



Greater Whorled Pogonia
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The Newsletter of the
AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

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It is with sad news that Verda Dale, one of the founding members of Amherst Orchid Society, has passed away. She will be remembered as a person with fascinating stories and knowledge that made this club what it is today.

Her obituary may be viewed at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/gazettenet/obituary.aspx?n=verda-mae-dale&pid=187042307>

Show Table October 2017

Marc Gray

Habenaria erichmichelii
Phalaenopsis Liu's Cute Angel 'KF#3' AM/AOS
Bulbophyllum burfordiense
Phalaenopsis Jin Ho Summer Love 'Little Pixie' HCC/AOS
Vanda falcate 'kinkujuku'

Karen Steward

Masdevallia nicaraguae

Bill Benner

Vanda Sansai Blue

Lee Brockmann

Prosthechea radiata

Jeanne Usereau

Cattleya Tiffin Bells
Cattleya Louise Georgianna
Rhyncattleanthe Dal's Girl

Steve Steiner

Restrepia guttulata
Zootrophion schenckii
Dendrobium crepidiferum
Masdevallia White Angel
Maxillaria scopioidea
Dendrochilum magnum
Restrepia roseola
Cattleya sanguiloba
Restrepia brachypus

Roger West

Cattleya Precious Stones x Circle of Life
Brassocattleya Rustic Spots
Cattleya Mari's Song

Liz Marinelli

Paphiopedilum helenae
Pleurothallis lanceola

K Howat

Bratonia Dark Star

Kyle Welsh

Bulbophyllum tingabarinum

Leilani and Harold Norman

Dendrobium Green Mist

Steve Reardon

Epidendrum porpax
Paphiopedilum Veiled Dreams
Paphiopedilum Macabre Glamor
Paphiopedilum Starring Venus
Paphiopedilum Fred's Lady

Roger' Report

I'm reporting here a day after the Mass orchid show. At the last meeting I was under the impression that there would be no more newsletters because no editor had volunteered. Marc had made a plea for someone to try this position but nothing. Last meeting centered around two racks of slides that Marc narrated. One was about native orchids of New England and the other was slides that Marc took at various shows and some of his own. VP Marge ran the meeting and treasurer Steve gave a positive report on club finances. I don't remember the show table as I left most of my plants at home for the Mass show

The Mass show in Winchester went ok. Steve Steiner and I had plants in the display. Set up didn't quite go as planned. I forgot to bring some black cloth to cover a few pots. Had to buy a fern from Mahoney's to fill in a space, dropped a *C labiata* and broke the pot. Had to buy a pot from Kelly's Korner and I had to leave at 1 o'clock to get back for the grandsons off the bus. Biggest problem was the Mass people didn't have the judging tags printed out by the time I had to leave. Although I entered the plants the previous Saturday, they were not printed out. Thank goodness somebody entered our plants into judging, I don't know who.

When I go to these shows I set up quickly and get the heck out of there. Returning to pick up on Sunday is when I spend about 15 minutes looking at the orchid displays, especially the cattleyas. Is there a cattleya I need? How is somebody growing theirs and growing in what? I look at every cattleya in the show and especially the show champion and it better be mine. The other orchids are given just a quick glance and if they have tiny blooms my eyesight doesn't allow any time for them. Rarely am I ever wowed by a non cattleya but this show had two special things. Glen Decker had a *Phrag kovachii* that was stunning. This huge purple thing had a bloom at least 8 inches from the petal tips and a marvelous lip. This was a very flat bloom. You didn't look at anything else in his display. As all *Phrag* displayers have come to realize there is a bloom on the spike and always a perfect bloom growing out of the leaves or at the base of the plant. This was the case with this *Phrag*. Andy's orchids who advertises "Growing on a Stick" had a display with a U-shaped tree branch, both about three feet high, with 17 orchids growing on these two branches and all were in BLOOM! This was more awesome than the *Phrag*. Most were tiny plants although there was an ugly looking *Bulbo* growing on the back side and a fairly large *Den victoriae-reginae* with three clusters of really nice blooms. Even the tiny plants were loaded with blooms. I looked to see if some were tied on or glued on but no, everything looked natural. At a previous meeting I mentioned trying to grow plants on a branch and having them all in bloom for a show but with no luck. This was some effort by Andy's orchids. Steve Steiner visited Andy's this past summer and related to what a marvelous time he spent there.



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Habenaria rhodocheila

“GoBotany” ? “NEWFS” ?

If you found a native, wild orchid (like the *Platanthera* that Marc found) , or other intriguing plant, you can get help with identification from <https://gobotany.newenglandwild.org/> This identification site is sponsored by New England Wild Flower Society (www.newfs.org) a non-profit society with gardens and office in Framingham, Massachusetts. One can visit the gardens, take a class, and purchase native plants at Nasami Farm in Whately, MA, their Western Mass propagating nursery facility. Elizabeth Farnsworth of NEWFS will not be speaking at our November meeting due to her sudden and unexpected death.

Can You See a Polar Bear in a Snow Storm?

Do you like seeing lots of white space in the newsletter? No? Well, please consider writing a short – or long – article to contribute. The membership would like to hear about your best, or worst, plant experiences, as we all learn from our mistakes! Research an orchid and tell us about it. Or, did you find an orchid on vacation, a hike, or a canoe trip? We’d like to see a photo and maybe a sentence or two about it. Don’t forget, we like to run the “helpful hints” that make some of your plant keeping tasks a little easier. Send articles to Marc Gray or Maryanne Laukaitis.

Upcoming Events:

November 3, 4, 5, 2017 – Massachusetts Orchid Society (www.massorchid.org) Annual Show and Sale located at Mahoney’s Garden Center, 242 Cambridge Street, Winchester, MA

November 19, 2017 – **Directors Meeting 12 Noon**
Amherst Orchid Society Meeting (www.amherstorchidsociety.org)
2 PM, Munson Library. South Amherst, MA

Due to unfortunate circumstances our scheduled November speaker is cancelled

December 17, 2017 - Amherst Orchid Society Meeting and Annual Holiday Party,
2 PM Munson Library. South Amherst, MA
Please bring dishes to share (May be cancelled if the weather makes traveling dangerous)



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Platanthera grandiflora White Form on Orchid venture in Vermont

