



Newsletter

December 2019

Volume LIX Issue IV

The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with The American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest

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Next Meeting

Wednesday December 11th, 2019
Farmington Senior Center
321 New Britain Ave, Unionville, CT

6:30 pm: Doors open. Socializing.
Come early and help set up.
7:30 pm: Business meeting.
8:00 pm: Featured speaker and/or
presentation.

Please bring a snack for the
refreshments table!

Don't forget to bring your blooming
plants for the show table!

For notice of last-minute cancellations,
visit our website: www.ctorchids.org

Featured Event

Potluck and Elections

President's Message

Hi Everybody,

Happy Thanksgiving.

I'm looking forward to a long weekend and spending some much needed time in the green house.

Please keep your eyes on the lookout for spikes as we are about a month away from the CAIOS show the end of Jan. Also, needed is a member to deliver the COS display to the CAIOS show. The plants will all be preregistered and placed in containers. We have a member that will do take down. Remember you get to see all the displays and check out the vendor offerings before the show opens.

December is our Christmas pot luck, 6:30 in Farmington. Please let Karen Kuziel know what you will be bringing.

We will also be having elections: see last month's list. COS members have lots of talent, so please consider helping one of the officers with the tasks they perform.

Remember, this is your society. Your participation is essential for its survival and success.

Will see everyone Dec 11th. Remember the time 6:30.

Cheryl

2020 Upcoming Shows

January 25-26

CAIOS Show and Sale Hyannis, MA

February 8-9

Deep Cut Show and Sale NJ

February 22-23

Amherst Show and Sale Northampton, MA

February 20-23

CT Flower Show Hartford, CT

March 27-29

New Hampshire Show and Sale

April 3-4

COS Show and Sale Bristol, CT

HAVE IDEAS?

If you have ideas about the direction of the future of the society, please consider joining the board!

Upcoming AOS Webinars

All webinars from 8:30-9:30PM EST

Registration at www.aos.org

Dec 10: Conservation of *Saccolia lanceolata* in Florida

Saving Saccolia

Jan 16: AOS Greenhouse Chat

Presenter Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education, and accredited AOS judge, will hold a Q&A session on orchid culture. Advanced Registration (space is limited) required. The webinar is free for everyone.

Jan 9: Orchid Travels in Peru

Peruvian orchids in situ



Your Origin Story

How did you come to grow orchids? Everyone has a story. Some are more interesting or involved than others. What's your story? Share it here! No need to disclose how many orchids have gone to the compost pile (it's a lot: it always is).

Orchids in the News

Senate bills include help for orchid growers: read more [here](#).

Florida's rare ghost orchids are being cut off from water: read more [here](#).

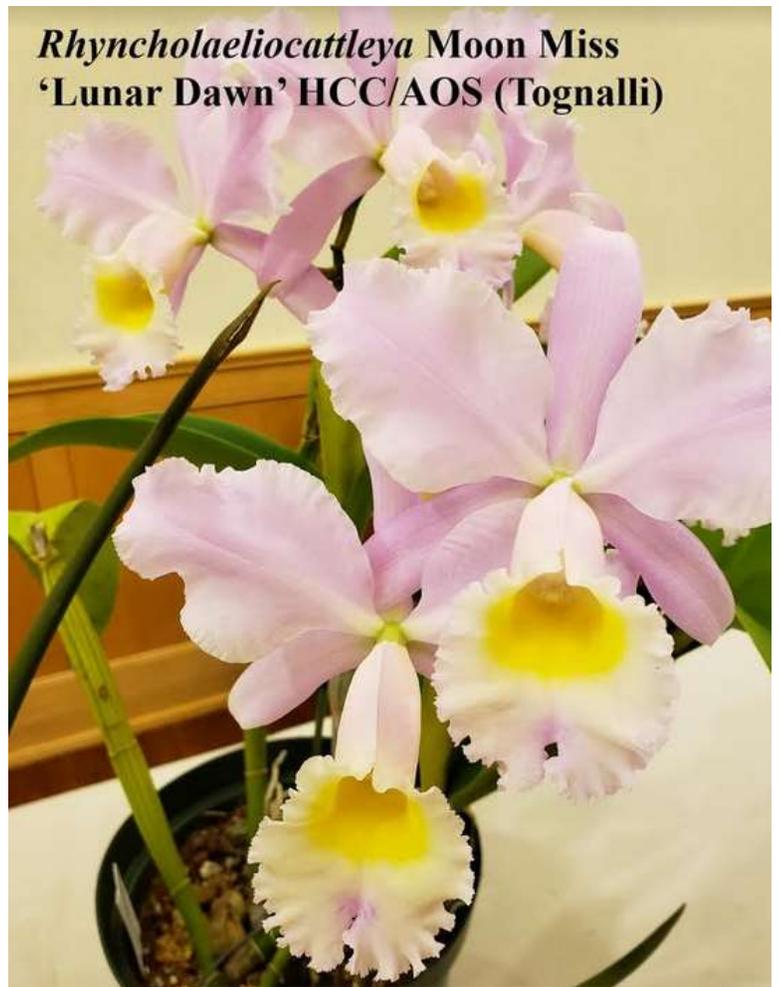
November Show Table

Culture is as noted: C- cool I-Intermediate W-Warm; G- Greenhouse WS- windowsill L- Lights

<i>Gastrochilus obliquus</i>	R. Schwartz	i, ws
<i>Pleurothallis talpinaria</i>	R. Schwartz	i, l
<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum</i> 'Fat Boy'	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Moon Miss 'Lunar Dawn' HCC/AOS	D. Tognalli	i, ws
<i>Rhynchovola</i> David Sander	D. Tognalli	i, ws
<i>Stenoglottis fimbriata</i>	T. Zamojski	i, ws
<i>Vandachostylis</i> Lou Sneary 'Bluebird' syn. <i>Neostylis</i>	T. Zamojski	i, l



Rhynchovola David Sander



Rhyncholaeliocattleya Moon Miss
'Lunar Dawn' HCC/AOS (Tognalli)



Rhyncholaeliocattleya Moon Miss
'Lunar Dawn' HCC/AOS (Mizak)



Pleurothallis talpinaria

November Meeting Minutes – Nov 13, 2019

Gary Meyers - Draculas

First off, the President announced the election of new officers taking place in December and noted that we will need a new president and a new treasurer at the end of next year. Your help will be much appreciated!

Our guest was Gary Meyer, speaking on Dracophilia, “a gothic romance” concerning Dracula orchids. He is the president of the Pleurothallid alliance. He became entranced with orchids as a teenager, and now has 1000. The human Dracula was Vlad Tepes, a sadistic ruler, written about in popular fiction.

The tiny orchids, while known before, got a boost in popularity following the studies of Carlyle Luer in 1978. Masdavallias were then separated from Draculas. Draculas inhabit the cloud forest. While there is a lot of air movement, it is shady, wet and cool. These plants are found from Central America, namely Costa Rica, down to Peru. Gary noted several species, such as the Costa Rican *carluerii*, Columbian *orientalis*, and Ecuadorian *vampira*. Draculas require a drop in night temperature for successful culture. Warm days are less of a difficulty than hot nights. The lips of these plants are thought to resemble fungi. Interestingly, when several species are grown together in a good habitat, they will often hybridize. Plants such as *venifica* and *incognita* are hybridized by humans, but there are naturally occurring hybrids, such as *pileus*, *auriculata* or *xenos*.

Distressing habitat destruction is occurring, even within supposedly protected areas. For example, mining interests are able to go into forest preserves such as the Maldonado and do their work. In some cases, the end of local civil wars caused even more collecting. The CITIES agreement, which is meant to protect species, sometimes results in their destruction, by blocking specimen transfer for research. On eBay, there are many fraudulent orchid listings (for example, 10 orchid seeds sold for a few dollars which are not orchid seeds.) One hopeful sign is the continued interest of young people living in these countries who appreciate the ecological bounty around them, and want to preserve the plants and wildlife.



ELECTIONS

HOSPITALITY –Karen Kuziel: Co- ordinates and brings beverages and paper goods to our monthly meetings, auction, and our show.

WEB MASTER—Suzie Spinelli: a new member has volunteered to work on our web site. Watch for some exciting new additions.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY- open Can easily be done at home. Write thank you notes, send get well cards. COS reimburses cost.

RECORDING SECRETARY - Carla Koch take notes at regular meetings and submits to the newsletter editor – Rebecca Schwartz. This position can easily be shared – it would be great to have a back up.

TREASURER - Dave Tognalli: Need good basic book keeping skills. Record proceeds from monthly raffles, dues, auction sales, pay speaker expenses, monthly meeting rent etc. Dave will be leaving this position next year so if you think you may want to check out the position shadow Dave.

VICE PRESIDENT - Rebecca Schwartz: fill in for the president when not available support

PRESIDENT - Cheryl Mizak next year I will be leaving this position. It would be great to have one or more members shadow what happens. Run meetings, secure meeting locations (done a year in advance) Answer questions about the society.

COS is your society. Your participation is essential for our survival and success.

Board Positions Open!



Mentor List

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

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
Greenhouse growing methods: Specializing in Paphiopedilums.

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

Rebecca Schwartz rebecca.r.schwartz@gmail.com
Vivarium growing methods, windowsill Cattleyas and species Phalaenopsis

Connecticut Orchid Society 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.



COS Membership Information

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. Annual membership includes electronic delivery of the newsletter. The newsletter is published each month except July and August.

COS Membership Dues: \$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 COSMembership@earthlink.net for details.

2019 Connecticut Orchid Society Officers & Posts

PRESIDENT	Cheryl Mizak	203-264-6096
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DIRECTOR -AT- LARGE	Karen Kuziel	203-262-9077
RECORDING SECRETARY	Carla Koch	203-272-8121
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON	Mary Rampone	203-263-2831
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY		
LIBRARIAN/HISTORIAN		
AOS REPRESENTATIVE	Glenn McGeough	203-482-3973
CONSERVATION CHAIRPERSON		
SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR		
REFRESHMENT CO-CHAIR		
WEB MASTER	Suzie Spinelli	

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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.