



Newsletter

April 2023

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The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with The American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest

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Next Meeting

April 12, 2023

Farmington Senior Center

We will be holding our
monthly meeting on
Wednesday evening: doors
open at 6:30pm for
socializing and the meeting
will start at 7pm.

@ the Farmington Senior
Center @ 321 New Britain
Ave, Unionville, CT 06085

Featured Event

Kelly McCracken will
Lecture on Using
Artificial Lighting to
Grow Orchids

Artificial Lighting: with our guest lecturer Kelly McCracken, owner of High Desert Orchids.

Kelly started as an avid hobbyist, and like many of you, couldn't stop buying plants. Quickly one greenhouse became two, and now she grows plants in a unique 3,000 sq ft high-bay industrial warehouse space all under artificial lights. Kelly specializes in miniature plants, with a particular affection for miniature Cattleyas, Angraecoids, Jewel Orchids, and Dendrobiums.



Many growers have discovered the opportunities that the recent drop in price and increase in availability of LED lights has provided. But there is relatively little information about how much artificial light orchids need and what kinds of lights are best. This talk will go over the unique HDO grow space, which is entirely under LED lights, how we set it up, the lights we use, and some tips we have discovered while growing a commercial sized grow space all under artificial light. The talk will answer questions such as

- How much light?
- What kind of light?
- What spectrum of light?

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

From the Presidents:

From the President:

Hi Everyone!

Spring has officially sprung! With longer days and warmer temperatures things are starting to wake up in our gardens and greenhouses. Finally starting to see a bit of green appearing in the garden and it's like letting out a long sigh after our dreary New England winter. In the greenhouse I am starting to see plants waking up as buds break and new growths start elongating. Every time I water the roots almost seem to put on new growth right in front of me, with vigorous green growing tips searching out new purchase in pots or on mounts. This is a season of profuse flowering in the Cymbidium, Dendrobium, and Angraecoid groups. Now is an excellent time to repot or make divisions of your actively growing plants while temps are still cool enough to allow plants to recover before the heat of summer arrives.

Last month's Field Trip to the NYBG was a lot of fun. Everyone who made the trek was blown away by the orchid displays at this year's show. Not only were the displays well put together, the conservatory itself is an amazing setting to create the experience of walking through a Tropical Rainforest filled with sprays of blooming orchids. It is something that you probably wouldn't even experience in such profusion if you were to visit orchids in situ. The use of water features and immersive exhibit designs really set this year's display a notch above previous visits. For those looking to experience the magic of wandering through the orchid filled greenhouses at night with a cocktail in hand, the Orchid Nights are another way to experience the displays. If you are thinking about visiting or haven't been to the NYBG in a while the show runs through April and is definitely worth the trip.

The April Meeting is fast approaching on Wed. April 12th in Farmington featuring guest speaker Kelly McCracken from High Dessert Orchids. For those of us not fortunate enough to be growing orchids in a greenhouse Artificial Lighting is a subject of great interest allowing us to expand our collections beyond the windowsill. With so many lighting options on the market and limited information about growing under lights it can be hard to find the best fit for your situation. As we move away from T5 and T8 fixtures towards LED's many questions arise about light quantity, spectrum, and energy usage. Kelly's talk is sure to cover all the basics and give you the confidence to convert that spare bedroom or walk in closet into an orchid grow room. If you have questions about lighting come on out to our next meeting and get advice from a pro. Kelly should be bringing plants on her speaking tour so fingers crossed that she has some left for our meeting on Wednesday!

See you there!

Christian

Photos from NYBG (March Meeting)

This casual potted orchid display felt really cozy along this brick wall something achievable for any of us with a few potted plants to work with!



Beneath the soaring dome of the Palm House this stunning island display is captured in waters crystal reflection.



The use of water is carried throughout the display with a set of matching orchid filled reflecting pools



Nice to see everyone enjoying the show



Time for a group photo, it was hard not to get excited about all the orchids!

Looking Ahead

April

**4/12/23 COS Meeting Farmington: Guest Speaker Kelly McCracken
Growing Under Lights**

May

**5/10/23 COS Meeting Preparing for our Mother's Day Fundraiser
5/13/23 Mother's Day Orchid Sale: Southington First Congregational
Church**

June

6/14/23 COS Meeting Farmington: Guest Speaker Tim Culbertson

July

7/9/23 Summer Picnic Black Rock State Park: Guest Speaker Fred Clarke

February Show Table

<i>Brassanthe</i> Maikai 'Mayumi' HCC/AOS	K. Kuziel	i, w
<i>Cattleya</i> Bob Betts 'Liberty Hill' AM/AOS	J. Chang	i, w
<i>Cattleya</i> Cariad's Mini-Quinee 'Angel Kiss' HCC/AOS	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Cattleya</i> Color Guard 'Carnaval in Rio'	G. McGeough	i, w
<i>Cattleya mossiae</i> 'Dark Prince' AM/AOS	G. McGeough	i, l
<i>Cattleya quadricolor</i> 'Jose Fernando Londono'	G. McGeough	i, g
<i>Cattleya</i> Paola Matano	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Cattleya</i> Schroderae 'The Baron's Opus'	G. McGeough	i, g
<i>Cattleya trianaei</i> 'Mary Fennell' HCC/AOS	G. McGeough	i, g
<i>Cattleya trianaei</i> 'Superba'	G. McGeough	i, w
<i>Cattleya warneri</i> var. <i>coerulea</i>	C. Lesage	w, g
x <i>Cattleya</i> Lawre-Mossiae		
<i>Cattlianthe</i> Orglade's Spotlight	D. Tognalli	i, w
<i>Fredclarkeara</i> After Dark 'Sunset Valley Orchids' FCC/AOS	R. Schwartz	i, w
<i>Laelia anceps</i> f. <i>alba</i>	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Laelia anceps</i> var. <i>veitchiana</i> 'Cielo Azul'	C. Lesage	w, g
<i>Laelia</i> Bonnie Bonita 'Ruben's'	J. Chang	i, w
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Dot McNay 'Quebec Vini'	M. Rampone	i, g
x <i>Paphiopedulum</i> Cormoran 'A aigret'		
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> hybrid ig.(2)	J. Richards	i, l
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Tambola x <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Ravenstart	J. Richards	i, l
<i>Phaleanopsis</i> hybrid ig.	K. Lazor	i, w
<i>Rhyncattleanthe</i> Neon Star FCA	K. Kuziel	i, w
(<i>Rhyncattleanthe</i> Young-Min Orange x <i>Cattlianthe</i> Trick or Treat)		
<i>Cattleya</i> Naomi Kerns 'Orange Glow'	C. Lesage	w, g
x <i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Oconee 'Mendenhall' AM/AOS		

* c = cool, i=intermediate, w=warm
g=greenhouse, l=lights, w=windowsill

***Brassanthe* Maikai 'Mayumi'**



***Cattleya* Bob Betts 'Liberty Hill' AM/AOS**



***Cattleya* Cariad's Mini-Quinee 'Angel Kiss'
HCC/AOS**



***Cattleya* Color Guard 'Carnaval in Rio'**



***Cattleya mossiae* 'Dark Prince' AM/AOS**



***Cattleya quadricolor* 'Jose Fernando Londono'**



***Cattleya* Paola Matano**



***Cattleya* Schroderae 'The Baron's OPUS'**



***Cattleya trianaei* 'Mary Fennell' HCC/AOS**



***Cattleya trianaei* 'Superba'**



***Cattleya warneri* var. *coerulea*
x *Cattleya* Lawre-Mossiae**



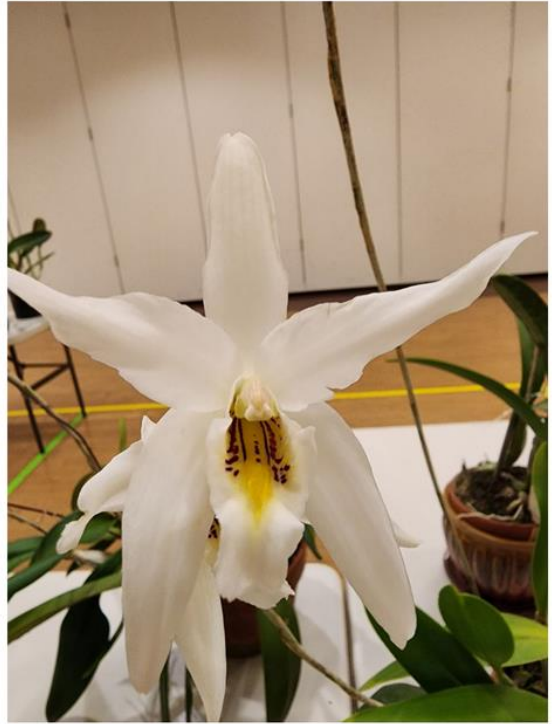
***Cattlianthe* Orglade's Spotlight**



Fredclarkeara After Dark
'Sunset Valley Orchids' FCC/AOS



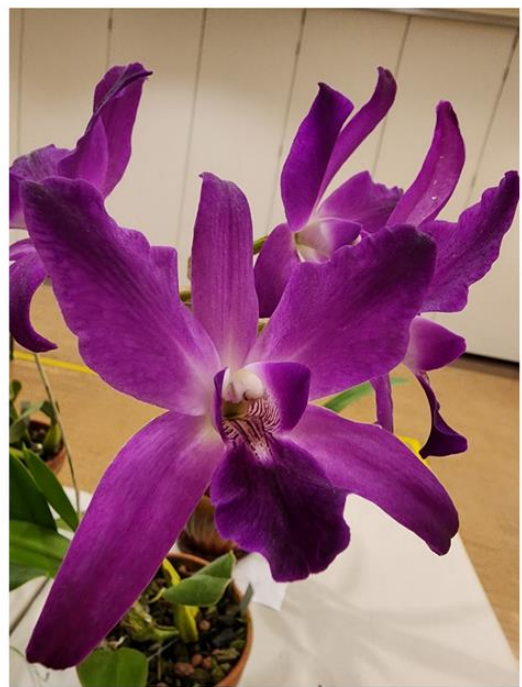
Laelia anceps f. alba



Laelia anceps var. veitchiana 'Cielo Azul'



Laelia Bonnie Bonita 'Ruben's'



***Paphiopedilum* Dot NcNay 'Quebec Vini'
x *Paphiopedilum* Cormoran 'A aigret'**



Jeff Richard's *Paphiopedilums*



***Paphiopedilum* hybrid ig.**



***Paphiopedilum* hybrid ig.**



Paphiopedilum Tombola* x *Paphiopedilum Ravenstart



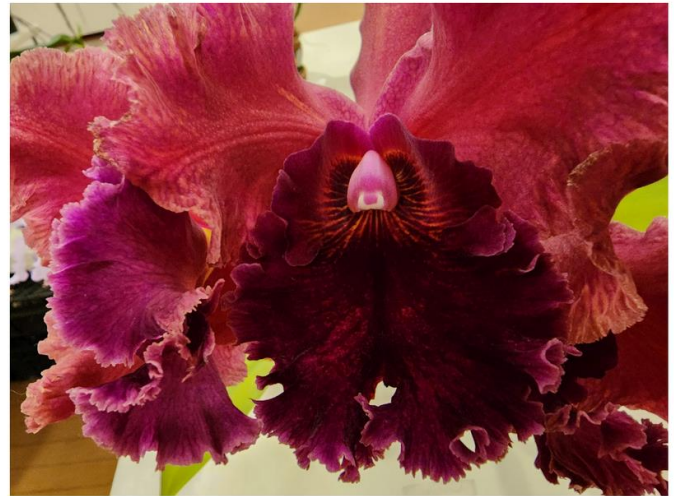
***Phalaenopsis* hybrid ig.**



***Rhyncattleanthe Neon Star* FCA**



***Cattleya Naomi Kerns 'Orange Glow'*
x *Rhyncholaeliocattleya Oconee 'Mendenhall'* 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!

Click the link to learn more about the new species of orchid found in Japan!

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/03/17/asia/japan-new-species-orchid-scn/index.html>

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.

2023 Connecticut Orchid Society Officers & Posts

PRESIDENT	Christain Lesage/Mary Rampone	475-238-4934/203-263-2831
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON	Mary Rampone	203-263-2831
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LIBRARIAN/HISTORIAN		
AOS REPRESENTATIVE	Glenn McGeough	203-482-3973
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SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR		
REFRESHMENT CO-CHAIR		
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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.