



Connecticut Orchid Society

Newsletter May 2016

57 Years & Growing

The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Next Meeting



New Meeting Location for May Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 2016,
(See last pg. 7 for map & directions)

Waverly Inn

286 Maple Ave., Cheshire, CT

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.

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

Lycaste

Presented by
Doug & Terry Kennedy
from Canada

The Kennedys are new speakers to COS. Doug will be giving a talk about *Lycaste*.

Please join me in welcoming the Kennedys to COS.

Since we are meeting at a new location, please **DON'T** bring snacks this month.

Also, if you would like to have dinner at the Waverly Inn, please arrive around 5:00 pm to allow enough time to enjoy your meal before the meeting.



Members enjoying the April meeting in Farmington.
Photo credit: Jan Lesnikoski

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The deadline for submissions to the June issue of the newsletter is May 21 st.

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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REFRESHMENT CO-CHAIR	Chris & Julie Santarsiero	(203) 879-0782
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.

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.

Upcoming Events



May. 11 Connecticut Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Waverly Inn, 286 Maple Ave., Cheshire, CT 7:00 pm, **NOTE NEW MEETING**

LOCATION. Doug & Terry Kennedy from Canada will give a presentation on *Lycaste*.

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

June 4 Connecticut Orchid Society Repotting Clinic, 10—2:00 pm, \$5.00/pot, Larson's Nursery, 26 Covey Rd., Burlington, CT. The public is invited.

June 8 Connecticut Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT, 7:00 pm, TBA

June. 18 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

NOTICE!!!
The July meeting has been canceled.
There was a scheduling conflict and Ten Shin Gardens Co., Ltd. will not be making a presentation at this time.

Meeting Minutes

Tom Russell & Carla Koch, Co-recording Secretaries

Minutes of the April 13, 2016 Monthly Meeting:

Marni Turkel's Orchid Bark Mix

Basic Mix:

6 parts 1/4" bark (#9 Orchiata)
4 parts pumice (can substitute perlite)
1 1/2 parts (1-2 parts) medium tree fern fiber

Terrestrial Mix:

3 parts washed and sifted 1/8" fir bark
5 parts pumice or perlite
3 1/2 parts well washed coir (coco peat)
1 1/2 parts 1/2" lava rock

Coelogyne, Dendrochilum & Related Genera

Marni Turkel grows many genera of orchids in four greenhouses in Santa Rosa, California. On this occasion she spoke to us about growing *Coelogyne*, *Dendrochilum*, and related genera. As a general rule she refers to the elevations at which various orchids are found as a guide to their cultivation. Those found above 1500 meters are grown cool, those from 1200 to 1500 meters are grown intermediate, and those below 1200 meters are grown warm.

Chelonistele has 5 to 15 species. Among her favorites is *Chelonistele sulfurea*, a fragrant, shade-loving species with clusters of white, yellow-lipped flowers.

Dickasonia is a genus that grows in a monsoon climate. There is a single species, *Dickasonia vernicosa*, with dainty white flowers.

Octochilus has 5 species.

Dendrochilum is a genus with 280 species. A characteristic of *Dendrochilum* is that the flower emerges from the top of a pseudobulb. *Dendrochilum longifolium* is the most widespread species. *D. guma-ceum* is fragrant. *D. cobbianum* is a (Con't. on pg 4)

April Show Table —



Prepared by Judy Becker

Genus/Parentage	Owner	Culture
<i>Beallara</i> Smile Erl x Tahoma Glacier	J. Arth	i, sun porch
<i>Cattleya trianae v. coerulea</i>	T. Russell	i,
<i>Cattlianthe</i> Orglade's Spitfire (Gold Digger x C. Hazel Boyd)	D. Tognalli	i,w
<i>Bulbophyllum falcatum v. falcatum</i>	C. Mizak	i,g
<i>Dendrobium Ise</i>	C. Koch	i,g
<i>Dendrobium</i> Roy Tokunaga	M. Sabolcik	w,g
<i>Dendrobium</i> Super Ise	M. Sabolcik	w, g
<i>Epilaeliocattleya</i> Jackie Bright 'Treasure'	M. Sabolcik	w,g
<i>Gastrochilus japonicus</i>	T. Russell	c
<i>Haraella odorata</i>	T. Russell	i
<i>Iwanagaara</i> Apple Blossom	J. Arth	i, sun porch
<i>Laeliocattleya</i> Magic Melody 'SVO' x self	T. Russell	i,l
<i>Laeliocattleya</i> hybrid splash petal	J. Arth	i, sun porch
<i>Maxillaria fractiflexa</i>	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Maxillaria striata</i>	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia</i>	D. Landrey	, l
<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia</i>	M. Sabolcik	w, g
<i>Oncidium</i> Copper Scarab 'Brass Brethern'	J. Arth	i, sun porch
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Sylvan Vale x Hama Chilwin)	J. Arth	i, sun porch
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Black Rook x <i>Goultenianum</i>)	J. Richards	i,l
<i>Paphiopedilum sukhakulii x Goultenianum</i>	J. Richards	i, l
<i>Phaius</i> Microburst	T. Russell	i
<i>Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi</i> 4N (<i>chattaladeae x rubescens</i>)	D. Landrey	i, l
<i>Phalaenopsis philippinense</i> ('Orchidview' HCC/AOS x 'Katherine')	D. Landrey	i, l
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Sogo-Lit Sunny Sogo'	T. Russell	i
<i>Phalaenopsis viridis</i>	D. Landrey	i, l
<i>Polystachya ottoniana</i>	T. Russell	i,
<i>Ponerorchis graminifolia</i>	D. Tognalli	i,w

(Show Table con't. next page)

(Show Table, con't. from pg.3)

<i>Potinara</i> Ruby Ice 'Abe'	T. Russell	i
<i>Sarcochilus</i> Heidi 'Gold Country'	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Sedirea japonica</i>	T. Russell	i
<i>SophrOLAELIOCATTLEYA</i> Jewel Box 'Scheherazade' AM/AOS	M. Sabolcik	w,g
<i>Vanda</i> Lou Sneary	M. Sabolcik	w,g

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

(April 13th Meeting Minutes con't from pg.3)

pendent species that is easy to grow. *D. cootesii* is an attractive species with arching flower spikes. *D. wenzelli* has reddish rust-colored flowers and also comes in yellow. *D. uncatum* var. *uncatum* has pendent yellow blooms and makes a nice specimen plant.

Coelogyne is an extensive genus with much variety among the species. *C. lawrenciana* has flowers with marbling in the lip. It is a sequential bloomer. *C. pandurata* is a large grower with green flowers. *C. speciosa* has white and green flowers with a brown lip. A specimen of *C. speciosa* can be in bloom almost indefinitely. *C. radicata* has small salmon flowers. *C. kaliana* has pendent white blooms but also an unpleasant fragrance. *C. mooreana* 'Brockhurst' has very large, white flowers. *C. cristata* also has large white flowers which are often fragrant. It requires a dry rest and cooler temperatures from late October till mid-March, and should be kept dry through the flowering period. *C. x intermedia* is an easy bloomer that doesn't require a dry rest. It is a natural cross between *C. cristata* and *C. flaccida*. The man-made version of the same cross is 'Unchained Melody'. *C. nitida* is another species with fragrant white flowers, in this case with spikes of smaller blooms. *C. usitana* has pendent spikes with up to 30 flowers per spike. The flowers are white with a maroon lip.

Pleiones are orchids that generally require a cool rest period. *P. formosanum* and *P. humilis* are spring bloomers. *P. formosanum* is said to be an easy grower. It needs to be chilled and given a dry rest. The beautiful flowers are pink and white. *P. humilis* has spectacular white and red flowers. *P. maculata* and *P. praecox* are fall bloomers. *P. maculata* has white flowers with a pink and yellow lip, while the flowers of *P. praecox* are pink.

—This month's meeting minutes were submitted by Tom Russell

President's Message



Cheryl Mizak

Hi Everyone

Coming up on **Saturday, June 4th** we will be holding one of our popular orchid repotting workshops.

Need some help with repotting?

What pot size should I use?

What is the correct medium for my plant?

Help! I'm just too scared to tackle the job. No worries!

The COS Repotting Doctors will be at Larson's Nursery, 26 Covey Road, Burlington, CT.

10 am until 2pm

\$5.00/plant (don't forget to bring a clean pot).

We'll do the rest!

Everyone who owns an orchid is invited.

We could use a couple more members to help out with greeting our guests at this event.

Last month we had some mystery donors of wonderful plants to the raffle table. What a nice surprise. Thank you for your generosity

This month we welcome Doug & Terry Kennedy from Canada. Doug will be discussing *Lycaste*. **PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN MEETING LOCATION.** We will be at the Waverly Inn in Cheshire. I know so many of you bring goodies to the hospitality table and we thank you for doing so. This month since we are meeting in a restaurant, please do not bring food. Any one who would like to have dinner before the meeting please arrive by 5:00 so you will have time to enjoy your meal before the meeting.

—Cheryl



Show Table plant
Photo credit: Jan Lesnikoski



Many thanks to Jan Lesnikoski for taking these lovely photos of this month's Show Table plants.



News, Notes & Happenings

Orchid Potting Workshop



June 4, 2016



Need some help with repotting?
What pot size should I use?
What is the correct medium for my plant?
Help! I'm just too scared to tackle the job.

No worries!

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Larson's Nursery, 26 Covey Road Burlington, CT.
10 am until 2pm.

\$5.00/plant (don't forget to bring a clean pot).

We'll do the rest!

Everyone who owns an orchid is invited.



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 you may have seen in this newsletter in the past. 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.

Dear COS Friends,

Last November we had James Rose from Cal-Orchid as the speaker at the Hilo Orchid Society, and we could pre-order plants from him before the meeting. So I looked at the Cal-Orchid website, and one of the plants for sale was called *Maxillaria* Ben Berliner. The plant would have appealed to me for the flowers alone. But I had to order the plant because of its name.

Connecticut Orchid Society old-timers will remember the late Dr. Benjamin Berliner as a benevolent patriarch of the orchid world. He was one of my mentors when I was first learning about orchids. Retired after a career as a pediatrician and professor of pediatrics at UConn, he devoted his time to growing, hybridizing, and judging orchids. His knowledge of orchids was legendary. When reviewing the show table, he never failed to produce some orchid story, such as why *Sc. Beaufort*, important in mini-*Cattleya* hybridizing, is pronounced BYOO-furt, not BO-fort (it's named after Beaufort, South Carolina, which is pronounced that way).

Or the story of *Cattleya percivaliana* 'Summit'. It was jungle-collected in 1922 and imported by the Lager and Hurrell nursery in Summit, New Jersey. For years, divisions of the plant were passed around the Northeast from one grower to another. I got one from a friend. It was familiarly known as "Percy Summit". Ben knew that 'Summit' had an AM/AOS award, but he believed that it deserved better. After growing his plant in his Bloomfield greenhouse as perfectly as possible, he brought it to judging in 1986, and sure enough, it finally got an FCC/AOS award, 64 years after it was introduced to cultivation!

I remember one time Ben was reviewing the show table and he stopped because he couldn't remember the parentage of a hybrid. "I don't have Alzheimer's," he quipped (he was in his 80s at this point). "I have Sometzimer's. Some tziemes I can't remember." Of course, what he could still remember was more than what most of us had ever learned.

The American Orchid Society recognizes Dr. Berliner every year by bestowing the annual Benjamin C. Berliner Award for the most outstanding example of the genus *Lycaste* or allied genera, a group that Ben was active in hybridizing. And by the way, *Maxillaria* is in this group of orchids, which brings me back to my new plant.

Maxillaria Ben Berliner is a hybrid of *Maxillaria tenuifolia* (the coconut orchid, which has reddish flowers) and *Maxillaria variabilis*, which has yellow flowers. The happy result, though small at just over an inch across, is an eye-popping yellow with red spots. I think Ben would have loved it. My plant bloomed this April (see photo), and I'm happy to have something to remind me of him.

—Larry Kuekes



Maxillaria Ben Berliner
Photo credit: Larry Kuekes

NOTICE : New meeting location for the May meeting

**Directions to Waverly Inn, 286 Maple Ave., Cheshire, CT
(203) 272-2441**

Note: The Waverly Inn is across the street from the Cheshire Senior Center.

