



APRIL 2026

Welcome to the AOS Corner, the monthly newsletter for Representatives, Presidents, and Newsletter Editors. It's the second quarter of 2026 and the continuation of Orchid Shows, Festivals and Gatherings! April is packed with holidays and observances, featuring major events like April Fools' Day, Easter, Passover, Earth Day and significant awareness including Autism Acceptance and Stress Awareness. It's also a great time to get your plants out of hibernation, if you haven't already, repotted and ready for the showers that will bring your May flowers!

MESSAGE FROM THE AFFILIATED SOCIETIES COMMITTEE CHAIR

This month we are sharing the Affiliated Society FAQ's and I'm requesting each Society AOS Rep to answer the following questions:

- How many Active Members: _____
- How many Active Members are AOS Members: _____
- Do you have an Annual Show/Festival Event: Yes or No / If so, what Month _____
- Do you offer AOS Judging at the Show: Yes or No
- In the past, has your Society requested AOS Certificates of Appreciation: Yes or No
- How can the Affiliated Society Committee help: _____

Kindly send me an email at arod@aos.org with your Society's response . Thank you again for your love of orchids and support of the AOS!!



Affiliated Society Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q. What is an Affiliated Orchid Society?

A. Orchid societies around the world who have associated themselves with the American Orchid Society are the AOS Affiliated Societies.

Q. What is the requirement to be an affiliated society?

A. Complete the application and send it to the Affiliated Society committee at affiliated_societies@aos.org. Other requirements are that the society must keep an AOS membership and the AOS Representative (who is appointed by the society) must also be an AOS member. The application for affiliation is presented at the next AOS Member's Meeting to the AOS Board.

Q. Who serves on the Affiliated Society Committee?

A. AOS has a paid staff but many, if not most, of the mission is fulfilled by volunteers and committees. In the front of the Orchids magazine you'll see the listing of all AOS committees and their members. The Affiliated Society Committee and its members have been a part of the AOS since 1946.

Q. So what does the Affiliated Society Committee do?

A. We have several duties assigned to us by the AOS Board of Trustees. We are the interface between affiliated orchid societies, AOS Reps and the AOS. We assist societies by sending them information for their board, their membership and their newsletters. We receive information, concerns and suggestions, and forward it to the appropriate staff person or committee. If your society does not have contact with the AOS please let us know and we will set up the necessary communications.

Q. What do the AOS Reps do?

A. AOS Reps are typically appointed by their society president or board. The AOS Rep communicates with the Affiliated Society Committee. If the rep receives communications they pass them on to the board, newsletter editor or the membership. They also send information to the Affiliated Society Committee. We suggest they say something about the AOS to the entire membership at each meeting, and make sure there are AOS applications available to their members.

Q. What are the benefits of being an affiliated society?

1. A print copy of Orchids Magazine (Gold memberships) to keep or give to your society members.

2. Affiliation with your local orchid judging center
3. AOS Certificates of Appreciation for the society to recognize their outstanding members (2 per year)
4. Distinguished Affiliated Society Service Award
5. Access to our Speakers Center and educational presentations
6. Downloadable webinars for future society meeting
7. Newsletter Editors assistance

Q. Can Affiliated Societies share login credentials with their members?

A. Affiliates and their representatives may not share ID logons and passwords or share any AOS digital material beyond what is allowed as an affiliate benefit and listed on the AOS website (aos.org). To avoid affiliation being revoked if a violation occurs, please ask before sharing AOS owned digital material if you are unsure.

Q. What is the Newsletter Editors assistance?

A. The Committee collects and then distributes information to newsletter editors. This information includes the "AOS Corner" and other articles which newsletter editors can put into their newsletters. Contact the Committee at affiliated_societies@aos.org to be added to the distribution list.

Q. How do I reach the Affiliated Societies Committee?

A. Write to affiliated_societies@aos.org or arod@aos.org

Q. What is the DASSA award?

A. The acronym stands for the Distinguished Affiliated Society Service Award and it is an award given to affiliated societies in recognition of sustained, outstanding contributions in areas of service and support.

Q. What are AOS Member's Meetings?

A. The AOS holds twice-yearly AOS Member's Meetings. Sometimes they are held virtually, but they are usually in conjunction with a local orchid society show. You can find the information on this web site under "Events". If your society would like to host a meeting, send us an email and we'll be happy to work with you: affiliated_societies@aos.org

Webinars - Coming Attractions!

REGISTRATION IS EASY www.aos.org/webinars

Cannot make it on the scheduled date and time? No need to worry.

Register now and view on your time schedule.

Send Your Greenhouse Chat Questions and Photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

Greenhouse Chat webinars are recorded and summarized by topic for future viewing.

When	April 02, 2026 Thursday 8:30 pm EDT	April 21, 2026 Wednesday 8:30 pm EDT	May 05, 2026 Tuesday 8:30 pm EDT	Future Webinars
Topic	<p><i>FREE Live</i> Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by March 31</i></p>	<p><i>Members Only Live</i> Cattleya alarrii An introduction to growing primary, complex and intergenerics with this dwarf species. Benefit from personal experience.</p>	<p><i>FREE Live</i> Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by May 02</i></p>	<p>In Search Of Webinar Presenters You are invited to share your orchid knowledge with an enthusiastic audience of thousands. Contact webinar organizer for details. greenhousechat@aos.org</p>
Presenter	<p>Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer</p>	<p>Jojo Beaubien Successful grower of this petite orchid species</p>	<p>Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer</p>	<p>Expert Growers, Hobby Growers, AOS Judges, Scientists, Biologists and YOU!</p>



Webinar announcements are posted on the AOS website, on Facebook and Instagram, and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.

Use the
WEBINAR
Display
Filter

SHARE YOUR IDEAS & STORIES

YOUR GREAT IDEAS

Has your Society created ways to keep members engaged coming back for more? Do you have a fun fact you would like us to share? We would like to hear from you.

YOUR BLUNDERS

Do you have a recurring problem? Share your mishaps as well! Your lessons can help others avoid similar mistakes.

Please email us your stories to arod@aos.org. If you wish your story to remain anonymous, we will be more than happy to keep it so.

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Affiliated Societies Committee is looking for team members. Help us continue to build relationships and resources for American Orchid Society Affiliates. Please send an email to arod@aos.org if you are interested in joining us at our next virtual meeting.

THANK YOU FOR READING!

Please remember to include the Affiliated Societies Committee (affiliated_societies@aos.org) to your newsletter distribution. We would like to know what you are doing. Help us help everyone by sending us your great ideas, recurring problems and your blunders; we all need that little inspiration in our orchid journey. If you have something to share, or there is something you would like to read about, please let us know!

The AOS Corner is for society representatives and newsletter editors. Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner completely, or in part, in their society publications. We encourage use of [the AOS website](#) by all members.

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS>