



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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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**Bill Arduser**

Dendrobium Princess Asia
Pleurothallis viduata 'Selby'

Ed deVarenes

Dendrobium Jonathan's Glory 'Dark Joy' HCC
Dendrochilum convallariaeforme

Marc Gray

Dendrobium kingianum X var. silcockii
Dendrochillum javieri
Neo. (Vanda) falcata 'Nishidemiyako'

Betsy Higgins

Dendrobium Microchip
Phal. Nobby's Shadow Burma Jade
Paph. Nutcracker Fire X Festive Hunter

Ann Jordan

Bc Makai
Paph. In Charm Hamaya X Sylvan Gnome
Paph. Makuli Curtisii Maudiae X Paph.
Maudiae Napa Valley HCC/AOS X sib

Maryanne Laukaitis

Laelia albida
Laelia autumnalis
Paph. insigne
Paph. spicerianum

Joe Maciaszik

Oncidium Tiger Butter
Rhynocattleya Moon Miss 'Lunar Dawn'

Liz Marinelli

Dendrobium Star King 'Irvine'
Paph. spicerianum
Phrag. Eumelia Arias

Carol Mentos

Brassavola Little Stars
Dendrochilum convallariaeforme
Hoc. MS Sunlight 'Sweetheart'

Steve Steiner

Isabellia (Neolauchia) puchella
Lycaste Jason X cruenta
Masdevallia Angel Frost X Marguerite
Mediocalcar decoratum
Oncidium iricolor
Trichopilia sp.
Wilsonara Kolibri

Jeanne Usereau

Den. Bill's Wonder
Dendrochilum convallariaeforme
Bc Maikai X Morning Glory
Lnt Bowringiana X Laelia albida

Roger West

Rlc Suzuki's Matrix
Rlc Waterlee X Melody Fair

Kasia Wynn

Mystery plant
Oncidium Twinkle 'Fragrance Fantasy'
Paph. wardii Gothic X Green Space



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>

Show Vendors

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J & L Orchids - www.jlorchids.com

~~.HOOV.RUQHUNRUFKLGFRP~~

~~0DUORZUFKLGVEZDUORZRUFKLGVFRP~~

~~2UFKLGSKLOHZEUFKLGSKLOHFRP~~

Piping Rock Orchids - www.pipingrockorchids.com/

Please Pre-register Your Plants!

The club show officers request that plants be pre-registered by Wednesday, February 2. 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 2 , 201 , 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! ~~MSUHSDUHGWRSLFNXOHQWLWHPVDQGWDNHDZDPWFOHDQX306QGD)HE~~

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

Plant Delivery

Final deadline for plant delivery for judging is 4:00 PM, Thursday Feb 2, 201 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.