

January 11, 2026. OSGKC Meeting Minutes

2:20 The meeting was called to order by the president Anh Rongish. Thanks to Jeanne Smith for organizing hospitality, and thanks to everyone for bringing food.

Minutes from the December meeting were posted on the web site. Nancy Kasparek made a motion to approve, seconded by Jeanne Smith. Unanimously approved by all attending.



Committee Reports.

Upcoming Events.

Feb 1 at 7:30 pm EST Mid America Orchid Congress: Orchids of Madagascar. Link will be sent via zoom.

Beth Martin informed us that Jan 25 is the 8th Orchid Culture Day. "Step into the world of slippers" the cost is \$40. 11 am to 4 pm www.aos/culture-day.

Beth also congratulated Mark Prout who received an AOS award for his *Habenaria lindleyana* 'Mark's Joy'

Hospitality Committee.

Jeanne Smith asked members to sign up for food for upcoming meetings.

Conservation Committee.

Mike Rafferty discussed the conservation fund and our support of Powell Gardens "Orchid Delirium." He also talked about our group support for orchid research and conservation.

Additionally, Mike spoke about a long-time member of our group, Dr. Dan. Many members volunteered to help become 'foster plant parents.'

Library Committee.

Mark Clements reminded us that the light meter is available to check out. He also has some new books in our library for the beginner orchid grower and he's looking into some other new acquisitions for our library.

St Louis Show.

Crystal Remington informed us that the St Louis show will be held Jan 31 to Feb. 1. This will be a part of the St Louis Botanical Gardens Diamond Jubilee event, so it should be a very big show. Please register your plants by Jan. 27. March will be a big month for several other shows, which we will discuss further at the February meeting.



Treasures report.

Scott Howell told us that our income last year was \$3445.50. He will have more information at our February meeting.

Mentor Program.

Cindy Hobbs passed around a sign-up sheet asking members to mentor new members for one year. The program not only helps new members to learn about and grow orchids, but it also helps them feel welcome in our group.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cindy Hobbs informed us that the budget committee will be sending out information for discussion at the next meeting. She also told us that the auction is our primary source of income. We will be keeping the auction, bingo, and the plant sale as part of our program in 2026.

Mike Rafferty is looking into the cost of a larger storage unit. Cost to be approved by the members

Program:

Bill Thoms spoke to us about Bulbophyllums. Bill has won multiple AOS awards and his success with Bulbophyllums has been amazing. His primary secret is: More Water Slowly!

These orchids take in water slowly and need to be watered on all sides. They also need fresh air, good air flow, fertilizing “weakly weekly.” Bill recommends Epsom salts, 1 teaspoon per gallon, once a month to give your plants necessary magnesium.

