



The newsletter of the  
NORTHWEST



ORCHID SOCIETY

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## April 2013

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## About the April Meeting

April 8, 2013

7:00 p.m.

University of Washington  
Center for Urban Horticulture  
3501 NE 41st Street  
Seattle, WA 98105



Neofinetia falcata 'Tomokongo'



Neofinetia falcata 'Hisui'

## Peter T. Lin: Neofinetia falcata and its Hybrids

This fast paced PowerPoint presentation will feature this Japanese native orchid species, a bit of history, the many forms and varieties, and a selection of its hybrids within the Vanda alliance. We'll also take a look at how to grow these marvelous temperature tolerant orchids.

Neofinetia falcata is native to Japan and has been grown there for centuries. They are highly treasured and come in many flower forms and leaf forms. It has been used with other vandaceous genera to produce charming compact hybrids.

Peter started growing orchids over 25 years ago, but then stopped due to school and starting a career. It wasn't until about 9 years ago that the orchid "bug" came back and he is now heavily involved once again. He is an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society and a hybridizer of mini-catts. He enjoys meeting with other orchid enthusiasts, and can often be found at various orchid shows and societies around the country. He also has thousands of photos of his orchids that he maintains on Flickr. You can view them by typing this address into the internet:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/minicatt/collections/>

His website address is: <http://www.diamondorchids.com/>

Due to limited growing space, Peter likes to specialize in miniature orchids, both species and hybrids, and has received numerous AOS awards. His other interests in orchids include Dendrobiums, Angraecoids, and of course Neofinetias! He maintains a collection of a thousand or more orchids at his home in Southern California in 3 small greenhouses, outdoors, as well as in the house under fluorescent lights.

Peter will have plants for sale at the meeting.



Ascofinetia Cherry Blossom 'Carmela'



Ascofinetia Moonlight Firefly



Nakamotoara Newberry Apricot



Neostylis Lou Sneary 'Blue Bird'



Neostylis Pinky 'Starry Night'

### **Display Table:**

We will have our regular display table, so bring your blooming plants to share.

### **Sales Table:**

Members may bring up to 10 plants to sell. Include an extra tag with your name and the cost.

### **Raffle:**

The raffle will be held as usual. Win a new orchid for your collection while supporting the Scholarship Fund.

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## **President's Corner**

### Northwest Orchid Society Spring Show and Sale

Our Spring Show and Sale will be held at Sky Nursery 18528 Aurora Av N 98133 in Shoreline WA, the weekend of April 6th and 7th with a show theme of "SHOW BIZ".

This will be an American Orchid Society Judged Show, which means that we will have Orchid Judges that will be scouting all of the the Show Orchids for a possible AOS Quality Award.

The Saturday Show and Sale hours will be from 9am to 6pm. The Sunday hours will be 9am to 4:30pm, with breakdown between 4:30pm and 6pm.

The set up will be on Friday the 5th, starting at Noon. It will be a busy day with setting up the areas and helping with checking in all of the show plants. We will need all of your help to set up the Show and Sales tables and to help with installing the NWOS display.

This will also be the time to bring in Blooming Orchids for the NWOS display, your Orchid could receive one of the 14 'Best of Awards' or you could also receive an AOS Quality Award.

Our Show will have SUPER displays of Blooming Orchids from visiting Societies, the Vendors and the NWOS. There will also be a GREAT sales area with a surprise new vendor. If you work a shift and put a blooming orchid in our display, you can sell plants on the members table.

We also will need help for both Saturday and Sunday for Cashiering, Sales help, Hosting and the Raffles. Then at 4:30pm on Sunday, we will again need your help to remove what we put up on Friday.

I encourage everyone to participate in this event; Look at the Fantastic work you all did for the Flower Show display, we need to repeat that effort over these three days for our Spring Show and Sale to be another success. Without your Help these events would not happen.....

Thanks everyone,  
Mike Foster, President  
[fosterpierce@comcast.net](mailto:fosterpierce@comcast.net)

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## NWOS Displays at Orchid Shows Past and Future

The next display will of course be in our own show April 6-7 at Sky Nursery. As the host society it is important for us to have an impressive display that will be the centerpiece of the show. Please be sure to bring your plants to Sky Nursery by 5PM on Friday. If you are unable to bring them on Friday please make arrangements for me or some other member to bring them. Plants should be staked and stable and preferably in a decorative pot. Plants can be registered electronically in advance (preferred) or this can be done at Sky on Friday.

For Instructions and Forms to register your plants, go to the NWOS Home Page <http://nwos.org/> and click on the links.

**The Mount Baker Orchid Society Show** was held March 9-10 and as reported at the March meeting NWOS had a good-sized display for our friends to the north.



NWOS exhibit at the Mt Baker Orchid Society Show

**The Spokane Orchid Society Show and Sale** on March 23-24 was a stunning success as usual. Our display consisted of 41 plants from the following members: George Krasle, Mike Foster and Donna Pearce, Peter Maunsell, Jerry Hoffmeister, Mike Cory, Abigail Chang and Mike Pearson and Cylvia and myself. There were 41 plants in our display and we received 20 show ribbons. We had a good variety of species and hybrids in our display. Cylvia and I received a 'JC' (Judges Commendation) for Colmanara Wildcat 'Green Valley'. This award is given to a plant with a remarkable quality that in this case was beautifully variegated foliage. This plant was a surprising find from a meristemed clone with solid green foliage. The plant was also awarded 'Best Oncidium Alliance.'



NWOS exhibit at the Spokane Orchid Society Show



Colmanara Wildcat 'Green Valley' JC/AOS

The next “away” show will be the **Oregon Orchid Society Show and Sale** in Portland on April 20-21. I will be collecting plants for the show on Thurs. April 18. If you would like to help with setup or teardown please let me know.

George Grantham, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

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## **NWOS Volunteer Day at the Zoo!**

**Saturday, June 1, 2013**

**10:00 am to 2:00pm (approximately)**

**South Entrance (50<sup>th</sup> street)**

We really could use your help! We have lots of orchids that need some TLC. Join us for a few hours to help repot, divide and clean our orchid collection then spend the rest of the day seeing the Zoo.

Meet Justin at the Zoo’s South Entrance at 10:00am. Bring your own gloves and dress in layers as the greenhouse can get quite warm.

Our greenhouse is a working facility so we ask that you please not bring children younger than 12 years of age for this volunteer project.

An RSVP would be welcomed but it is not necessary.

Contact Justin or Katrina at 206-548-2576 ext. 5 or [justin.schroeder@zoo.org](mailto:justin.schroeder@zoo.org) or [katrina.lindahl@zoo.org](mailto:katrina.lindahl@zoo.org)



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## **Proposed Slate of Officers**

Here are the Nominations for NWOS Officers to serve July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014:

President: Mike Foster  
First VP: Caroline Mann  
Second VP: George Grantham  
Secretary: Mike Cory  
Treasurer: Peter Maunsell  
Past President: Jamie Notman

Trustees (2 years) 2013-2015  
Joff Morgan  
Ellen Macomber  
Jeanne McKinnie  
Chris Peterson  
Diane Drisch

The following Trustees have one year remaining on their 2 year Tenure (2012-2014)

Allan Kaas  
Mike Pearson  
Katrina Lindahl  
Barb Roberts

The election will be held at our May meeting with installation at the June meeting.

## Report from the March Meeting

We enjoyed a lovely pre-auction wine and cheese party hosted by Peter and Kelly Maunsell. Thank you for the treat.

Mike Foster began the meeting welcoming new people to the meeting including distinguished visitors Cyle Eldred and his wife Kelly. He's the Show Designer for the NW Flower & Garden Show.

Mike Cory asked for sponsors for a few remaining AOS awards that will be given out at our show at Sky Nursery. Allan Kaas read the slate of officers and board members proposed for the next fiscal year.

George Grantham gave a report on the Mt. Baker Show this past weekend. He called Allan Kaas up and gave him a \$25 cash prize for the Best Novice plant: Paph. Icy Icy Wind (Paph. Stone Lovely x Paph. Ice Castle). He asked for plants that could be exhibited at the next show to be held in Spokane and then for our show at Sky Nursery.



Our hosts Peter and Kelly enjoying the party



All receives his award for Best Novice Plant at the Mount Baker Orchid Society show

Paph. Icy Icy Wind  
(Paph. Stone Lovely x Paph. Ice Castle)



George then spoke about the Gary Baker Award and asked for nominations. The Board will vote and the winner will be announced at our meeting in June

Kathy Murray then introduced the auction and we got down to the enjoyable business of the evening. We earned more than last year which is great news for several NWOS funds that are solely funded by the Annual Auction.

Thanks to our very able volunteers who conducted the event:

Auctioneers: Mike Pearson, Abigail Chang and Michael Cory with help from Joff Morgan ferrying the plant to the winning bidders.

Cashiers: Greg Sliman and Kathy Murray, with help from Pat Gossler.



A great crowd enjoys the party



Hmmm, which one should I bid on?



Giving the entries a discerning look

With a bidding plate in one hand and a drink in the other all we need to do is pick our favorites and let the bidding begin!



Our Auction team



Who wants to bid on this big one?

## Report from the Potting Clinic

We had a nice crowd which included NWOS members and newbies who heard about our clinic at the NW Flower & Garden Show.



Michael Cory led the discussion introducing general principles of orchid growth and various potting techniques.



Here Mike tackles a large mass of roots.



After Mike's introduction, we broke up into groups with more experienced members helping those with questions.



Basic Repotting Tools



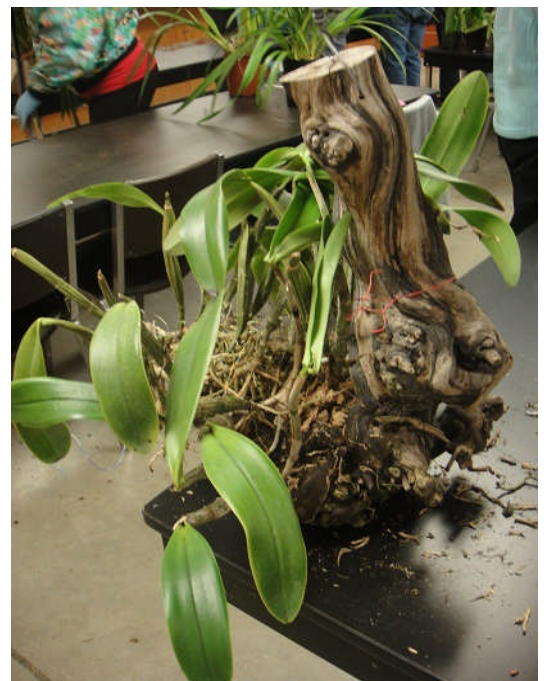
Mike Foster and Leanna Fox work on how to handle her tall plant.



Cylvia Grantham helps with a group of phalaenopsis plants.



Mounting onto a natural branch was quite a process.



Abby's plant mounted on a gnarly piece of wood



Sharing a humorous moment!



So many plants growing out of their pots need a whole team to assist.



George Grantham patiently answers questions and demonstrates good technique.



## Schedule of Upcoming Events

**April 6-7, 2013** - AOS Orchid Show and Sale at Sky Nursery with setup on the 5th.

**April 8, 2013** - Speaker: Peter T. Lin of Diamond Orchids, California speaking about *Neofinetia falcata* and its hybrids

**May 13, 2013** - Speaker: Tom Etheridge, an AOS Judge from Oregon speaking on *Odontoglossums*

**June 1, 2013** - NWOS Volunteer Day at the Zoo. 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Help tend to to Zoo's extensive orchid collection and see the zoo for free when we're done.

**June 10, 2013** - Pot Luck Dinner, Gary Baker Service Award and a report from our Scholarship Award recipient, Erica Ash.

**September 9, 2013** - Speaker: Marni Turkel from San Francisco, who will give a talk on the Lesser Known *Oncidiniiae*.

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### Reminder for Officers & Board Members

The schedule of meetings for the rest of this fiscal year is: 5/7/13. Meet at 7 p.m. at Mike Cory's house unless notified that it's been moved elsewhere.

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### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **BOTANICAL EXOTICA - A Monumental Collection of the Rare and Beautiful**

Volunteer Park Conservatory is pleased to host an exclusive exhibition of fine-art glass works by Seattle native artist Jason Gamrath.

Gamrath, a graduate of the Pilchuck Glass School has designed a breathtaking series of titanic orchids, cacti and carnivorous specimens recreated faithfully in glass and inspired by the collection at Volunteer Park Conservatory. Visitors will marvel at the incredible detail of three-foot orchid blossoms and venus flytraps which could easily ensnare a small pet. Some pieces tower up to twelve feet on steel stems, providing an opportunity for visitors to experience flora from an insect's perspective.



“Small plants, although miniscule in comparison to our human sized way of existing, are overwhelmingly perplexing when held inches away from one's face. The vast majority of people will seldom grasp this seemingly secret perception of existence. When I increase the scale of these life forms to be larger than a person, they can be observed with this perspective from across a room due to the overwhelming physical presence they command. The purpose of creating this series on a macro scale is to bring to light the beauty that exists within the micro scale of nature.” – Artist's Statement, Jason Gamrath

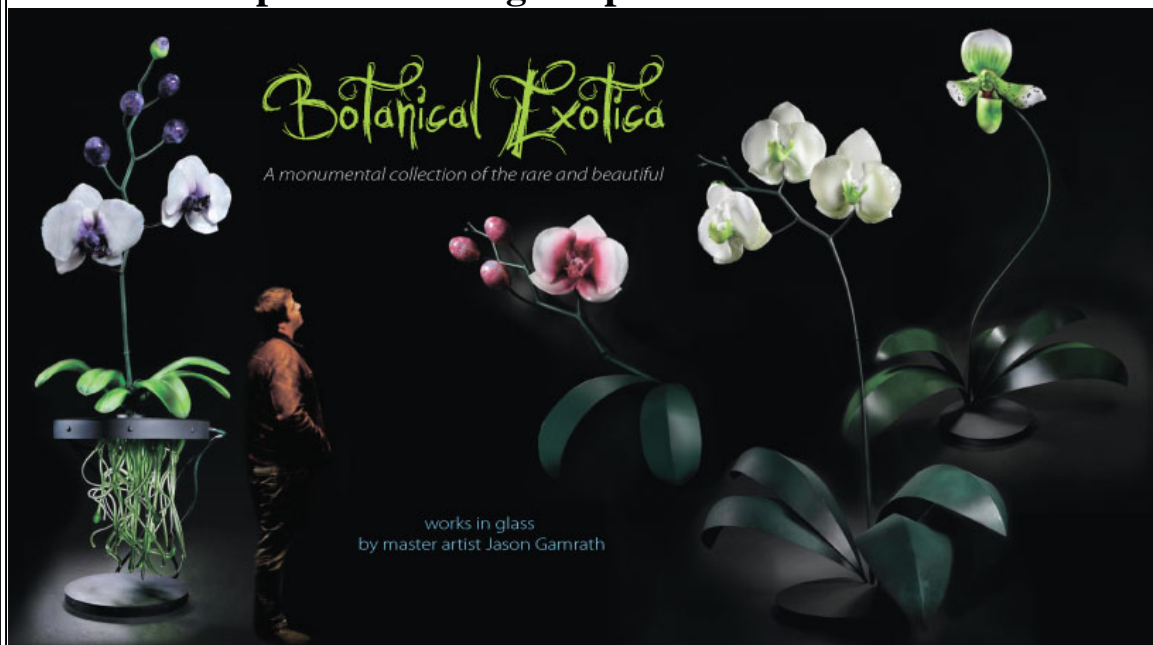
The three-part series, titled "BOTANICAL EXOTICA - A Monumental Collection of the Rare and Beautiful" will span the course of 6 months, and will launch with an opening gala on April 11, 2013 between 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Admission for the event is \$12 and includes refreshments provided by the Friends of the Conservatory.

For more event details and updates: [Facebook.com/JasonGamrathGlass](https://www.facebook.com/JasonGamrathGlass)

# BOTANICAL EXOTICA AT VOLUNTEER PARK CONSERVATORY

*A Monumental Collection of the Rare and Beautiful*  
by Master Glass Artist Jason Gamrath

April 11<sup>th</sup> through September 12<sup>th</sup> 2013



## Exhibition Opening Reception

Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm – 8 pm

\$12 Admission at the door (\$8 for Annual Pass Holders)

Refreshments      Meet the Artist      Book Signing

Regular Conservatory hours are 10am – 4pm, Tues-Sun.

Daily Admission is \$4 for adults.

Closed Mondays. Free admission on First Thursday and First Saturday every month.

Volunteer Park Conservatory 1400 E Galer St. Seattle 98117 206-322-4112