



The ORCHID CHAT

**Treasure Valley Orchid Society
February 2021**

Hello TVOS members and friends!

Since the pandemic has upended so many of our lives and routines – including the in-person TVOS meetings and events – this is an effort to keep in better touch and share whatever we can find about keeping orchids healthy and blooming.

Your outdoor plants may be hibernating – but indoors, orchid care never ends! Here are a couple of good resources for winter orchid-care tips.

The American Orchid Society posts orchid-care information by season. Here's the Jan.-Feb. link:

<https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/january-february-checklist.aspx>

And if you can look past all the ads, Orchid Bliss has a list of eight basic orchid-growing tips for cold-weather months:

<https://orchidbliss.com/winter-care-for-orchids/>

AOS also has a day of online seminars **coming up SOON – Sat., Feb. 6, starting at 9 A.M. Mountain time. Cost is \$30**, and the expert lineup includes five 45-minute presentations on growing miniatures, Brazilian habitats and species, “Those Pesky Bugs,” growing paphs, and dendrobium culture. The link to sign up:

<https://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

We have no February birthdays to list – but if we’ve missed yours, we hope it’s a good one! Please send a note to Chris Thomas (christthomasco@gmail.com) or Terry McMorrow (bacpker@gmail.com) so we can be sure to add it for future years.

It’s so important to keep TVOS as active as possible, even in these crazy times. We have a Zoom account and meeting online has turned out to be doable – and even fun! Unexpected bonuses: Nobody has to drive in inclement weather, nor do we have to haul our blooming plants to the meetings (in the freezing cold) to show them off. Please consider joining us! Meetings take about an hour. They start at 6:30 p.m. and as a TVOS member, you’ll receive the Zoom link info a few days before the meeting.

Our next meeting is Wed., Feb. 17. Pam Spencer recently attended an online orchid-care workshop by the famous Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania. She’ll share that info, plus introduce us to the gardens, which comprise more than 1,000 acres.

Another bonus: We’ve had some amazing door prizes lately, and your odds are far better than, say, winning the PowerBall or Mega Millions jackpot..!

If YOU have a favorite orchid or orchid-growing topic you’d like to present, please reach out and we can schedule it! Zoom makes it easy to share your screen for photos or PowerPoint presentations. Most presentations take 10 or 15 minutes, and you’ll find an enthusiastic audience in TVOS members.

Minutes of the Jan. 20 General Meeting follow this newsletter. As you’ll see, a decision about whether to have a 2021 Show & Sale is, at least somewhat, up in the air. If we proceed, we’ll need plenty of help from club members. We’re watching other orchid societies to see what they’re doing.

In the meantime, keep ‘em blooming!

Newsletter orchid graphic courtesy of:

<https://poweredtemplate.com/brochure-templates/nature/letterheads/03033/0/index.html>

TREASURE VALLEY ORCHID SOCIETY, INC. – Boise, ID
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – Jan. 20, 2021

Carolyn Watts called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m., with 10 members in attendance. Pam Spencer moved, and Fred Smith seconded, a motion to accept the minutes of the previous (Dec. 16, 2020) General Meeting as amended – we added Sharon Rigney’s name to the list of newly reelected board members, as it had inadvertently been omitted. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Rocky Redford presented the Treasurer’s Report, which contained no changes, as there have been no expenses since the last meeting. It was accepted on a voice vote, after a motion by Chris Thomas, seconded by Pam Spencer.

OLD BUSINESS: Rocky checked with the Hilton Garden Inn about possible **Fall 2021** dates for the TVOS Show & Sale. Most weekends in September are available, and the board has informally chosen **Sept. 18-19**. However, Tammy Dana needs to ask potential vendors about their availability, and Pam will ask Ruth Meyer to check in with the AOS Northwest Judging Center about that weekend as well. For now, Rocky will sign a contract to secure the date.

We debated the idea of having the show even if AOS judges aren’t available. We acknowledge the possibility that the show could be cancelled again this year, depending on public health guidelines and COVID-19 numbers in the Treasure Valley. No decisions were made, but it’s something we’ll keep a close eye on.

We talked about the challenges of finding speakers to make meeting presentations. Chris and Pam are among the club members looking for topics and people to present them, including inviting growers or other experts from out of town who could meet with us by Zoom.

This month, Carolyn Watts presented instructions for building a hydroponic tower, perfect for growing multiple plants in small spaces that need regular moisture. It was very informative, and she’s shared the PowerPoint presentation on a Google Drive:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zP7sKkYTWnRS9-oH4ENDGmQbdT_qTswl/view?usp=sharing

DOOR PRIZES this month went to: Terry McMorrow (Oncidium Twinkle); Pam Spencer (an Encyclia with two spikes), Tammy Dana (Brassolaeliocattleya MaiKai ‘Mayumi’); and Carolyn Watts (\$25 NEON gift certificate).

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Thomas

President

Board Secretary
(signed electronically in the interest of time)