



Newsletter

February 2025

Volume LXV Issue VI

The First, Original Orchid Society in Connecticut

Affiliated with The American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest

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Next Meeting

February 12th, 2025
Doors open: 6:30
Meeting starts: 7pm

Farmington Senior Center
and
Online (info below)

Featured Event

Greg Griffis
formerly of Longwood
Gardens

President's Message

Hi Everyone,

With January behind us, despite this being the coldest time of the year, the sun is shining longer every day. With the cold temperatures, we all notice the dryness in the air that affects our body and does take its toll on our plants. This year, I got a large 6-gallon capacity evaporative humidifier for both indoors and in my little greenhouse. The orchids are breathing a sigh of relief to the dry conditions I was subjecting them to in early winter. Despite watering, the greenhouse was under 30% humidity most of the time. My plants are now rejoicing in 65% average humidity and I am seeing signs of their happiness in the leaves and new growths and spikes. And the increased humidity in the house is good for us too!

The busy show season is upon us... We started last November with the Massachusetts Orchid Society (MOS) show where we came away with 20 ribbon awards. In January we had a fine display at the Cape and Islands Orchid Society (CAIOS) show again taking home 20 ribbons.

February is going to be another busy month with two upcoming shows:

Deep Cut in NJ February 14 – 16 and Amherst in MA February 22-23

The Hartford Flower and Garden Show Educational Booth will be setup for February 20-23

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

Participating in these shows is important for the society to maintain relationships with other orchid societies in the Northeast. We are in the process of planning our 2025 Show and Sale for September 26- 28. If we want them to show up to our event with displays, we need to be there for them!

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 here!

Christian Lesage and Mary Rampone, Co-Presidents

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

Feb 5: Greenhouse Chat

At 8:30pm

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

At 8:30pm

March 5: Why Won't It Bloom?

At 8:30pm

April 3: Greenhouse Chat

At 8:30pm



Orchids in the News

Britian's Rarest Orchid Not Extinct: read more [here](#).

Orchid uses appendage to self-pollinate: read more [here](#).

Using Dogs to Find Orchids: read more [here](#).

New Australian Orchid Looks like a Cupcake: read more [here](#).

How to Attend a Virtual Meeting

Click on the link provided in the email. Make sure you are using Chrome, Safari, or Firefox. Do not use Internet Explorer. You are able to turn on and off your microphone, but you will not be able to use your camera. It eats up too much bandwidth and is distracting. If your computer does not have a microphone, you can call in using the phone number and code in the email. If you are not talking, please mute yourself. Dates and times are in the email. Please do not share this link with nonmembers. Thank you!

Vanda Jay Mullen



Stenorrhynchos speciosum



***Rhyncholeliocattleya Pamela Hetherington*
*'Coronation' FCC/AOS***



January Show Table

<i>Aliceara</i> Pacific Nova 'Okika' AM/AOS	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Brassavola nodosa</i> 'Mas Mejor' AM/AOS	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Cattleya</i> Bow Bells 'Rex' AM/AOS	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Dendrobium</i> Aridang Green	W. Pawlowski	i, g
<i>Dendrobium</i> Hsinying Tobazuki	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Dendrobium</i> New Hope	Z. Loughman	i, g
<i>Laeliocattleya</i> Puppy Love	W. Pawlowski	i, g
<i>Mormodia</i> Keri Ray 'SVO'	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> ((Inca Gold x Gene Hughes) x (Flight Path 'Tree Village' x Winston Churchill 'Redoubtable' FCC/AOS))	J. Richards	i, l
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> In-Charm Gold 'Emerald Magic' x <i>Paphiopedilum helenae</i> 'Hsiao'	W. Pawlowski	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum appletonianum</i> var. <i>hainanense</i> 'Peggy' AM/AOS	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Paphiopedilum concolor</i>	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hawaiian Moment	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Mr. Wonderful	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Petula's Sensation	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Phyllis Prestia	Z. Loughman	i, g
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Volcra	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Phaiocalanthe</i> Red Dragon	Z. Loughman	i, g
<i>Phalaenopsis violacea</i> fma. <i>indigo</i> 'M'	J. Chang	i/w, g/l
<i>Phragmipedium</i> Don Wimber 'M & B' AM/AOS	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Prescottia plantaginifolia</i>	C. Geissler	i, g
<i>Rhyncattleanthe</i> Memoria Susan Joy 'Carol'	W. Pawlowski	i, g
<i>Rhyncholeliocattleya</i> Pamela Hetherington 'Coronation' FCC/AOSJ.	J. Chang	i, g/l
<i>Shunkeara</i> Big Shot 'Pink Leopard'	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Stenorrhynchos speciosum</i>	C. Lesage	i, g
<i>Vanda</i> Jay Mullen	C. Lesage	i, g

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

g=greenhouse, l=lights, w=windowsill

January Show Table

***Aliceara* Pacific Nova 'Okika' AM/AOS**



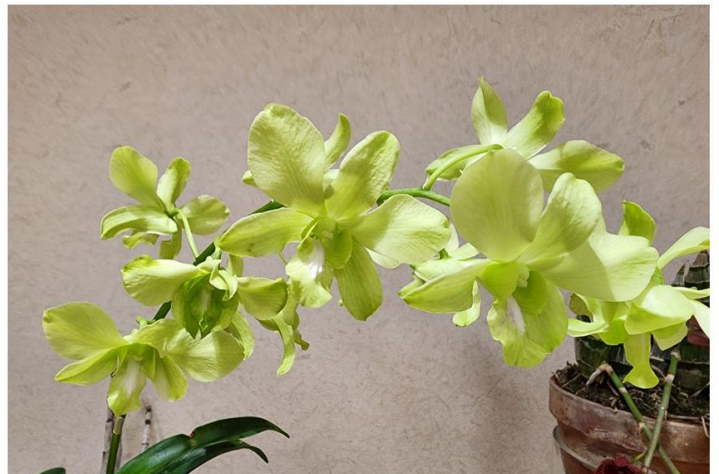
***Brassavola nodosa* 'Mas Mejor' AM/AOS**



***Cattleya* Bow Bells 'Rex' AM/AOS**



***Dendrobium* Aridang Green**



***Dendrobium* Hsinying Tobazuki**



***Dendrobium* New Hope**



***Laeliocattleya* Puppy Love**



***Paphiopedilum* In-Charm Gold 'Emerald Magic'
x *Paphiopedilum* helenae 'Hsiao'**



***Paphiopedilum* appletonianum var. hainanense
'Peggy' AM/AOS**



***Paphiopedilum* Hawaiian Moment**



***Paphiopedilum* Volcra**



***Paphiopedilum* Phyllis Prestia**



***Phaiocalanthe* Red Dragon**



***Phalaenopsis violacea* fma. *indigo* 'M'**



***Rhyncattleanthe* Memoria Susan Joy 'Carol'**



***Phragmipedium* Don Wimber 'M & B' AM/AOS**



***Shunkeara* Big Shot 'Pink Leopard'**



People's Choice

First Place: Jason Chang's *Mormodia* Keri Ray 'SVO' - first 2 photos

***Mormodia* Keri Ray 'SVO'**



There was a tie for Runner Up:

Christain's *Paphiopedilum* Mr. Wonderful and Cole Geissler's *Prescottia plantaginifolia*

Paphiopedilum* Mr. Wonderful *Prescottia plantaginifolia



Support the Deb Bodei Fukiran Award Endowment

~Bill Bodei



Deb Bodei was more than a devoted orchid enthusiast; she was a driving force within both Deep Cut and the American Orchid Society (AOS). Deb leaves behind a legacy of dedication, innovation, and leadership that will be remembered for years to come. Her untimely passing last year was a profound loss to the orchid community (her extended family), but her remarkable contributions and unwavering passion continue to inspire those who had the privilege to work alongside her.

In the fall of 2024, The American Orchid Society Board of Trustees voted to

endow a special annual award in her honor. As many of you know, Deb had a passion for *Vanda falcata*. As *Vanda falcata* was previously genus *Neofinetia*, many still refer to these lovely plants as Neos. 'Neo's are diverse, and much like jewel or painted leaf orchids, are admired as much for their foliage as they are the flowers. Further, they are often displayed in beautiful pottery.

In the summer of 2023 worked with the American Orchid Society and the Fukiran Society of America to produce additional guidance for AOS Judges in how to judge these plants. In the true spirit of Fukiran, consideration for The Annual Deb Bodei Fukiran Awards award will review all quality awards, cultural awards and Judges Commendations for all *Vanda falcata* and its F1 hybrids in a given year and recognize that one plant that exhibits the true spirit of the Fukiran form.



Please consider donating [to](#) support this endowment. Its indeed a very special and rare honor to be memorialized in this way by the AOS. Your generous contribution to support this endowment will inspire the proliferation of the orchid hobby, and of Neos in particular. That more than anything would mean the world to Deb, and as we continue to

navigate Deep Cut without her, we can rally in support of this honor and continue to work together in pursuit of our orchid passions.

Show your support for this GoFundMe: gofundme.com/f/fukiran

To learn more about Deb, or to share a personal story, visit her online memorial: deb-bodei.forevermissed.com

Upcoming Events for 2025: COS and Beyond

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	

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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.