



Central Jersey Orchid Society Newsletter

October 2026 Issue

President's Message

Hello, Fellow Orchid Slayers!

As we move into October, I hope everyone's orchids are growing well, putting out new roots, and reminding us why we willingly devote so much time, space, and attention to these beautiful, occasionally temperamental plants. After all, there are certainly easier hobbies—but where would the fun be in that?

I have a couple of important updates to share with everyone this month, including our upcoming speaker and some significant discussions concerning the future of our society.

October Speaker: Amber Lai of Taida Orchids Inc.

I am pleased to announce that our October speaker will be **Amber Lai**, whose presentation is titled *"Rooted in Taiwan: The Journey of the Phalaenopsis to America."*

Amber is part of the family business at Taida Orchids Inc., an orchid company established in Bridgewater, New Jersey, in 2005. Born and raised in Taiwan, Amber came to the United States to attend college and joined her family's orchid business after graduation.

As she became more involved in the business, her interest in orchids grew, particularly in the cultivation of Phalaenopsis orchids. Through her experience working with the orchid industry in both Taiwan and the United States, Amber has developed valuable insight into Taiwan's influential role in the global Phalaenopsis industry.

Her presentation will explore the journey of these familiar orchids from growers in Taiwan to the American market, along with the production practices, evolving technologies, and challenges involved in bringing high-quality Phalaenopsis orchids to growers and consumers here in the United States.

Whether you grow a few Phalaenopsis on your windowsill or maintain a greenhouse full of orchids, this promises to be an interesting opportunity to learn more about the journey behind one of the most popular orchids in cultivation.

Please join us in welcoming Amber and taking advantage of this opportunity to expand our orchid knowledge. After all, the more we understand what goes into growing our plants, the better equipped we are to keep them thriving!

An Important Update: The Future of CJOS and the Deep Cut Orchid Society

I also want to bring everyone up to date on an important matter that could shape the future of the Central Jersey Orchid Society.

Newsletter Contents

Page 1-2 President Message

Page 3 Meetings and Committees

Pages 4 Sept Picnic/AOS

Pages 5 SEPOS Auction

(President's message continued on next Page)

We have been discussing the possibility of a merger with the Deep Cut Orchid Society. While discussions and planning are still necessary, **a merger is now looking very likely, primarily because Deep Cut has been unable to secure a president to lead its society.**

This situation highlights a challenge that many clubs and volunteer organizations face today: finding members who are willing and able to take on leadership responsibilities and keep an organization moving forward. A society can have wonderful members, knowledgeable growers, and a shared love of orchids, but it still needs people willing to help manage its operations and organize its activities.

The possibility of bringing our two societies together could offer an opportunity to preserve the connections, knowledge, and enthusiasm that both groups have built over the years. By combining our resources and participation, we may be able to strengthen our programs, share responsibilities, welcome more orchid enthusiasts, and create a more sustainable organization for the future.

Of course, a merger is not something to approach without thoughtful consideration. We need to discuss how the combined society would operate, where meetings would be held, how responsibilities would be shared, and how we can make the transition beneficial to members of both organizations. Finding a suitable meeting location that reasonably accommodates members of both groups will be an important part of that process.

I want to be transparent with our membership: **this is a serious possibility, not simply an idea being casually entertained.** The difficulty Deep Cut has experienced in finding a president makes the need to consider a shared future more pressing.

As we work through the details, I will do my best to keep everyone informed. Our goal should be to make thoughtful decisions that protect the spirit of both societies while positioning us for continued growth and success.

Looking Ahead

One thing I have always believed is that it is better to plan for change than to wait until change happens to us. Whether we are discussing the future of our society, arranging educational programs, or helping a

fellow member figure out why an orchid is refusing to cooperate, our strength comes from working together.

I encourage everyone to remain involved, share ideas, and consider how you might contribute. You do not have to be an expert grower or a seasoned club officer to make a difference. Sometimes the most valuable contribution is simply showing up, lending a hand, or sharing something you have learned along the way.

Thank you for being part of the Central Jersey Orchid Society. I look forward to seeing everyone at our October meeting, learning from Amber's presentation, and continuing our conversations about the future of our orchid community.

Until then, keep growing, keep learning, and remember: we can all teach an old dog new tricks!

Happy Growing, Fellow Orchid Slayers!

Chris

President, Central Jersey Orchid Society

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Meeting Location

Trinity Church 33 Mercer St,
Princeton, NJ 08540-6893

Meetings and Events 2023

Arrive at 6:30.

Meeting will start at 7:00PM

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

September 26: - Picnic

**October 15: - Amber Lai (Taida
Orchids)**

*“Rooted in Taiwan: The Journey of the Phalaenopsis
to America.”*

**November 19: - Bill Stender – Orchid
Viruses**

December 17: 2026: Holiday Party

January 21: - TBA

February 18: - TBA

March 18: TBA

April 15: - TBA

May 20: - TBA

June: TBA Picnic

Officers and Committees:

President – Chris Bevins

Vice President – George Wallace

Treasurer/Membership – Matt Pagano

**Corresponding/Recording
Secretary – Danielle Gordon**

**Editor Newsletter - Ed Frankel
CJOSnewsletter@gmail.com**

George Wallace – Web Master

Jeff Tyron – CJOS Photographer

September CJOs Picnic

**The Outdoor Picnic was Cancelled due to rain
But thanks to Paul and Jane Jablonski, we were able to hold the
picnic indoors at their house.
Thank you for saving the very wet day by hosting.**



Upcoming Webinars



Repotting with New Zealand's Finest

Graham Ramsey



Thursday, November 5th, 2026
8:30 PM EST

Join Graham Ramsey on November 5, 2026, for Repotting with New Zealand's Finest, a webinar exploring repotting techniques and growing media.



Greenhouse Chat November 2026

Ron McHatton



Tuesday, November 10th, 2026
8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EDT EST

Join Dr. Ron McHatton as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Please send your questions and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by November 8, 2026.

Please support this worthy organization!

Go to AOS.org for Webinar links and information on orchid culture and care. While you are visiting their site, please join AOS. They have many things that will benefit you and your plants.



Annual SEPOS Auction

Save the Date!

When:

Saturday October 17, 2026

Preview to begin at 10am

Auction to begin at 10:30am

Where:

First United Methodist Church

865 South Main Street

Phoenixville, PA 19460

Plant list will be available at sepos.org/auction prior to the event.