

**CENTRAL  
OHIO  
ORCHID  
SOCIETY**

*Reporter*  
*May 2021*



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*learn. share. grow.*

[CentralOhioOrchidSociety.org](http://CentralOhioOrchidSociety.org)



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE | May 2021

Happy Spring! I think it is officially here. I hope that you are all well. Franklin Park Conservatory confirmed that they are not currently considering allowing use of our regular meeting rooms until Covid 19 cases are below the threshold of 50/100,000. This is the rate that the Governor has indicated that many restrictions will end. So, the way to get to that number is for more of us to assure that we can get as close to herd immunity as possible. I know that I am really looking forward to seeing everyone, in person, rather than on a small box on my computer screen. So, please, if you can get the vaccine, do so sooner rather than later in order that we can meet in person later this year.

Tracy Stombotne, our Program Chair, has done a wonderful job of arranging for speakers from around the globe. Our last speaker, Wayne Turville was from Australia. A number of our members were concerned with some of his comments, most specifically those about women, guns and issues with importing plants into the US. I sent the emails with concerns, to all of the Board and heard back from most.

One consistent comment from your Board was that our meeting was Mr. Turville's first ever Zoom experience. Many thought that he was trying to connect with an audience that he was totally unfamiliar with and possibly some of his comments, while potentially inappropriate, were the result of a bit of nerves and cultural differences. I had the opportunity to travel to England and live in six homes over a period of six weeks. The experience changed my life, but also made me realize that while the US may view an issue one way, other cultures don't always share that same view. Many years later, I was in both New Zealand and Australia and was asked about our laws regarding firearms. In both countries, guns are not permitted following a single mass shooting in each of the countries. Again, a cultural and legal difference and one that created interesting conversations. As the year progresses, please let me know if a speaker makes you uncomfortable or if something needs to be addressed by our Society. We want to have all of our members enjoy our speakers, learn a bunch about the topic under discussion and have fun. I have asked Tracy to request that our future speakers try and stick to the topic at hand (orchids) to assure that all, or at least most of our members are excited about the opportunity to attend our meetings. Thanks for the comments and let me know if you have additional concerns.

I would like to thank Megan Osika for coordinating a quick sale with Carter and Holmes Orchids in South Carolina. Seven members took advantage of buying plants saving significantly on shipping. Those that went to pick up plants on May 1 were pleased and indicated that they would be interested in setting up another sale from another vendor. So, if you are interested in purchasing from a specific vendor and/or would like to coordinate the sale, please let me know. We can make a list of vendors and offer a purchasing opportunity as often as you all would like. Just let me know and I will start a list.

The Board met earlier this month and determined that the timing would be great for another member plant sale. Last year, we had seven or eight members sell some of their divisions or plants that just didn't thrive in their environment. Two of the plants that I purchased from our members have now bloomed, both first timers for me. We will hold the sale at Wolfe Park and more details will be announced at our meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Board is also seeking individuals who are willing to sit on our nominations committee. This year is the year that we elect new officers for the 2022 and 2023 calendar years. We need members who are eager (or at least a bit interested) in helping us grow our Society. Elected positions include: President Elect, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and two Trustees. Please let me know if you would like to serve on either the nominations committee or hold an office or both. Additionally, we also will be needing a Program Chair, so if you would like more information on that position, please let me know. All current Board members can share their experiences on their roles and responsibilities. Information is also available on our website within our Constitution. Please check it out!

I am looking forward to seeing everyone on May 20<sup>th</sup> when we will hear about Native Orchids of Guatemala.

*Nancy Shapiro*  
*President*  
*Central Ohio Orchid Society*  
*17 May 2021*

## CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY MAY 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 VIRTUAL MEETING

7:00pm → Beginner's Corner with Ken Mettler

7:30pm → Guest Speaker: Challen Willemsen on Guatemalan Orchids



**Challen Willemsen** is a Guatemalan ecologist with a passion for botany. For 22 years he has been rescuing and taking care of orchids and other epiphytes fallen from trees across his country. He wrote his thesis on the Orchids of Guatemala City. Since 2012 he's been working as an ecologist at El Tular, a nature reserve outside his hometown. He constantly shares pictures of orchids and other Guatemalan plants on his Twitter and Instagram

accounts (@challenguate), and he is currently writing an encyclopedia of Guatemalan plants. In his work as an ecologist, he constantly stresses the importance of native plants in reforestation, ecological restoration, and gardening.

### JOIN ZOOM MEETING

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82183095829?pwd=bHlCRzBnRGNLakc5UE1sL0VONkdjOT09>

Meeting ID: 812 9788 2033    Passcode: 695014

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,81297882033#,,,,\*695014# US (Washington DC)  
+13126266799,,81297882033#,,,,\*695014# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location:

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)	+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)	+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)	+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82183095829?pwd=bHlCRzBnRGNLakc5UE1sL0VONkdjOT09>

# APRIL PLANT OF THE MONTH

**Bifrenaria harrisoniae**

Grown by Tennis Maynard



## **Tips for Growing:**

Tennis grows this plant in high (Cattleya) level light, with intermediate temperatures, in a shallow pot/pan with an open, well-draining material. He lets it dry between watering and gives it a short drier spell in the winter.

# APRIL 2021 VIRTUAL SHOW TABLE

## CATTLEYA SPECIES

## GROWN BY:

1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>C. walkeriana</i> 'Kenny' FCC/AOS	Ken Mettler
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>C. nobilior</i>	Wayne Roberts
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>C. labiata</i> var. <i>rubra</i>	Ken Mettler

## CATTLEYA HYBRIDS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Rlc. Mem. Bob Crowder	Ken Mettler
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Eplc. Magic Wand	Tracy Strombotne
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lc. Loog Tone 'SD'	David Evans

## PAPHIOPEDILUM

1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Paph. rothschildianum</i> 'Mont Millais' FCC/RHS, FCC/AOS, GM/WOC	Justin Pepperney
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Paph. Honey Dew</i> 'Supreme' x <i>liemianum</i>	Edna & Dave Markley
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Paph. rothschildianum</i> 'Spring Queen' x 'Western Monarch'	Justin Pepperney

## PHRAGMIPEDIUM

1 <sup>st</sup>	Phrag. Haley Decker	Tennis Maynard
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Phrag. Eric Young 4N x <i>longifolium</i>	David Evans
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Phrag. <i>caudatum</i> 'Giganteum'	Pat and Tom Stinson

## ONCIDIUM

1 <sup>st</sup>	Miltassia Shelob Tolkien	Wayne Roberts
1 <sup>st</sup>	Tolumnia Genting Orange	Dennis Eifel
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Onc. Space Race	Tom Hart
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Psychopsis Mariposa 'Green Valley'	Tom Hart

## DENDROBIUM

1 <sup>st</sup>	Den. Chrysotoxum	Pat and Tom Stinson
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Den. Lucky Bird 'Memory'	Ken Mettler
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Den. Fire Wings	Tracy Strombotne

## PHALAENOPSIS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Phal. schilleriana	David Evans
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Phal. NoID	Aubrey Dudra

## VANDA

1 <sup>st</sup>	V. Mimi Palmer x tesselata	David Evans
2 <sup>nd</sup>	V. Motes Pixie Dust	Jessica Badger
3 <sup>rd</sup>	V. Christine Parrish	Jessica Badger

## OTHER

1 <sup>st</sup>	Bifrenaria harrisoniae Plant of the Month	Tennis Maynard
1 <sup>st</sup>	Trichopilia laxa	Tennis Maynard
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cypripedium Sabine	Tennis Maynard
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cym. Jill 'Betty Jo' AM/AOS	Nancy Shapiro



# CATTLEYA SPECIES



**C. walkeriana 'Kenny' FCC/AOS**  
Grown by Ken Mettler



**C. nobilior**  
Grown by Wayne Roberts



**C. labiata var. rubra**  
Grown by Ken Mettler



**L. purpurata**  
Grown by Wayne Roberts

# CATTLEYA HYBRIDS



**Rlc. Mem. Bob Crowder**  
Grown by Ken Mettler



**Eplc. Magic Wand**  
Grown by Tracy Strombotne



**Lc. Loog Tone 'SD'**  
Grown by David Evans



**Rlc. Golf Green**  
Grown by Amy Thomas





**Pot. Buran Beauty**  
Grown by Tracy Strombotne

# PAPHIOPEDILUM



**Paph. rothschildianum 'Mont Millais' FCC/RHS, FCC/AOS,  
GM/WOC**

Grown by Justin Pepperney



**Paph. Honey Dew 'Supreme' x liemianum**  
Grown by Edna & Dave Markley



**Paph. rothschildianum 'Spring Queen' x 'Western Monarch'**  
Grown by Justin Pepperney



**Paph. (Sheldrake x Beverly Rhodes 'Camorra') x  
Amanda Invasion**  
Grown by Tom Hart



**Paph. haynaldianum**  
Grown by Wayne Roberts



**Paph. glaucophyllum**  
Grown by Nancy Shapiro



**Paph hirsutissimum**  
Grown by Pat and Tom Stinson





***Paph barbatum* var. *nigratum* 'Pigmy'**  
Grown by Tom Hart

# PHRAGMIPEDIUM



**Phrag. Haley Decker**  
Grown by Tennis Maynard



**Phrag. Eric Young 4N x longifolium**  
Grown by David Evans



**Phrag. caudatum 'Giganteum'**  
Grown by Pat and Tom Stinson



**Phrag. Fritz Schomburg**  
Grown by Pat and Tom Stinson

# ONCIDIUM



**Miltassia Shelob Tolkien**  
Grown by Wayne Roberts



**Tolumnia Genting Orange**  
Grown by Dennis Eifel



**Onc. Space Race**  
Grown by Tom Hart





**Psychopsis Mariposa 'Green Valley'**  
**Grown by Tom Hart**

# DENDROBIUM



## **Den. Chrysotoxum**

Grown by Pat and Tom Stinson



**Den. Lucky Bird 'Memory'**  
Grown by Ken Mettler



**Den. Fire Wings**  
Grown by Tracy Strombotne



**Den. NoID**

Grown by Nancy Shapiro

# PHALAENOPSIS



**Phal. Schilleriana**  
Grown by David Evans



**Phal. NoID**  
Grown by Aubrey Dudra

# VANDA



**V. Mimi Palmer x tesselata**  
Grown by David Evans





**V. Motes Pixie Dust**  
Grown by Jessica Badger



**V. Christine Parrish**  
Grown by Jessica Badger

# OTHER



***Bifrenaria harrisoniae***  
Plant of the Month  
Grown by Tennis Maynard



**Trichopilia laxa**  
Grown by Tennis Maynard



**Cypripedium Sabine**  
Grown by Tennis Maynard



**Cym. Jill 'Betty Jo' AM/AOS**  
Grown by Nancy Shapiro



**Max. tenuifolia**  
Grown by Emily Grigsby



**Max. tenuifolia**  
Grown by Scott Bever





**Masd. Redwing**  
Grown by Nancy Shapiro



**Coelogyne Unchained Melody**  
Grown by Edna and Dave Markley



**Coelogyne speciosa**  
Grown by Dave and Edna Markley

# NOT FOR JUDGING



**Den. Country Girl 'Warabeuta'**  
Grown by Ken Mettler



**Den. Nagasaka**  
Grown by Ken Mettler



**Eulophia Mem. Alexis Pardo**  
Grown by Ken Mettler



**Odsa. Little Dragon 'Carmela'**  
Grown by Ken Mettler

# Into the Wild

## The Large Whorled Pogonia, *Isotria verticillata*

By Ken Mettler



In the month of May, one of my favorite activities is hiking through wild places, looking for native orchids and other unusual plants. Sometimes I go alone, sometimes with someone else to show me what they've found, and sometimes I take other people out who aren't as familiar with our native species but are interested in seeing them and learning about them. The Large Whorled Pogonia, *Isotria verticillata* can be a hard-to-find, but interesting subject for these hikes.

On many occasions, when I've taken a group of ten to fifteen orchid enthusiasts to see this species, I've stood about a foot from a blooming plant, and asked the group, "Where's the orchid?" Almost always, no one in the group can spot the flower until I bend down and point to it. But what a reaction people have when they do see it! It's like the plant just materialized before their eyes.

### **Isotria verticillata. Non-blooming shoot.**

I'm no magician, and have no conjuring abilities, but I do know that this species is easy to overlook for the uninitiated. The best explanation I have for this is that it's **wispy**. A blooming stem is eight to ten inches tall, slender with a whorl of three to eight leaves (usually five) at the top. The entire whorl of leaves is seldom more than two inches (5cm) in diameter.





***Isotria verticillata*. Blooming stem.**

The flower peduncle emerges from the center of the whorl of leaves. The largest segments of the flower are the sepals, which point up and down in a narrow triangle, up to five inches (12cm) tall for a mature flower. The sepals are apple green, overlaid dark maroon on the edges and distal half. Inside the sepals, the light green lateral petals are held over the mostly white lip.

It blooms in early to mid-May, which contributes to its concealment on the forest floor, as many other plants are leafing out, and it's hard to find a small green flower amidst all the other greenery. This is a colony forming species that spreads by underground stolons. Individual shoots are usually one to three feet apart, and they can form large colonies, but only a small fraction of the emerging stems will bloom in any year. I usually find only one blooming stem for every 30-100 emergent shoots. Some years very few shoots bloom.



***Isotria verticillata* with the golden green sweat bee (*Augochlora pura*), one of the known pollinators.**

2021 seems to be one of those years. I've only seen one blooming shoot so far this year, but I keep looking. The shoots usually emerge during the first week of May, and the flower, if there is one, starts to open about two to three days after emergence. This doesn't give a long time to spot plants before they are in full bloom. The flowers may last about ten days if they are not pollinated. Like many orchids, the flowers fold quickly after pollination.



This species grows in acidic, mesic woodlands—frequently on slopes where they are well-drained. They have a spotty distribution throughout much of the eastern United States, and in Ohio can be found in most counties to the southeast of Interstate 71. Other acid-loving plants frequently grow in the same habitat, including low-bush blueberries (*Vaccinium pallidum*), deerberries (*Vaccinium stamineum*), mountain laurels (*Kalmia latifolia*), and giant rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*).

**Deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*)**

Another species that I sometimes find is the aromatic cherry millipede (*Apheloria virginiensis*). When picked up or otherwise disturbed, this two-inch, wide-bodied millipede secretes a mix of benzaldehyde and hydrogen cyanide as a defense. This is completely harmless to humans, and they do not bite, but will leave your hand smelling like almond cookies for several minutes! I also find it very attractive in appearance, with yellow feet and yellow banding on its glossy, dark brown back.



**The Cherry Millipede (*Apheloria virginiensis*)**

A northern red salamander (*Pseudotriton ruber*) is an uncommon but welcome bonus. The best way to find the large whorled pogonia is to go into the woods with someone who has already found a colony. Once you've seen them, and your eyes get "calibrated", they seem to appear more often.



**The Northern Red Salamander (*Pseudotriton ruber*)**

## APRIL ODDITY

**From Tracy Strombotne:**

This is the third set of blooms off this plant this year, and notice one of the petals on the left side of the right flower has grown inside the lip, not outside it. It can't be moved, it is totally formed inside the lip. The flower beside it, and another bloom on the other side are perfectly normal. Just sharing in case someone needs a good example of a one-off mutation, no need to publish. I have other pictures of this interesting bloom that show the mutation from the other side if anyone is interested.



## MAY WONDER

From Tom Hart's daughter, Sara, Ranger at West Glacier Montana:

On a run, May 14<sup>th</sup> . . .

"First Calypso orchids of the year!! (That I've seen.) Stopped me in my tracks on my run."



## WONDERING WHAT ORCHIDS GO OUTSIDE IN THE SPRING, AND WHEN?

There are several factors to consider:

1. The type of orchid. Most *Cymbidiums* are frost tolerant, and actually benefit from cold temperatures--they bloom better if exposed to cold temps in spring and fall. Most of my hybrid *Cymbidiums* are not bothered by temps as low as 28 or 29 degrees. *Cym. goeringii* has taken 25 degrees without any negative effects. The Chinese *Cyms* (*ensifolium*, *kanran*, *sinense*) I don't let out below 31 or 32. Warm growers, like *Phals*, don't go out until the nighttime lows are consistently 50 or above. Maybe 48 on rare occasion, if they're dry. *Cattleyas* are in between. High altitude and highly seasonal species like *walkeriana*, *nobilior* and *maxima* can withstand cold temps, even frost, especially if they are dry. Lowland rainforest species like *violacea* don't like anything below 50, and preferably higher. Most *Bulbophyllums* can't stand anything below 50. They will start shedding leaves and go into decline if nights get any colder. They really prefer nighttime lows around 60 or above.
2. Wet or dry? As a general rule, plants can tolerate more cold if they are on the dry side. I've had *Cattleya walkerianas* go down to 28 degrees (oops!), but they hadn't been watered or rained on for 10 days. They did fine and bloomed in a few months. If they were wet at this temp, they probably would have died. *Phals* are very sensitive to a wet chill and are prone to leaf drop and bacterial infections if this happens. Even rain at 48 can be a problem, but it also depends on the rebound temp the next day.
3. Is the plant dormant or pushing out new growth? New growth is generally more sensitive to cold. Cool-growing *Cymbidiums* are the exception. They are not bothered by frosts on new growth unless there is an underlying bacterial infection at the roots.
4. What is the weather doing in the next day or two? If my *Phals* are out in the upper 40s at night, but the next day is 70 or above, they usually do fine. If the next day's high is 55, they'll have troubles.

So, consider your plant type, growth phase, moisture, and weather forecast.

I start moving a few of my coolest growers out early, in case I have to bring them back in, or at least on my porch to protect from freezing precipitation, as I did last week. I'm hoping to put all the rest of my *Cymbidiums* out today, and maybe a few *Cattleyas*. They'll like the warm rain tonight.

Hope this helps,

Ken Mettler

# COOS CALENDAR 2021

January 21 – 2021

**CLAUDE HAMILTON** of Hamlyn Orchids  
*Broughtonias*

February 18 – 2021

**ROGER FRAMPTON** of Roger's Orchids  
YouTube channel – UK

March 18 – 2021

**FRANCISCO MIRANDA**  
*Rupicolous Orchids of Brazil*

April 15 – 2021

**WAYNE TURVILLE**  
*Australian Native Orchids*

May 20 – 2021

**CHALLEN WILLEMSEN**  
Guatemalan ecologist  
Santuarion Natural El Tular Reserve  
*Native Orchids of Guatemala*

June 17 – 2021

**KOON-HUI WANG** of the University of Hawaii  
*Pest Management for Orchid Hobbyists*

July 15 – 2021

**DAVID HAELTERMAN**  
*Stanhopea Orchids*

August 19 – 2021

**LARRY KUEKES** of the Hilo Orchid Society  
*What's in a Name*

September 16 – 2021



**JIM ROBERTS** of Florida Suncoast Orchids  
*Encyclia Orchids*

October 21 – 2021  
**RUSS VERNON** of New Vision Orchids  
*Lycaste Orchids*

November 18 – 2021  
– **TBD**

## **COOS BOARD MEMBERS 2020 – 2021**

**PRESIDENT**  
NANCY SHAPIRO

**SECRETARY**  
TOM HART

**AOS REPRESENTATIVE**  
TOM HART

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
DENNIS EIFEL

**TREASURER**  
MEGAN OSIKA

**HOSPITALITY**  
TBD

**HOME CHAIR**  
DAVE MARKLEY

**IMMEDIATE PAST  
PRESIDENT**  
JUSTIN PEPPERNEY

**NEWSLETTER**  
WENDY CHRISMAN

**AWAY CHAIR**  
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**TRUSTEES**  
CHERYL EARLY  
TROY TIMBROOK

**WEBSITE +  
SOCIAL MEDIA**  
WENDY CHRISMAN

**PROGRAM CHAIR**  
TRACY STROMBOTNE

# AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY CORNER



## 2021 MAY AOS Corner – for [Affiliated Societies](#)

**The AOS Corner is for society representatives and newsletter editors:** Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner completely, or in part, in their society publications.

We encourage use of the [AOS website](http://www.aos.org) by all members. <http://www.aos.org>

<https://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies.aspx>

While spring has sprung from where I sit, it's hard to believe that at this late date on the calendar, there are still some places on the globe that are receiving snowfall. Nothing better illustrates that orchids are not a one-size-fits-all endeavor. You must investigate those that will thrive under your conditions. It is so important to connect with other orchid-growing locals through an affiliated society to get a handle on the orchids that will do best for you.

We understand for the last year that meetings in any form may have been extremely difficult for many affiliates. If your society has not met in person, we hope you have not lost touch with each other entirely. We hope your orchids have thrived under your expert supervised care throughout the last year and that everyone can soon rejoice as we cautiously move back to shared in-person meetings.

**Simply Curious, We Are All In This Together**

- Did your society meet in any form from [March 2020](#) through [March 2021](#)?
- If you did not meet in-person, how did you carry on the business of your society?
- Did you join an online meeting of your society or join as a guest of another society?
- Did you utilize any of the speakers on the AOS Speaker's List for remote presentations?
- Did you present any AOS webinars to your members in lieu of a guest speaker?
- Did you have online Orchid Drawings/Raffles for your members?
- Did you share monthly virtual bloom table show & tell?
- What has the worst thing about not meeting in-person over this twelve-month period?
- What has the best thing about not meeting in-person over this twelve-month period?
- Have you implemented any new procedures that you will carry over to in-person meetings?

*Share any other valuable information about how your society handled challenges during this twelve-month time frame. **Please share your answers via email [eileenh@aos.org](mailto:eileenh@aos.org). I will compile them and share them here in future issues of the AOS Corner** (answers will be published anonymously unless you/your society request to be named).*

## **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

### **AFFILIATED SOCIETY BONUS - EARN AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS FOR YOUR SOCIETY**

Affiliated Societies can earn a one-month extension on their AOS society membership for each new individual AOS member they recruit. If you start now, with twelve new AOS members, your Affiliated Society can obtain a FULL FREE YEAR OF AOS membership! Be sure and advise new members to note their society affiliation in the comments section online at checkout or on the [printed membership form](#).

<https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/AOSJoinForm2020.pdf>

**AOS Representatives**, please remember to let your society members know that we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to [join the AOS today!](#) Once they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources available to help make orchid growing enjoyable and successful. <https://secure.aos.org/store/register-renew>

*Individual society membership and AOS Membership are not the same. Although affiliated, each requires separate membership dues.*

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Many of our **affiliates** have not met in person throughout the pandemic, and a number of our affiliates' **membership** in the American Orchid Society have **expired**.

Affiliated Societies Committee members have called on the AOS Representative contact that we have on file to advise of expired status.

**To continue to receive the benefits of affiliated membership, it is important that your society information is updated with the AOS and that your affiliated membership in the American Orchid Society is renewed.**

If you are receiving this newsletter, please check your society expiration date, or pass this message along to the appropriate person within your society. If you have questions about your society membership, our AOS Home Office Contact is:

**Affiliated Societies ([sandra@aos.org](mailto:sandra@aos.org))**  
**Sandra Kurzban (305-740-2010 ext 102)**

### Affiliates Become Cheerleaders for the American Orchid Society

Tampa Bay Orchid Society normally installs an educational display at the Florida State Fair in early February for a twelve-day run. It is a competitive display entered in the horticultural division. Because of COVID, the fair was postponed until April this year. Society members still wary of COVID, decided against putting in an exhibit. Instead, several of our AOS members from the affiliated society built a display focusing on the American Orchid Society and the most active affiliates associated with the Florida North Central Judging Center (FNCJC). Society displays generally consist of live orchids requiring members to tend the booth several times throughout the duration of the fair.

The AOS visual touch-free display takes visitors on a self-directed "tour" of the AOS through QR (quick response) codes. Visitors can point their smart phones at any of the custom QR codes to visit key elements of the AOS website. Featured QR codes take them to the affiliated societies, culture sheets, webinars, judging and membership pages. A

large wall calendar has custom QR codes linked to affiliated society websites and inserted on the weeks and days of the month they meet.

The AOS banner and tablecloth are central in the display. A colorful table centerpiece depicting an orchid library, and a floor mat made from the covers of 45 AOS magazines illustrate the diversity in the orchid world and complete the display. Donated issues of Orchids magazine are on hand for interested viewers to take home.

Fair visitors are encouraged to vote for their favorite display. A People’s Choice award winner receives a cash bonus. The society has agreed to donate the installation stipend and any further winnings to the Florida North Central Judging Center.

### Reciprocity, from Miscellaneous Ideas, to Concept, to Completion

## AOS Leads the Way

## 2021 Florida State Fair

**Give-Aways**  
AOS magazines  
Take ONE

**Visuals**  
AOS Banner  
AOS Table Cover

**Books 3D library display**  
6 foot in length. Sit on table, centerpiece.

**AOS Magazine covers**  
Pictures of representative orchids from AOS Magazines, floor carpet Collage in front of table. Need 45 magazines. 15 across x 3 rows deep.

**Entry & Score sheets?**  
Award Stickers?

Exhibit Area is 10 x 10  
Black curtains across the back 10' and down each side 5'

**Necessary supplies**  
Tack, hammer and small nails, or push pins, scissors, clear tape, stapler

Calendar

AOS table cover on Fair supplied 8 ft. table

**ORCHIDS Magazine Cover Carpet Floor Collage**

**On hand QR Coded Laminated placards**

- Catasetum
- Cattleya
- Cymbidium
- Dendrobium
- Oncidium
- Paphiopedilum
- Phalaenopsis
- Vanda

**2 Trifold Foam Boards**  
Mount culture placards, 4 each down center with other info QR codes in the wings. Set trifold on table, each side of centerpiece.

**Calendar with society QR**  
placed on meeting day of the week on curtain backdrop



State Fair exhibit created and installed by Eileen Hector and Laura Newton, assisted by Ruth Ullery

# Webinars-Coming Attractions!



<b>When</b>	<b>May 04, 2021</b> 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	<b>May 31, 2021</b> 8:30pm EDT Monday	<b>June 08, 2021</b> 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	<b>June 17, 2021</b> 8:30pm EDT Thursday
<b>Topic</b>	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	<i>Prosthechea karwinskii</i> in Mexico, reintroducing a threatened species	Show Trophy Subjective or Objective	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Ron McHatton</b> Chief Education and Science Officer	<b>Julia Douglas</b> AOS Conservation Grant Recipient	<b>Marc Burchette</b> Head of Biltmore Estate Orchid Collection	<b>Ron McHatton</b> Chief Education and Science Officer

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED:** <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyhow!

*Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook,*

*Instagram and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.*

We digitize the webinars and they are available to view at your leisure.

GREENHOUSE CHAT Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.

**Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to:** [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)

## Noteworthy

Recently *Orchids* magazine has reinstated a **Question and Answer** column. It contains excerpts from the Greenhouse Chat webinars. Greenhouse Chat webinars address everything orchids, from culture to pests and diseases.

While we're on the subject of orchid Q & A, [today](#) I asked Ron McHatton what is one of the most asked questions for Greenhouse Chats? He said, "What caused these spots on the leaves?"

Ron said the question does not have a single answer. He continued..."the spots are everything from mites to scale to fungus and bacteria, sunburn and even some that are clearly virus." His answer did not surprise me at all. It demonstrates that there is no one single answer to all of our orchid questions. Again, proving that orchids are not a one-size-fits-all endeavor. We keep coming back to learn more to grow our orchids better. Have you tuned in to a Greenhouse Chat?

### Let's Get Wild About Vandaceous Orchids

**The AOS 2021 supplemental issue will go in-depth with this family of orchids**

Each special issue is underwritten by [donations](#) from orchid growers like you.

<https://secure.aos.org/donate>

Vandas Selected from Most Recent Awards in OrchidPro...



<p><b>Award No: 20211314</b></p> <p>Vanda A. F. Buckman 'Leslie's in the Pink' CCM/AOS (88 points) Vanda falcata x Vanda christensoniana Florida North-Central Judging Center Exhibitor: Leslie Belew Photographer: Wes Newton</p>	<p><b>Award No: 20211503</b></p> <p>Vanda tessellata 'Marta' AM/AOS (85 points) West Palm Beach Judging Center Exhibitor: Juraj Kojs Photographer: Nick Nickerson</p>	<p><b>Award No: 20211309</b></p> <p>Vanda Motes Green Goblin 'Pippen's Protégé' AM/AOS (83 points) Vanda tessellata x Vanda longitepala Florida North-Central Judging Center Exhibitor: Cheryle Daniel Photographer: Wes Newton</p>
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**ORCHIDPRO** the AOS awards database, is available at no extra cost to members. A digital version is included with every AOS membership. You have access to the same program that the judges use at monthly orchid judging. Visit often to view quality and outstanding culture in awarded orchids. <https://op.aos.org/award>

To learn more about **orchid awards and judging** visit <https://www.aos.org/orchid-awards-judging.aspx>

### **Distinguished Affiliated Societies Service Award (DASSA)**



**REMINDER** – In this centennial year of special recognition, we invite our affiliates to submit a nomination for the DASSA. This prestigious award is given to an affiliate in recognition of sustained, outstanding contributions in areas of service and support in the field of orchidology. Nominations for the DASSA may be made by any member of an AOS affiliate and should be forwarded to the [Affiliated Societies Committee](#). If you think your society may be a contender, review the criteria for the award and send off your submission by June 01, 2021. [affiliated\\_societies@aos.org](mailto:affiliated_societies@aos.org)  
[https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/DASSA Nomination Form.pdf](https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/DASSA%20Nomination%20Form.pdf)

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### **May: The Month of Exploration and Adventure by Thomas Mirenda**

A great thinker named Helen Keller once wrote this: "Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing." I dare say she had a very different perspective about life than the rest of us, but I believe that perspective revealed a larger truth to her. I can't imagine how dangerous it would be to be blind, nor what an adventure it would be to discover, or rediscover, our world minus the incredible gift of sight! In a way, without venturing out into the world, we are blind to its many glories and mysteries. Some, like our beautiful



native orchid species, might be just outside our back doors whereas others require treks across mountains, oceans and hemispheres to discover.

This is a remarkable planet with outstanding and dazzling diversity. To spend your life in just one place, however safe and lovely, would be like reading just one page of the encyclopedia. The fields and forests of May are a wonderland of floral magic and I encourage you to get out there and see them for yourself. I try to go on an orchid trip every spring; sometimes a local jaunt to the Green Swamp Preserve in North Carolina is all I can muster, but it is still most incredibly satisfying. I guarantee you that there are some fascinating and beautiful wild and orchid-rich areas well within driving distance. With a little bit of research, you can easily find out about them. Last year a group of my friends reveled in the spring spectacle that occurs annually on the island of Sicily. It was probably one of the best experiences of my life. Don't sit on the sidelines! Get out there and explore your world! Enjoy an adventurous spring this year!

**EMERGENCY** Don't be alarmed! Spring is all about emergence. And your orchids are showing the signs of this. New roots and growths are popping out of your plants rhizomes with incredible vigor now! Everything wants to grow in May while the air is cool, fresh and moist! The flowers in your garden will attest to this basic truth of the spring.

**TAKE ME OUT** Any cool- to intermediate-growing orchids in your collection can be moved outside this month. Bringing orchids out for the fine weather will produce stronger and tougher growths. Spring rains are falling and the delicious rainwater can be a tonic for struggling orchids. Chlorine and fluoride added to our water are often the culprits when an orchid seems to languish. If such plants seem to perk up when exposed to spring rain and weather, it may be worth your while to invest in rain barrels or a reverse osmosis water purification system for your orchids.

**DO ME PROUD** Take this spring growth spurt as your golden opportunity to repot. Repotting during dormancy, while sometimes necessary if a plant falls over or starts to rot, is rarely a good idea. But the spring, when new orchid roots are searching for fresh bark to adhere to, is just about the best time to take on this annual chore. Cattleyas that have grown to the edge of their pots, oncidiums and miltonias with broken-down mixes, catasetums and lycastes coming out of dormancy and any pot that has weeds growing in it, should be taken and redone while they are in active new growth. Plants establish best when repotted with about 1 to 2 inches (25-50 mm) of new root growth. Roots longer than this are more easily damaged.

**THE EDGE OF WETNESS** Always soak your bark overnight before a potting session. Orchids take in water through the velamen in their roots by osmotic pressure. If your mix is too dried out, it will actually desiccate your orchids by wicking moisture out! This being said, roots are searching for moisture and keeping them too wet will inhibit their colonization of your new medium. Always allow newly potted plants to dry out a bit between waterings for best results. Watering and fertilizing in general should be stepped

up this time of year. Take advantage of your orchid's natural willingness to grow in the spring. Water and fertilize accordingly!

**EXPLORE YOUR WORLD** Whether it's the wooded area down the street or across an ocean, wild orchids are patiently waiting for you to discover them this month. Don't disappoint them! Many orchid societies and botanic gardens offer nature walks and other excursions this month to see some pretty incredible places, encrusted with fantastic plants at their peak. If such trips are just too challenging to participate in, I encourage you to go to your local public garden! National Public Garden Day is on **May 9** this year: [www.nationalpublicgardensday.org/gardens](http://www.nationalpublicgardensday.org/gardens).

I hope each and every one of you ventures out that day to see all the great marvels of nature, which are everywhere on our spectacular planet.

— Tom Mirenda has been working professionally with orchids for over three decades and is the past chair of the AOS Conservation Committee. He is an AOS accredited judge in the Hawaii Center (email: [biophilialake@gmail.com](mailto:biophilialake@gmail.com)).

### **ORCHIDS MAGAZINE**

<https://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx>



[Get Your FREE Issue Of Orchids Magazine | American Orchid Society \(aos.org\)](https://go.aos.org/freeissue201904)  
<https://go.aos.org/freeissue201904>

*From the AOS website...*

### **AOS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DATES: **October 27th - 30th, 2021****

We are proud to present the American Orchid Society's Centennial Celebration! The four-day celebration will encompass our 2021 Fall Members Meeting activities, an exciting live auction, and a splendid gala banquet that will feature a gourmet dinner, live entertainment, music, and dancing in a beautiful and historic setting. Please join us at the beautiful landmark location - The Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida. We look forward to welcoming you as we celebrate this momentous occasion.

### Events include:

- [Wednesday, October 27](#) - Meet and Greet reception for registrants 5-6 p.m.
- [Thursday, October 28](#) - AOS Judging, hosted by East Everglades Orchid Society
- [Friday, October 29](#) - Special Centennial Auction, starting at 7 p.m.
- [Saturday, October 30](#) - Speaker Series, until 3 p.m.
- [Saturday, October 30](#) - Centennial Gala, starting at 6 p.m.

<https://www.aos.org/news-and-events/members-meetings/schedule.aspx>

You and your society can become sponsors of this event!

Make your contribution here: <https://secure.aos.org/event/sponsor>

Forever, be a part of the AOS Centennial.

[Cheers to the next 100 years!](#)

### **CARE TO SHARE?**

Please share a PDF copy of *your* society newsletter in the Files section of our [Affiliated Societies Facebook page](#). Take a virtual visit to other affiliates. Exchange information with our online groups. We currently have 16.9K international followers on the AOS [Instagram](#) account. To participate on Instagram, please email your photos to [americanorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:americanorchidsociety@gmail.com). The grower or society gets credit/tag for photos. You may include any other information you wish to share about your orchid or event.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS>

<https://instagram.com/americanorchidsociety?igshid=16ixfciczky01>

*If you would like to spotlight an issue or share news with other affiliated societies, we welcome your input. Let us know what you would like to see in this newsletter! If there is something within your society that is working extremely well - let's share it here. If there is something you could use help with - let us know. By chance, another affiliate may be able to offer a solution, or want to try something you have achieved. Your contributions are critical to bringing fresh, timely content to this publication each month. Please send your questions, solutions and submissions for the AOS Corner to [eileenh@aos.org](mailto:eileenh@aos.org) or [askmasce@verizon.net](mailto:askmasce@verizon.net).*

Thanks for meeting me down at the Corner!

## **We Are Your National Volunteers Let us Know What We Can Do For You**

### **Valued Members and Volunteers**

An organization is only as good as its members. The AOS is deeply indebted to the many talented and dedicated volunteers who give their time and service to encourage a widespread interest in orchids. They advance the mission of the AOS more than they will ever know. *Please contact any of us if you would like to join our committee.*

### **Affiliated Societies Committee**

affiliated\_societies@aos.org

Denise Lucero, Chair

Chad Brinkerhuff, Lois Dauelsberg, Edna Hamilton, Eileen Hector (vice-chair), Candace Hollinger, Donna Petitt, Graham Ramsey, Alex Rodriguez

Staff liaison: Naya Marcano

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