

SPECIAL THANKS TO
BETTY JO AND JERRY
FOR THEIR HELP WITH
THE NEWSLETTER

Special points of interest:

- VOS Show
- President's Message
- March Checklist
- David Sauer
- Orchid Exhibit

Photo and Article

Credits:

- Betty Jo Fulghum
- Garland Hanson
- Allen Black
- Jerry Rogers

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The Orchid Keiki



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February 2009

“Preparation of VOS AOS Show and Sale”

Sunday, February 15, 2009 at 2pm

Our next VOS meeting, on February 15th, is just a few days before the set-up and opening of our AOS judged show at Strange's Greenhouse. Instead of our usual speaker format, we will have a fun and casual look at Orchid Displaying. The topics covered will be aimed at learning how to display, and show, orchid plants to their greatest potential. There will be multiple focuses about the displaying of orchids, from how to clean, prepare and show individual plants, to basic guidelines for helping set up a cooperative display of multiple plants. A knowledgeable member will give some basic insight to what a judge may be looking for in a “ribbon worthy” plant and what those letters mean that we so often see behind orchid names in the newsletter and catalogs. Please bring in any plants that you may want entered into the show so that we can help you prepare them for display and enter them in the proper plant division/class.

This meeting will be directed to all orchid lovers,

novice and experienced growers. It will demonstrate how any one with an interest in orchids can participate in an orchid show. You do not have to have the most beautiful plants to express an artistic design for the theme of any show. Did you know we have a tabletop division at our show that can include only 1 – 3 plants arranged for effect? With a bit of imagination, and a few simple props, and ONE plant (store bought or homegrown), your entry is complete. You can have beautiful plants and not gain recognition for your growing talent if the plant is not presented well. Come prepared to gain new (or renewed!) enthusiasm for orchid displaying. We will have simple demonstrations, various materials to view and an open forum for questions.

If you have a question about the art of displaying your orchid, please email to Valerie prior to February 10th and she will try to incorporate your question into one of our topics.

Member News

Here's a picture of my **Phrag Inca Treasure** which is blooming now. This is a hybrid of *Phrag kovachii* and *longifolium*. My plant first bloomed in December of 2007. At the WOC in Miami, I mentioned to Manolo Arias (Peru Flora) that I bloom out this cross. At that time, they had not bloomed any plants of this hybrid, so they used the picture of my flower to register this hybrid.

I originally got this plant from Flasks by Chuck Acker in WI. The flower is 5" wide.

Enjoy,
Allen Black





**2008-2009
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President's Message

It's Show Time! Our 3rd annual AOS Show & Sale at Strange's will be held February 20-22. This year the show will be larger than ever with more societies on display. The Tidewater Orchid Society from Norfolk, the Triangle Orchid Society from Durham, NC, the Richmond Orchid Alliance and the Virginia Native Plant Society will all be there for the first time. We also have expanded the lecture series to include twelve presentations.

With such a large event, we will need the support of our entire membership. I would like to see each member help with the welcome desk. Get together with a friend and sign up for an hour to help out. You can also help by bringing your plants to display in the show. Art Burke and Charles Gardner will be heading up the VOS display. As always there is tabletop display space available for those of you who wish to put in your own display.

I'm looking forward to a sunny weekend in a warm greenhouse filled with hundreds of wonderful orchids and some good fellowship with friends old and new. If you have not taken the time to come to one of shows, you will find many unusual orchids that you won't see on our show table. And of course we will have some great vendors for you to pick up a new plant or two.

The Virginia Orchid Society is very appreciative to the fine people at Strange's who make this event possible. Their generous support allows us to make this an annual show. Please take the time to thank the staff when you are at the show and support Strange's with your patronage for all your horticultural needs.

I hope to see everyone at our regular February meeting as we devote the meeting to grooming and staking plants for the show. Some of you may be concerned that you do not have so called "show quality" plants to be on display. A nicely groomed plant with typical flowers for the kind of orchid you have is all you need. The show is about educating the public to wonderful world of orchids. Your particular plant may be the one that catches the eye of someone who has never grown an orchid before and gets him or her interested.

Lastly, we also will be having an Art & Photography display for adult and juvenile entries. If you have anything like that or have friends that do, please consider putting it on display.

With the help of our membership, this year's show will be successful and will be the largest orchid show in Virginia for 2009.

Be there and be a part of it!!!

In Memoriam—David French Sauer



David Sauer was born in Richmond on November 21, 1929. He received his B.F.A. from Richmond Professional Institute (now VCU) and his M.F.A. from Columbia University in New York. Has also did further post-graduate study at Columbia in Oriental Art

History under Jane Gaston Mahler, specializing in Southern Sung Painting. After a year abroad in Europe, studying in Perugia and Florence, he returned to Richmond to begin a teaching career at VCU in painting. At the age of 16, he received the distinction of being the youngest exhibitor to be admitted to a national art exhibition with his painting entitled "Still Life Number 14" which was included in the Fifth Biennial of Contemporary American Painting at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. During his 60 years as a painter, he has exhibited in New York City, Atlanta, Richmond,

North Carolina, Virginia Beach, Norfolk and San Francisco. A number of his works were included in the Duncan Phillips collection in Washington, D.C. A review of his painting from the Herald Tribune in 1954 aptly commented that "his colors are bold, his forms big and free, but they still depict (in a manner which suggests Bonnard with Benezdrine) flowers, landscapes, rooms, fruit – all the things that speak of the joy of living." Photography captured his interest in the 1970s and he studied the Zone System with Ansel Adams at the Yosemite Workshop Series and added the Zone System class to his teaching responsibilities in the Photography Department at VCU. He died peacefully in his home on January 12. David is survived by his wife, Deborah; and his two brothers, Conrad F Sauer III and T.E.A. Sauer of Richmond. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution in his name to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, P.O. Box 4486, Houston, Texas, 77210-4486.

*Retyped from original notice in
Richmond Times Dispatch.*

Monthly Checklist for March

Get Supplies – Most of your collection will need repotting in the next few months. Now is the time to stock up on those supplies you'll need. Invest in various barks, charcoal and sphagnum moss depending upon your orchid needs. Reusing pots can be an avenue for the spread of virus and is not recommended (unless they are thoroughly cleaned and sterilized). Purchase an array of plastic and clay pots to have ready for when you need them.

Watering – Plants that have been inactive over the winter are now starting to develop new roots and growth. Increasing your watering is appropriate, but be careful not to over water too quickly. New growth, or even entire plants, can rot off with too much water this month. Fertilizer is still not really needed (except for winter growers), but now would be a good opportunity to get new fertilizer. Discard the old or use it on other garden plants.

Observation – Watch your orchids carefully, for they give you the visual cues to change caretaking routines. New growths should be receiving proper light (may need to rearrange plants). Old leaf debris should be removed to allow light in and to reveal any emerging parasites.

Cattleya – Removal of old sheaths can be important, for the moisture they trap may lead to bud rot. The removal will allow buds to develop, but they will need additional support. Repot immediately after blooming for the winter and spring blooming varieties.

Cymbidiums – Many are in spectacular bloom and should be adequately watered to prevent straining the plant. If your plant failed to bloom, try increasing the light next season (low light is primary reason for not blooming).

Paphiopedilum – The heaviest potting is beginning in March. Take time to work with your plant, cleaning up foliage, inspecting it for insects, and repotting and restaging. Summer blooming types will begin showing buds over the next two months. Be watchful for insects in the crowns of the plants.

Phalaenopsis – March can be the peak blooming month for phals, and staking needs to be carefully done. Even if just in your home, it brings the plants full beauty out for you to enjoy. The final support should be just below the first flower to allow for the graceful arch of the spike.

University of Richmond Museum !!

The University of Richmond Museums presents *Faces & Flowers*: Painting on Lenox China on view from February 19 through June 28, 2009, in the Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature. The exhibition includes more than seventy objects made by Ceramic Art Company/Lenox China and drawn from public and private collections, featuring china plates, vases, and decorative wares with exquisite paintings of orchids, figures, idealized women, and landscapes.

Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 7 to 9 p.m. 7 p.m., Lecture and exhibition walk-through, Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature *Faces & Flowers: American Painting on Porcelain* Ellen Denker, independent scholar and curator of the exhibition 8 to 9 p.m., Reception and preview of *Faces & Flowers: Painting on Lenox China* Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature

Friday, February 20, 2009, 2 to 4 p.m., Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature China Painting Workshop taught by Amy Talley, educator and owner of All Fired Up, a ceramics studio

in Carytown, Richmond In this hands-on painting workshop, create your own painted china plate. Limited space, pre-register by calling Heather Campbell, Curator of Museum Programs, University of Richmond Museums, at 804-287-6324, or email hcampbel@richmond.edu

All programs are free and open to the public.



Schedule of

Virginia Orchid Society Events

Sunday, February 15th
Virginia Orchid Society
"Preparation of VOS Show"
Lewis Ginter Botanical
Gardens *Robins Room*

Sunday, February 20th –22nd
Virginia Orchid Society AOS
Show
Strange's Greenhouse

Saturday, March 7, 2009
31st Annual NCOS Orchid
Auction

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
(Preview 10:00 - 11:00 AM)
US National Arboretum
24th and R Streets, NE,
Washington, DC

Sunday, March 15th
Virginia Orchid Society
Auction
Lewis Ginter Botanical
Gardens *Auditorium*

April 4th & 5th
Virginia Orchid Society
Bloomin Days
Strange's Greenhouse and
Garden Center
"Orchid Repotting"

Sunday, April 19th
Virginia Orchid Society
Steve Shiflett
Floradise Orchids
Growing Vandas in Your Home
Lewis Ginter Botanical
Gardens *Robins Room*

Sunday, May 17th
Virginia Orchid Society
Ron Midgett
New Earth Orchids
Potting Demonstration and Clinic

Lewis Ginter Botanical
Gardens *Robins Room*

Virginia Orchid Society AOS Show and Sale



Welcoming Desk

The Welcoming Desk is very important to the success of our Orchid Show as well as the continued growth of our Society. The Welcoming Desk serves as the focal point for the show where there will be posted information of the show activities, a variety of printed orchid information and as well as membership to the Virginia Orchid Society. The Welcoming Desk is located so that each visitor receives a warm welcome from our members and can answer any questions they may have. There is nothing complicated about working the Welcoming Desk. All that is needed is a warm smile and enthusiasm for orchids. There will be plenty of material to share with visitors and several of other VOS members near by to assist with questions, etc. We are asking for you to contribute only one hour of your time to serve this important assignment. If you are interested in serving more hours, your generosity will certainly be accepted and appreciated. The following assignment hours are open:



Friday, February 20th	Saturday, Feb. 21st	Sunday, Feb. 22nd
2 to 3 pm	8 to 9 am	1 to 12 pm
3 to 4 pm	9 to 10 am	12 to 1 pm
4 to 5 pm	10 to 11 am	1 to 2 pm
5 to 6 pm	12 to 1 pm	2 to 3 pm
	2 to 3 pm	3 to 4 pm
	3 to 4 pm	4 to 5 pm
	4 to 5 pm	
	5 to 6 pm	

Preview Gala for Virginia Orchid Show

Here is how it works:

- Register for a bidder number
- Find items that you are interested in
- Place a bid on an item that you want
- Check back to see if your bid is the highest (if not, bid higher!)
- Wait for a call that you have bid the highest (or check back Thursday at 9pm)
- Pick up your item by Saturday at 5pm

Here is a sample of what is at the Auction:

- American Family Fitness 3 Month Membership
- Marriott Hotel Gift Certificate
- Overnight Stay at Stratford Hall
- Starbucks Coffee Gift Basket
- Panera Bread Gift Certificate

And much, much more!!!!

Reception

Along with the Silent Auction will be a **reception with cocktail food and cash bar**. Admission to the Preview Gala is \$5.00

Anyone wishing to donate cocktail food for our Reception Table, please call **Patti St.Clair at 757-566-9041** or e-mail : pattistc@cox.net to sign up to prevent duplicate items.



This is a great time to see the Show at its best! So bring a friend and introduce them to the beautiful world of Orchids!!!

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Valerie Thacker

Website

Jerry Rogers

Continuing Education

Joe Mathias

Programs

Valerie Thacker

Endowment

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Hospitality

Glenna Hasslacher

Membership

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Visit Our Website:
www.vaorchidsociety.org