



Connecticut Orchid Society

Newsletter June 2015

56 Years & Growing

The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

Farmington Senior Center

321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT

(See last page 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.

Guests are always welcome!!!

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.

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

Vandas Suitable for Growing in the Northeast

Presented by Dr. Martin Motes of Motes Orchids, Homestead, FL.

Vanda grower extraordinaire Dr. Martin Motes will discuss the culture and care of vanda orchids suitable for growing in the Northeast.

If you didn't get a chance to preorder some plants, Dr. Motes will be bringing plants to the meeting. Come early for the best selection.

Join us for our last monthly meeting before summer break.

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Join us on Facebook

The deadline for submissions to the Sept. issue of the newsletter is Aug.21st

There are no monthly meetings during July & August. Next newsletter in September. Have a great summer vacation!



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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.

2015 Connecticut Orchid Society Officers & Posts

PRESIDENT	Cheryl Mizak	(203) 264-6096
VICE-PRESIDENT	George Sabolcik	msabocik@cjr youth.org
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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

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.

Upcoming Events



June 6 AUCTION AOS Judging, North east Judging Center, Town Hill Botanic Gardens of Worcester, 11 French Dr., Classroom C, Boylston, MA, 12:00 pm. Send cut flowers to: Robert Winkley, 80 Florida St., Unit 9, Dorchester, MA 02124

June 10 COS Monthly Meeting , Dr. Martin Motes of Motes Orchids, Homestead, FL., will discuss the culture & care of vandas suitable for growing in the Northeast, Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT, 7:30 pm

June 14 COS Potting Clinic, Alcher Interiors, 203 Main St., South, Southbury, CT, 10—2:00 pm

June 20 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

June 21 COS native orchid hike with Jean Stefanik at a protected Massachusetts bog. Rain date June 20th. Please contact Cheryl Mizak to sign up for this hike (203) 264-6096.

August 16 COS Annual Picnic, home of Martha Shea, Wallingford Yacht Club, exit 3 off I-91.

Orchid Harvest
Presented by
THE CONNECTICUT ORCHID SOCIETY
October 16-18, 2015
at Van Wilgen's Garden Center
51 Valley Rd. (off Rt. 139) | North Branford, CT 06471
Friday 2pm - 5pm | Saturday 9am - 5pm | Sunday 9am - 4pm
For more information please visit us at www.ctorchids.org
Receive \$2.00 Off Admission.
Postcard must be presented at time of entry.

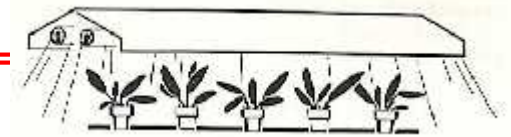
Content Acknowledgement All information, opinions, reporting and recommendations that appear in this newsletter are those of the editor (unless otherwise noted) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Connecticut Orchid Society. The editor is deeply indebted to the American Orchid Society for the 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.



May Meeting Minutes

Carla Koch
Recording Secretary

May Show Table



COS MEETING MAY 13TH, 2015

T.J. Hartung, President of Vallarta Orchid society spoke on Mexican Orchids. His Vallarta Botanical Garden rescues plants that fall off the trees there, and has been doing so for 21 years. It is considered one of the top 10 botanical gardens in the world.

Distinctive epiphytes abound there. Some of the many orchids of Mexico can take snow, and *Cattleya* (formerly *Laelia anceps*) is quite temperature-tolerant, for example. Other native oddballs include the diminutive white slipper orchid *Mexipedium xerophyticum*, found on rocks and cacti, and *Cattleya gouldiana*, only found today in cultivation.

Vanilla is particularly interesting. Out of the 110 species, six are found in Mexico, three are used for vanilla beans. The Native Americans of Mexico perfected the culture of the vanilla vine. Montezuma gave Cortez chocolate laced with vanilla, thus starting a trend. For 350 years, Mexico had a monopoly on vanilla culture, and no one else could figure out how it was done. Finally, a 12-year old slave on Reunion Island figured out how to hand-pollinate the plant, and was lauded for it. Vanilla is the second most expensive spice after saffron. After hand-pollination, the beans are left for 6 to 8 months, before being wrapped in a blanket inside a box to dry and cure for 6 to 8 weeks. In Mexico, a specialized bee pollinates the plants.

Subsequently, Jefferson brought vanilla to America, having learned of it in France. Nancy Johnson invented ice cream as we know it today—and a legion of recipes were to follow.

— Carla Koch

<u>Genus/Parentage</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Culture</u>
<i>Acacallis cyanea</i> x self	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Cattleya</i> Fire Dance 'Patricia'	P. Phillips	i, w
<i>Cattleya purpurata</i> var. <i>werkhauseri</i> Syn. <i>Laelia</i>	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Cattyclianthe</i> Charlie Brown Syn. <i>Epilaeliocattleya</i>	M. Sabolcik	i, g
<i>Dendrobium aberrans</i> x <i>Dendrobium</i> Little Atro	W. Wilson	i, l
<i>Dendrobium</i> Yellow Stars (<i>finisterrae</i> x <i>polysema</i>)	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Dendrobium nobile</i> 'Merlin'	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Dendrobium pierardii</i> x <i>Dendrobium loddigesii</i>	B. Pendleton	i, w
<i>Dendrobium</i> Fancy Angel 'Lycee' (Upin Red x Cassiope)	B. Pendleton	i, w
<i>Epicattleya</i> Siam Jade 'AVO'	M. Rampone	i, g
<i>Epicatllianthe</i> Golden Sunburst Syn. <i>Epilaeliocattleya</i>	M. Sabolcik	i, g
<i>Iwanagaara</i> Appleblossom	J. Arth	i, w
<i>Masdevallia</i> Angel Heart	T. Russell	c, l
<i>Oncidium</i> Speckled Spire 'Snowflake'	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Odontonia</i> Yellow Parade 'Alpine' AM/AOS (Odn. Yellow Bird x Odm. Parade)	B. Pendleton	i, w
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Olivia	C. Koch	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Alwine (display of several) (<i>sukhakulii</i> x <i>Goultenianum</i>)	J. Richards	i, l
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Black Rock (display of several)	J. Richards	i, l
<i>Phaius</i> Lady Ramona Harris 'Looking @ You'	B. Pendleton	i, w
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> hybrid. ig.	B. Pendleton	i, w
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> hybrid. ig. mounted	B. Pendleton	i, w
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> species unknown	P. Phillips	i, w
<i>Phalaenopsis japonica</i> Syn. <i>Sedirea</i>	P. Phillips	w, w
<i>Ponerorchis graminifolia</i>	P. Phillips	w, w
<i>Ponerorchis graminifolia</i>	W. Wilson	i, l
<i>Potinara</i> Ruby Ace 'Abe'	T. Russell	i, l

(Show Table con't on pg. 4)

Sigmatostalix species unknown C. Koch i, g

Wilsonara Cardinal's Karma C. Mizak i, g

We would like to thank Dave Tognalli for volunteering to research and prepare the monthly Show Table while Judy Becker focuses on her health and getting better.

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

News, Notes & Happenings

Lauray of Salisbury Retirement Sale

Retiring after 48 years

BIG sale at greenhouse only!

Sales up to \$199.00 25% discount
Sales over \$200.00 50% discount

Cacti, succulents, begonias, gesneriads & other tropicals

Orchids — a few in bloom or spike.
Also a few specimen plants
Limited supplies!

For days & hours,
please e-mail: Judybecker 40 @att.net
E-mail preferred
or (860) 435-2263

Board of Directors Meeting, Monday, June 8th —

The Board of Directors will meet Monday evening at 7:00 pm at Sherry & Bill Pendleton's home in Cheshire. Members are always welcome at these meetings. On the agenda for this month is show planning for our upcoming show in October — just 4 months away!!! We need you help. Please contact Cheryl Mizak if you would like to attend (203) 264-6096.

June 14th, Sunday, Potting Clinic, Alcher Interiors, 203 Main St., south, Southbury, CT, 10—2:00 pm —

This year our ever popular and big moneymaker potting clinic will be held at Cheryl & Alan Mizak's place of business in Southbury. Your help is needed to make this another successful event. Please contact Cheryl at (203) 264-6096 if you can help with set-up and take down, or are willing to help with repotting or any of the many other tasks.

Native, Wild Orchid Walk , Sunday, June 21st —

Jean Stefanik will lead a walk to look for native, wild orchids on Sunday, June 21st. **Rain date is Saturday, June 20th .** The walk is at a protected bog in Massachusetts. This will be an excellent opportunity to see spring flowering wild orchids such as *Cypripedium reginae* among others. Please contact Cheryl Mizak at (203) 264-6096 if you are interested in participating in this walk. The walk is not strenuous and there is some boardwalk partway into the bog.

Annual COS Picnic, Sunday, Aug. 16th - Martha Shea has graciously offered to host our annual picnic at her home in Wallingford this year on Sunday, Aug. 16th. Martha's home is also known as the Wallingford Yacht Club. Take exit 3 off I-91. More details to follow soon.

President's Message



Cheryl Mizak

Hello everyone.

June has several activities on the COS calendar. We start with having Martin Motes as our guest speaker this month. I hope you have taken a moment to review his preorder list. The orchids he is suggesting will thrive in our New England cool, gray, winter days. Didn't get a chance to place your preorder? No worries, he is planning on bringing a few extra plants to the meeting. Learn about cool growing Vanda's from an expert world traveler.

Sunday, June 14 from 10am to 2:00 we will be having one of our very popular Potting Clinics. It will be held in the front lot at Alcher Interiors, 205 Main street, south Southbury. Check the web site or the news letter for more details. (Con't on pg. 4)





Monthly Checklist for July and August

Cattleya Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs owing to characteristically high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a must in areas of the country where it is effective. Where it is not (the more humid regions), care needs to be paid to proper venting to keep temperatures within reason. Bottom vents in conjunction with top vents provide enough rising airflow to help keep plants cool. Increased airflow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent damping down and watering, in areas where high humidity is not a problem. Higher light and heat indicate more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of this autumn, winter and spring's blooms, so applying adequate fertilizer this month is the best way to ensure future blooms. Higher temperatures and humidity may also lead to fungal or bacterial rot problems, so it is important to closely observe your plants for any early indication of problems. Pests are also at a high point this month for the same reason.

Paphiopedilum Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these two months to prevent stress and avoid disease problems. Watering needs to be closely monitored to ensure that plants do not dry out. Warmer-growing hybrids will be at peak of their blooming, with attention needing to be paid to staking spikes. Look for water lodging in growths, which can rot emerging spikes and lead to the loss of the entire growth.

Phalagnopsis Most, if not all, potting should be complete by now.

This month and next are when these plants achieve their maximum growth. This growth will be that from which they set their spikes for the coming season. The more leaves the plants grow, the better potential for spiking will be realized. Growers in cooler areas such as the Pacific coast have the advantage this month, should they choose, of cooling for early season spikes. Lots of heat and light call for liberal applications of water and fertilizer.

Cymbidium Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming on strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

High-elevation Plants For cooler-growing plants, such as masdevallias, other pleurothallids and the like, the next few months will be a challenge. During the hottest times, keep your plants more shaded and be sure to keep the humidity level much higher. Do not let plants dry out. Delay any potting until the weather cools.

Oncidium intergeneric



Beallara Diane Dunn 'Newberry' is a good example of the colorful patterns that *Oncidium* intergeneric hybrids offer.

Many of the intergeneric crosses between odontoglossums and oncidiums, such as *Odontocidium*, *Wilsonara* and *Colmanara*, will be blooming now. Take special care to train the spikes for best floral display. Keep plants under fairly shady conditions. Watch for snails and slugs.

Vandaceous



The Philippine species, *Euanthe sandieriana*, rewards growers with massive heads of flowers at the end of summer.

Plants will be growing quickly now and really enjoying the hot humid days so similar to their native habitat. Watch for pests though, as many of these also enjoy the same conditions as the plants. Check flower spikes so that they can extend unimpeded for the best flower presentation later.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

American Orchid Society at Fairfield Tropical Botanic Garden. ©2014 American Orchid Society. All rights reserved.

Pres. Message con't from pg. 4

We could use a few extra hands to help set up, take down and just talk orchids to our guests, while they wait their turn to have plants potted.

The Following Sunday Jean Stefanik will lead COS members on a hike in lower NH. The chances are excellent to see *Paph Regine* and several other protected orchids. Since we will be in restricted areas part of the time we are unable to publish the exact locations. For those who are interested please contact me for the time and location. It should be fun to see our native New England Orchids in their natural habitat. If rain is predicted for Sunday the hike will take place on Saturday, June 20th. Pack a lunch, although there are several great places (Con't on pg. 6)

(Pres. Message con't from pg. 5) to eat in the area we will be in, bring Dad, some sun screen and bug spray. If you would like to go but prefer not to drive, let me know (203) 264-6096) as we are planning on a car pool.

Of course, thru the summer we are ramping up show planning details and always welcome new ideas. Second, Wednesday of the month we will be meeting at 7:00 pm at the Pendleton's in Cheshire. Call me if you plan to attend (203) 264-6096.

Sunday, Aug 16th will be holding our annual COS picnic at Martha Shea's home, Nicknamed the Wallingford Yacht Club. Take exit 3 off I-91. I am sure we will be in for a wonderful gardening treat.

Enjoy the beautiful weather. See everyone Wed, the 11.th

— Cheryl

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.

