Cymbidium	Crescent Tears		Thora Williams
2nd	Cymbidium	pumilum x Clyde		Thora Williams
<b>Dendrobium</b>				
1st	Dendrobium	King Purple		Unknown
<b>Oncidium</b>				
1st	Mtdm	Pacific Paragon	Honey Butter	Greg Wildgrube
3rd	Oncidium	No ID		Tom Ott
<b>Paphiopedilum</b>				
1st	Paphiopedilum	villosum		Carl Gustafson
2nd	Paphiopedilum	Hsinying	Alien	Joan Kopchik
<b>Phalaenopsis</b>				
1st	Phalaenopsis	Ox Flaminco	Ballando	Mitch Paroly
2nd	Phalaenopsis	Ox Sunkist	OX1637	Mitch Paroly
3rd	Phalaenopsis	No ID		Carl Gustafson
3rd	Phalaenopsis	Fuller's Mask	Smile	Mitch Paroly
<b>Pleurothallid</b>				
1st	Masdevallia	bicolor		Carl Gustafson
2nd	Masdevallia	infracta		Carl Gustafson
<b>Species</b>				
1st	Coelogyne	lawrenceana	Ernie	Sandy Kern
<b>Greenhouse Growers</b>				
	Genus	Species	Clone	Grower
<b>Classic Cattleya</b>				
1st	Rlc	Gott Green	Hair Pig	Chuck Keiser
<b>Miniatures</b>				
1st	Chamaengis	hariotiana		Chuck Keiser
2nd	Ascocentrum	garayi		Chuck Keiser



**SHOWTABLE AWARDS - April, 2024 cont.**



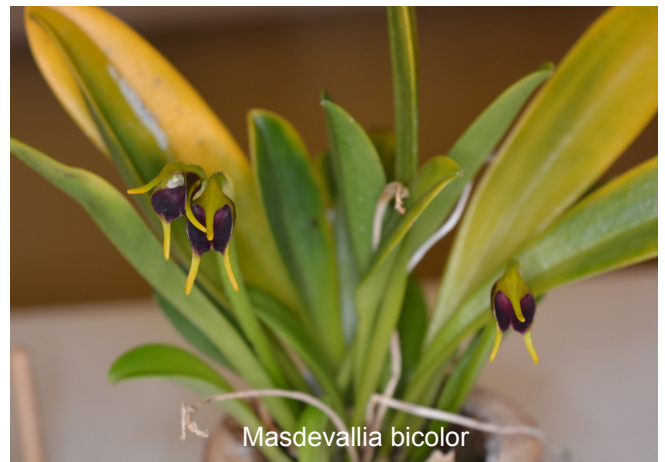
Den. King Purple



Cym. Crescent Tears



Coel. lawrenceana 'Ernie'



Masdevallia bicolor



Chamaengis hariotiana

## AOS Corner – May, 2024

by Ed Weber (edwardweber0218@gmail.com)

If you have ever considered studying to become an AOS judge but could not manage the time commitment, read on... this might be the article you've been waiting for!

Until recently the requirements to become an AOS judge included being a student for at least three years, then being a probationary (now called Associate) judge for another three years. While it is not a set-in-stone requirement, most judging centers expect a potential student to clerk for a length of time. This process teaches them how the system works and how the other judges work together. This can add up to a total of almost SEVEN years! This was due largely to the technology of the time being far less advanced than what is now available.

At the most recent AOS meeting those requirements changed dramatically. The AOS has now officially implemented Self-Guided Education through an extensive series of online modules designed to allow the student to move at his or her own pace. Students are now required to attend 24 judging sessions, (12 monthly in their local centers), and 36 hours of judging education. A student who is motivated can now be advanced to Associate judge in as little as 24 months, as long as the judges of the center feel that the necessary level of skill and knowledge has been achieved. After serving one year as an associate judge and completing the normal attendance, education, and center requirements, an associate judge may be considered by their local center for promotion to accredited judge.

One of my personal favorite perks of being an AOS judge is getting to see orchid show exhibits before award ribbons are placed and without the crowds that often go with them. Ribbon judging is usually done in the morning followed by lunch and AOS judging in the afternoon. It's a great opportunity to meet and work with judges from other judging centers and to encourage clerks to consider entering the judging program.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a judge, please feel free to reach out to any AOS judge. We will be happy to help you achieve your dream!



*Accredited judge Sergey Skoropad of the Northeast Judging Center prepares to measure and describe an awarded flower. Photo Credit aos.org*

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Weber  
[edwardweber0218@gmail.com](mailto:edwardweber0218@gmail.com)

# The Bucks County Orchid Society

## OFFICERS

Sandy Kern <i>President</i>	Jean Norton <i>Vice President</i>
Chuck Keiser <i>Treasurer</i>	Open <i>Secretary</i>
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Richard Kaplinski <i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Carl Gustafson <i>Awards Coordinator</i>

Meetings are held 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month (**except July and August**) at the Churchville Nature Center, 501 Churchville Lane, Churchville, PA 18966

### Other Societies and Vendors:

A list of other societies and vendors is now exclusively available on the BCOS website.

<http://041d544.netsolhost.com/WordPress/library/other-orchid-groups/> for other societies and <http://041d544.netsolhost.com/WordPress/library/local-vendors/> for vendors.

**EDITOR'S NOTE** – Contributions to the newsletter will be greatly appreciated. Please submit relevant news, photos, awards or information relating to the Society, its members, the care and culture of orchids to the Editor at [kaplsr@comcast.net](mailto:kaplsr@comcast.net). I am also looking for your favorite tip on growing orchids, for the feature, **Orchid Tip of the Month**. Please submit your copy by the first day of the month.



**PHOTOGRAPER WANTED** to photograph the 1st place showtable winners at this month's BCOS meeting on May 16, 2024. Contact Richard Kaplinski, BCOS Newsletter editor at 215-598-7311 or [kaplsr@comcast.net](mailto:kaplsr@comcast.net) for details. No camera? Cell phone pictures are acceptable.

## Upcoming Events

**June 20, 2024 - 6:00 pm Bucks County Orchid Society Pot Luck Dinner and Awards Ceremony, Churchville Nature Center, 501 Churchville Lane, Churchville PA 18966**

## BCOS ORCHID AUCTION MAY 4, 2024



*David Carrick leads spirited bidding at the Society's Orchid Auction held on Saturday May 4, 2024 at the Churchville Nature Center.*



*The Long Island Orchid Society  
in conjunction with  
Planting Fields State Historic Park  
Presents the Ninth Annual*



# *Long Island Orchid Festival 2024*

*Orchids & Vendors from Around the World*

**May 31st-June 2nd, 2024**

**9a.m. to 5p.m.**

*Planting Fields Arboretum*

*State Historic Park*

*Conference Center*

*1395 Planting Fields Road*

*Oyster Bay, NY 11771*



*For more information, please visit  
[longislandorchidsociety.org](http://longislandorchidsociety.org)  
or  
[plantingfields.org](http://plantingfields.org)*