



Newsletter

December 2022

Volume LXIII Issue I

The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with The American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest

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Next Meeting

January 11, 2023

Cheshire Senior Center

240 Maple Ave, Cheshire,
CT 06410

6:30 PM – Set up

7:00 PM – Meeting Begins

Featured Event

Orchid Mounting
Workshop

Featured Event

Our January 11th meeting will be at the Cheshire Senior Center @240 Maple Ave,
Cheshire, CT 06410

Doors open at 6:30pm and the meeting starts at 7:00pm

Come early to socialize and help us set up.



This month's meeting will feature an orchid mounting workshop lead by Christian Lesage and Sue Kennedy. An orchid and supplies will be provided for a materials fee of \$10. If you've never tried growing a mounted orchid before, this will be a great beginners introduction to this growing method.

Photos courtesy of Christian Lesage

President's Message:

Hello Everyone,

I know it has been some time since our newsletter was graced with a President's Message, so let me introduce myself. For those of you who don't know me my name is Christian Lesage and I am one of the newly elected co-presidents. I work professionally as an Estate Horticulturist up in South Kent, where part of my duties involve managing a collection of ornamental display plants encompassing over 500 tropical orchids. Stepping into the position a number of years ago I had minimal experience growing orchids so it has been a journey and I am always excited to learn or share something new.

This is the time of year when I take special pleasure in the cultivation of my plants. We may be heading into a bleak New England winter, but that just means that we can appreciate the green and growing things in our lives! Many of our orchids are continuing to flower and develop spikes for spring blooms. Now is the time to take stock of all the projects we have had to push off during the busy part of the growing season. I know that I am working my way through writing up labels for fall divisions and adding them to my accession lists or updating my inventory and ordering supplies for next year. Watering needs are lower for most of our summer growing species genera, but moisture management is still important depending on where you are overwintering your collection. For plants out in the greenhouse, cooler temperatures mean that watering must be taken care of early in the morning when good air circulation and warmer daytime temps will give the plants sufficient time to dry out before evening when the greenhouse cools off again. Moisture sitting in bud sheaths, leaf axels, and the growing tip of the plant overnight is a recipe for bacterial and fungal problems. On the other end of the spectrum those of us with plants overwintering in our homes, care must be taken to prevent desiccation, the lower ambient humidity levels and warmer temps of our living spaces are hard even on dormant plants. Make sure to keep an eye on roots and pseudobulbs to keep them hydrated!

Last month we had a nice turnout for our December Holiday Party at the Farmington Senior Center and I'm sure that everyone there would agree that we put out a delicious spread. I would like to give a shout out to Karen Kuziel for organizing the event and making it such a memorable evening, the Christmas crackers were a real hit!

Before the dinner commenced pleasure was mixed with a bit of business; officer elections are typically held at the December meeting, and you may remember our announcement leading up to the Meeting regarding the search for a candidate to fill the presidency. After many years serving the society Cheryl had decided to step away from the president's position. After much deliberation and general heel dragging Mary Rampone and I stepped up and were nominated to take the helm of the organization. Being somewhat shy of the responsibility we settled on the somewhat unusual arrangement of serving together as co-presidents. We felt that given both our schedules and commitments for 2023 that it would be best to share the responsibilities and duties. We are excited to hit the ground running with some fun events planned out for the upcoming meetings.

Looking ahead our January 11th meeting will be a hands-on Orchid Mounting Workshop at the Cheshire Senior Center. An orchid and supplies will be provided for a materials fee of \$10. If you've never tried growing a mounted orchid before, this will be a great beginners introduction to the technique with cultural tips for keeping things thriving. I am planning on bringing in an overgrown *Maxillaria tenuifolia* plant to use for the workshop, it's one of those plants that was once growing in a basket, but long since grew into the baby carriage sized hanging monstrosity. Giving the growth habit of *M. tenuifolia* it should make a nice slab mount. So come on out and get your hands dirty it should be a lot of fun and you get to bring a plant home!

It's that time of year again, Orchid Show season will kick off on January 20th-22nd with the Cape and Island Orchid Society show at the Resort & Conference Center of Hyannis in Barnstable, MA. We are planning on participating as a society with a display. Setup will be on Thursday January 19th with takedown on Sunday January 22nd. Take a look at your

collections to see what blooming plants you may have for the display. Dave Tognalli will be coordinating volunteers and organizing the plant pickup. If you would like to be involved or have plants to contribute, see below for further details.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Christian Lesage



Dave Tognalli showing his dedication to the perfect shot at the December show table.



The cold temperatures during the winter months make transporting a delicate orchid to the meetings a challenge, despite the frigid weather we still had a nice spread of flowers to brighten the room!



Member Dave Tognalli taking us on a tour of the Show Table while sporting his stylish paper crown from the Christmas Crackers!

Upcoming Shows

Four orchid societies will be having shows in January or February of 2023 and have invited the COS to participate with a display. Those Societies with locations and show dates are as follows:

Society	Location	Setup Date	Takedown Date
Cape and Islands OS	Hyannis, MA	January 19	January 22
Deep Cut OS	Holmdel, NJ	February 2	February 5
New Hampshire OS	Nashua, NH	February 9	February 12
Amherst OS	Northampton, MA	February 23	February 26

Members are needed to help in gathering plants for displays, setting up displays and taking them down. Please contact Dave Tognalli at dtog54@sbcglobal.net or 860-521-7249 if you can volunteer to set up and/or take down our display for any of these shows.

In addition, COS will have a booth in the 2023 Connecticut Flower Show held at the Convention Center in Hartford. Setup of our booth is Wednesday, February 22. The show runs from Thursday, February 23 through Sunday February 26. Volunteers will be needed to help with setup, take down and to man our booth during the show. More information will be coming out soon.

December Meeting Minutes

December's meeting was a short business meeting followed by our Christmas Party.

During the business meeting the following slate of officers for 2023 was presented:

President: Christain Lesage and Mary Rampone as Co-Presidents

Vice President: Open as we have no candidate for the position

Recording Secretary: Carla Koch

Treasurer: Suzanne Spinelli

Director At Large: Karen Kuziel

Director At Large: Rebecca Schwartz

Director At Large: Michael Wicki

The slate was nominated, the nomination was seconded and voted upon. The slate won the vote unanimously.

Notice was given to the members that COS has been invited to attend several orchid and flower shows in January and February. Also for fund raising COS is planning to have a one day tent sale in May. Volunteers are needed for all of these events. Stay tuned for more information.

Our Christmas party then began with delicious food, drink and party favors. There was a short review of the show table by Christain and Dave during the party. A great time was had by all.

December 2022 Show Table Listing

<i>Aerangis mystacidii</i>	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Angraecum distichum</i>	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Brachypeza semiteretifolia</i>	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Clowesetum</i> Pierre Couret 'Flamingo Pink'	D. Tognalli	i, w
x <i>Catasetum</i> Orchidglade 'Davie Ranchers' AM/AOC		
<i>Cynoches cooperi</i>	D. Tognalli	i, w
('Sunset Valley Orchids III' FCC/AOS x 'Memoria Pat Worthington' AM/AOS)		
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Memoria ChaCha Sprintz	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Mister Wonderful	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> hybrid ig. yellow	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> hybrid ig. yellow-green	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Rhyncolaeliocattleya</i> Goldenzelle 'Lemon Chiffon' AM/AOS	D. Tognalli	i, w

* c = cool, i=intermediate, w=warm

g=greenhouse, l=lights, w=windowsill

December 2022 Show Table

Aerangis mystacidii



Angraecum distichum



Brachyepiza semiteretifolia



***Clowesetum* Pierre Couret 'Flamingo Pink'
x *Catasetum* Orchidglade 'Davie Ranchers' AM/AOC**



Cycnoches cooperi

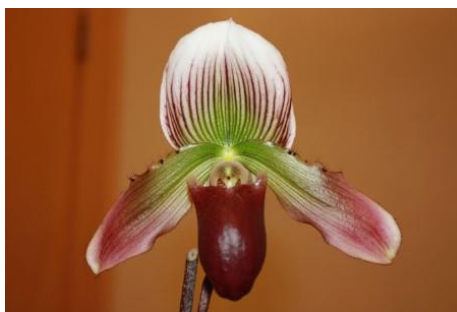
('Sunset Valley Orchids III' FCC/AOS x 'Memoria Pat Worthington' AM/AOS)



Paphiopedilum Memoria ChaCha Sprintz



Paphiopedilum Mister Wonderful



***Paphiopedilum* hybrid ig. yellow**



***Paphiopedilum* hybrid ig. yellow-green**



***Rhyncolaeliocattleya* Goldenzelle
'Lemon Chiffon' AM/AOS**



HAVE IDEAS?

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

Upcoming AOS News and Events

Click on this link below

<https://www.aos.org/news-events.aspx>

Orchids in the News

**Not orchids in particular but fun to
know!**

https://ctorchids.org/?attachment_id=2008

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 Tognall 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.

2021 Connecticut Orchid Society Officers & Posts

PRESIDENT	Christain Lesage/Mary Rampone	475-238-4934/203-263-2831
VICE-PRESIDENT	Open Position	
TREASURER/EDITOR	Suzy Spinelli	203-525-9682
DIRECTOR -AT- LARGE	Michael Wicki	203-364-7863
DIRECTOR -AT- LARGE	Karen Kuziel	203-262-9077
DIRECTOR -AT- LARGE	Rebecca Schwartz	860-670-8272
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 MISTRESS	Suzy Spinelli	203-525-9682

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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.