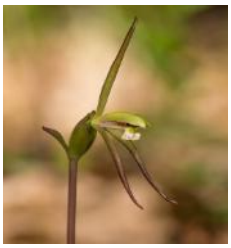

Greater Whorled Pogonia

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The Newsletter of the

AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Volume 33 Issue 4 April 2025

APRIL MEETING OF THE

AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY

Date: Sunday, April 13, 2023

Time: 2:00 p.m.

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

Members with last names starting with U, V, W, X, Y and Z

please bring a snack to share

Upcoming meetings at Munson Library:

May 18

President's Message

Stacy Soldato

Hello All,

I hope everyone enjoyed Jimmie Grogan's talk at our March meeting. I look forward to our tour and future plant trades with Lyman Greenhouse at Smith College. I will keep you all updated with dates and plant lists as I get them. We had a great show table with many different genera of orchids. I hope this encourages you to expand your collections and maybe try something new!

Amherst wrapped up the show season with two orchid shows in the month of March. First was Nutmeg State Orchid Society Show. Thank you to Liz, Dave, Aimee, Zoe and Marc for set up as well as take down. Congratulations to all who received ribbons and awards.

The second was New Hampshire Orchid Society Show. Amherst won the Orchid Digest Award for the display. Congratulations to Liz Marinelli for her Trichopilia suavis winning Best Oncidium and Best Fragrance, Liz also won Best Small Specimen with her Dendrobium petiolatum 'Laura Hansen', Betsy Higgins won Best No Name Plant for Phal NoID 'Mardi Gras', Steve Steiner won Best in Maxillaria alliance with Lycaste Abou Rits.

Thank you to Liz, Dave, Betsy, Marc, Joe and Marge for traveling and assisting with set up and take down. I would also like to acknowledge and thank everyone who took the time to prepare and send plants to the shows this season creating our beautiful displays. (Editor's note: A huge thank you to Stacy for her vision and creativity in designing the displays!)

Now that we are in the month of April the days are slowly getting longer and temperatures are rising. If you are growing under lights remember to add time to replicate the increase in day length. Many orchids need this cue to bloom, start growths, and initiate flower spikes.

Spring is a busy time of year for us orchid growers. Many of you will begin to see new growths forming along with new bright green root tips, signaling the start of the growing season. This is the time to repot and/or divide all those that have outgrown their pots.

If the media is starting to break down it may smell "mushroomy" or doesn't drain as quickly. These plants will also need to be repotted. The media is breaking down and will start to compact, denying roots of airflow which will cause them to rot. It is lack of airflow that kills roots not surplus water. Be sure to check your supplies of media as well as pots, mounts, baskets, clips, and stakes. It is better to have everything on hand before beginning the daunting task of multiple repots.

Cattleya: Remember to only repot with the emergence of new roots on cattleya as to ensure minimal setback. Bi-foliate Catts are particularly unforgiving when repotted at the wrong time and may sulk or die.

Oncidium: Repot once the new growth is showing new root tips emerging. Generally, the growth will be ¼ to ½ the size of the previous bulb.

Dendrobium: Repot after blooming when you see new roots coming on new growths, typically in spring. These plants enjoy tight pots.

Phalaenopsis: Repot once flowering is done and new leaves and roots are emerging. This is the beginning of the vegetative growth cycle.

Catasetinae: Repot in the spring when new growths are emerging. Do not water until roots are 3 to 6 inches long.

Paphs and Phrags: It is said these plants enjoy annual repotting. Because they are semi-terrestrial, they will be watered more causing the bark to break down quicker and become acidic. Don't forget to add some dolomite lime to the mix as these plants need extra calcium.

Once plants are repotted, stake them if needed. This is important for the development of the new roots. If the plant wobbles around in the media the very delicate root tips could be broken or bruised, stunting the growth of that root. A plant is only as healthy as the root system that supports it.

We will discuss this further at the April meeting along with some examples of newly potted plants and watering. Hope to see you all there!

Happy growing, see you all soon!

Stacy

Amherst Orchid Society display at the 2025 New Hampshire Orchid Society Show

Show Table March 2025

Lee Brockmann
JKF Appleblossom
Lc. Martha Stewart 'Waldor'

Betsy Higgins
Coelogyne ochracea
Blc. Toshi's Magic 'Doris'
Phal. NOID
Vanda falcata 'Gojofujurin'
Rstp. schizosepala

Aimee Hudon
Phal. NOID 'Limoncello'
Maxillaria tenufolia

Holly Rainand Loss
Cym. misericors x Golden Elf

Alex Loss
Phrag. Schroderae

Ed deVarennes
Cat. lundii 'Laurelwood' (sp)
Den. Love Memory 'Fizz'
Den. Green Flash

Jeanne Usereau
Brassanthe Maikai 'Penn Valley'
Arpopyllum gigantea 'Grace'

Kasia Wynne
Cochleanthes [Cnths.] discolor x Kefericzella [Kfz.] Ash Trees
Cl. Rebecca Northen

Stacy Soldoto
Cat. Lily Marie Almas
Cat. Jewell Box
Brassidium Golden Gamine ‘White Knight’
Max. tenufolia
Phrag. Equagenera Dream
Cat. Francis Fox
Den. Thanes Blue
Procatevola Key Lime Stars

Bev von Kries
Milt. Pluto x Milt. Darkness

Steve LaValley
Mo. Susan Wilson

Marc Gray
Miltonia Mario Van Peebles x M. Edie Brown
Paphiopidilium Petula Aflame
Den. Micro Chip

Lynne Reynolds
Phrag. Rosalie Dixler

Liz Marinelli
Den. jonesii 'Trident Snow Shower'
C. Gene's Dream
Cym. wenshanense

Dave Marinelli
Maxillaria arbuscu
Maxillaria elatior

Nancy Braymiller
Miltoniopsis Edie Brown 'Diamond Star'

Zoe Loughman
Cl. Rebecca Northen x Morm. morenoi
Cat. Molten Tiger
Paph. delenatii
Oerstedella centradenia
Mo. Barnabas Collins
Clowesia Rebecca Northen
Sinningia cocinna (not an orchid)
Trichoglottis pusilla (Alba)

Phal. NoID 'Limoncello'
Aimee Hudon

Cattleya lundii 'Laurelwood'
Ed deVarennes

Paphiopidilium Petula Aflame
Marc Gray

Brassidium Golden Gamine 'White Knight'
Stacy Soldato

Miltoniopsis Edie Brown 'Diamond Star'
Nancy Braymiller

Restrepia schizosepala
Betsy Higgins

Cl. Rebecca Northen x Morm. morenoi
Zoe Loughman

Cym. misericors x Golden Elf
Holly Rainaud Loss

Brassanthe Maikai 'Penn Valley'
Jeanne Usereau

Vanda falcata 'Gojofujurin'
Betsy Higgins

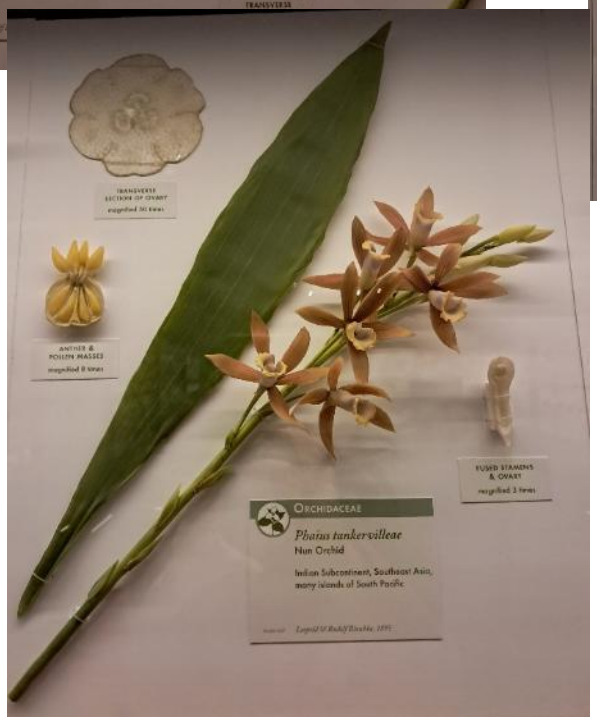
Phrag Schroderae
Alex Loss

Paphinia cristata
Steve Steiner

Glass Flowers at the Harvard University Museum of Natural History

Recently Zoe visited the Harvard Museum of Natural History and was awed by one of their most famous treasures, the Glass Flowers. This unique collection was made by Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka, a father and son team of Czech glass artists. Over fifty years, from 1886 through 1936, the Blaschkas produced 4,300 glass models that represent 780 plant species. Orchids are well represented in the collection. The Glass Flowers are truly astounding and well worth a special trip to Cambridge. https://www.hmnh.harvard.edu/

Here are some of the photos that Zoe took:



Congratulations to Joe for his recent AOS award- ***Encyclia × darieniana*** **'Memoria Konstanty Maciaszek' CHM/AOS (82 points)**

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"***Exciting News for Orchid Enthusiasts***"

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* Expert tips and insider secrets from seasoned orchid growers.

Stay tuned for more details and get ready to elevate your orchid-growing game to new heights!
* **April 2025** -"Growing Orchids Indoors and in Terrariums"– Chris Satch
* **May 2025** - "Calming the Fear of Repotting Your Orchid –Best Media and Techniques for Your Indoor Orchids" – Janeil Payne
* **June 2025** - "The Best Orchids to Grow Indoors" – David Vandenbroek
* **July 2025** - "Orchids Under Lights – Greenhouse Not Required" – Sarah Hurdel
* **September 2025** - "Pest Management Techniques for Indoor Orchids" – Ron McHatton

https://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars