



## Newsletter

February 2023

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The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with The American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest

### Inside this Issue

Page: 1

Next Meeting

Page: 2

Featured Event

Page: 3 -4 Note from the President

Bookshelf notes

Page: 5 AOS Cattleya information

Page: 6

Notes from January meeting.

Page: 7-8

January Show Table

Page: 9-12

Mentors

Membership Info

Link to AOS Calendar

Officers & Contacts



### Next Meeting

February 8, 2022

Farmington Senior Center

321 New Britain Ave.  
Unionville, CT 06085

Doors open at 6.30

Meeting starts at 7:00

### Featured Event

Let's Talk About  
Cattleya's with  
Glenn McGeough  
and Dave Tognalli

## Let's Talk About Cattleya's with Dave Tognalli and Glenn McGeough

Cattleyas are one of the most widely grown genera of orchids with a long history of cultivation and hybridization dating back to the early days of the plant collection expeditions. If you are new to orchids, these are some of the easiest and most forgiving plants to grow.

Get the inside scoop from two of our expert member growers Glenn McGeough and Dave Tognalli on what it takes to make them thrive and learn a bit about the growth habits, cultivation, and history behind some of these incredible plants.

Whatever your setup; outdoor growing, greenhouse growing, or windowsill growing Glenn and Dave will share some tips and advice for successfully blooming your plants. Now is the time of year when many plants are pushing out spikes so there should be some nice specimens for show and tell, as well as photos of some of their prize plants.

If you are in need of some tropical plant glamour the cattleya certainly delivers. This is a great opportunity to hear from some veteran growers so come prepared with all your orchid questions.

Don't forget to bring your blooming plants for the show table. . It's always exciting to see what's coming into bloom, looking forward to an awesome show table! See you there!

Please print and fill out an ID card for the show table. Link is below :)

[Orchid ID Cards for Show Table](#)

# Letter from the President

## “Gateway to Spring”

Hi Everyone!

As we experience some of the coldest days on record it may seem like we are getting ahead of ourselves dreaming about spring, but it helps to have something to look forward to. The club is planning on participating in the 2023 CT Flower and Garden Show at the end of February. The show runs from Thursday February 23<sup>rd</sup> - Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup>.

COS will be putting together an informational booth in the Federated Garden Clubs education section.

We need your help to make the COS participation a success!

Members are needed to staff the table and engage with the public and answer questions. This is a great outreach opportunity for the club, creating visibility and generating new memberships. Combined we have a wealth of knowledge about orchids so let's get out there to promote some interest by helping people understand what they are and how they are grown.

The sign-up sheet was passed around at the last few meetings and thank you to everyone who already volunteered. If you haven't seen the signup sheet yet you can find it on our website under the Meetings and Events tab, take a look at the gaps in our member coverage of the table and see if we can fill them. Let's get the word out about the club! COS Members who volunteer to staff the booth will have free entry to the show that day! We are asking for a commitment of at least 3hrs, which leaves plenty of time for enjoying the rest of the show.

Please respond ASAP to so your name will be registered for free entry.

More details will be forwarded to those who volunteer.



## Letter from the President's Bookshelf

From the Bookshelf:

Hi Everyone!

The COS has a number of orchid and garden related books and pamphlets that we are offering to the membership ahead of the May fundraising sale. All the books are used with pricing to reflect the condition. Members will receive an additional 10% off the listed price. If you are interested in a title please reach out to [ctorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:ctorchidsociety@gmail.com) and we can arrange to bring your selection to the next society meeting.

Here is a link to the spreadsheet that has the book information: [CT Orchid Society Books for Sale Shelf](#)

## AOS article on Cattleyas

Below is an excerpt from an article on Cattleyas from the AOS. The author is not listed but this article was found on the AOS website. Please visit the link to read it in its entirety! <https://www.aos.org/orchids/additional-resources/cattleya-queen-of-the-orchids.aspx>

The AOS website is an excellent source of information on orchids!

**General culture:** - Much of the information in earlier installments of this series applied especially to Cattleyas. Stated briefly, this labiate section requires ample light, humidity and ventilation. Day temperature will vary with the outside weather, but night temperature should not drop below 60F during the growing season and about 55F in the winter. Potting adult Cattleyas in osmunda is recommended for most hobbyists, or in tree fern, if you live in an area where that has supplanted the former. Seedlings may be potted in organic mixes for quicker growth. In most areas, feeding adult Cattleyas is not recommended for beginners, although seedlings may be fed and, in very sunny areas, the adults may be given a light application periodically. Watering should be thorough, enough to keep plants plump, with less water (but do not dry out) as the plants prepare to flower. After flowering, the plants can be kept drier until new growth begins. Review the earlier installments on culture, for the labiate Cattleyas are of intermediate cultural types, able to adapt themselves to varying conditions more readily than almost any other kind of orchid.

## January Meeting Notes

We had a successful evening with several new possible members attending. Many very nice orchid mountings were created. Many thanks to Christian, Mary, Sue and everyone that helped out with this meeting event!

Raffle orchids all went to new homes. Lots of fun was had by all.

## January 2023 Show Table

<i>Aliceara</i> Snowblind 'Sweet Spots' AM/AOS	B. Pervere	i, l
<i>Bulbophyllum</i> Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry' FCC/AOS	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Vanda</i> Motes Adorbs ( <i>Vanda ampullacea</i> x <i>Vanda christensoniana</i> )	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Zygosepalum</i> 'QF Amanda'	B. Pervere	i, l

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

g=greenhouse, l=lights, w=windowsill



***Aliceara* Snowblind 'Sweet Spots' AM/AOS**



***Bulbophyllum* Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry' FCC/AOS**



***Vanda* Motes Adorbs**



***Zygosepalum* 'QF Amanda'**







## 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!

<https://theconversation.com/this-strange-donkey-orchid-uses-uv-light-to-trick-bees-into-thinking-it-has-food-198980>

## 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](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)  
Greenhouse growing methods: Specializing in Paphiopedilums.

**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.

**Rebecca Schwartz** [rebecca.r.schwartz@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.ctorchids.org) to apply for/renew membership. We accept Paypal.

Contact Membership Chairperson Mary Rampone at [COSMembership@earthlink.net](mailto:COSMembership@earthlink.net) for details.

## 2021 Connecticut Orchid Society Officers & Posts

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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.