



Connecticut Orchid Society

Newsletter Apr. 2016

57 Years & Growing

The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Next Meeting

Wednesday, Apr. 13, 2016,

Farmington Senior Center

321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT

(See last pg. 7 for map & directions)

NOTE: Meeting in

Farmington Senior Center

ROOM C

6:30 pm.: Doors open. Socializing begins. Come early and help set-up for the meeting.

7:30 pm: Business meeting begins

8:00 pm: Featured speaker and/or presentation begins.

Members with last names beginning with "N" through "Z", please bring goodies for this month's refreshment table.



For notice of last-minute or inclement weather cancellation, visit our website www.ctorchids.org.

Connecticut Orchid Society (COS) is an incorporated non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization founded in 1959. Please consider making a charitable contribution to COS. Most donations made to COS are tax deductible.

This Month's Featured Event

Coelogyne, Dendrochilum and Related Genera. Learn About Their Culture Needs.

Presented by Marni Turkel

Marni Turkel (pronounced tur KELL) is a native of the San Francisco Bay area, and has been growing orchids since 1980. She has approx. 1,000 sq. ft of growing space in three greenhouses in Santa Rosa. Her main interest is in cool-growing, miniature species but plenty of larger plants have crept into her collection, as well.

Marni has been a contributor to *Orchids* magazine with a series called 'Well Worth the Space' and 'Give It a Rest'. Her articles have been translated into Dutch, German, Portuguese and Swedish for international publications. Photographs of her plants have also been featured in articles in noted orchid publications, including *Orchids* magazine, *Orchid Digest*, *Richardiana*, *The Orchid Review*, and *The Australian Orchid Review*. For the last few years, she has been sharing her photographs and knowledge on OrchidsForum.com

Please join me in welcoming Marni back to COS. It has been several years since she last spoke at one of our meetings, so she has lots of new thoughts & ideas to share with us.

Inside this Issue

Apr. 2016 Volume LVII Issue V

Regular Features

Next meeting1
This Month's Featured Event.....1
COS Mission Statement1
Coming Events, Mentor List2
Monthly Meeting Minutes.....3
Monthly Show Table Listing.....3
President's Monthly Message.....4
News, Notes & Happenings.....4
Month-By-Month Checklist-April.....4-7
Library: News from the catts5
Tips & Tricks.....5
Hollandia Nurseries Spring Garden Expo Sale Flier.....6
Map &/or Directions to Mtg. Location.....7

The deadline for submissions to the May issue of the newsletter is Apr. 23rd.

Join us on Facebook



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Connecticut Orchid Society Mission Statement

The Connecticut Orchid Society is an incorporated, non-profit association for the preservation and extension of knowledge concerning the conservation, ecology, science, cultivation, hybridization, appreciation and uses of orchids; and to carry on such activities as may be necessary or desirable to effectuate such purposes.

2016 Connecticut Orchid Society Officers & Posts

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WEB MASTER	Mary Rampone	(203) 263-2831

Mentor List



The following COS members are available to answer your culture questions and help you with any orchid growing problems you may have:

Judy Becker judybecker40@att.net (860) 435-2263 (8:00--8:00 pm) Greenhouse growing methods: Wide variety of species & hybrids

Sam Hinckley samuelhinckley@comcast.net (860) 688-0943 (After 7:30 pm) Windowsill growing methods: Species & hybrids

Glenn McGeough mcgeough7@gmail.com (203) 482-3973. Specializing in Cattleyas.

Jeffrey Richards jeffrey.richards@snet.net (Contact anytime). Greenhouse growing methods: Specializing in Paphiopedilums.

Sharon SmithDelisle editor@ctorchids.org (203) 744-1849 (Contact anytime) Under lights & windowsill growing methods: Bulbophylums, Cymbidiums, Dendrobiums, Paphiopedilums, Miltoniopsis & mixed genera.

David Tognalli dtog54@sbcglobal.net (860) 521-7249 (Contact evenings & weekends) Windowsill & outdoor growing methods: Warm growers, Cattleyas, Dendrobiums & mixed genera.

COS Membership Information : \$20/yr. Individual \$25/yr. Family \$200 Individual or \$250 Family Lifetime Membership (never pay dues again!) Visit www.ctorchids.org to apply for/renew membership. We accept Paypal. Contact Membership Chairperson Mary Rampone at www.COSMembership@earthlink.net for more details.

Membership Policy Membership is open to anyone interested in orchids. Members join the Society by payment of annual dues. Memberships may be individual, student, family, life or honorary. Honorary membership is for life and is made by nomination of the Board of Directors and majority vote of the membership present at a regular meeting. The newsletter is published each month except July and August. Annual membership includes electronic delivery of the newsletter.

Upcoming Events



Apr. 13 Connecticut Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT 7:00 pm,

Marni Turkel will give a presentation on *Coelogyne, Dendrochilum & Related Genera.*

Apr. 16 AOS Judging: Northeast Judging Center, Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens, Silver Educational Center, 151 Brookdale Rd., Stamford, CT, 12:00 pm. Send cut flowers to: John Sullivan, 299 Village Place, Wyckoff, NJ 07481

Apr. 9-10 Hollandia Nursery Annual Spring Garden Expo, Bethel, CT, 9-5 pm. COS will have a sale table, and conduct talks during this event.

May. 11 Connecticut Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Cheshire Senior Center, 240 Maple Ave., Cheshire, CT, 7:00 pm, TBA

May. 21 AOS Judging: Northeast Judging Center, Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens, Silver Educational Center, 151 Brookdale Rd., Stamford, CT, 12:00 pm. Send cut flowers to: John Sullivan, 299 Village Place, Wyckoff, NJ 07481



**Mark your calendar!
This year we are having a
meeting in July.**

**July 13, 2016
Farmington Senior Center**

Ten Shin Gardens Co., Ltd.

Topic to be announced.

Please visit www.tenshinorchids.com to see the vast listing of orchids offered by this company.

This is a special treat not to be missed. There will be more details in future newsletters.

Content Acknowledgement All information, opinions, reporting and recommendations that appear in this newsletter are those of the editor (unless otherwise noted) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Connecticut Orchid Society. The editor is deeply indebted to the American Orchid Society for the free reprinting of articles, photos, tips & tricks, advice, checklists, etc. from its monthly magazine *Orchids* without which the COS newsletter, and its membership would be the poorer.

Meeting Minutes

Tom Russell & Carla Koch, Co-recording Secretaries

Minutes of the March 9, 2016 Monthly Meeting

Jeff Richards gave a talk on paphs, which he specializes in, and he also looked at arguments for the divine creation of orchids. Jeff has bred them, and registered them with the RHS (Royal Horticultural Society), which he says costs \$17.

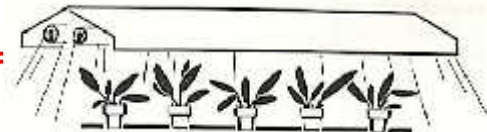
The natural history explanation for orchids is that things began with the Big Bang and evolved from there; creationists simply believe that God created all the diverse ladyslippers. Jeff noted that even the AOS president made reference to God's creation.

All orchids, including slipper orchids need mycorrhiza fungus to germinate their seeds. This type of germination is based on a symbiotic relationship between the orchid seed and the fungus. The fungus provides the seed with the necessary nutrients to germinate and grow. There is some controversy about what the orchid may or may not provide the fungus in return. Once germination has been initiated, the seed progresses to the protocorm stage. A protocorm is a mass of growing embryonic cells. Later, when the mass of growing cells differentiate into small orchid plants, they are put into flasks, and then finally into a compot. A 'compot' is a community pot containing 15 to 30 seedlings. The plants generally remain in this pot approx. one year until they are large enough to be transplanted into individual pots.

There are five major kinds of slippers: Paphiopedilums (Asian tropical), Phragmipediums (South American tropical), Cypripediums (temperate terrestrials), Selenipediums (South American tropical), and finally Mexipediums (Mexican xerophytic tropical). Of these, there are 110 paph. species, hybridized into such delights as Watercolor Artist, AM/AOS. Environment, genes, and some would say—happenstance—'modify' orchids, but not as much as one would imagine. Some scientists do question the present model of evolution,

and this has been further complicated by very little direct evidence of fossilized orchids. This is due to the concentration of orchids in tropical areas where heat and humidity prevent fossilization. While orchids require very specific pollinators, gene differences between orchid species are slight.

Jeff showed several slippers, such as the famous green *Maudiae Magnificum*, and some of his hybrids, such as Dark Water, which have graced our show tables in the past.
~ Carla Koch



March Show Table —

Prepared by Dave Tognalli

<u>Genus/Parentage</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Culture</u>
<i>Cattleya</i> hybrid ig.	M. Sabolcik	w, g
<i>Cattleya trianae</i> alba 'Aranka Germaske' FCC/AOS	G. McGeough	i, l
<i>Cattleya trianae</i> 'Cashen's' FCC/AOS	G. McGeough	i, g
<i>Cattleya trianae</i> 'The President' FCC/AOS	G. McGeough	i, g
<i>Cattlianthe</i> Orglade's Spotlite syn. <i>Sophrolaeliocattleya</i> (Gold Digger x Hazel Boyd 'Elizabeth' AM/AOS)	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Cymbidium</i> Star of Bethlehem	C. Koch	c, g
<i>Dendrobium</i> Delicatum (<i>kingianum</i> x <i>speciosum</i>)	C. Koch	c, g
<i>Dendrobium</i> Roy Tokunaga	M. Sabolcik	w, g
<i>Iwanagaara</i> Apple Blossom 'Green Elf'	M. Sabolcik	w, g
<i>Leptotes pohlitinocoi</i>	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Lysudamuloa</i> Red Jewel	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Macabre 'Dark Trails' x (Sandhill x Legacy 'Super Bowl')	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum</i> (<i>spicerianum</i> 'Taiwan Joy' x <i>spicerianum</i> 'Fat Boy')	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> William Ambler (<i>rothschildianum</i> 'Walla Walla' x <i>wilhelminae</i> 'Magic Gift')	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Phaius tankervillae</i>	M. Sabolcik	w, g
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Kaoda Twinkle 'Chocolate Drop' (<i>schilleriana</i> x Malvarosa 'Valentine Pearl')	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Taiwan Red Cat 'Red Cat'	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Physosiphon tubatus</i>	D. Tognalli	i, w

Culture is as noted: c – cool i – intermediate w – warm
g – greenhouse ws – windowsill l – lights

News, Notes & Happenings

Judy Arth to take over treasurer's job until next election

Treasurer Sherry Pendleton and her husband Bill have recently moved out of the area. Judy Arth has volunteered to take over the duties of treasurer until our next election of officers in December.

Sherry and Bill will be sorely missed as they both were huge contributors to the day-to-day operations of COS. We thank them for all of their hard work and countless hours volunteering, and we wish them well in their new home. But we didn't envy Bill's job getting all of his magnificent orchids moved to the new house!

Many thanks to Judy for making room in her busy schedule to take over the treasurer's duties, again.

Hollandia Nurseries 25th Annual Spring Garden Expo, Bethel, CT, April 2 –10, 2016

COS will have a sale table at the Hollandia Nurseries garden expo this year on the weekend of April 9 & 10. The following members have volunteered to staff the sale table, talk orchids with customers, answer culture questions and be ambassadors for COS and orchids. Sharon SmithDelisle will give a repotting demo on Saturday and Cheryl Mizak will give a basic orchid growing lecture on Sunday.

- Glen McGeough
- Bill Mitchell
- Jan Lesnikowski
- Sue Kennedy
- Roseann Adams
- Debby Todd
- Tom Russell
- Cheryl Mizak
- Sharon SmithDelisle

Many thanks to all of these volunteers! As always, we couldn't be a success without your help.

President's Message



Cheryl Mizak

Hi Everyone –

Happy Spring!

Finally, oh, so many orchids in bloom in the greenhouse. The rewards of blooming orchids are great.

It is always fun this time of year to see, smell and enjoy the lovely flowers. They are, as well as I am, looking forward to going out-side for the summer. Care is so much easier and faster when they are outdoors.

Don't forget our spring outreach event at Hollandia Nursery in Bethel, CT. COS will be there Saturday, April 9th & Sunday, April 10th from 9 – 5. We could use a little extra help on Saturday. If anyone has a little spare time to donate, please let me know. Besides the great spring sales at Hollandia, COS will also be offering a nice selection of orchids for sale at our club table. On Saturday, COS will hold a repotting demo, and on Sunday, a basic orchid growing talk with Q & A.

Marni Turkel will be our speaker this month in Farmington. Her topic is *Coelogyne, Dendrochilum and Related Genera: Learn Their Cultural Needs*. Marni is also bringing plants for sale.

See everyone in Farmington.

— Cheryl



Month-by-Month Checklist

By Robert M. Scully, Jr.

April

Cattleya aclandiae and ***Cattleya forbesii*** produce flowers in the first half of the month that usually last for weeks. ***Cattleya mossiae*** and its hybrids, well-known for their spectacular, long-lasting heads of 6-inch, fragrant blossoms, flower later, sometimes in May. These make excellent cut flowers.



Cattleya aclandiae

Photo credit: Orchids Limited
www.orchidweb.com

Con't. on pg.

Library

News from the Catts
hiding in the stacks



“A Handy Guide to Things You May or May Not Have Known About Growing Orchids”

(Supplement To Orchids —
The Bulletin Of The American Orchid Society November 2015)

This edition of the [AOS Supplement To Orchids](#) contains much useful and practical information for growers. There are excellent articles about essential tools needed to grow your orchids well, discussion about the various types of orchid mixes including the potting recipes of well-known orchid growers, methods of flasking in your own home environment, and the ten signs that your orchids are happy. This supplement is available through the COS library. Please contact librarian Sharon SmithDelisle if you would like to borrow this book at coseditor@hotmail.com.



Home Orchid Growing

By Rebecca Tyson Northern

An excellent resource to growers of all levels, Rebecca Northern is a highly respected author and orchid grower. This 3rd edition of her book covers all aspects of orchid growing with special attention to Cattleyas. She also covers

eight other tribes of orchids, culture, potting, flasking, nutrition, pests & diseases. There are numerous color photos of blooming orchids and b & w photos describing various housekeeping chores such as transplanting.

If you're looking for a good read that will give you plenty of practical information, without overwhelming you with technical details, contact librarian Sharon SmithDelisle (coseditor@hotmail.com).

Tips



Tricks

&

Top Ten Signs That Your Orchids Are Happy

By Sue Bottom

— Reprinted from *Orchids Supplement To November 2015*, www.AOS.ORG

Your orchids are happy if:

- 1) You can pick up plant by the vegetation and the pot doesn't fall away.
- 2) The newest growth is larger than the prior growth.
- 3) Leaves are thick and turgid.
- 4) Pseudobulbs and canes are plump.
- 5) Plants in growth show long green root tips.
- 6) Plants are flush with new growth trying to jump out of the pot.
- 7) You get multiple bloom spikes.
- 8) Your orchids don't complain about being hungry.
- 9) There's "No Vacancy" for disease and pests.
- 10) All your friends want divisions.

Read the entire article in the AOS Supplement to Orchids, November 2015, pg. 2 –3. See librarian Sharon SmithDelisle to borrow this book.

(Monthly Checklist—April, con't from pg. 4)



Cattleya forbesii

Photo credit: orchid green-drop-home.com



Cattleya mossiae

Photo credit: orchidweb.com



New shoots and roots on cattleyas signal it is time to repot. Perform the job before the roots are as long as those shown here to avoid snapping off the brittle green root tips.

■ Begin repotting this month by shifting and dividing (if necessary) those cattleyas that flowered earlier this year and are beginning to produce new growth. Repot only when the new growth is emerging to take advantage of the plant's tendency to make new roots when it is forming new pseudobulbs. Fertilize twice a month; with longer days and warmer temperatures, the plants can use more food.

■ *Encyclia cordigera* (syn. *Epidendrum atropurpureum*) should be blooming profusely.

Con't on pg. 6

Photo credit: *Month-by-Month Checklist*, by Robert M. Scully, Jr., pg. 94, *Growing Orchids, A Cultural Handbook Prepared by the American Orchid Society, 1993 Revised Edition*



The spicy fragrance will last for several weeks. *Encyclia cordigera* makes an excellent specimen. Consider shifting

Encyclia cordigera
Photo credit: orchidswikia.com

this epiphyte to a log cabin-style wood basket

when flowering is completed.

Laelia cinnabarina, *Laelia flava*, *Laelia harpophylla* and perhaps *Laelia milleri* will flower this month. When blooming ceases, shift the plants to a larger pot. All of these rupicolous (living or growing on, or among rocks) laelias need to have their roots in a cool medium. Consider using clay pots for the evaporative cooling effect that results when they are drying after a thorough watering.



Laelia cinnabarina
Photo credit: bbiais.free.fr

Inspect the flower stems of *Phalaenopsis* for scale. Look for signs of a honey-like substance at the nodes and also on the back sides of the flowers; these are the favorite haunts for armored and soft scale. If these pests are present, you may spot-treat with an alcohol swab or wipe on a light application of an insecticidal soap; again, it is not advisable to spray when the flowers are open or damage may result. Check the undersides of the leaves for scale or developing mite infestations near the mid-vein. The scale may be treated as suggested above. For mites, however, application of a carefully directed miticide spray may be necessary to halt the increasing population.

Con't on pg. 7

Hollandia Nursery
Annual Spring Garden Expo
April 9-10, 2016
www.hollandianurseryct.com

25th Annual Spring Garden Expo
April 2—April 10: Our 2016 Spring Garden Expo brings you everything you need to get your outdoors ready for the spring. We have lots of great classes, demonstrations and workshops planned. Visit with key vendors onsite to see the latest gardening products and answer your questions.

SEASON KICK-OFF SALE: 20% OFF*
Get 20% off all in-stock merchandise during the Spring Garden Expo (April 2-10, 2016)

* Offer excludes bulk items, installation, delivery, gift certificates, custom orders, and Jonathan Green Products. Not valid on previously purchased merchandise. No Rain Checks. Not to be combined with other coupons. While supplies last. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Offer valid April 2—April 10, 2016.

Maintain a monthly fertilizer schedule for flowering plants. Fertilize more often as new leaves emerge.

(Reprinted from *Growing Orchids, A Cultural Handbook Prepared by the American Orchid Society, 1993 Revised Edition, "Month-By-Month Checklist" By Robert M. Scully, Jr., pgs. 93-94*)

Directions to Farmington Senior Center 321 New Britain Avenue, Unionville, CT

From the North or East: Take I-84 west from Hartford to exit 38 (Rt. 6). Proceed west. Turn right onto New Britain Ave. Farmington Senior Center is at 321 New Britain Avenue next to the police station.

From the South: Take Rt. 9 north to I-84 west. Proceed as above.

From the West: Take I-84 east to exit 37 (Fienemann Rd.). Turn left on Fienemann Rd., go over the highway, then turn left onto Rt. 6. Follow Rt. 6 west. Turn right onto New Britain Ave. Farmington Senior Center is at 321 New Britain Ave. next to the police station.

