



NORTHWEST ORCHID NEWS

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Want something printed in the newsletter? E-mail it to nwos_news@nwos.org no later than the 25th of the month.



May 2018

Volume 71, Issue 10

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About the May Meeting

May 14, 2018 7:00 p.m.

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

Orchid Basics

Presentation is an important part of enjoying your orchid blooms. So this month's session will be a demonstration of various techniques to stake your orchid flower stems. Cylvia Grantham, Diane Drisch and Abigail Chang will show a number of different staking methods.

Speaker: Walter Orchard, "Disas of the Western Cape, South Africa"

Our May speaker, Walter Orchard, will delight us with the fantastic Disas from South Africa. He will have some Disa plants for sale at the meeting, so get ready to learn about something different.

Walter Orchard hails originally from South Africa. He became interested in Disas through his father, who grew them successfully near Cape Town.

In 1992 he and his wife Christine left South Africa and settled in the state of Washington. In 2007 they retired to Yachats on the central Oregon coast where the local climate and water supply are ideal for Disa growing. Walter's Disa collection is hosted by Jim Rassmann, in nearby Florence.

When not tending to his orchids he can be found fixing trails around Yachats, pulling invasive weeds, playing bridge or baking artisan bread.

E-mail: worchard@peak.org Website: <https://afrodisa.weebly.com/>

Display Table:

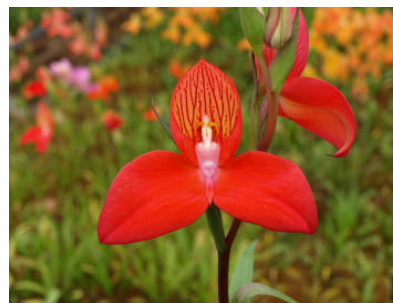
Bring your blooming Orchids so everyone can enjoy them.

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.



Disa uniflora
"The Pride of Table Mountain"

NWOS Library:

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

Oregon Orchid Society Show a Success

The Oregon Orchid Society Show and Sale was held April 21-22. The layout of the show was different this year as the host society's display was divided into several smaller table displays on round tables. Judges and the public were able to see all the plants up close, and related genera tended to be clustered on the same table. This format had the aesthetic appeal of traditional orchid displays with some of the practical advantages of a bench show. The Cherry City Orchid Society (Salem OR) had a very nice display, as did the Portland Orchid Society and also Oscar Allen Nursery whose display featured bromeliads as well as orchids. In general, the quality of plants in the displays was exceptional.

Our own display included 35 plants from 6 members. Allan Kaas' *Jumella sagittata* was AOS nominated. Lillian Otani sent three large *Cymbidiums* including a gorgeous red (*Cym. Rolf Bolin*) that won "Best *Cymbidium* in Show." Lillian attended the show on Sunday and assisted with teardown. Thank you Lillian! Also sending plants were Mike Foster and Donna Pierce, Mike Pearson and Abigail Chang, Joff Morgan and Cylvia and I. Thanks to all the above and to all other members who have generously loaned their plants for displays during this past year.

This was the last show of the season that will include an NWOS display. The next show that we are planning to attend is the Tri Cities show in Kennewick on October 6-7. A month later we will be displaying in our own show at Swanson's Nursery. Please let me know if you would like to help with displays in either of these events.

George Grantham, 2nd Vice President

Photos: George and Cylvia Grantham



NWOS display at the Oregon Orchid Society Show



Jumellea sagittata, Allan Kaas
AOS nominated



Bifernaria harrisonae, Allan Kaas
These flowers are short lived so it was lucky they were in bloom for the show



Cymbidium Rolf Bolin, Lillian Otani
"Best *Cymbidium* Orchid in Show"

The Summer Doldrums

How to Care for Orchids During the Wilds of Summertime

By Ron McHatton with Photographs by Greg Allikas

From the May 2012 issue of Orchids Magazine

SUMMER PRESENTS CHALLENGES in the form of increased pest activity, fungal and bacterial problems in traditionally wet areas and desiccation in those areas with Mediterranean-like climates where summers are typically quite dry. Careful observation of your plants is the best way to identify small problems before they become big problems, and in the summer, the time between these two events is dramatically shorter due to higher temperatures.

PEST CONTROL For small collections, the best thing to do is to physically wipe insects off and clean the plant. Isopropyl alcohol and a cotton swab are effective against most pests and if you want to increase its effectiveness, a drop of Ivory dishwashing liquid added to the alcohol helps wet the typically waxy surface of orchid leaves. If you haven't been watching carefully and the infestation gets out of control, you might have to use chemicals. Few pesticides are specifically rated for use on orchids, but you can use any that are labeled for ornamentals. Use care and follow the label directions. This is not a situation where if a little is good, more will be better.

In areas with dry summers, mites can be a serious problem, especially on phalaenopsis. These creatures attack the surface of the leaves producing a sort of rough silvery appearance. Mites are not insects and insecticides offer little or no control. Mites do not like humid conditions so efforts to increase humidity are beneficial. Light infestations can be controlled by thoroughly cleaning plants but in hot, dry climates light infestations rapidly become serious and control is best accomplished by the use of a miticide.

In areas with wet summers, wet foliage and high humidity encourage the spread of fungal and bacterial diseases. Bacterial diseases do not respond to fungicides and vice versa so it's important to know which disease you are dealing with. Perhaps the easiest way to distinguish between the two is by smell. The most common bacterial disease in orchids produces a foul smell often likened to dead fish. If you've ever had cut flowers stand too long in water, you know the sort of smell we're talking about.

Diseases can spread quickly. Bacterial diseases kill plants especially rapidly and time is of the essence. Both bacterial and fungal diseases are spread by splashing water, and this includes rainfall. Use a clean cutting tool such as a single-edge razor blade, cut off the infected tissue as well as at least an inch (2.5 cm) of clean, green area and then treat the cut surface with a fungicide. Even if the problem is bacterial, you don't want a fungal infection to start in the wound. Cinnamon — the common spice — is effective against fungal diseases and can be used to coat the cut surface. It's perhaps not as effective as a chemical fungicide but it's readily available and does work.

Where it's wet, keep your plants as dry as possible. Alternatively, provide a lot of air movement. When you water, try to do so as early in the day as possible. This will allow adequate time for the foliage to dry before nightfall.

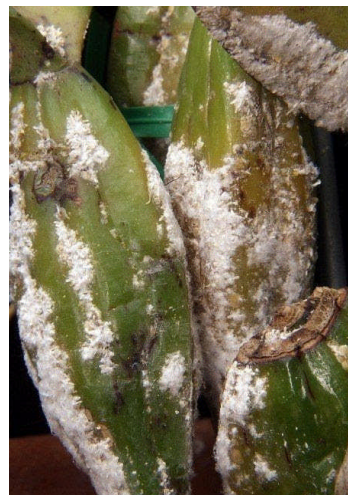
In dry-summer areas, the bane of orchid growers is extremely low humidity, and this leads to two issues. The first of these is an increase in the rate at which plants dry out and the other is the ever-presence of mites.

Orchids in dry-summer areas dry out much more rapidly

than they did in the winter. Depending on temperature, plants watered every two weeks in the winter may need to be watered every few days in the summer. Here again, nothing will take the place of careful observation. If you have an extensive collection of plants, you might want to consider installing a misting system similar to those used in open-air restaurants in dry areas. Low-pressure units that install on hose lines are inexpensive and work reasonably well to raise humidity as well as cool the growing area somewhat.

SUMMER SUN How does sun affect orchids? Solar radiation is much more intense in the summer and plants that have been thriving in full sun all winter may need a little extra protection (shade) when the sun is at its strongest or, often during the late afternoon, when the temperatures are highest. Orchids are easily sunburned and you should take care when moving plants around, especially if you are moving plants grown inside during the winter to a spot outside for the summer. Sunburn, while not in itself a serious problem is irreversible and will make your plants look ugly. In serious cases the plant can be killed outright and any leaf damage is an invitation to a secondary infection in the damaged area.

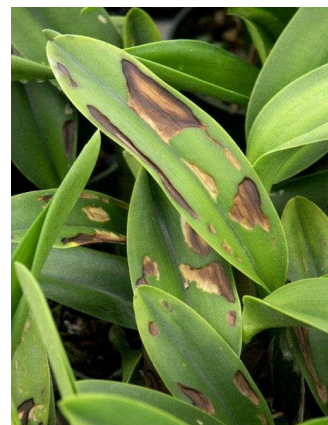
Orchid foliage should be a light yellow-green. The first sign of too much light is often yellow foliage. If left alone, this yellow foliage will eventually turn white and then dark brown and dry as the sunburned area dries out. If the problem is caught before the chlorophyll has been completely destroyed it is often possible to reverse the damage. Once white spots or sunken areas have appeared, the damage is irreversible and the best thing one can do is stop further progression with more shade.



Scale, particularly Boisduval scale illustrated on this cattleya plant, is a serious pest on orchids. Dried pseudobulb sheaths should be removed at repotting to inspect for these insects.



Sudden increases in light levels will burn orchid foliage as illustrated here on this *Bifrenaria harrisoniae* leaf. While small sunburned spots aren't really detrimental to the plant, they are unsightly and remain for the life of the leaf.



The damage to these hybrid cattleya leaves is heat stress and not sunburn. At high enough temperatures the leaf tissue is killed, resulting in the collapse illustrated here.

CAPITALIZING ON THE HIGH-GROWTH SEASON Because of increased light and temperatures, your plants will benefit from more fertilizer (increased frequency, not concentration). This is especially true for those varieties that put out new growth during this time. Avoid fertilizers that contain significant amounts of urea (formulations with more than 20 percent nitrogen). Urea nitrogen is much less readily available to orchids in soilless mixes than ammoniacal and nitrate forms.

Plants will also dry out faster. To avoid root damage, water plants before fertilizing; the roots will be wet and less easily damaged by the salts in the fertilizer solution.

If you grow your plants inside during the cooler months, moving them outside for the summer is often beneficial and your plants will respond with renewed vigor. Remember, make the transition slowly. Place them under heavy shade for a few days, then somewhat less shade for a few days and then move them to their summer homes, paying attention to the color of the foliage. You'll be glad you did.

News from the American Orchid Society

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

Make sure to check out the new Digital Archive Search available for *Orchids* magazine! As an AOS member, with access to past issues, you are now able to search over 2,050 articles by date ranges and key word. It's so useful to be able to quickly locate info on a specific species or to find that article you read and wanted to go back to when you can't quite remember which issue it was in.



Make sure to catch AOS President, Susan Wedegaertner's, message in the May issue of *Orchids*. She shares well deserved honors awarded to several people who have contributed on the national level.

The American Orchid Society is an organization that runs on its generous volunteers and a very small number of paid staff. NWOS society members can participate at the national level for anything from project work to full committee participation. Look at the list of National Volunteer Committees listed in *Orchids* magazine to find a list of all committees you might be interested in and their contact e-mails. Just drop them a line. They're a great group of people and always looking for new volunteers and fresh ideas. The Affiliated Societies Committee always welcome AOS members to join us. If you'd like to join us you can reach us at affiliated_societies_committee@aos.org.

Remember to check out <http://www.aos.org/orchids/kids-corner.aspx> recap for more ideas and suggestions for Kid's activities and ideas for making a Kids' Corner of your own at your next orchid show. All it takes is some crafty people, some loving volunteers and a table. The activities can all be created easily. See other articles for instructions on how to create the activities we've tested out or make up your own great activities. Please share your ideas and experiences with the education Committee at sstubbings@comcast.net.

Thanks for all the pics that you are sending in for the Instagram feed. Our Instagram Administrator, Candace Hollinger, sends her appreciation to you all. It's wonderful to see such a variety of everything orchid that's enjoyed around the globe. The AOS would love our pics of how we grow, what's blooming now or anything we love about orchids. Please continue to send your photos and short videos to: americanorchidsociety@gmail.com. Be sure to send a short caption explaining your photo. Also, if you are bilingual and can include your caption in English plus your other language(s)—it will help with our universal outreach.

Remember to check-in on our Facebook Group Page for Affiliated Societies of the American Orchid Society. Let us know how your show went and what was successful for you or what didn't quite make the mark. We always help each other by sharing. Our administrator, Chad Brinkerhuff, monitors the feed and is a great resource for all that the AOS has to offer. Keep us up to date on what's going on at your local society and let us know how we can help you.

UPCOMING WEBINARS

It's easy to find 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

**Wednesday, May 16th, 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 you questions to stillisch@cox.net by Sunday, May 13th.

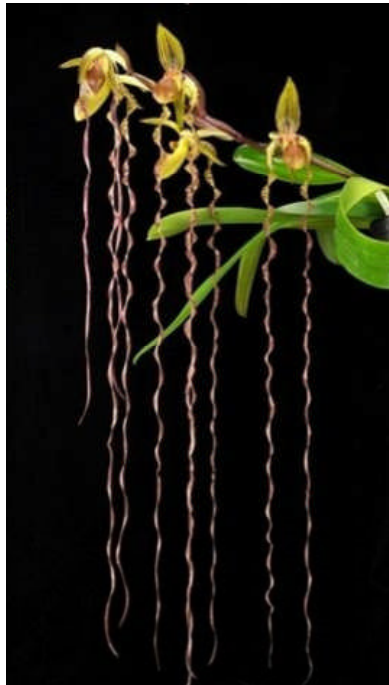
Register now using this link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3940385080263812610>

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.



Paphiopedilum sanderianum 'HOF Best'
AM/AOS; Photographer: Glen Barfield

join AOS today! If you become an American Orchid Society member, you have considerably more resources at your disposal making growing orchids even more enjoyable and successful.

Plus your get Digital Access To Over 350+ past issues of Orchids magazine extending back to 1932!

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 MAY ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE

- Genus of the Month - *Rhynchostele*
- Orchids Illustrated - *Vanilla*
- The New Refugium Botanicum: *Lycaste tricolor*
- For the Novice - *Citric Acid for pH adjustment of High-Alkalinity Water*
- The Cypripediums of the United States and Canada, Part 1 - *The parviflorum Complex*
- *Dendrobium bigibbum*, Part 4: Recent Hybrids with Section Latouria
- *Paphiopedilum sanderianum*

Join the AOS

We want to sweeten the deal and give you every possible reason to



Bulbophyllum Meen March Madness 'Sister Jean'
AM/AOS; Photographer: Irma Saldaña



Rhyncholaeliocattleya First Class 'Strawberry Milk' AM/AOS;
Photographer: H. A. Russell III

**ALSO FEATURED IN ORCHIDS
MAGAZINE!**

16-page award gallery of breath taking pictures of recently awarded orchids.

**RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON
THE AOS WEBSITE:**

See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new "Latest Orchid Awards" page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. Free to members and non-members.

Let's grow together, *Denise Lucero*, Vice-Chair, AOS Membership and Affiliated Societies

Report from the April Meeting

Michael Cory began our meeting with his Orchid Basics talk about Jay Pfahl's Orchid Encyclopedia Website (<http://www.orchidspecies.com/>) a great place to learn about over 22,000 orchid species. Our president, Abigail Chang, then welcomed new people and visitors. Joe G. spoke about the library. Mike Foster has agreed to be our Show Chair and asked for our help. We still have a couple of Board positions open for Volunteers. Georg G. gave a report about the recent shows at other societies. He also called on all of us to give him nominations for the upcoming Gary Baker Award.



Brenda Oviatt

Mike Foster introduced the evening's speaker, Brenda Oviatt from Botanica Ltd, in Missoula, MT. Her talk entitled "Angraecoid Orchids - Keeping a Piece of Nature Alive" began with a good description and understanding of the conditions in their native habitat. These plants are in danger in their native lands due to poverty, loss of habitat, extinction of their insect pollinators, not just the loss of the actual orchid plants. She and others are working hard to provide ex-situ conservation of as many Angraecoids as possible.

The second half of her very well-done and interesting talk reviewed the best growing practices for these monopodial, Vandaceous and very highly evolved group of orchids. She discussed their dormancy, their temperamental roots, how to repot or mount them and their preferred growing conditions. She encouraged each of us to choose a species or geographic region to adopt and grow plants in order to conserve them for the future.

Joe Griener reviewed the plant table.

Photos: Diane Drisch



Brenda helps with choosing
the right plant



getting ready



checking out the plant table during break



Brenda likes taking Mike's money as much as he seems to enjoy handing it over



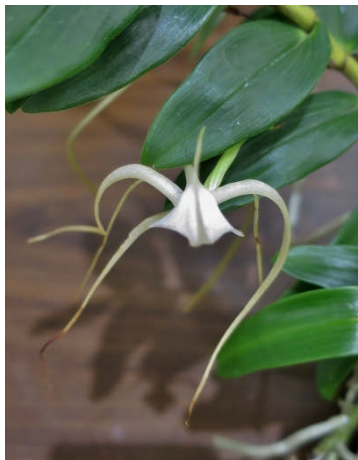
setting up the plant table



Joe G. and plant table



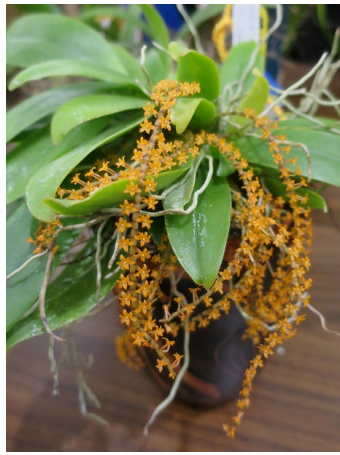
Angraecum viguieri x self, Brenda Oviatt



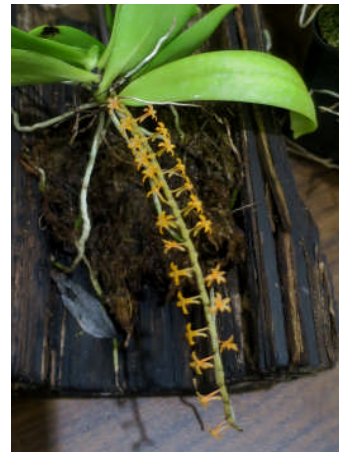
Angraecum germinyanum x sib,
Mike Pearson & Abigail Chang



Microterangis hariotiana
'Big Sky Tamarin', Brenda Oviatt



Aerangis hildebrandtii,
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



Aerangis hildebrandtii,
Mike Pearson & Abigail Chang



Chiloschista viridiflava



Pholidota chinense, Mike Pearson & Abigail Chang



Showing a great Phrag.



Phrag. warscewiczianum 'Botanica's Rapunzel',
Brenda Oviatt



Phragmipedium wollisii 'Marisa's Maypole',
Brenda Oviatt



Phragmipedium Belle Hough Point,
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



Phrag. Cardinale, Harvey Brenneise



Phragmipedium Peruflora's Cirila Alca, Harvey Brenneise



Paph. appletonianum,
Mike Pearson & Abigail Chang



Paph. hainanense,
Mike Pearson & Abigail Chang



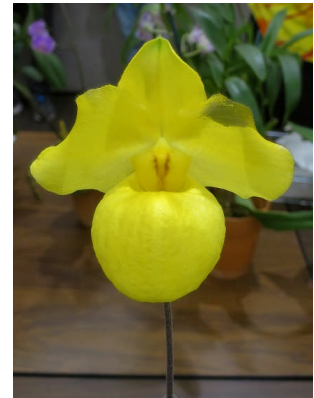
Paph. wilhelminiae,
Dick Hanson



Paph. Shun-Fa-Golden (malipoense x
hangianum), Dick Hanson



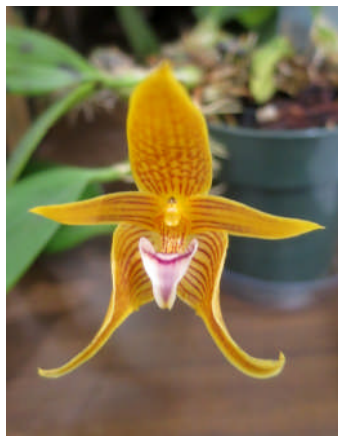
Paphiopedilum ciliolare,
Dick Hanson



Paph. armeniacum x sib.,
Dick Hanson



Epi hybrid, George Krasle



Bulbophyllum smitinandii,
Barb Roberts



Masdevallia ignea 'Valentine',
Mike Pearson & Abigail Chang



Cirrhopetalum Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry', Steve Dorsey



Pleurothallis grobyi, George Krasle



Porroglossum schramii, George Krasle



Phal. equestris var. orange ('sunkist' x self),
Dick Hanson



Phal. equestris var. Aureum (Seagrove's Gabriel),
Dick Hanson



Phal. Little Mary 'Cherry Blossom',
Harvey Brenneise



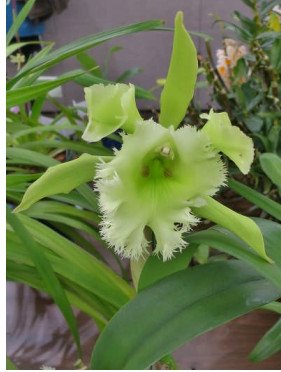
Phal. hybrid,
Al Kaas



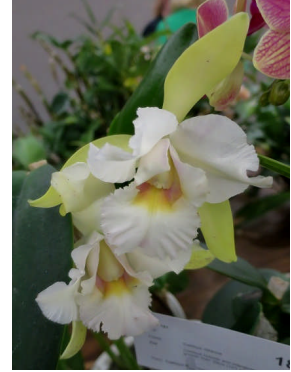
Phalaenopsis,
Thuan Nguyen



C. Intermedia var. alba 'pineknott',
Thuan Nguyen



Blc Ruben's Verde,
Matt Godlove



Cattleya,
Thuan Nguyen



Lc Christian Star 'Aloha', Randy Daleja



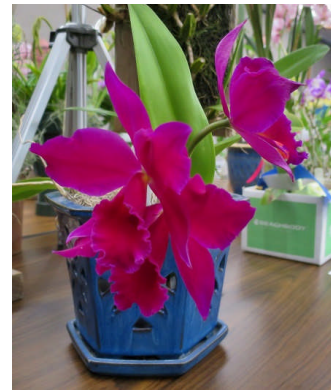
Lc Straight Answer 'No Question', Matt Godlove



Potinara (Newberry Delight x Dream
Circle), Joff Morgan



Potinara (L. anceps x Pot. Love Passion)
'Hsinying', George Krasle



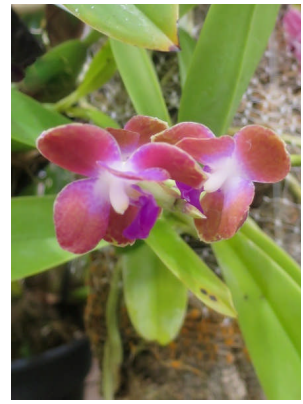
Slc Red Heart 'Neptune',
Steve Dorsey



Trigonidium sagarikii,
Matt Godlove



Trigonidium latifolium,
Al Kaas



Vandopsis parishii,
Al Kaas



Den. Nestor 'Sweet Fragrance',
Ron Webb



Den. China Dream 'Crystal',
Harvey Brenneise



Den. Second Love 'Spring
Festival', Ron Webb



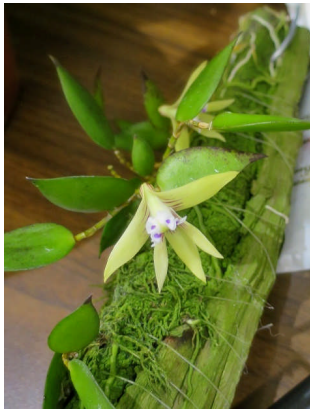
Den. Dream 'Ace',
Joff Morgan



Den. trantuanii x sib,
Mike Pearson & Abigail Chang



Dendrobium thrysiflorum, George Krasle



Dendrobium pugioniforme,
George Krasle



Sarcochilus, Erika Dyer



Dendrobium Pumpkin Patch,
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



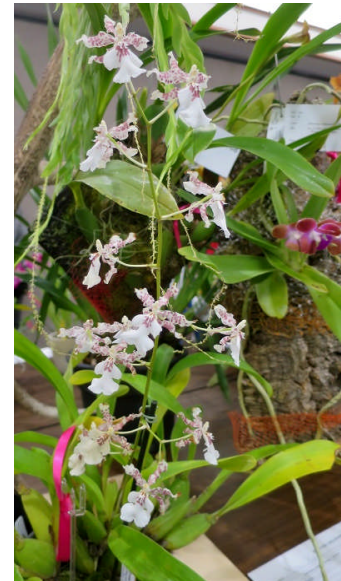
Coelogyne corymbosa,
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



Dendrochilum propinquum,
Harvey Brenneise



Encyclia atropurpurea, George Krasle



Oncidium Speckled Spire 'Snowflake', Al Kaas



Bifrenaria harrisonii, George Krasle



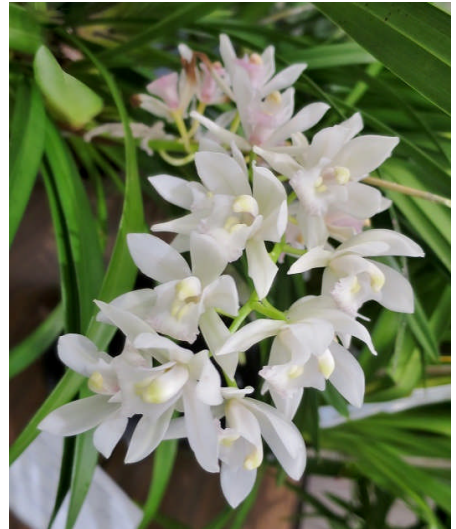
Leptotes bicolor,
Mike Foster & Donna Pierce



Maxillaria picta, Mike Pearson & Abigail Chang



Cochlodia rosea, Robert Culver



Cym Ice Castle, Lillian Otani



Cymbidium,
Lillian Otani



3 Cymbidiums including Cym. (Cyndy Lou
'Geyeserland' 4n x Cym parishii 'Emma Mennigo' 4n),
Jamie Notman



Cymbidium,
Erika Dyer



Cymbidium,
George & Cylvia Grantham



2 Cymbidiums, Al Kaas



Cymbidium, Lillian Otani



Cymbidium, Thuan Nguyen



Milt. Boulivout, Robert Culver



Milt. Morris Chestnut 'H171', Robert Culver

Schedule of Upcoming Events

May 14, 2018 - NWOS meeting - Speaker: Wally Orchard, "Disas of the Western Cape, South Africa"

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

Reminder for Officers & Board Members

The schedule of Board Meetings for this membership year is: 5/8/18, 7/10/18, 9/4/18, 11/6/18. Meet at 7 p.m. at Mike & Sheila Cory's house unless notified that it's been moved elsewhere.

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](http://smile.amazon.com)' subdomain when you place the order, otherwise it will go through as a regular order.

NWOS Website Links

- Main website: [Http://www.nwos.org](http://www.nwos.org)
- Events Calendar: <http://www.nwos.org/events>
- Membership (including renewals): <http://newsletter.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>

Special Announcements

No Special Announcements this month.

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