

CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY

Reporter

December 2020



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CENTRAL
OHIO
ORCHID
SOCIETY



learn. grow. share.

CentralOhioOrchidSociety.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm ready to say goodbye to 2020. While I've been very thankful that my loved ones have stayed safe and well, the last 9 months were still stressful. Hopefully, the currently approved vaccines, and others that may be on the way, will allow us to "move about the planet" a bit easier, including to meet in person during the last half or quarter of 2021.

One thing that has been a positive has been my orchid growing hobby. My plants have given me the opportunity to stay busy for a few hours each day. I am a bit obsessive about watering, which could explain some fungus issues, but this does allow me to escape and watch for new growth and a few more flowers than in past years. I hope your growing has also been positive for all of you.

Our next Zoom meeting will be on Thursday, January 21st. We will begin at 7 pm, with our **Beginners Corner**. Ken Mettler will be heading up this half hour session, so bring your problem plants and your questions next month. Ken has an incredible amount of knowledge and loves sharing it with anyone who asks. So, even if you are not a beginner yet still don't know what you are doing (that would be me), please join us for our resumption of the **Beginners Corner**. Our regular meeting will begin at 7:30 pm with a bit of business and our planned speaker, **Claude Hamilton**, starting around 7:45pm. I am looking forward to seeing everyone then!

I would like to thank Justin Pepperney for coordinating our first ever **on-line auction**. Luckily, I got outbid by a few of you and didn't end up with even more orchids to water. We were able to raise over \$225.00 with your generous donations. Please let me know if you would like us to do this again next year.

In **January**, we will also be offering **Orchiata** for sale. Dave Markley will have more information for us in the beginning of the year on pricing and bark sizes, so be on the lookout for an email after January 1st.

For those of you who won growers awards this year, **Francisco Miranda** has agreed to accept our gift certificates for plants. He will be speaking in **March** and due to winter weather, it may be beneficial to wait until then to purchase plants. We will hear more about this at our January meeting.

Plants of the Year will be awarded in January, after December judging is completed. Remember that we will be having public and Society-only awards. Stay tuned for those exciting results.

Thanks to all of you who have already paid your **2021 dues**. It is now so easy to pay online through our website at [Central Ohio Orchid Society](#). If you haven't paid yet, please follow the link. Remember that becoming a new or renewing member provides you with information through our **Members Only Section** with our forum discussions, ability to bid

on our online auction and review recordings of meetings that you may have missed or just want to see again.

We are judging plants this month (December) so get your photos in by New Year's Eve (Dec. 31, 2020) as you welcome in what we all hope will be a happy and healthy year.

2020 Central Ohio Orchid Society Awards

Each year, we give special recognition to our members whose contributions to COOS go above and beyond. This year we recognized the members below for their outstanding work:

AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY AWARD OF APPRECIATION

Tracy Stombotne
Wendy Chrisman

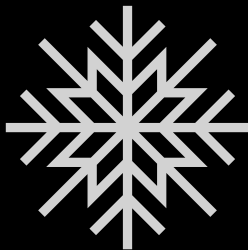
CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S AWARD OF APPRECIATION

Justin Pepperney
Tennis Maynard
Tom Hart

CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY BOARD AWARD OF LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

Ken Mettler

Enjoy the holidays, smaller and safely, and thanks for sharing your time and energy with the Central Ohio Orchid Society.



Nancy Shapiro – President
21 December 2020

NOVEMBER PLANT OF THE MONTH

Paph. charlesworthii var. album

Grown by Tennis Maynard



Paph. charlesworthii var. album

Paph. charlesworthii is typically and easy Paph to grow, but the album form is still very rare in the hobby and can present a little more of a challenge. Tennis grows this in a small bark mix, with frequent watering. Some cooler temps in the fall can help promote formation of the inflorescence.

NOVEMBER VIRTUAL SHOW TABLE

+ 2020 GROWER AWARDS

CATTLEYA SPECIES

| | | |
|-----------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1 st | <i>Laelia perrinii</i> var. <i>amethystine</i> | Grown by Tennis Maynard |
| 2 nd | <i>Cattleya bicolor</i> | Grown by Ken Mettler |
| 3 rd | <i>Cattleya maxima</i> | Grown by Edna & Dave Markley |

CATTLEYA HYBRIDS

| | | |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 1 st | <i>Cattleya</i> NOID | Grown by Tracy Strombotne |
| 1 st | <i>Cattleya</i> NOID | Grown by Tracy Strombotne |
| 2 nd | Rlc. <i>Volcano Lovely</i> 'Volcano Queen' | Grown by Amy Thomas |
| 2 nd | Blc. <i>Love Sound</i> x NOID | Grown by Tom Hart |
| 3 rd | Slc. <i>Crystelle Smith</i> | Grown by Tracy Strombotne |
| 3 rd | Eplc. <i>Volcano Trick</i> 'Orange Fire' | Grown by Sandra & Terry Stohr |

PAPHIOPEDILUM

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1 st | <i>Paph. charlesworthii</i> var. <i>album</i> | Grown by Tennis Maynard |
| 2 nd | <i>Paph. concolor</i> | Grown by Justin Pepperney |
| 3 rd | <i>Paph. spicerianum</i> | Grown by Cortney White |

ONCIDIUM

| | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 st | <i>Howeara Lava Burst</i> 'Puanani' AM/AOS | Grown by Nancy Shapiro |
| 2 nd | <i>Oncidioda Volcano Midnight</i> 'Volcano Queen' | Grown by Tom Hart |
| 3 rd | <i>Miltassia Kauai's Choice</i> | Grown by Pat & Tom Stinson |
| 3 rd | <i>Odbrs. Kenneth Bivens</i> | Grown by Nancy Shapiro |

OTHER

- 1st Ceologyne Unchained Melody
- 2nd Bulbophyllum Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'
- 3rd Angraecum distichum 'Grace's Snowflakes'

Grown by Ken Mettler
Grown by Tennis Maynard
Grown by Nancy Shapiro

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Paph. charlesworthii var. album

Grown by Tennis Maynard

GREENHOUSE CATEGORY

- 1st Tennis Maynard
- 2nd Tom and Pat Stinson

NON-GREENHOUSE CATEGORY

- 1st Ken Mettler
- 2nd Dave and Edna Markley

BEGINNER CATEGORY

- 1st Angela Rini
- 2nd Dennis Steinbeck

CATTLEYA SPECIES



Laelia perrinii var. amethystine
Grown by Tennis Maynard



Cattleya bicolor
Grown by Ken Mettler



Cattleya maxima
Grown by Edna & Dave Markley



Brassavola nodosa
Grown by Ken Mettler

CATTLEYA HYBRIDS



Cattleya NOID
Grown by Tracy Strombotne



Cattleya NOID
Grown by Tracy Strombotne



Rlc. Volcano Lovely 'Volcano Queen'
Grown by Amy Thomas



Pot. Pure Love
Grown by Tom Hart



Slc. Crystelle Smith
Grown by Tracy Strombotne



Eplc. Volcano Trick 'Orange Fire'
Grown by Sandra & Terry Stohr

PAPHIOPEDILUM



Plant of the Month



Paph. charlesworthii var album
Grown by Tennis Maynard



Paph. concolor
Grown by Justin Pepperney



Paph. spicerianum
Grown by Cortney White



**Paph. Via Muchos Ninos 'Full Moon' AM/AOS x
Stone Lovely 'Clean Green'
Grown by Terry and Sandra Stohr**



**Paph. Salty 'Val' AM/AOS
Grown by Justin Pepperney**

ONCIDIUM



Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani' AM/AOS
Grown by Nancy Shapiro



Oncidioda Volcano Midnight 'Volcano Queen'
Grown by Tom Hart



Miltassia Kauai's Choice
Grown by Pat & Tom Stinson



Odbrs. Kenneth Bivens
Grown by Nancy Shapiro



Oncidium Rosy Sunset 'F'
Grown by Jessica Badger



**Bllra. Marfitch 'Howards Dream'
Grown by Tracy Stombotne**



Oncidium 'Sharry Baby'
Grown by Tom Hart



**Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' AM/AOS
Grown by Nancy Shapiro**



Oncidium Catatante 'Pacific Sun Spots'
Grown by Edna and Dave Markley

OTHER



Ceologyne Unchained Melody
Grown by Ken Mettler



Bulbophyllum Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'
Grown by Tennis Maynard



Angraecum distichum 'Grace's Snowflakes'
Grown by Nancy Shapiro



Phrag. bessae
Grown by Justin Pepperney



Dendrobium NOID
Grown by Edna and Dave Markley



Bulbophyllum lasiochilum flavescens
Grown by Tennis Maynard



Phal Lianher Cranberry 'Cha Cha'
Grown by Ken Mettler



**Clowesetum White Magic
Grown by Tom Hart**

NOT FOR JUDGING



**Dendrobium Burana Paragon 'No. 5' x Enobi Purple 'Splash'
Grown by Dennis Steinbeck**



Paphiopedilum villosum* var. *annamense
Grown by Dennis Steinbeck

A Special Message from the American Orchid Society.

We know 2020 has been a difficult year for many reasons, including financially. For current and potential AOS members, who are able, please consider the American Orchid Society. The AOS sanctions our annual shows, including the formal judging. The AOS also supports the Judging Program, which is a rewarding aspect of orchid growing that many of our newer members should think about experiencing.



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.



Research in Action, (NAOCC)

library, and last year, our Conservation Endowment. As a nonprofit organization (501c3), we completely rely on donations and community support. None of our efforts would be

We have been hard at work raising money for our annual donor campaign and are trying to connect with you to help us support Conservation and assist other Conservation groups in this time of need. Would you kindly consider donating to help us continue in our efforts to support Conservation and help us strengthen our Conservation Endowment that will support vital conservation projects for years to come?

We also want to thank our donors who have helped support our many projects throughout the year. What better time of year to think about a long-lasting gift to the American Orchid Society as part of your giving plans. Past campaigns have enabled us to raise money for investing in technology, education, and our

possible without the help of donors like you. With your generous tax-deductible donation (U.S. only), we are one step closer to our goal of supporting Conservation in the Americas.

The pandemic has changed our in-person gatherings to share our love for orchids, so we are trying something different. This year, a portion of the funds we raise will go towards Conservation Research and Education to help benefit two other organizations that work to preserve the orchids we love, the North American Orchid Conservation Center that specializes in preserving wild orchid seed, and Growiser, a small conservation group in Oregon that is trying to preserve natural wildflowers and orchids in Oregon. To help you learn more about these organizations and the projects they are sponsoring, we encourage you to click on the following

links: <http://northamericanorchidcenter.org> and <http://growiser.net>. We will continue, with your support, to award Conservation grants to AOS applicants as well.



Cyripedium Montanum (Growiser)

We want to support Conservation across the Americas and hope that you will want to support this effort with your generous tax-deductible gift (U.S. only). Please visit our AOS.org website, <https://secure.aos.org/donate> and select CONSERVATION from the drop-down menu of supported projects. Of course, as in the past, you may select any of the supported choices.

Thank you in advance and the Happiest Holidays to you and yours. And most important, Stay Safe!

Best regards,

Bob Fuchs, President
American Orchid Society

MAILING ADDRESS: American Orchid Society | PO Box 565477 | Miami, FL 33256-5477

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WEBSITE: www.aos.org | **TELEPHONE:** 305-740-2010 | **FAX:** 305-747-7154 | **EMAIL:** theaos@aos.org

Into the Wild

Go back! It's a trap! The Pink Lady's Slipper

By Ken Mettler

Orchids are known for manipulating their pollinators to do their bidding. They can often be thought of as "takers" or "control freaks," taking advantage of their evolutionary partners and offering little or nothing of value in return. I think I may know some people like that.

But oh, what wonderful ways orchids have evolved to deceive and control their pollinators! One intriguing example is the Pink Lady's Slipper, *Cypripedium acaule*. This species is a "deceptive pollinator." The large, pink pouch (there is also an alba form, in which the pouch is white) is faintly fragrant and visually attractive to bumblebees (*Bombax* species). There is no nectar or other food source provided.

In most other lady's slippers, the pollinator enters the pouch from the top. Not so with *Cyp. acaule*. The bumblebee crawls around the outside of the pouch, looking for a way in, where it thinks it may find nectar. The front of the pouch forms two flaps that point inward and are loosely pressed together. This forms a one-way valve, known as a funnel trap. The bee can easily push its way in, but once inside cannot escape through the entryway.





Once the bee realizes that it's trapped, and there is no food to be found, it can become very agitated. I've watched this numerous times with several *Cypripedium* species. The bee crawls and buzzes inside the pouch, desperately trying to find a way out.

Fortunately, the pouch has visual and tactile guides to lead the bee toward the center of the flower. As it crawls up the base of the pouch, its back rubs against the stigmatic surface of the column. If the bee has visited another *Cyp. acaule* previously, pollen on the bee's back will rub off onto the stigma.

But the bee can't continue in a straight line. It bumps its head on the column, and has to go either to the right or the left to escape. Whichever way it goes, its back rubs against one of the two anthers, and picks up pollen that can be transported to the next flower. This mechanism prevents self-pollination.

The Pink Lady's Slipper ranges throughout most of Canada and the eastern United States. In Ohio, it grows mostly in the northeast quarter of the state, and many counties of southern Ohio. It is a common species in the Hocking Hills region, where its blooming season peaks in early May. This species is extremely pH dependent, requiring a soil pH below 5.0. It ranges from moist bottomland to dry ridgetops, as long as the pH remains low.

Common plants associated with *Cyp. acaule* include other acid-loving plants, such as chestnut oak (*Quercus montana*), mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) and wild blueberries (*Vaccinium* spp). The latter two are important nectar sources for the bumblebees, allowing them to "waste their time" visiting *Cyp. acaule* flowers.



The roots of this species seldom penetrate the soil, and usually run horizontally along the interface between the soil and the humus layer above. On mature plants, the root tips can

form adventitious shoots, usually eight to twelve inches from the mother plant. If you encounter these plants in the wild, try to minimize trampling or disturbance within two feet of the leaves, as this is where most of the roots are.

So, next May when the weather warms up and you've had enough of being trapped indoors, take a trip down to the Hocking Hills and see if you can find this iconic flower in the acidic woods. This is a great time of year to be outdoors. Many songbirds are migrating through the region, and other orchids such as the showy orchis, puttyroot, and large whorled pogonia are also in bloom.



Culture Corner

Paphiopedilum Delrosi – A Tale of Persistence

By Justin Pepperney



Paphiopedilum Delrosi is a Primary hybrid of two species, *Paphiopedilum delenatii* and *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*. Delrosi has bright pink flowers with a white background, which show some of the best qualities of its parent species; however, there is a catch. Paph. delenatii is in the subgenus Parvisepalum. Parvis are the Vietnamese Paphs, with showy colorful flowers emphasizing the pouch-shaped labellum that makes Paphs so easy to recognize.

Because they can have large flowers on small, easy to grow plants, Parvis are a favorite of many Paph aficionados. *Paphiopedilum rothschildidum* is in the subgenus Polyantha – or section Coryopedilum, depending on which taxonomist you ask. This King of the Paphs is the most well-known of these strap-leafed, multifloral Paphs. Paph.

rothschildianum can have up to six huge, mahogany-striped flowers on a majestic spike. One of the challenges for roth lovers is that seedlings can take up to a decade to reach maturity and flower—ergo, patience is a must.

The catch: although they can be beautiful, intersectional hybrids between Parvis and multiflorals can be reluctant to bloom, a trait that comes from the multifloral side. Paph. Delrosi is one of the most notorious for difficulty of blooming. One professional nursery grew dozens of Delrosi plants for 20 years, only to finally compost the plants because they

never bloomed. The good news is that the latest generation of breeding, using line-bred roths and *delenatii* are supposed to be somewhat easier to bloom. Another challenge is that the flowers can sometimes emerge with imperfections, again due to the mix of genes from different sections. One bright side is the foliage is very attractive!



This brings me to the plant in question. In 2006, I bought two blooming-size Paph. Delrosis. The plants were beautiful mature, multigrowth plants. Even better, the rothschildianum used as a pollen parent in this cross was roth 'Mont Millais' FCC/AOS, FCC/RHS, GM/WOC. This is my favorite roth clone, and the jewel of my collection of awarded roth divisions. Because the Delrosis were mature, I hoped I might see a flower in the typical one year it takes for a blooming-size Paph to spike. It turns out that I was in for a wait. I grew the Delrosis in a fir bark mix for many years, before switching to Orchidata, with a small amount of large charcoal and perlite. I grew the plants under lights, and watered at least twice a week, often with quarter-strength 30-10-10 fertilizer. I watered, and watered, and watered. Over time the plants fell into multiple pieces during repotting, so at this point I had several divisions of the two

plants. Yet still, there were no flowers. I never gave up hope. A long fourteen years later, the biggest division had eight leaves, and I knew it was ready. This is when I finally saw a sheath as the first sign of flowering.

The flower that soon appeared was indeed beautiful. The electric pink color was unlike any other Paph I had seen. Unfortunately, even with its valiant effort to flower after all this time, due to the summer heat the inflorescence did not properly elongate, so the flower was trapped in the crown of the plant. Even though it did not get a chance to open completely, I could see the quality of the bloom. And now that the divisions really are mature, I know that when each one reaches the point where it can hold eight leaves, it will bloom, and it won't take another fourteen years.

Patience and persistence—two qualities that reward any orchid grower!

COOS BOARD MEMBERS: 2020 – 2021

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TBD

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NEWSLETTER

WENDY CHRISMAN

WEBSITE +

SOCIAL MEDIA

WENDY CHRISMAN

COOS CALENDAR 2021

January 21, 2021

CLAUDE HAMILTON on *Broughtonias*

February 18th, 2021

ROGER FRAMPTON of Roger's Orchids (YouTube channel in the UK)

March 18th, 2021

FRANCISCO MIRANDA on *Brazilian Orchids*

April 15th, 2021

WAYNE TURVILLE on *Australian Orchids*

May 20th, 2021

CHALLEN WILLEMSSEN (Guatemalan ecologist at Santuarion Natural El Tular Reserve)

June through November — *TBD*

*Wishing You All
a Happy & Healthy New Year!*



CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY

And a special shout-out to Nancy Shapiro and Tracy Strombotne, for their world-class pivoting from live to virtual meetings during what has been a singularly unprecedented year!

