

Massachusetts Orchid Society

P.O. Box 1041
Medford, MA 02155



JUNE 2021

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Minute Minutes Notes from the Board

- ◆ The Big News this month is, planning has begun for the LIVE MOS show in October!!! While still mostly in the organization stages, committees are organizing with defining tasks, assigning responsibilities and setting time parameters. The show has been registered with AOS and vendors are being contacted with contract details. Trophy selection is also in progress. Woot Woot!

Oh, and hey! Join the fun planning this exciting, once a year event! The show committee meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month. There are a ton 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, distributing show postcards, ticket sales... it's a BIG list!

To learn more about volunteering and to sign up, please contact one of the following:

Brigitte - Chair brigitte@massorchid.org
Jeff - Co chair jeff@massorchid.org
Ralph - Co chair ralph@massorchid.org

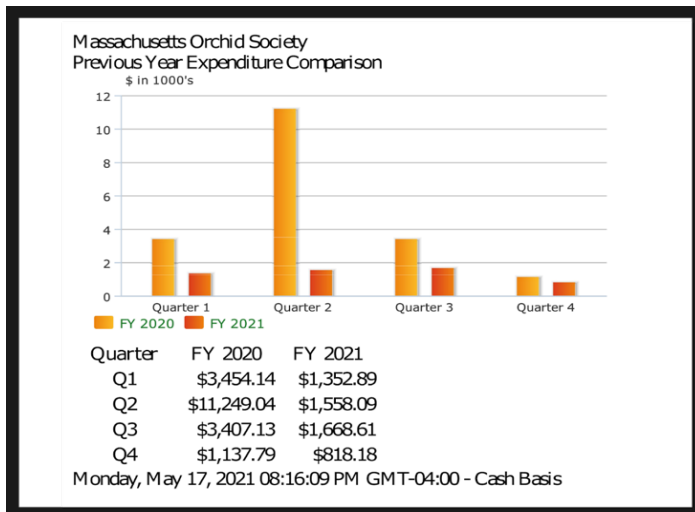
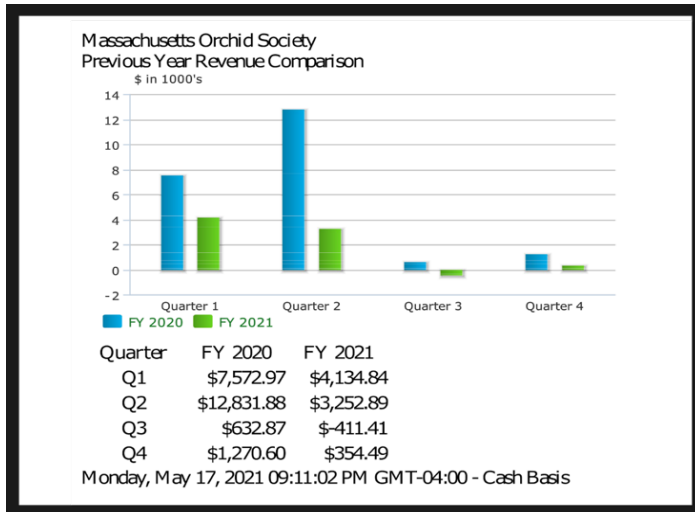
- ◆ In a bit of other good news, the board has voted to resume in-person monthly meetings in August. Due to the unexpected success we had streaming meetings virtually, we're looking into continuing this format as an option for members who can't join meetings in person.
- ◆ Tower Hill is open for in-person judging again! For details, see page 3
- ◆ Got extra orchid supplies you want to unload? Looking for veggies for your garden? Advertise right here in our new Minute Minutes *Member's Classified* section. Email Anne at newslettereditor@mos.org to post in the upcoming 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.

MOS Treasurer’s Report
 Year End Summary:

The year was rather stagnant financially; the 2020-2021 fiscal year was net positive: +\$1440. Revenue from Auctions and the Virtual Show was comparable to in-person years, due in part to decreased expenses with virtual events. Membership revenue was down approximately by a third. Going forward, in-person meetings will be an increased expense which might affect how the upcoming year will go financially if membership does not recover.

{Below} are two bar charts comparing the 2019-2020 vs. 2020-2021 fiscal years. In the first chart, the yearly revenue is divided into quarters. The annual show is during Quarter 2. Overall the revenue during the 2021-ending year is less than the 2020, however the expenses of 2021 are significantly less than those of 2020, as shown in the second chart. In summary, the 2020-2021 fiscal year was a modest gain for MOS.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill (see page 8 for guideline details)

05 June 2021 10:30 AM

Virtual Monthly Meeting – Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids, "Catesetums and Coelogynes"

08 June 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>

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

13 July 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>

MOS Picnic Goes Live! - Details To Follow
August 2021

Virtual Monthly Meeting – Brandt Moran: Fantastic Fertilizer

10 Aug 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>

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

14 Sep 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>

Virtual Monthly Meeting - (TBD)

12 Oct 2021 7:30 PM

<https://meet.google.com/suu-oabp-kqt>

*Our June speaker
Fred Clarke, of Sunset
Valley Orchids, will give
a talk about catesetums
and coelogynes*



Fred is a leading breeder of new orchid hybrids, specializing in Cattleya Alliance, Catesetinae, Australian Native Alliance, Stanhopea and their relatives. In recent years, SVO has become the top breeder of Catesetinae, where the "blackest orchid seen", Fredclarkeara After Dark, captured a great deal of attention in the orchid world. For more information, plant availability and for ordering, click here to visit [Sunset Valley Orchids](https://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com).

MOS members will receive a 20% discount on all plant orders. The special voucher code is **ZOOM**. When you check out, type **ZOOM** into the voucher code box on the shopping cart page and click 'RECALCULATE' to apply the discount. This special discount is additive to the existing discount schedule, making for an excellent opportunity.

**SAVE THE DATES!**

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

Oct. 20th

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

Oct. 21st

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

October 22nd-24th

Show Dates

June Virtual Show Table Results

Congratulations to Brandt Moran, May People's Choice Award winner, for his magnificent *Leptotes bicolor*!

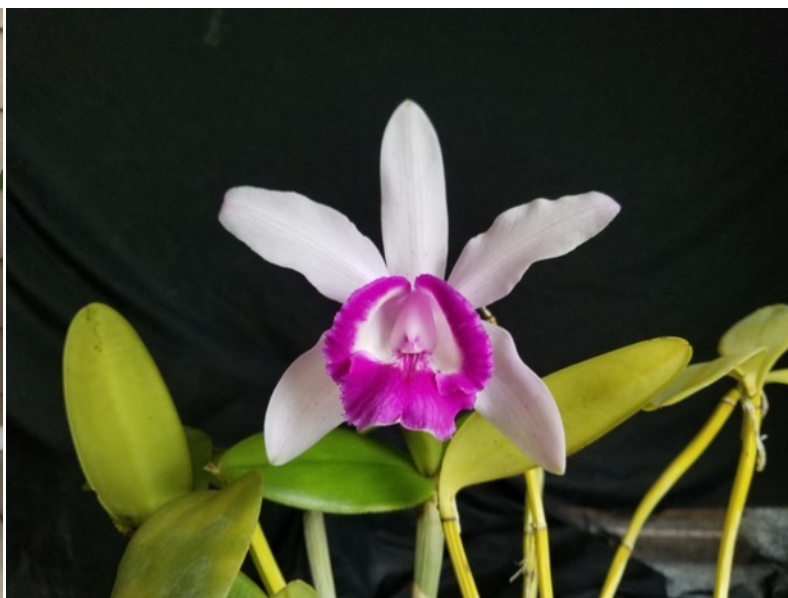


Grown to perfection with over 300 open blooms, this mounted miniature packed a visual punch. A member of the *Cattleya* family, *Leptotes bicolor* can be found hanging out in bright, dappled light in Northern Brazil. While the species is reported to survive in the warmer parts of the rainforest, Brandt grows his in a well-lit part of his intermediate greenhouse. It has been on a cedar mount for nearly 12 years getting watered on every bright day regardless of season. The terete leaves and very minimal pseudobulbs suggest this is a good strategy to coax this plant to maximum display.

A fun note: the seed pods of *Leptotes bicolor* can be harvested and processed to make a fair substitute for the vanilla flavoring that we have all come to love.



Lc. Park Ridge 'Thornridge', Minnie M.



C. intermedia John Miller, Brandt M.



C. guatemalensis, Brandt M.



C. walkeriana alba,
Brandt M.



Epic. Yokosuka Story 'Wilson', Minnie M.



Max. tenuifolia x sanguinea, Anne P.



Lc. Love Knot 'SVO' HCC/AOS x
C. mossiae f. *coerulea* 'Blue Moon Too', Anne P.



Ang. bosseri, Ralph and
Chieko C.



C. schilleriana,
Ralph and Chieko C.

Wild orchids on Cape Cod? Seeking the pink lady's slipper

Article and photos by Eric Williams/Cape Cod Times, 5/25/21



A stunning pink lady's slipper along a trail in the Clapp's Pond conservation area.

PROVINCETOWN--They are the glamorous show-stoppers of the forest. Pink lady's slippers, the wily and wild orchids, always a thrill to see and often pretty hard to find. I knew it was about time for them to bloom, so I trucked up to the Clapp's Pond conservation area, put on my flower detective hat and started poking around.

Lady's slippers might be the first flower name I learned as a kid. We would roam around the woods and stumble on one of these wicked weird-looking pink balloons, and then some kid-in-the-know would say "don't pick it--it's a \$50 fine!" That was a stunning thing to imagine: one pluck could send you to plant jail or at least cost you your life savings!

Somehow, I was miffed when I found out that under Section 116A of the Massachusetts General Laws that the fine for pulling up or digging up "the plant of a wild azalea, wild orchid or cardinal flower" could lead to a maximum fine of only five bucks. I may introduce legislation to raise the fine to something a bit more substantial--I think it would be good for the lady's slipper brand.

According to the University of Kentucky's office for environmental programs, pink lady's slippers like to hang around in pine or pine-oak woods--moist or dry, and prefer acidic soil. That must describe the Clapp's Pond area, because on a one-hour ramble on May 25, I counted 142 flowers!



It's a thrill to come across these pink lady's slippers when they are in bloom. I saw 142 on my jaunt around Clapp's Pond.



At one point along the Clapp's Pond trail, I came across a cluster of about 30 pink lady's slippers. I tried to cram them into one photo, but this was the best I could do!

The lady's slipper show is on stage now in the Clapp's Pond conservation area.



This was unprecedented orchid largesse, at least in my experience. Usually, I see one or two, sometimes a scattering of ten or so--but over 100? I had to keep saying the count number out loud to remember it as I went along, and was grateful no one saw me veering around the trail mumbling, "78, 78, 78, 79!"

It seemed impossible to predict where they might pop up. I would bag 20 in a few minutes, then walk for quite a ways before another joyous sighting. It might have something to do with what a pink lady's slipper needs to thrive. According to the U.S. Forest Service:

"In order to survive and reproduce, pink lady's slipper interacts with a fungus in the soil from the *Rhizoctonia* genus. Generally, orchid seeds do not have food supplies inside them like most other kinds of seeds. Pink lady's slipper seeds require threads of the fungus to break open the seed and attach them to it. The fungus will pass on food and nutrients to the pink lady's slipper seed. When the lady's slipper plant is older and producing most of its own nutrients, the fungus will extract nutrients from the orchid roots. This mutually beneficial relationship between the orchid and the fungus is known as 'symbiosis' and is typical of almost all orchid species"

I now have a new appreciation for soil fungus. And couldn't we all use a little more symbiosis in our lives? The natural magic is working in full force in the woods of Provincetown and it made for a tremendous scavenger hunt. If you want to see this small miracle, I would advise getting up there quickly. From my limited lady's slipper experience, the flowers don't last too long--but they are magnificent!

The Clapp's Pond conservation area is located off Route 6 east, past the Shank Painter Road exit. There is a little parking area--it's really just a pull-off along the highway. It was bug-free when I was there--that will probably change soon.



Here's what the entrance to the Clapp's Pond trail in Provincetown looks like.



A very rudimentary map I put together that shows the general area of the trail I walked around Clapp's Pond in Provincetown.



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

• 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.

00:39 Bulbophyllum medusae culture
6:27 Yellow leaves
8:26 Dendrobium yellow leaves
12:55 Imported orchids and sugar water
treatment
16:12 Dendrobium yellow leaves and
potting media
18:36 Fertilizing mounted orchids
24:38 Phalaenopsis blooming and fertilizing
29:39 Fertilizer recommendations for
Rhyncholaelia digbyana
32:45 Phalaenopsis blooming from old
spike
35:06 Growing Orchids in the Rockies
40:43 Cattleya- potting aerial roots and
mounting
43:35 Dividing overgrown plants
47:38 Reblooming orchids
52:46 Vanilla- culture and getting them to
bloom
55:13 Pollinating and harvesting vanilla
58:56 Mealybugs
1:02.49 Aspirin for misting Orchids
1:10.47 Take speakers advise with a grain of
salt, do not change all of your orchids

Seasonal Orchid Care May/June

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.

Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

Officers

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