

# MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY

October 2009



## OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

Francisco Miranda of Miranda Orchids will speak on **Rupicolous Orchids**.

Francisco Miranda was born in Rio de Janeiro on February 6, 1956. He got his degree in Biology and began his taxonomic studies in the orchid family in 1981. During the next 4 years, he lived most of the time in Manaus where he studied Amazon orchids and began his Master's degree. Shortly after returning to Rio de Janeiro, the Master's was completed on "*section Cattleyodes of the genus Laelia*". Since then, the main interest has been on the Brazilian laelias and cattleyas. He is the author of several papers ranging from species descriptions to subjects of growers' interest in Brazilian, German and U.S. publications. He is also author of two books. Since 2000, he lives in Haines City, Florida, where he has Miranda Orchids, an orchid nursery specializing on Brazilian species and the *Cattleya* alliance.

Visit his website for more information (as well as a price list for those of you interested in pre-ordering plants).

[www.mirandaorchids.com](http://www.mirandaorchids.com).



### DUES DEADLINE

Dues should be sent to:

Chu Jung

21 Coolidge Road

Arlington, MA 02476.

## SAVE THE DATES!!!

### **Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered** Massachusetts Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale

**Oct. 30th (1-5pm) & Oct. 31st - Nov. 1st (10am-5pm), 2009**  
**Tower Hill Botanic Garden**

**[MOSOrchidShow@comcast.net](mailto:MOSOrchidShow@comcast.net)**

**This web site is loaded with information about the show. Please follow the link to get all the latest...and make plans to attend.**

### "Blooming and Beautiful Orchids Needed for the MOS Annual Show Display"

The Annual Show staff is looking for flowering orchids of any size, color, species... to be part of the MOS display between Thursday, October 29 (set-up) and Sunday, November 1. Interested? Please do the following:

1. Contact Susan Flier at 617-731-6145 or [sfflier@comcast.net](mailto:sfflier@comcast.net) with details.
2. Orchids should be labeled, and owner's name must appear on the pot for easy return.
3. Pre-register plants to be judged.
4. Transportation details to be worked out.

So please share your beautiful plants and be part of the show. Contact me soon!



**Have you ever wondered how all this work gets done? The answer is our terrific team of volunteers! People are still needed in the following areas:**

**Presentation Coordinator – to organize speaker presentations during the show. If you would like to present or if you have suggestions please contact Sasha at [sasha@massorchid.org](mailto:sasha@massorchid.org).**

**Hospitality:**

**Do you enjoy talking to people about Orchids? Are you planning to attend our annual show at Tower Hill? If so, please consider giving two hours of your time to help staff the Hospitality Table. This is a great opportunity to help out the Society. You can volunteer with a partner – or meet someone new. A sign-up sheet will be at the meeting, or contact Lynn Hennessey at 781-235-1489.**

**If you can stay for an entire day, 2 coordinators for the hospitality table and volunteers are needed. Please call Lynn if you can help out.**

**Trophies:**

**Each year, MOS presents several trophies at its annual show. Some of the trophies are paid for by endowments (e.g. the Cynthia Guy Memorial Trophy), but most of them are purchased by MOS without any offsetting income. You can help MOS defray this expense by sponsoring a trophy either annually or for a longer period (e.g. 10 years). Annual sponsorship is \$50 and all money paid to sponsor a trophy is tax deductible. If you have questions or would like to sponsor a trophy, please [contact us](#).**

## MOS AUCTION A BIG SUCCESS. THANK YOU!

Hi. I'd like to thank everyone who came to the auction, donated plants, bought plants and clerked, auctioned and otherwise helped with the auction. We did better this year than last. Plants sold for a little less but we sold a lot more!

A special thanks to Sasha and Justin for the fantastic visual aids, Sheila and Susan for clerking, Larry for spotting, Steve Kirincich, Chester Conrad, Bob Richter and Dee Ramee for auctioning, and to all who came and bought plants!

Thanks again to everyone for helping with the success of our auction! If you made a donation and need a letter, please let me know.

Brian Leib [bleibume@gmail.com](mailto:bleibume@gmail.com)



## Do You Need A Consultation?

### *The Orchid Doctor Is In!*

The Orchid Doctor is available before each monthly meeting to help diagnose ailing orchids and to offer treatment suggestions. Come at 7:00PM to get your checkup.

- ❖ Does it need repotting?
- ❖ What's this on the leaf?
- ❖ Why won't this bloom?

Bring the plant in. If it's a question of a possible insect or disease issue, the plants should be transported in a sealed plastic bag.

## The Fall Season

Like spring, fall is an important transitional season and orchid growers should be making preparations for the coming winter. As days get shorter and cooler, orchid growth will slow and in some cases, cease altogether. Unless a plant is in a crisis situation, put off any repotting until the lengthening days of spring. For many orchids, it is this change of seasonal conditions that begins flower initiation. As we move into November, be on the lookout for developing inflorescences on *Phalaenopsis*, *Cymbidium* and certain hybrids and species in other genera, and begin staking when spikes reach 6-8 inches.

If you have been summering some or all of your orchids outside, now is a good time to get your indoor growing area cleaned up and ready to welcome the returning orchids. Whether it is windowsill carts, a basement light setup or greenhouse, use diluted chlorine bleach (1:10) or Physan to clean off any accumulated algae. It is easier to make repairs when there are no plants, so make sure that your growing area is in top condition for the trying conditions of winter. Make sure that heaters are working and that you have plenty of fuel. If you use backup devices or alarms, test them too. Be sure to check plants thoroughly for pests before returning them to the close quarters of your indoor growing area or greenhouse.

For more detailed seasonal culture information on specific genera see Tom Mirenda's excellent monthly "Orchid Checklist" in [\*Orchids\* magazine](#).



Although it blooms reliably for us at Christmas, *Cattleya percivaliana* can bloom anytime from October into January. It blooms at the early end of that range in its habitat in the Venezuelan Andes. Shown here is the albescent color form, 'Sonia de Urbano'.

Reprinted courtesy of AOS

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## Upcoming Events

Saturday, Oct 3 Nov 7	<b>Northeast Judging Center Boylston, MA</b> , Tower Hill Botanic Garden, 11 French Dr., Boylston, MA, Robert Winkley, <a href="mailto:rwinkley@aol.com">rwinkley@aol.com</a> . Presentations begin @ 10:00 AM. Judging begins at 12 PM. <a href="#">Directions</a>
Tuesday, Oct 13	<b>MOS Meeting</b> , Suburban Experimental Station, 241 Beaver St., Waltham, MA, 7:30PM
October 30-November 1	<b>MOS Fall Show and Sale</b> "Bewitched by Orchids" Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA; <a href="mailto:MOSOrchidShow@comcast.net">MOSOrchidShow@comcast.net</a>
December 15	<b>Holiday Party</b>
<a href="http://www.massorchid.org">www.massorchid.org</a> newsletter editor: Susan Johnston	

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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.massorchid.org](http://www.massorchid.org)

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Chu Jung  
Massachusetts Orchid Society  
21 Coolidge Road  
Arlington, MA 02476-7736

