



Connecticut Orchid Society

Newsletter Feb 2015

56 Years & Growing

The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Next Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2015, 7:00 pm
Farmington Senior Center
321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT
(See last pg. 10 for map & directions)

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

7:00 pm: Business meeting begins

7:30 pm: Featured speaker/presentation begins.

This Month's Featured Event

Round Robin Growing Discussion



Find out how other members grow their orchids.

Learn about alternative growing media, see some mounting techniques.



Join in with your questions & ideas.



Questions about your own plant? Bring it to the meeting.



Presented by several of our more experienced member growers including Carla Koch, Bill Pendleton, George (Monty) Sabolcik & Dave Tognalli.



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



Reminder!

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

Join us on Facebook



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.

2015 Connecticut Orchid Society Officers & Posts

PRESIDENT	Cheryl Mizak	(203) 264-6096
VICE-PRESIDENT	George Sabolic	msabocik@cjr youth.org
TREASURER	Sherry Pendleton	(203) 272-3498
DIRECTOR -AT- LARGE	Ben Esselink	(203) 222-1694
DIRECTOR -AT- LARGE	William Pendleton	(203) 272-3498
RECORDING SECRETARY	Carla Koch	(203) 272-8121
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON	Mary Rampone	(203) 263-2831
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Sharon SmithDelisle	(203) 744-1849
EDITOR, LIBRARIAN/HISTORIAN	Sharon SmithDelisle	
AOS REPRESENTATIVE	Judy Becker	(860) 435-2263
CONSERVATION CHAIRPERSON	Vacant	—
SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR	Cheryl Mizak	(203) 264-6096
REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE	Vacant	—
WEB MASTER	Vacant	—

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 subscription to the newsletter — electronic or paper copy as determined by member preference.

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

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.

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

Upcoming Events



Feb. 5—8 Deep Cut Orchid Society 17th Annual Winter Sale, Dearborn Market, 2170 Rt. 35, Holmdel Twp., NJ. FREE ADMISSION. Thurs., Fri., Sat. 9–6 pm, Sun. 9–4:30 pm

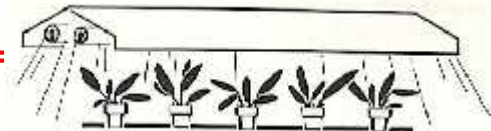
- Feb. 7 AOS Judging, Northeast Judging Center, Town Hill Botanic Gardens of Worcester, 11 French Dr., Classroom C, Boylston, MA, 1:00 pm. Send cut flowers to: Robert Winkley, 80 Florida St., Unit 9, Dorchester, MA 02124.**
- Feb. 11 COS Monthly Meeting, 7:30 pm, Round Table Discussion Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT**
- Feb. 13-15 New Hampshire Orchid Society Orchid Fantasy Escape 24th Annual Show and Sale, Radison Hotel, Nashua, NH. Fri. 1–7:00 pm, Sat. 9–5:00 pm, Sun. 9–4:00 pm. www.nhorchids.org for more details.**
- Feb. 15 Amherst Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Munson Memorial Library, 1046 South East St., Amherst, MA, 2:00 pm.**
- Feb. 19—22 Connecticut Flower & Garden Show, The Spirit of Spring, 34th Annual Show & Sale, Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT. Thurs. 10–7pm, Fri. & Sat. 10–8pm, Sun. 10–5pm.**
- Feb. 21 AOS Judging, Northeast Judging Center, Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens, Silver Educational Center, 151 Brookdale Rd., Stamford, CT, 12:00 pm. Chair John Sullivan 201-835-0113 or johndsullivan@optonline.net. Send cut flowers to: John Sullivan, 299 Village Place, Wyckoff, NJ 07481.**
- Feb. 21—22 Amherst Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale, Smith Vocational High School, 80 Locust St. (Rt.9), Northampton, MA. Admission \$5.00, children under 12 free. Sat. 9-5pm, Sun. 10–4 pm. Contact Marc Gray at bulbophyl-lum@myfairpoint.net for more details.**

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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.



January Show Table



January Meeting Minutes

Carla Koch
Recording Secretary

Genus/Parentage	Owner	Culture
<i>Cattlianthe</i> Gold Digger Syn. Lc. (Red Gold x Warpaint)	W. Wilson	i,w

COS MEETING 1-14-15

Joanna Eckstrom spoke on Orchid Mermaids, aka Vandas, which prefer “the sun on their faces, wind in their hair, and lapping waves at their feet.” These southeastern Asian plants prefer 10-12 hours of daylight and temps from 65-80 F. In practice, though, she keeps them at 55 F overnight in New Hampshire. Warm water is preferred, and 60 to 80 percent humidity.

Sir William Jones named them in 1795: monopodial plants having a central stalk, with inflorescences in their leaf axils. Some examples of this group, now technically including such other species as *Neofinetia*, *Ascocentrum* and *Rhynchostylis*, are the tiny *Ascocentrum pumilum*, the blue (ish), cool-growing *Vanda coerulea*, and the spectacular *Vanda sanderiana*.

Joanna loves *V. tessellata* hybrids for their sunny yellows. She showed hybrids such as *Ascda*. (now *Vanda*) Blue Tahourdin ‘Bronze Grape,’ and Chiangmai ‘Thailand.’

Some grow these plants under a high-light lamp, giving them 11 hour days. However, they can burn if not adapted slowly to sun in the spring. Joanna drenches them and then lets them dry out. Balanced fertilizers, with nitrates for the nitrogen component rather than urea, are preferred. Calcium, cal-mag, and calplus help with root development.

- Carla Koch



***Cattlianthe* Molly Tyler FCC/RHS B. Esselink , i,g
(Ctt. Mrs. W. N. Elkins x C. Leda) Syn. Lc.**



***Cymbidium* hybridum ign. 'Dave Tognalli' B. Esselink , i,g**

<i>Dendrobium</i> Spring Bird 'Kurashiki' (Demitasse x Sweet Love)	D. Tognalli	i,w
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(Show Table con't on next pg.)



Dendrobium Yellow Chinsai 'Little Joe' D. Tognalli i,w
(Chinsai x heterocarpum)

Dendrobium hybridum ign. B. Esselink i,g

Dendrobium phal. hybridum ign. G. Sabolcik w, w&g

Gastrochilus bellinus R. Schwartz i,w

Mormodes skinneri R. Schwartz i,w

Oncidium hybridum ign. 'Rhadamaker' G. Sabolcik w, w&g

Oncostele Wildcat 'Yellow Butterfly' B. Esselink i,g

Paphiopedilum malipoense G. Sabolcik i, w&g

Paphiopedilum Pink Fred R. Schwartz i,w
(Fair Fred x primulinum)



Paphiopedilum hybrid display J. Richards c,w
(Tombola x Ravenstart) plus others



Phaioalanthe Kryptonite (mislabelled *Phaius tankervilleae*)
(*Cal.* Rozel x *Phaius tankervilleae*) G. Sabolcik w,g



Phalaenopsis Taida Pearl '0771' W. Wilson i,w&l
(Ching Hua Spring x Sogo Davis)

Phalaenopsis hybridum ign. C. Sabolcik i,w

Rhyncholaeliocattleya Gene Crocker D. Tognalli i,w
(C. Newberry Promise x *Rlc.* Newberry Delight)

Rhyncholaeliocattleya Goldenzelle 'Promised Land' AM/AOS
(*Rlc.* Fortune x C. Horace) D. Tognalli i,w

Rhyncholaeliocattleya Marlene Lindquist 'Orange Delight' AM/
AOS
(Classy Lady x George King) Syn. *Pot.* D. Tognalli i,w

The monthly Show Table list is researched and prepared by AOS Accredited Judge, and COS Honorary Life Member Judy Becker. Any photos included with the Show Table plants were taken by the editor Sharon SmithDelisle.



Judy Becker

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



**Errata
& Corrections**

- In the Jan. 2015 edition of the newsletter, our new Treasurer's last name was misspelled. Please note that Sherry's last name is spelled Pendleton. The editor apologizes for this error.
- In the Coming Events section of the Jan. 2015 newsletter the AOS Judging Northeast Judging Center was listed as meeting twice in the month of January at the Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens, Stamford, CT. Please note that the AOS Judging Northeast Judging Center meets only once a month at the Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens on the third Saturday of the month. However, the Judging Center also meets on the first Saturday of each month at the Town Hill Botanic Gardens of Worcester, Boylston, MA. Your editor apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.

**President's
Message**



Cheryl Mizak

Hello

Brrr --- it's cold outside; winter has finally arrived but the days are already getting longer. The good news is spring is only 2 months away!

February is one of the busiest months for COS. We thank everyone for pitching in. Bill & Sherry brought back a nice group of ribbons from the CAIOS show. Congrats to everyone who had winning plants.

We are still in need of some help setting up for the New Hampshire show, Thurs., February 12. Please let one of us know if you can help out. The following week is the Amherst show, which Dave & Monty will be setting up. We will need to borrow members blooming plants for both shows. Plants can be left at the February meeting as the Amherst show set up is the following day.

Don't forget to sign up for a shift at the Connecticut Flower Show. There are still a couple of openings. You will have a badge for comple-

News, Notes & Happenings

Cape and Islands 26th Annual Orchid Show & Sale, Orchid Bridges Jan. 24-25 §



Our display at the CAIOS show, which was set-up and taken down by Bill and Sherry Pendleton

The following is an excerpt from an article by Mary Ann Bragg, which appeared in the Cape Cod Times on Jan. 25th.:
 "HYANNIS — Bill Pendleton of Cheshire, Connecticut, was once a cable and wiring factory manager. In retirement, though, he's all about orchids.

"Knowing when to water is probably the single most difficult aspect of learning to grow orchids."

—Duane McDowell
 "at home with PHALAENOPSIS"
 AOS Bulletin, Feb. 1992

Don't Forget...



**Dues are Due!!
 Last chance!
 Renew now or lose out on
 all the latest news!!!**

mentary entry to the flower show and parking across the street is only \$5.00 for the day.

By-the-way, it's time to renew your annual dues. If you forgot to pay your dues this is a gentle reminder: NO dues NO news.

This month in Farmington we will be having a round robin growing discussion session. Dave, Monty, Bill & Carla will take lead talking about the growing media they have success with, different mounting techniques and their conditions.

Have questions? Bring a plant for discussion. This meeting is sure to be a great learning tool.



—cheryl

"I was desperate when I retired," Pendleton said Saturday at the Cape & Islands Orchid Society's 26th annual show at the Resort & Conference Center at Hayannis. "I was kind of interested. I took a couple classes. Then it went crazy. I have 200 plants now."

Pendleton, a member of the 120-person Connecticut Orchid Society, and his wife Sherry, were among the 1,000 to 1,500 people expected Saturday at the show, which continues today.

In the double conference rooms on Saturday, admirers of the roughly 10,000 orchids on display paused to take close-up photographs at one display, then another and another. Pendleton's blossoming *Dendrobium Hibiki* "Pink Elephants" was drawing some attention, given its reputation for rarely (con't. on pg. 6)

(News, Notes & Happenings con't from prev. pg)
Producing a flower. "It's an interesting plant," Pendleton said modestly."



CAIOS 2015 Show floor display

Members who received ribbon awards at the show:

- Paph Hybrid primary/near primary – green yellow Cheryl Mizak, 2nd place ribbon
Paph Oberhausen's Diamant primulinum x sanderianum
- Paph Hybrid primary/near primary – vinicolor Cheryl Mizak, 3rd place ribbon
Paph Hsinying Web x Hampshire Raven
- Dendrobium Hybrid Nobile type Ben Esselink 2nd place ribbon
Dendrobium ign.
- Dendrobium Hybrid Phalaenopsis C. Sabolcik (Monty), 2nd place ribbon.
Dendrobium ign.
- Dendrobium Hybrids – other Bill Pendleton, 3rd place ribbon
Dendrobium Hibiki 'Pink Elephants' (bracteosum x laevifolium)



- Above: Misc. Bletia etc. Charles Sabolcik(Monty) 1st place ribbon
Phaius tankervillae
- Misc. Terrestrials Cheryl Mizak, 1st place ribbon
Stenorhynchos speciosa

Congratulations to all the winners!!!

(Con't pg. 9)



The February 2015 AOS Corner- From the desk of Laura Newton, Membership and Affiliated Societies Chair

The **Webinar** for this month:

February 25, 2015, 8:30 PM EST

Harry Gallis, Accredited AOS Judge and Board of Trustees Vice President will present, **Demystifying AOS Judging: What are those Judges Looking For?**

Dr. Harry Gallis has been growing orchids since 1980, and currently has about 380 plants. The largest groups are Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, and Dendrobiums, the latter being his current passion. His plants have received 41 AOS awards and, says Harry, "I very much enjoy growing plants for shows and awards." He entered the AOS judging program in 1991, and is an Accredited Judge and Past Chair of the Carolinas Judging Center in Greensboro, NC. In 1999, he was asked to take on the position of national training coordinator for AOS judges. He served as Chair of the Judging Committee for two years. Harry knows lots about judging; getting plants awarded, and will help us all understand what the judges want and how we might get one of those awards.

If you are already an AOS member, sign up for the webinars today on our website www.aos.org. If you are not yet a member, now is the time to become one and start enjoying all the many benefits of membership!

The **webinar lineup** for the next four months:

March- Ron McHatton, *Those Pesky Diseases*

April- Greg Allikas, *Cattleya lueddemanniana*

May- John Salventi, *The How and Why of Fertilizer*

June- Peter Lin, *Novelty Phalaenopsis Breeding*

In the **February 2015** issue of **Orchids**, there are articles about so many diverse genera:

v **Cattleyas:**

- o *C. lueddemanniana*, by Michael Sinn
- o *C. maxima*, by Clare and Johan Hermans
- o *C. Betty Ford*, by Arthur and A.A. Chadwick

v *Rhynchostylis* by Peggy Alrich and Wes Higgins, describes this small genus and their powerfully scented flowers.

v **Orchids of Mexico**, by T.J Hartung is a fascinating look at Epidendrums, Oncidium, Trichocentrum, Rhynchostelea, Prosthechea, Lycastes, Isochilus and Mormodes. It is jam-packed with great cultural information. I've never seen anything like Prosthechea guttata, with the unusual spines on the backs of the flowers!

v *Bletilla*, by Hideka Kobayashi and Tony Avent, introduces us to this genus and the breeding trends of these interestingly keeled lips.

v **Great Ideas**, by Ed Wright and Bill Tippit, shows us how to increase our growing space by using vinyl guttering.

The **AOS Spring Members Meeting** will be held in Portland, Oregon and hosted by the Portland and Cherry City Orchid Societies, April 29th thru May 3rd at the Lloyd Center Doubletree. Check out all the details at the website <http://www.portlandorchidsociety.org/calendar/2015AOS.php>

Show Season is coming into full swing; check out all the great shows coming up, under the events and news tab on the website, or by this link <http://aos.org/Default.aspx?id=512> Shows are a great place to see new and interesting Orchids and also a great place to get information from the vendors about plants that you already have in your collection.

Let's grow together,

Laura Newton



Beginner's Corner

Editor's note: These columns were written by our previous editor Larry Kuekes and were run quite regularly over the past years. Larry's perspective is refreshing and some of our new members may welcome this introductory advice.



Larry Kuekes

What Is a Species?

You may have heard that the orchid family has more species than any other family of plants (most sources cite over 20,000). Even more impressive, over 150,000 orchid hybrids have been made to date, with more on the way. But what exactly is the difference between a species and a hybrid?

A species is a variety of plant or animal that originally lived in the wild and was not produced artificially by man. A hybrid is a variety that was produced by crossing different species, and is almost always man-made (out of the 150,000 orchid hybrids, only a handful occurred naturally). That is, a hybrid has two or more different species in its ancestry. A species only has the same single species in its ancestry.

Another definition of species is one that I remember learning in school: a group of organisms that are capable of interbreeding. For example, a horse and a dog can't produce offspring, but a pit bull and a poodle can, which proves they're the same species.

That definition works fine for animals, but not so well for plants, and definitely not for orchids. Different orchid species are routinely crossed – that's what hybridizing is all about. For example, all the hundreds of orchids in the Cattleya alliance, containing all the Cattleyas, Laelias, Encyclias, Epidendrums, Brassavolas, etc., can interbreed with each other.

A better definition of species is not a group of organisms that can't interbreed, but that don't interbreed in nature. Why not? For orchids, perhaps they live in different geographical areas, or they bloom at different times of the year, or they attract different insects as pollinators, so the pollen of one species never finds its way to the other species.

Of course, in the greenhouse these barriers don't exist. So, for example, a hybridizer can cross *Brassavola nodosa* (from the Caribbean) with *Laelia purpurata* (from Brazil) and produce the lovely hybrid *Bl. Morning*

Glory. And aren't we lucky that they can?

—By Larry Kuekes

(Editor's note: This is a new Beginner's Column article, which first appeared in the Hilo Orchid Society's Newsletter, Jan. 2015)



Bl. Morning Glory, a hybrid cross of two species

Tips

Tricks

&

Proper Staking Of Phalaenopsis

Late winter is the prime season for standard, or "traditional" phalaenopsis. Their best and largest spikes come at this season for peak display beginning in late March through April into May. Proper staking of the spikes will ensure that the flowers are displayed at their best, as well as guaranteeing that the spike has the support it needs to prevent kinking under the weight of the flowers.

Many growers insert a wire or bamboo stake into the container as soon as the spike is seen. This makes it easier to remember to tie up the spike as it elongates, and it gives the promise of the many spikes to come in your growing area. The spikes should be supported along their length about every 12 inches, until the first bud is seen, where the last tie should be.

(Con't. on pg. 8)



Checklistfebruary

By Robert M. Scully

Severe winter conditions have usually affected a large portion of the United States by February. But most growers have protected their orchids and companion plants from the harsh cold, either by bringing their horticultural treasures indoors for a few nights or by virtue of cultivating plants in the home, basement or greenhouse in the first place. It is very important that you observe your plants for signs of disease and insects. Both of these can develop quickly in the protected environment while you are preoccupied with the temperatures conditions outside. Do not overlook companion plants, such as ferns and aroids; they often provide cover for insect populations that may spread to orchids.

In addition, give careful attention to humidity conditions; too often, growers fail to provide adequate moisture in the heated air, leading to dehydration of plants and reduced flower life. Avoid having heated or air-conditioned drafts blowing directly on your orchids, whether they are in the growing area or in the home or office for display. Ventilate the growing area when the weather permits during these cold months. Fresh air is important to plants and their growers.

- **Cattleya** An occasional fertilizer treatment is appropriate for these robust orchids, even though temperature and light are not ideal for growth. Apply dyed fertilizers with care to prevent staining the blooms with spattered drops of the colored liquid. Watch for signs of buds rising in the sealed sheaths; sometimes it is necessary to split open a sheath to reduce pressure on the emerging buds or allow accumulated condensation (con't next page)

(Checklistfebruary — con't. from previous page)

(possible result when temperatures are fluctuating) to dissipate. Use a sterile blade to slit open a sheath.

- **Phalaenopsis** Add a weak fertilizer solution to the watering schedule this month; be careful not to spatter the flowers or they will stain. **As with any orchid, do not fertilize a dry pot; water today and fertilize tomorrow.** Grade the blooms from your "phals" since you may want to eliminate those which are least desirable while making room for some more-promising hybrids. Remember that the way in which you have staked (groomed) your racemes influences the appearance of the matured flowers.

Phalaenopsis exude a honey-like substance on the developing inflorescence; it seems to attract scale insects. Watch for signs of any problem that could be spot-treated before it becomes a major situation. You want to avoid having to spray insecticides on your blossoms if at all possible.

- **Dendrobium** Watch for flower buds on *Den. lindleyi* (formerly *aggregatum*), *Den. nobile* hybrids, *Den. superbum* (now *Den. anosmum*), and other deciduous *Dendrobium* species and hybrids. **These all seem to have longer lasting flowers when exposed to cooler night temperatures as the blooms open and mature.** For example, the modern *Dendrobium nobile* hybrids from Japan tolerate nighttime temperatures in the low 60s with the result that the flowers remain in perfect condition for a month or more. And if you happen to miss seeing the first flowers of *Den. superbum* as they open, you will soon smell the sweet fragrance. Avoid heavily dowsing open flowers when watering; give slightly more water to these plants (which you have been keeping reasonably dry prior to flowering) once they begin to bloom. **Continue to protect evergreen-type dendrobiums from low temperatures that may cause leaf loss.**

- **Cymbidium** Stake or carefully tie the showy inflorescences that have emerged from the mass of foliage on these winter-spring bloomers. **Maintain temperatures at 50 to 60 F to keep the flower opening slowly, and to prevent the plant from "rushing" into the growth cycle that follows this flowering. Dramatically higher temperatures and hot drafts cause bud drop.**
- **Odontoglossum and Miltonia** Do not permit these plants to dry out, because this is a critical time when flower spikes develop. Stake the spikes to achieve the ideal presentation of the developing flowers. Apply a weak liquid fertilizer treatment just before the flowers begin to appear. Be wary of insects and eliminate any before the buds are well defined on the inflorescence.
- **Botanicals** With so many large-flowered types blooming now, it is easy to overlook small plants tucked away in your growing space. Notice whether any inflorescences are merging on the spring bloomers. Bring those that are about to bloom to the foreground, and groom them for good flower presentation. Water carefully to avoid dehydration; the flowering process does require a constant supply of moisture.



(This article is reprinted from the American Orchid Society's Bulletin, Feb. 1992, Vol. 61, Number 2, pg.154 -155. © American Orchid Society, Inc. 1992)



Dendrobium lindleyi
Usually blooms this time of year.
Photo credit: www.rv-orchidsworld.com

(Proper Staking of Phalaenopsis, con't from pg.7)

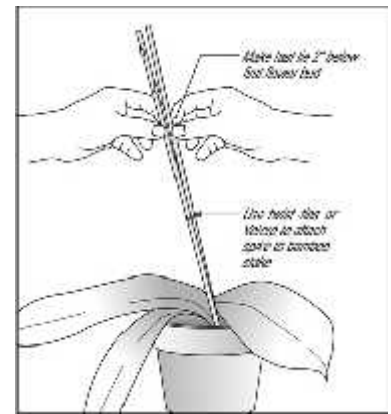


Photo credit: www.dummies.com, "How to Stake Blooming Orchids", By Steven A. Frowine

Raffia is decorative, but most people make do with green paper twist-ties. The last tying of the spike should be just below the first flower to allow the spike to arch naturally. Longer spikes may occasionally need to be tied again after the first few flowers to support the entire weight. If the plant is to be transported any distance, a second stake may be added to support the end of the spike as well as to prevent it breaking in the car.

— By Ned Nash

(This article reprinted from the American Orchid Society's magazine *Orchids*, Feb. 1998, pg. 120. © American Orchid Society)





Deep Cut Orchid Society Winter Show & Sale, Feb. 5–8, Dearborn Market, 2170 Rt. 35, Holmdel Twp., NJ — Free admission

We are also looking for help with set-up and take-down at the Deep Cut show. Please contact Cheryl Mizak if you would like to help out with this event (203) 264-6096.

The Spirit of Spring, The 34th Annual Connecticut Flower & Garden Show, Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT, Feb. 19 — 22nd

To finish out the hectic month of February, we need helpers for set-up/take-down and to man our information booth at this event. Again, sign-up sheets will be passed around at the Feb. meeting.



Your help is desperately needed at any one of the events listed above. **Please support your society and donate a few hours of your time!!**



34th Annual Connecticut Flower & Garden Show, Feb. 19 — 22nd, The Spirit of Spring Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT

Please join New Hampshire Orchid Society for

Orchid Fantasy Escape

24th Annual Show & Sale

February 13 - 15, 2015

Radisson Hotel, Nashua, NH

Fri. Feb. 13 - 1 pm to 7 pm
Sat. Feb. 14 - 9 am to 5 pm
Sun. Feb. 15 - 9 am to 4 pm

www.nhorchids.org



Orchid Fantasy Escape, New Hampshire Orchid Society 24th Annual Show & Sale, Feb. 13–15, Radisson Hotel, Nashua, NH

We are looking for volunteers willing to drive up to New Hampshire and set-up and/or take-down our display. If you are going to attend our Feb. meeting in Farmington there will be a sign-up sheet passed around. Your help and your blooming plants would be greatly appreciated! You may also contact Cheryl Mizak for more details at 203-264-6096.



Trivia Fun

The Gherkin Pickle Orchid — Last month we met a couple of “monkey orchids”. Those orchids got their common name, Monkey Orchid, from the shape of their flower. Sometimes an orchid gets its common name from the shape of the plant itself. This month, meet the cucumber orchid, although to me it looks more like a gherkin pickle!



Dendrobium cucumerinum
[W. Mcleay Ex Lindley]
Brieger 1981 SECTION

Photo credit:
www.orchidspecies.com

The Oz Native Plants website (www.oznativeplants.com) says that *Dendrobium cucumerinum* or the **cucumber orchid** is a creeping epiphyte or lithophyte from eastern Australia. The distinguishing feature about this orchid is not its flower but its leaves, which are bright green, and cylindrical or cucumber shaped (hence the orchid’s com-

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.



Happy Valentine's Day!

Don't forget to buy your special someone an orchid to show your love, and support the industry!

The Amherst Orchid Society
2015 Show

Saturday, Feb 21st
9 AM to 5 PM

Sunday, Feb 22nd
10 AM to 4 PM



Smith Vocational High School Northampton, MA