



Central Jersey Orchid Society Newsletter

March 2023 Issue

March 2023 President's Message

Dear Members,

Spring! Well, almost. As we anticipate the warmer outside weather, we'll might be thinking about how to transition our collections to the outside world. In my opinion, this can be more difficult than having the collection under my control inside. Although our watering routine might be easier in the natural world, I've battled squirrels stealing my plant tags, birds nesting in my dendrobiums, slugs, snails and even neighborhood cats? I've been dive-bombed by wrens, scolded by chickadees, and screeched at by jays. I inspect my plants in the fall and think "what happened here?" Fortunately, we have many seasoned members of the club who have developed coping strategies, and I have been lucky to have their help. My biggest battle over the years has been the proper amount of light. Even a few hours of direct sun can burn many of our plants, so I try to keep tabs on how natural sunlight falls in my "orchid world" by the shed. This year I plan to put cooper mesh on my bench legs, for the slugs and snails, and I may protect my phrags and paphs behind wire mesh. I've also learned to wire my plant tags directly to my plants. I don't know what to do about the wrens, though. It's going to be time to look at our plants and decide whether to re-pot, divide or pitch. Our March meeting will be an 'Ask the Expert' and I hope all you can participate by sharing your questions. If you have an issue, other people might have experienced the same problem and will be able and willing to advise you. Remember to inspect your plants and if they have bugs put the plant inside a plastic bag. Our club was founded in the sixties and we are blessed to have some of the original members still participating. What a wealth of knowledge!

We will be participating in the SEPOS show in Oaks, PA this year. Our setup date is Thursday, March 30th. As it is our first time in a while at SEPOS I opted for a 'niche' which is a space along the inner wall in an alcove and smaller than a tabletop. I'll be contacting members of the club around March 15th to get display plants. As usual, I'm happy to transport plants to the show on the day of setup. Please see me if you have any questions! Looking forward to seeing you on March 16th for our regular meeting.

Happy Growing!

Anne Skalka, Pres. CJOS

Orchid of the Month



**Cattleya Maris Magic Yellow Eyes
Jim Murtha**

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reprint**

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New Meeting Location
Trinity Church 33 Mercer St,
Princeton, NJ 08540-6893

May: TBA

June: TBA

Meetings and Events 2023

Arrive at 6:30.

Meeting will start at 7:00PM

Meetings are held the **Third Thursday** of the month.

October: Greg Griffis
Achieving Orchid Excellence

Nov: Kim Feddersen
Yes, You Can Grow Vandaceous Orchids

December: Holiday Party

January: David Off (Waldor Orchids)

February: Paul Sheetz

March: Panel of Experts

April: Ed Weber

Officers and Committees:

President - Anne Skalka

Vice President – Jaymie Santiago

Treasurer/Membership – Michelle Thomas

Corresponding/Recording Secretary -Tobie Parnett

Editor Newsletter - Ed Frankel
CJOSnewsletter@gmail.com

George Wallace – Web Master

Jeff Tyron – CJOS Photographer

**Details (Maps and Pictures) of New Meeting Location on
Pages 14-17**

CJOS Members Show Table

Cattleya

1. Cattleya Maris Magic Yellow Eyes
Jim Murtha



2. SLC Circle of Life
Jim Murtha

3. Cattleya caribbean
George Wallace



Dendrobium/Oncidium

1. Dendrobium delicatum
Joe Thomas



2. Rossioglossum Rawdon Jester
Jaymie Santiago

3. Brassia NOID
Anne Skalka



Paphs/Phrags

**1. Paph Macabre Venus
Cat Swiderski**



**2. Phrag Hanne Popow
Shirley Li**



**3. Paph Odettes Appeal
Jeff Tyron**



Vanda and Phals

1. Vanda Sanai Blue
Rob Billners



2. Phal NOID
Luanne Arico

3. Phal NOID
Michell Thomas



Species

1. *Dendrochilum glaumaceum*
Joe Thomas



2. *Cattleya walkeriana pendentive*
Jim Murtha

3. *Phalaenopsis schilleriana*
Kathy Zhang



Other

1. Clowesia Grace Dunn Looking Glass John Bryan



Orchid of the Month

Cattleya Maris Magic Yellow Eyes Jim Murtha



Important Show Table information!

A document is attached to the email which sends this newsletter. Now you can fill out your show table card at home. This will save you time and you can hopefully print better (more legibly) for the judges to read and record.

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) CJOSNewsletter@gmail.com. Let's see some pictures of your growing space.

The following is reprinted with permission from the St Augustine Orchid Society

CULTIVATION



Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@hotmail.com

Q1. I have a keiki growing on this dendrobium, the roots are healthy but the plant doesn't look so good. Any thoughts greatly appreciated.



A1. The roots need to be a little longer, at least 2 inches long, before you separate the keiki from the mother plant. When you repot, put it in a pot that seems too small, no bigger than a 2 or 3 inch pot. Dendrobium canes grow very closely together, and a small pot will accommodate the plant for the next 3 years or so. The pot the dendrobium is in now is probably too large for the plant. If you want to encourage faster root growth on the keiki, you can air layer it with sphagnum moss, wrap some damp sphagnum around the roots and tie it up with some mesh or pantyhose to hold everything in place.

Q2. Whatever this is, it is going through my collection. I am growing inside underlights. My first thought was thrips, so I sprayed with Captain Jack's Dead bug because it has spinosad. Today, I sprayed with Alette. Suggestions, please.

A2. The gray stippling and brown wounds look like the damage caused by mites. Do you have a loupe or magnifier so you can check for mites? Mites are a real problem for indoor growers, because they thrive indoors in the low humidity. They are arachnids, so most insecticides won't kill them. Avid is a good miticide if you have it. Or you can use one of the [home cures](https://staugorchidsociety.org/culturepests-pests.htm), scroll down to the in our pests page on the website for some ideas.



Q3. What can you do with a tall vanda that has roots at the base and none above that? If you just "top" it, and there are no roots presently, will it just die? Do you have any recommendations on how to stimulate roots up higher for the top section to be separate.



A3. That vanda looks nice and healthy. You might try spraying seaweed or a stronger root stimulator in the leaf axils where you'd like the roots to form, say weekly. Or, wrap sphag moss with panty hose where you want the roots.

CULTIVATION



Growing Indoors - Humidity

by Dr. Courtney Hackney

For the first time in many years, I am growing indoors like many of you reading this column. If you read this column regularly you may remember that my orchid collection and I are moving to Jacksonville, Florida. In the interim, many of my orchids are not in a greenhouse, but growing on windowsills and under lights until the new greenhouse is up. Even Florida has days where the air is far too dry for orchids.

My first challenge has been to get and keep the humidity high enough under my lights. Fortunately, a neighbor was discarding some old carpet padding, the type that goes below most carpet. This padding is an ideal way to hold moisture if it is the type that is totally synthetic. Cut the padding to fit in your growing area and then set your orchids on the pads. It is not necessary to soak the pad as the pad will become moist if you set pots that were just watered on them. The weight of the pot will make a depression that will retain some water too. When the home heating system is running, mist indoor orchids with de-ionized water, rainwater, or distilled water. Rarely will bacteria and fungi grow on leaves with few nutrients or sugars and these waters have virtually nothing in them. Under lights, the water evaporates quickly and since it is pure water it will not leave unsightly spots. Using tap water, which usually contains some level of dissolved salts, can stain leaves and flowers. One dose of minerals on leaves



Michael made this winter rolling rack for Penny, so she can roll the orchids in and out of the garage.



Ludisia discolor, grown and flowered by Janis Croft

is not really significant, but if this occurs each day when you mist, minerals can build up to the point where they are not only unsightly, but block light from reaching the leaves.

Some of my orchids have also been consigned outside under the eaves because they are too large. In this location they receive low light most of the day and bright sun for 3-4 hours every afternoon. *Laelia anceps* is the one species that remains outside unless there is a heavy frost warning. Many times growers in California have told me that they got the best blooms on *L. anceps* when they had seen frost on the ground near their *L. anceps*, which they grew outside. Without a doubt, these are the best flowers ever for my *L. anceps* this year.

Most cattleya species and hybrids, however, do not like night temperatures below 55 degrees F, but many will get by without any damage if day temperatures rise quickly and the plant is not wet at night. Buds and flowers are more sensitive to these low temperatures and will drop off.

A quick check of orchid books devoted to species will provide some idea of the natural conditions and are an excellent way to determine which orchid groups, species and hybrids can best tolerate low temperatures. A few folks in my neighborhood are retired and grow orchids and other tropicals on carts. They wheel them outside each morning from their garage after the sun has warmed the air to some minimum temperature. While these folks are not true indoor growers, they are growing orchids successfully without a greenhouse.

My Jewel Orchids have really enjoyed being inside. They reside in a bathroom window box facing north. They get very little direct light, but are thriving in this location. Remember that the term "Jewel Orchid" refers to a diverse group of unrelated orchids, mostly terrestrial, which have beautiful leaves. A few have colorful flowers, but most do not. Because they naturally grow on the forest floor, they are extremely tolerant of low light levels.

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 2008.

Butterfly House

Botanical Garden at Hershey Pa

(We missed the Sussquanna Orchid show held at the Botanical Garden the week before)



Paul Sheetz Speaker at February CJOS Meeting Topic: Retrospective of Famous Orchids 1960-1980



Upcoming Webinars



Chris Rehmann June 22, 1940 – February 24, 2023

A bitter sweet month for the Mid-Atlantic Judging Center

We lost Chris on Feb 24, 2023. He was an AOS judge, an AOS member and chairman of the Mid Atlantic Judging Center, he went on to serve as Vice President and then President of the AOS.

Beth Off-Davis, daughter of Walt Off of Waldor Orchids became a fully accredited judge with our Mid Atlantic Judging Center. Beth spoke at our meeting October 2021

Go to AOS.org for information on orchid culture and care. While you are visiting their site, please join AOS. Support this worthy organization.

<https://www.sepos.org/show>

SEPOS International Orchid Show & Sale

Returns to the Oaks Expo Center

March 31 - April 2, 2023



HOURS

Friday 3/31
Noon - 6 pm

Saturday 4/1
9 am - 6 pm

Sunday 4/2
10 am - 4 pm

TICKETS

\$15 at door

Children Under 12 Free!
Save 20% online!

[Buy Now](#)



VENUE

Oaks Expo Center
100 Station Ave
Oaks, PA 19456

[Directions Here](#)

PARKING

Unlimited
Free
Parking

Note: Your PayPal receipt is your ticket. Please retain it (hard copy or on a device) and present it upon entry.

VENDORS

[See Participating
Vendors](#)

FREE TOURS

Sign up at show
[More info here](#)

Enjoy an exciting orchid weekend - tickets valid for entry all three days !!

New Meeting Location

Trinity Church 33 Mercer St, Princeton, NJ 08540-6893 (using 47 Mercer St for GPS may pinpoint the parking lot better)

Here are some map locations and pictures (next few pages) to help find the new location. Here is one of the easiest ways to pin point the new meeting location: It is almost directly opposite Alexander Rd. Since it will probably be dark, I have included a few night time pictures of the meeting location.





Church Entrance

Church Parking Lot



Church Entrance

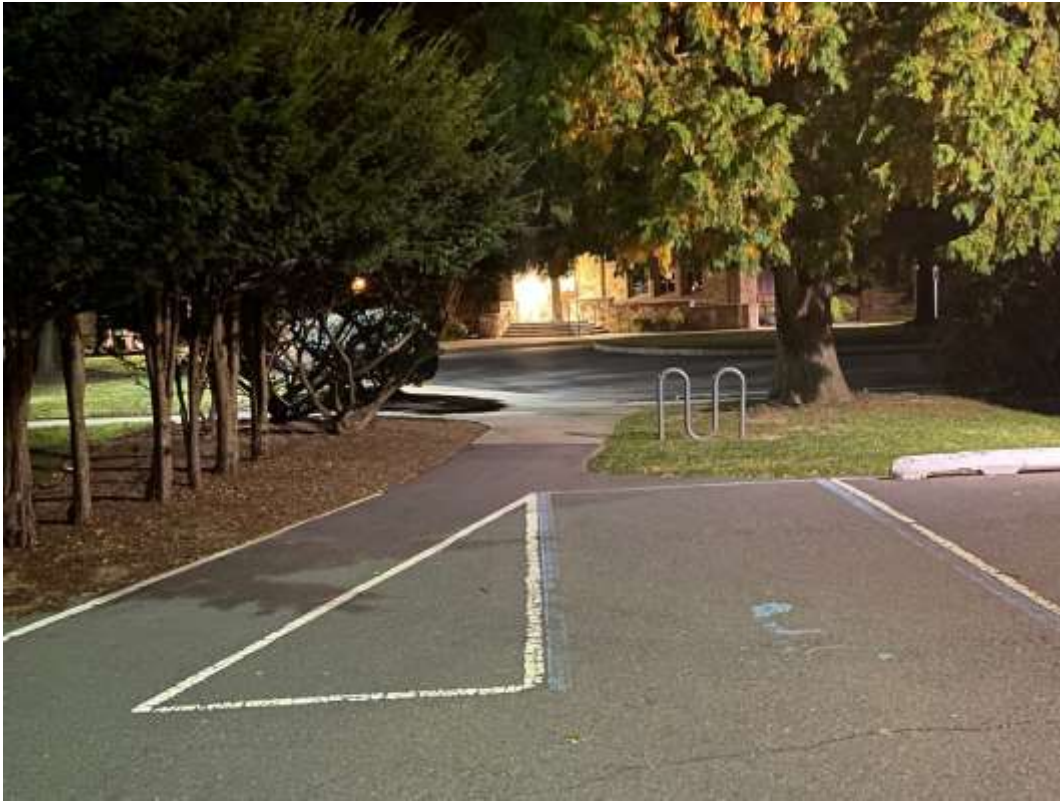
Night Time pictures of meeting location



This view is looking south on Mercer St (away from downtown Princeton) note the crosswalk just before the entrance to the Parking lot.



This view is looking north on Mercer St (toward downtown Princeton)



This view is in the parking lot facing toward the meeting entrance door.

This view is the door (the one that is brightly lit, straight ahead) for the meeting entrance

