



# NHOS Newsletter

## October 2017 [www.nhorchids.org](http://www.nhorchids.org)

*Affiliated with the American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest Corp.*



Please be sure to become a fan of [New Hampshire Orchid Society](#).

### **President's Message**

First I would like to say, my thoughts and well wishes are with our friends and families across the world who have suffered devastation, please be safe and I hope the clean- up, rebuilding and healing are swift.

We are now 5 months away from our Annual Show and Sale, slated for February 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is "A Flurry of Orchids" We will need all hands on deck so the show goes on without a hitch. Just an hour or so would make it easier on the whole crew. Look for signup sheets at our regular meetings, there are many jobs both large and small available.

We will also be having an auction of a room at the Courtyard Marriott during the show weekend, further details to follow.

AOS Judge Jean Stefanik shows us how to prepare for an orchid show. Learn how to stake and clean your orchids, register them and create a visually-pleasing display.

Please don't forget to bring a dish to share with the membership, and enjoy some time with other orchid enthusiasts.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

Andrea

**Next Meeting**  
**Saturday Oct. 14, 2017**  
**11:00 AM**

**Jean Stefanik, Show Prep**

**Plants for the show table must be labeled and on the table by 11:00 AM.**

#### **Remaining 2017 Meeting Schedule**

**Nov. 11- Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids**

**Dec. 2 - Annual Holiday Party**

#### **Hospitality**

Please bring all manner of food for lunch and snacking

## September Show Table Results

### Hobbyist

#### PHALAEENOPSIS ALLIANCE

1st Place:	Fullers Pink 'Swallow'	Lee Brockmann
2nd Place:	Bellina Mituo King	Joanna Petit
2nd Place:	Queen Beer	Brian Sargent

#### PAPHIOPEDILUM ALLIANCE

None

#### CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

1st Place:	Brassavola nodosa*	Brigitte Fortin
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#### VANDA ALLIANCE

1st Place:	Neofinetia falcata 'Amanogawa'	Susan Anderson
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#### DENDROBIUM ALLIANCE

None

#### ONCIDIUM ALLIANCE

2nd Place:	Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani'	Dick Josephson
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#### CYMBIDIUM ALLIANCE

None

#### PLEUROTHALLID ALLIANCE

None

#### MISC.

None

\*= plant also received a cultural award



**Fullers Pink 'Swallow'**



**Brassavola nodosa**



**Neofinetia falcata 'Amanogawa'**



**Dendrobium Illusion 'Firecracker'**

**ADVANCED (all cultural)**

<b>Vanda Falcata</b>	<b>Sue Labonville</b>
<b>Dendrobium Illusion 'Firecracker'</b>	<b>Sue Labonville</b>

**EXPERT (all cultural)**

<b>Brssocatanthe Express Worsley</b>	<b>Jan Ski</b>
<b>Zygostates lunata</b>	<b>David Sparks</b>
<b>Ornithocaphalus inflexis</b>	<b>David Sparks</b>
<b>Epidendron magnoliae</b>	<b>David Sparks</b>
<b>Macroclinium manabinum escobarianum junctum</b>	<b>David Sparks</b>
<b>Phrag Inti's Tears</b>	<b>Bob Cleveland</b>
<b>Aerangis mystacidii</b>	<b>Bob Cleveland</b>
<b>Cycnoches cooperi</b>	<b>Bob Cleveland</b>
<b>Paph W.R. Lee</b>	<b>Bob Cleveland</b>

# = awarded for rarity (None in Sept)

**Judges: Joanna Eckstrom, Ryan Godbout, David Sparks, Janet Smyrychynski, and Chuck Wingate.**



**Brssocatanthe Express Worsley**



**Phrag Inti's Tears**

**OTHER EVENTS AND NEWS OF INTEREST**

**Monthly 2017 AOS Judging  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month  
10:30 AM - 3:30 PM  
Tower Hill Botanic Garden, 11 French Dr., Boylston, MA**

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**Fall Orchid Sale**

**Friday, October 20 - Sunday, October 22, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**[Lyman Estate Greenhouses](#), 185 Lyman St., Waltham, Mass.**

**Celebrate orchid-blooming season. Hundreds of orchid plants are for sale, including many hard-to-find varieties. Visit the greenhouses and enjoy gorgeous floral colors, shapes, and scents.**

**Varieties on display and for sale include Cattleyas, Laelias, Oncidiums, Paphiopedilums, Phalaenopsis, and many more. Their long-lasting blooms are a dramatic addition to any indoor environment. This adaptable species can grow in a variety of home conditions.**

**Staff are available to offer expert advice.**

**Garden and Landscape members receive a 15% discount on purchases at the greenhouses.**

**Please call 617-994-5913 for more information.**

**Annual MOS Show and Plant Sale  
Nov. 3-5, 2017  
Mahoney's Garden Center  
Winchester, MA**

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**World Orchid Conference, November 8 - 12, 2017, Guayaquil, Ecuador  
<http://www.woc22.com/>**

**Please visit their website for a complete list of speakers and topics.**

**OTHER EVENTS AND NEWS OF INTEREST (con't)**

Dear Fellow Orchid Lover,

You are invited to join the Nutmeg State Orchid Society (NSOS) for a Gala Dinner and Auction at Tunxis Plantation Country Club, 89 Town Farm Road, Farmington, CT, on Saturday, October 21st from 6 PM until 10:30 PM. The event opens with cocktails, appetizers and auction preview at 6 PM followed by buffet dinner at 7 PM. The orchid plant auction will begin at 8 PM. There will also be a silent auction for gift baskets and other items. See attached flyer for event details, including the dinner menu.

Cost for the entire evening (dinner plus auction) is \$15 per person for NSOS members or \$35 per person for non-members. If you do not join us for dinner, you can come just for the auction. This option is free of charge for members and \$10 for non-members. Advance reservations are required; we cannot accept payment at the door. Please RSVP with payment by October 15, 2017 to: NSOS, P.O. Box 131, Farmington, CT 06034. Make checks payable to Nutmeg State Orchid Society.

If you enjoy events like our Annual Show and Gala, why not become a member of NSOS? Membership costs \$25 per individual or \$35 per family per year. Join now to attend the Gala at the lower member price. Other member benefits include free admission to the annual NSOS orchid show, discounts from selected orchid vendors, monthly educational programs and special field trips.

For more information about the Gala or NSOS, contact Sandy Myhalik ([myhalik@comcast.net](mailto:myhalik@comcast.net) or [860-677-0504](tel:860-677-0504)).

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Mid-Hudson Orchid Society (MHOS) upcoming Show and Sale:

When: Saturday, October 14, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m.

Where: Union Presbyterian Church, 44 Balmville Rd., Newburgh NY 12550

This event is open to the public and there is no admission cost. Please visit our website at [mhos.us.org](http://mhos.us.org) for club information and contacts.



Steve 'Ski' presents Lee Brockmann with the annual Dick Valentine Hobbyist Award for garnering the most points in the hobbyist category during our 2017 fiscal year. Welcome to "Advanced Growers" Lee!

**A very special thanks to everyone at NHOS who helped the IPA make our annual Regional Meeting happen!**

**In particular we'd like to thank Adrienne Giovino for being my right-hand person for registrations & her work not only in setting up digital visuals for our auction plants, but for also keeping track of the bids and finally collecting the funds from all our bidders. Thanks Adrienne!**

**In addition we thank everyone helping provide the food, the computer gurus, and this year in particular, those who served as all hands on deck to get the room set up at the last minute, despite a small glitch, for everyone! Thanks, Steve, for making sure this happened.**

**Kudos go out to all those who so generously donated plants for our fund-raising auction & great thanks to everyone who supported our Region with their generous bidding. It helps offset our expenses of bringing in the two guest speakers, many of whom societies would not normally be able to hear from, and it helps keep our Regional Meetings something to enjoy for everyone.**

**Thanks to the following auction donors:**

**Gold Country Orchids  
Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies  
Chuck Crisler  
Bob Cleveland  
Dr. Tom Gregg  
Sue Labonville**

**Although many people assume our Regional Meetings are just about Phalaenopsis, we always add a culture speaker who will cover orchid culture in general. And we do cover a lot of the newest intergeneric Phalaenopsis breeding that's being done in Taiwan with other Vanda species & hybrids. We're trying to make these meetings a source of general orchid information for everyone & welcome suggestions from all our attendees to make our meetings even better.**

**Again, thanks to everyone who donated their time, their effort, their plants and their enthusiasm for our September IPA Regional Meeting.**

**Carri Raven-Riemann, IPA New England Regional Director**



## Hurricane Irma



(Reprinted by permission)

**Irma hits Fakahatchee, but park will recover  
by Patrick Higgins  
President - Friends of Fakahatchee**

I hope this finds you all well. I know many of us are exhausted from our own recovery efforts from Irma.

Francine, Glen and I met with Steve Houseknecht Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September to assess the damage to the Fakahatchee from Hurricane Irma and any needs from FOF. Power had just been returned to the park office. Until then the park staff, like many of us, had been in a survival mode. All the staff had evacuated, with a large contingent weathering the storm at Mike Duey's house in Golden Gate.

All the park buildings came out pretty much unscathed except for the small chemical shed behind the park office and Glen's shade house which were demolished.

However, the park residences did not fare as well. Steve Houseknecht's home by the lake flooded, albeit by only a few inches, but with sufficient damage that it's uninhabitable. He has spent much of the past week ferrying personal possessions to his Everglades City house. On top of this, his truck broke down so he commandeered the FOF truck with our blessings. Then he was almost arrested when he was stopped in unkept civilian clothes driving our truck piled high with furniture. They thought he had stolen it.



**Remains of the chemical shed and shade house by the park office.**

**Steve's Everglades City home is a partial stilt house on a raised mound. The water level came within a foot but didn't enter. Everglades City has been devastated. After our park visit Francine and I looked in on Marya Repko. She had mud and water on her screen porch but her living area escaped. It was tragic to see piles of household debris lining all the streets. Mike Owen's house has some roof damage and the stilt house up by I-75 occupied by our newest park Ranger, Guy DiGiovanni, remarkably was not lifted off its foundation, but had some damage. The Park Service will pay for the necessary repairs.**

**The entire length of Janes Scenic Drive is still flooded. Steve was able to make one foray as far as Gate 7 after which it was impassable. At its worst, water was flowing across SR 29 and Highway 41 in places. I'm sure we can expect a number of wash-outs on our trail network, although Steve doesn't expect the road bed of JSD to be too badly damaged, as he had wisely closed much of it since the flooding started 6 weeks ago.**

**Steve is thankful that all the park and FOF vehicles were okay and had been protected either in the sheds or the Harmon building.**

**On the way to the park, Francine, Glen and I surveyed the damage to the Big Cypress Bend Boardwalk. Until then park staff hadn't the resources or time to make other than a cursory inspection. On the crushed rock approach to the start of the Boardwalk our cabbage palms had all their boots stripped so they looked like they had been neatly trimmed by some urban landscaping firm. The vista had also been decidedly opened up with more sunlight where there had been shade. Our new signage along the entire length of the Boardwalk seems to have fared well. Even our big old FOF donation appeal sign was still standing. The traditional chickee structures in the Indian village and almost everywhere else along our route to the park fared well – an important observation as we are building a chickee rain shelter/**

**outdoor classroom at the Boardwalk this autumn. Although mosquitoes in urban areas are becoming a problem, at the park they are not.**



**Our entrance sign and donation box still stand at the boardwalk entrance.**



**This downed tree is one of several blocking the boardwalk.**



**Cypress bark stripped by the wind from trees.**



**The big cypress tree cutout is intact.**



**The iconic strangler fig tree still stands.**



**Explorers Glen Stacell and Francine Stevens scuttle under another branch.**



**Damage from the root ball of a tree that fell away from the boardwalk.**



**The big tree is down...**



**A resilient Dingy Star orchid thrives near the end of the walk.**



**Phew. We made it. Are we too old for this?**

**We managed to reach the alligator hole after about an hour of struggling, some of which was on our hands and knees. Although it is a mess, the Boardwalk fared remarkably well. Most of what needs to be done is cosmetic, such as debris clearance. There were only 10 places with noticeable physical damage to the structure, largely the railings. However there is one 8 foot section where a large**

tree fell away from the boardwalk. Its root ball canted the boardwalk surface at a 45 degree angle. A bypass may be needed here as it will be very difficult to remove the root ball. There is another section higher up where a heritage tree has fallen across the boardwalk and very heavy duty chain saws will be needed.

The platform at the alligator hole was intact and just needs cleaning up.

Unfortunately some of our heritage trees below the big cypress tree cutout had their bark stripped by the wind and will not recover, but from the big cypress tree cutout (including those trees) the bark is pretty much intact and the heritage trees from that point onwards should recover. Unfortunately our iconic eagle nest was blown away, although the tree is still intact. We will have to consult with the Park Biologist as to whether we should interfere and attempt to put some sort of platform there, or let nature take its course.

Amazingly I saw a number of the orchids we had planted out last year with Kit Kitchen-Moran still in place and some stripped cypress already coming out in bud. Unfortunately we also saw some Brazilian pepper reacting to the stress by rushing to flower. Berries and seeds will soon follow.

The State has authorized Steve to hire a contractor to clear the boardwalk. We first need to get some volunteers in first to try to recover the hundreds of healthy bromeliads littering the boardwalk. These can be saved and replanted along our future epiphyte walk. We also want to make good use of the wood chipper we donated to the park so that the debris is hauled out and not just thrown over the rails which would spoil the future visitor experience.

The East River canoe trail entrance was completely blocked by downed trees and the port-a-potty there half submerged, but it is already partially opened through some self-help by eager canoeists.

Until the water goes down there is not much we can do along our trail network and JSD. Steve is assessing the situation and will be making a call for FOF volunteers to assist when appropriate.

On another front, the call for proposals by the DEP for concession operations in the park, which was due to close on 11<sup>th</sup> of October, has been postponed. I am sure it will be reactivated once things settle down. FOF will be submitting what we believe will be a very competitive bid to be master concessionaire.

A bit of good news: the Tourist Development Council (TDC) has sent FOF a draft contract which is will be on their September 25<sup>th</sup> TDC agenda and then presented to the Board of County Commissioners in October for final approval. This is for a grant of \$46,720 to the Friends from the Tourist Development Tax for a Wayfinding Project for the park's hiking, biking and canoe trail system. Among other things this will allow us to install trailhead kiosks in the park and some extra interpretive signs on Janes Scenic Drive.

Our remarkable resource has suffered far more insult than Irma in the past-- including strip logging-- and will recover, aided by our dedicated park staff and volunteers.

The Sun will come out.

Best wishes to you all.



And meanwhile from 150 miles south in the Keys.....

5 days prior to Irma's arrival, my 250-ish orchids, along with the shadecloth from my shadehouse were moved by friends and placed on their benches or hung inside my downstairs enclosure under our stilt home on Little Torch Key. The storm surge came within 6" of the benchtops! If left outside, the storm surge would have been almost to the top of the shadehouse sidewalls. Although I still lost about 15% due to "cooking" in there for 2+ weeks with no water or air movement, I am thrilled with the outcome as any orchids left to fend for themselves outside, even growing naturally on trees, are long gone with the wind. Our neighborhood saw the eyewall with official landfall only 5 miles to our west and sustained major damage with several homes totally destroyed. Overall, we faired quite well. Those who stayed through the storm reported a 6+ foot surge (excluding the waves on top) and 8 straight hours of at least 120 mph winds.

Leigh Coolidge



**The orchids crammed into the enclosure post Irma**



**Happily back in their shadehouse**

## Contacts

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Ocean State Orchid Society  
[www.oceanstateorchidsociety.org](http://www.oceanstateorchidsociety.org)

Northeast Judging Center at Tower Hill  
Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA  
[www.Towerhillbg.org](http://www.Towerhillbg.org)  
508-869-6111

Orchid Conservation Coalition  
[www.orchidconservationcoalition.org](http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org)

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### **Submission of Articles**

Deadline for submission of articles is  
10 days before the monthly meeting.  
Send to Leigh Coolidge at:  
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If your address changes, you must  
notify the Membership Chairperson so  
you can continue to receive any notices  
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