

March 2017 Newsletter

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New Mexico Orchid Guild Newsletter March 2017

Our next regular meeting will be:

March 12th at 1:00 PM

Albuquerque Garden Center
10120 Lomas Blvd NE
*(Just West of Eubank on the South Side of
Lomas in Los Altos Park)*

As usual, please bring something to share.
Cakes, cookies, and other snacks are
appreciated

Members are encouraged to wear their
membership badges



**Tom Mirenda (pictured above),
Orchid Collection Specialist,
Smithsonian Institution will
speak on "Orchid Innovations
of the Taiwanese"**

SPECIAL TIME 1:00 PM



Magnolia Mae McCracken born 2/14 and weighted 10lbs 2oz.

From the President's Desk:

March 2017

CONGRATULATIONS to Kelly and Steven McCracken on the birth of their daughter. Magnolia Mae McCracken was born on February 14th. Our newest member!

Thanks to all who participated in the February Oncidium plug meeting. We were expecting our supplier to send seedlings. Most plants had at least two pseudobulbs and are near blooming size. What a great inexpensive way to add to your collection.

We are so pleased to be able to present Tom Mirenda as our **March 12th** speaker. Tom is the Orchid Collection Specialist at the Smithsonian Institution.

He cares for and curates an extremely diverse collection of orchid species and hybrids from all over the world. His position includes developing and producing huge educational exhibits using the collection plants that last up to 4 months and are visited by hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Trained originally as a Marine Biologist, Tom made the switch to plants and orchids in his late 20's while living in Hawaii. Since then he has worked with orchids at NY Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden and an extensive private collection at Greentree Estate in Long Island. Tom was also the floor manager at the New York International Orchid Show for many years during this period.

For the last 6 years, Tom has contributed two columns each month for Orchids magazine and is developing a new book based on those writings. Tom travels frequently around the U.S. and internationally, making presentations to diverse audiences, from scientists to the general public, about orchid ecology, pollination biology, strategies for orchid conservation. He is passionate about seeking collaboration between the worlds of

Botanic Gardens, the hobbyist community, commercial growers and scientists to work together toward the goal of protecting orchids and their habitats.

PLEASE NOTE THIS MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 1;00 PM

AOS judge and NMOG member Karl Siegler will present our April 2nd meeting. Using plants brought for show and tell, Karl will discuss "what judges look for"

NOTE THIS MEETING IS THE FIRST SUNDAY IN APRIL.

NMOG Website: <http://www.nmorchidguild.org/>
American Orchid Society Website: <http://aos.org>

February Show and Tell Winners

Photos taken by Barb Beil



Advanced Division--First Place
Kelly McCracken *Masdevallia strobilii*



Advanced Division-- Second Place
Judith Richey
Dendrobium Aussie's Chip



Advanced Division - Third Place
Marlene Bachicha Roberts
Paph Hybrid
Judge Phillip 'Powdered Wig' x rothschildianum 'Dominant'



Intermediate Division-- First Place
Dendrobium Little Atro
Lisa Worumay Villanueva



Novice Division--First Place
Edith Iwan
NOID Dendrobium

Spots and Speckles

Fungal rot issues- Black rot and other fungal infections
Kelly McCracken

Fungal and Bacterial rots are by far the most pernicious type of spot to afflict orchids. Fungal and bacterial infections can kill a plant in just a few days!

Black rot (seen in the top two pictures), is caused by a few different types of fungus. Small spots quickly turn into large patches of black tissue, descending to the roots, until the plant is killed.

The fungus spores live in water, and when water is left on the leaves, these spores can get into plant tissues and cause the rot. Spores can attack anywhere on the plant, but I find with Cattleyas the rot usually hits at the base of the leaf where it attaches to the pseudobulb (top left photo). New growths and leads are also particularly susceptible. Plants can die quite quickly once infected and can also infect surrounding plants.

Many infections begin as a thumbnail sized squishy brown or brownish-green spot. These spots quickly grow and multiply. See the bottom two pictures for examples. This "soft rot" is bacterial rot. Treatments and causes are very much the same as with fungal infections.

To treat this type of spot, you must quickly cut away all infected tissue. Ensure that you are cutting away negative margins! If the rot goes all the way into the pseudobulbs, those will need to be removed too. Use sterile instruments and sterilize after you finish. You can also dab a bit of cinnamon on the cut plant tissue to prevent any further infection. Isolate and affected plants until infection is under control.

Prevention is probably the best medicine in the case of a plant with rot. In my experience, it kills plants so quickly, I've never managed to save one once infected (I grow very small plants, however). Fungus lives in water, so avoid leaving water on your plants leaves for long periods. Don't allow water to stay in the crowns of your plants. And most importantly, ensure your plants have proper air circulation and keep your grow space clean and free of plant debris. -Kelly





Classifieds

Email Kelly@dunnassoc.net to list orchids for sale or trade, orchid related items, or "In Search Of" posts

Winning Orchid
Tour

Panama
Colombia
Ecuador
Costa Rica

For More Info Visit:
http://jonahwinn.com/orchid_tours/
Or e-mail winn0044@gmail.com

ORCHID OF THE NIGHT

Joanne Bodin, a NMOG board member, has published her second novel, *Orchid of the Night*, a dark psychological thriller inspired by true events. **You are all**

invited to the book launch on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at Bookworks at 3pm.
The book is also available on Amazon.

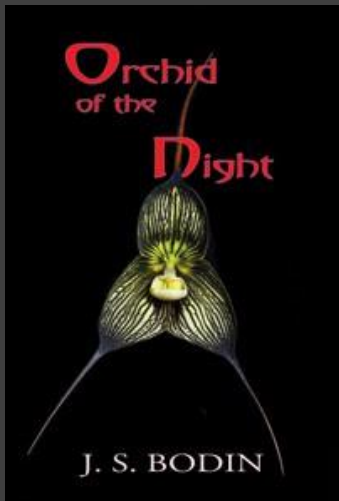
Kyle O'Sullivan's life begins to unravel when a terrible fire consumes his aunt's orchid estate on Maui destroying their livelihood, and killing his only living relative. Realizing that the fire was meant for him he must flee for his life. He moves to Tempe, Arizona, bringing the only orchid to survive the fire; the *Dracula vampira*. Finding solace in the gay community of Ixtlan, Kyle begins to heal from his troubled past, but even his new identity as Tom Tanner cannot protect him from his tragic fate.

Blurbs on the back cover of the book:

"Murders, assumed identities, a Yaqui medicine man, a gay commune in the desert, eerie dreams, a gold bracelet, and *Dracula vampira* orchids await the reader of *Orchid of the Night*. The two protagonists, Kyle O'Sullivan and Andy Gomez, become entangled in the secrets and lies of both gay and straight lives, each with their own abuses and duplicities. This novel is truly an exciting read." - *David Leon Higdon, Ph.D., Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of English at Texas Tech University and Honors Professor of English at the University of New Mexico.*

"Bodin seeds her characters with the kinds of unique, off-course experiences that make eccentric people magnetic. She relies on accurate research in areas like orchid discovery and Native American history to bring detail and credibility to the protean Kyle, leaving the reader drawn to his tales in fascination, yet suspicious of his identity-shifting ambitions." - *Gary Meyer, Ph.D., President of the Pleurothallid Alliance*

Learn more about this novel and other publications on Joanne's website: www.joannebodin.com



Orchid of the Night: a dark psychological thriller

www.joannebodin.com

Joanne Bodin, Ph.D., is an award-winning author, poet, and retired educator. Her novel, Walking Fish won the New Mexico and International Book Award in GLBT

**BOOKS WILL BE AVAILABLE
AT THE MARCH 12TH MEETING**



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