

Massachusetts Orchid Society

P.O. Box 1041
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JULY 2021

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Minute Minutes Notes from the Board

- ◆ Join the fun planning the Mass Orchid Society Show! The show committee meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month. There are tons of ways to be involved; props to be gathered for display design, show set-up and break-down, food and refreshment management for volunteers and judges, clerking, distribute show postcards, ticket sales... there's so many ways you can help make this the best-ever MOS Show!

For all questions and to reach the Show Committee, click [here](#).
To learn about volunteer opportunities and sign up, click [here](#).
To volunteer as a clerk, click [here](#).
To become a trophy sponsor, click [here](#).

- ◆ Congratulations to Linda A. and Brandt M. for receiving the May People's Choice Award in a tie vote! Brandt's *Tristella hoeijeri* was the definition of a micro mini orchid that everyone has room for and Linda's *Cattleya maxima* was an In-Your-Face beauty that you didn't need a magnifying glass to appreciate. Congrats to runner up Debbie Z. for her *Neofinetia falcata*.

- ◆ **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** We're gathering for the first time in way too long to enjoy a summer MOS BBQ! While not a rule cast in stone, we ask members with last names A-H to bring a side dish. I-N bring a salad and the remainder are on the hook for dessert – or bring whatever you're famous for. There's a grocery store across the street in case of any gaps. We have 8 parking spots in the driveway plus 8 next door in the vacant apartment building lot. There is also side street parking on Cross St with a short walk to the event and numerous spots in the parking lot of the aforementioned grocery store across the street. The Society will provide hotdogs, hamburgers and drinks. While we have a fair number of chairs, please bring your favorite folding chair, just in case.

An RSVP notice will go out to everybody near the end of July, but we'd like everyone to get us on their calendars now. See the article next page concerning donated orchid collections the Society has received if you need more excuses to come.

When: August 21st, 1-5pm

Where: Brandt's house; 58 Main St, Pepperell, MA

- ◆ Got extra orchid supplies you want to unload? Looking for garden swaps? Advertise right here in our new Minute Minutes *Member's Classified* section. Email Anne at newslettereditor@mos.org to post in the next newsletter.
- ◆ We are always interested in suggestions for speakers and topics, plus ideas for special programs for upcoming general meetings. Please email them to mos-board@googlegroups.com.

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/massorchid and Instagram at www.instagram.com/massachusettsorchid.



A Plethora of Riches

Does everyone know that the Society has inherited two moderate sized orchid collections in the past few months?

The 200+ plants, along with a handful of books, something like 1000 clay pots (used) and a bit of potting material are, for the most part, residing at Brandt Moran's residence (think every horizontal surface in his backyard and shop).

They will be available for sale at the upcoming August BBQ in "as-is" condition. While scale was somewhat prevalent in each collection, Brandt has gone a long way at eliminating the critters with a combination of elbow grease and Neem Oil. The plants will be sold at very fair prices. They will be staged on tables in numerical order, priced at \$2, \$5, and \$10; at most, \$20.

[Click here for a list of available plants](#). There are two lists - the first one is the fire sale plants. The second is the raffle plants.

Many of these plants are specimen-sized large cattleyas from the Carter and Holmes breeding program. The potting media will be priced per unit. There is bark, perlite, sphagnum, and charcoal. The clay pots will be per unit, but very economically priced compared to what you find at a box store. Most of these pots are hand thrown and much beefier than anything you will find today.

Brandt will have 50 test strips for anyone wanting to test for viruses before buying a plant. You may also bring your own test strips. Brandt will be selling his singularly at his cost. Any plant that tests positive can find its way to Brandt's dumpster with only the cost of the test strip to bear.

Half of the very best plants will be held back for a December Silent Auction. The other half will be raffled off at the BBQ. Tickets will be available onsite during the event.

Credit cards may be used for large purchases. Otherwise, bring lots of small bills and a tote bag (or two).

Message from the President

Hopefully transparent and painless, there has been a re-shuffling of the Board that will be taking effect July 1st. The most disconcerting part is, we will be losing the steady guidance of our fearless leader to a job two time zones away. Dina is going to be SO missed. I do not think it went unnoticed by anyone in the Society that she made the transition to a virtual community so damn easy-especially for we dinosaurs afraid to even turn on our computers.



The three musketeers - Dina as President, Meg as VP, and Amanda as Treasurer – not only produced a spectacular meeting every month, but also choreographed one of the most amazing Virtual Shows imaginable. And that's not me talking – these were observations from several of the most infamous commercial growers in the country. These folks attended more than one meeting and more than one show, and consistently proclaimed that ours was one of the best.

When you see these folks – and for that matter, anyone who was on the board last year, please tell them THANK YOU for the job they did. No One in Our Community of Orchid Societies Nationwide Did Better!

AND NOW...

Brandt Moran is at the helm with Jeff Feldman as his number two. Now everyone understands the reference to dinosaurs mentioned above. Here's what we know – the Society is easing back into in-person meetings. This part, us old folks are well-practiced at. What I want everyone to know is, I'm still somewhat computer illiterate, so while I encourage each-and-every one of you to reach out (Remember this is Your Society as much as it's mine), don't get upset if it takes a bit of time for me to get back to you. I want – No – I NEED- your input to get the most out of our time together. Got a recommendation for a speaker or got a better way for us to conduct the Society's business? - You'll find that I'm all ears. Never be afraid to speak up.

There's a lot that's going to happen during the next couple meetings. If there's any way you can get to the MOS BBQ held at my house, August 21st to break bread and liberate some plants from my backyard, I would be forever grateful.

See everyone soon!

Brandt Moran

UPCOMING EVENTSMonthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

03 July 2021 10:30 AM

Virtual Monthly Meeting – Francisco
Miranda: Genus Laelia – Brazilian Tour

13 July 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>MOS Barbeque (Will replace regular
meeting). See Page 1 for details.

21 (Saturday) Aug 2021 1 PM - 5 PM

58 Main St., Pepperell, MA

Monthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

07 Aug 2021 10:30 AM

IN PERSON Monthly Meeting – J&L
Orchids, Cordelia Head (TBD)

14 Sep 2021 7:30 PM

Monthly Meeting - (TBD)

12 Oct 2021 7:30 PM

Join us this month at our last virtual meeting! Our guest is Francisco Miranda of Miranda Orchids.

Francisco will take us on a tour of Brazilian Cattleyas with emphasis to where they grow in a travel log format. Anyone who has been a scholar of the American Orchid Society Bulletins is very familiar with Francisco's travels and how they relate to growing your collection better. Promises to be insanely educational as well as entertaining



A taxonomist, naturalist and orchid grower, Francisco travels extensively in the U.S. and internationally speaking at orchid-related events and meetings. He has been doing this since 1988, while still living in Brazil. Miranda Orchids started in 1999 and is a nursery specializing in growing mainly selected *Cattleya* alliance

species. Many of the plants available are produced in our lab and nursery in Central Florida from our extensive collection of stud plants. The rest we bring from Brazil to increase variety and novelty. Being native Brazilians and having had a nursery for many years, we know that there is a lot of development in *Cattleya* species being done there. This is mostly because a lot of those species are native from Brazil (including all of the bifoliate cattleyas) and because these plants are favorites of growers there. Of course, having lived and grown orchids for a long time there we know most of the growers and what is being produced and we go there several times a year to make sure we are kept up-to-date. Miranda Orchids also grows other Brazilian species so if you are looking for something in particular, do not hesitate in contact us. Our goal is to be your number one source for selected Brazilian Orchids.

Francisco is offering a 10% discount on plant sales to MOS members during the month of July. For plant availability, click [here](#). For more information, visit his website, at www.mirandaorchids.com.

SAVE THE DATES!

The MOS show is going live! Our show theme this year is *The Caribbean*.

Oct. 20th

Setup (set up: floor layout, pipes and drapes, etc.)

Oct. 21st

Build MOS display. Vendors and NE Societies arrive to set up their displays and tables

October 22nd-24th

Show Dates



June Virtual Show Table Results

Click [Here](#) for Culture Notes

2021 People's Choice June Awards. There was a tie for first place: *C. maxima*, Linda A. (below right) and *Trisetella hoeijeri*, Brandt M. (left). Congrats, Linda and Brandt! Our runner-up: *Neofinitia falcata*, Debbie Z. (middle right)



Phal. Timothy,
Amanda L.



Phal. NOID, Virginia E.-M.

Phal. Berry, Amanda L.





Phrag. warszwiczianum
v. wallisii x
humboldtii, Mike B.



Cyp. Philipp, Mike B.



Mxdm. xerophyticum, Daryl Y.



Phrag. Baerbel, Millard H.

Phrag. Cardinale,
Millard H



Phrag. St. Ouen,
Millard H.



Lycaste aromatica, Brandt M.

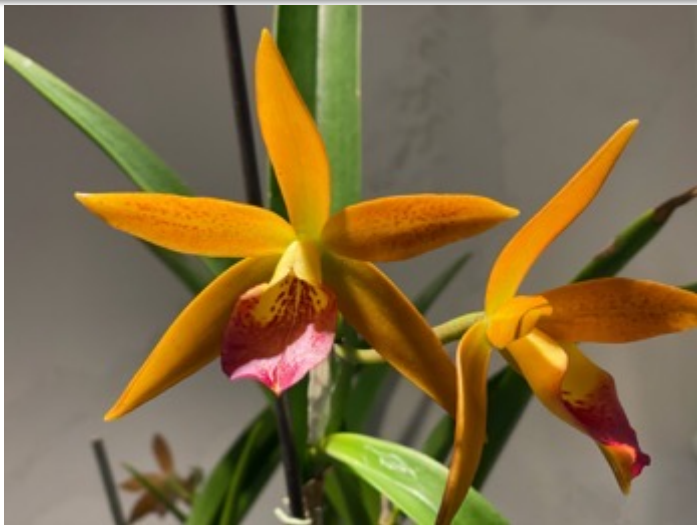


Aerangis hariotiana 'Gold Country',
Karyn S.



Cym. tigrinum, Ralph & Chieko C.

Sar. sceptroides, Mary Ann G.



B. perrinii Ruben x Chocolate Drop 'SVO' AM/AOS, Ron M.



C. Harem Girl, Anne P.



C. Lacey Michelle Matherne, Mike B.



Pot. Loud Nine, Jeff F.



C. measuresiana, Mike B.



C. aurantiaca x Epi. Aromaaticum, Jeff F.



C. NOID, Amanda L.



Left: *L. purpurata alba*, Brandt M.

Below: *L. purpurata tipo*, Brandt M.



C. Janice Evans 'Sweet Sixteen' AM/AOS, Anne P.



Laelia purpurata collection, Brandt M.



C. percivaliana 'Orchid Ranch', Mike B.



Sobralia NOID, Mike B.



Angcm dideri, Anne P.



Restrepia contorta, Brandt M.



Den. Royal Wings
Ron M.



Den. moniliforme 'Gekko', Karyn S.

Trichopilla coccigea,
Millard H.



Angcm. dideri x sib,
Karyn S.



Miltonia,
Debbie McM.

A Brief History of The Massachusetts Orchid Society

Timeline

1829 – Massachusetts Horticultural Society was founded.

1921 – American Orchid Society came into being.

1952 – Mass Orchid Society had first meeting.

Massachusetts Horticultural Society

Founders were people of means like the DuPonts, Vanderbilts and Rockefellers.

Societies in Boston, Philadelphia and New York City all originated about the same time.

In Boston – A copper baron – Mr Albert C. Burrage was the key player.

Mr. Albert C. Burrage

Harvard grad 1883.

Passed Mass bar exam 1884.

Boston City Council after bar.

President Boston Allied Gas 1892.

Director of Amalgamated Copper 1894

Traveled to South America and caught orchid bug.

By 1920 Burrage had 20 greenhouses North of the city at Beverly Farms Estate.

He was Hosting monthly orchid shows in the city where he regularly displayed over 1000 of his own plants.

As a reaction to invasive pest – the US Government passed Quarantine 37, preventing the importation of all orchids into the US.

Burrage saw the need to organize the countries orchid growers. Thus, the American Orchid society was born.

In 1928 The Government relented, and provisions were made to bring orchids back into the country.



Oakes Ames

First significant American Botanist – Orchid Taxonomist.

Born in North Easton, MA in 1874.

Harvard grad –hired as professor and the Head of the Harvard Botanical Gardens.

Orchids from around the world were sent to Harvard for identification.

Very quickly the Harvard Botanical Museum rivaled Kew in England for its repository of orchid species.

The premier orchid collector and the foremost orchid taxonomist made their homes right here in Boston.



Far Right: Blanche and Oakes Ames
Right: detail of Ames drawing

A women's rights activist, artist and inventor, Blanche Ames illustrated the taxonomy of her husband's publications on new species of orchids, producing hundreds of outstanding line drawings of orchids.

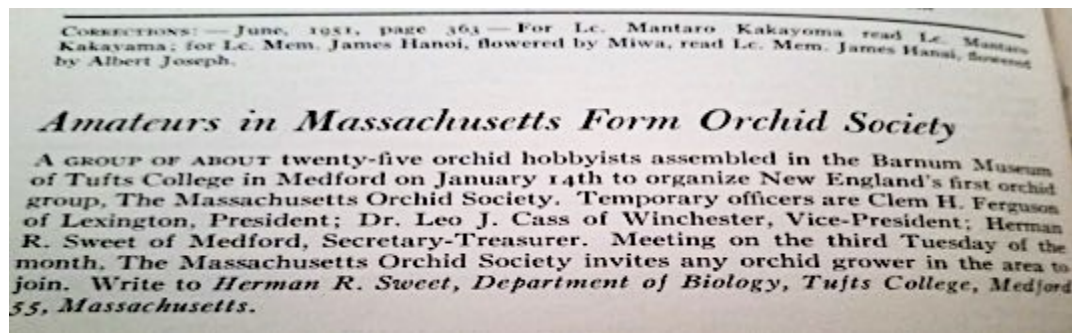
Finally – The Mass Orchid Society

MOS came fashionably late to the orchid world.

Founded in 1952 – The AOS had already been around for over 30 years.

The AOS affiliated societies program had been created 7 years previous.

It took some time for MOS to realize its existence because all that was orchids in the greater Boston area was already assembled within the AOS.



MOS is recognized in the Feb. AOS bulletin

John Miller was invited to the second MOS meeting in Feb 1952.

Meetings were held at members homes on rotating basis.

MOS' first formal display was at the March 9th -15th Boston Flower Show.

No awards were garnered but great fun was had by all!!

There were no summer meetings in 1952.

Fall of 1952

The September meeting saw the first guest speaker: Dr. Gus Melquist. The topic was "The ancestors of our present day Cymbidiums and their bearing on hybridization and culture".

The first show table was presented at this meeting.

The October meeting was held at a private residence without speaker but with a show table.

The November meeting was held at the Botanical Museum at Harvard. The speaker was Mr. Sweenforth, who was a research fellow at Oakes Ames Herbarium. The topic was Native New England Orchids.

Of note on the show table was a spectacular Miltoniopsis presented by Mr. Herman Sweet – the Society's Secretary/Treasurer.



The Butterworth Display

Spring of 1953

The January meeting was the 1st anniversary for the society.

Commercial growers were starting to join.

Mr. L. Sherman and Helen Adams attended this meeting.

The Adams owned the largest greenhouses in the region, eclipsing the Burrage's Beverly Farms Estates.

Helen Adams was instrumental in organizing the AOS Judging System.

Victor DeRosa eventually bought the Adams collection.

The February meeting saw Mr. and Mrs. Butterworth attend.

These were the same Butterworths that the AOS trophy for the best grown plant awarded during any calendar year was named after.

March saw the Spring Boston Flower Show.

The MOS took 1st place for an arrangement of Paphs.

A Cultural Excellence Award was given to Mr. Herman Sweet for Milt. William Pitt var Ruby.

1954

In its 3rd year in existence, the MOS hosted the Eastern Orchid Congress at the Continental Hotel in Cambridge.

John and Janice Miller created the centerpieces for the event.

At the end of the welcoming dinner, participants took the centerpieces back to the hotels with them.

When John and Janice returned after the dinner, they realized that their centerpieces had been liberated.

They had to start over recreating the art before the morning breakfast

Tired but successful, MOS pulled off a first-class event and set the stage for the myriad of successes to come.



The official MOS seal, designed by Meg Bright-Ryan in 2019.

A very special thanks to Brandt Moran for sharing his presentation on the history of MOS.

• THE AOS CORNER •



Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton
Orchid related questions answered by AOS
experts.

Click [here](#) to watch now.

Note the specific times below if you wish to
watch or listen to those topics.

00:58 Phalaenopsis- leaf shape
04:38 Fungus damage to leaves
09:39 leaves losing chlorophyll
12:50 hydroleca vs. hydroponic
14:54 Paphiopedilum foliage with strange
growth
17:14 stimulating root growth
19:35 Media recommendations for
Oncidiums
22:49 Vanilla pompona
26:50 Boisduval scale
29:27 watering with ice cubes
31:37 Cattleya with wrinkled pseudobulbs
34:03 Eulophia petersii
35:42 benefit of using charcoal in your
media
41:11 Sustainable tree fern
42:36 Osmocote/Time Release Fertilizer
49:40 Aeration/oxygenation of rainwater
51:28 Do roots need dry out
55:55 Alkaline water- supplements
59:53 Inorganic vs.organic media

Seasonal Orchid Care July/August

[Click here for Checklist](#)

Organizing orchid culture and its chores by season is a
convenient way to make sure that your orchids get the
proper care at the right time. Becoming in tune with your
plants' growth cycles creates a connection with the
natural world and makes you a better grower.

The American Orchid Society Northeast Judging Center Is Back!

In-person monthly judging will resume at Tower Hill
Botanic **Garden, 11 French Dr, Boylston, MA 01505** on
June 5th. We meet in Classroom C and are adhering to
State of Massachusetts pandemic safety rules and
encourage exhibitors to bring orchids to be judged within
the guidelines outlined below.

10:30AM - doors open and announcements
11:00AM - 12:00PM (noon) - Educational Presentation:
Ginna Plude, Associate Judge 'Coelogyne - *Judging a
genus that is not classically orchid beautiful*'
12:00PM (noon) - All plants to be judged must be checked
in by this time
12:00PM - 1:00PM - Plant research and lunch break
1:00PM - 4:00PM AOS plant judging
This event will adhere to all current local and state social
distancing guidelines during the pandemic, as safety is our
priority

Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

Officers

President	Brandt Moran	brandtm@massorchid.org
Vice President	Jeff Feldman	jeff@massorchid.org
Secretary	Meg Bright-Ryan	megb@massorchid.org
Treasurer	Amanda Larson	amandal@massorchid.org

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	Emily Dewsnap	Emilyd@massorchid.org
	Ralph DiFonzo	ralphd@massorchid.org
	Anne Pfaff	annep@massorchid.org

Committee Chairs

AOS Trustee	Howard Bronstein	
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Orchid Show

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Jeff Feldman	
Brigitte Fortin	show@massorchid.org

Orchid Show Program

Meg Bright-Ryan	program@massorchid.org
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Show Table

Mike Badia	mike@massorchid.org
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