

# Massachusetts Orchid Society

P.O. Box 1041  
Medford, MA 02155



**APR 2021**

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## **M**inute Minutes **Notes from the Board**

- ◆ Congratulations to Millard Hennesse for receiving the People's Choice Award for his beautifully flowered *Trichopilia henissianna* during our March meeting. Well Done!
- ◆ Emily Dewsnap has taken the reins as our Social Media Director. Keep an eye out on Instagram and Face Book for her talented – fresh presentations.
- ◆ The Board is starting to ponder how we are going to transition back to a “meet in -person” society. Stay tuned and forward any thoughts on the subject. Everyone please stay healthy and get your vaccinations ASAP.
- ◆ The board is soliciting the Membership for suggestions for speakers and topics, or special programs for upcoming general meetings. Please email your ideas to [mos-board@googlegroups.com](mailto:mos-board@googlegroups.com).

Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/massorchid](https://www.facebook.com/massorchid) and Instagram at [www.instagram.com/massachusettsorchid](https://www.instagram.com/massachusettsorchid).

# Letter from the President



Hello MOS!

Happy spring weather everyone! It has very suddenly started feeling like sandals weather... and I'm really into it. I hope everyone is excited to let their toes out and soon (for those without greenhouses) let their orchids out! Just remember to acclimate... the sun really cooks.

I want to remind you all that **May is the membership update meeting**. We will be giving a society finance update as well as voting in the 2021-2022 board! Please reach out if you have any inclination to join the team! Unfortunately, every year, we have very few members reach out to help, which puts a lot of strain on the current board members. We are really in need of new hands and brains to keep this society running. There are a lot of changes coming up and a lot of opportunities to improve on what we already have!

The highlights:

- **President:** As you know, I am stepping down this year. My favorite part of the role was leading the discussion and having a hand in the events the society produced. The role is in need of a person that can keep the Board on track for major milestones such as the show and auction, and functional during all the in between time. The commitment is 1 board meeting a month and show committee meetings (unless we have another member lead that effort).
- **Vice President:** The VP is in charge of the speakers and monthly meeting attractions. In this role you get to speak with the experts and choose the worthiest, quirkiest, funniest for our membership to learn from.
- **Secretary:** The note taker, fact keeper, and correspondent. We have to be sure we mean what we say, because everything gets recorded. We would not be able to function without the monthly minutes we get from the Secretary.
- **Treasurer:** This role is not up for election this year... but it will be next year!! This role is everything financial. Anything the board does with money goes through you.
- **Directors:** Each director has their own responsibilities. These roles can be molded to the individual. What we need help with the most: *show committee, auction planning and coordination, website design/upkeep, ordering plants for various events, creating and dispensing member awards, and thinking of ideas that will improve the user experience in anything that we do.*

**Homework** (yes, I did just do that):

I would like to ask you to:

1. Ask me, or the other board members, anything you would like clarified at the next board meeting.
2. Answer this question: Is there something we can do to get more volunteers for the board?
3. Visit the form that is at the top of the home page at [www.massorchid.org](http://www.massorchid.org) or this link (<https://forms.gle/maG8FYVwx1GJJefi8>), fill it out if you want me to reach out to you for a personal meeting. No commitment to the board required!

In summary: we need you! Whoever you are, there is a role in the board for you.

-Dina

**UPCOMING EVENTS**Monthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

Closed until further notice

Virtual Monthly Virtual Meeting – Marni Turkel of Mostly Species and Flasks, “Coelogyne, Dendrochilum and Related Genera”

13 Apr 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>Virtual MOS Annual Auction and Member Meeting

11 May 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>Virtual Monthly Meeting – Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids

08 June 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>Virtual Monthly Meeting – TBD

13 July 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>Virtual Monthly Meeting – TBD

10 Aug 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>*This month, Marni Turkel of Mostly Species and Flasks presents: Marvelous Monopodials*

Most of the orchids we see at shows and on show tables are sympodial where one growth finishes and a new one starts from the rhizome. This presentation will focus on those with a monopodial growth habit; those where the plant grows upward from a single point. It adds leaves to the apex each year and the stem grows longer accordingly.

This talk will focus on the wonderful variety of monopodial genera of great interest to orchid growers. It includes miniatures as well as some rather large species, some are well-known, and others not often seen. It will cover aspects of culture in general and individual species. You will see images of flowers up close as well as whole plants. There should be something of interest to growers from all levels of experience.



Marni Turkel (pronounced tur KELL) is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area and has been growing orchids since 1980. She grows in four greenhouses in Santa Rosa with approximately 1250 sq ft of growing space. Her main interest is in miniature species but plenty of larger plants have crept into the collection as well.

Marni has been a contributor to Orchids magazine with her series called 'Well Worth the Space' and 'Give It a Rest'. Her articles have been translated into Dutch, German, Portuguese and Swedish for international publication. Photographs of her plants have been feature in articles noted orchid publications including Orchids Magazine, Orchid Digest, Richardiana, The Orchid Review, and The Australian Orchid Review. For the last few years she has been sharing her photographs and knowledge on [OrchidsForum.com](https://www.orchidsforum.com).

Starting in 2009, Marni expanded her work with orchids to include propagation of orchids from seed and has set up a flasking lab of her own to take the process from start to finish and sell flasks of many of the orchids species in her collection. After working for over 43 years as a potter, she has retired from ceramics to pursue orchids full-time.

March Virtual Show Table Results

Click [here](#) for culture notes



Pot. Pat Thrall 'Magenta Fire' AM/AOS x Pot. Paradise Rose 'My Valentine', Anne P.



*C. lueddemanniana* f. *coerulea*  
( 'Frank Smith' x 'Boon', HCC/AOS)  
'Boon', Mike B.



Phcal. Kryptonite x  
*Cal. vestita* semi alba, Daryl Y.



*C. lueddemanniana* var. *semi-alba*  
x var. *coerulea*,  
Millard H.



*L. lundii* 'Crestwood',  
Brandt M.

*C. loddigesii* Aranda,  
AM/AOS,  
Anne P.





L. Seagull's 'SVO' x L. Brazilian Tangerine 'SVO', Brandt M.



Rth. Patsy Lee Rader, Brandt M.



Sl. Minipet, Linda A.



L. cinnabarina SVO 'Giant' x L. angereri 'Peter's Red', Brandt M.

Pot. Lovely Martha 'SVO' x Pot. Martha Clarke 'Amazing', Anne P.



Clw. Rebecca Northern 'Pink Fragrance', Anne P.

People's Choice Award: *Trichopilia henissianna*, grown by Millard H.



*Epidendrum porpax* var. *alba*, Brandt M.



Bpl. Fiftieth Anniversary 'Newberry', Mike B.



*Oeoniella polystachya*, Daryl Y.



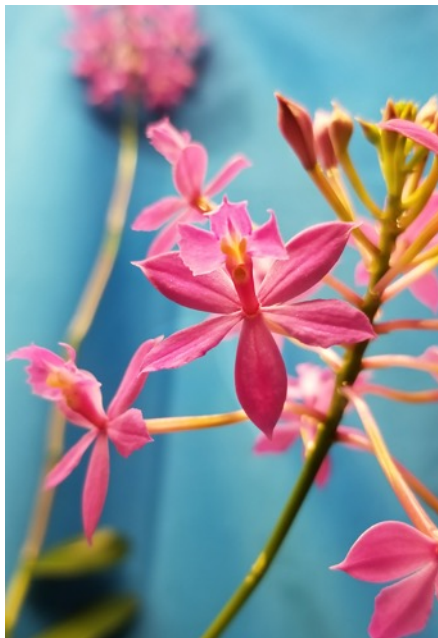
Masd. Snowbird, Daryl Y.



*Lepanthes eciliata*,  
Brandt M.



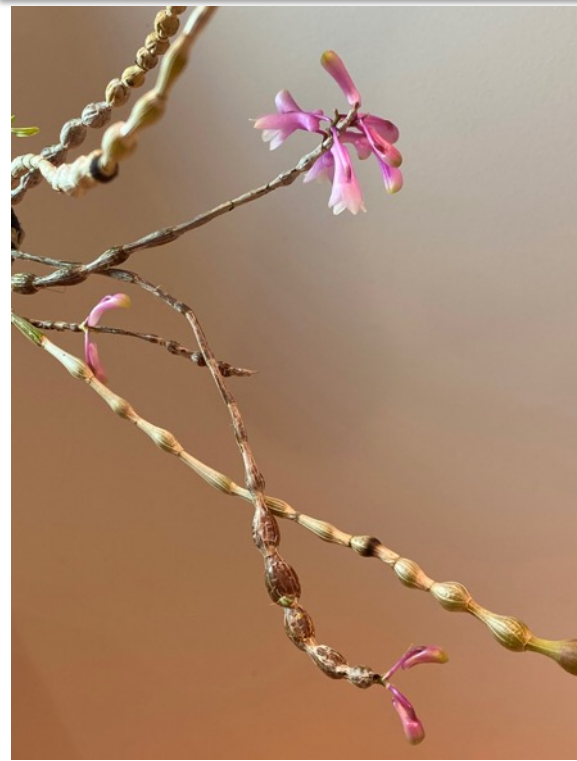
*Phrag. sedenii*, Mike B.



*Epi. sauerbac*,  
Millard H.



*Schoenorchis gemmate*,  
Daryl Y.



*Den. rindjaniense*, Dina D.



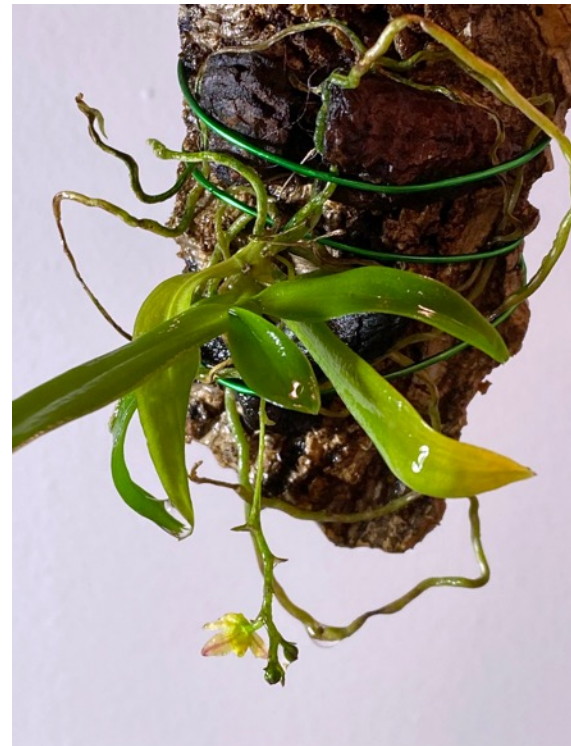
*Den. gregulus*, Meg B.



*Max. friedrichsthalii*, Daryl Y.



*Pleurothallid palliolata*, Brandt M.



*Thrixspermum saruwatarii*,  
Dina D.





Above Right:  
Phal. No ID, Meg. B.



Above Left:  
Phal. No ID,  
Meg B.



Phal. No ID,  
Meg B.

Phal. No ID, Emily Dewsnap



B. fragrans, Mike B.

## Meet the MOS Board

Last month we were thrilled to welcome to the board Brandt Moran, our new Secretary and Emily Dewsnap, our new Director of Social Media. Unless you've been MIA for the past year, you're already hip to Brandt's magic trunk full of orchid-related knowledge he shares during Show Table. Emily brings to MOS her artistic talent and background in technology and design, which she'll utilize to increase our fast-growing Instagram and Facebook social media presence.

Hard to believe it's been a year since MOS has met in-person. In the absence of social mingling in all that time, it sure hasn't been easy for members, new and old, to meet each other. We sure don't want to be strangers, so here's an introduction to the rest of us on the board. Be sure to say 'hey', by email (directory on the last page of each newsletter), Facebook or Instagram (links on page 1). -Newsletter Editor, Anne Pfaff

*"What got you interested in orchids and how long have you been growing?"*

*"What's in your orchid collection?"*

*"What do you hope to bring to the Board?"*

### **Dina Deresh, President**

I joined In 2016 at the show (Jeff was very convincing!)

I watched a nature documentary that featured a "golden monkey face orchid" that definitely caught my attention. That specific plant was endangered and obviously not available at Home Depot... so I tried my black thumb at Lady slippers. I've been actively interested since middle school, but properly growing my collection from 2008 which would make it 13 years (omg). I'm really interested in the tiny stuff that I can grow in terrariums (pleurisy, masdevallias, dendrobiums...) as well as miniature rupicolous growing Laelias and their neighbors.

I know my time as president is coming to an end this year, but I hope that the adaptations we've been forced to make due to Covid will enable us to reach a wider audience. We have, as a society, made huge strides in staying connected remotely. I want that to continue and be a part of the meetings and events going forward!



### **Meg Bright-Ryan, Vice President**

I joined MOS in 2017, after growing orchids for over a decade on my own. I always loved plants and worked at a nursery & greenhouse the summer after college. Then I moved to Los Angeles where I stumbled into a shop called "Orchid Fever" where I found a variety of orchids I'd never seen before. Thinking I was good with plants, I bought several and promptly killed them. One lived - I have been hooked firmly since then. I got an AOS membership and read ORCHIDS magazine until I knew enough to stop killing them!

Currently I have 60+ species of orchids, and many are tiny miniatures, as well as some 'rescue' Phalaenopsis I've inherited from friends/family. Many Dendrobiums and several tiny Phal species, among others.

I hope to bring more enthusiasm to the board, as well as some tech savvy and another pair of hands.



### ***Amanda Larson, Treasurer***

I am an avid gardener and grower of plants grower and have gotten more interested in orchids over the last couple of years.

I grow a variety of orchids in the attempt that diversity will increase chances of survival; I seem to be having better luck with Phalaenopsis and Dendrobiums.

As a member of the board and treasurer, I hope to keep things organized as the society deals with modern challenges.



### ***Mike Badia, Director & Show Table***

I joined the MOS in earnest about 10 years ago. I was a member on and off before that. I have been into plants and gardening since I was a kid and in fact worked on a small 70 acre farm during summers from the age of 13-17. I first got into orchids just out of college in the early 80's in NJ when one of my housemates had a white cattleya that had me both curious and in awe. Had never really seen anything like it, thick tough leaves, roots growing out of the pot and a flower that was otherworldly and fragrant. But orchids were not widely available nor inexpensive back then. Fortunately, one of my co-workers was an excellent orchid grower and enabler and pretty soon I had a few plants, and the obsession began in earnest. I had to take a bit of a break once our three kids were in the picture in the 90's but after they became young adults, I had more time and my collection started to grow.

About two years ago, I converted half of my basement into a grow room with mostly LED lights which has allowed me to successfully grow a greater diversity of orchids. That said, my favorites are cattleya's, paph's, phrag's and dendrobiums.

Being part of the Board has allowed me to share my enthusiasm for orchids with others and help the Society advance its educational objectives. Plus, orchid people just plain rock!



### ***Nadine Lepick, Membership***

I joined MOS in 2016.

My neighbor gave me a Phalenopsis that had already bloomed. Then, the challenge was on! Could I get it to bloom again? That was 21 years ago, and I still have it.

Currently, I have a variety. There are around 20 Phals, 3 or 4 Dendrobiums, two hybrid Laliocattleyas, two small Oncidiums, which I'm trying to regrow, one Sophronitis, and one bulbophylum.

I like to help link one member to another. If you've got a problem, I'd want you to speak to someone who has conquered the same issue and can provide solutions.



**Anne Pfaff, Director & Newsletter Editor**

My first stint with MOS was over 30 years ago, pre-kids. I had grown cacti and loved their wonderful forms, but cactus flowers last only a few days so I turned to orchids. Kids, work and orchids don't mix very well, and the collection dwindled away from neglect. Then in 2007 as an empty nester, I started growing again and 9 years later I rejoined MOS.

My first orchid was *Bifrenaria harrisoniae* 'Tom Granger', purchased from Tom, an MOS member, at his greenhouse. It had a heady, heavenly fragrance and it was love at first sight. Of all the orchids I've killed, that one hurt the most! Today I grow about 150 species and hybrids in a small greenhouse. They go to orchid camp in my backyard during the summer. Happily, I managed to find another *Bif. harrisoniae*, although it doesn't have the same amazing fragrance. Most of my orchids are *Cattleya* alliance species and hybrids. I also have some mini monopodials that I'm just trying out and I'm getting more interested in mounted miniatures; rupicolous *Laelias*, for instance.

As newsletter editor, my primary goal is posting monthly show table results along with quality photos and growers' notes, plus culture-related articles and webinars that growers- beginners to advanced, will find helpful and interesting.



## Beginners Corner, by Brandt Moran

A tutorial on orchid nomenclature

The orchid family tree is HUGE. Quite possibly the largest in the Botanical world. To decipher the name of your prized plant can take some effort and chances are there's a fair amount of Latin to exasperate the situation.

To introduce proper orchid labeling, let us use the plant *Cattleya labiata* forma alba 'Savannah' AM/AOS as an example:

Starting at the trunk and working towards a single leaf-

- Family - Orchidaceae
- Subfamily - Epidendroideae
- Tribe - Epidendreae
- Subtribe - Laeliinae
- Genus - *Cattleya*
- Section - *Cryptochila*
- Subsection - *Monophyllae*
- Species - *labiata*
- Forma - alba
- Clonal name - 'Savannah'
- Awards - AM/AOS

Now THAT'S A MOUTHFUL! Luckily, the genus – species – forma (f.) – clonal name – and lastly awards are normally what is needed to correctly identify your plant.

Tags done correctly makes the monthly Show Table much easier to judge as well as any entry into an orchid show. While the AOS judges are lenient during the initial ribbon judging, the bar is raised when the entire exhibit is judged and few mistakes are tolerated at the AOS formal judging which is often a part of any sanctioned show.

The important thing to take away are some titles are always started with capital letters while others are not. Where this will cause confusion is when you are labeling a true species. In this case, both the species name and forma are lower case. Like our example above. Now, if the label is for a hybrid, the forma title remains lower case but the name given to the hybrid is started with upper case letters. An example would be *Phalaenopsis* Best Girl registered in 1961.

### THE POINT OF THIS COLUMN

First and foremost – print neatly or use a label maker to produce your tags.

If you're unsure of a correct spelling, ask someone you deem more experienced (not always the best option but certainly the easiest) or consult one of the many databases that are available if you are at a show. At the monthly meeting do your homework before you bring the plant in or access a database via a smart phone.

The final reference for all things orchid nomenclature is Sander's List – a product of the Royal Horticultural Society. Back in the day the several volumes which make up the List were available at the shows for reference. With today's computer databases, I have not seen the relics for several years.

And lastly, don't be chagrined if you do not know the name of your plant. While it's true that without proper providence the plant cannot be considered for an AOS Award. It can still be judged for a ribbon award.

Proper label examples

**For a species orchid:**

*Laelia purpurata* f. *autropurpurea* 'Coconut' AM/AOS

or

*L. purpurata* f. *autropurpurea* 'Coconut' AM/AOS

Here we have identified the genus – *Laelia* or *L.* is acceptable

If you do not know the abbreviation, ask someone or check Sander (think computer database)

Species – *purpurata*

Forma (f. is acceptable) – *autropurpurea* - Which means the lip is a different color than the petals – in this case there's a red lip with purple tinted petals.

Clonal name – Always in apostrophes - Determined by the grower and lives with that plant or any divisions of that plant forever. 'Coconut'

Award – An entirely different topic for another article.

**For a hybrid orchid:**

Lc. Blue Grotto 'Lisa' AM/AOS

Genus – Lc. which is short for *Laelia cattleya* hybrid

Species – or in this case the hybrid's seed pod's registered name – normally given by the hybridizer or the first person to bloom a plant out of the seed pod and register it with the Royal Horticultural Society. By the way, every plant that comes out of that seed pod is said to come from that grex. Grex is a much fancier name for seed pod.

But I digress - species or hybrid name – Blue Grotto

Forma – not applicable with this cross

Clonal name – 'Lisa'

Award – AM/AOS

**When you do not know the name of the species/hybrid:**

The label can justifiably say:

Red *Phalaenopsis* hybrid

It's that simple for ribbon judging at a show or consideration at the monthly show table.

There's more to cover for special circumstances but this will account for 99% of your labeling needs.

And most importantly - as with all things orchids – if in doubt don't be afraid to ask.

And we didn't even begin to talk about pronunciation.

Your Long Winded Orchid Growing Friend,

Brandt Moran

[moranlabs@verizon.net](mailto:moranlabs@verizon.net)

# • THE AOS CORNER •



Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton  
 March 14, 2017  
 Orchid related questions answered by AOS  
 experts.

Click [here](#) to watch now.

Note the specific times below if you wish to  
 watch or listen to those topics.

- 01:59 Shade cloth for pool enclosures
- 05:06 Damage to leaves from cold  
 temperature
- 09:03 Angraecoid leaf disease and treatment
- 13:11 De-flasking seedlings
- 20:17 Seed capsules - how many on one spike  
 is okay
- 21:56 Treating leaf disease with chemicals
- 24:32 Catasetum culture
- 30:06 Dendrobium leaves turning brown and  
 falling off
- 31:30 Phalaenopsis spikes turning brown
- 32:56 Air roots and repotting neofinetia
- 35:00 Viruses and how to treat them
- 41:17 Paphiopedilum root growth and light
- 48:49 Ultrasonic humidifiers and ozone
- 46:12 Phalaenopsis air roots and what to do  
 with them
- 48:36 Using chemicals indoors

## Seasonal Orchid Care March/April

[Click here for Checklist](#)

Organizing orchid culture and its chores by season is a convenient way to make sure that your orchids get the proper care at the right time. Becoming in tune with your plants' growth cycles creates a connection with the natural world and makes you a better grower.

# Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

## Officers

|                |                 |  |
|----------------|-----------------|--|
| President      | Dina Deresh     | <a href="mailto:dina@massorchid.org">dina@massorchid.org</a>     |
| Vice President | Meg Bright-Ryan | <a href="mailto:meg@massorchid.org">meg@massorchid.org</a>       |
| Secretary      | Brandt Moran    | <a href="mailto:brandt@massorchid.org">brandt@massorchid.org</a> |
| Treasurer      | Amanda Larson   | <a href="mailto:amanda@massorchid.org">amanda@massorchid.org</a> |

## Directors

|                |                 |  |
|----------------|-----------------|--|
| Past President | Sasha Crotty    | <a href="mailto:sasha@massorchid.org">sasha@massorchid.org</a>       |
|                | Mike Badia      | <a href="mailto:mike@massorchid.org">mike@massorchid.org</a>         |
|                | Brigitte Fortin | <a href="mailto:brigitte@massorchid.org">brigitte@massorchid.org</a> |
|                | Anne Pfaff      | <a href="mailto:anne@massorchid.org">anne@massorchid.org</a>         |
|                | Emily Dewsnap   | <a href="mailto:emily@massorchid.org">emily@massorchid.org</a>       |
|                | Open            |  |

## Committee Chairs

|                       |                  |  |
|-----------------------|------------------|--|
| AOS Trustee           | Howard Bronstein | <a href="mailto:aosrep@massorchid.org">aosrep@massorchid.org</a>             |
| AOS Representative    | Brigitte Fortin  | <a href="mailto:emily@massorchid.org">emily@massorchid.org</a>               |
| Social Media          | Emily Dewsnap    | <a href="mailto:conservation@massorchid.org">conservation@massorchid.org</a> |
| Conservation          | Robert Hesse     | <a href="mailto:membership@massorchid.org">membership@massorchid.org</a>     |
| Membership            | Nadine Lepick    | <a href="mailto:newsletter@massorchid.org">newsletter@massorchid.org</a>     |
| Newsletter Editor     | Anne Pfaff       | <a href="mailto:ellen@massorchid.org">ellen@massorchid.org</a>               |
| Orchid Digest Rep.    | Ellen Shapiro    | <a href="mailto:karyn@massorchid.org">karyn@massorchid.org</a>               |
| Hospitality Committee | Karyn Stewart    | <a href="mailto:librarian@massorchid.org">librarian@massorchid.org</a>       |
| Library               | Open             |  |

## Orchid Show

Board of Directors [show@massorchid.org](mailto:show@massorchid.org)

## Show Table

Brigitte Fortin [brigitte@massorchid.org](mailto:brigitte@massorchid.org)  
 Mike Badia [mike@massorchid.org](mailto:mike@massorchid.org)  
 Brandt Moran [brandt@massorchid.org](mailto:brandt@massorchid.org)