



The ORCHID CHAT

Treasure Valley Orchid Society May 2021

Hello TVOS members and friends! It's hard to believe it has been more than a year since we had our last in-person meeting. So much has happened since then – but in greenhouses and on windowsills across the Treasure Valley, our orchids seem blissfully unaware of it all. That's comforting somehow, don't you think?

By this fall, we should be able to resume meetings as normal, and we're starting slowly, with an **informal potluck and plant sale on Sat., May 22** at the home of TVOS Board Member Tammy Dana. The lovely backyard is plenty big enough for us to gather safely outdoors. The food will be excellent (as all TVOS potlucks are) and you'll find plants for sale, too, to benefit the club. What more could an orchid-lover want?

Some people have asked whether masks will be "required." The answer is: No, they're optional, but **we see them as an important courtesy** to protect anyone who has not yet received their COVID-19 vaccinations.

The fun begins at 11:30 a.m. and we'll wrap it up by 2:30 p.m. **Please bring:**

Whatever you want to drink...a chair...and a dish to share (salad, side dish, dessert). The club will provide water and fried chicken.

From Chris Thomas: I spent the first part of May in the Monterey Bay area, where I connected with the Carmel Orchid Society. Kindred spirits, for sure! They recommended a visit to Hanging Gardens in Pacifica, where I was able to "procure" some of the plants you'll have a chance to purchase on May 22. What a treat!

Many thanks to grower Dan Newman for a delightful afternoon in a greenhouse stuffed with orchid species, many of them rare. He's hand-picked a good variety for us to choose from, and is shipping them to Boise.



Also for sale: Orchids from Kalapana (in Hawaii) and carnivorous plants (those all-important bug-eaters!) from Gem State Carnivores.

Best wishes to the TVOS members celebrating May birthdays:

5/16 Patty Meyer

5/21 Margaret Donnelly

If we've missed yours, please let Chris (christomasco@gmail.com) or Terry McMorrow (bacpker@gmail.com) know, so we can add you to the list.

On the next page, you'll find minutes of the April 21 General Meeting.

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 – Apr. 21, 2021

Vice President Pam Spencer called the online meeting to order at 6:40 p.m., with 11 club members in attendance. Fred Smith made a motion to approve minutes of the last general meeting (Mar. 17); Pam seconded. It passed on a voice vote.

Treasurer Rocky Redford reported the club's bank balance. March expenses were the \$79 annual American Orchid Society (AOS) dues, and the club's storage unit rental will soon be due. Chris Thomas made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report; Pam seconded. Motion passed on a voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS: Terry McMorrow reminded everyone that if they paid 2020 dues, they're already covered for 2021, as we weren't able to meet during 2020 because of the pandemic. However, anyone who wants to pay dues for 2021 is welcome to do so.

Pam reminded club members of our FIRST in-person event in more than a year! We'll be meeting outdoors at Tammy Dana's house for an informal plant sale and potluck on Sat., May 22. People who are bringing tables, plants to sell, etc. can arrive as early as 10:30 a.m., but the get-together "officially" starts at 11:30 and ends at 2:30 p.m. Folks are asked to bring chairs, their beverage of choice, and a dish to share; the club will provide fried chicken and water. An email will be sent to members with the address and additional information.

Tammy has put out the word to some of our local vendors in case they'd like to participate. Warren Hubbard, who recently moved out-of-state, was kind enough to leave us some of his plants. Carolyn Watts, who is traveling this month, will bring some plants back from an Oregon-based grower. And Chris, who will be in California in the weeks before the potluck, said she will bring or ship some plants back from a grower there.

NEW BUSINESS: The club has been contacted by the Education Team at the Idaho State Penitentiary, to see if we might be interested in adding orchid-growing skills as part of a horticultural program they're developing. The goal is to impart the kinds of knowledge that would allow a person, after their release, to gain employment in a garden shop or similar business. At this point, we're not sure of the timeline.

Lynn Kinter said she'll be giving her "Native Orchids of Idaho" presentation this summer at the Idaho Botanical Gardens. She'll borrow the club's native orchid display to set up on-site.

MONTHLY MEETING TOPIC: This month, in honor of this month's AOS 100th anniversary, everyone picked a "favorite" orchid to share with the group. The species we chose ran the gamut, and we had a lot of fun admiring the blooms and talking about how to care for them.

Door prize winners:

Terry McMorrow – Bletilla
Ralph Higer – Bletilla
Chris Thomas – Trader Joe’s gift card
Tammy Dana – Edward’s Greenhouse gift card
Tara Downes – A “surprise” from Pam Spencer

As always, the winners were appreciative – and the club appreciates the donors: Pam, Tammy, Terry and Rocky.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Thomas

Club Secretary

Pam Spencer, Vice President