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April 2019

Volume 72, Issue 9

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About the April Meeting

April 8, 2019 7:00 p.m.
University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture
3501 NE 41st Street
Seattle, WA 98105

Orchid Basics - 7 p.m. sharp

This month's session will be 'Growing Orchids Under LED Lights' presented by Steve Dorsey. We've all seen Steve's beautiful blooms on the monthly Display Table. Learn how he successfully grows orchids adding LED lights.



Ron Midgett

Speaker: Ron Midgett, "Oncidinae Intergeneric Hybrids - What are They and How to Grow Them"

Our speaker will be Ron Midgett of New Earth Orchids from Santa Fe, New Mexico. Ron began growing orchids in 1969 in the orchid-rich environment of Southern California. Since then, he has grown orchids in many different regions of the US and in the Caribbean. Currently, he resides in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is a breeder with an emphasis on Cattleyas, Paphiopedilums, and Oncidinae. Several cultivars from his crosses have received AOS awards.

In 1990, Ron founded the New England Orchid Company in Franklin, MA. In 2003, he moved his orchid business to New Jersey and changed the name to New Earth Orchid Co., aka New Earth Orchids. In 2010, New Earth Orchids was moved to Santa Fe, NM.

In addition to Ron's activities in the orchid business, he has been very active in the local orchid societies wherever he lived. This includes serving as an officer, chairing orchid shows, and running the New England Orchid Fair for 3 years. Before leaving New Jersey, Ron founded the Jersey Highlands Orchid Society.

Ron is an accredited AOS judge currently serving in the Rocky Mountain Region. He has

served as chairperson for AOS judging for the 2011 and 2012 New Mexico Orchid Guild Shows. In 2011, Ron was invited to participate in judging the Taiwan International Orchid Show.

Ron has authored articles published in Orchids and most recently in the Orchid Digest. He was given the prestigious Ernest Heatherington award from the Orchid Digest for his article, "Beyond Sc. Beaufort—A 25 Year Odyssey in Cattleya Breeding". Ron feels a special honor in receiving this award because Ernest was one of his first mentors.

Ron has spoken in many venues across the country. He has twice been an invited speaker to the prestigious Cattleya Symposium held each summer in Florida. He has done speaking tours in New England, Central Florida, Mid Florida, California, and The Texas Circuit.

You have until April 3rd to pre order plants from Ron. See the next article for details.

Ron will also have plants for sale at the meeting, but without the discount.

Display Table:

Bring your blooming Orchids so everyone can enjoy them. For your convenience, you can print out a Plant Table Information Form ahead of time. Click for your version of choice: [PDF](#) [Word](#) [Excel](#)

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. If you have any extra Orchids, consider donating them to the raffle.

NWOS Library:

If you'd like to check out a book or tape from our Library, please contact our Librarian [Joe Grienauer](#) a minimum of 2 weeks before the next meeting. Besides email, you can give Joe your request at any meeting. For a list of library items Click on the Library link at the top left of this page or click [HERE](#).

Orchid Pre-Order Offer from our April Speaker - Deadline 4/3

Our April Speaker, Ron Midgett is offering orchid plant pre-orders for NWOS members. Here are the details:

- Go to the New Earth Orchids web site, <https://newearthorchids.com> to see what is available.
- Select the plants to purchase and put them in your cart.
- Use the code SEA19 to receive your 15% discount. The code will only be active until April 3rd.
- When it comes to choosing "shipping" or "In person pickup"; choose "In person pickup". This will avoid the shipping charges.

Ron will also have plants for sale at the meeting, but without the discount.

Volunteer Park Conservatory Orchid Show and Sale - April 6-7, 2019

We will be having a Show and Sale at the Volunteer Park Conservatory, on the first weekend of April. It's a wonderful venue to show off our beautiful blooms. It will run from 10 am-4 pm both days, with free admission on Saturday and \$4 admission on Sunday. Admission will be waived for NWOS volunteers, so come and spend a little time helping us out in this lovely Victorian setting. Sign up ahead of time by contacting Mike (below).



Setup will be Friday, April 5th from 4-6 pm. Drop off your blooming plants for display. Breakdown and plant pickup will be from 4-5 pm Sunday. It's important that we work

within the Conservatory's schedule so if you can't make it during those times, please contact Mike F. to make other arrangements.

Our Orchid show and sale will be in the Seasonal House. Enter through the main door and turn Right. Orchid Vendors will include **Emerald City Orchids, Olympic Orchids** and **The Volunteer Park Conservatory**. Current NWOS Members can sell plants with a 15% commission to the society. Include an extra tag with your name and the price in the plant.

If you would like to be added to the show committee or want to be involved, please email Mike Foster, fosterpierce@comcast.net

Orchid Pre-Order Offer from our May Speaker - Deadline 4/30

Our May Speaker, Norman Fang is offering orchid plant pre-orders for NWOS members.

Here are the details:

- Go to his web site at <http://www.orchids.com> and Review the Orchids that are available. Make sure to look at the Rewards tab for information on the rewards program.
- In addition to the rewards program, Norman will not be charging members the shipping cost of their order.
- Select the plants to purchase then put them in your cart. Once you have your 'Cart' full of Orchids, you will start the checkout process.
- The first page is 'Billing' where you will create an account or use the quest checkout to fill out your billing information.
- Next is the 'Delivery Date' page: in the 'Select Delivery Date' box, enter "4/30/19". Continue to the 'Shipping' page: this page has a 'Select Shipping Method' area and a 'Delivery Instructions?' box.
- In the 'Delivery Instructions?' box enter "Pickup at the NWOS meeting on 5/13 and credit the shipping cost per Norman's instructions."
- The final step is the 'Payment' page: fill out your payment information and select 'Pay With Card'.
- On that note, the website will add the shipping costs, but don't worry, they will credit it back to you because he's delivering your order to the meeting.

The deadline for Pre-Orders is 4/30/19. Norman will also be bringing a few Orchids for sale at the meeting.

Orchid Shows Past and Future--Plants Needed

The Mount Baker Orchid Society Show and Sale was held March 9-10 at the Skagit Valley Nursery in Mt. Vernon. There were just two displays, our NWOS display and the host society's display, but both displays were impressive both for number, quality and variety of plants. The Mt. Baker display received the AOS judges award. Our NWOS display included more than 63 plants loaned by 10 members: Joff Morgan, Mike Corey, Andy Wright, Barb Roberts, Thuan Nguyen, George Krasl, Robert Culver, Alba Dennis, Mike Foster and Donna Pearce, and Cylvia and me. Alba Dennis helped set up the display. Andy Wright brought 14 plants to the nursery Friday afternoon, greatly improving our display. Andy received Certificates of Botanical Recognition from the AOS judges for two of his plants, *Pleur neproglossa* and *Stelis dalstrami*. Thanks to all who loaned plants and to Alba Dennis for helping with setup and to Mike and Donna and Eric Dyer for helping with tear down.

Photo: George and Cylvia Grantham



NWOS Display at the Mt. Baker Orchid Society

The Spokane Show was held March 30-31. Details next month on how it went.

The NWOS Spring Sale at Volunteer Park April 6th and 7th will feature a display in the conservatory. Please bring plants for display Friday 4-6 PM or by 10AM Saturday morning. If you can't pick up your plants on Sunday other arrangements can be made to have your plants returned at the meeting on Monday, April 8.

The Oregon Orchid Society Show and Sale will be held April 27-28 at the usual venue, the Acquinas Hall. For details go to <http://oregonorchidsociety.org/orchid-show-and-sale>. This is the last spring show that we plan to display in. It is always an excellent show with a number of outstanding vendors. I highly recommend attending the show if you have the opportunity. Spend the weekend in Portland and check out the famous food trucks and world famous Powell's City of Books. We will be collecting plants for the show on Thursday, April 25. Please send your plants to this last show of a busy season.

George Grantham, 2nd Vice President

2019 Northwest Orchid Society Research Awards

Each year the NWOS offers funding for student research projects related to orchids. These awards (typically \$1000 or less) are open to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in certified institutions of higher education in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

This year's deadline for receipt of proposals is April 26. If you know of any students who could use some help with their research involving orchids, please forward this information to them.

We look forward to helping with the discovery of new information about the wonderful world of orchids. Click [HERE](#) for the full document about NWOS Scholarships.

Kathy Murray, NWOS Scholarship Chair

Nominations for the 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 fill out the Nomination form, and either bring it to the next meeting or send it to George Grantham (georgegrantham@hotmail.com). Nomination form ([MSWord](#)) or ([PDF](#))

Membership Renewal Reminder

It's time to renew your NWOS membership for 2019. Our membership period now goes by calendar year (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31). You can pay at most meetings by cash, check, or debit/credit card. Click [HERE](#) to pay online using Paypal on our Membership page. You can mail a check (payable to NWOS) to PO Box 51021, Seattle, WA 98115-1021. New members should complete the [Membership Form](#).

Dues are \$30 for one person or \$40 for two people at the same address. We also have a Youth membership of \$15 for one person aged 22 or under. Dues are kept low to encourage membership but they cover only a small portion of the society's expenses.

Each single, dual and youth membership person will be considered an individual full-fledged member entitled to all privileges and benefits of the society (voting, Christmas plants, sell plants at meetings/shows/auction, etc.).

Please contact [Mike Cory](#) for questions about your dues.

Feed Me: The Basics of Choosing a Fertilizer and Application

Prepared by the AOS Education Committee/Photographs by Greg Allikas

Originally published in [ORCHIDS](#) magazine April 2013

If their other requirements are met, orchids will grow and flower for fairly long periods without fertilizer. Witness the people in tropical areas such as South Florida who grow them mounted on trees and let nature do the rest. Indeed, that is how epiphytic orchids grow in nature. But hobbyists generally try to give their orchids more than the bare minimum so that the plants flower at or above their potential.

There are many different points of view on how to fertilize orchids and what fertilizer to use. Everyone has a favorite fertilizer or supplement. There are so many variables that how and when you fertilize depends on what kinds of orchids you grow and how and where you grow them. This article will offer a brief explanation and general guidelines on fertilizing orchids. For more specific application, join your local orchid society and ask someone there who grows the same kind of orchids as you. It is unlikely that you will kill any orchids with orchid fertilizer so following the recommendations here will provide your plants needed nutrition.

If you are a gardener, you are probably familiar with the N-P-K listings on fertilizer bags. Orchid fertilizers have them too. Let's go over these three elements and see how they affect plant growth. Nitrogen (N) helps make plants green and helps them grow faster. It is the element responsible for vegetative growth (the leafy parts). Phosphorus (P) is good for root growth, disease resistance, seed and fruit growth, and especially for blooming and flowering. Potassium (K) helps with increasing root growth, drought resistance and disease resistance.

OPTIONS There are three main types of fertilizers used for orchids: balanced, high nitrogen and bloom booster.

- Balanced fertilizers have been traditionally recommended for use with orchids potted in inorganic potting media such as lava rock and Aliflor, and tree fern (which has fallen out of favor due to conservation concerns). Plants mounted on cork bark or other substrates also benefit from using a balanced fertilizer. An example of a balanced fertilizer would be represented by the numbers 20-20-20.

- High-nitrogen fertilizers have long been recommended for use with orchids potted in fir bark or fir bark mixes. The reason for extra nitrogen is that the bacteria that cause the bark to decay use up much of the available nitrogen, thus depleting the orchid. This practice has recently come into question. Nonetheless, using a high-nitrogen fertilizer, especially in the spring at the beginning of the growing season, can promote strong vegetative growth under

ideal conditions. An example of high-nitrogen fertilizer would be 30-10-10.

- Bloom or blossom-booster formulas are high in phosphorus. Typically, high-phosphorus fertilizers are applied every other week for four to six applications the season before expected bloom. For winter-spring blooming orchids, bloom booster is usually applied in the autumn. Vandaceous hybrids and other orchids that bloom throughout the year can be given bloom booster every third or fourth fertilizing. An example of a bloom booster would be 10-30-20. Fertilizers used on orchids should contain little or no urea. This is because soil organisms must first convert the nitrogen in urea to a form useable by plants, and because orchids do not grow in soil, this conversion does not occur efficiently.

APPLICATION How fertilizer is applied varies as much as orchids themselves. Typically, plants are fertilized once a week during spring and summer and every two weeks in the autumn and winter. Regardless of the fertilizer that you choose, most experienced growers use ½ the label-recommended strength. Remember, in nature epiphytic orchids' roots are exposed and the only nutrients they receive are from bird and animal droppings, decaying insects and detritus. The old saying about fertilizing orchids is: Feed them weekly weakly. Fertilizer is best applied in the morning on sunny days. For mounted orchids, or orchids with exposed roots, such as vandas in empty baskets, many growers routinely first water the plants and then follow with fertilizer a half hour later. The watering before fertilizing prepares the spongy velamen of the orchid roots to better utilize the fertilizer. Orchids in pots are usually not watered first but some growers have their own techniques.

There are requirements specific to certain orchids. For instance, do not fertilize nobile-type dendrobiums after early autumn. This rule actually applies to all orchids that have decided rest periods and all deciduous orchids. Fertilizing them while in their rest period keeps them in continual growth instead of resting before producing flowers. In other words, you may get a lot of growth and no flowers.

There are also many secret recipes growers use that supposedly produce stronger plants or more flowers. Certainly, vitamins and micronutrients are as essential as the building blocks of plant growth mentioned above. Elements such as magnesium, boron, calcium, carbon and others are required for strong plant growth. All in all, although there are certain practices that are documented as being helpful, it has not been proven that supplements actually contribute to improved growth in orchids — but it probably doesn't hurt to use them.

News from the American Orchid Society

Thanks again for all the pics that you are sending in for the Instagram feed. Our Instagram Administrator, Candace Hollinger, sends her

appreciation to you all. It's wonderful to see such a variety of everything orchid that's enjoyed around the globe. Please remind your members that we would love pics of how they grow, what's blooming now or anything they love about orchids. Please continue to send your photos and short videos to: americanorchidsociety@gmail.com. Be sure to send a short caption explaining your photo. Also, if you are bilingual and can include your caption in English plus your other language(s)—it will help with our universal outreach.

Special Announcement

We are pleased to announce the completion of the Greenhouse Chat index project. The idea is simple enough. When you click on LEARN MORE on any recorded greenhouse chat webinar, you will now see a time stamped table of contents that you can browse for topics



that interest you. So, if you missed a chat, or could not remember the chat where a specific topic of interest to you was discussed, you can quickly zero in on what you want to see, and skip directly to that section when you view the recording. These webinars are such a great asset to our membership and we encourage you to take advantage of them.

Also, of note is that the indexes are integrated into the search capabilities of <http://aos.org> so you can expect to see Greenhouse Chats in the list of search results. For example, if you search on MSU (because you are interested in MSU fertilizer) you will notice that is discussed in 2 chats; June 2018 and February 2015.

UPCOMING WEBINARS

It's easy to find the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You'll find the link under the All About Orchids tab. If you check there, you will find any webinars that have been scheduled after the production of the monthly Corner.

American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Dr. Ron McHatton

Tuesday, March 26th, 2019 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST *Open to all*

Please join Dr. Ron McHatton, AOS Chief Science Officer, as he answers your questions about all things orchid. He will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by Sunday, March 24th. Remember to include pictures.

Register now using this link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1217234533193976065>

American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Dr. Ron McHatton

Tuesday, April 9th, 2019 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST *Open to all*

Please join Dr. Ron McHatton, AOS Chief Science Officer, as he answers your questions about all things orchid. He will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by Sunday, April 7th. Remember to include pictures.

Register now using this link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4032749560393528833>



Habenaria Light Wings 'Matt's Lemon Gem'

HCC/AOS; Photographer: Ken Jacobsen

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5601506362333121795>

How to Grow Habenarias with Jim Heilig

Thursday, April 18th, 2019 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST *MEMBERS ONLY*

Join Jim Heilig, PhD., AOS Accredited Judge, and a specialist in growing tricky Habenarias. Learn how to be successful in growing these beautiful orchids as Jim discusses how to culture these exotic deciduous terrestrials.

Register now using this link:

Note: After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the seminar.

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

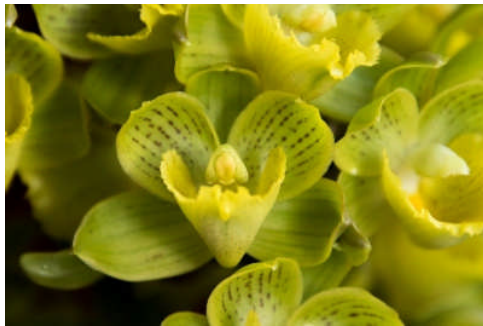
WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE? The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

THE APRIL ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- The New Refugium Botanicum – Eriopsis werklei - Franco Pupulin
- Orchid Gardens – Inkaterra, Peru – Tom Mirenda
- For the Novice: Adaptation to an Epiphytic Lifestyle - Sue Bottom
- Judges' Corner: The Species Identification Task force - Jay Norris
- Judges' Forum: An Analysis of Cymbidium Awards - Kevin Hill
- Look Twice, Think Thrice: The 2018 First Class Certificates - Carol Klonowski
- The 2017 Year-End Special Awards: Special Orchids, Special People - Nile S. Dusdieker
- The Art of Small Displays - Sergey and Elena Skoropad



**Lycaste Spring Present 'Redwood' AM/AOS;
Photographer: Chaunie Langland**



**Mormodia Jumbo World 'Biltmore's Lemon Lime'
AM/AOS; Photographer: James Curtis**

ALSO FEATURED IN ORCHIDS MAGAZINE!

16-page award gallery of breath taking pictures of recently awarded orchids.

RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON THE AOS WEBSITE:

See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new "Latest Orchid Awards" page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. Free to members and non-members.

Become a member and get Digital Access to Over 350+ past issues of Orchids magazine extending back to 1932!

Denise Lucero, Vice-Chair, AOS Membership and Affiliated Societies

Report from the March Auction

Members brought in boxes of orchids, Peter and Kelly set up the wine and cheese table, Thuan assembled the donated Orchidarium, Pat, Chris and Erika organized the Check IN/Check Out, record keeping Table, Mary made coffee, and members, guests and newcomers started arriving and looking over the plants in anticipation.

After we enjoyed a lovely Preview Party hosted by the Maunsell's, Abigail Chang gave an excellent Orchid Basics presentation on how to mount orchids. She then conducted a short meeting as President. Mike Foster talked about the upcoming Show and Sale at the Volunteer Park Conservatory on April 6-7. George Grantham spoke about the upcoming outside shows requesting volunteers and blooming plants.



NWF&G team: Gordon, Joe & Joff

At one point during the auction, Joe had Joff and Gordon join him up front. There was a rousing round of applause in appreciation of all of their organizing, hard work and creativity pulling off our Silver Award winning display at the NW Flower & Garden Festival.

The society would like to thank Patty Bomba for the wonderful gift of a like-new Orchidarium. We had a silent auction for it. Jeanine Atkinson was the high bidder at \$245. That's a win for both her and the NWOS. Thanks again Patty and Jeanine!

For the main event, Mike Pearson and Joe Griener were in fine form as Auctioneers. It was a lively, fun evening for all. Bruce was the main runner, assisted by Lillian, Ellen, Christiane and Donna. Abby worked the computer, projecting images of the plants up on the screen so we could see what the blooms would look like for the plants up for bid. This was a really nice new addition to our auction event. Cheers to another successful Auction!

Photos: Diane Drisch, Sean Hoyt



checking out the items



Pouring wine



Looking over the Auction items



plants up for bid



which one do I want?



great selection of plants



Andy and Kelly enjoy a friendly moment



wine and cheese



signing in



Abby - Orchid Basics - mounting orchids



Pat, Erika and Chris - the Auction's excellent team pulling it all together



Keeping track of the bids



Auction



Auction crowd



Andy bids from the back



Mike and Bruce



Joe auctions, Abby works the computer display, and Bruce shows off the plant



Orchidarium winner: Jeanine Atkinson



Joe was in fine form as he auctioned off this white phal in a pink cache pot



Hey Bruce, look behind you. It's lucky bidder #13.



You've got the bid



Happy with her new plant, as were we all

Report from the Potting Clinic, March 18th

Mike Foster did a masterful job of talking about the basics of how to repot your orchid. He reviewed pots, media, tools and sanitizing for monopodial and sympodial types. We then launched into the hands-on portion of the clinic. Experienced members helped newer members and visitors evaluate, clean, groom and ultimately pot up their orchids. Everyone paid close attention, had great questions and learned a lot. It was a fun flurry of activity resulting in some very happy orchid plants.

Photos: Diane Drisch



Pot with lots of drainage



how to select the right sized pot



Mike works on oncidium



Mike explains 3 potting mixes



Mike P helps separate 2 plants,
untangling roots, cleaning out old media



after cleanup, getting a new pot



cleaning old media off the roots



explaining, examining, demonstrating, potting



packing new media into the pot



working together



Mike C gives advice



Mike C uses his thumbs to push media
firmly around the roots



Joff helps Lisa work on her Angraecoid



Many hands, many repotted plants



Cym fun



and Cym thing tough



Abby helps Bruce



looks so much better

Schedule of Upcoming Events

April 6-7, 2019 - NWOS Show and Sale at Volunteer Park Conservatory, Saturday 10 am-4 pm with free admission, Sunday 10 am-3 pm with \$4 admission.

April 8, 2109 - NWOS meeting - Speaker: Ron Midgett, "Oncidinae Intergeneric Hybrids - What Are They and How Do I Grow Them?". There will be plant pre-sales as well as meeting sales. (<http://www.newearthorchids.com>)

April 27-28, 2019 - The Oregon Orchid Society Show and Sale, Aquinas Hall, 340 NE Clackamas St., Portland

May 13, 2019 - NWOS meeting - Speaker: Norman Fang, topic to come. There will be pre-sales only. (<http://www.orchids.com>)

June 10, 2019 - NWOS Annual Meeting, Gary Baker Service Award, Potluck Dinner and Scholarship presentation.

August ???, 2019 - NWOS Annual Picnic

September 9, 2019 - NWOS meeting - Speaker: Alan Koch, topic to come. There will be plant pre-sales as well as meeting sales. (<http://www.goldcountryorchids.com>)

Reminder for Officers & Board Members

The schedule of Board Meetings for this membership year is: 5/7/19. Meet at 7 p.m. at Mike & Sheila Cory's house unless notified that it's been moved elsewhere.

Shopping on Amazon? Use this link to Earn \$\$ for NWOS

If you go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and sign in to your account, you'll be given information about supporting various non-profits. You can type in "Northwest Orchid Society" and it will then send .5% of your purchase price to the organization.

It's really easy, but you have to remember to go in through the 'smile' subdomain when you place the order, otherwise it will go through as a regular order.

NWOS Website Links

- Main website: [Http://www.nwos.org](http://www.nwos.org)
 - Events Calendar: <http://www.nwos.org/events>
 - Membership (including renewals): <http://newsletter.nwos.org/membership/>
 - Newsletter - Current Issue: <http://newsletter.nwos.org>
 - Newsletter - Back Issues: <http://newsletter.nwos.org/archives/index.htm>
 - Show Information: <http://newsletter.nwos.org/ShowTime>
 - Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/nworchidsociety>
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Special Announcements - ORCHID BUSINESS FOR SALE

Olympic Orchids is a successful, well-established small orchid nursery business that has great potential for growth. Founded in 2006, it has evolved as an online retail supplier of species and seedlings, shipping all over the US. About 50% of the inventory and sales is species, with the remainder cattleya and oncidium alliance hybrids. The business has reached a point where there is a pressing need to increase growing space, so the ideal buyer would already have at least 500-1000 square feet of greenhouse space with the capacity to add more. Because of competing demands on my time, limited space for expansion, and the desire to retire, I would like to find someone with more time and space than I have, who is motivated to take the business to the next level.

Current stock includes a variety of blooming size parent plants, a continuously changing variety of mounted and potted sale plants, compots, flasks, and supplies. There is also an attractively designed, fully functional e-commerce website, a customer database, and an extensive library of original orchid flower photos. I would be available for consulting during the first 6 months of operation.

I would like to sell to someone local if possible, so am announcing this opportunity here before advertising nationally.

For more information, please contact Ellen Covey by e-mail at olympicorchids@gmail.com or phone 206-229-7919.