



# Central Jersey Orchid Society Newsletter

February 2022 Issue

## February 2022 President's Message

I don't know about you, but 2022 seems to be flying by for me. It's always surprising to me how quickly Spring sneaks up on us in our little corner of the world. And, while there's still a few mounds of snow at the edges of my property, the snowdrops are blooming, crocuses are peeking out, and our spring bulbs are starting to show some life.

For our Orchids, the growing season is also following suit. Overall, it's a great time for our plants, but pay attention to the changing season. For the home grower, keep an eye on those windowsill plants now that the light is getting stronger. Bare windows may have worked all winter long, but with our days getting longer, and the sun getting stronger, it may be time to add a sheer curtain or adjust the plants so they're a little further away from the bare panes.

Last month, the Board and I met to discuss the in-house auction. In the pages that follow, we'll share an update on when and where we hope to host the event... I know, a total cliffhanger, hahaha. Also, a big thank you to **Kristen Uthus**, of New World Orchids. Her presentations are always very engaging and informative, what an amazing time!

This month, **Anna Melaragno**, Vice President of the Greater Cleveland Orchid Society (GCOS), and an AOS student judge with the Great Lakes Judging Center, will be our guest speaker. She has been growing orchids for 13 years and will be sharing with us her love for Paphiopedilums.

Our next meeting will be **virtual-only**, on Zoom, and is scheduled for Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at

6:30pm. The virtual meeting room will be open at 6:15pm, for those that want to log onto ZOOM early to connect with one another and share you latest orchid blooms.

As always, I look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,  
Jaymie Santiago



**Joan and David Rosenfeld AOS Awarded  
Lc. Sheila 'J&D' (L. pumila x C.  
percilaviana) AM (86 points)**

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## Meetings and Events 2021

**Meetings, 6:30 PM (open virtual meeting room at 6:15),** Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month.

**Virtual until further notice: Johnson Education Center,  
1 Preservation Pl, Princeton, NJ 08540,  
USA**

**Topic: CJOS Monthly Meeting / Topic: Anna Melragno "Paphs"**

**Topic: CJOS Monthly Meeting / Paphs (Anna Melaragno)  
Time: Mar 2, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84968084251?pwd=eHhRRDR4VktScjRKSndVNEFXtndoZz09>**

**Meeting ID: 849 6808 4251  
Passcode: 114787**

**Nov: "Q&A: Panel of Experts"**

**Dec: Plant Swap**

**Jan: William Stender - Prepping orchids for Summer Outdoors**

**Feb: Kristen Uthus – Australian Dendrobiums**

**March: Anna Melragno "Paphs"**

**April: Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids. "Becoming an 80 Percentile Grower"**

**May: TBA**

**June: TBA**

## Officers and Committees:

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## Member AOS Awards

Joan and David Rosenfeld



**Lc. Sheila 'J&D' (L. pumila x C. percilaviana) AM (86 points)**



**Paph Hawaiian Peacock 'Susan's Visit' ( Hawaiian Illusions x Petula's Peacock)  
HCC (77 points)**

# Members Virtual Show Table

**Luanne Arico**

**Bak 'Cotton Candy'2022**



**Den kingianum Alba 2022**

**Den Nobile Sea Mary 'Snow King'2022**



**Onc 'Wild Willie Bingo'**

# John Bryan

*Coelogyne Cristata*



Alca Pacific Nova 'Hilo Stars'

Onc. Twinkle



Pot. Paradise Rose 'My Valentine x Pot. Rubescent Fire 'fire bomb'



# Jim Murtha



Bc. Pastoral 'Innocence'



ble chia lin



percivalina "florabunda"



Pot. Louise Clarke (Golden Circle 'OPRL' Rubescence SVO AM)

## Ed and Pam Frankel



**bulbophyllum masdevalliae**



**Dan O'Neil 'Jubilee HCCAOS Lc.  
Chicanery x orange nugget**



**Den. Tetragonum 'hot lips' x den. Tetragonum 'dark form'**

**Love Passion 'Dogashima' x  
Blc. Hawaiian Discovery 'Fluorescent orange' HCC**



## Ed and Pam Frankel (Cont.)



**Phal. Ms Rosemarry 'MB089'**



**Pot. Oro Verde 'Remar' AM AOS x  
Blc Marlene Lunquist 'Carmela' AM AOS**



**Why Not 'Roundabout' C. Aurantiaca x Bro. Sanguinea**

## Sad News

Long time CJOS member Hisako Glicksman passed away January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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### Upcoming Webinars

Public Member-Only

 <p><b>The Story of Jewel Orchids</b> With Nicholas Rust</p> <p><b>The Story of Jewel Orchids</b> Nicholas Rust</p> <p>Wednesday, March 16th, 2022 8:30 pm EST</p> <p>The Story of Jewel Orchids</p>	 <p><b>Greenhouse Chat March 2022</b> Ron McHatton</p> <p>Tuesday, March 22nd, 2022 8:30 pm EDT</p> <p>Orchid Q&amp;A</p>	 <p><b>Evolution of LED Lighting and Orchids.</b> with Kelly McCracken</p> <p><b>Evolution of LED Lighting, part 2</b> Leslie Ee</p> <p>Tuesday, April 19th, 2022 8:30 pm EST</p> <p>LED lighting choices</p>
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**Please support the AOS and join. [AOS.org](https://www.aos.org)**

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## How Do You Grow?

Each month, I would like to show a members growing methods/conditions. Please send me pictures of your growing conditions (summer/winter) [edsharkf@yahoo.com](mailto:edsharkf@yahoo.com) Let's get some pictures of your growing space.

The following is a Reprint from the St. Augustine Orchid Society

# CULTIVATION



## Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,  
sbottom15@gmail.com

**Q1.** Is it time to start re-watering my catasetum when I see signs of growth?

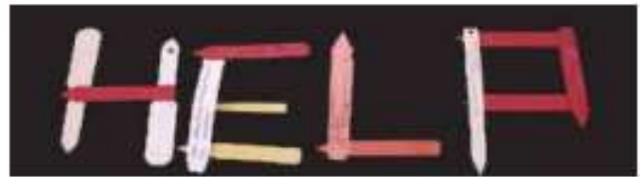
**A1.** No, it's time to repot, if it needs repotting. Whether you repot it or not, do not water until the plant is about 5 inches tall and the leaves have unfurled. Otherwise you will likely get crown rot in the tender new growth.



**Q2.** I have 4 small catasetums all of which have basically no leaves but a few spikes. Should I be watering them or leave them dry to be dormant? It's been so warm, don't know if they're confused or this is normal.

**A2.** I'm guessing that catasetinae is a Mormodia, which is a hybrid between a Mormodes and a Clowesia. The small flowered Clowesia are winter bloomers from leafless bulbs, very floriferous. You don't need to water them unless you feel like the bulbs are shriveling up. If you feel compelled to give it some water, you can place it in a saucer and let it wick up moisture from the bottom.

**Q3.** I bought some Dendrobium Nobile orchids a few weeks back and one of them now has a yellow and soft



pseudobulb. I water them once a week so I'm not sure if I over watered them or not. Should I remove the pseudobulb or let it remain there?

**A3.** I'm sure you have read about the nobile dendrobiums and how they like a coolish, dryish winter rest. The nobile pseudobulbs are much softer than those on other dendrobiums, but they should not be yellow. That means they are beginning to rot. If it starts to blacken or get mushy, cut it

off. You probably shouldn't be watering it once a week, particularly with it being in sphagnum moss. You should let the moss dry entirely before watering until after growth begins in the spring.



# CULTIVATION



## Water Temperature

by Dr. Courtney Hackney

Water related questions continue to be the most frequently asked ones, especially watering frequency. This time of year there are also other water questions, specifically what should be the temperature of water for orchids. The general rule of thumb is that the water should be no less

than 5 degrees F cooler than the plant temperature. This presents a real problem for those of us that use natural precipitation that spends time in a stream, lake, or pond. Even when supplied by a municipal water system, it can be very cold. Well water is nearly the same temperature year round when it leaves the ground, but can lose or gain heat quickly if stored above ground.

Some hobbyists "up North" run water through water heaters all year long because water is too cold, but the same problem arises locally as well during very cold periods. If you have your own well, it is prudent to use water after someone has showered or used a lot of water because the pipes will have been cleared of cold water and replaced by ground water. Water coming from the ground is usually warmer than water sitting in pipes or storage tanks all night. Watering early in the morning, when the greenhouse is cool, e.g. 60 F, means that water can be as cool as 55 F, with no problem. Later in the day when plants warm up, the same water may damage tender leaves.

The problem can be exacerbated if leaves have been in direct light before the cold water hits them. Cold water on warm leaves, especially new leaves can cause cells in the leaf to collapse and eventually become yellow or brown. It may be difficult to water plants without getting water on leaves.

If you grow indoors under lights realize that the same general problem can exist. Houses are usually kept warmer than the greenhouses and grow lights can really heat up the surface of a leaf. It is a good idea to keep some buckets filled with water inside and/or to water your orchids before turning on lights. After watering, turn on the lights to help dry the leaves.

This fall has been unusually dry, resulting in a limited rain water supply in local rivers and in my cistern. Cold rain, melting snow, and melting sleet have filled the cistern and limited the use of the already limited supply of water available in my cistern because it is too cold to use.



Eventually, it will warm from its current 45 F to 62 F or so as heat from the earth is absorbed by water in the cistern. For now, well water must do. Remember, too, that warming plants quickly after applying cold water is desirable.

Over the Holidays, I was able to visit some great orchid nurseries in the Carolinas and discuss orchids with some real experts. It is always just a little humbling, and also overwhelming to be around people with so much knowledge. Names of plant species, hybrids, clones, pesticides, etc. fly by until it seems my brain will explode. It is good to be reminded every now and then of what it feels like to be new to orchids, because most newcomers to this hobby feel the same way at orchid meetings.

Many reading this column do not consider themselves experts, but have already become comfortable rattling off names of favorite orchids. New orchid hobbyists, however, are often very good at explaining to an even more novice hobbyist how to care for their first orchid because they have only recently learned how themselves and they still remember what they did wrong or right. New hobbyists often defer to those with more expertise, but they are probably best at helping newcomers if they just remember a few things

*Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from February 2005.*



**Next time your in France and at the right time?  
Fall? (Some sources say it may not bloom every year)**



**Michel Alborghetti**

Yesterday at 6:46 AM · 🌐

In Mirepoix my village even the orchids welcome you (Spiranthes spiralis). A Mirepoix mon village même les orchidées vous souhaitent la bienvenue (Spiranthes spiralis ).

# A few Slides from Kristen Uthus' talk on – Australian Dendrobiums (Feb Meeting)



**Australian Dendrobiums**  
Beauties from Down Under

DR. KRISTEN UTHUS  
NEW WORLD ORCHIDS

*Dendrobium oemulum* (Section Calypstrochilus)



## Welcome to the Land Down Under

- ▶ Australia
  - ▶ World's largest island and smallest continent
  - ▶ Six states and two territories



## Welcome to the Land Down Under

- ▶ Australia vs US
  - ▶ About 27% smaller than US
  - ▶ 25.7 M vs 329.5 M people
  - ▶ 3.3 vs 33.5 people/km



## Australian Orchids

- ▶ Orchid distribution dominated by **ABIOTIC** factors
- ▶ Orchid community dominated by **terrestrials** (3:1)



*Caladenia dimida*  
David Lawson



## Genus *Dendrobium*

*D. Smilliae* (Section Calypstrochilus)

## *Dendrobium* care

- ▶ Temp: Often tolerant of wide range
- ▶ Light: Usually moderate to high
- ▶ Water: **DO NOT OVERWATER**
  - ▶ More in summer, less in winter
  - ▶ Winter rest?



*D. Virginia* Jupp 'Eric'; *D. linguliforme* x *terretillosum*

## Dendrobium care

- ▶ Potting tips
  - ▶ Many best mounted
  - ▶ Shallow pots
  - ▶ Small as possible
  - ▶ Fast draining mix




*D. lichenastrum* on mount

## Dendrobium classification

- ▶ Genus is diverse in form and flower
- ▶ Divided into 41 SECTIONS
  - ▶ 6 considered common by AOS
  - ▶ Australian Dens are different!



*D. rigidum*

**A few slides from William Stender's talk  
"Prepping orchids for Summer Outdoors"  
(Jan. Meeting)**



## SUMMER VACATION FOR ORCHIDS

Or how to make your life "easier" during summer!  
By Bill Stender

## SUMMER VACATION FOR ORCHIDS

- PART 1: WHEN DOES VACATION BEGIN AND END?
- PART 2: TYPES OF ENCLOSURES AND SET UP
- PART 3: CONTROLLING AIR MOVEMENT
- PART 4: CONTROLLING PESTS, FUNGUS AND BACTERIAL ISSUES

## SUMMARY

- ❖ Time putting out and bringing in by temperature and hardiness of the orchid species
- ❖ Acclimate orchids to increased light levels
- ❖ Find suitable spaces in your backyard.
- ❖ Make sure there is adequate air movement during the "Dog Days"
- ❖ Inspect regularly for pests, fungus and bacterial problems

## CONTROLLING PESTS

Choose a method of controlling pests and

### STICK WITH IT!!

- ↪ Regular applications of a PREVENTATIVE, beats playing catch up when you are infested
- ↪ Apply once when the plants leave the house
- ↪ Apply once mid summer
- ↪ Give a thorough inspection and application as they are being brought back in



## CONTROLLING FUNGUS AND BACTERIA

Choose a method of controlling fungus and bacteria and

### STICK WITH IT!!

- ↪ These chemicals can be smelly so apply outdoors
- ↪ Regular applications of a PREVENTATIVE, beats playing catch up when you are infected
- ↪ Apply once when the plants leave the house
- ↪ Apply once mid summer
- ↪ Final application before they are brought in



## **Warning to All Orchid Growers**

We can not be responsible for the lasting effects of reading this article or its factual content. **However most orchid growers will agree that the following is true.**

A recent study has indicated that orchids give off pheromones that are highly addictive to certain individuals, causing uncontrollable hoarding. When stored in large quantities in enclosed spaces, the pheromones in the plants causes memory loss and induce the gathering syndrome, similar to the one squirrels have before the onset of winter.

Sound tests have also revealed that orchids emit a very high-pitched sound heard only by a select few. When played backward, the sounds are heard as chants...'Buy me, save me, grow me!'

Furthermore, the pheromone addiction causes a pathological need to secret the orchid purchases away when one takes them home and blend them into the existing collection. When asked by a significant other if the orchids are new, the reply is, "oh, I've had that for a while!" while rubbing hands together in Gollum like fashion.

In order to overcome the so-called feeding frenzy effect that orchids cause, susceptible individuals must wear a face mask when entering a growing facility, and use ear plugs to avoid being pulled into their grip. It is also beneficial to enter these facilities without the presence of cash or credit cards.

Sad to say, the addictive qualities of this compulsive behavior are cumulative, and are ameliorated only by the purchase of more and more and more orchids.

No cure is known at this time.

**\*Borrowed and modified from someone who borrowed and modified it from someone and so on—author unknown but clearly written by someone who understood orchids abilities to adapt first to environment and pollinators, and now to us. We borrowed too**