



NWOS Home

Current Newsletter

News Archive

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Opportunities

Advertising

NWOS Library

NWOS Contacts

Want something printed in the newsletter? E-mail it to [nwos\\_news@nwos.org](mailto:nwos_news@nwos.org) no later than the 25th of the month.



## February 2018

Volume 71, Issue 7

- [About the February Meeting](#)
- [Peter T. Lin, "Mini-Catts: Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature"](#)
- [NW Flower & Garden Festival](#)
- [Mt. Baker Orchid Society Show and Sale](#)
- [Membership Renewal Reminder](#)
- [Why Do You Grow the Orchids You Grow: Now It's Habenarias](#)
- [News from the American Orchid Society](#)
- [Report from the January Meeting](#)
- [Schedule of Upcoming Events](#)
- [Reminder for Officers & Board Members](#)
- [NWOS/Amazon Shopping Link](#)
- [NWOS Website Links](#)
- [Special Announcements](#)

### About the February Meeting

February 12, 2018

7:00 p.m.

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

### Peter T. Lin, "Mini-Catts: Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature"

Peter T. Lin will be presenting a talk on one of his favorite topics: Mini-Catts, also known as miniature Cattleyas. Peter will be sharing a fast-paced Powerpoint presentation on these charming orchids. The journey will begin with a review of the miniature species, early hybrids, and then to some of the relevant hybrids of today. He will also review how to grow these wonderful plants.

Peter started growing orchids over 25 years ago, but then stopped due to school and starting a career. It wasn't until about 7 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 hundreds 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/>

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 Neofinetias. He maintains a collection of a thousand or more orchids at his home in Southern California in 3 small greenhouses, as well as in the house under fluorescent lights.

**Pre-Order Special:** Peter is offering a 10% discount on all the orchids on his web site. Don't miss out on this great discount and, remember, you also will be saving the cost of shipping. Go to his web site to make your list of sales plants to purchase: <http://www.diamondorchids.com/orchid-catalog.html>

Then contact him at [lin.peterT@yahoo.com](mailto:lin.peterT@yahoo.com) or call him at 909-573-6751, to arrange for your pre-order. All pre-orders must be submitted to Peter by February 9th.



Peter T. Lin



*Sophronitis coccinea* 'Florence' FCC/AOS

Many thanks to all of you that offered to host Peter.

**Display Table:**

Bring your blooming Orchids so everyone can enjoy them.

**Sales Table:**

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

**Raffle:**

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

**NWOS Library:**

If you'd like to check out a book or tape from our Library, please contact our Librarian [Joe Grienaue](#) a minimum of 2 weeks before the next meeting. For a list of library items Click on the Library link at the top left of this page or click [HERE](#).

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**NW Flower & Garden Festival**

From Feb. 3rd to the 12th, we've got lots to do and enjoy in downtown Seattle at this year's NW Flower & Garden Show. Our orchid display garden construction starts on Feb. 3rd. The Show opens on Wednesday the 7th and goes thru Sunday the 11th. Teardown is Sunday evening and Monday the 12th.

Hopefully by now you've signed up for some shifts and have started grooming your blooming plants that you'll bring down to the Convention Center on Monday the 5th.

For more details on how to help or how to prep you plants, check out the 2 articles Joff wrote in the Jan2018 newsletter. It's posted on our website on the NWOS Archives page at:

<http://newsletter.nwos.org/archives/index.htm>

Contact Joff Morgan or George Grantham for questions.



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**Mt. Baker Orchid Society Show and Sale**

NWOS will participate in the Mt. Baker show Feb. 17-18. As in past years, it will be a judged show held in Skagit Valley Gardens Nursery just south of Mt. Vernon. We will be collecting plants at my house on Thursday evening, Feb. 15. Alternatively, you can leave plants with me at the Monday meeting and I can return them the following Monday at our Potting Clinic. The venue is a pleasant greenhouse setting with a nice cafe. Mt. Baker sends a nice display to our show every year so we plan to reciprocate with an impressive display at their show.

The Portland Orchid Society will be having a show at the Portland Home and Garden Show Feb. 22-26. We do not plan to display in that show. In April we are planning to send displays to the Spokane Show (April 7-8) and the Oregon Orchid Society Show (April 21-22).

*George Grantham, 2nd VP*

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**Membership Renewal Reminder**

Unless you joined since July 1, it's time to renew your membership. The NWOS membership year now goes by calendar year. During this transition year it will go from July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018 (18 months). You can pay at most meetings by cash, check, or debit/credit card. You can mail a check (payable to NWOS) to PO Box 51021, Seattle, WA 98115-1021. New members should complete the [Membership Form](#).

Dues are \$30 for one person or \$40 for two people at the same address. We also have a Youth membership of \$15 for one person aged 22 or under. Dues are kept low to encourage membership but they cover only a small portion of the society's expenses.

Each single, youth and dual membership person will be considered an individual full-fledged member entitled to all privileges and benefits of the society (voting, Christmas plants, etc.).

Please contact [Mike Cory](#) for questions about your dues.

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## Why Do You Grow the Orchids You Grow: Now It's Habenarias

by Sue Bottom (originally published in the January 2016 edition of Orchids Magazine)

**HAS YOUR TASTE** in orchids changed over time? When you first start growing orchids, you buy everything in sight; all you know is that you need more, more! Cattleyas are my enduring favorite, the incredible flowers, the fragrance; perhaps that's why most of my benches and overhead poles are filled with them. But then you go to an orchid show and see something that you simply can't live without.

In the beginning it was phalaenopsis. When we were living in Houston, the Houston Orchid Society was a phalaenopsis club thanks in part to Bill Tippitt's breeding of multifloral phals. It was an exciting time for phalaenopsis, the hybridizing for yellows was in its heyday and the harlequin phals had just been introduced. How can you not love phals with their long-lived graceful blooms?

Then one day Stephen Moffitt gave a presentation to the Galveston club about catasetums, so naturally I started growing them. What is easier than a plant that requires no winter care during its dormancy but grows like mad in the summer? Add Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids into the mix with all his beautiful and fascinating hybrids and there are new wows to tempt you every year.

Next there was the vanda phase; so many colors, sizes and shapes! After that it was the ephemeral stanhopeas. That addiction started with a Stanhopea grandiflora that bloomed eight times in one year. Can you spell hooked? It took a bit of observing how others succeeded with theirs and some trial and error until I could reliably rebloom them and by then I had almost two dozen different varieties. After that came the African angraecoids in their white and green glory, the dendrochilums with their chains of miniature flowers and... well, you get the idea.



Habenaria erichmichelii 'Memoria Ernst Michel' CHM/AOS;  
Photographer: James McCulloch

Roy Tokunaga of H&R Nurseries had some Habenaria medusa seedlings for sale when he came to talk to our club and I had seen pictures of this oddity and thought, why not? When it bloomed, it was love at first sight and the hunt was on for more. There have been many enablers along the way, including Thanh Ngyugen of Springwater Orchids on the East Coast and **Peter T. Lin of Diamond Orchids** on the West Coast and several in between. Before the year was over, there were about two dozen habenarias in the greenhouse, orchids that grow from tubers and require a dry dormant winter.

That's how I found myself outdoors on a cold January afternoon with all these dead-looking plants figuring out how I was going to repot them, so they'd come back to life in the spring. The trickiest part is keeping the tuber oriented, so the shoot end is pointing up and the root end is pointing down, easier said than done in that one end looks pretty much like the other. I think I made the wrong decision on one or two of them last year. For the similarly afflicted, this is what I have gleaned from reading about them and talking with other orchid growers.

**POT SELECTION** First, look for deeper standard size pots rather than the shallower azalea or bulb pots. Don't use peanuts at the bottom of the pot because that's where the tubers will want to form. Use smallish pots; if you think you're slightly underpotting, you've probably chosen the right pot.

**POTTING MIX** Most growers suggest using either sphagnum moss or ProMix HP as your potting mix. I opted for a ProMix HP–sponge rock mix and top-dressed with a little sphagnum moss so the soilless mix wouldn't wash out of the pot. If you use sphagnum moss, make sure you have the AAA grade; otherwise find a good soilless mix. Next year I may try a few in straight sphagnum moss packed tightly enough that the plants will stand up without support.

**WHEN TO REPOT** After flowering, the vegetation starts to brown, and the plants begin to enter dormancy. The tubers are still growing and storing energy for next year's growth, so just limit your watering until the plant dies back completely. Don't be in any hurry to remove the dead top vegetation from the pot because that will help you orient the tubers properly during the repotting process.

**TUBER ORIENTATION** If you just knock the plant out of the pot and clean away the old potting mix like you would with other orchids, you'll find yourself saying oops, which end is up? The first-time repotting, I held the tubers in my hand, oriented top to bottom, from depotting through repotting, to make sure they didn't get turned around. Often you can tell there is a pointy end from which the shoot grows that should be oriented up when you repot. But if you can't tell which end should be up, hedge your bets and lay the tuber sideways.

**THEN YOU WAIT** Once your tuber is happily ensconced in its dry new home, put the pot someplace where it won't accidentally get watered. You have to wait until the tuber breaks dormancy and sends up a new shoot and then you can begin watering. If there is no new growth when all your other orchids have spring fever, you can give your *Habenaria* an occasional sip to encourage it to start growing. Once it has a few inches (several centimeters) of new growth, give it copious amounts of water and fertilizer during the growing season because, like your other winter dormant orchids, it has to cram 12 months of growing into seven or eight months or less. In the fall the bloom spikes will emerge from the center of the plant; get ready for the show!

Orchid growers go through all sorts of trials and tribulations learning how to grow one type of orchid and then when they finally figure it out, they decide to start growing a different type of orchid. It is probably natural that our taste in orchids evolves over time. After all, if you look back at your recipes from several years ago you realize your ingredients and techniques have morphed over time... though you must be careful not to admit to a Louisiana native that you are now adding beans to the gumbo!

— *Sue Bottom started growing orchids in Houston in the mid-1990s after her husband Terry built her first greenhouse. They settled into St. Augustine, Florida, Sue with her orchids and Terry with his camera and are active in the St. Augustine Orchid Society, maintaining the society's website and publishing its monthly newsletter. Sue is also a member of the AOS Publication Committee ([sbottom15@hotmail.com](mailto:sbottom15@hotmail.com)).*

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## News from the American Orchid Society

### MEMBER SURVEY

The AOS Membership team sent out their survey to all AOS members on January 6th. It focuses on members, their orchids, and their AOS membership. Remember that three lucky members who complete the survey will win a one-year print AOS membership. By completing our short survey, you not only become eligible to win, but will help the AOS learn how we can improve the experience as a member. They appreciate everyone's participation.

The deadline to complete the survey is **February 7, 2018**.

Here's the link for the survey: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AOS\\_Members\\_2018](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AOS_Members_2018)



## SAVE THE DATE

The American Orchid Society 2018 Spring Members Meeting is being held in conjunction with the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show and the Cymbidium Society of America Congress on March 7-11, 2018, in Santa Barbara, California. This is sure to be an event not to be missed and we hope to see you there. The registration site is now up at [www.aosmembersmeeting.com](http://www.aosmembersmeeting.com) where you can register for events, and link to the Centric Hyatt for hotel registration. Special hotel rates are being made available and quantities are limited, so book now before it's too late. Please put it in your calendar and let your members know that all AOS members are welcome to join us.

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

It's easy to find all of the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You'll find the link under the [All About Orchids](#) tab. If you check there, you will find any webinars that have been scheduled after the production of the monthly Corner.

### **American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton**

**Tuesday, February 6, 2018 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST Open to all**

Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education and Science Officer, who will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions to [stillisch@cox.net](mailto:stillisch@cox.net) by Friday, February 2nd. Register now using this link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3591894867316552963>

### **Doctor, Doctor, I see spots: Cattleya guttata with Andrew Coghill-Behrends**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST Members only**

Join Andrew Coghill-Behrends as he presents a discussion on *Cattleya guttata* and its hybrids.

Register now using this link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3455364111863945474>

Note: After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the seminar.

**WHAT ARE WEBINARS?** Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

**WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE?** The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

## THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE

will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- Genus of the Month - *Caucaea*
- Orchids Illustrated - Timothy Sheldrake
- For the Novice - Calcium deficiency
- The Story of White Cattleyas
- *Dendrobium bigibbum*, Part 2: The Hybrids
- Who Were These Guys? Part 4: Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach
- Red Vandas

## NEW TO ORCHIDS?

Consider becoming an American Orchid Society member, you'll have considerably more resources at your disposal making growing orchids even more enjoyable and successful. You'll also have Digital Access To Over 350+ past issues of Orchids magazine extending back to 1932! When you join, make sure to let them know that NWOS is your local orchid society.



Vanda Will Riley 'Bonnie Riley' FCC/AOS;  
Photographer: Tom Kuligowski

Let's grow together,

*Denise Lucero*, Vice-Chair, AOS Membership and Affiliated Societies

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## Report from the January Meeting

Abigail Chang, President, opened our meeting with a welcome to everyone, especially new members and first timers. Mike P. then gave our first Orchid Basics talk. As our Representative to the AOS, Mike reviewed the many resources that are available online at [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org). There's great info that's appropriate for Beginners to seasoned growers. It was very helpful to learn how to navigate this wonderful orchid website.



**Orchid Culture Clinic**

Joe G. updated us with NWF&G Show news and put out a request for volunteers.

Abigail requested help from our membership for two open volunteer positions: Show Committee Chair and an additional person to help with the Audit Committee. She also announced that the AOS Judging Center would be having it's final meetings Feb. 17th at the Mt. Baker Orchid Society Show and March 17th back in Seattle.

Georg G. gave Al K. and Barb R. their award money from the Puyallup Fair. He also asked for us to share our blooming plants for the upcoming NWF&G Show as well as the Mt. Baker Orchid Society Show. Mike F. announced that our February speaker, Peter Lin, is taking pre-orders with a 10% discount.

Our meeting program was a very informative Orchid Culture Clinic. Panelists Mike Foster, George Grantham and Mike Pearson inspected plants, answered questions and dispensed excellent advice on a variety of orchid issues. It was a hands-on session with examples of many different orchid cultural questions. Thanks to everyone who brought plants so we could all learn from their examples.

George Krasle reviewed the plant table.

Photos: Diane Drisch



George G. take a close look at Steve's plant before offering his experienced opinion



Phal. Ever Spring Prince 'Pretty Cat', Joff Morgan



Phragmipedium kovachii,  
Matt McCarty



Mike F. shows us the plant that Thuan has brought with some cultural questions



George K reviews a fabulously full plant table



George G checks out the Haraella



Haraella retrocalla - Peloric form,  
Susan O'Connell



Phal. hybrid, Thuan V Nguyen



Phalaenopsis, Joff Morgan



Cymbidium sinense var. dou,  
Gordon Cromwell



Lycaste,  
Matt McCarty





*Dendrochilum* sp. (poss. filiforme),  
George & Cylvia Grantham



*Dendrochilum* sp. (poss. filiforme),  
Abigail Chang & Mike Pearson



*Dendrochilum tenellum*,  
Abigail Chang & Mike Pearson



*Isabellia pulchella*,  
George Krasle



*Stenorrhynchos speciosum* 'C.H.'  
x sib, Steve Dorsey & Lori Lederman



*Stenorrhynchos speciosum*,  
George Krasle



*Epidendrum* species, George Krasle



*Coelogyne*, Steve Dorsey & Lori Lederman







Laelia gouldiana, dark form,  
George Krasle



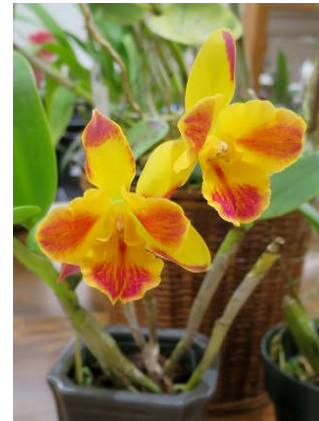
Lc. Molly Tyler FCC/AOS,  
Matt McCarty



L. finckeniana, natural hybrid of L. albida x L. anceps, George Krasle



Blc. Charming Jewel 'Marisa',  
Gordon Cromwell



Pot. Burana Beauty 'Burana',  
George & Cylvia Grantham



Slc. Estella Jewell 'Kazumura' AM/AOS,  
George & Cylvia Grantham

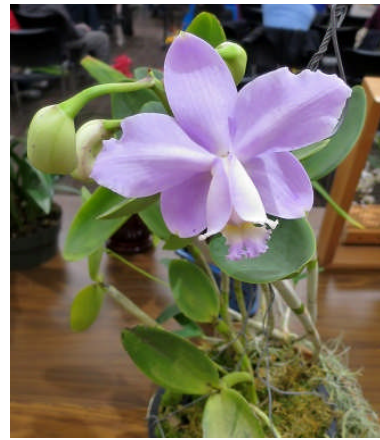


Cattleya,  
Matt McCarty

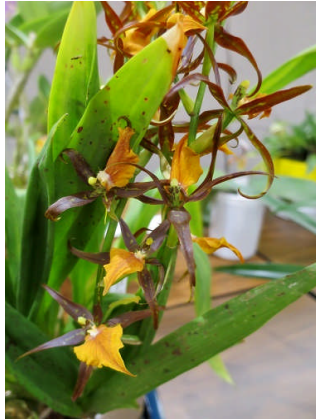




*C. walkeriana semi-alba 'Kenny'*,  
Steve Dorsey & Lori Lederman



*Cattleya loddigesii*,  
George & Cylvia Grantham



Adgm. Summit 'French Town' AM/AOS (*Odontoglossum bictoniense* x *Ada keiliana*),  
Steve Dorsey & Lori Lederman



*Brassia Rex*,  
Thuan V Nguyen



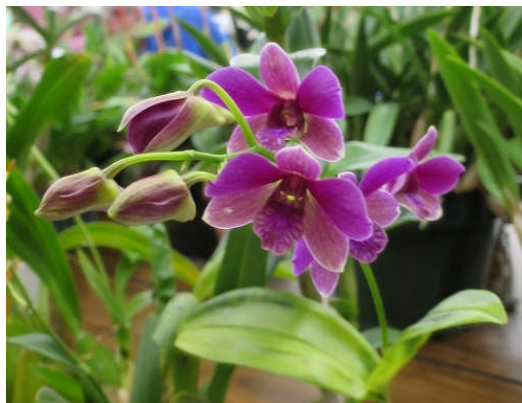
*Dendrobium (nobile type)*,  
Gordon Cromwell



Den. Gillieston Jazz 'Steven' x  
Den. Tosca Starburst 'Red Wine',  
Alberto Alvarez



*Dendrobium Roy Tokunaga*,  
Rohm Gustafson



*Dendrobium hybrid*,  
Nancy Wright



*Dendrobium subuliferum*,  
Susan O'Connell





*Dendrobium delicatum*,  
George & Sylvia Grantham



*Odontioda* hybrid,  
George Krasle



*Odontonia* Avril Gay 'Valtemor'



*Odontoglossum nobile*



*Oncidium* hybrid, Nancy Wright



*Oncidium* hybrid, Gordon Cromwell



*Oncidium maculatum*, Michael Cory

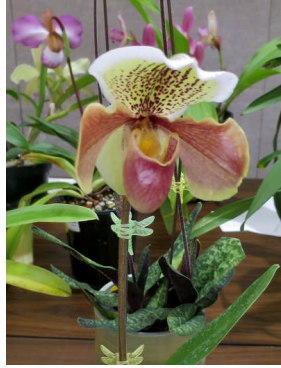




Oncida. Chaculatum 'Golden Pacific',  
Nancy Wright



Oncostele (colmanara) 'Masai Red',  
Gordon Cromwell



Paph. Bloodline 'Christmas Red'  
x Paph. John Hainsworth 'Red  
Please',  
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



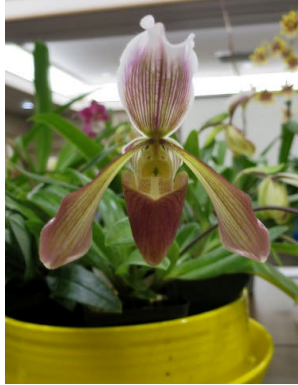
Paph. Bloodline 'Christmas Red'  
x Paph. John Hainsworth 'Red  
Please',  
George & Sylvia Grantham



Paph. (Red Phantom x Jim Iverson)  
x Edward Marshall Boehm,  
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



Paph. spicerianum,  
Rohm Gustafson



Paph. dalatense,  
Thuan V Nguyen



Paph. Hellas 'Westonbirt' FCC/RHS x Paph. Duncan  
York 'Southard' AM/AOS,  
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



Paph. Nori's Song,  
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



Paph. venustum hybrid,  
Thuan V Nguyen



Phrag. Waunakee Wonder 'High  
Point HCC/AOS x dalessandroi',  
Abigail Chang & Mike Pearson



*Pleurothallis rowleei*,  
Abigail Chang & Mike Pearson



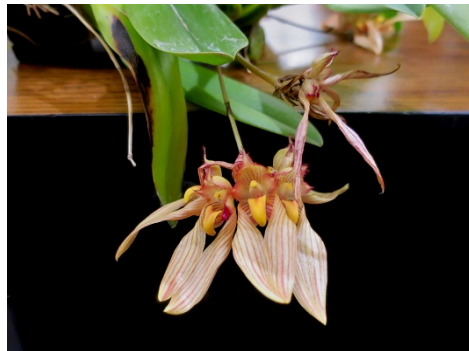
*Pleurothallis truncata*,  
George Krasle



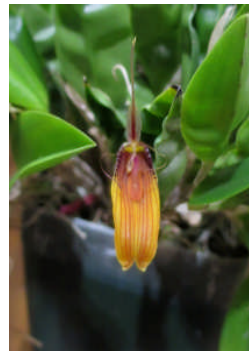
*Pleuro restrepioides* (fritillaria),  
George Krasle



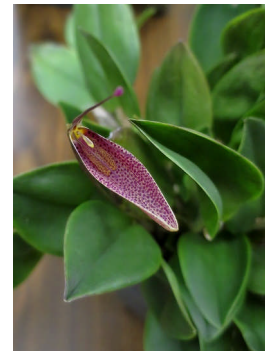
*Stelis superbiens* closeup  
Abigail Chang & Mike Pearson



*Bulbophyllum longissimum*,  
Matt McCarty



*Restrepia brachypus*,  
George Krasle



*Restrepia sanguinea*,  
George Krasle

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## Schedule of Upcoming Events

**Feb. 7-11, 2018** - Northwest Flower and Garden Show

**Feb. 12, 2018** - NWOS meeting - Speaker: Peter Lin, "Mini Catts: Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature"

**Feb. 17-18, 2018** - Mt. Baker Orchid Society Show, Mt. Vernon, WA

**Feb. 17, 2018** - AOS Judging Center, monthly judging at the Mt. Baker Orchid Society Show

**March 12, 2018** - NWOS meeting - Annual Orchid Auction

**March 19, 2018** - NWOS Workshop - Hands-On Potting Clinic

**March 17, 2018** - AOS Judging Center, monthly judging, 12:30 pm - Final judging

**March 24-25, 2018** - Spokane Orchid Society Show and Sale

**April 9, 2018** - NWOS meeting - Speaker: Dr. Raymond Cloyd, "Sustainable Pest Control"

**May 14, 2018** - NWOS meeting - Speaker: Wally Orchard, "Growing South African Disa"

**June 11, 2018** - NWOS meeting - Annual Meeting, Gary Baker Service Award and Potluck Dinner

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### **Reminder for Officers & Board Members**

The schedule of Board Meetings for this fiscal year is: 3/6/18, 5/8/18. Meet at 7 p.m. at Mike & Sheila Cory's house unless notified that it's been moved elsewhere.

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### **Shopping on Amazon? Use this link to Earn \$\$ for NWOS**

If you go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and sign in to your account, you'll be given information about supporting various non-profits. You can type in "Northwest Orchid Society" and it will then send .5% of your purchase price to the organization.

It's really easy, but you have to remember to go in through the 'smile' subdomain when you place the order, otherwise it will go through as a regular order.

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### **NWOS Website Links**

- Main website: <Http://www.nwos.org>
  - Events Calendar: <http://www.nwos.org/events>
  - Membership (including renewals): <http://www.nwos.org/membership>
  - Newsletter - Current Issue: <http://newsletter.nwos.org>
  - Newsletter - Back Issues: <http://newsletter.nwos.org/archives/index.htm>
  - Show Information: <http://newsletter.nwos.org/Show2017>
  - Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/nworchidsociety>
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### **Special Announcements**

No Special Announcements this month.