



CHAOS

Charlottesville Orchid Society

www.cvilleorchidsociety.com

January 2019 Newsletter

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2016 BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

President: VACANT POSITION

1st Vice President: Jeffrey Morris

2nd Vice President: Neale Merriman

Treasurer: Pam Van Brunt

Corresponding Sec'y: Alba Shank

Program Director: Eleanor Matano

Newsletter: Daria Kiselica

Publicity: CJ Besanson

AOS Liaison: CJ Besanson

Photography: Jeff Morris

NEXT MEETING:



Sunday 1/13/2019

Set-up 2:30 PM; program begins at 3:00 PM

1024 Carrington Place, off Rio Road across from Church of Our Savior

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

We have no President's Message, as Dudley completed his service as our President at the end of December. Election to be held.....and many thanks to Dudley for serving as our President for the past three years!



SPEAKER INFORMATION:

Our speaker for January is Laurel Matthew, Senior Horticulturist at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.

Laurel's love for plants and insects bloomed in the wildflower fields near her childhood home in Texas and her grandparents' farm in Ohio, but orchids weren't typically found in either location. It wasn't until a formidable visit to the U.S. Botanic Garden in Washington, D.C., when she discovered the wonderfully weird world of orchids. Laurel carried the fascination through college, as she worked toward a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture (Horticulture Crops option and Entomology concentration) from Virginia Tech in 1998. During college studies, Laurel researched orchids and was lucky to have a summer internship in Illinois, at Klehm Growers, where she learned about tissue culture, orchid breeding, care, potting and research ... and found that paphiopedilums were her favorite type!

After graduation, life (and the U.S. Navy) took Laurel around the country, where she raised a family and gardened in Florida, Virginia, Washington, California and Maryland. When it was time to settle again, Laurel pursued a Master in the Art of Teaching (M.A.T) from St. Mary's College in Maryland and, in the summer of 2012, she finally found a way to meld her interest in education, fascination with insects and love for plants (all types, but particularly orchids, perennials and vegetables). This intersect was located at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond, VA. Laurel spent her first four months as a Butterfly Curator in the tropical butterfly exhibit and the following six years as the Greenhouse Horticulturist/Orchid Grower.

Laurel lives and gardens in Mechanicsville, VA with her children Ranger, Rylee and Reese and their pets.

Laurel is a VNLA Certified Horticulturist, VDACS Certified Pesticide Applicator, a volunteer-trainee with the Riverine Chapter of Virginia Master Naturalists and an (often in absentia) member of the Virginia Orchid Society.

Laurel has declined to set a speaker's fee, and has asked instead to be reimbursed with labelled/ identified plants from our members. Please do an inventory of your collection, and bring a plant with you to the meeting to give to our speaker. Send the name of plants you are bringing to Daria, so we can avoid duplication of plants and provide her with a nice variety.

Laurel is not bringing plants to sell, so CHAOS members are welcome to bring plants for sale, with a portion of the proceeds going to CHAOS.



SPECIAL REQUEST:

Orchid Origami display!!! Those of us who attended the September 2018 meeting were excited by our speaker, Dennis Whigham, not only for his talk, but for his presentation of orchid origami kits that help support the North American Orchid Conservation Center. The assembled paper orchids are truly beautiful! Please bring any constructed Orchid Origami projects for a special display on Sunday.

RESCHEDULE OF POTLUCK MEAL???

Our annual December holiday potluck was, unfortunately, canceled due to snow, and it sounds like many of us missed having that fun get-together! It has been suggested that we reschedule the potluck meal, perhaps for our March meeting, when we do not have a speaker scheduled. Holiday table displays and corsages are not so appropriate for March, but we could have our usual show table. Please consider this, and share your opinion at our meeting on Sunday.





SHOW TABLE RESULTS:

No show in December 2018 due to snow-cancelled meeting!

CHAOS Monthly Show Table

As part of each regular meeting of CHAOS, we have an informal show table. The intent is to show off your flowers and plants, and to allow others to enjoy them, too. In the spirit of informality, we have categories related to the number of plants you are growing – we don't want someone just starting to feel like they need to compete with the old pro.

Each meeting three people (usually the person leading the evaluation and the two who are standing nearest) are asked to look over the plants and select what strikes their collective fancy. We often have new people participate – it's a great ice breaker. So, one time the species plant aficionados will pick the tiny no-see-ums, and other times it just that one plant that really grabs your eye, or it's the monster plant with a bazillion blooms. At the end of the meeting the selected plants are briefly discussed and cultural tips for especially challenging plants are noted. By keeping it informal we want to encourage people to bring plants and share what it is that brings us all to an orchid meeting.

See the CHAOS website for a PDF form with four slips can be downloaded for your plants. Or pick up a slip from the folks setting up the table. On the back add any particular culture tips that you used to for growing and blooming your plant.

For all show entries, complete a show table form (plant identification on front, your name on back). After the meeting, leave forms on the table so that results may be tabulated.



Charlottesville Orchid Society

Join us for a *CHAOS* meeting!!!

Be our guest at a meeting because you enjoy orchids!

What's in it for you:

- Speakers who address multiple topics of interest about orchids and growing them
- A show table that allows you to see...and smell!...blooming orchids grown by our members, AND discussion by experienced orchid growers about how those orchids grow and thrive
- Networking with friendly and welcoming people who enjoy orchids and plants, and grow them in their own greenhouses or homes
- Frequent options to purchase beautiful orchids to grow yourself
- Raffles in which you may win an orchid plant for as little as \$1.00
- The option of joining our organization as a member

When: Usually the second Sunday of each month, September through June, from 1:00 to 4:15 PM, with program from 2:30-3:30 PM. Check our website (<http://cvilleorchidsociety.com/>) to confirm a date.

Where: 1024 Carrington Place, off of Rio Road East, Charlottesville. Go to the third floor, "Accounting Solutions".

Hope to see you at our next meeting!