



Newsletter of the National Capital Orchid Society

August 2021

NCOS Calendar of Events:

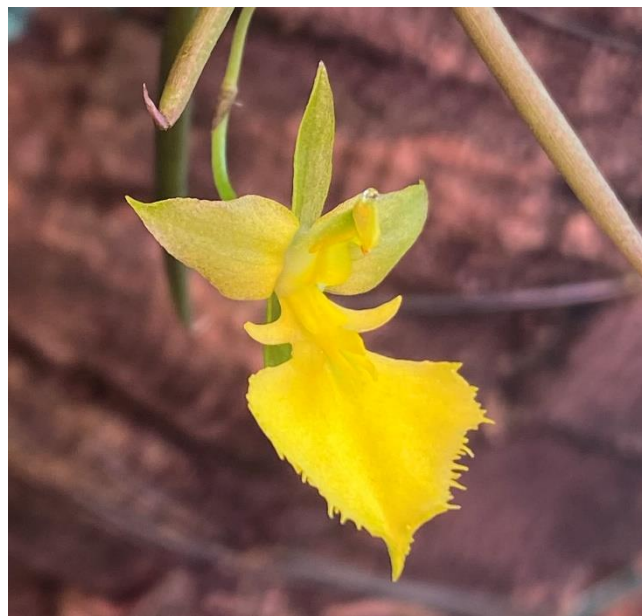
Monthly Meetings

- September 20th: Arthur E. Chadwick, Cattleyas (Location TBD)
- October 18th: Bill Goldner, Woodstream Orchids
- November 15th: Francisco Miranda
- December: Holiday Party (fingers crossed)

Members Picnic- September 26th, 2021 (3-6 PM)

Board Meetings:

- September 12th, 2021 (Date Changed)
- November 7th, 2021



Tolumnia calochila grown by Robert Jefferies. A beautiful miniature orchid growing on a mount under lights.

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Phalaenopsis bellina 'Krulls Perfection' FCC/AOS
Grown by Nancy Mountford. Nancy grows in a greenhouse in Southern Maryland.



Message from the President: Roddy Gabel



As we slide into August, we are tentatively looking forward to getting back to normal operations in the coming months, with meetings and other events that our members can attend in person.

However, as we ramp up to organize more of these live activities, we are reminded that NCOS, like most small non-profit organizations, depends on volunteers to make these things happen.

Volunteerism is at the core of everything we do: our Officers and Committee Chairs all donate their time and efforts to manage the finances of the society and to plan and organize programs and activities that enhance our members' orchid-growing experience. It takes individual members who are willing to step forward with willing hands to make these things happen. (When I was Show Chairman, about 40 NCOS members volunteered to help with set-up, tear-down, helping to provide food for volunteers and judges, assisting with judging, helping with sales, greeting visitors and answering questions, and more—there is something for every skill level!)

Aside from providing support for the society, volunteering has its own rewards: you get to know other people in the society, who share their experiences to help each other be better growers, and often they know where to find that special plant you've been looking for! Individuals who serve as program chairman or host out-of-town speakers get to

know key individuals in the orchid world, who also are a wealth of knowledge, in addition to being great people.

In this issue, NCOS Vice President Jason Gebbia is providing a list of positions for which we need volunteers. Don't be afraid that you'll be thrown into the deep end without a life preserver. Senior members of the Board and past Officers and Committee Chairs have a track record of helping and mentoring those who are willing to step forward. Please consider taking on one of these roles.



Mormolyca rufescens Grown by Robert Jeffries



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Volunteer Opportunities to Help the Organization Thrive

- In 2022 we will have multiple openings on the board and within the committees. A full list is on page 9. Please consider lending your talents to the society. We need your help to continue to deliver quality content to our society members, be an active member to the greater orchid community, and a resource to new and experienced enthusiasts.
- **Website:** As we update the website, we need help reviewing and updating the content that we will be using. Please email if you are interested in helping refresh our content.
- **Social Media:** We have opportunities to help manage the society Instagram and Facebook accounts. Activities would include posting content and working with others to make the accounts engaging for both members and non-members.

NCOS Announcements and News

- Many thanks to **Chelsea Naylor** for her work on the NCOS Instagram page. Chelsea managed the content for over three years, helping us create a presence online beyond our website and Facebook page. Chelsea will be stepping away from this as she returns to school in the fall. Thank you, Chelsea, for your dedication and hard work!
- **Thank you for your help!** So many great pictures have come in, but **we need more** to keep the newsletter and the website packed with pictures. You can use this [form](#) to send pictures or send them to membership.ncos@gmail.com.
- September Meeting: Our speaker, Arthur Chadwick, will be bringing plants for sale and has offered to accept pre-orders for larger plants or divisions listed on his [site](#).
- Don't forget to **support NCOS on Amazon Smile**. We are now a registered charitable organization. Once you select NCOS as your giving partner, Amazon donates a portion of what you spend to the NCOS.



Lepanthes telipogoniflora Grown by: Robert Jeffries

Welcome New Members!

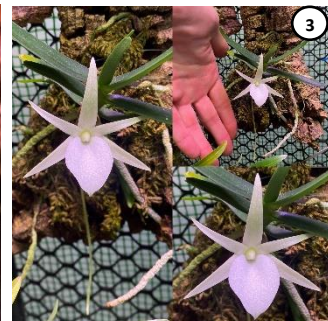
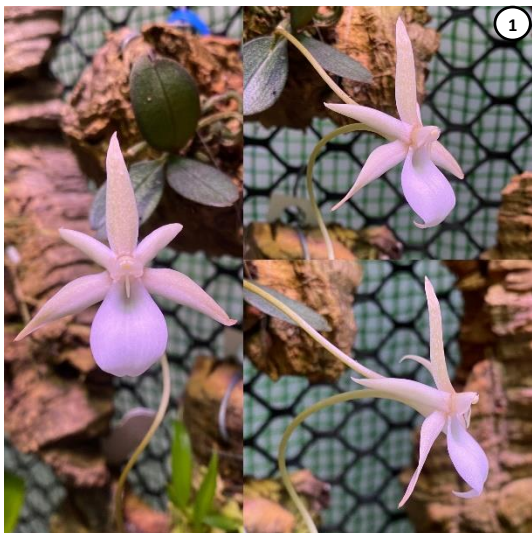
Emily Raynor, Washington, DC

Roseann Flyte, Maryland

If you are interested in contributing to the newsletter, let Jason Gebbia know (jasong1799@gmail.com) and we can include your piece in an upcoming newsletter.



NCOS Member Brag Board



Grown by Robert Jefferies. Robert grows under lights.

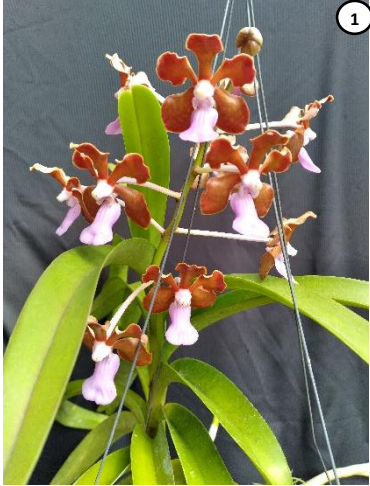
1. *Aerangis punctata*
2. *Cattleya (Sophronitis) mantiqueira*
3. *Angraecum elephantinum*
4. *Bulbophyllum speciosum*
5. *Bulbophyllum tentaculiferum*
6. *Lepanthes calodictyon*

Have something blooming you want to share?

Send pictures and a brief description of how you grow it to membership.ncos@gmail.com or use this [form](#) and we will include it in an upcoming newsletter.



NCOS Member Brag Board



Grown by Robin Collins. Robin grows in a greenhouse in Virginia.

1. *Vanda Crystelle Smith*
2. *Phragmipedium Sargent Eric 'Windy Hill'*
3. *Papilionanda Nonthaburi*
4. *Vanda tricolor'*
5. *Spathoglottis 'Moonlit Grape Swirl'*



Grown by Nancy Mountford. 1) *Encyclia tampensis* v *alba* 2) *Brassia thyrsoidea* 'Jen' HCC/AOS
Nancy grows in a greenhouse in Southern Maryland. The *Brassia* has two spikes and has been blooming for a month.



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Photo: Barbara Fennelly

Monthly Culture Checklist

- ☐ For Catasetinea growers, your plants should be in full growth mode. Keeping them wet and feeding them regularly will help their new growths mature. As the plants run through the heart of the growing season be sure to keep their roots safe (no more repotting until next year).
- ☐ High humidity and warm temperatures create ideal conditions for bacterial and fungal infections. Keep a close eye on your plants to ensure you are able to catch these before they spread.
- ☐ Keep a close eye on plants for pest populations. Many insects are in enjoying the growing conditions that your plants are and pests that produce multiple generations a season will be well into their 2nd or 3rd. If you miss them now, they will quickly become a real threat to your collection.

For more resources check out the culture page at [AOS](#) or Sunset Valley Orchids (Catasetinae).

Culture Column: Australian Dendrobium

Australian Dendrobiums are slowly gaining popularity in the U.S. Native to Australia (as their name implies), these plants look a little different from their non-Australian cousins. You can tell if your plants are Aussie Dendrobiums by their distinctive starburst-shaped blooms. They tolerate cooler temperatures than their Asiatic cousins and can produce multiple bloom cycles off a single bulb.

Light:

Bright light is best for these plants. In our area, growing them outdoors during the summer is a great solution where they are receiving extended hours of bright light throughout the day. The leaves should be a light green when they are receiving their optimum light requirements.

Potting Media:

Mature plants appreciate a chunky potting mix. Large to medium bark mixed with coarse stone works well. Avoid a mix that is prone to retaining moisture, especially during the winter months. Some literature suggests that growing these plants wet will encourage the production of keikis instead of blooms. These plants also can be grown on mounts if provided enough water and humidity.

Water:

Aussie Dendrobiums need a good supply of water during warmer growing periods. While the actual frequency is driven by your individual growing conditions, multiple waterings per week (in some cases as much as every other day) are recommended, slowly tapering down the frequency as temperatures start to cool and plants move towards their rest period. When plants are beginning to set buds, avoid getting water on the developing flowers, and be sure to water at the base of the plant to avoid damaging them.

Fertilizer:

These plants need consistent access to nutrients during their growing season. Fertilize weekly with a diluted low-nitrogen fertilizer (some literature suggests that higher-nitrogen fertilizer mixes encourage keikis instead of blooms) and match your fertilization schedule to your watering schedule, decreasing the frequency of fertilization as the season begins to change and your plants begin their winter rest.

Reblooming:

Most of the Aussie Dendrobium need a winter rest to keep them healthy and blooming. Reduce the frequency of watering and temperatures in the winter months.



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Member Meetings Archives

All Webex Meetings have been moved to a NCOS Google Drive

Links to past presentations:

April 2021:

- Tom's African Adventures
- Tom Mirenda

April Mini Workshop

- Help! Bugs are Eating my Orchids.
- Sarah Hurdell
- Password: %+&R=9Sr May 2021:
- Orchids from flask, an economical way of growing your collection.
- Clark Riley

July 2021

- Growing Semi-Hydro
- Linus Chen

Virginia Resident Pesticide Disposal:

The Fairfax County Cooperative Extension Service is hosting a pesticide collection event on September 9th, 2021. Virginia residents can bring unwanted pesticides to their collection point at Merrifield Garden Center - Fair Oaks for collection and disposal. This event is for pesticides only, no fertilizers or contaminated pesticides will be accepted.

When: September 9th, 2021 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM
Where: Merrifield Garden Center - Fair Oaks
12101 Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030

Participants should complete a pesticide disposal registration form ahead of time and return the completed form to VDACS, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond Virginia 23218. The form is available through the following link: <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pesticide-collection.shtml> or by contacting the Pesticide Disposal Program at 804-371-6561

Save the Date!

National Capital Orchid Society Members Picnic

When: September 26th, 2021

**Where: North Chevy Chase Christian Church
8814 Kensington Parkway
Chevy Chase, MD 20815**


The NCOS Board is continuing to monitor the recommendations of public health officials and will adjust our approach closer to the date of the picnic, but we are hopeful to be able to hold this event to celebrate our members.





American Orchid Society News and Events

Do you love Orchids?
Have you ever thought about becoming an
American Orchid Society Judge?



Come learn with us
judges@aos.org

Have you ever thought about becoming an AOS Judge?

The American Orchid Society Judging Program is willing to teach you to become an AOS Judge and is actively seeking orchid enthusiasts.

If You

- Have a love of orchids
- Want to learn more about orchids
- Are willing to contribute to the long-term health of AOS and its Affiliated Societies
- Desire to teach the public about orchids

Then Contact the AOS Judging Program at judges@aos.org for more information about how to become an AOS Judge.

Webinars-Coming Attractions!



When	August 05, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday	August 18, 2021 8:30pm EDT Wednesday	September 02, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday	September 16, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Leafless Orchids	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Sarcochilus Australian Miniatures
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Dr. Mary Mancini AOS Judge, Louisiana Judging Center	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Jean Allen-Ikeson JC National Education Coordinator, AOS Editorial Board Chair



We are pleased to announce the launch of [The Orchid Marketplace™](https://marketplace.aos.org/). This curated collection of the world's top vendors of orchid and related products will provide discounts for ALL active AOS members!

This new, improved program will replace the Orchid Source Directory. It is designed to be mobile friendly and fully searchable by keyword/genus, location or featured products. <https://marketplace.aos.org/>

Encourage your society members to become AOS members now to take advantage of this new member benefit. You will want to browse this program often to look for Orchids, Jewelry, Books, Potting Media and more!



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Other Orchid Resources

Neighboring Societies

- Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society
www.sepos.org
- Susquehanna Orchid Society
www.susquehannaorchid.org
- Central Pennsylvania Orchid Society
www.facebook.com/CentralPAOrchidSociety
- Maryland Orchid Society
www.marylandorchids.org
- Catoclin Orchid Society
<https://catoclinorchidsociety.weebly.com>
- Lord Fairfax Orchid Society
 - Zita Winzer zitawinzer@me.com
- Virginia Orchid Society
www.vaorchidsociety.org
- Orchid Hobbyists of Delmarva:
 - DE- Mary Sherwood (302-628-3416)
 - MD- Lois (410-228-3804)
 - VA- Bill (757-665-4108))
 - www.easternshoreorchidlovers.org

Other Orchid Resources

- Orchid Digest
www.orchiddigest.com
- Slipper Orchid Alliance
www.slipperorchid.org
- International Phalaenopsis Alliance
www.phal.org
- American Orchid Society
www.aos.org
- Orchid Conservation Alliance
www.orchidconservationalliance.org
- Smithsonian Gardens
www.gardens.si.edu
- Missouri Botanical Garden
www.missouribotanicalgarden.org
- Mather's Foundation
<https://orchid.foundation>

NCOS 2022 Board of Directors and Committee Chair Openings

<u>Board Roles</u> (Elected)	<u>Committee Roles</u> (Appointed)
President: Provide overall direction and leadership for the society by managing the general operations of the society and working with the board to ensure the functions of the society are maintained.	Finance Chair: Lead the finance committee and work collaboratively with the Treasurer to manage the finances of the society.
	Away Shows Chair: Coordinate the society's efforts in attending, installing, and breaking down orchid displays at other societies' shows.
Vice President: Support the President and the Director at Large in execution of the society's operations. Take on the duties of the President in his/her absence.	Programs Chair: Contact and make arrangements for speakers for the monthly meetings. Coordinate with them on any necessary travel and lodging.
	Hospitality Chair (new): Work with other society members to create a welcoming and engaging experience at members' meetings.

If you have any questions about, are interested in, or know of someone who would be great in one of the roles above, please email Jason Gebbia (jasong1799@gmail.com).