



Newsletter

January 2025

Volume LXV Issue V

The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with The American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest

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Next Meeting

January 8th, 2025
Doors open: 6:30
Meeting starts: 7pm

Cheshire Senior Center
240 Maple Ave,
Cheshire, CT 06410

Featured Event

**Pests, Diseases, and
Troubleshooting Problems**

President's Message

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Years! As we put another great year behind us, I find myself reflecting on where I was a year ago. Sometimes it feels like things are static with the plant collection and there hasn't been very much change recently, but plants operate on a different timescale than us, they are just moving along at a slower pace dictated by seasonality and cumulative degree days, photon by photon. I am always surprised when I look back at photos of the greenhouse, things have indeed grown and filled in, many have bloomed once, maybe even multiple times throughout the year, roots are slowly engulfing pots, and they are all doing their best to make me feel like I haven't been keeping up with re-potting.

While I may continue to bite my lip about all the things that I haven't gotten done this past year, sometimes I don't reflect enough on what did happen and all the good things I have gotten out of it. This year there were some incredible shows at sister organizations which we participate in and brought back ribbons from, our April Show was a success financially and in attendance, we had an amazing group of speakers and educational content at meetings, and we all had the pleasure of socializing and meeting other orchid enthusiasts along the way.

Our Holiday Party last month was filled with good cheer, and I would like to say a special thanks to Mary Rampone, my Co-President, for coordinating the food and setting up the party. The catered food was delicious as usual, and we had a delightful spread of appetizers, sides, and desserts. Our elected officers were proposed and voted on at the start of the meeting. Mary and I announced that this will be the third and final year of our co-presidency, it has been a ton of responsibility and a wonderful learning experience as we steered the ship of state along orchid laden shores.

We are still looking for a Refreshment Chair to take over for Karen Kuziel, and as no one has stepped up to take over we unfortunately will not have refreshments and snacks at meetings going forward. If you enjoy attending meetings and are looking for a way to become more involved in the society this is a great low commitment way to make a big impact. It involves attending meetings and bringing the Host/Hostess supplies, setting up coffee/tea/water, and putting out some snacks. Please see Mary or I at the next meeting if you are interested, if learning from our speakers and workshops isn't enough reason to attend all our meetings, here is another great reason.

Our upcoming meeting is on the Calendar for January 8th at the Cheshire Senior Center, since the weather can be inclement this time of year, we have opted to use one of the many educational AOS Webinars in place of a live speaker. The one we have chosen is a talk presented by the AOS Chief Education and Science Officer Ron McHatton, on **Pests, Diseases, and Troubleshooting Problems** - Module 5 of the Masters Gardener Series. It has been a while since we have had a talk on something as practical as identifying and treating problems in our collections. This is a broad overview on how to properly manage pests and diseases, which goes into a fair amount of detail on how to deal with some of the most common ones you might encounter in your collection. I enjoyed it and even took note of some useful information that I am going to apply to my spray rotation program. We are planning to meet in person at the Cheshire Senior Center to view the presentation, and there will be a show table and raffle as usual. Should the weather threaten snow or icy conditions the night of the meeting, the board will decide on the Monday ahead of our meeting date if we will be switching to a virtual meeting format.

If you are not already a member of the AOS, we strongly encourage that you join, the membership benefits are well worth the yearly dues. I always look forward to my monthly copy of the Orchids magazine in the mail and the AOS has put a lot of effort into improving the online resources available to its members, there is a wealth of members only educational content on their website including the many scheduled live webinars and a recorded library of past talks.

Need something to look forward to after the holidays? At the end of January, we will be participating in The Cape and Island Orchid Society Show & Sale Jan 25-26th. As usual we will be putting together a club display for the show and will be collecting blooming plants for the display in the week leading up to the show. So keep in mind any plants you might have in spike or bud that will be ready for show season. It's always a fun time to earn some ribbons for the club. We will send out an email calling for plants and including instructions for registering your plants, so keep it in the back of your mind.

See you at the next meeting! Christian

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

Jan 2: Greenhouse Chat

At 8:30pm

**Jan 9: Inorganic Potting Media: Never
Repot Again Part 1**

At 8:30pm

Feb 5: Greenhouse Chat

At 8:30pm

**Feb 12: Inorganic Potting Media: Never
Repot Again Part 2**

At 8:30pm



Orchids in the News

Dogs trained to hunt wild orchids: read more [here](#).

Urbanization and orchid bees: read more [here](#).

**Wild orchid collectors and orchid population
decline:** read more [here](#).

New insight into orchid origins: read more [here](#).

December Meeting Minutes

December 11th 2024 Connecticut Orchid Society met in Farmington for our annual holiday party and monthly meeting. Approximately 18 people attended. Food was provided by both COS and members. The food and fellowship made for a pleasant evening. Following the meal, the slate of 2025 officers was voted on. Cheryl Mizak presented the names to vote on which included:

Co-Presidents:	Christian Lesage & Mary Rampone
Vice President:	Jason Chang
Treasurer:	Suzanne Spinelli
Director-at-large:	Rebecca Schwartz, Michael Wicki
Recording Secretary:	Carla Koch & Valerie D'Apice
Membership Chairperson:	Mary Rampone
Corresponding Secretary:	VACANT
Editor:	Rebecca Schwartz
Librarian/Historian:	VACANT
AOS Representative:	Glenn McGeough
Conservation Chairperson:	VACANT
Special Events Coordinator:	VACANT
Refreshment Chairperson:	vacant
Social Media Coordinator:	Vacant

Christian proposed accepting the slate and Sara Becker seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Our next meeting will be in Cheshire on January 8th where a webinar from the American Orchid Society will be presented.

Mention was made about upcoming shows in the region. There will be an Orchid Show in North Jersey January 17-19th in New Brunswick NJ. COS will not be having a display there however the following weekend, COS will be represented at the Cape and Islands Orchid Show in Hyannis, MA . On the weekend of January 25-26. Mary Rampone will drive up to set up the display and Valerie D'Apice will be driving up to take the display down and transport the display back to CT. We need blooming plants to enter into the show.

Our February meeting will be back in Farmington on February 12th and will feature Greg Griffis, formerly of Longwood Gardens.

Submitted by Valerie D'Apice

December Show Table

<i>Aliceara</i> Marfitch 'Howard's Dream' AMAOS syn. <i>Beallara</i>	B. Michaelis	i, w
<i>Brassocattleya</i> Richard Mueller	M. Wicki/C. Lucas	i, w
<i>Catasetum</i> Melana Davison x <i>Catasetum</i> Orchidglade	M. Wicki/C. Lucas	i, w
<i>Cattleya</i> Athena Chagaris 'Pisgah'	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Cattlianthe</i> Big Ben 'Blue Mountain' AM/AOS	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Cattleya</i> x <i>dolosa</i> fma. <i>alba</i> 'Precious White'	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Cattleya labiata coerulea</i> 'Canaima's Heidelbeer'	C. Lesage	i, g
x <i>Cattleya</i> Marcelo Miranda 'Emily' AM/AOS		
<i>Cattleya percivaliana</i> fma. <i>marmoreada</i>	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Dendrobium</i> Love Memory 'Fizz' AM/AOS	R. Schwartz	i, g
<i>Epidendrum nocturnum</i>	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Fredclarkeara</i> Dark Matter	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Galeandra</i> Penny Lane	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Laeliocattleya</i> Marthe Haineault	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Oncidium</i> Tsiku Marguerite	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Oncidium</i> Volcano Queen	B. Michaelis	i, w
<i>Paphiopedilum spicereanum</i>	C. Mizak	i, g
<i>Phalaenopsis</i> hybrid ig.	M. Wicki/C. Lucas	i, w
<i>Phalaenopsis japonica</i> Nagoran-no-Shima syn. <i>Siderea</i>	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Phragmipedium</i> Fritz Schomburg	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Vanda tricuspidata</i>	R. Schwartz	i, g

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

g=greenhouse, l=lights, w=windowsill



December Show Table

Aliceara Marfitch 'Howard's Dream' AM/AOS
syn. *Beallara*



Catasetum Melana Davison x
Catasetum Orchidglade

Brassocattleya Richard Meuller



Cattleya Athena Chagaris 'Pisgah'



Cattlianthe Big Ben 'Blue Mountain' AM/AOS



Cattleya x *dolosa* fma. *alba* 'Precious White'



Epidendrum nocturnum

Cattleya percivaliana* fma. *marmoreada



***Dendrobium* Love Memory 'Fizz' AM/AOS** ***Galeandra* Penny Lane**



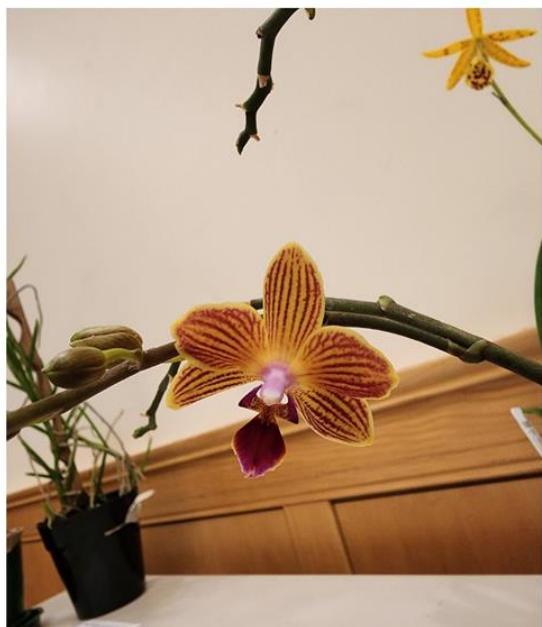
***Laeliocattleya* Marthe Haineault**



***Oncidium* Volcano Queen**



***Phalaenopsis* hybrid ig.**



***Phalaenopsis japonica* Nagoran-no-Shima
syn. *Siderea***



***Cattleya labiata* *coerulea* 'Canaima's Heidelbeer'
x *Cattleya* Marcello Miranda 'Emily' AM/AOS**



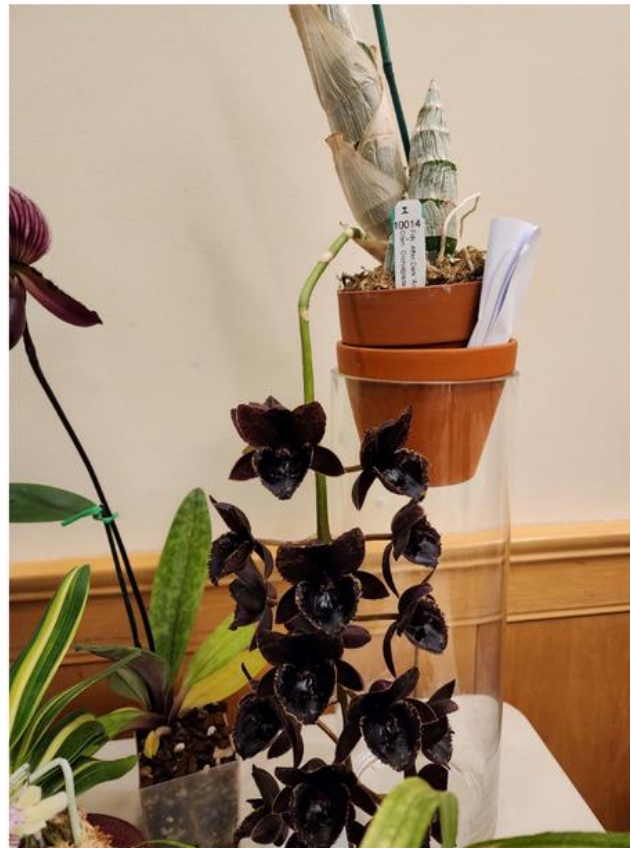
Vanda tricuspidata



Paphiopedilum spicereanum



***Fredclarkeara* Dark Matter**



People's Choice

Winner - *Phragmipedium* Fritz Schomburg grown by Jason Chang

***Phragmipedium* Fritz Schomburg**



Runner Up - *Oncidium* Tsiku Marguerite grown by Christian Lesage

***Oncidium* Tsiku Marguerite**



Upcoming Events for 2025: COS and Beyond

January

January 6 Board Meeting 7pm
January 8 COS Meeting Cheshire: Topic TBD
January 17-19 North Jersey Orchid Society Show & Sale
January 25-26 Cape and Island Orchid Society Show & Sale

February

February 10 Board Meeting 7pm
February 12 COS Meeting Farmington: Greg Griffis from Longwood
February 14-16 Deep Cut Orchid Society Show & Sale
February 20-23 CT Flower and Garden Show: Hartford Convention Center
February 22-23 Amherst Orchid Society Show & Sale

March

March 10 Board Meeting 7pm
March 12 COS Meeting Cheshire: Terrarium workshop
March 28-30 New Hampshire Orchid Society Show & Sale

April

April 7 Board Meeting 7pm
April 9 COS Meeting Farmington: Topic TBD

May

May 10 Mother's Day Orchid Sale
May 12 Board Meeting 7pm
May 14 COS Meeting Cheshire: Alan Koch from Gold Country Orchids

June

June 9 Board Meeting 7pm
June 11 COS Meeting Farmington: Tim Culbertson from Oceanside Orchids

August

August 4 Board Meeting 7pm
August 10 COS Summer Picnic Black Rock State Park

September

September 8 Board Meeting 7pm
September 10 COS Meeting Cheshire: Repotting Clinic and Supplies Sale

October

October 6 Board Meeting 7pm
October 8 COS Meeting Farmington: Show prep and Display design
October 11-12 Connecticut Orchid Society Show & Sale

November

November ? Massachusetts Orchid Society Show & Sale
November 10 Board Meeting 7pm
November 12 COS Meeting Cheshire: Topic TBD

December

December 8 Board Meeting 7pm
December 10 COS Meeting Farmington: Holiday Party

Subject to Change

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 Catasetums and species Phaleanopsis

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: \$30/yr. Individual \$35/yr. Family

\$300 Individual or \$350 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.

2024 Connecticut Orchid Society Officers & Posts

CO-PRESIDENTS	Mary Rampone & Christian Lesage	
VICE-PRESIDENT	Jason Chang	
TREASURER	Suzie Spinelli	
DIRECTOR -AT- LARGE, EDITOR	Rebecca Schwartz	
DIRECTOR -AT- LARGE		
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	Mike Wicki	
RECORDING SECRETARY	Carla Koch & Valerie D'Apice	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		
SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR		
WEB MASTER	Suzie Spinelli	

Contact Us

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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.