



# NORTHWEST ORCHID NEWS

Current Newsletter

**April 2015**

Volume 68, Issue 11

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## About the April Meeting

**April 13, 2015**

7:00 p.m.

University of Washington  
Center for Urban Horticulture  
3501 NE 41st Street  
Seattle, WA 98105

## Larry Moscovitz: Bizarre Orchids

Our speaker for April will be Larry Moskovitz. Larry founded Orchidanica in the 1980's and has a degree in photography, which makes for great photos of interesting orchids. His talk will cover a number of genera including Stanhopea, Mormodes, Catasetum, Dracula, and others.



**Coryanthes leucocorys**  
photo copyright Larry Moscovitz

### Display Table:

We will have our regular display table, so bring your blooming plants to share.

### Sales Table:

Members may bring up to 10 plants to sell. Include an extra tag with your name and the price in the plant.

### Raffle:

The raffle will be held as usual. Win a new orchid for your collection while supporting the Scholarship Fund.

### NWOS Library:

If you'd like to check out a book or tape from our Library, please contact our Librarian [Carolyn Mann](#) a minimum of 2 weeks before the next meeting. For a list of library items Click [HERE](#) or click on the link at the top of this page.

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## President's Corner

Donna and I just got back from visiting Vancouver Canada for their Orchid Show. This is the time of year for planning to visit one of the many orchid shows whether they're nearby in our area or throughout the USA and Canada. It is a great opportunity to talk about orchids and to see what's growing in different regions.

When you go, wear your name tag so the hosting society will know that we were at the show. Many of the societies have Preview Parties the day before the show opens. These are a great way the see the show early.

Check the NWOS website for upcoming shows and have a great time.

*Mike Foster, President*

Photos courtesy Mike Foster & Donna Pierce







Vancouver, BC Orchid Society Show

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## **Proposed Slate of Officers**

**Here are the Nominations for NWOS Officers to serve July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016:**

President: Abigail Chang  
First VP: Joe Grienaus  
Second VP: George Grantham  
Secretary: Michael Cory  
Treasurer: Peter Maunsell  
Past President: Mike Foster

### **Trustees (2 years) 2015-2017:**

Chloe Angus-Tibbetts  
Harvey Brenneise  
Mary Margaret Cromarty  
Diane Drisch  
Ellen Macomber  
Joff Morgan

### **The following Trustees have one year remaining on their 2 year Tenure (2014-2016):**

Leanna Fox  
Alycia Moncrieff  
Mike Pearson  
Barb Roberts

The election will be held at our May meeting with installation at the June meeting.

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## Sad News

I just received word that longtime NWOS member, William "Bill" Arrigoni, passed away peacefully on March 25, after a short battle with cancer. He was 65. Bill was an adjunct professor at Lesley College for 23 years in their nationwide masters program, taught high school mathematics and science in Auburn for 30 years, explored his passions for family, fishing, and travel, and grew orchids in his backyard greenhouse, while raising two children with his wife Sheri. He was active in the NWOS during the 80s and 90s. Bill was Show Chair for the NWOS Show when we were displaying at the Seattle Center. And he helped train me as Show Chair when we created the Orchid Show at the NW Flower & Garden Show, up on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Convention Center, back in the early 90s. He had a wealth of orchid knowledge, was quick with his humor and a helping hand. We will miss you, Bill.

Services are to be held on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. St Anthony's Catholic Church, 314 S 4<sup>th</sup> St, Renton WA.

*Joff Morgan*

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## Upcoming Orchid Shows

**The Oregon Orchid Society Show and Sale** will be held April 11-12 at the usual venue, the Ambridge Event Center in Portland. We will be collecting plants as usual on the Thursday before.

**The Portland Orchid Society** will be hosting a show in conjunction with the AOS spring meetings. Setup for the show will be Wed. April 29<sup>th</sup> and the teardown will be Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be various lectures and program events Friday through Sunday. We will send a display to this show. We will receive plants at our house on Tuesday April 28 (or by special arrangement) for the show. Alan Kaas will bring the plants back on Sunday. If you are interested in helping in any way please let me know. This would be an excellent event to attend. You don't even need to take your car as Portland's excellent light rail stops right outside the show. Details are at:

<http://www.portlandorchidsociety.org/calendar/2015AOS.php>

**The South Central Washington Show and Sale** will be held May 9-10 in Kennewick WA, the heart of Washington's wine country. Cylvia and I will not be able to take a display but NWOS will definitely send a display. Members have expressed an interest but plans have not been finalized. If you are interested in assisting with this show please contact me.

*George Grantham, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*

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## Nominations for Gary Baker Service Award

Now is the time to make your nominations for the **Gary Baker Service Award**. This award is given annually at the June Potluck to the person who has contributed the most to the overall goals of the society in the prior year. The recipient is selected by the board from nominations made by the general membership so they need to hear from you now. Please send your nominations to George Grantham ([georgegrantham@hotmail.com](mailto:georgegrantham@hotmail.com)).

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## NWOS Display at Spokane Show, March 28-29

Cylvia and I took 50 plants from NWOS to Spokane for their show this year. Plants were loaned by George Krasle, Ewa Chmura, Andy Wright, Allen and Michelle Kaas, Mike Pearson and Abigail Chang, Mike Foster and Donna Pierce and by Cylvia and myself. We had a very wide variety of plants with a high percentage of species. Andy's Bulb. jolandae, a rare and unusual plant, was granted a Botanical Recognition award by the AOS Judges and also won



Best Misc. Genera. Cylvia and I won "Best Dendrobium" for our Dend. fimbriata var. oculatum (see photos).

The weather was beautiful in Spokane and the new venue for the show was a bright and airy greenhouse. This show as previously noted was markedly different from the shows we are accustomed to in that there were no individual displays. Instead, all plants were arranged on tables according to ribbon judging classes. We missed the artistic aspect of individual displays and also we missed being able to associate plants with the societies or vendors but this mode of display does make the plants stand out more individually and also facilitates comparison with related species and hybrids. Finally, it simplifies set up and also makes ribbon judging much easier. Something for us to try in the future?

George Grantham, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Photos courtesy George and Cylvia Grantham



Den. fimbriata var. oculatum, grown by George and Cylvia Grantham won Best Dendrobium



Trigonidium ergotonianum from Ewa Chmura is rarely seen and stunning



Typical Table in a Benched Show where orchids are arranged by classes.  
Here is Cylvia with the Phrags and Paphs.



Bulbophyllum jolandae, Andy Wright



Bulb. jolandae with AOS Award of Botanical Recognition and Best Miscellaneous Genera

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## Flower Show Update

Joe Greinauer and I met with Lloyd from the NW Flower & Garden Show. Show management was very pleased with our garden this year, as were the Judges. Lloyd mentioned that they expect this caliber and quality of garden from us going forward. Gone are the "orchid show" style displays from previous years. The 2015 garden set the new standard. Oh, and they (and the Judges) loved the rock wall and moss placements.

Here are the Show's Judges comments for "Lettre d'Amorchid":

- Orchids are well-grown, a stunning collection.
- Beautiful, diverse, tremendous display!
- Good labels – white on black – they 'pop', easy to read. There are lots of it, but doesn't detract.
- Love the contouring of hillside and lawn areas.
- Great learning display, showing how orchids naturally grow.

The theme for 2016 is "American Treasures – Gardens Inspired by our National Parks & Landmarks". This ties in with the National Parks Service Centennial. Lloyd said we cannot have the Everglades as that has already been claimed. And the Show is not allowing duplications. As a result, the faster we submit our idea, the better chance it will be accepted. We have until June 30<sup>th</sup> to submit our application, but we need your input.

So sharpen those pencils, get out the colored markers, and begin sketching some ideas for a grand orchid garden. What would you like to help us create for next year's orchid garden?

~ Joff Morgan

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## Lost Orchid from NW Flower Show

Did you come home from the 2015 Flower Show on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> with an extra plant? The Grantham's are missing a little *Coelogyne cristata* (or it might be *Coelogyne mooreana*). It was in a 3"-4" pot and labeled with their name. Please check your plants

and collections for this stowaway! Then alert George and Cylvia, as they are wondering where their baby has gone to.

Thank you!

~ Joff Morgan

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## Report from the March Orchid Auction

Mike Foster opened our meeting welcoming everyone. He thanked Peter and Kelly Maunsell for donating and hosting the lovely wine and cheese reception. Mike Pearson talked about the NW Judging Center. George Grantham reported about upcoming shows at other orchid societies. Alycia Moncrieff reviewed the progress of the Nominating Committee. Rohm Gustafson made an announcement about the upcoming Gesneriad Society show.



Leanna Fox

Leanna Fox told us about her move to Oregon and reviewed her job as Raffle Chair and how enjoyable it was. Hopefully we'll find a replacement as good as she has been. We'll all miss her.

Kim Owen talked about the book that she and her daughter Amber have been writing about orchids for young children. She had a display of pages for us to see. Mike Foster continued with a reminder about next week's Potting Clinic in the Douglas Classroom. He pointed out Allan Kaas who takes care of our name tags. Mike pointed out the silent auction at the back of the room and then reviewed the rules for our orchid auction.

Mike Pearson and Mike Cory served as Auctioneers. They were assisted by Joff Morgan, Mary Margaret Cromarty and Ellen Macomber. Thanks to our excellent cashiers Greg Sliman, Pat & Dennis Gossler. And thanks to Chris Peterson who took care of our credit card processing.

Photos courtesy Diane Drisch.



Hosts, Kelly & Peter Maunsell.



Wine & Cheese reception.





The gals enjoy a chat.



The guys sample the cheese.



Working hard to record all the bids are our cashiers Greg Sliman, Pat & Dennis Gossler.



Checking items in the silent auction.



George reviews upcoming shows.



Kim talks about her children's orchid book.



Before deciding to bid, Al gets the plant's info from grower Andy.



While Kim is distracted by her presentation, Mike sneaks in to nab the wine.





Checking out the plants.



Looking for some good ones.



Taking a closer look.



Picking just the right one.



hmm, maybe I'd like that one.



Deciding what will be a good choice.





Mike Cory.



Mike C knows how to move those Phals.



The crowd responds to Mike's call for bids.



Mary Margaret Cromarty takes the plant to the highest bidder.



Mike C calls for bids while Mike P gets the next lot ready.



Joff brings the plant to George K, the winning bidder.



Mike Pearson manages competing bidders.



Mike P checks the plant over and gives a good description before asking for bids.





Will this plant go home with someone else?



No, **You've** got the winning bid!

## Report from the March Potting Clinic

On March 16th, we had our popular Potting clinic. Led by Chris Peterson with an assist from Mike Pearson, we received great instruction on potting both sympodial and monopodial orchids as well as stick mounting.

Photos courtesy Diane Drisch.



Chris starts by pulling off the pot of a large cymbidium.



She then cleans off dead roots and old potting media. Here's when you decide whether or not to divide the plant or leave it to grow into a large specimen.



Here she chooses which media to use. We have small, medium or large bark mixes.



Chris pushes media down into the pot securing the plant roots while a rapt audience looks on.



Chris checks the roots of this phalaenopsis.



Chris pots the phal while NWOS members and guests watch her work the long roots into a pot.



Mike shows how to mount an orchid on a stick.



Mike ties it to the stake with Chris' assistance.



Chris shows off the finished mount.  
She obviously enjoys working with plants.



After the demonstrations, we started working on our plants. Here we're taking them out of the old pots and clean the old media out of the roots





Helping a newbie.



Pat helps repot.



Peter also helps.



Al offers his advice.



Erika & Leanna work together to pull a big cymbidium apart.



That's right ladies, really get your backs into it.





Ahhh, a successful division ready for a new pot.

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## Report from the Orchid Show and Sale at the Conservatory in Volunteer Park

The Northwest Orchid Society, in collaboration with the Friends of the Conservatory and Conservatory staff hosted an orchid show and sale April 4th at the historic 102 year old Conservatory in Volunteer Park on Capitol Hill. It was held in the new greenhouse facility funded by the Friends of the Conservatory and the Seattle Parks Foundation. This state of the art greenhouse will be used for housing parts of the Conservatory collection and for educational events. The construction of the greenhouse was finished last month. It is situated directly north of the renovated portion of the Conservatory.

There was an excellent show table with members plants. We had plants for sale from NWOS members, Emerald City Orchids & Olympic Orchids as well as surplus plants from the Conservatory collection. Sales were brisk.

It was a beautiful day at the park and the show was very well attended. Thanks to the Conservatory staff, the volunteers who made our beautiful display, all those who lent their blooming plants and everyone who worked a shift to help make this an event well done!

Photos courtesy Michael Cory and Diane Drisch



A lovely new greenhouse to have our show and sale.



Ellen, Ron and Chris make a great team helping to check people out and give information about the Conservatory and our orchid society.





NWOS orchid display.



The flowers look great in the new greenhouse setting.



People love getting a closer look at these fabulous blooms.



Close-up of our display.



Joe helps explain orchid care.



Gorgeous blooms for sale from Emerald City Orchids



Joff helps out in the sales area.



Info display.



It took a long table to display all our lovelies.

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### **Schedule of Upcoming Events**

**April 13, 2015** - NWOS meeting - Larry Moscovitz: Bizarre Orchids

**May 11, 2015** - NWOS meeting - Mary Gerritson: Miniature Orchids

**June 8, 2015** - NWOS meeting, Pot Luck Dinner and Gary Baker Service Award

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### **Reminder for Officers & Board Members**

The schedule of Board Meetings for the rest of this fiscal year is: 5/5/15. Meet at 7 p.m. at Mike Cory's house unless notified that it's been moved elsewhere.

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### **Special Announcements**

No special announcements this month.