



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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**MARCH MEETING OF THE
AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY**

Date: Sunday, March 9, 2025

Time: 2:00 p.m.

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

Our guest will be Jimmy Grogan, curator at Smith College's Lyman Conservatory.
He will be speaking about their collection and possible options for expanding it
in collaboration with Amherst Orchid Society.

Members with last names starting with Q, R, S and T please bring a snack to share

Upcoming meetings at Munson Library:

April 13, May 18

President's Message

Stacy Soldato

Learn and Grow: How teamwork makes the dream work

A team is a group of individuals working together who collaborate on a related task to achieve their common goal. Team effort is necessary to achieve our show's success and while each member plays a part to make it work, it would be catastrophic if members were too restrictive with their time and unable to support their teammates. The donation of personal time is as valuable as monetary contributions in my opinion, and is fundamental to establish a successful outcome.

Our show this past week was truly an example of how teamwork makes the dream work. Beginning Wednesday with Kasia for all the shopping and finding some "muscle" for loading equipment; Betsy, Karen and Carol for their meticulous job of table skirting; Liz and Dave for the agonizing job of plant registration; Mike and Marianne for delivery and construction design of the display; Joe for judging, organizing clerks, and hosting Tim Cultherson; Steve Reardon for plant and fern order; Steve Steiner for the terrariums; Steve LaValley for 5 days of help with anything and everything. Because we had so many volunteers who helped in multiple positions, I would like to thank those who helped with clerking, display setup/takedown, plant sales, plant babysitting, member services, reception table duties, and door watchers. Each and every member played a pivotal role in the success of our event and I thank you all for your dedication and commitment.

Thanks would not be complete without naming the chairman of the orchid show, Marc Gray. Marc calls on his years of experience and his contacts throughout the year to make sure all the details come together seamlessly. So many components have to merge for the show to take shape, from lining up vendors to the lighting and electrical cords. Every year he makes it happen- thank you, Marc!

Thank you to all who provided plants for our display, and congratulations to all who earned ribbons and awards. My hope is that everyone learned something they did not know from the diverse group of growers, vendors and judges we hosted this year. Last but not least I would like to encourage all members to support one another on this great orchid growing journey/roller coaster ride that we share. After all... teamwork does make the dream work!

(President's Message continued...)

March will be a busy month for the Amherst Orchid Society. Starting with our meeting on March 9th we will be hosting a guest speaker from the Smith College greenhouse, Jimmy Grogan. He will be speaking to the group about what they grow at Smith and the future of their collection. We are also hoping to arrange a field trip in the near future to tour the greenhouse and learn more about the types of orchids and their culture in their orchid house.

Next will be the Nutmeg show in West Hartford, CT. on the weekend of the 21st followed by the New Hampshire Orchid Society show the last weekend in March. Reach out to me (413-884-4538, stacysoldato@gmail.com) or Marc (802-258-8406, bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net) if you can assist in any way or have plants to enter.

Now that our weather has improved substantially since last month and spring is right around the corner, I hope to see you all at our upcoming meeting.



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
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Upcoming AOS Webinar: Why Won't it Bloom? With Ron McHatton

Wednesday, March 5th, 2025 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST EST

<https://www.aos.org/webinars/why-wont-it-bloom-20250305>



Why Won't It Bloom?

Join Ron McHatton and find ways to encourage your orchids to bloom to their full potential. Why won't some of your plants flower? Come and explore the subtle, and sometimes not so subtle, environmental clues that many orchids depend on to trigger flowering.

Scenes from the 2025 Amherst Orchid Society show:







Catasetums in the 2025 show

If this year's show could be said to have a theme, it might have been Catasetums. The Best in Show plant was Cl. Dragon's Treasure 'Gilberto' in the Massachusetts Orchid Society exhibit. There were four other Catasetum relatives in the show, and together they generated more than their fair share of interest and comments. Zoe had a dark colored Mormodia in the terrarium with the hybrid name Barnabas Collins. Several club members of a certain age reminisced fondly about the source of the name, which was a character in an offbeat vampire-themed soap opera from the 1960s.



Many attendees, and probably also Amherst Orchid Society members, were able to go home with a Catasetum of their own. A new vendor at this year's show, Tim Culbertson of Oceanside Orchids (affiliated with Sunset Valley Orchids) brought about 50 to sell, and they were quickly snapped up. This group of plants is known to have exacting cultural requirements, closely following seasonal cues. Sunset Valley circulates growing instructions for Catasetums and their relatives several times throughout the year to people on their mailing list. The information in their newsletters is very detailed and too lengthy to re-print here, so if you have one of these plants it would be beneficial to get on their mailing list for future newsletters. <https://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com/htm/maillinglist.html>

The Sunset Valley website also has a page of general instructions for Catasetums:

https://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com/htm/culture_catasetinae.html

A very brief summary:

- As the new growth develops wait to irrigate until the new roots are well-developed and are 3 to 5" long. (Don't be in a hurry to water; it is better to wait)
- Irrigate and fertilize frequently while the plants are in active growth.
- Stop fertilization and reduce irrigation by one-half around mid-November.
- Cease watering by the 1 st of January.

Maybe with a year of healthy growth we will see even more Catasetums in next year's show!

The 45th Annual Paphiopedilum Forum

Joe Maciaszek

Marge and I drove 6 ½ hours to the Bethesda area of Maryland on a Friday so we could be ready for the forum that started at 8 on Saturday morning. The location is in a nice residential area, the meeting was held at a local church. There were a large number of very nice Paphs and Phrags on the sale tables. One was in bud so bought it knowing it should be ready for our show, and it made into our show. While I know many people frown on displaying recently acquired plants, I wanted to make sure we had enough plants for our display. I also bought a mature Phrag. kovachii which I hope will be in bloom next year. The people at the forum were very nice to talk to about the plants for sale or on display.



The orchid display part works very differently than most shows I have been to. People bring plants to the forum without registering them, they just place them on tables into the different possible categories to be judged. Judges are assigned certain categories to evaluate. When you get to that category, all of the plants there are judged and 1st, 2nd, 3rd are assigned. Then the clerk has to write down all of plant's information including the owner of the plant. I am glad with my bad handwriting that I didn't have to do that.



There were three talks at the forum, the first was about native slipper orchids. The talk focused on the decline of some types in the wild and the conservation program that Longwood Gardens runs. It was great to see how the invitro propagation of these slipper orchids works. The second was about Phrag. culture which I found most useful. The Phrag. kovachii I bought likes cooler temps, so I will have to make sure not to let it get too hot during the summer months.

After lunch I went to AOS judging, so I missed the third talk but judged some nice plants. The team I was on gave 2 AOS awards. One was to a Phrag. kovachii and the other was to a Paph. villosum F. aureum.

Marge and I enjoyed the experience at the forum, meeting some familiar faces and new ones as well. I also worked with some new student judges who are with the National Capital Judging Center. It's nice to meet the next generation of judges even if they aren't in our judging center. This was a short, fast-paced meeting but I enjoyed it and hope to go again.





NUTMEG STATE ORCHID SOCIETY

ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW & SALE

Showcasing gorgeous orchids from around the world.
Enjoy displays by hobbyists, commercial growers, and orchid societies. Open to all - so friends and family can join the fun!

Admission \$10 (Children 12 and under enter FREE)

Door Prizes • Orchid & Supply Vendors • Related Arts & Crafts

Saturday, March 22 (12-5pm)

Sunday, March 23 (10am-4pm)

**Photographers! Get exclusive early access
Sunday from 8-9:45am.** See website for details.

**The West Hartford Meeting and Conference Center
50 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT**

Handicapped Accessible

Parking validation provided for adjacent lot only

Website: www.nutmegorchids.org/2025show

Contact: president@nutmegorchids.org





New Hampshire Orchid Society
Presents...

Flight of Fancy

32nd Annual Show & Sale March 28th-30th, 2025

Join us at
the Courtyard by Marriott,
Southwood Drive,
Nashua, NH

For more information visit
our Facebook page or go to
www.nhorchids.org

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The Newsletter Needs Your Contributions!

Please send articles, photographs, links to interesting websites, book reviews, travel stories, jokes, etc. to

ewmarinelli@comcast.net

Rosette Awards 2025			
Best Vanda	Rhynchostylis gigantea	Julie Miller	Amherst OS
Best Cymbidium	Cymbidium Ming 'Emperor'	Liz Marinelli	Amherst OS
Best Large Specimen	Cymbidium Ming 'Emperor'	Liz Marinelli	Amherst OS
Best Paphiopedilum	Paphiopedilum villosum	Maryanne Laukaitis	Amherst OS
Best Pleurothallid	Scaphosepalum gibberosum	Steve Steiner	Amherst OS
Best Miniature Cattleya	Cattlianthe Little Lana	Zoe Loughman	Amherst OS
Presidents Award	Pomatocalpa angustifolia	Millard Hennessee	CAIOS
Best Standard Phalaenopsis	Phalaenopsis KS Big Diana 'King Sir'	Mike Lincoln	CAIOS
Best Phragmipedium	Phragmipedium Karame var. flavum	Mike Lincoln	CAIOS
Best Rosette Artistic	Item 1-Masdevallia	Ellen Kennedy	Ellen Kennedy
Best Educational	Best Phrag Exhibit	Ellen Kennedy	Ellen Kennedy
Best Lycaste	Lycaste Hybrid	Frosty Hollow	Frosty Hollow
Best Small Specimen	Dendrobium dichaeoides	J and L Orchids	J and L Orchids
Best Species in Show	Gastrochilus bellianus	J and L Orchids	J and L Orchids
Best Oncidium	Burrageara Mayor Billy	J and L Orchids	J and L Orchids
Best Plant in Show	Clo. Dragon's Treasure 'Gilberto'	Anne Pfaff	MOS
Best Miscellaneous Genera	Clo. Dragon's Treasure 'Gilberto'	Anne Pfaff	MOS
Best Under Lights	Dendrobium limpidum	Brigitte Fortin	MOS
Best Dendrobium	Dendrobium limpidum	Brigitte Fortin	MOS
Best Small Phalaenopsis	Rhynconopsis Dragon Charmy	Danielle Barnett	MOS
Best Windowsill	Cattleya cernua 4N	Ginna Plude	NSOS
Best Masdevallia and Dracula	Masdevallia imposter	Ginna Plude	NSOS
Best Large Cattleya	Cattleya Nancy Off 'Linwood'	Linda Abrams	MOS
AOS Awards			
Cattleya cernua	Brigitte Fortin, MOS		80 AM/AOS
Phal. KS Big Diana 'King Sir'	Mike Lincoln, CAIOS		85 AM/AOS
Paphiopedilum Rolfei	Tina Balog, CAIOS		82 AM/AOS
Show Trophy	J and L Orchids		84

Amherst Orchid Society Ribbon Awards		
plant	ribbon place	person name
Host Society Display	1st place	
Brassavola tuberculata	2nd	Betsy Higgins
Lepotes bicolor	1st	Betsy Higgins
Slc. Jewel Box 'Scheherazade'	3rd	Betsy Higgins
Lepotes bicolor	3rd	Betsy Higgins
Paph Puna Moon	3rd	Betsy Higgins
Phal Ign. 'Happy Dance'	1st	Betsy Higgins
Phal. Ign. 'Great Egret'	3rd	Betsy Higgins
Phal. Ign. 'Great Egret'	1st	Betsy Higgins
Phal. Ign 'Happy Dance'	2nd	Betsy Higgins
Burrageara Mayor Billy	3rd	Betsy Higgins
Dendrobium sinense	1st	Betsy Higgins
Dendrobium longicornu	3rd	Betsy Higgins
Dendrobium aberrans	1st	Betsy Higgins
Dendrobium sinense	2nd	Betsy Higgins
Dendrobium aberrans	3rd	Betsy Higgins
Promenaea Golden Snitch	2nd	Betsy Higgins
Promenaea Golden Snitch	1st	Betsy Higgins
Ludisia discolor	1st	Betsy Higgins
Gastrochilus obliquus	2nd	Betsy Higgins
Ludisia discolor	2nd	Betsy Higgins
Cymbidium No Id	1st	David Marinelli
Pleurothallis truncata	2nd	David Marinelli
Maxillaria varabilis	2nd	David Marinelli
Maxillaria arbuscula	3rd	David Marinelli
Paph Delightfully Venus	2nd	Edouard deVarennes
Cymbidium miseriors x Golden Elf	1st	Holly and Alex Rainaud Loss
Prosthechea mariae	2nd	Joe Maciaszek
Paph Magic Lantern	2nd	Joe Maciaszek
Phrag Mont Fallu	1st	Joe Maciaszek
Phal Ox Black Face	1st	Joe Maciaszek
Dendrobium Little Norman	2nd	Joe Maciaszek
Rhynchostylis gigantea	1st	Julie Miller
Rhynchostylis gigantea	2nd	Julie Miller
Ctt. Fairyland	3rd	Liz Marinelli
Paph gratrixianum	2nd	Liz Marinelli
Phrag Eumelia Arias	2nd	Liz Marinelli
Vanda nana	1st	Liz Marinelli
Brassidium Nittany Gold 'Dr John'	1st	Liz Marinelli

Tolumnia Jairak Firm 'Pink Lady'	3rd	Liz Marinelli
Cym Ming 'Emperor'	1st	Liz Marinelli
Dendrobium petiolaatum 'Laura Hanson'	2nd	Liz Marinelli
Dendrobium Star King 'Irvine'	1st	Liz Marinelli
Dendrobium x delicatum 'Trident's Snow Showers'	2nd	Liz Marinelli
Dendrobium x speciokingianum 'Trident'	2nd	Liz Marinelli
Dendrobium Nagomi	3rd	Liz Marinelli
Lycaste Leilani's Pink Hints	2nd	Liz Marinelli
Cymbidium Ming 'Emperor'	1st	Liz Marinelli
Dendrobium petiolaatum 'Laura Hanson'	1st	Liz Marinelli
Paph venustum	3rd	Lynn Reynolds
Dinema polybulbon	1st	Maryanne Laukaitis
Paphiopedilum villosum	1st	Maryanne Laukaitis
Paph Egret's Moonbeam	3rd	Nancy Braymiller
Phal stuartiana 'Sogo'	1st	Nancy Braymiller
Phal. NO ID	2nd	Nancy Braymiller
Brassidium Golden Gamine 'White Knight'	3rd	Nancy Braymiller
Ludisia discolor	2nd	Nancy Braymiller
Ludisia discolor	3rd	Nancy Braymiller
Brassolaeliocattleya Sunset Glory	2nd	Stacy Soldato
C. Chantilly Lace	3rd	Stacy Soldato
Phal stuartiana 'Sogo'	1st	Stacy Soldato
Phal. NOID 'Canary'	3rd	Stacy Soldato
Brassidium Golden Gamine 'White Knight'	2nd	Stacy Soldato
Dendrobium Hawaiian Punch	2nd	Stacy Soldato
Dendrobium Chocolate Antlers	2nd	Stacy Soldato
Dendrobium Jaiho Candy	1st	Stacy Soldato
Dendrobium Hawaiian Punch	2nd	Stacy Soldato
Dendrobium Chocolate Antlers	2nd	Stacy Soldato
Dendrobium Jaiho Candy	1st	Stacy Soldato
Maxillaria tenuifolia	1st	Stacy Soldato
Maxillaria tenuifolia	2nd	Stacy Soldato
Paph Norito Hasagowa	3rd	Steve Steiner
Paph fanaticum	2nd	Steve Steiner
Paph Shun-Fa Golden	1st	Steve Steiner
Paph Green Veil	2nd	Steve Steiner
Osmoglossum pulchellum	2nd	Steve Steiner
Dendrobium hancockii	3rd	Steve Steiner
Dracula polyphenus	3rd	Steve Steiner
Scaphosepalum gibberosum	3rd	Steve Steiner
Scaphosepalum gibberosum	1st	Steve Steiner
Lycaste Gamora Vanity	3rd	Steve Steiner
Lycaste Rakuhoku	2nd	Steve Steiner
Dendrochilum wenzelii 'Lee Levine'	3rd	Steve Steiner
Pescatoria kiabochorum	2nd	Steve Steiner
Pterostylis curta	3rd	Steve Steiner

Pterostylis curta	2nd	Steve Steiner
Oerstedelia centradenia	3rd	Zoe Loughman
Cattianthe Little Lana	1 st	Zoe Loughman
Procatavola Exotic Lime Sorbet	2nd	Zoe Loughman
Cattianthe Little Lana	1st	Zoe Loughman
Cattianthe Little Lana	2nd	Zoe Loughman
Paph Phyllis Prestia	1st	Zoe Loughman
Paph Phyllis Prestia	3rd	Zoe Loughman
Dendrobium Regal Vista	1st	Zoe Loughman
Mormodia Barnabas Collins	3rd	Zoe Loughman
Ludisia discolor	3rd	Zoe Loughman
Mormodia Barnabas Collins	3rd	Zoe Loughman
Ludisia discolor	2nd	Zoe Loughman
Cyanotype	2nd	Zoe Loughman
Arts Exhibits Featuring Orchids-Adult	1st	Ellen Kennedy
Item 1	1st	Ellen Kennedy
Item 4	2nd	Ellen Kennedy
Item 6	2nd	Ellen Kennedy
Item 7	3rd	Ellen Kennedy
Item 8	2nd	Ellen Kennedy

Check out this blog post from Longwood Gardens- News about the Habenaria hybrids they have created at Longwood, and cultural tips for growing them:

<https://longwoodgardens.org/blog/2024-09-11/habenaria-palette-possibilities>

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Habenaria: A Palette of Possibilities

By Greg Griffin, on September 11, 2024