



## MAY 2026

Welcome to the AOS Corner, the monthly newsletter for Representatives, Presidents, and Newsletter Editors. May flowers abound and the Shows and Festivals continue as we get ready for Summer! May features a mix of international, cultural and religious observances, with specific focus on health awareness, heritage and family. Major events like May Day, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, International Nurses Day and Memorial Day are just some of the many events/observances that make May special.

### MESSAGE FROM THE AFFILIATED SOCIETIES COMMITTEE CHAIR

This month is extra special for me because it's my birthday month! It is also the time that the new AOS Board gets started... hard at work continuing the momentum that has kept the American Orchid Society an internationally recognized non-profit for over 100 years! In the following pages you'll see our new President, Alison Gallaway, message and a list of the Board Members so you can reach out and say Hello. If you want to get involved with the ASC, kindly send me an email at [arod@aos.org](mailto:arod@aos.org). Thank you again for your love of orchids and support of the AOS!!



---

## MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Hello. As you may know I was just elected President at the Member Conference in Apopka in April during the Town Hall. Each AOS member is sent an electronic ballot via their email address on file with the office. If you attend the Town Hall in person, you can also cast your vote in person as at least 7 or 8 members did. There is an annual election. This time we only elected trustees, next year we will elect trustees and officers.

One of the things I am trying to do as President is attend meetings of affiliated societies and judging centers. I want to hear from You... the things that the AOS is doing that helps your societies and what we could do better.

My first venture is to Hilo, Hawaii. I am attending both an affiliated society meeting and a judging center monthly judging. It will be my first trip to Hawaii and I am very excited. I hope to have pictures for next month's President message for the Affiliated Societies. I plan on highlighting visited societies and judging centers in my monthly President's message in Orchids, so if I come see your society will you be at the meeting?

If it were not for the affiliated societies support of both their respective judging centers (who provide judges for their shows) and the AOS by paying your show fee and for the AOS trophy for your exhibit show, there would be many fewer judging centers, judges, and shows. Your support grows our judging centers and the AOS. We depend on your support to keep our judging system strong.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as I possibly can. Good growing and best of luck with your local society events. You may reach me at [President@AOS.org](mailto:President@AOS.org) or [alisong@aos.org](mailto:alisong@aos.org)

Alison Gallaway  
President  
American Orchid Society  
Education. Conservation. Research

# Webinars - Coming Attractions!

REGISTRATION IS EASY [www.aos.org/webinars](http://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](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)  
 Greenhouse Chat webinars are recorded and summarized by topic for future viewing.

When	May 05, 2026 Tuesday 8:30 pm EDT	June 11, 2026 Thursday 8:30 pm EDT	All Greenhouse Chats	Future Webinars
Topic	<u>FREE Live</u> <b>Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q &amp; A</b> Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by May 02</i>	<u>Members Only Live</u> <b>Hybridizing and Growing Catasetums</b> Learn from the experienced growers with approximately 145 registered hybrids.	<u>FREE Recorded</u> <b>Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q &amp; A</b> Search answers to your questions about all things orchid. View twelve years of Greenhouse Chats.	<b>In Search Of Webinar Presenters</b> You are invited to share <i>your</i> orchid knowledge with an enthusiastic audience of thousands. Contact webinar organizer for details. <a href="mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org">greenhousechat@aos.org</a>
Presenter	<b>Ron McHatton</b> AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	<b>Scott Elliott</b> Hybridizer Maleki Hill Orchids	<b>Ron McHatton</b> AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	Expert Growers, Hobby Growers, AOS Judges, Scientists, Biologists and YOU!



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

---

## AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY BOARD

President = Alison Gallaway

Vice-President = Barb Schmidt

Vice-President = Eron Borne

Treasurer = Jeff Saal

Assistant Treasurer = Stephen Gallagher

Secretary = Terry Kennedy

Immediate Past President = Cheryl Erins

Trustee (2024-2027) = Deborah Boersma

Trustee (2024-2027) = Michelle Dobard

Trustee (2024-2027) = Christine Morales

Trustee (2024-2027) = Bob Winkley

Trustee (2025-2028) = Nathan Bell

Trustee (2025-2028) = Daniel Geiger

Trustee (2025-2028) = Denise Lucero

Trustee (2025-2028) = Dr. Larry Sexton

Trustee (2026-2029) = Ron Kaufmann

Trustee (2026-2029) = Cam Mackey

Trustee (2026-2029) = Alex McLeod

Trustee (2026-2029) = Matt Nutt

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

---

## VISIT US ON FACEBOOK @

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