

March 2019

Issue 77 Volume 11

NUTMEG STATE ORCHID SOCIETY

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AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY



501 (c) (3) non for profit organization

2008 - 2019

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A note from the Desk of the President

NSOS show is now over and it was a great success, while we were slightly down on attendees, the weekend was great. While walking around observing the attendees everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and everyone had at least one package when they left, most more than one.

I would like to thank all those members that worked hard to make this a great show. Whether you worked on the show or behind the scenes your effort was greatly appreciated.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new members that joined NSOS at our show. Please feel free to contact any of the board members if you have any question or ideas on how we can improve our meetings. Remember this is your club and all input is important to us.

Our next adventure is our annual bus trip. This year we are going to the New York Botanical garden and to the Bronx Zoo (members choice). Jeanne will be sending out more info on this as we get closer.

NUTMEG STATE ORCHID SOCIETY MENTOR LIST 2013

Walter Doehr	Cattleya, Phals., Growing under lights	203-634-7712	johndeered1923@gmail.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Joe Hertz	Under lights and Windowsill growing All species	860-233-5505	jhertz1015@aol.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Jeanne McDermott	Windowsill growing: Phals, Paphs, Brassia, Oncidiums, Cymbidiums, Miltoniopsis & mixed genera		jtmcdermott@comcast.net jtmcdermott@comcast.net	
Sandy Myhalik	Phalaenopsis	860-677-0504	myhalik@comcast.net	
Jay Presbie	Growing under lights All species	860-651-3155	jpresbie@gmailmail.com	Call/e-mail anytime
John Sziklas	Paphiopedilums Phragmepediums Cattleyas	860-658-2908		Call anytime
Lydia Pan	All Genera		markandlydia5357@icloud.com	Call or email

NSOS now has a mentor list and would like to add more folks going forward. We are looking for people that are willing to answer questions on something that you are familiar with pertaining to orchids. You do not have to be an expert, just able to help someone who has a question in your area of knowledge. We all have areas that we feel comfortable in that would be of great assistance to someone just starting out. If you wish to be added to our NSOS Mentor List, please send me a note: johndeered1923@gmail.com

BUSINESS MEETING

Attendance was 39

The meeting opened with two announcements.

On Saturday April 6th, 11 AM-3 PM, an Orchid special event at UConn in Storrs will feature two unique talks by UConn Professor Kenneth Noll and botanist/author William Cullina, with tours of the greenhouses available between the talks (details in poster at http://florawww.eeb.uconn.edu/clint/UConn_Orchid_Event.pdf).

NSOS member Will Wilson was interviewed for an article published by The Wall Street Journal: “Roses are Red, Orchids are Addictive!”
(<https://www.wsj.com/articles/roses-are-red-orchids-are-addictive-11550516025>)

Karen Timko has gotten the show publicized extensively, including a 7-inch column in the Hartford Courant that has run several times, Yankee Flyer, WHO FISH, Evensi and online at patch.com (in communities where our members live). She encouraged members to distribute and post flyers. Sandy asked for volunteers to post yard signs on their properties if they have good visibility to passers by.

Sandy thanked Diane Dean and other members who helped with our displays for away shows this year, especially Peg Steinis who assisted with set up for the Amherst show.

Jeanne gave a special shout out to Belle Ribicoff for donating most of the prizes for this month’s raffle from her personal collection, from rooted cuttings of exotic begonia varieties (identified in Logee’s online bulletins) to divisions of selected orchids including Phragmipediums, Dendrobiums (aggregatum and jenkinsii) and more. Some of Belle’s orchids were freshly divided and temporarily wrapped in sphagnum moss, but need to be properly repotted as soon as possible. Belle plans to come to to our show this year. If you are successfully growing any of the plants Belle has so generously donated to NSOS over the years, let her know! She loves to hear how her plants are doing.

Forty-eight of the 54 available seats for the bus trip have already been reserved. Jeanne asked that members finalize their reservations before our show and promptly notify her of any changes, since the open seats serve as an incentive to recruit new members at our show. The Membership table will add the names of new members who join during our show to a wait list for the remaining seats. Photos and video from “The Orchid Show: Singapore” are now available online: <https://www.nybg.org/event/the-orchid-show/>

The orchid supply vendor Kelley’s Korner is offering a 10% show discount and no shipping charge if you pre-pay an order for pickup at the show. Coupon code for discount is NSOS 2019 with online or telephone pre-orders placed by March 14.

Lydia noted that wristbands will be used instead of handstamps to identify paid attendees at this year’s show. She encouraged Admissions Table volunteers who are unfamiliar with handling wristbands to take a few for practice putting them on another person.

NSOS logo shirts and totes ordered in February were available for pick-up. If you want a shirt for the show, provide your order and payment to Tom M. at 26 Basswood Rd within the next few days. They will be available for pick-up at the Conference Center on set-up day (Friday, March 15).

The meeting ended with the raffle drawing.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

SPEAKER

At this point, Sandy & Ginna reviewed show set-up, how to prepare plants for display and how to register plants for ribbon judging. Sandy asked members deliver their plants before noon on Friday. They can be dropped off any time after 8 AM. This year, extra help will be needed to make labels by cutting apart the continuous strip printed with plant names and sticking the names onto black cards. Then the black cards need to be matched up with their white judging cards. Ann Jordon will oversee 4 teams of 2 to wrap and label plants. Owners need to make sure their name is on each plant – sticking a return address label to the bottom of each pot is recommended.

If the plant is not in a black pot, it can be placed inside a plain black cache pot so it won't need to be wrapped. Plant tags should be hidden from view but left with their pot to insure they are labeled accurately!

Sandy reiterated the need to protect orchid buds and flowers with a plastic bag during transport if it is cold (<40F) or windy. In preparation for display, pots should be cleaned of dirt and algae. Dead or damaged roots, pseudobulbs and leaves should be removed or trimmed to look as natural as possible. Leaves should be wiped with either some diluted milk (not skim) or a few drops of peppermint soap mixed into a quart of water). Use a fresh paper towel for each plant to avoid spreading disease. Inspect plants for mealybugs, scale, mites or fungus – infested or infected plants are not allowed in the displays. Phalaenopsis spikes should be staked while in bud to improve presentation.

Ginna reviewed common issues with plant registration. Members who find it difficult to use the electronic form or classifications can send Ginna an email with their plant names and description of the flower. Color class is generally determined by the base color of the flower (which can sometimes be more easily be discerned on the back of the petal).

Phalaenopsis flowers are divided into 3 classes by size (Standard, Small or Miniature). For other classes, miniature plants are less than 12" tall at maturity. Dendrobium Nobile (both words capitalized) is a "Nobile-type" hybrid (not the species Den. nobile). Do not use class codes in colored or shaded areas – these are for the judges' use only. One plant can be entered in multiple classes on one line, separating the class numbers by commas or spaces.

NSOS will award a new trophy this year for the best NO NAME/IGN plant.

Vendors should arrive to set up from noon until around 3 PM. One member is needed to assist each vendor. Liena Dieck will not be with us this year; however, there will be 9 artisans plus the massage therapist on the mezzanine. New artisans this year are Jamie's Organic candles, Farm to Bath, 1001 Knits and Proud Peacock.

May 5th Meeting

Members with the last names beginning with N thru Z are asked to bring finger foods.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NSOS financial data is available to members upon request. Send your inquiries to our Treasurer, Tom Mierzejewski: tommajeski@comcast.net

Advertising in our NSOS Newsletter

Advertising is now open to members and businesses. The following rates apply: \$10/month business card size ad. ¼ page \$25, ½ page \$50. Members would get \$5 & \$10 off these rates respectively. A four line word ad for members would be \$2. Contact Walter Doehr if interested and send your check to Tom Mierzejewski, our Treasurer.



2019 Schedule of Meetings & Events

Apr. 6, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

April 7, 2019– MEETING CANCELLED - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

April 12, 2019 - NSOS Annual Bus Trip - This year New York Botanical garden or Bronx Zoo, Members choice of destination.

Apr, 20, 2019 - -Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960

May 4, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

May 5, 2019– Joanna Eckstrom - Topic: "What is my orchid saying to me now? Feed me? Water Me? Help?" - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

May 18, 2019 - -Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960

Jun. 2, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

Jun. 15, 2019– Member Picnic at the home of Catherine and Frank Scheckton in Canton, more info to follow

Jun. 15, 2019 - - Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960

Jul. 6, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

Jul. 7, 2019– NO MEETING - SUMMER BREAK

Jul. 20, 2019 - - Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960

Aug. 3, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

Aug. 4, 2019– NO MEETING SUMMER BREAK

Aug. 17, 2019 - - Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960

Sept.. 7, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

Sept. 8, 2019– Daryl Yerdon from Kelley's Korner - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

Sept. 21, 2019 - - Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960

Oct. 5, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

Oct, 2019 – 6 - 9pm - Orchid Auction - Tunxis Country Club, 87 Town Farm Rd., Farmington, Ct

Oct. 19, 2019 - - Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960

Nov. 2, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

Nov. 3, 2019– Topic: TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

Nov. 16, 2019 - - Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960.

Dec. 1 2019– 1 - 4 pm - Member Holiday Party and Elections - Lyons Club Camp Happy Hill, 87 W. Avon Rd, Unionville, CT

Dec. 7, 2019 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

Dec. 21, 2019 - - Noon Northeast Judging Center, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave, Morris Township, NJ 07960

Meetings are held at the Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm the First Sunday of each month unless otherwise posted above or on our website

Monthly Checklist for March and April

Cattleya

Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which

means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.



Cymbidium Magic Mountain photographed at Longwood Gardens in early April. © G. Allikas

Cymbidium

Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs and snails.

Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

Dendrobium (Australian)

These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

Lycaste

This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

Miltoniopsis

This marks the beginning of the flowering season. Amazing displays of color will dazzle the grower over the next few months. Prepare your plants for optimum display by staking spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage. Do not miss the wonderful fragrance as the flowers unfold..



Miltoniopsis Martin Orenstein shows off a beautiful waterfall pattern on its labellum. Photographed at Longwood Gardens in early April. © G. Allikas

Paphiopedilum

March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents your doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year. Cleaned and potted paphiopedilums look happy.

The summer-blooming types will be showing the first of their buds in March and April. Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. It is especially difficult to clean mealybugs, in particular, once they have become established in the plant. Better to get to them before they get a good toehold.

Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Do not be too anxious to stake the spikes, because if they are staked too soon, the flowers may develop a "nodding" stance, where the dorsal will not stand upright. If the spikes seem to develop at an angle, let them, and stake after the flower has hardened for best carriage, especially on the hybrids with fairieanum background.

Phalaenopsis

In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs

to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging -- even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the look out for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs, and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them.



Masdevallia Highland Monarch 'Free Spirit'
AM/AOS photographed at Parkside Orchids.
Ottsville, Pennsylvania © G. Allikas

Pleurothallids

Members in this large and increasingly popular group will be looking their best now. If plants are not in flower, the next few months provide an excellent time to divide if needed or repot into fresh mix. Taking care of these tasks now will allow enough time for your plants to become established before the hot weather arrives.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.





Robert Hirnyk Memorial Library

	TITLE	AUTHOR
1	Book of Orchids	Withner, Dr. Carl
2	Botanical Orchids and How to Grow Them	Kramer, Jack
3	Complete Guide to Maine's Orchids	Kenan, Philip E.
4	Exotic Orchids -- Successful Indoor Gardening	Rittershausen, Wilma
5	Expanding Your Orchid Collection	Rentoul, J. N.
6	Field Guide to the Orchids of Britain and Europe	Williams, John & Andrew
7	Flowers of the Amazon Forest	Mee, Margaret
8	Forgotten Orchids of Alexandra Brun	Cribb, Philip
9	International Book of Orchids	Hunt, P. Francis
10	Miniature Orchids	McQueen, Jim and Barbara
11	Orchid Genera Illustrated	Sheehan, Tom and Marion
12	Orchids	Black, Peter McKenzie
13	Orchids	Menzies, David
14	Orchids -- A Guide to Cultivation	Cribb, Dr. Philip & Bales, Chris
15	Orchids -- Natural History & Classification	Dressler, Robert L.
16	Orchids -- Wonders of Nature	Kijima, Takashi
17	Orchids at Kew	Stewart, Joyce
18	Orchids from Seed	Thompson, P.A.
19	Orchids of Africa	Stewart, Joyce & Hennessey, Esme F.
20	Orchids of Asia	Eng Soon, Teoh
21	Slipper Orchids	Hennessey, Esme F. & Hedge Tessa A.
22	Southern African Epiphytic Orchids	Ball, John S.
23	The Specialist Orchid Grower	Rentoul, J. N.
24	Wild Orchids of Britain and Europe	Davies, Paul and Jenne
25	Orchid Pests and Diseases Guide	American orchid Society
26	Growing Orchids Guide	American orchid Society
27	Understanding Orchids	Cullina, William
28	Orchids Made Easy	Levesque, Ryan & Laura
29	A Guide to Orchids of the World	Hodgson Paine Anderson
30	An Introduction to the Orchids of Mexico	Wiard, LeonA.
31	1990 Awards Annual A.O.S.	American Orchid Society
32	Orchids For Everyone, A Practical Guide	Williams, Dumbelton, Bilton, et al

33	Orchids in Australia	Kerr, Ronald
34	Dendrobium Orchids of Australia	Upton, Walter T.
35	The Orchid	Hunt, Kijima
36	Orchids of Vanuatu	Lewis, Cribb
37	The Cattleyas and Their Relatives Volume II. The Laelias	Withner, Carl L.
38	The Cattleyas and Their Relatives Volume I. The Cattleyas	Withner, Carl L.
39	Exotic Orchids in Australia	Jones, David L.
40	Exotic Orchids in Australia (paperback)	Jones, David L.
41	Orchids of South Australia	Bates, Weber
42	Expanding Your Orchid Collection	Rentoul, J.N.
43	Dendrobiums an introduction to the species in cultivation	Schelpe, Stewart
44	Orchid Growing in the Tropics	OS of SE Asia (Singapore)
45	Beautiful Thai Orchid Species	Kamemoto, Sagarik
46	Cultivation of Autralian Native Orchids	Richards, Wootton, Datodi
47	Growing Orchids The Australasian Families	Rentoul, J. N.
48	Growing Orchids The Cattleyas and other Epiphytes	Rentoul, J. N.
49	Miniature Orchids	McQueen, Jim and Barbara
50	Growing Orchids The Hybrid Story	Rentoul, J. N.
52	Growing Orchids The Specialist Orchid Grower	Rentoul, J. N.
53	The Astonishing Stanhopeas:the upsidedown orhids	Greer, Barney
54	Native Orchids of Taiwan (English and Tai)	Su, Horgg-Jye Ph.D.
55	Japanese Indigenous Orchids in Color(Non English)	Hashimoto/Kanda
56	Exotic Orchids in Color (Non English)	Hashimoto/Kimura
57	Tropical Orchids of Southeast Asia	Banks, David P.
58	A Cultural Manual For Angraecoid Orchid Growers	Hillerman, Fred
59	Notes from the Royal Botaic Garden Edinburgh	Reeve, Woods
60	A Revision of Dendrobiu Section Oxyglossum	

61	Vandas and Ascocendas and Their Combinations with Other Genera	Grove, David L.
62	Native Orchids of Peninsula Malaysia	Teo, Chris K.H.
63	Genus Phalaenopsis (Orchid Digest, V.1)	Sweet, Herman R., PHD
64	Miniature Orchids	Northern, RebeLavarack,
65	Dendrobium and Its Relatives	Harris, Stockercca Tyson
66	Vandas: Their Botany, History, and Culture	Motes, Martin R.
67	Sarcochilus Orchids of Australia	Upton, Walter T.
68	Indian Orchids: Guide to Identifiatiion & Culture V. II	Pradhan, Udai C.
69	Orchids of India	Rao,A.S.
70	Orchidaceae: Genus—Coelogyne, Botanical Survey of India	Das, Jain
71	Quality Stream of Cattleya 1980's (Jap and Eng)	Jusekisha
72	Asian—with pictures)	
73	Masdevallias:Gems of the Orchid World	Gerritsen & Parsons
	AOS Magazines (dir and suppl)	December 2009 – Current issues
74	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	December
73	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	January
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95	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	September

96	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	October
97	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	November
98	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	December
99	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	January
100	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	February

