

TREASURE VALLEY ORCHID SOCIETY, INC. Boise, Idaho

[www. Treasurevalleyorchidsociety.org](http://www.Treasurevalleyorchidsociety.org)

ORCHID CHAT

The November meeting will again be by ZOOM on the 18th at 6:30. An email will be sent out, prior to the meeting, with instructions. It would be great if all would attempt to connect. If you just click on the connection, in the email, you will automatically be connected on Zoom. Ruth will be discussing phrags at the meeting.

You might think that the society is doing nothing, if so you are wrong and the way to find out is to connect on Zoom. The Board is doing everything possible, at this time, to set up a show for next April. Only time will tell if it actually happens.

The election of officers will be held during the December Zoom meeting as this will be the annual meeting. Please consider serving on the Board. Warren has given notice that, due to health, he will be resigning from serving on the Board but will continue with the web page. Surely someone can step up and give a helping hand.

This is the first time I have attempted to put together the Chat so if you find something wrong don't holler to loud.

Board Meeting

1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 on Zoom

All members are welcome. If interested, let one of the Board members know and the Zoom connection will be sent to you.

Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Treasure Valley Orchid Society, Inc., POB 9732, Boise, ID 83707-3732

Pam Spencer, President 208.939.1740; Warren Hubbard, Vice-President & webchair 208.286.4150;

Chris Thomas, Secretary 208.343.4367; Rocky Redford, Treasurer 208.342.7688; Terry McMorrow, Membership Coordinator 208.859.8440; Board Members At Large, Sharon Redford 208.342.7688; Fred Smith 208.258.9475; Carolyn Watts 208.375.3349; Tammy Dana 208.908.2223

TVOS MEETING MINUTES – October 21, 2020

President Pam Spencer called the meeting (on Zoom) to order. There were 10 club members in attendance, including a new visitor – Tammy Dana’s sister Cara, joining from Arizona.

The minutes of the Sept. 16 meeting were approved with one correction. Pam made the motion to approve; Carolyn Watts seconded.

Rocky Redford gave the Treasurer’s Report. The club’s current bank balance is \$5,333.93, with no expenses in the past month. Fred Smith moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report; Pam seconded.

OLD BUSINESS: Pam said she has not heard anything more from the Boise Chinese Association, which had requested a future presentation on orchid care. Pam contacted Janet Crist, who said she can’t commit to anything until November at the earliest.

NEW BUSINESS: Carolyn reported that Edwards Greenhouse would like to have the club do an orchid care class, as well as the beginning Master Gardeners’ course enrollees, but groups are all meeting online, so these commitments would be “far into the future.”

Ruth Mayer said she’ll send the invitation in early November to prospective AOS judges for the TVOS Show and Sale in April 2021. She will also look online at other orchid clubs to see if they’re planning to have shows and if so, whether they’re announcing the dates yet.

Ruth also will prepare a presentation on phragmepediums (“phrags”) for the November 18 meeting.

MONTHLY MEETING TOPIC: This month, attendees shared information about fertilizing orchids – what they like and how they use it. Some of the products recommended include:

- Cal-Mag (a calcium & magnesium supplement; alternative to Epsom salts)
- Thrive Alive B1 (B1, iron and mild rooting hormone)
- FloraNova “Grow” and “Bloom”
- Miracle Grow (yes, that ubiquitous blue fertilizer used on many types of plants)
- MSU Orchid Fertilizer (many brand names; formula developed at Michigan State University)
- Growmore Seaweed Extract (liquefied kelp)
- Growmore Premium Orchid Food

We also discussed the three numbers on most orchid fertilizer labels, such as “20-20-20.” The first indicates nitrogen (for leaf growth)...second is phosphorous (for blooms)...third is potash (for roots).

A few more tips: Water first with plain water (preferably not tap water), then water again with fertilizer dissolved. That way the plant is more likely to retain the fertilizer nutrients. If you’re going to use tap water, check the pH balance of it...and let it sit overnight, so the chemicals in municipal water systems drop to the bottom of the container.

It was a lively discussion and lots of good advice was dispensed.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Thomas

Club Secretary

Pam Spencer, President