



Greater Whorled Pogonia  
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The Newsletter of the  
**AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY**

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Volume 31 Issue 10

October 2023



## **October Meeting of the Amherst Orchid Society**

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

Date: Sunday, October 8, 2023

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Members with last names starting with A, B, C and D please bring a snack to share

*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

**Future meetings at Munson Library this fall: November 12, December 10**

## Show Table September 2023

<b>Darcy Johnson</b> Phal. Tzu Chiang 'Sapphire'  <b>Dave Marinelli</b> Psychopsis Mendenhall 'Hildos' Phrag. Young Lindley 'Dave Marinelli'  <b>Liz Marinelli</b> Mexipedium xerophyticum Cochleanthes aromatica Phrag. Fritz Schomburg (kovachii x besseae)  <b>Nancy Braymiller</b> Paph. Venustum v. album Paph. NOID Den. Aridang Blue  <b>Stacy Soldato</b> Oncidium Wildcat 'Bobcat' Phal. Pantherina Phal. Violacia 'Indigo' Phal. Bellina h.f. coerulea  <b>Lee Brockmann</b> Habeneria Flamingo Prosthechea 'Green Hornet' Den. Enobi Purple 'Splash' AM/AOS	<b>Steve Steiner</b> Den. lawsii Specklinia endotrachys Lockhartia benettai Epi. Padre x Epi Pacific Crest Chondrorhyncha lindleyana  <b>Ed deVarenes</b> Den. Enobi Purple 'NN'  <b>Steve LaValley</b> Phal. Joy Spring Canary 'Japan Peach'  <b>Zoe Loughman</b> Aerangis punctata Den. New Hope 'Mini' Catt. Molten Tiger  <b>Marianne Laukaitis</b> Catt. Wendy Patterson Bc Binosa
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*Dendrobium Enobi Purple 'Splash'*  
Lee Brockman



*Epi. Padre x Epi Pacific Crest*  
Steve Steiner



*Phal. Tzu Chiang 'Sapphire'*  
Darcy Johnson



*Habeneria Flamingo*  
Lee Brockman





*Phal. Bellina f. coerulea*  
Stacy Soldato



*Phal. Joy Spring Canary 'Japan Peach'*  
Steve LaValley



*Den. New Hope 'Mini'*  
Zoe Loughman



*Den. Enobi Purple 'NN'*  
Ed deVarenes



## Spotlight on the Show Table:

### Aerangis punctata grown by Zoe Loughman



The African members of the orchid family are never the largest or showiest plants on the table, but who among us is not entranced by their elegance and mystery. That feeling was apparent at the September meeting when we got to the last plant on the show table- Zoe's *Aerangis punctata*. The oohs and aahs were audible! Smaller than some of its relatives, *Aerangis punctata* possesses the elongated nectar spur that sets these plants apart. A native of Madagascar, these tiny plants overachieve with flowers large in proportion. Here's the backstory of Zoe's plant, along with her growing environment and care routine:

After catching the orchid bug in spring 2020 and voraciously reading about how to grow orchids, I decided to take the next step up from a grocery store *Phalaenopsis* and travel to J&L orchids in Connecticut in September 2020. Along with the *Aerangis punctata*, I purchased a tiny *Lepanthopsis astrophora* (which has

religiously bloomed 3+ times a year).

The *Aerangis* bloomed for the first time two years after purchase, and the flowers have typically lasted two weeks for me. I've never noticed a scent from the flowers, even at night. Watching the flower spikes progress from bud to flower is marvelous. While the buds grow, they form nectar spurs that make curly little spirals that increase in curliness as the buds keep swelling. Right before the buds open, the spurs relax and straighten out.

My plant is currently grown indoors under lights, mostly intermediate with 90 degree days in the summers. Along with my handful of other mounted minis, the *Aerangis* mount is hung on a little picture frame with a large mesh strung across the frame. This little picture frame lives leaned up against a grow shelf and receives an apparently adequate but not strong light.

For watering, the minis get thrown into a water bucket to soak for a few minutes. In the summer, this happens once a day. In winter, the watering frequency is usually reduced to every other day. I am bad about remembering to add fertilizer to the water bucket, but a weak Jack's Classic Orchid Liquid 7-5-6 fertilizer gets added to the bucket about once a month in the warm season. Then, the water is used for about a week before the water needs to be changed.

Overall, it's a low stress plant with delightful flowers.

*Aerangis punctata* flowers developing:





## Hints for growing better orchids:

### Suggestions from members to make growing easier and less expensive

Lee Brockman

- Coffee filters make great pot liners before filling with medium. The filter will keep the medium from falling through the pot holes and will rot eventually.
- Recycle your mini blinds by cutting them up for plant markers. They come in different colors.



- Write on your plant markers with pencil. It lasts longer than marker or ink.

*Share your orchid growing tips for a future newsletter-home remedies, re-purposed items from the trash or recycling, anything you have come up with to benefit your orchid growing hobby.*

*Send your ideas to Lee Brockman at:*

[lbbrockmann@live.com](mailto:lbbrockmann@live.com)

Anyone who needs to take an RMD from their IRA can request bequests be made to 501(c)3 and not pay income taxes from the amount. Speak to your broker/banker about it. AMOS can use more donations. -Lee

THE MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY PRESENTS



World of Orchids  
*India*

**Orchid Show & Sale**  
November 3-5, 2023

**Sons of Italy Hall**  
117 Swanton Street  
Winchester, MA

[www.massorchid.org/show](http://www.massorchid.org/show)

**Dates & Times:**

Friday, Nov 3, 2023: 12:30 pm - 5 pm

Saturday, Nov 4, 2023: 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday, Nov 5, 2023: 10 am - 4 pm

**Location:**

[Sons of Italy](#)

117 Swanton St, Winchester, MA

**Admission:**

Adults \$10

Free to MOS members as well as children 8 and under

Purchase tickets [online](#) or at the door.