



# Connecticut Orchid Society

## Newsletter Sept. 2015

*56 Years & Growing*

*The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut*

*Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest*

### Next Meeting

**Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2015**

**Cheshire Senior Center**

**240 Maple Ave., Cheshire, 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 "N" through "Z", 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](http://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

**Video:**

**Learning How to Identify and Eliminate Pests and Bacterial & Fungal Diseases**

**Presented by Thomas Sheehan**

Tom and his wife Marion, now deceased, are the authors of the very popular book, *Orchid Genera Illustrated*. This husband and wife team contributed monthly to the AOS magazine *Orchids* with their column *Orchid Genera Illustrated* for many years. Tom also answered AOS member questions through the *Question Box* in a special feature that ran in the *Orchids* magazine during the 1980s. Tom continues to contribute to *Orchids* today.

Please join us for what will surely be a very informative video presentation.

#### Contact us:

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**E-mail:** President Cheryl Mizak  
[president@ctorchids.org](mailto:president@ctorchids.org)  
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*The deadline for submissions to the Oct. issue of the newsletter is Sept. 18th*



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 Sabolcik	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
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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](mailto:judybecker40@att.net) (860) 435-2263 (8:00--8:00 pm) Greenhouse growing

methods: Wide variety of species & hybrids

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

**Glenn McGeough** [mcgeough7@gmail.com](mailto:mcgeough7@gmail.com) (203) 482-3973. Specializing in Cattleyas.

**Jeffrey Richards** [Jeffrey.richards@snet.net](mailto:Jeffrey.richards@snet.net) (Contact anytime). Greenhouse growing methods: Specializing in Paphiopedilums.

**Sharon SmithDelisle** [editor@ctorchids.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.ctorchids.org) to apply for/renew membership. We accept Paypal. Contact Membership Chairperson Mary Rampone at [www.COSMembership@earthlink.net](mailto:www.COSMembership@earthlink.net) for more details.**

## Upcoming Events



**Sept. 9 Connecticut Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, video presentation "Learning How to Identify & Eliminate Pests and Diseases" by Thomas Sheehan, Cheshire Senior Center, 240 Maple Ave., Cheshire, CT, 7:30 pm**

**Sept. 11-13** Silva Orchids presents *Shore Orchid Fall Festival*, 635 Wayside Rd., Neptune, NJ. See pg. 6 of this newsletter for details.

**Sept. 19** 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

**Oct. 11** Deep Cut Orchid Society Auction, 11:00 — 5:00 pm, Monmouth Reform Temple, Tinton Falls, NJ. See pg. 6 of this newsletter for details.

**Oct. 14** Connecticut Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, TBA, Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT, 7:30 pm

**Oct. 16—18** Connecticut Orchid Society's Annual Show & Sale *Orchid Harvest*, Van Wilgen's Garden Center, 51 Valley Rd., North Branford, CT. See details, below.

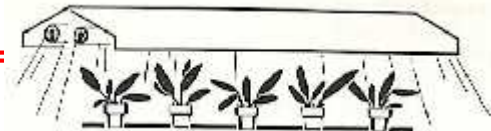
Presented by  
THE CONNECTICUT ORCHID SOCIETY

**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](http://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.



## June Show Table

## June Meeting Minutes



Carla Koch  
Recording Secretary

June 10, 2015

Noted grower Martin Motes spoke on vandas. He brought some of his cooler-growing types from his Florida nursery. In vanda cultivation, *V. sanderiana* is the culprit in introducing warmer-growing plants. It has the much-desired large, flat flowers, but is not cool-tolerant at all, slow growing, and must have high light. Hybrids like this originated in Hawaii, but are not grown there now. *Sanderiana* has more v-shaped leaves, while some are flatter leaved. *V. deareii* is also cold-sensitive.

Some cooler-growing vandals include the famous *V. coerulea*, part of hybrids such as Motes Indigo; *V. densoniana*, yellow to green and fragrant; *V. motesiana*, tessellated yellow and red; *V. merrillii*, heavily textured red; and *V. cristata*, green and red. All these led to new hybrids. Martin also showed interesting species, such as *coerulescens*, which is blue and scented like grape soda: *ampullacea*, a small pink that was formerly an ascocenda; and *christensonianum*, named for our old friend Eric Christenson the taxonomist.

These orchids prefer bright light, and many of them, temperatures over 50. He suggests coarse media, rather than none at all (as is done in Florida.) They should be watered until the roots are dark green before drying out again. He uses time release fertilizer (Michigan State.) He hangs them high in the greenhouse, and says they actually tolerate low humidity. Thrips can be a pest, causing leaf pitting, and can be combated with Orthene, or Ajax soap!

~ Carla Koch

**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

<u>Genus/Parentage</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Culture</u>
<i>Beallara</i> Lunatic Fringe 'Ikes Yikes'	M. Sabolcik	i, g
<i>Beallara</i> Tahoma Glacier 'Green'	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Brassolealia</i> Yellow Bird	M. Sabolcik	w, g
<i>Brassovola nodosa</i>	M. Rampone	i, g
<i>Brassia verrucosa</i>	M. Rampone	i, g
<i>Burrageara</i> Pacific Command	M. Sabolcik	i, g
<i>Calanthe triplicata</i>	R. Schwartz	i, w
<i>Cattleya maxima</i>	R. Heigeli,	g
<i>Cattleya purpurata</i> var. <i>werkhauseri</i>	Syn. <i>Laelia</i> R. Heigel	i, g
<i>Ceologyne xyrekes</i>	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Dendrobium anceps</i>	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Dendrobium</i> Aussie Chip	C. Kock	i, g
<i>Encyclia mariae</i>	T. Zamojski	i, w
<i>Laeliocattleya</i> Floralia's Azul #1 x <i>Laelia sincorana</i> var. <i>coerulea</i>	R. Heigel	i, g
<i>Mystacidium capense</i>	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Odontocidium</i> Yellow Parade	R. Heigel	i, g
<i>Ponerorchis graminifolia</i> (pastel pink lip)	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Ponerorchis graminifolia</i> (splash purple lip)	D. Tognalli	i, w
Pottery – <i>Paphiopedilum lowii</i> and <i>Paph.</i> Julius - images of Debbie's plants ingrained in the clay surface	D. Landrey	
Pottery – <i>Paphiopedilum</i> St. Swithin - Image of Debbie's plans ingrained in the clay surface	D. Landrey	
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> KV Charmer 'KV501' Syn. <i>Dtps.</i> (Salu Peoker x Taida Pearl Syn <i>Dtps.</i> )	D. Landrey	i, l
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> (Rong Guan Amah x Brother Fortune Green 'Sweetheart')	D. Landrey	i, l
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> (Salu Spot x Timothy Christopher)	D. Landrey	i, w
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Sogo Lawrence 'F-1839' (Brother Peterstar x Brother Sara Gold)	D. Landrey	i, l
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Sogo Meili 'F1751' AM/AOS Syn. <i>Dtps</i> (Sogo Pride x Sogo Circus)	D. Landrey	i, l
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Taida Smile 'Taida Little Green' (Taipei Gold x Timothy Christopher)	D. Landrey	i, l
<i>Vanda ampullaceum</i> Syn. <i>Ascocentrum</i>	R. Heigel	g
<i>Vanda falcata</i> Syn. <i>Neofinetia</i>	C. Mizak	i, g





## Lauray of Salisbury Retirement Sale

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  
Call Before You Go!!!



### COS Annual Picnic a pleasant afternoon for members ~

Many thanks to Martha and Jim Shea for their wonderful hospitality at their home, the venue for this year's picnic. Martha's unique and special gardens were a feast for the eyes and Jim was not to be outdone with his antique cars and fascinating train set. Thanks also go to Mary Rampone for delivering all of the donated houseplants to the picnic. All the members who attended the picnic were treated to a free plant to take home.

### Time to think about Volunteering for our Annual Show & Sale ~

Believe it or not, it's that time of year, again. Please clear your calendar for the weekend of Oct. 15—18. We need your help with show set-up on Thursday, Oct. 15 and we need your help throughout the weekend while the show is going on. This is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow orchid growers better as we all pitch in helping get the show set up, greeting our guests who visit our show, and helping get the job of breakdown and cleanup done quickly and smoothly. Please contact Cheryl Mizak at (203) 264-6096 to let her know what days and hours you are available. **And thank you!! We can't make our show a success without your help!!! It's appreciated!**



## President's Message



Cheryl Mizak

Summer is over and September is here. Before we know it our Annual Show and Sale, Orchid Harvest 2015, will be here. That means a lot of work and preparation to do, and much fun to be had along the way. Please help out in any way you can and consider the following:

**Volunteers are needed** at the show from Friday through Sunday —hosts & hostesses to help out with greeting guests, manning the club sale table, working at the hourly raffle, admission booth, etc. Contact Cheryl Mizak to sign up.(203)-264-6096

**We always want the COS to have the best** and biggest display in the show. So we need any and all orchids you might have in flower that you are willing to loan for the display. Plants should be in good flowering condition and free of any of those creepy crawlers we all sometimes find hiding in our collections. Orchids for the display must be at Van Wilgen's by noon on Thursday. The display is taken down starting at 4 PM on Sunday and plants must be picked up at that time. If you want to include any orchids in the display but can't be available for setup or take down, speak up as we'll have several members willing to make arrangements with you.

**This is a judged show.** AOS judges will be present by 9 AM on Friday morning to judge plants and displays. Those judges need clerks to help find plants in the exhibit, take care of ribbons, and generally help make the judging process go smoothly. If you volunteer to clerk you are usually also asked to help judge. It is a lot of fun and a great experience. So please consider volunteering as a clerk on Friday morning. Clerks have to be at Van Wilgen's by 8:30 AM on Friday and judging ends by noon, followed by lunch for all clerks and judges provided by the COS. Contact Cheryl Mizak to sign up.(203)264-6096

**If you wish your display plants to be judged,** they must be registered for judging ahead of time. This insures that the judging lists are ready to go for the judges on Friday morning. The listing of judging classes, instructions for registration and registration forms will be available on the COS web site, ctorchids.org. I encourage you all to enter plants for judging ahead of time per the information in the instructions so that registration goes smoothly on set up day.

**Last but not least**, COS has a plant sales table at the show. This is a great fund raiser for the Society. Do you have any extra divisions or plants you no longer want to have in your collection, once again in good health and free of creepy crawlers? Consider(Con't on pg.5)



*Editor's Note: After dedicating many decades of his life volunteering for COS, honorary life member Larry Kuekes finally realized one of his dreams when he retired and moved to Hilo, Hawaii. Larry is the author of the Beginner's Column which appears regularly in this newsletter. Larry was also the previous newsletter editor for many years. With more time on his hands these days, Larry writes about his adventures with warm weather orchid growing in Hawaii.*

### Leafless Orchids

Did you know there are orchids that have no leaves? Instead, photosynthesis is performed entirely by their extensive exposed roots, which contain chlorophyll. The most famous leafless orchid is *Polyradi-con lindenii*, known as the Ghost Orchid. This rare species lives on cypress trees in Florida swamps. It was featured in the plot of the book *The Orchid Thief* by Susan Orlean, which was made into the movie *Adaptation*.

I've never grown that species, but last year Ken Armour gave me another leafless orchid, *Taeniophyllum pusillum* (thanks, Ken). I mounted it on a small branch and it has been blooming sporadically ever since. Its flowers are tiny (what look like ropes in the photo are pieces of twine), but I love it because it's so unusual.

Although it's strange for an orchid not to have leaves, it's not strange for orchid roots to perform photosynthesis. Lots of orchids have exposed roots that stick out into thin air (vandas and phalaenopsis are prime examples, but almost all non-terrestrial orchids will do this). Generally the roots look white, with a green tip. But if you drench them with water, the roots turn green.

What's happening? The roots are covered with a sponge-like substance called velamen. When dry, it's white. When wet, it becomes translucent, showing the green root tissue underneath, and yes, those roots have chlorophyll and can perform photosynthesis. Just another amazing fact about orchids.

~ Larry Kuekes



***Taeniophyllum pusillum*, a leafless orchid.**

Grown by Larry Kuekes. Photo by Shelby Smith.

(Pres. Message, con't. from pg. 4)

donating them to COS for the sales table. It is a great way to make room in your collection for some new additions while also contributing to your Society. You can bring your donated plants to Van Wilgen's on set up day or make arrangements with another member to get them to the show. If they do not sell, no worries. COS will keep them for future raffle tables or outreach engagements.

## AOS corner



**THE SEPTEMBER, 2015 AOS CORNER** – From the desk of Gayle Brodie, Vice-Chair American Orchid Society Membership and Affiliated Societies Committee ([gbrodieaosmembership@gmail.com](mailto:gbrodieaosmembership@gmail.com))

### UPCOMING WEBINARS :

**GROWING PHALAENOPSIS – THE BASICS OF ACHIEVING SUCCESS WITH THE BEAUTIFUL MOTH ORCHID** –September 17, 2015 from 8:30 – 9:30 p.m. EDT. **FREE TO ALL.** Registration will be available at [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org) shortly after the August webinar is presented.

It is very easy to register for, and watch, a webinar! Go to [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org) and click on the Webinar tab for more information about previously recorded webinars and the upcoming live webinar, and to download a PDF document that explains how to register for and watch your webinar. However, you cannot register for the current live webinar until a few days after the last live webinar has aired.

**THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE** will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- ***Isochilus carnosiflorus***
- ***Sievekingia jenmanii***
- **Mounting Orchids**
- **Edema on Orchids**
- **The Wonderful World of Arthur Elle**

The stunning photographs and flower descriptions of the thirty most recently awarded orchids are now available free to the general public (no membership required) on the AOS website. Visit the frequently updated [Latest AOS Awards](#).

**UPCOMING ORCHID SHOWS AND EVENTS:** Go to [www.AOS.org](http://www.AOS.org) and click on the "Events and News" tab for all of the news about orchid shows, AOS judgments, and orchid seminars.

**FREE MEMBERSHIP CREDITS FOR AFFILIATED SOCIETIES:** Affiliated societies can now earn a one month extension of their AOS society membership for each new AOS member that you refer (membership renewals don't count). For now, the only way to take advantage of this program is to download and print the [AOS Membership Application Form](#), check the box "yes" to indicate that you are a member of a local orchid society, mostly importantly fill in the NAME of your orchid society, and mail the completed application and payment to AOS, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Florida 33156. With twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can have a FULL YEAR OF FREE AOS membership! Be sure to have membership applications with your society's name filled in and available at your club meetings!

Let's grow together,

Gayle Brodie

# DCOS Auction



**If you like orchids you won't want to miss this annual event**

**OVER 400 ORCHIDS**

**From all over the world from beautiful to the bizarre will be up for AUCTION**

**OCTOBER 11, 2015**

**From 11:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**Monmouth Reform Temple**

**332 Hance Avenue**

**Tinton Falls, NJ 07724**

**[www.deepcutorchids.com](http://www.deepcutorchids.com)**

**Joan at 732-787-4460**

**SHORE ORCHID FALL FESTIVAL**  
Held at Silva Orchids

Friday, Sept. 11 & Sat., Sept. 12, 2015  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Sunday, Sept. 13  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Guests to include*

- Suzuki Orchids
- Carl Orchid
- Ten-Shin Gardens
- Waldor Orchids
- Little Brook Orchids
- New World Orchids
- Kelly's Korner Orchid Supply
- Paul Donohue Photography
- Kevin Gallagher - Pro-biotic Fertilizer
- Silva Orchids

Bus & van groups welcome  
Easy access from major highways

Free orchid workshops on Fri., Sat. & Sunday for beginners & experienced growers  
Time and speakers to be announced - check website for details  
Food on site • Rain or shine • All activities tented

655 Wayside Rd. • Neptune, NJ • 732-922-2635  
Visit our website for more information [www.silvaorchids.com](http://www.silvaorchids.com)



## Directions to Cheshire Senior Center 240 Maple Avenue, Cheshire, CT 06410

### From New Haven, CT:

- Take I-91 North to exit 10 (Route 40)
- Follow Rt. 40 to the end (last exit—for Mount Carmel/Cheshire)

• Turn right onto Route 10 North (Whitney Ave.)  
At the traffic light for the intersection of Rt. 10 and Routes 68/70 West  
Turn left onto Main St. —which runs into Maple Ave. at the next traffic light.

Proceed straight ahead on Maple Ave. Cheshire Senior Center is # 240 on the right after the Victorian House Restaurant.

### From Waterbury:

- Take I-84 East to Exit 26 (Cheshire/Route 70)
- The Exit ramp automatically forces you to go right and follow Rt. 70.

• At the end of Rt. 70 (facing the Cheshire Post Office) turn left at the light onto Maple Ave.  
The Cheshire Senior Center is # 240 on the right after The Victorian House Restaurant.

### From Hartford via I-91:

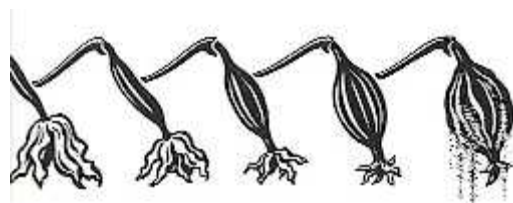
- Take I-91 South to Exit 18 onto Route 691 (Meriden/Waterbury)
- Take Exit 3 off Rt. 691 and turn left at the traffic light onto Rout 10 South.
- Continue through seven traffic lights. At the 8<sup>th</sup> traffic light bear right onto Maple Avenue.

The Cheshire Senior Center is # 240 on the left after the Cheshire Fire Department.

### From Hartford via I-84:

- Take I-84 West to Exit 27 onto Route 691 (Meriden)
- Take Exit 3 off Rt. 691 and turn right at the traffic light onto Route 10 South.
- Proceed through six traffic lights.
- At the 7<sup>th</sup> traffic light bear right onto Maple Ave.

The Cheshire Senior Center is # 240 on the left after the Cheshire Fire Department.



*Drawing by Elmer W. Smith.*