



Central Jersey Orchid Society Newsletter

May 2026 Issue

President's Message

May is an exciting time for orchid growers. Our plants are entering a period of rapid growth and many are blooming strong. For those who are able, it's almost time to begin transitioning your orchids outdoors for the warmer months. This is also the time to stay on top of your watering and fertilizing routines to support that active growth.

I'd like to extend a sincere thank you to Beth Davis for her excellent presentation on Dendrobiums at our April meeting. Beth is always an engaging speaker and a truly wonderful person. If you haven't had the chance, I highly encourage you to visit Waldor Orchids and see firsthand where she grows her beautiful plants.

A special thank you also goes to Anne Skalka for generously allowing the club to acquire her plants for our raffle. It means a great deal when a seasoned grower passes along their plants to fellow enthusiasts. There's something special about seeing one of those plants thriving in a new home—and even more so when Anne runs into a member and gets to see her former plant in bloom, along with the pride and joy it brings.

Please keep in mind that our annual auction is fast approaching. We will need quality plants as well as volunteers to help make the event a success. Your participation is what keeps this event strong year after year.

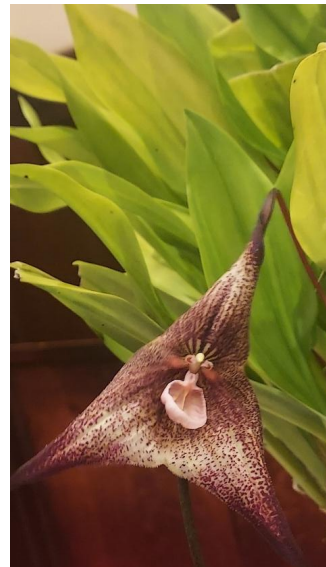
For our May meeting, I will be the scheduled speaker. My talk, **“What's Wrong with My Orchid... Or Is It Just Me?”**, will be a hybrid session combining a brief presentation with a live demonstration. I encourage members to bring in any plants that have been struggling to grow or bloom so we can take a closer look and work through potential issues

together. If you would like to repot your plant during the meeting, feel free to bring your own potting materials, as none will be provided.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there!

— Chris

Presidente, Central Jersey Orchid Society



Dracula hirtzii
Joe Thomas

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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.

November: Nicholas Rust (RustyExotics)
on Habenaria Orchids

December 2024: Holiday Party

January 15: Q& A Our Panel of Experts
to answer your orchid growing
questions

February: 19 Carlos Macku - TBA

March 19: Leon Glicenstein
Glicenstein's Monsters

April 16: Beth Davis - Dendrobiums:
Graceful Beauties, Tiny Treasures

May: Chris Bevins: "What's Wrong
with My Orchid... Or Is It Just Me?"

June 27 (Saturday): CJOS Auction
No regular meeting

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

CJOS Member AOS Awards

Congratulations David and Joan Rosenfeld Again!!!!

WOW Four More AOS Awarded Plants

Just to remind you about AOS awards. These are award given by AOS judges which review plants and flowers for their qualities. The AOS Awards for these plants:

AM (Award of Merit)

Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 80 to 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale for flower quality.

CCM (Certificate of Cultural Merit)

Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must have been in the care of the exhibitor at least 12 months immediately prior to the award and must score between 80 and 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale for culture.

[A list of other AOS Awards follow this article](#)



C. Walnut Valley Circle 'Around the Moon' AM (C. mossiae x Slc Circle of Life)



Epi Candy Valley 'Casablanca' AM (Peach Valley x Sakura Valley)





Paph. Lian Tan v. alba 'Artemis' AM (philippense v. alba 'Albino Beauty'; x dianthum v. alba 'Albino Beauty')



Chysis limminghei 'Jill's Day' CCM

Other AOS Awards:

HCC (Highly Commended Certificate)

Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 75 to 79 points inclusive on a 100-point scale for flower quality.

FCC (First Class Certificate)

The highest flower-quality award, awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 90 points or more on a 100-point scale for flower quality.

JC (Judges' Commendation)

Given for distinctive characteristics that at least 75% of the judges on a team feel should be recognized but cannot be scored in the customary ways.

AD (Award of Distinction)

Awarded once to a cross representing a worthy new direction in Breeding. The award is granted unanimously without scoring by the judging team assigned and is also granted to the hybridizer.

AQ (Award of Quality)

Awarded once to a cross exhibited by a single individual as a group of not less than 12 plants or inflorescences of different clones of a hybrid or cultivated species. At least one of the inflorescences must receive a flower quality award and the overall quality of the group must be an improvement over the former type.

CBR (Certificate of Botanical Recognition)

Awarded to rare and unusual species with educational interest that has received no previous awards. The entire plant must be exhibited. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification.

CHM (Certificate of Horticultural Merit)

Awarded to a well-grown and well-flowered species or natural hybrid with characteristics that contribute to the horticultural aspects of orchidology, such as aesthetic appeal. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification.

CCE (Certificate of Cultural Excellence)

Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must have been in the care of the exhibitor at least 12 months immediately prior to the award and must score at least 90 points on a 100-point scale for culture. Growers receiving this award represent the highest level of orchid culture.

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.

CJOS Members Show Table

Cattleya

1. Catt. BLC Glorious May
Jeff Tryon



2. Cat. SI. Beautiful Sunset
Joe Thomas

3. Cattleya Alice B. du Pont
Jim Murtha/Tobie Parnett



Den./Onc.

1. *Dendrobium convolutum*
Joe Thomas



2. *Dendrobium dichaeoides*
Joe Thomas

3. *Dendrobium Misty Mountain Pink*
Joe Thomas



VANDA/PHAL

1. **Phal. Chi Yueh Kaleidoscope CYS 180**
Pam and Ed Frankel



2. **Phal. Intermedia**
(exhibitor name blank)



3. **Phal. Wilsonii**
Joe Thomas

Paph/Phrag

1. Paph. Delphi
Joe Thomas



2. Paph. Red Illusion JCA x Paph. Macabre From Oz
Joe Thomas

Species

1. *Dracula hirtzii*
Joe Thomas



2. *Sedirea japonica*
John Bryan



3. *Tolumnia calochila*
(Exhibitor no name)

OTHER

1. **Lycaste Jason**
Joe Thomas



2. **Maxillaria Ben Berliner Yellow Cape**
John Bryan



3. **Miltoniopsis Lennart Karl Gottling Red Rim**
John Bryan

Orchid of the Month



Dracula hirtzii
Joe Thomas

CJOS April Speaker

Beth Davis - Dendrobiums: Graceful Beauties, Tiny Treasures



Dendrobiums

Graceful Beauties, Tiny Treasures, Unforgettable Wonders

What is a Dendrobium?

Characteristics of a Dendrobium

- Narrow, elongated pseudobulbs that are segmented (cane-like)
- Flower stems without a sheath or flowers borne in small clusters, the length of the canes.
- A nectar spurs at the back of the flower



A Quick Visual...



The hard-cane dendrobiums are mostly evergreen and produce leafy, upright, cane-like pseudobulbs. The inflorescences emerge as racemes from the upper nodes of the pseudobulb.

The soft-cane types have erect or pendent, thin, cane-like pseudobulbs that are mostly deciduous. Their flowers emerge singly or in small clusters from the nodes along the length of the cane.



There are over 1300 species of dendrobiums.

These species are subdivided into about 30 groups



Photographer: Sarah Hurdet

Den. lindleyi
'Memoria John Gardner' CCM/AOS



Photographer: Chaunie Langland

Den. victoria-reginae
'Muxen' HCC/AOS



Photographer: Ramon de los Santos

Den. hekouense
'Sweetwater Chick' FCC/AOS

Dendrobium

Section Cuthbertsonia

There are 3 species in this group

New Guinea (2 species) and Fiji (1 species)

Den. laevifolium and *Den. prasinum* are a little more warmth tolerant than the popular *Den. cuthbertsonii*, *Den. cuthbertsonii* requires high humidity and good air movement.

Small plants, thick pseudobulbs, and few leaves

Large flowers for the plant size, long-lasting, 1 to 2 flowers

Grow in cooler alpine climates with strong air movement



Photographer: Arnold Gum

Dendrobium cuthbertsonii
'Exotic Cupid' AM/AOS



Photographer: Arthur Pinkers

Dendrobium laevifolium
'The Queen' HCC/AOS



Photographer: Daria Geas

Dendrobium cuthbertsonii
AQ/AOS

Dendrobium

Section Dendrobium

A large section of perhaps 50-60 species
Wide distribution area from India to Thailand and Australia
Often referred to as soft-cane species
Very popular in cultivation
Club-shaped pseudobulbs with leaves along the upper two-thirds
Usually, deciduous and bare canes will produce flowers
Flowers are often large, showy, and fragrant
Require a cool, dry rest period to flower well



References

www.AOS.org
Orchid Wiz
ORCHIDS Magazine
www.orchidspecies.com





American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.



Upcoming Webinars



Catasetum Culture with Scott Elliott

Scott Elliott



Thursday, June 11th, 2026

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

Join Scott Elliot of Maneki Hill Orchids, who will talk about hybridizing and growing catasetums.

Go to [AOS.org](https://www.aos.org) for Webinar links and information on orchid culture and care. While you are visting their site, please join AOS. Support this worthy organization.