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THE KEIKI EXPRESS

Newsletter of the Virginia Orchid Society
www.vaorchidsociety.org
virginiaorchidsociety@gmail.com

American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
Affiliated Society

Artificial Lighting Simplified

An in-person and zoom presentation by Nicholas Rust

Sunday, October 19 from 1 pm to 5 pm: Presentation at 2 pm
In Classroom 1 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

Nicholas is an up-and-coming hybridizer in the orchid community. His orchid passion began in 2015 when a mini-Phalaenopsis was gifted to him. Like a flame to gasoline, this gift quickly pulled him into the diverse world of orchids. Shortly after his interests were formed, he began exploring the culture of several unique genera of terrestrial orchids. He now specializes in Habenaria and other related genera, jewel orchids, Australian terrestrial orchids, and Bulbophyllum. In 2019, this obsession bloomed into a small orchid nursery, RustyExotics Orchids, which he uses to share the wonders and beauty of his work.

Through studying biochemistry and molecular biology during college, Nicholas approaches his orchids with the same scientific perspective he uses while working in a research lab. This led to an interest in the entire growth cycle of orchids and the start of his own hybridization program in 2018 which focuses mostly on terrestrial orchids, especially Habenaria. His aim is to use rarely cultivated species and distinct variations of species to create truly exceptional shapes and colors that will pave new directions for unique hybrids.

RustyExotics Orchids (REO) was founded in 2019, specialize in terrestrial orchids, especially those in the subtribe Habenariinae. If you are searching for any Habenaria, Pecteilis, Pectabenaria, Cynorkis, or even Bonatea, this is your place to look! REO also grow many jewel orchids and Australian terrestrial orchids like Thelymitra. Terrestrial orchids aside, we also cultivate many Catasetum, Bulbophyllum, and several other fun genera of orchids.

Nick will bring plants to sell;
Members may not bring plants to sell!

Nick needs a ride from the airport to his hotel on Saturday October 18
If you are able to make the drive, please contact Robert Nordin for details: rn5pc@virginia.edu

Virginia Orchid Society 2025-2026 Officers:

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VOS Email Address:
virginiaorchidsociety@gmail.com

Refer to your membership directory for the email addresses for the above members

President's Message

Hi All,

I am looking forward to seeing you Sunday! Please bring your latest blooms for our show table. I look forward to hearing about orchid growing under lights by our speaker, Nicholas Rust. I know many of you grow orchids in your homes.

I want to mention that the Blue Ridge Orchid Society is having their show October 23-25, 2025.

The dates are: October 23, Show Set-Up
October 24, Judging 9AM-- and Show open 11 -5
October 25, Show Open 10 AM and take down at 4 PM

The VOS will not have a display but anyone can enter an orchid or attend the show.

I want to remind you of the greenhouse tour on October 25, 2025 from 10-3 at my house from 10-12 (2114 W. Poythress St. Hopewell, VA 23860) and Karen and Ned Collier's house from 12-3 (12299 Griffin Rd. Petersburg, VA 23805). I have a freestanding greenhouse and Karen has a conservatory. We look forward to having you. We will have light refreshments and encourage everyone to bring a packed lunch to eat at 1:00 at Karen's. Drinks will be provided. If you haven't already signed up, please do so at our meeting Sunday.

Another reminder is that our November meeting is on November 9, 2025. This is the second Sunday and not the third. We plan this meeting around Lewis Ginter's "Garden Fest of Lights". We will have the AOS outreach judging. Please be grooming and staking your best plants for viewing. I would love to see AOS awards being given out.

I hope new members and any interested other members can watch Linda and Daune's repotting demonstration. Please come early because it starts at 1:00.

Happy orchid growing,

Robin

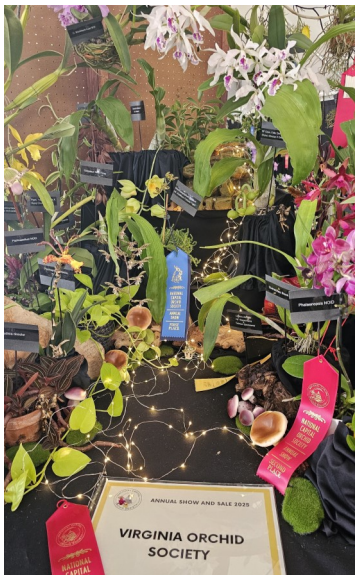
New Members' Workshop

For new members and other interested members

- Topic: How to Repot your Orchids (even in your living room)
- Presenters: Linda Lawrence and Daune Poklis
- Place: LGBG's Kelly Education Center, Classroom 1
- Date/Time: This Sunday Oct 19, 2025 1:00pm

Our Meeting Location:
Classroom 1 in the
Kelly Education Center
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
1800 Lakeside Ave., Henrico, VA 23228

The VOS Display in the NCOS Show
September 19-21, 2025



Helen Hull-Sanders, Meredith Brothers, and Ethan Gaddis: The set-up crew, with Beth Kunberger and Patrick Carey, who both served as AOS judging clerks.

Photo by Beth Kunberger

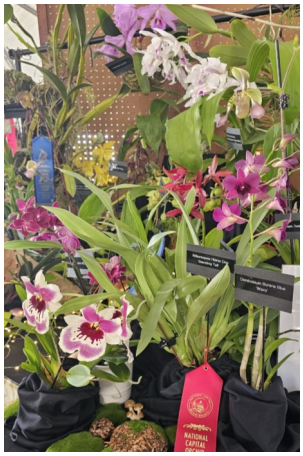
Photos by Ethan Gaddis, except as noted

A heartfelt thank you to Helen and her crew who achieved much success in creating a display in the National Capital Orchid Society's AOS Judged show. Their VOS display was awarded a second place ribbon in the judging class that included table top displays entered by orchid societies.

Patrick Carey with his award winning
Lc. George Baldwin 'Waldor' AM/AOS (80 pts.)
Photo provided by the NCOS

Members who loaned plants include:
Adam Switzer
Allen Black
Brenda Kliesen
Helen Hull-Sanders
Joanne Hehre Brothers
Meredith Brothers
Robin Maiorana
Stan Baker

Cattleya Maximum Lust [#2]



Miltoniopsis Hijime Ono 'Standing Tall'

Ribbon winners include:

Allen Black, Brassavola flagellaris 'Robertsiae': **2nd place**
Cattleya maxima ('Peruvian Beauty' x self): **1st place** + **Best Species in Show**
Cattleya Maximum Lust [#2]: **2nd place**
Brassocattleya Playa Chuao: **2nd place** **First Bloomed Seedling**
Beth Kunberger, Paphiopedilum Yang-Ji Apple x Hung-Sang 'General': **1st place**
Helen Hull-Sanders, Grammatophyllum scriptum var. multiflora 'Fortune Tiger': **1st place**
Paphiopedilum dianthum: **3rd place**
Miltoniopsis Hijime Ono 'Standing Tall': **2nd place**
Galeopetalum Starburst 'Parkside', AM/AOS: **1st place**
Joanne Hehre Brothers, Ludisia discolor var. dawsoniana 'Salmon Sandstone': **3rd place** **Foliage**
Meredith Brothers, Phalaenopsis NOID: **2nd place**
Catasetum Ten Dragons 'Wicked': **2nd place**
Robin Maiorana, Rhyncattleanthe Love Triangle 'Lynne': **2nd place**
Stan Baker, Schomburgkia splendida: **3rd place**
Cattleya Jalapa: **1st place**

Brassocattleya Playa Chuao

Photos from our September Show Table

Photos by June Pierson

Spathoeglottis lobbii
Grown by Rob Nordin

Cattleya percivaliana
Grown by Rob Nordin

Vanda Pachara Delight FCC/JOGA
Grown by Karen Collier

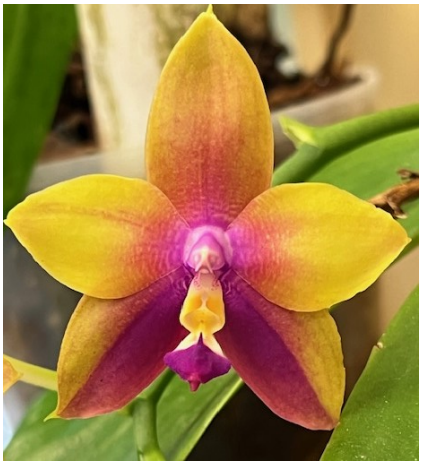
Guarianthe bowringiana
Grown by LeAnne Wingo

Myrmecocattleya Frank's Passion
Grown by Stan Baker

Sophronitis bicolor
Grown by Rob Nordin

Milt. Andrea West 'HOF' HCC/AOS
Grown by Karen Collier

Renanthera philippinensis x
Vanda falcata
Grown by Irina Neverova



Phal. LD Bellina
Grown by LeAnne Wingo