



Greater Whorled Pogonia

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# The Newsletter of the **AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY**

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Volume 27 Issue 2

February 2019

## **January Meeting**

Roger West

A surprisingly large crowd showed for this meeting. Was it anticipation for the upcoming show or the possibility of more free plants? I hope it was the former which portrays a nice show. The show was the main topic of the meeting. There were many clip boards passed around and hopefully many signed up for the various chores. Very important will be the Wednesday AM gathering at Munson library to haul over the show materials. That Wednesday we will meet at 9:30 AM at Munson to start the show process. Steve LaValley has rented a truck for this job. The more help, the easier things proceed. Also help will be needed to unload all this stuff at the show's end. The second important task is to get your blooming orchids to the show to fill out that center display. All blooms are needed! If you can't make it to the show, try to get another member to bring in your plants.

There were free plants at the January meeting. Most were large pots of *Dendrobium kingianum* and a few *Oncidiums*. Last month I took home a *Maxillaria* that had frosted leaves (they all did), but new healthy leaves have emerged, so all is well. Last November three large orchids from Smith College were divided and three blooming divisions of the *Dendrochilum* were presented on the show table and all were grown in different environments.

Lani Norman reported on the scholarship effort. She plans to send out the applications in early March to all area high schools. By mid to late April the Club's executive board will decide on the apps. The show table was extensive, especially for a cold day. A large mounted *Laelia* grown by Maryann dominated all others with three long spikes of 10 pink blooms each. Try to get the word out on our upcoming show. A member suggested placing an orchid in your neighborhood library to enhance awareness of the show. I'm going to do just that in Conway.

Show Table January 2019

<p><b>Bill Arduser</b> Dendrobium Princess Asia Pleurothallis viduata 'Selby'</p> <p><b>Ed deVarenes</b> Dendrobium Jonathan's Glory 'Dark Joy' HCC Dendrochilum convallariaeforme</p> <p><b>Marc Gray</b> Dendrobium kingianum X var. silcockii Dendrochillum javieri Neo. (Vanda) falcata 'Nishidemiyako'</p> <p><b>Betsy Higgins</b> Dendrobium Microchip Phal. Nobby's Shadow Burma Jade Paph. Nutcracker Fire X Festive Hunter</p> <p><b>Ann Jordan</b> Bc Makai Paph. In Charm Hamaya X Sylvan Gnome Paph. Makuli Curtisii Maudiae X Paph. Maudiae Napa Valley HCC/AOS X sib</p> <p><b>Maryanne Laukaitis</b> Laelia albida Laelia autumnalis Paph. insigne Paph. spicerianum</p> <p><b>Joe Maciaszik</b> Oncidium Tiger Butter Rhynocattleya Moon Miss 'Lunar Dawn'</p>	<p><b>Liz Marinelli</b> Dendrobium Star King 'Irvine' Paph. spicerianum Phrag. Eumelia Arias</p> <p><b>Carol Mentos</b> Brassavola Little Stars Dendrochilum convallariaeforme Hoc. MS Sunlight 'Sweetheart'</p> <p><b>Steve Steiner</b> Isabellia (Neolauchia) puchella Lycaste Jason X cruenta Masdevallia Angel Frost X Marguerite Mediocalcar decoratum Oncidium iricolor Trichopilia sp. Wilsonara Kolibri</p> <p><b>Jeanne Usereau</b> Den. Bill's Wonder Dendrochilum convallariaeforme Bc Maikai X Morning Glory Lnt Bowringiana X Laelia albida</p> <p><b>Roger West</b> Rlc Suzuki's Matrix Rlc Waterlee X Melody Fair</p> <p><b>Kasia Wynn</b> Mystery plant Oncidium Twinkle 'Fragrance Fantasy' Paph. wardii Gothic X Green Space</p>
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## Spotlight on the Show Table:

### Hoc. MS Sunlight 'Sweetheart' Grown by Carol Mentos

This month the spotlight is on a smallish plant, not the biggest or showiest on the table but eye catching for the lovely spray of flowers coming from a diminutive plant. A relative of Vandas, Hoc. M S Sunlight 'Sweetheart' is an intergeneric hybrid resulting from the cross of *Holcoglossum flavescens* and *Rhynchostylis gigantea*. Judging by the photos of each species on the internet, the plant gets its compact size from its *Holcoglossum* parent and high flower count and color from the *Rhynchostylis* parent. Carol reports that it has a very pleasant fragrance.

Carol has had the plant for about two years, probably buying it from Orchidphile at our show but she is not positive. It has bloomed both years that she has owned it. She grows it on a windowsill that faces southwest in a clay pot with a coarse medium. She lets it dry between waterings and fertilizes occasionally with bat guano. Carol recommends this plant highly for its reliable blooming and nice fragrance.



## **The Results of an Unscientific Survey of Club Members: Fungicide Use**

Liz Marinelli

Lately I had been thinking that I might need to find a broad-spectrum fungicide to treat some of my orchids. I have a few plants that got a disease in this year's new growth, mostly Cattleyas and Catasetums. I had done a little research but the number of different products was overwhelming and some of the precautions that were mentioned were intimidating. It struck me that I should ask some of the experienced growers in our club what they use before bringing any hazardous chemicals into our greenhouse. So, here are the results of a very unscientific survey that I took at the last meeting...with apologies to the growers that I didn't get to before the end of the meeting:

**Steve S:** No fungicides, sometimes cinnamon

**Steve R:** No fungicides, but as a precaution he sometimes sprays Lysol in front of his fans to distribute it throughout the greenhouse.

**Marge:** Cinnamon only

**Maryanne:** No fungicides, sometimes neem oil

**Lani:** No fungicides, tried systemics at one time but they didn't work fast enough. She emphasizes good hygiene in the growing area to prevent diseases, washing down the greenhouse with bleach annually.

**Roger:** No fungicides, if there is rot on a leaf he cuts it off below the diseased area and treats the cut with cinnamon.

I have to admit that I was surprised at the benign approach these growers take to treating orchid diseases- from the flawless plants that I see on the show table I assumed there were some serious chemicals being applied. Now I am even more impressed with their growing skills. I will hold off on the heavy artillery and concentrate on prevention and organic treatments if needed.

## *It's Show Season, Mark Your Calendars...*

February 8-10: New Hampshire Orchid Society Show

<https://www.nhorchids.org/page-1802606>

February 23-24: Amherst Orchid Society Show

March 16-17: Nutmeg State Orchid Society Show

<http://www.nutmegorchids.org/>

March 30-31: Connecticut Orchid Society Show <http://ctorchids.org/?p=1147>

April 5-7: Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society Show

## On the American Orchid Society Website

Check out the large selection of recorded webinars- some recently added titles are:

- *Cattleya Species Culture* with Bill Rogerson
- *Discovering the Orchids* of Ecuador with Nile Dusdieker
- *Orchiata Bark, What is Everyone Talking About* with Garry Clark

These are available only to members but there are many "Greenhouse Chat" webinars with Ron McHatton that are available to all.

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx?p=1&f=2#recorded>



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Volume 27, Issue 2 Show Supplement Section

February 2019

***Orchid Show Almost Upon Us! February 23 & 24, 2019***

**Want to help with the show? Contact: Marc Gray [bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net](mailto:bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net) 802-348-7926**

**Volunteer Call!**

We still need volunteers: for show setup, for during the show, for tear down and repacking the materials at the library on Sunday. If you can volunteer some time to help, please do! Even if you can't stand or lift things, we have spaces where you can sit and take admission money or sit and watch exits. Yes, we would sincerely appreciate your help. If you're not sure what to do, contact Marc Gray at [bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net](mailto:bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net), or at 802-348-7926.

**Setup Schedule**

Initial work on the show will begin at 9:30 AM Wednesday February 20th at the club library in the Munson Memorial Library in Amherst. We will be packing and transporting the materials needed to set up the show space at the Smith Vocational High School in Northampton. We should be at Northampton about 10 or 10:30.

***Text it. Tweet it. Facebook it. Flyer it. Put the word out.***

Attendance at the annual Orchid Show is the major way the Amherst Orchid Society supports itself. If we don't have enough attendance, we can't pay for newsletters, speakers, or keep lower dues.

Tell everyone how much you are looking forward to the show. Tell them about being able to buy plants at the show, about the fabulous displays put on by local clubs (the space is jam-packed with displays!), and the wonderful informational speakers. An educational, family-friendly experience.



**Show Timetable -**

Questions: Marc Gray – email:  
[bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net](mailto:bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net) or phone (802) 348-7926  
 or phone (802) 348-7926

**Wednesday Feb 20, 2019**

**9:30 AM** - meet at library to pick up show supplies.  
**10/ 10:30 AM** – arrive at Smith Voc; set up backdrops  
 and tables drape tables. Club members only. No plants or  
 individual displays on this day.

**Thursday Feb 21, 2019**

**9 AM** Finish table set-up

**9:30 AM** - Plants can be brought in at this time.  
**10 AM** - Bring in donated food about this time.  
**4 PM** - Cut off for the plants to be brought in. No plants  
 allowed after this time.

**Friday Feb 22, 2019**

**8 AM** - all clerks need to be here at this time. If for some  
 reason you cannot make it you **MUST** let Joe Maciaszek  
 know at [Maciaszek@gmail.com](mailto:Maciaszek@gmail.com) or at 508-344-8492 as he  
 is in charge of the judging/ clerking.

**9 AM** - judging starts, continues until done. Followed by  
 lunch for the judges.

**10 AM** - food for the judge's lunch to be picked up and  
 delivered by this time or earlier.

**Saturday Feb 23, 2019**

**8:45 AM** - Anyone who is signed up for 9 am task, please  
 get there early so you can get to your places and have  
 things explained to you **BEFORE** we open.

**9 AM** - Show opens

**5 PM** - Show closes

**Sunday - Feb 24, 2019**

**9:45 AM** - Anyone signed up for a task please get there  
 early so you can get to your places and have things  
 explained to you **BEFORE** we open the doors.

**Pre-registration for the Show – Karen Steward****Why should you pre-register your plants?**

Because your plant tags will be waiting for you on  
 Thursday morning when you get to the Show. It's  
 that simple. If you don't pre-register, I can't tell you  
 how long a wait you'll have for your tags. That  
 depends on how many other people didn't pre-  
 register and how many tags I need to type and print.  
 You know I'll do the best I can, but it might be a  
 while.

**How many plants should you pre-register?** All of  
 the plants that you might end up bringing. Really. It  
 is so much easier for me to delete tags than to type  
 and print them on Thursday that I really would  
 prefer that you pre-register anything that even has a  
 chance of ending up at the Show. After your plants  
 are tagged, just bring back the tags you won't be  
 using and I'll delete them. Of course, you can still  
 add plants on Thursday, but that puts you in the  
 waiting line.

**How late can you pre-register?** Well, I'm not  
 planning to stay up until midnight on Wednesday  
 working on tags, because I'll have to get my act  
 together early on Thursday to meet y'all there. I  
 don't want to list a specific cut-off time, so put it  
 this way -- the later you send the forms, the more  
 chance that you'll be in the waiting line in the  
 morning. Go ahead and send files as early as  
 Monday, if you like, and I'll get started.

**Remember that you'll be sending entries to  
 Marc and he'll be forwarding to me,** so there  
 might be a little lag time. I'm sure he'll be just a bit  
 busy that week.

**Why should you use the digital forms?** That's the  
 fastest and most accurate way to get your  
 information to me. If the forms are typed, your tag  
 might actually match what you thought you wrote.  
 Don't assume that I'll be able to read your  
 handwriting or that I actually know how some of  
 these names should be spelled. Again, I'll do the  
 best I can, but there will probably be a couple  
 hundred plants to type up.



### Show Vendors

Aloha Enterprises ---- Grace Emporia  
J & L Orchids - [www.jlorchids.com](http://www.jlorchids.com)  
Kellys Korner - [www.kkorchid.com](http://www.kkorchid.com)  
Marlow Orchids - [www.marlowsorchids.com](http://www.marlowsorchids.com)  
Orchidphile - [www.orchidphile.com](http://www.orchidphile.com)  
Piping Rock Orchids - [www.pipingrockorchids.com/](http://www.pipingrockorchids.com/)

### Please Pre-register Your Plants!

The club show officers request that plants be pre-registered by Wednesday, February 20, 2019. See page 2 for an important message about plant pre-registration.

### Preparing the "Club" Display - All-Hands-On-Deck!

Maryanne Laukaitis

Set-up of our society display will be Thursday, Feb 21, 2019, beginning mid to late morning. We need volunteers to unload the sawhorses, panels, etc. from the truck. If you feel up to this more strenuous part of the job, please join in. If you can't do heavy lifting, then we still have draping, and decorating which takes a little creativity...and it's fun too! We'll have the terrarium, introduced in 2016, which needs delicate attention, arranging plants inside and careful ID labeling of plants.

Please lend attractive natural materials such as oddly shaped wood, to accent the display. Cut greenery, such as ivy and other evergreens, are useful too. Bring items which are easily hand carried (without a forklift!) We also can use plain green house plants (not in bloom) in nice condition for filler. A Norfolk Island Pine is always welcome. Empty pots, crates and buckets are appreciated as pedestals for show plants too. Please label all materials with your name on the back or underside! Be prepared to pick up lent items and take away at clean-up 4 PM Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019

We hope you'll join in the set-up - **it's fun**- Bring your creativity!

### Show Plant Delivery

Final deadline for plant delivery for judging is 4:00 PM, Thursday Feb 21, 2019 at Smith Vocational High School in Northampton, MA. The vendor's deadline for plant delivery and setup is 6:30 PM.

Contact Marc Gray if you have questions regarding registering your plants.