

JULY 2020

Reporter Volume 1

WHERE DO I FIND?

VOLUME 1

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to July, it's been hot and hotter. It is also a bit more dangerous out there, with increasing cases of COVID-19; please remember to be careful when going pretty much everywhere, and make sure that you have your mask on if entering any public place. It's now required in Franklin County as our cases continue to increase. As it looks right now, I am not optimistic that we will be able to meet in person during the 2020 calendar year. Fortunately, we have been able to stay in contact and learn more about orchids through our monthly Zoom meetings. I have been thrilled with our attendance (just a slight bit less than at our regular meetings). If you have any ideas to make these meetings more enjoyable, please share them with me at nlshapiro2@gmail.com.

We have an opportunity to attend two Ohio Orchid Society meetings this month, keep reading for details!

I HAVE A FEW PEOPLE TO THANK

First, thanks to Ken Mettler for demonstrating deflasking at our June meeting. My little plants are mostly happy (One looks a little bit funky, but still hanging in). It was a great demonstration that we hopefully will have available on our website during the next month or two. We are still figuring out editing, but once that is done, Ken's presentation will be available for review or to watch for the first time if you couldn't join us.

Second, we received a very generous donation to the Society from one of our friends. During this pandemic we are all unable to do the usual things that help us generate income. This gift will cover many of our speaker costs in the next few months and is greatly appreciated!!

Third, I am pleased to thank Ken Mettler (yes, again), Justin Pepperney, and Tennis Maynard for all agreeing to continue our virtual orchid judging. I am also fortunate that I get to see all of your pictures each month and am always blown away by the beautiful plants you are growing. Keep those pictures coming!

JULY SOCIETY MEETING - VIRTUAL MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on **Thursday July 16, 2020 at 7:30 pm**. We are extremely fortunate to have **Martin Motes, Ph.D.** speaking on ***Darwin on Orchids***.

As Dr. Motes was originally planning on coming to our meeting in person, Tracy Strombotne had worked with the **Miami Valley Orchid Society** to share traveling expenses. As MVOS is also Zooming their meeting, we are inviting both Societies to attend each other's meetings. Also, Dr. Motes will be sending out our link to his many newsletter readers, so hopefully we will have a large crowd enjoying our Society meeting. Please plan on being on the **Zoom** platform to meet new orchid friends from around the country!

The link to our Zoom meeting can be found below, in addition to a bit of biographical information on our speaker.

Topic: Central Ohio Orchid Society July Meeting
– *Martin Motes: Darwin on Orchids*

Time: Thursday Jul 16, 2020 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

You can right-click on this link to open it up in a new tab.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85922250054?pwd=Sn02ZEkdZmxlTVJKaEl2eEFac2RCZz09>

Meeting ID: 859 2225 0054

Password: 701181

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,85922250054#,,,,0#,,701181# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,85922250054#,,,,0#,,701181# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85922250054?pwd=Sn02ZEkdZmxlTVJKaEl2eEFac2RCZz09>



Martin Motes, Ph.D. is a second-generation orchidist who has been growing orchids for 40 years. He is president of Motes Orchids, a major breeder of vandas. He has produced hundreds of new hybrids, for which he has received scores of American Orchid Society awards, including three FCC's and three Awards of Quality.

A native Floridian, Motes has lived most of his life in Miami, Florida, spending 6 years in Ohio and 2 years in Yugoslavia as a Fulbright lecturer. It was in Kosovo that he met his wife, Mary, author of *[Orchid Territory: A Comic Novel](#)*. Winner of gold, silver and bronze medals at the 18th World Orchid Conference for his hybrids in Dijon, March 2005, one of Motes' hybrids garnered the trophy as "Best Vanda in Show." Other hybrids have won medals in previous WOCs, as well as at the European Orchid Conference. The Royal Horticultural Society and other international judging venues have recognized his hybrids numerous times.

He is an accredited American Orchid Society judge. The annual Martin Motes Breeders Award is given by the AOS to the best Award of Quality or Award of Distinction.

Motes is an avid lecturer and has spoken at orchid conferences around the world. In the past this has included national orchid conferences in the US, Britain and Australia. He was a featured speaker at the World Orchid Conferences in Rio, Dijon, Kuala Lumpur, (where he chaired the Hybridizer's Forum and was a panel member at the Commercial Grower's Forum) and in Singapore. He was Key Note Speaker at the South African National Orchid Conference in September 2012.

He has traveled extensively and has observed orchids in Ambon, Australia, the Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Britain, the Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Florida, Guatemala, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Java, Malaya, Moluccas, Mexico, Nepal, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Thailand, Venezuela, the Virgin Islands, and Yugoslavia.

Dr. Motes has written several books on orchids and Vandas, including [*Florida Orchid Growing*](#), which offers readers a month-by-month guide to successful orchid culture in the Sunshine State. Author of [*Florida Vanda Growing: Month by Month*](#) and *Vandas: Their Botany, History, and Culture*, Motes is currently working on a monograph of the genus *Vanda* in which he has described several new species.

Motes was an assistant professor of English at Wright State University for several years, and has taught at the University of Miami and Miami-Dade Community College.

Motes was also the director of horticulture therapy at Grant Center Hospital and was a consultant on horticulture therapy at the Hospital Corporation of America.

Motes has twice taught *Vanda* Production and other topics at the University of Florida Orchid Short Course in Gainesville. He has worked as a consultant in various capacities to the extensive orchid industry in South Florida and is on the advisory board of the U. of F. Tropical Research and Education Center where he has been officially recognized for his leadership. He teaches classes at Fairchild Tropical Gardens which in addition to Orchids include Growing Asiatic Vegetables, and Great Tasting Tomatoes for South Florida.

An appointed member of the Miami-Dade Agricultural Practices Advisory Board, Motes is also a research Fellow at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden.

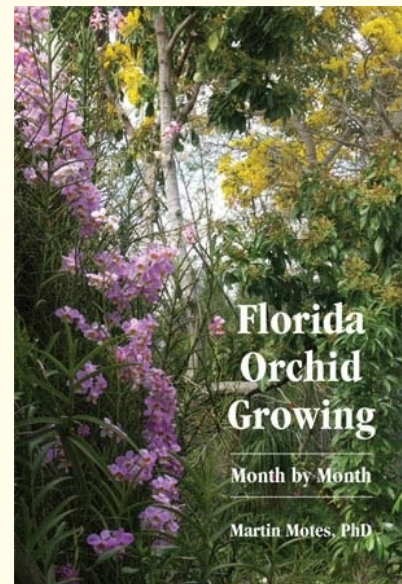
He initiated the [*Redland*](#) and [*Tamiami International Orchid Festivals*](#), America's two largest Orchid events.

Motes' frequent articles have appeared in *The Fairchild Garden Magazine*, *The Kew Bulletin*, *The South Florida Orchidist*, *The Orchid Digest*, *The Orchid Review*, *The Malayan Orchid Review*, *Lancasteriana* and *Orchids*. He is also featured in *The Orchid Thief* and served as a consultant on the film version, *Adaptation*. To get away from the orchid greenhouse, Motes reads and occasionally, writes, poetry, tends his vegetable garden, and fishes.

A selection of articles by Martin Motes and excerpts from books written by Martin and Mary Motes: <https://www.motesorchids.com/articles>

For more of Dr. Motes' research, please see:

https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/2034538180_Martin_Motes





MIAMI VALLEY ORCHID SOCIETY

Dayton's only place for Orchid Expertise

A SPECIAL TREAT and BONUS = MIAMI VALLEY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

The **Miami Valley Orchid Society** is meeting on *Wednesday, July 15th at 6:30 pm* when **Martin Motes** will be speaking on **Renanthera**.

Topic: July MVOS Meeting- Martin Motes

Time: Jul 15, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87277491346>

Meeting ID: 872 7749 1346

One tap mobile = +19292056099,,87277491346#

US (New York) = +13017158592,,87277491346#

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

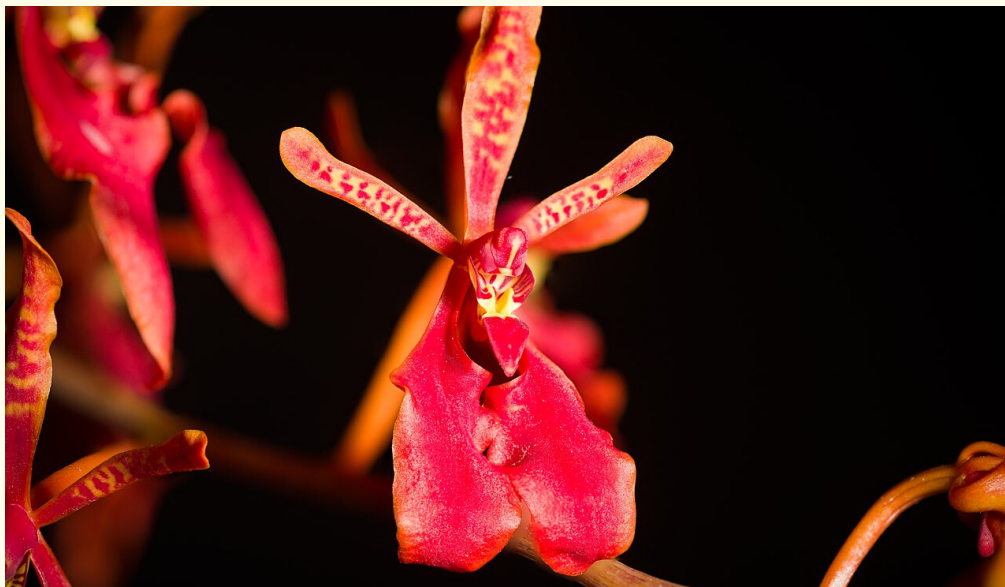
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CONTINUED..

JUNE VIRTUAL JUDGING, ANOTHER SUCCESS

Thanks everyone, for following our new rules. *One picture of each orchid with the name of each plant in the body of the email and no more than four orchids submitted by each grower per month. Plant pictures are due by the last day of the month and the pictures need to be taken during that current month.* So, start taking your July flowering orchid pictures now...and wait to see which ones look the best for submission. Remember, valuable (well sort of, we can't break our bank) awards are planned for both the public and Society choices for **Plant of the Year**.

Thanks to all of you for helping us move forward this year. It has certainly been challenging but your enthusiasm and participation has been greatly appreciated!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Our August speaker will be Kim Fedderson of Fair Orchids in Hillsborough, New Jersey. He will be speaking about Vandaceous orchids, providing an overview of the primary genera and their cultural requirements, and providing suggestions for the easier groups for home growers.

ANOTHER REMINDER TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

Central Ohio Orchid Society has adapted to a whirlwind of changes during the COVID 19 pandemic. We've done so swiftly, and I believe, seamlessly. From an updated website and newsletter, to virtual meetings that are highly attended with knowledgeable speakers, COOS has met adversity

Please remember to give back to the society by paying your membership dues, and encouraging others to **[join us](#)**.

We added the ability to use **[PayPal](#)** on our website. After you pay your dues, also remember to join the Member's Only section of our website. Just click on Member's Sign In, then either **Log in** if you've already signed up to the website, or **Sign Up with Email** if you haven't yet. We will then get you added within 48 hours.

If you have any trouble with the process, please let me know. THANKS IN ADVANCE!

*Nancy Shapiro | President
Central Ohio Orchid Society
11 July 2020*

2020 COOS CALENDAR

JANUARY 16

AOS WEBINAR "GROWING UNDER LIGHTS"

FEBRUARY 20

KEN METTLER - "THE ART + DESIGN OF ORCHID SHOW DISPLAYS"

MARCH 19 CANCELED

KEN METTLER AND JUSTIN PEPPERNEY - "DEFLASKING ORCHIDS"

APRIL 3-5 CANCELED

COOS ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW AND PLANT SALE - FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY

APRIL 16

AOS VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM - HABENARIAS

MAY 21

ERIC SAUER - PHRAGMIPEDIUMS

JUNE 18

ANNUAL PICNIC AND POT LUCK- CANCELED
KEN METTLER - "DEFLASKING ORCHIDS"

JULY 16

MARTIN MOTES OF MOTES ORCHIDS - "DARWIN AND ORCHIDS" - VIRTUAL MEETING

AUGUST

KIM FEDDERSON - "VANDACEOUS ORCHIDS" - VIRTUAL MEETING - DATE TBD

SEPTEMBER 17

TBD - "HOW I GROW MY ORCHIDS" - MEMBERS OF CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY

OCTOBER 15

KRISTIN UTHUS OF NEW WORLD ORCHIDS - "CATTLEYAS: THE MINIATURE COLLECTION"

NOVEMBER 19

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET AND POT LUCK

DECEMBER

NO MEETING

COOS BOARD MEMBERS: 2020 - 2021

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DENNIS EIFEL

TRUSTEE

CHERYL EARLY

TRUSTEE

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WENDY CHRISMAN

JUSTIN PEPPERNEY

WEBSITE + SOCIAL MEDIA

WENDY CHRISMAN

Don't forget to visit the new Central Ohio Orchid Society website at: <https://www.centralohioorchidsociety.org/>

Into the Wild

Glacier National Park
Montana

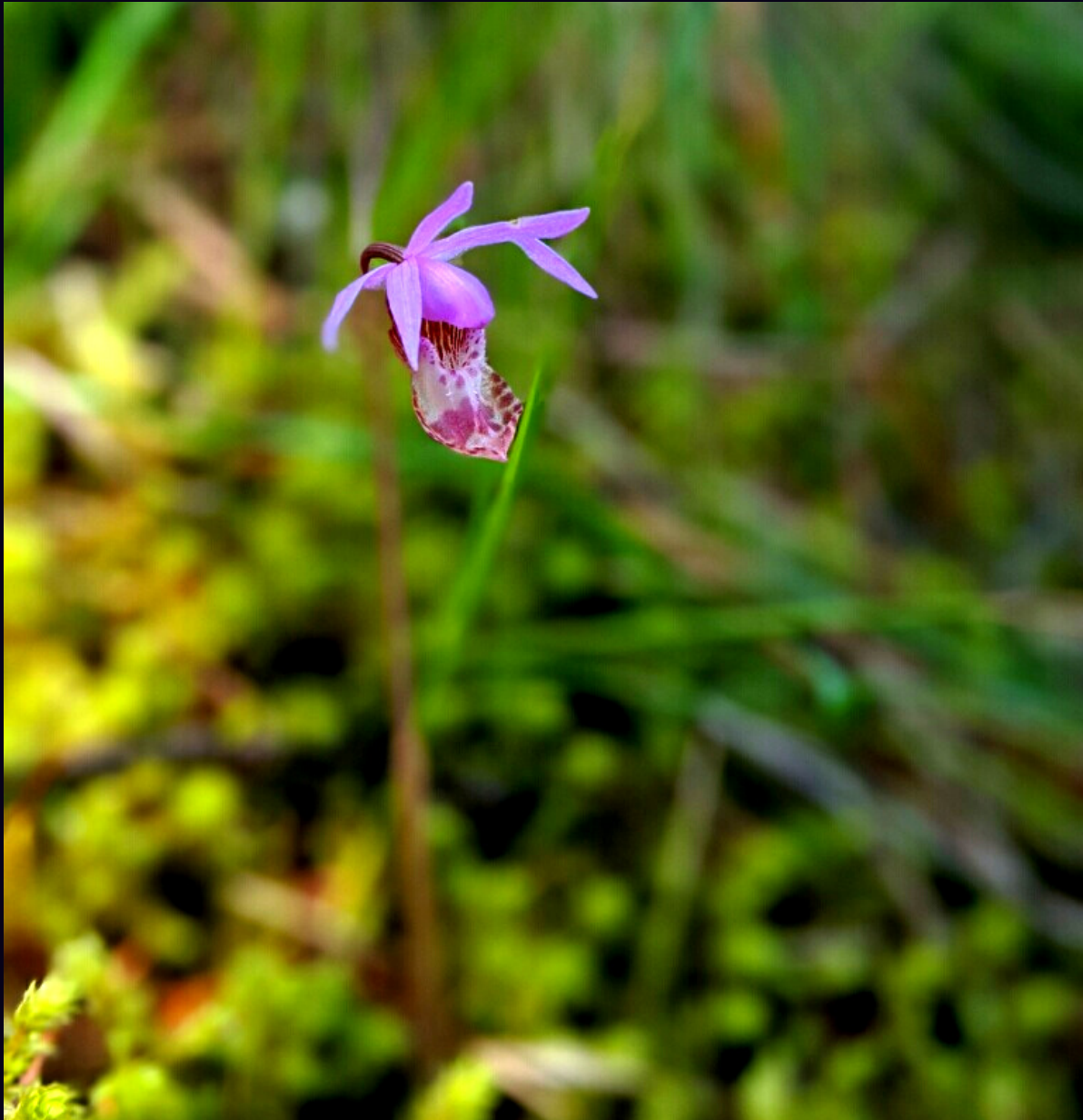


Mountain lady slippers

2 miles east of Avalanche Creek
on Going-to-the-Sun Road

Photographed by
Tom Hart's daughter,
Sara.





Fairy slipper orchid in Hellgate Canyon
Missoula, Montana

Photographed by Tom Hart's daughter, Sara



Bog orchid, in bloom.
Glacier National Park near Avalanche Creek.

Glacier National Park
Bog orchid that has already
bloomed at Avalanche Lake

Photographs by Sara Hart



Into the Wild

In search of the Prairie Fringed Orchid

by Ken Mettler



The Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid, *Platanthera leucophaea*, is related to the tropical *Habenarias* that many of us know and love. In fact, all the *Platanthera* species used to be considered species of *Habenaria*. Like the *Habenarias*, they form tuberous roots, and go dormant for part of the year. While the tropical *Habenarias* go dormant during the dry season, the temperate *Platantheras* go dormant during the winter.

P. leucophaea is federally listed as endangered, and is protected under the Endangered Species Act. Fortunately, some can be found within an hour's drive from Columbus.

They bloom in late June and early July. I had received information from a friend that they had started blooming at the Leadingham Prairie Preserve, located between Dayton and Springfield, by June 24th this year. The individual flowers only last about a week in bloom, but I had some spare time on July 7, so I headed west to find this rare gem. I had never been to the Leadingham Prairie, or seen this species before, but I had good directions, boots, brush pants, and insect repellent, so off I went.

I arrived at 11:00 AM, and the temperature was 89 degrees, with humidity similar to what I've experienced in the Amazon jungle. It's a bit of a hike on flat ground to get to where the orchids grow. Along the way, I was able to observe many native prairie plants. The first that caught my attention were Compass Plants (*Sylphium laciniatum*) towering over the prairie. They were six to seven feet tall, and just starting to bloom. I saw a couple of the last flowers of Ohio Spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*) still hanging on. White False Indigo (*Baptisia alba*) held its blooms above most of the prairie grasses and sedges. Swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*) was just starting to bloom. In the wetlands toward the northern edge of the reserve was a nice population of Queen of the Prairie (*Filipendula rubra*).

Finally, I found two of the orchids. The first one I found had finished blooming, and was forming seed pods, but I know I was looking for the right thing in the right place. A few plants still had flowers on them. I was glad I hadn't missed them entirely. Some of the older flowers showed brown patches, due to the 95-degree weather and lack of recent rain. I managed to find a half dozen plants. My friend had earlier found three times that many. But with the heat, ticks (lots!) and deer flies (lots more!), I was happy with what I found.

I hope to go back next year a little earlier to try to find them at their peak. I may also try to be there in the evening, as they are supposed to be fragrant at that time to attract moths as pollinators.



Little Dragon 'Carmela'

by Ken Mettler

What's in a name?

That which we call a rose would smell as sweet by any other.

--William Shakespeare

Hearken back to the March 2019 plant mounting workshop COOS conducted. The plants the society purchased were the *Baptidium* (Btcm.) Little Dragon 'Carmela', which is a cross between *Baptistonia echinate* x *Oncidium cheirophorum*. But that's not good enough for taxonomists. *Baptistonia echinata* has been reclassified as *Gomesa echinata*, changing the hybrid genus to *Oncidesa*.

Call it whichever genus name you like, *Baptidium* or *Ocidesa*. Most orchid growers will know what you're talking about. Whatever name you use, these little plants are a wonderful combination of the two parents.

If you were present at that orchid mounting workshop, you should have received one of these plants. Hopefully it is still alive and growing. Here's how I grew mine:

I mounted this plant at the workshop on a piece of cork bark with a very small amount of sphagnum moss.

I used a rubber band to hold the plant on the mount. I placed the mounted plant into a six-inch clay pot that was sitting in coffee can lid. This allows me to keep water in the lid. Then the moisture wicks up the clay pot, increasing the humidity around the plant. I tried to mist it daily, but probably got to it five to six times a week.





It grew under LED grow lights, with a bit less light than I grow my Cattleyas. After the first month, I fertilized it once a week with Michigan State formula, at $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon/gallon. I kept one other plant in a two and a half inch pot. This one didn't do as well, as I was over-watering it at first. I had to back off and water it only once a week.

The mounted plant was hung on a plant rack outdoors on the north side of my house for the summer. It received the same care as my mounted Cattleyas, and was watered/sprayed at least three times a week if it didn't rain.

The very small amount of moss would dry out a few hours after watering. By late summer, the rubber band had cracked and fallen off, but the plant had grown enough roots to hold onto the bark by itself.

It grew well over the summer, and in the fall was moved back indoors and placed back into the clay pot, receiving the same indoor care.

In March of this year, I was delighted to see that a small inflorescence was starting to emerge from the base of the newest pseudobulb. Similar to many in the Oncidium clan, the spike grows very slowly. When it was about an inch long, I had to take the plant out of the pot, so it wouldn't get damaged. I hung the plant among my other mounted orchids, where I wouldn't forget to check on it almost daily.

Finally, in early June, the buds began to open. There were thirteen waxy red and yellow flowers that last about five weeks each. Whatever you choose to call it, you have to love the Little Dragon for an impressive floral display on a tiny plant.