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THE ORCHID KEIKI

Newsletter of the Virginia Orchid Society
www.vaorchidsociety.org



“Evolution of LED lighting and Orchids”

A Zoom Presentation by Kelly McCracken of High Desert Orchids

Sunday, March 20 from 1 pm. to 5 pm.: Presentation at 2 pm.

This will be a live in-person zoom meeting at
Belmont Recreation Center

This presentation will help unravel the mystery of LED lights and how orchids grow under these lights. Kelly McCracken, owner of High Desert Orchids, started as an avid hobbyist, and like many of you, couldn't stop buying plants. Quickly one greenhouse became two, and now she grows plants in a unique 3,000 sq ft high-bay industrial warehouse space all under artificial lights. Kelly specializes in miniature plants, with a particular affection for miniature Cattleyas, Angraecoids, Jewel Orchids, and Dendrobiums.

<https://highdesertorchids.com>



All photos from High Desert Orchid's website

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Show Co-Chairs

President's Message

Kudos to the VOS!! What a successful VOS Annual Orchid Show after a year off and in a new, wonderful location!! Our members were awesome! Volunteers logged in 425 volunteer hours during the show and supported the event in numerous other ways, such as sponsoring an award, distribution of flyers and information, computer work, or simply encouraging others to attend. We appreciate all the efforts YOU made to make this event successful!!

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden was thrilled with the approximately 3600 attendees from Friday – Sunday. Our vendors were also thrilled with the sales. We will have a final count of the revenue from sales at our April meeting.

The Show Committee has already had a debriefing meeting and has begun to work on this event for next year. In the coming month, we will meet with LGBG staff to debrief the event and plan for next year. We know there are changes that we want to make for next year, but if you would like to provide some feedback to Irina ineverova@yahoo.ca, or myself in2gifted@gmail.com, please send us an email before March 30th.

We had a lot of individual votes for the People's Choice Award. The winner this year was Chadwick and Son Orchids display, Orchid Classics was a close second, and then the VOS display was third. Guests to our show seemed to enjoy this component of the event and we look forward to doing it again next year.

Again, a special "THANK YOU" for making this event so successful . . . we couldn't have done this without you!!

Sincerely,

Donna

From Show Co-Chair Irina:

It was a great weekend - perfect weather, successful show, happy attendees, vendors and VOS members. The details will follow up (as Donna already said) but at the moment lets enjoy the feeling of pulling such a big job all together as a team!

Thanks to all members who brought their plants for the display - it did make it wonderful. Actually so good, that beside the Show Trophies, AOS judges gave it a Silver Certificate with 88 points. That also means it will be nominated for Walter Off Award for an outstanding display of the year. Of course, a lot of bigger shows ahead throughout the country within this year, but it is still exciting news! Also huge "Thanks" to all VOS members who worked tirelessly at the Welcome tables and with the vendors to make everyone welcome and looked after. Thank you TEAM VOS!

Our Meeting Location!
Belmont Recreation Center
1600 Hilliard Road
Richmond, VA 23228



Covid-19 Compliance: Belmont's covid-19 restriction: **Wearing masks is required for all visitors in Henrico County facilities regardless of vaccination status, except when eating or drinking.** Thank you for helping us maintain the health and safety of our members, but please do not come if you feel ill. **And respect Belmont's rule that no money (cash, check, or charge) is permitted to change hands while on Belmont property.**