



Greater Whorled Pogonia
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The Newsletter of the
AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Volume 31 Issue 9

September 2023



September Meeting of the
Amherst Orchid Society

Location: Munson Memorial Library, 1046 S East St, Amherst

Date: Sunday, September 10, 2023

Time: 2:00 p.m.

**Plants from the Lehua order will be available for pickup at
the meeting**

Mark your calendars for future meetings:

October 8, November 12, December 10

August Picnic at the Hudons' Home

Thank you to the Hudons for welcoming us to their home for our August gathering...it was a beautiful day with a delicious barbecue and lots of interesting plants on the show table. The setting of their home is lovely with birds visiting the feeders and many attractive plantings. We enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers and the Hudons' special family recipe chili, plus Aimee's delicious focaccia. The menu was rounded out with members' contributions of side dishes and desserts. Multiple trips to the buffet table were made by all! Many thanks for a delightful afternoon.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The newsletter needs one or more people to type up the show table list- it's a great way to become familiar with orchid names. No special skills needed- all that's required is typing a Word document and emailing it to the newsletter editor. If more than one person volunteers, you could alternate months!

If you are interested contact Liz at ewmarinelli@comcast.net

Show Table August 2023

<p>Nancy Braymiller Masdevallia infracta 'A' Oncidium 'Short Sherry' Osp Leopoldo 'Corona King'</p> <p>Marc Gray Phal Dragon Tree Eagle 'Wilson' Phal hybrid Purple Dragon</p> <p>Judy Hudon Miltoniopsis Rouge 'Picardie' Phalaenopsis Trader Joe's</p> <p>Maryanne Laukaitis Bakerara Cotton Candy Stenoglottis Bill Fogarty Ctt forbesii Catt Spotted Gem 'Snow Leopard' Catt Summer Spot 'Cheetah' Laelia speciosa (?) Ondont Tahoma Glacier Nageliella purpurea Scheonorchis gemmata</p> <p>Steve LaValley Dendrobium Superstar 'Dandy' Paph Magically Fred Phal Evarise Blue Angel 'Purple Halo' Phal Lianher 'Happy Shell' Phal (no name) Phal tetraspis Restrepia species</p>	<p>Connie Lentz Cynoches sp Ionocidium sp Phal cornu cervi</p> <p>Dave Marinelli Dendrobium hybrid (Andy's)</p> <p>Liz Marinelli Catt Hawaiian Wedding Song Mexipedium xerophyticum Paph Green Horizon Paph Greyi Rndta Sunrise 'Prasong'</p> <p>JoAnn Skiba Oncidium Sweet 16 'Prepossessing'</p> <p>Steve Steiner Notylia escobarianum Paph Transvaal Propetalum Mathina 'Elizabeth' Zygo Kaboom 'Nancy'</p> <p>Kasia Wynn Stenocoryne aureofulva</p>
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Catt Summer Spot 'Cheetah'
Maryanne Laukaitis



Propetalum Mathina 'Elizabeth'
Steve Steiner



Oncidium Short Sherry
Nancy Braymiller



Stenoglottis Bill Fogarty
Maryanne Laukaitis



Spotlight on the Show Table:

Catasetum Chuck Taylor grown by Connie Lentz

There were lots of great plants on the show table this month- one in particular caught my eye, mainly because I owned the same plant several years ago and it is sadly no longer among the living. It's *Catasetum Chuck Taylor*, which I had bought on a visit to Sunset Valley Orchids and apparently so did Connie. She has had much better success with hers, as it was clearly thriving and putting forth a robust inflorescence. Here's what Connie has to say about her Chuck Taylor and her experience with *Catasetinae* in general:

I have successfully flowered two plants in the *Catasetinae* subtribe, one here and one when I lived in Costa Rica. They are unusual among orchids in that although they are monocious (male and female flowers on the same plant) they don't produce them at the same time. This makes hybridizing difficult.

The first plant I had was a *Cycnoches* that I purchased at an orchid show for the equivalent of about \$20. It had two cigar shaped pseudobulbs and appeared almost dead, but I was assured by photographs the seller had that it would do well, which it did. We were able to get pictures of the male flowers being attended by euglossine bees. Since it is very difficult to get it to produce female flowers, I was never able to identify the species. *Cycnoches* grow in the northwestern Guanacaste region of Costa Rica, which is seasonally hot and dry and then very wet. I've been to the region in each season and they seem like different parts of the world. That gives away the secret to growing it- a very dry winter rest followed by copious watering. I visited "my" Costa Rica orchids last December, and I'm sad to report the *Cycnoches* was doing poorly under the care of my wonderful friend Margarita whose huge orchidarium is copiously watered all year.

The second plant I grew, and brought to our August meeting, was a *Catasetum* hybrid, Chuck Taylor (*Catasetum Portagee Star* × *Catasetum denticulatum*). I bought it for \$38 from Sunset Valley Orchids. It consisted initially of two dry, dead looking pseudobulbs which I began watering and fertilizing in April. It put out a new pb with large, thin leaves and has bloomed exuberantly twice, with what I think are male flowers (see photos). The old pbs seem to shrink as the new one grew. It looks like it is now putting out a 4th pb.

An interesting side note is that we noticed some ants coming to the base of the pbs who appeared to be drinking something. Some plants have what are called "extra-floral nectaries" to attract insects, usually ants, to protect them from herbivores. I'm trying to find out if orchids do that.





Cynoches sp with Euglossine Bees



Catasetum Chuck Taylor(*Catasetum* Portagee Star
× *Catasetum denticulatum*)



Catasetum Chuck Taylor(*Catasetum* Portagee Star
× *Catasetum denticulatum*)

It's Time.... to Pay Dues!

All members who pay their dues at or before the October meeting will receive a free plant at the November meeting.

\$25.00 for individuals and \$30.00 for family

Send a check payable to Amherst Orchid Society Membership, 157 Shea Rd,
West Brookfield, MA 01585



Ctt forbesii
Maryanne Laukaitis