



# TIDEWATER ORCHID SOCIETY

## MARCH NEWSLETTER



Hello Members,

February has always been a short, nondescript month with Valentine's Day plopped in the middle. However, February 2026 will be remembered for its three-week-long, brutally cold snap that hit the entire country, even Florida was hit with snow! Because of all the snow and ice, the Botanical Garden closed so we all scrambled to work out a plan to meet and still be able to enjoy our scheduled February speaker. Thanks to Don Greaser, now our Zoom guru, he was able to make the meeting available to all our members, but also, he and Vijai were able to get Dr. Thammasiri to speak to us in real time from China. It was 3 am in China and I was so impressed that Dr. Thammasiri answered all of our questions and never once yawned!



One of the topics discussed at the meeting was the "New and Improved" Saturday Class. To make this a more inclusive class, Dave and Joanne have put together a class to test out all our growing skills and resources. We will meet Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at the Va Tech Research Center on Diamond Springs Rd to try something new, all members are welcome, beginners and intermediates. The Society has purchased medium and pots, Peter Breeden has donated a flat of Phalaenopsis, and we will get together, split and repot the seedlings, and be able to take some home and grow them in our own habitat.....I'm a windowsill grower but in warm weather, most of my orchids move outdoors. Some of you grow under lights, others in large greenhouses and some in much smaller ones.....this will be fun as each month we will all be able to share how our babies are doing and how successful we are in our growing process. I'm eager to see how we all do. We can share ideas on fighting bugs, explore more organic, non-toxic ways to keep our plants healthy, and discuss the best fertilizer. I must figure out a better plan to keep my plants from getting sun scorched during their summer outdoor hiatus. Please make sure you RSVP to Dave at [VBryan@vt.edu](mailto:VBryan@vt.edu), so he has enough materials for everyone.

Finally, we are just a few weeks away from the Arthur Kaplan Memorial Orchid Show and Sale. All of you have joined in, and I know this will be one of the most successful shows we have had. Please keep a lookout for an email to get all the participants together to discuss the final preparations. Thanks to all who have stepped up and worked tirelessly towards getting speakers, getting helpers signed up, getting advertising out, getting the AOS to work with us (Thanks to Jamie K....you are so very patient !) and everyone else who makes themselves available.

We DO NOT have a March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The Kaplan Show takes the place of that.

The April meeting is on the 12<sup>th</sup>, as the 5<sup>th</sup> is Easter Sunday.

*Dori*

### 2026 Schedule

3/12	Show Set Up at NBG
3/13-15	Kaplan Show at NBG
4/12	April Meeting (NBG)
5/3	May Meeting (NBG)
6/7	June Meeting and Picnic Auction

### Officers

President: Dori Iwanowski  
 Vice President: Vijai Singh  
 Secretary: Joanne Bryan  
 Treasurer: Karen Jones  
 Past President: Sandra Cross

### Trustees

2023-2026 – Naomi Sato and Yulia Moshkariova  
 2024-2027 – Patricia Corderre, Sonia Singh  
 2025 2028 – Dave Bryan, John Whistler

### Volunteers

AOS Rep	Jamie Krochmal
Auction	Jamie Krochmal, Brandt Moran
Budget	Karen Jones
Conservation	Richard Palley
Door Prize	Kathy Greaser
Education	Dave & Joanne Bryan
Table Judging	Don Greaser
Exhibits	Frank Drew, Brandt Moran, and Jamie Krochmal
Historian	Don Greaser
Hospitality	Pat Coderre, Judy Hyszcak, and Yulia Moshkariova
Library	Kathy Greaser
Membership	Sonia Singh
Newsletter	Judy Hyszcak
Program	Vijai Singh
Public Relations	Position Open
Sales Table	Kathy Greaser
Sunshine	Cynni & Red Taylor
Webmaster	Paul Chung, Kathy Greaser

### WHAT IS HAPPENING

#### NO MARCH MEETING

Kaplan Show at NBG  
 March 13, 14, and 15

**2/1/2026****Tidewater Orchid Society (TOS) Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was held via zoom due to weather conditions that closed the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Don Greaser was instrumental in bringing the meeting to all via zoom, including the speaker from China. Thank you Don!

The meeting was brought to order by President Dori Iwanowski at 2 p.m. Our speaker Prof. Dr. Kandit Thammasiri, speaking on zoom from China, was first on the agenda. His presentation on "Orchid Breeding" was well received, with many questions afterwards.

The Business Meeting followed the speaker. There will be no TOS meeting on March 1 due to the Arthur Kaplan show later that month.

Dave Bryan announced that he will get a venue for our repotting/flat of phals. Tentative date will be March 7<sup>th</sup> at Virginia Tech Extension center in Virginia Beach.

Nominating Committee was formed to be led by Dave Bryan, Chair. Other members will be Pat Coderre, Jamie Krochmal, Sonia Singh, and John Whistler. Vacancies are VP, Secretary, and 2 board members. Slate of officers will be voted on by the board before being presented to the members at the April Meeting. The membership will vote on the new slate at the May meeting.

Budget Committee was formed with Karen Jones, Barbara MacKechnie, Dori Iwanowski and Vijai Singh. Budget should be presented to the board before the April Meeting where it will be voted on. An auditor needs to be appointed as well.

A Board Meeting has been scheduled of Feb 2 at 7 p.m. via zoom.

The Richmond Show is scheduled for Feb 27 – Mar 1, 2026. Plants for the show should be brought to Frank Drew's greenhouse on Feb 21 from noon to 2 p.m. Plants should be cleaned, labeled, and a separate list provided with all info needed for plant registration. Jamie and Brandt are in charge of setting up the display. Karen Jones will register the plants. If you have any questions please contact one of these 3 individuals.

The Arthur Kaplan Show will be March 13,14,15 at Norfolk Botanical Gardens. We are still working on final plans for the show. Vijai has gotten speakers. Bill Goldner will speak at 2 p.m. on Sunday on "Slipper Orchids". Nicholas Rust will speak at 2 p.m. on Saturday via zoom.

There will be a talk on Orchids 101 on Sat by a TOS member and a repotting demonstration on Sunday by a TOS member. Details to be announced. AOS videos will be playing at other times during the show. Brandt and Jamie are in charge of the display set up. Times and volunteer needs TBA. Laurie Smith (757-375-1008) will be signing up volunteers. Sonia has been busy sending info to advertise the show. A show committee meeting will be scheduled to finalize show plans.

The Master Gardeners have a spring plant sale at the VT extension center. Dori will investigate the details.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

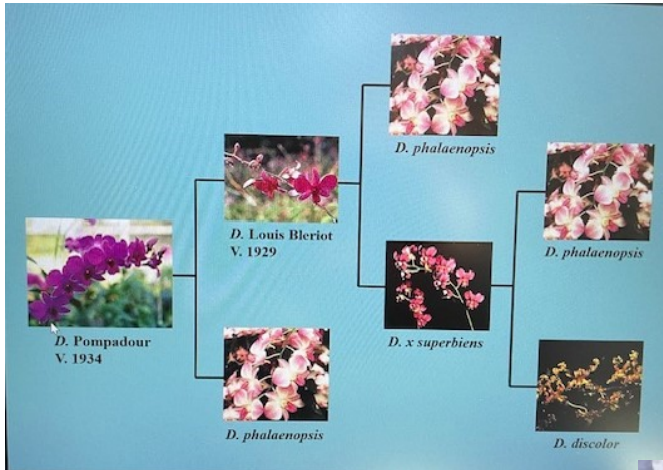
Submitted by Joanne Bryan, Secretary

# February Meeting Highlights

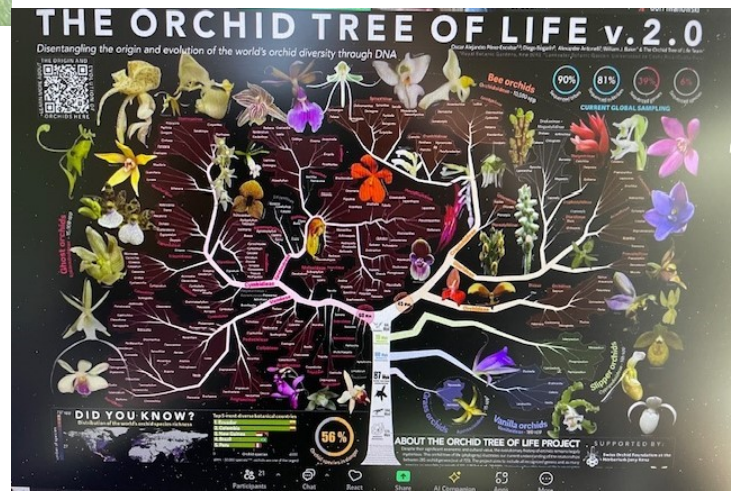


Dr. Kandit Thammasiri

Dr. Thammasiri spoke on orchid propagation, his presentation was very interesting because he was not only able to give us the scientific steps to achieve certain characteristics for a desired outcome but also the fact that he has been doing this for so many years that he was able to show photos of some of his 'not so great' outcomes as well as his amazingly beautiful successes. He gives talks worldwide; we are very thankful that Vijai was able to secure him for the speaking engagement.



Orchid Flow Chart of crossing.



1. Hybridization
2. Doubling chromosomes
3. Mutation induction
4. Protoplast fusion
5. Genetic engineering

Breeding Methods



Vandas on display at a show - alternative way to display.

# A Report from the Show Committee

By Brandt Moran



Cape and Island Orchid Society Show display

The next show we participated in was the Deep Cut Orchid Show held in Northern New Jersey. Another exhibit with mostly Peter's and only one of my plants, but if I'm only going to exhibit one plant, I picked the right one to send there. Again, Peter's exhibit won best exhibit in show (we did that in Cape Cod also) and this time it was my turn for the American Orchid Society to evaluate a plant for a grower's award. My *Dendrobium Ise* was recognized with a CCE which means Peter and I are batting 1000 for show and AOS awards.

So far this year, members of Tidewater Orchid Society exhibited in two different shows. The first show was hosted by the Cape and Island Orchid Society located in Hyannis, Mass. Peter Breed went there as a vendor and allowed me to tag along (if you ask him, I dragged him up there). We combined plants in the exhibit and had a very good showing by all accounts. We registered a dozen plants for judging and garnered 4 second place ribbons and 7 first place, leaving one plant undressed! More importantly, the anchor plant in the exhibit (a *Dendrobium Love Memory*) received best plant in show and very impressively – a CCE for Orchid Classics 4U.



A huge congratulations to Peter for his show stealing plant. CCEs are hard to come by and his plant was absolutely deserving.

# A Report from the Show Committee (Continued)

By Brandt Moran



Deep Cut Orchid Show held in Northern New Jersey



## TOS SHOW NEWS:

At the time of this writing, the Tidewater Orchid Society, or more correctly – Karen Jones – is registering our plants for the Virginia Orchid Society Show. I've seen the list and most of the plants and I can offer now that the issue will be to decide which of the numerous specimen plants we are going to be able to fit into our 35 square foot tabletop display. In the future we would serve ourselves better if we requested a 100 sq ft floor display for this show. As a group, we really have a lot of spectacular plants in bloom this time of year.

Pictures and award recognition to follow. Show is at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. Setup is Thursday 26 February. The show is open Friday (27<sup>th</sup>) until Sunday (1<sup>st</sup>). Breakdown is Sunday at 3.

And Finally,

## KAPLAN ORCHID SHOW

Our show at the Norfolk Botanical Gardens is approaching fast. Our setup will be on Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. If you have a plant in bloom, we need it for our display. If you can't get it to the Botanical Gardens on Thursday, reach out to either myself or any of the board members to make other arrangements. We are the only ones that exhibit for this show so every plant is needed.

# Getting ready for the VOS Show

On the Saturday before the show, we dropped off plants for the VOS show happening the following weekend. There was some cleaning up to do and Sonia showed how to do this successfully.



Above & Right: Sonia and Don cleaning up a Bc Maidosa to make it ready for the show.

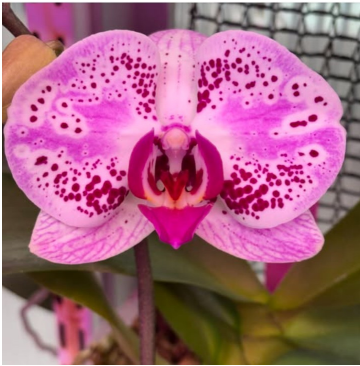


This huge Denbrobium Speciosum Compacta took four of us to get it ready for the show.



This Clowesia Rebecca Northern 'Mikabi' is ready to go.

# MEMBERS' ORCHIDS IN BLOOM DURING FEBRUARY



Kathy Greaser's  
Phal Chain Xen Pearl



Jamie Krochmal's Vanda Pinka-  
wadee Miss Coco Chanel



Jamie Krochmal's  
Epc Rene Marques 'Tyler'



Jamie Krochmal's Blc Hawaiian  
Agenda 'Florida Winter'



Jamie Krochmal's  
Bulbophyllum Ambrosia



Jamie Krochmal's  
Slc Mahalo Jack



Jamie Krochmal's  
Blc Pamela Hetherington  
'Coronation'

Right: Jamie Krochmal's  
Supersonic 'Striking Lip'





Thinking of joining the AOS (American Orchid Society)? There are many benefits to joining.

Here are a few:

- ◆ **Monthly Orchid Magazine** which includes great articles & a gallery of AOS awarded plants
- ◆ **Webinars** are internet-connected audiovisual presentations from industry experts which you can view live or later at your leisure.
- ◆ **OrchidPro (95k+ photos)** a program which includes the history & description of many awarded plants
- ◆ **Save** a minimum of 5% from top 50 orchid vendors
- ◆ **Popular Orchid Care Articles**
- ◆ **And More**

The AOS supports educational opportunities, orchid conservation & research & world-class awards & judging system. Our goal is to promote the appreciation of orchids, the American Orchid Society delivers the most up-to-date, accurate, educational information about orchid culture and sponsors research and conservation initiatives to improve the outlook for orchids around the globe.

**Membership levels are:**

Gold \$88 (one year) includes online + print magazine  
OR  
Silver \$56 (one year) includes online magazine only.

<http://www.tidewaterorchidsociety.org>

An AOS Affiliated Society

Tidewater Orchid Society is a 501(c)(3) organization



**Would you like photos of your flowering orchids included in the monthly newsletter photo gallery?**

**Please email your photos as an attachment to Judy Hyszcak. Refer to your roster for the email address.**

**Please remember to include your name and the exact name of your plant from its tag.**

# PAYMENT OF DUES ONLINE

You now have the *option* to pay your TOS membership dues for FY 2024-2025 online by selecting any of the links or QR codes provided below. Online dues are \$32 for a single membership or \$42 for a family membership and include all applicable Square fees. As a friendly reminder annual dues are to be paid at the start of each fiscal year which begins in September. For those that choose to pay online, I will be providing a monthly report that shows who paid online to Sonia Singh, TOS Membership, so she can update membership payment records.

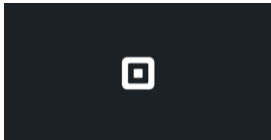
## 2025-2026 Membership Dues - Single - \$32.00



[2025-2026 Single Membership Dues - Tidewater Orchid Society \(square.site\)](#)



## 2025-2026 Membership Dues - Family - \$42.00



[2025-2026 Family Membership Dues - Tidewater Orchid Society \(square.site\)](#)



## 2025-2026 Membership Dues - Student- \$9.00



[2025-2026 Student Membership Dues - Tidewater Orchid Society \(square.site\)](#)