



The Newsletter of the
AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY
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The Treasurer's Take On The Show

Steve Reardon

'We were looking forward to this' ... Comments like this came from many of the visitors to our club's annual orchid show. I was fortunate enough to be stationed at the show entrance to greet folks as they arrived at Smith Voke. We shared the main entrance hallway with the Northampton Farmers Market on Saturday, and on Sunday we had the entire hall to ourselves. We welcomed folks from every age group. Interacting with these folks is always a great pleasure. They are always amazed at the wonderful displays of color, form and scent. One young man was there on Saturday with his girlfriend. After walking through the displays and sales area, he told me he would be back on Sunday because he wanted to bring his mother. He returned on Sunday with his mother so that she might also enjoy the orchid show as much as he did. Saturday was busy with almost 900 visitors. Sunday was quieter and with about 460 visitors. Probably the best spot in the show to be, the one-on-one interaction with the visiting public. Thanks to all who worked the show entrance and to all who attended this year's orchid show.

February Spectacular

Roger West

It is really nice when everything runs smoothly. The weather cooperated, displays were awesome, crowds were happy, and the vendors left with some cash. As Maryanne said to me, there were a great deal of WOWS echoed around the orchids. To me, an admiring public is what I want to achieve. It's worth all the hard work just to see happy orchid viewers and all those cell phones snapping off pictures.

We started off on Wednesday at Munson with enough help to load all that stuff and get it over to Smith's School. I always dread this day because it is hard work and we are usually fighting snow piles and lack of help. Things went smoothly with no snow, warm weather and enough help. I recruited my grandson, Aiden, who was a huge help and all I had to do was feed him.

Thursday is always my fun day because I get to show off a year's worth of orchid happiness. It was nice to see two new guys setting up the Mass display, and their display was double the size. They said their society has lost some of their old veterans and they were trying to turn it over to the younger generation. Our club display was fabulous. I especially liked the effort put into the terrarium, but maybe a little more color instead of all the green and some white which I think were flowers, magnifying glass anyone! I have mentioned in the last newsletter about a UV light display. What the orchid pollinator sees vs. what we see. Somebody could set it up like Ellen Kennedy had in her pictorial.

Judging is like the Army, hurry up and wait. I tend to have little patience in sitting around waiting for the judges. Although I have to hand it to Marc, Karen and the two club judges for organizing all the judging stuff. I just place the ribbons on the awarded orchids. Joe mentioned the Heritage (old orchids) class and what to do to improve it. He wants to make two classes, one for heritage species and the other for the old hybrids.

On the weekend I usually run into an old small animal client of mine. I used to run an animal hospital just a Tom Brady throw from Smith's School. One such showed up on Sunday and introduced herself as I have trouble remembering faces. She is from my generation and back in the day she would be best described as a hippy/flower child type. She once brought a

snake into my clinic. The snake, probably a garter, was certainly dead but still scared the crap out of me. She found it alongside a road and wanted me to give it an anti-hibernation shot to wake it up. I diplomatically stated I was out of that vaccine but recommended to place it in an oven for 15 minutes at 300 degrees. Then open the oven and if the snake crawls out, open your door and set it free. If not, you have a cheap supper. She left thanking me for my gratis work and a smile on her face. I bring up this gal because she told me about receiving an orchid tattoo for her 70th birthday from her daughter. Do any of us have a tattoo? I asked to see it and she said we would have to go into the ladies room as it was on her inner thigh. As the better part of valor, I said maybe another time. Northampton produced many different types as they made their way through my clinic.

A have a thought about the ferns and the \$400 cost to the club. Last year I brought back four of them from the Hartford show. Joe had them in the club display. I brought them home and repotted them into six inch pots and they tripled in size growing along with the orchids. They wintered on the floor of the greenhouse. I brought those four ferns in this year. You can do the same thing with your ferns. If they double in size, we would only need 50 of them for next year's show. Finally, a good job goes out to all who volunteered their time many were there all the time.

Crippling in Yellow Cattleyas

Roger west

Crippling is a bloom deformity in the dorsal (top) part of a cattleya petal and seen only in the large flowered yellows. I'm mentioning this because I recently experienced this genetic deformity in one of my nice yellows, Rlc Golden Sands. This defect comes from the species, *C dowiana*. All the large yellow cattleyas have a great deal of this species in their background. Although many people think the large yellows owe their color to *C dowiana*. This isn't quite true. Yes, *dowiana* enhances the yellow color and of course the bloom size, it's the little star-shaped *L* (now *Cattleya*) *cinnabarina* that guarantees a yellow bloom. *C dowiana* is recessive for color in cattleya breeding. Cross *C dowiana* with any large purple cattleya and the offspring will be all purple. Purple color is dominant in cattleya breeding. If you go further and cross two sibs from the above offspring, you will get a few yellows. This is Mendel's genetics at its basics. Going back to *C* (*Laelia*) *cinnabarina* and its influence in yellow cattleyas, small yellow *laelias* are dominant for color. The purple *laelias* are recessive.

Crippling is only seen in large yellow cattleyas and only if there is very little *Rhyncholaelia* (formerly *Brassavola*) *digbyana* in the background. The more *R* (*Rlc*, formerly the *B* in the old *Blc*'s) in the cross, the less likely crippling occurs. For some reason a large dose of *bigbyana* prevents this crippling. It was so much easier writing this stuff when the *Rlc*'s were *Blc*'s, a *laelia* was a *laelia* and not moved in with the cattleyas. You will not see crippling until your plant has bloomed a half dozen times. How many of us can keep a plant going that length of time? It starts as a little bend or notch in the dorsal petal. As more blooming periods occur, these petals are so screwed up that the plant is history. Last winter I brought in my Golden Sands for the display table with three large blooms but I noticed a slight defect in the petals. Not much but something was there. This winter 4 large blooms but obvious crippling, compost pile got a little bigger. I originally picked up this plant as a division (so the age?) and bloomed well for two years, then the crippling. This is the first time that I have seen crippling in twenty years. Back then, crippling was a common problem and the large yellows had the reputation as being the weak sister of the large unifoliate cattleyas. They still cannot produce a bloom as large as a purple or white cattleya. It's not how you grow your yellow cattleya that results in crippling. It's age and the lack of *R digbyana* genes to offset the *C dowiana* influence. This article is the result of me selling a Golden Sands to Keith Tibbetts and Keith emailing a current picture of his plant in glorious bloom. His plant came from a recent cloning of Golden Sands, hence younger than my older division. I was quite jealous of that picture.

Amherst Orchid Society Show Ribbon Results

The door prize was won by Ruth Shaw of Orange, MA. Not a ribbon, but still a prize.

Vendor Exhibit Awards:

Piping Rock Orchids: 1st Place

Society Exhibit Awards:

Nutmeg State Orchid Society: 1st Place
 New Hampshire Orchid Society: 2nd Place
 Massachusetts Orchid Society: 3rd Place

Artistic Award:

JFK Middle School

Educational Award:

Minot Ledge Farm: 1st Place
 Flora-peculia: 2nd Place

Aloha Enterprises:

Epi Ice Castle: 2nd Place
 Blc Morning Glory: 2nd Place
 Blc Fritz Nicholas 'Spring Dance': 3rd Place
 Lc Gold Digger 'Buttercup': 2nd Place
 Lc Orglades Discovery: 3rd Place
 Blc Husky Boy 'Romeo': 2nd Place
 Paph. Iowii: 2nd Place
 Phal. Snowflake: 1st Place
 Phal. Valentine: 3rd Place
 Phal. Pink Ivy: 2nd Place
 Dendrobium Micro Chip: 1st Place
 Dendrobium Royal Wings: 2nd Place
 Coelia triptera: 2nd Place

Amherst Orchid Society:

Betsey Higgins- Cattleya Memoria Alvin Begeman: 3rd Place
 Betsey Higgins- Cattleya Memoria Alvin Begeman" 2nd Place
 Betsey Higgins- Oncidium Twinkle: 3rd Place
 Betsey Higgins- Oncidium Twinkle: 1st Place
 Bill Benner- Epiarthron Kevin Mark Ragbir: 1st Place
 Bill Benner- Procatavola Walnut Valley Lime Stars: 2nd Place
 Bill Benner- Epiarthron Kevin Mark Ragbir: 2nd Place
 Bill Benner- Procatavola Walnut Valley Lime Stars: 3rd Place
 Bill Benner- Vandachostylis Col. Davie B. Brooker: 1st Place
 Bill Benner- Vandachostylis Col. Davie B. Brooker: 1st Place
 Bill Benner- Cymbidium Last Supper: 2nd Place
 Bill Benner- Cymbidium Last Supper: 2nd Place
 Bill Benner- Dendrobium kingianum: 2nd Place
 Bill Benner- Dendrobium kingianum: 1st Place
 Carol Mentos- Bassavola Little Stars: 3rd Place
 Carol Mentos- Dendrobium Super Star 'Dandy': 3rd Place
 Carol Mentos- Dendrobium Super Star 'Dandy': 2nd Place
 Donna Pettitt- Paph. Avalon Pearl: 2nd Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Paph. haynaldianum: 2nd Place
 Ellen Kennedy-Cattleya walkeriana: 2nd Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Paph. haynaldianum: 1st Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Paph. primulinum: 3rd Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Phal. Shenandoah 'Big Bubba': 1st Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Phal. Shenandoah Spots 'Brennan's Orchids' 1st Place



Ellen Kennedy- Phal. (HN-BM JAP270) 'T-527M': 3rd Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Phal. Ox Firebird 'OX 1506': 3rd Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Phal. Little White Snow: 1st Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Dtps Queen Beer: 1st Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Oncostele Romance 'Oro Rojo': 3rd Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Dendrobium Lucky Bird 'Memory': 2nd Place
 Ellen Kennedy- Dendrobium Lucky Bird 'Memory': 1st Place
 Holly and Alex Loss- Phal. 'Hawaiian Girl': 2nd Place
 Holly Rainaud-Loss Phal. 'La Belle': 2nd Place
 Kathy Puckett- Lc Canariensis: 1st Place
 Kathy Puckett- Dendrobium loddigesii: 3rd Place
 Kathy Puckett- Pleurothallis microcardia: 1st Place
 Kathy Puckett- Max. variabilis f. luteo: 2nd Place
 Liz Marinelli- Restrepia cuprea: 2nd Place
 Liz Marinelli- Restrepia cuprea: 3rd Place
 Liz Marinelli- Lycaste (Rowland Shoalhaven) x self: 2nd Place
 Liz Marinelli- Lycaste (Rowland Shoalhaven) x self: 2nd Place
 Marc Gray- Phal. Liu's Cute Angel 'KF #3' AM/AOS: 3rd Place
 Marc Gray- Phal. Liolin Sparrow 'Taida Little Panda': 3rd Place
 Marc Gray- Phal. Liolin Sparrow 'Taida Little Panda': 3rd Place
 Marc Gray- Platystele reflexa: 3rd Place
 Marc Gray- Platystele reflexa: 2nd Place
 Marc Gray- Dendrochilum wenzelii yellow: 3rd Place
 Marc Gray- Ornithocephalus bryostachys: 2nd Place
 Mariah Groux- Phal. No ID: 2nd Place
 Marjorie Tanguay- Epicatanthe Volcano Trick 'Paradise': 3rd Place
 Marge Tanguay- Rlc Dick Smith 'Paradise': 1st Place
 Marge Tanguay- Rlc Toshie's Magic 'Doris': 2nd Place
 Marge Tanguay- Phal. 'Breezes': 1st Place
 Maryanne Laukaitis- Laelia acne's: 1st Place
 Maryanne Laukaitis- Paph. spicerianum: 2nd Place
 Maryanne Laukaitis- Jumella comorense: 3rd Place
 Maryanne Laukaitis- Oncidium ornithorhynchum: 2nd Place
 Maryanne Laukaitis- Oncidium Twinkle 'Fragrance Fantasy': 3rd Place
 Maryanne Laukaitis- Cymbidium Cherry Blossom 'Profusion': 2nd Place
 Maryanne Laukaitis- Pleurothallis restropiodes: 2nd Place
 Maryanne Laukaitis- Pterostylus curta: 1st Place
 Roger West- Rlc Hawaiian Prominence 'America': 2nd Place
 Roger West- Oncd. Copper Scrap 'Brass Brethren': 3rd Place
 Steve LaValley- Lepotes bicolor: 1st Place
 Steve LaValley- Lepotes bicolor: 1st Place
 Steve LaValley- Phal. Gan Lin Small Shell: 3rd Place
 Steve Reardon- Paph. Nitens: 2nd Place
 Steve Reardon- Dendrochilum No ID: 2nd Place
 Steve Steiner- Paph. malipoense: 2nd Place
 Steve Steiner- Paph. Fumi's Delight: 1st Place
 Steve Steiner- Paph. Atlaninet: 3rd Place
 Steve Steiner- Paph. Yellow Hybrid: 3rd Place
 Steve Steiner- Paph. Culwin x Winston Churchill: 1st Place
 Steve Steiner- Trichoglottis pusilla: 1st Place
 Steve Steiner- Osmoglossum puchellum: 2nd Place
 Steve Steiner- Cymbidium miseniors x Golden Elf: 1st Place
 Steve Steiner- Dendrobium gonzalesi: 1st Place
 Steve Steiner- Masdevalia mendoza: 3rd Place
 Steve Steiner- Restrepia chocoensis: 2nd Place
 Steve Steiner- Pleurothallis viduata 'Selby': 2nd Place
 Steve Steiner- Pleurothallis groboyi: 3rd Place
 Steve Steiner- Lycaste Casseopia 'Wild Peach': 3rd Place
 Steve Steiner- Zygo. H. G. White 'Stonehurst': 1st Place
 Steve Steiner- Dendrochilum sp.: 3rd Place



Steve Steiner- *Dendrochilum wenzelii*: 1st place
 Steve Steiner- *Calanthe Hexam Gem 'Mickey'* HCC/AOS: 2nd Place
 Steve Steiner- *Stenosarcos speciosus*: 2nd Place

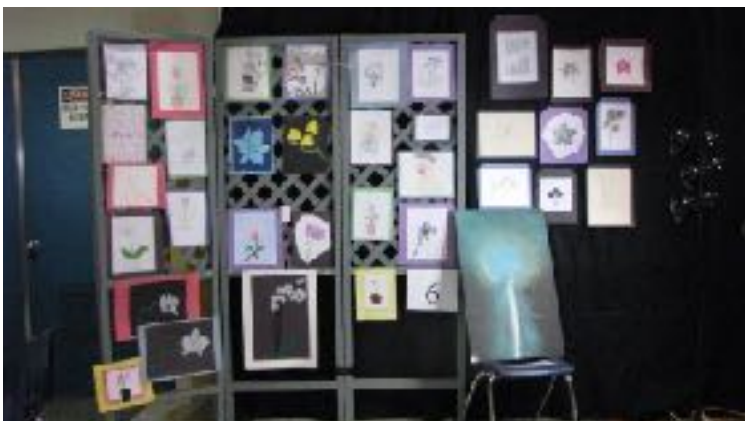
Conway Orchids (Roger West)

Cattleya trianae: 1st Place
Cattleya Drumbeat 'Heritage': 2nd Place
Cattleya Melecio Huerta 'Senor Perfecto': 1st Place
 Bsn Maikai: 2nd Place
 Rlc Fritz Nickolaus 'Spring Dance': 3rd Place
Cattleya Nancy Off 'Linwood': 1st Place
Cattleya Nancy Off 'Linwood': 2nd Place
 Rlc Hawaiian Prominence 'America': 3rd Place
Cattleya Vallezac 'Evelyn': 3rd Place
 Rlc Aloha Spirit 'Lennett': 3rd Place
Cattleya Catherine Patterson 'Henry': 1st Place
Cattleya Ahmad Sheikhi 'Mendenhall': 2nd Place
 Rth Dan O'Neil 'Jubilee': 2nd Place
 Pvc Walnut Lime Stars: 2nd Place
 Vuyl Aloha Passion 'TOW': 2nd Place
 Bsn Maikai: 1st Place
 Oncda Pacific Pagan 'Kileuea': 3rd Place
Cattleya Melecio Huerta 'Senor Perfecto': 3rd Place
 Vuyl Aloha Passion 'TOW': 2nd Place
Cattleya Catherine Patterson 'Henry': 1st Place
 Bsn Maikai: 2nd Place
Cattleya trianae: 3rd Place



Here is a list of the Rosette Awards:

Best Large *Cattleya* Alliance In Show: *Cattleya Catherine Paterson 'Henry'* - Roger West, Conway Orchids
 Best Miniature *Cattleya* Alliance In Show: *Lepotes bicolor*- Steve LaValley, Amherst Orchid Society
 Best *Oncidium* Alliance In Show: *Oncidium chrysomorphum*- Monty Sabolick, Connecticut Orchid Society
 Best Standard *Phalaenopsis* In Show: *Phalaenopsis Happy Cat 'Hello Kitty'* - Sandra Myhalik, Nutmeg State Orchid Society
 Best Small *Phalaenopsis* In Show: *Phalaenopsis Little White Snow*- Ellen Kennedy, Amherst Orchid Society
 Best *Cymbidium* In Show: *Cymbidium Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit'* AM/AOS- Lydia Pan, Nutmeg State Orchid Society
 Best *Dendrobium* In Show: *Dendrobium Roy Tokunaga*- Monty Sabolcik, Connecticut Orchid Society
 Best *Lycaste* In Show: *Lycaste Abu First Spring*- Mike Badia, Massachusetts Orchid Society
 Best *Paphiopedilum/Phragmipedium* In Show: *Paphiopedilum William Ambler*- Rob Dudley, Nutmeg State Orchid Society
 Best *Pleurothallis* In Show: *Pleurothallis rowleei*- Chuck Crisler, New Hampshire Orchid Society
 Best *Vanda* Alliance In Show: *Vanda Col. David B Brooker*- Bill Benner, Amherst Orchid Society
 Best *Masdevallia* In Show: *Masdevallia imposter*- Gina Plude, Nutmeg State Orchid Society
 Best Miscellaneous Genera In Show: *Phaius Microburst*- Tom Russell, Connecticut Orchid Society
 Best Educational Exhibit In Show: Pinots Ledge (Ellen Kennedy)
 Best Artistic Exhibit In Show: JFK Middle School
 Best Large Specimen In Show:
 Best Small Specimen In Show: *Brassanthe Maikai*, Roger West, Conway Orchids
 Best Windowsill/ Fluorescent Light In Show: *Cymbidium Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit'* AM/AOS- Lydia Pan, Nutmeg State Orchid Society
 Best Plant In Show: *Cattleya Catherine Paterson 'Henry'* - Roger West, Conway Orchids
 Presidents Award: *Cattleya Catherine Paterson 'Henry'* - Roger West, Conway Orchids
 AOS Show Trophy: Amherst Orchid Society
 Heritage Award: *Phragmipedium Cardinale 'Birchwood'* - Bob Richter, Massachusetts Orchid Society





Upcoming Events

Next Meeting is Sunday, March 19th at 2 PM. Those with last names starting with E, F, G, H, Please bring a dish to share.

A Plea From Your Editor

This is a call for articles from your friendly neighborhood newsletter editor. If you'd like to see more than blank space here, please think of something you'd like to read. If you have growing tips, you can include them. If you have an interesting story about seeing orchids on a vacation, share it! Did you go to an American Orchid Society meeting or festival? Write about it! Write about how you started growing orchids in the first place. Any articles in the newsletter are fantastic. If anyone wants to write up something about the November re-potting clinic that would be amazing! I know there were bribes being handed out the other month, but I'd like to make the request on a more personal note: I've started growing orchids (damn the peer pressure) and the knowledge I've gained from the newsletter over the years has helped them not yet die. Therefore, the more articles we can produce for the newsletter, the better chance my orchids have at survival. I'm totally selfish that way. It's all about my own personal use and entertainment. I mean, it's bad enough that the orchid collection illness has already taken hold, and I have not only one orchid, but four--how am I expected to keep them alive if you orchid masters don't tell me how?