



# The Mid-American

Newsletter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress  
<http://www.midamericanorchids.org>

Spring 2017

MAOC to meet in Cincinnati for Fall 2017	p. 1	IRS and the MAOC	p. 3
President's Message	p. 2	Spring Business Meeting Minutes Draft	p. 3-7
Don't Forget Your Orchids	p. 2	Parting Shot – Doug Hartong	p. 8
Historical Committee	p. 2	MAOC Contacts	p. 8

## Save the Date!

### Meet us in Cincinnati, OH, for the Fall MAOC, Oct 21-23, 2017

We hope to see you in Cincinnati at the Mid-America Orchid Congress meeting, October 20-22, 2017. Mid-America registrants will have the opportunity to hear programs by two outstanding orchid experts, George Hatfield and Tom Harper. We'll meet in conjunction with the popular Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Orchid Show & Plant Sale. Krohn Conservatory, the Art Deco glasshouse in Eden Park near downtown Cincinnati, offers a spectacular backdrop for the orchid show. The Mid-America lectures and meetings will be located at the Crowne Plaza Cincinnati Blue Ash, a short drive from the conservatory. Mid-America will provide transportation for registrants between the hotel and the orchid show.

We're very pleased to welcome George Hatfield to Mid-America! George is the current President of the American Orchid Society and the owner of Hatfield Orchids in Oxnard, CA, where he specializes in developing high quality and award winning Cymbidiums. He is a well-known speaker, and an accredited judge for both the American Orchid Society and the Cymbidium Society of America. George will present a Saturday afternoon program on "Pendulous Cymbidiums," a topic that he is eminently qualified to address since he has produced some of the best pendulous Cymbidiums in the

country. At our Saturday evening dinner, he will update us on what's new with the AOS.

We're also pleased to welcome back Tom Harper! Tom is a long-time supporter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress, having served as our President, Vice-President and *Mid-American* Editor. Tom owns Stones River Orchids in Franklin, TN, and is a Senior Judge for the American Orchid Society. He's also a founding member of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance and has held many responsible positions in the IPA. Most of us know Tom as a terrific speaker and author on various aspects of Phalaenopsis, and this Mid-America weekend will be no exception as he presents a Saturday afternoon program on "Big Lip Phalaenopsis."

Join us for an entertaining Saturday evening at the Crowne Plaza Cincinnati Blue Ash beginning with the ever-popular Mid-America auction, our main fund-raising event. After the auction we'll celebrate Cincinnati with our "Queen City Buffet" featuring Cincinnati chili and other local favorites. The Mid-America meeting will wrap up Sunday morning with the Affiliated Societies Breakfast and the Mid-America Business Meeting.

For more details and to register, please visit the Mid-America website, [www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org). Registration forms will be available on the website soon.

## A Message from Your President



Attendees to the Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress held in Omaha, Nebraska March 24-26, 2017 were treated to beautiful orchid exhibits in a wonderful venue - The Lauritzen Botanical Gardens. This meeting, held in conjunction with the Greater Omaha Orchid Society Show, was well-planned thanks to the Martins and society members and ran smoothly with a shuttle bus providing transportation between the host hotel and gardens.

Besides the experience of judging an orchid show in a comfortable and visually stimulating botanical garden, one could also appreciate the innovative lego exhibits strategically placed throughout the greenhouses. Registrants had the opportunity to hear two great lecturers — Peter T. Lin from Diamond Orchids and Peter Tobias from the Orchid Conservation Alliance. I found the lecture by Peter Tobias particularly interesting as he showcased many European terrestrial orchids in their natural habitat — orchids seldom seen in the United States. The Sunday morning Affiliated Societies Breakfast topic “What’s your problem?” provided an opportunity for registrants to voice their concerns regarding problems with their respective societies and hear solutions by other society members in attendance.

A topic of particular interest that was discussed at the breakfast, and something that all of us should consider and plan for, is the caretaking or disposition of our orchid collections upon our demise! This can become a major issue for a surviving spouse or family members if a large collection is left unattended. Oftentimes a local orchid society must contend

with the collection and decide what is best. A will is a good place to make allowances for the future of our orchid collections; some of these plants may be rare or endangered. The Fall Mid-American Orchid Congress will be held in conjunction with the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Show, October 21-23, 2017. Details will be on the website [midamericanorchids.org](http://midamericanorchids.org) as they become available. Have an enjoyable summer and see you this fall in Cincinnati!

Doug Hartong  
President, Mid-America Orchid Congress

## Don’t Forget Your Orchids in Your Final Wishes

Many of us get caught up with all the monetary issues of our final wishes that we sometimes might forget that we should designate what shall be done with our orchids. Many of us have children whose interests are not like our own and therefore rather than leaving the destination for our orchids up in the air, why not designate where they should go if you become disabled to the point that you cannot take care of them, or worse, pass away without letting them know.

Many botanical gardens will accept donations of orchids especially if they have an orchid collection and if they don’t you might want to suggest that they establish one. Friends in your society can be designated but first talk it over with them so that they don’t get a call and suddenly be expected to go retrieve a collection when theirs is already bursting at the seams. (We don’t do that do we?) Make plans for your beautiful orchids. Don’t let them pass away with you. You can designate all this in your wills and final wishes.

## Historical Committee Solicitation

The Historical Committee is exploring the possibility of having a book about MID-AMERICANS who have contributed to the knowledge and enjoyment of orchids. Perhaps you have some suggestions? Perhaps some people in your society might also have some thoughts on this subject? Who in your orchid past influenced you the most? E-mail suggestions to: [lois.holmes68@gmail.com](mailto:lois.holmes68@gmail.com).

**Some Special Notes On the IRS and MAOC Expenses and Deductions**

Each MAOC Affiliated Society is entitled to send up to 4 voting representatives. They must attend and sign in at the business meeting. Registration fees, travel and lodging for these representatives that were paid for by them may be eligible as tax deductions in accordance with IRS publication 526.

Attending a MAOC congress is a unique opportunity to hear internationally recognized orchid speakers as well as see/compete with award winning orchids and exhibits. For assistance in selecting your society representatives, please contact the Affiliated Societies Committee at [mbmansour1@cox.net](mailto:mbmansour1@cox.net).

**Spring Business Meeting Minutes Draft Omaha, NE, March 26, 2017**

(NOTE: This is a draft subject to approval at the Fall 2017 Congress. Corrections should be sent to Cheryl Erins: [cerins10812@comcast.net](mailto:cerins10812@comcast.net))



**Call to Order –**

President Doug Hartong called the meeting to order at 9:06 am. He thanked all for coming and thanked the Martins for their hard work and the Greater Omaha Orchid Society. He then asked Secretary Cheryl

Erins to read the roll.

**Secretary's Report –** Secretary Cheryl Erins



called the roll, and the following affiliated societies were present:

- Alabama Orchid Society
- Atlanta Orchid Society
- Batavia Orchid Society
- Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

- Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society
- Greater Lansing Orchid Society
- Greater Pensacola Orchid Society
- Gulf Coast Orchid Society
- Heart of Dixie Orchid Society
- Illinois Orchid Society
- Memphis Orchid Society
- Miami Valley Orchid Society
- Mobile Area Orchid Society
- Niagara Frontier Orchid Society
- Northeast Alabama Orchid Society
- Northland Orchid Society
- Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City
- Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee
- Orchid Society of Minnesota
- Orchid Society of the Ozarks
- Saginaw Valley Orchid Society
- Smoky Mountain Orchid Society
- South Metro Orchid Society
- Springfield Orchid Society
- West Shore Ohio Orchid Society
- Wisconsin Orchid Society

**Absent:**

- Ann Arbor Orchid Society
- Blue Grass Orchid Society
- Central Ohio Orchid Society
- Central Iowa Orchid Society
- Central Ontario Orchid Society
- Central Indiana Orchid Society
- Central Kentucky Orchid Society
- Central Missouri Orchid Society
- Essex County (Ontario) Orchid Society
- Greater Cleveland Orchid Society
- Greater Akron Orchid Society
- Greater Omaha Orchid Society
- Greater Toledo Orchid Society
- Grand Valley Orchid Society
- Illowa Orchid Society
- Kentucky Orchid Society
- London Orchid Society
- Mansfield Orchid Society
- Michiana Orchid Society
- Michigan Orchid Society
- Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society
- Northwestern Michigan Orchid Society
- Orchid Growers Guild of Madison
- Orchid Society of Gr. St. Louis
- Paducah Orchid Society
- Peoria Orchid Society
- Prairie State Orchid Society
- South Mississippi Orchid Society
- Three Rivers Orchid Society
- Windsor Orchid Society

**Approval of Minutes:** President Doug Hartong asked if there were any corrections to the draft minutes of the Fall Meeting in Buffalo, New York. There being none, motion to approve passed. The minutes will be posted on the website.

**Treasurer Report:** Treasurer Michele Little read the report and noted that the amounts for the actual totals for the auction income were lower than budgeted. The \$2,500 loan was repaid from the Niagara Orchid Society. In total Income was \$1,876



lower than budgeted. Expenses were slightly lower than budgeted by \$290.75. Michele read a complete list of the balances of the Trophy Funds at the end of 2016. Restricted funds total \$31,149.99, or 38% of our assets. Unrestricted funds total \$51,758.55 or 62% of the net worth of \$82,908.54. A complete report as Addendum A will be in the next edition. She also added that the Auction netted \$2,091 which included \$80 for the resale of Lowell Jacks' wonderful brownies.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Affiliated Societies:** Chair Mary Beth Mansour reported they met on March 24, 2017 and noted that Central Kentucky Orchid Society has withdrawn. All Canadian societies have renewed. The topic of the morning's discussion was "What



is your Problem?" and lively discussion about all kinds of problems faced by societies were noted by the 38 attendees. The next topic will be Managing the Finances of your Society, and we will have a special segment in the Newsletter inviting participants.

Watch your e-mail for a special edition newsletter from the Affiliated Societies Committee detailing helpful hints for a successful show, society and meetings.

**AOS Liaison Report:** President Hartong read the report from Chair Doris Asher who made special note of the changes in the AOS Award and Registration Fees beginning 1 January, 2017. The fee for an award for an AOS



member goes to \$40 from \$36, for a non AOS member \$60. The Show registration fee goes to \$60 from \$50 and the Show Trophy fee goes to \$70 from \$60. It has been some time since these fees had been raised. There is now a preferred product program sort of like a Seal of approval from Good Housekeeping. The AOS has established the Thomas J. Sheehan Award for Outstanding Service by an AOS volunteer, quoting from President George Hatfield, "recognizes and applauds a member who has demonstrated sustained and exemplary volunteer service that leaves a lasting impact on the AOS." Orchids Magazine won a Silver Medal in the 2016 Gold Ink awards. The process of digitizing all the AOS bulletins is proceeding nicely. More than 29 years has been finished. It was reported that Orchid Wiz and the AOS are talking again to integrate the two products. To honor the late Walter Off, the AOS is collecting donations to fund an annual award for the best AOS show trophy in a given year. The webinars are ever popular, and the website AOS.org has a complete list.

Doug Hartong asked Cheryl Erins if she would come up and report on the AOS member meeting in Redland in May. The actual meeting will be held at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden May 17-21, 2017. The Redland Orchid Festival is part of the whole meeting. Admission includes the Gardens admission as it is not a reciprocal garden because the AOS is located there and their by-laws state the home offices must be more than a mile away from the Gardens. There will be a shuttle to and from as well as admission to the Redland Orchid Festival. Everyone can see the new and fantastic library and the art exhibit which will feature one of our own artists from Iowa There will be speakers at the Redland, but the AOS speakers will be more of a roundtable type event in the airconditioned tent. Rooms are going quickly and they will open some new ones as more requests are coming in daily.

**Audit Committee:** New Audit Chair Alexa Noel



stated that an audit was performed of all the financials for last year and all balanced to the penny. She commended Michele Little for an outstanding job.

The exhibit also won the AOS Show Trophy which recognizes excellence for the best collective material meritoriously displayed



**Annual Meeting:** Beth Martin, Chair, thanked



the Omaha Orchid Society and Doug Martin for their help for this meeting, and announced that the Fall meeting will be in conjunction with the Greater Cincinnati Fall Orchid Show,

October 21-23. The Spring, 2018 meeting is scheduled for April 27-29 hosted by the West Shore Orchid Society in Cleveland, Ohio. The Fall, 2018 show is being hosted by the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City. Dates to be announced. All details for these meetings will be on the Website. They are willing to help any society in hosting an MAOC. The Niagara Frontier Orchid Society reported financial success, so we can report that to any society interested in hosting. Please call her or email her to discuss any ideas.

in a public competition and Orchid Digest Show Trophy which recognizes a noncommercial exhibit displaying the highest levels of artistry, taste, innovation, flower quality and cultural excellence.

The Henry C. Holmes Award for best Oncidium alliance plant was awarded to Miltoniopsis White Truffle owned by Natt's Orchids.



**Awards:** Jan Yates reported on all the trophies



and awards at this meeting. The Mid-America Perpetual Trophy for Outstanding Exhibit by an affiliated society of the MAOC: Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City.

The Delbert Lowell Jacks Award for Best Specimen Plant was awarded to *Dendrobium Hamana Smile* owned by Natt's Orchids.



The F L Stevenson Award for Best Pleurothallid Alliance Plant was awarded to *Masdevallia Tiger Kill* owned by Dr. Charles Denton.

The Fox Valley Award for Best Cypripedium Alliance Plant which is awarded to the plant receiving the highest AOS award if any are given; otherwise to the best of the Cypripedium classes was awarded to *Paph. charlesworthii fma. album 'Charlie's Angels'* which received an 84 point Award of Merit and is owned by Orchid Inn, Ltd.



The following plants also received AOS awards:

*Paph. William Ambler 'Red Dragon'* AM/AOS of 83 points owned by Orchid Inn Ltd., Bloomington, IL.

*Polystachya rhodocheila 'Bryon'* CCM/AOS of 85 points owned by Bryon Rinke of Winfield, KS.

*Paph. Hsinying Alien 'Missed Opportunity'* HCC/AOS of 76 points owned by Joe and Karen Lankton of Omaha, NE.

Rlc. *Adria Marie Sheth 'Janet Sue'* AM/AOS of 82 points owned by Alex McConnell.

*Chytroglossa Ben Berliner 'Bryon'* AM/AOS of 81 points owned by Bryon Rinke of Winfield, KS.

*Dendrobium harveyanum 'Deerwood Gold'* CCM/AOS of 83 points owned by Julie Hella of Deerwood, MN.

*Paph. charlesworthii fma. album 'Charlie's Angels'* AM/AOS of 84 points owned by Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL.

**Communications:** There is no report at this time.

**Conservation:** Doug Martin reported on behalf



of Chair Russ Vernon that the budget approved last year had \$400 for a worthwhile project if it came in, and it did. The North American Orchid Conservation Center has requested \$400 donation for a project which

researches and establishes processes for the collection, examination and banking of root samples of North American Native Orchids and their DNA samples as well as the mycorrhizal fungi necessary to propagate so there will always be the ability to establish these orchids under threat in many parts of North America due to climate change and population expansion. The committee felt this was an extremely worthwhile project and will be focused on the Mid America areas, for which Doug Martin is a collector for them. Since this money was budgeted, this is informational only.

President Doug Hartong recognized Jan Yates, Budget Committee who then read a proposal given to her by Cheryl Erins, Chair of the Education and Research Committee who met on Friday night, asking to amend the budget for 2017 in the amount of \$600 to be donated to the same Center for its work in researching the various Mid America region orchids and their mycorrhizal DNA as well as the expenses for educating the many collectors for this project. Ms. Yates reported there is plenty of money available for this worthwhile project. Motion made and carried, and will be two separate proposals. Doug Martin will approach Mr. Dennis Whigham to write another letter stressing the education and research component of the project so that we will keep the two donations completely separate, and they are donations not grants so that the parent organization, the Smithsonian, will not have to account for these dollars.

**Constitution and By-Laws:** nothing to report at this time.

**Education:** Chair, Cheryl Erins reported that the meeting occurred Friday night along with the Conservation Committee where the foregoing proposals were discussed.

**Historical:** Chair, Lois Holmes conveyed the message to keep learning especially all the places we can visit at the various venues of the MAOC, such as the Truman Library in Kansas City, and told the story of the naming of the Rosalind Carter Orchid. A Minneapolis



reporter interviewed Doug Martin about the orchid cross made with a Minneapolis orchid and (per Doug Martin) a Republican toothpick! Her lesson: Allow time to visit places in the venues. She also mentioned finding an old registration form for \$18 and a time when we had 30 plus exhibits and could not handle any more. Registrations were sold out. As she said, Times have certainly changed.

**Orchidist of the Year:** no report at this time

**Show Schedule:** Lois Cinert stated the



committee met before the EC and they are not doing to do anything with the schedule right now. It will be at least two years before the taxonomy folks get finished with Dendrobiums and Pleurothallids so to make changes now

makes no sense. They discussed the classes 98 and 99 and asked all show chairs to email her with the numbers of entries in their shows so they can determine if they need to split or change these. They are requesting information from societies on such things as elimination the maximum number of three entries per class rule as well as allowing double entry in 100 and 101 classes, in addition to the specimen class 102. She reiterated that all societies can change/modify the schedule to suit their own shows. At some time they will endeavor to re-number the show schedule classes, but only after they see the changes in Dendrobium and/or Pleurothallids.

**Technology:** not present, no report. President Doug Hartong noted that the website had improved with more educational content under the Education tab.

**Ways and Means:** Chair Roberta Ginavan



asked Doug Martin to buy more tickets for the raffle as he usually does. Hermann Pigors was asked to draw the name of the winner of the covered dish. It was Beth Martin which was

followed by applause and laughter! A total of \$230 was collected for the raffle.

**Budget:** No report at this time.

## **New Business:**

President Doug Hartong asked if there was any new business and Beth Martin asked if she could introduce Susie Hanna, President of the Greater Kansas City Orchid Society to say a few words. Susie reported that there are many new and willing members in the society and they were looking forward to hosting the 2018 meeting. Bird's Botanicals will certainly be on the list of places to see.

There being no additional new business, it was moved and passed to adjourn at 10:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Erins, Secretary

## **KEY MID-AMERICA CONTACTS**

### **OFFICERS**

President: Doug Hartong  
770-594-7334;  
[catmando@mindspring.com](mailto:catmando@mindspring.com)  
1st Vice President: Jim Newsome  
503-3522 (cell); [jnews91126@aol.com](mailto:jnews91126@aol.com)  
2nd Vice President: Alexa Noel  
513-469-8767; [alexa.h.noel@gmail.com](mailto:alexa.h.noel@gmail.com)  
Secretary: Cheryl Erins; 269-244-5256;  
[cerins10812@comcast.net](mailto:cerins10812@comcast.net)  
Treasurer: Michele Little; 513-320-3409;  
[MLittle@DaytonFreight.com](mailto:MLittle@DaytonFreight.com)  
Immediate Past President: Doris Asher;  
[asherdoris@juno.com](mailto:asherdoris@juno.com)

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Affiliated Societies: Mary Beth Mansour  
440-333-5364; [mbmansour1@cox.net](mailto:mbmansour1@cox.net)  
AOS Liaison: Doris Asher  
517-332-0004; [asherdoris@juno.com](mailto:asherdoris@juno.com)  
Annual Meeting: Beth Martin  
913-248-8669; [bethdoug@kc.rr.com](mailto:bethdoug@kc.rr.com)  
Audit: Judith Rapacz  
239-223-5540; [jrapacz@wisc.edu](mailto:jrapacz@wisc.edu)  
Awards: Christine Chowning; 859-278-5256  
[c.chowning@insight.bb.com](mailto:c.chowning@insight.bb.com)  
Budget: Janice Yates  
513-475-9771; [jjyates11@earthlink.net](mailto:jjyates11@earthlink.net)  
Constitution & Bylaws: Charles Wilson  
901-268-1445; [zooemeritus@gmail.com](mailto:zooemeritus@gmail.com)  
Communications: Alexa Noel  
513-469-8767; [alexa.h.noel@gmail.com](mailto:alexa.h.noel@gmail.com)  
Conservation: Russ Vernon  
765-759-5991;  
[newvisionorchids@aol.com](mailto:newvisionorchids@aol.com)

Education & Research: Cheryl Erins  
269-244-5256,  
[cerins10812@comcast.net](mailto:cerins10812@comcast.net)  
Historical: Lois Holmes, 763-561-6380  
[lois.holmes68@gmail.com](mailto:lois.holmes68@gmail.com)  
MAOC Newsletter: Charles & Susan Wilson  
[zooemeritus@gmail.com](mailto:zooemeritus@gmail.com)(901-268-1445)  
[SusanWilsonRN@gmail.com](mailto:SusanWilsonRN@gmail.com),  
Nominating: Doris Asher  
517-332-0004; [asherdoris@juno.com](mailto:asherdoris@juno.com)  
Orchidist of the Year: Lowell Jacks  
706-632-9818; [ljacks@tds.net](mailto:ljacks@tds.net)  
Show Schedule: Lois Cinert  
630-739-1068; [George.cinert@att.net](mailto:George.cinert@att.net)  
Technology: Brian Spittler  
[publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org](mailto:publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org)  
Ways and Means: Roberta Ginavan  
712-487-3085; [ginavan@frontier.com](mailto:ginavan@frontier.com)

## **Parting Shots:**



The back side of President Doug's helmet of office is truly impressive!

