
MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY



July 2010

MONTHLY MEETING TUES. JULY 13th, 7:30pm

Arlington Senior Center (same location as last month)
27 Maple Street
Arlington, MA 02476



Photo courtesy of AOS

It's time to pay your annual dues! Please bring your dues, \$20 in cash or check, to our next meeting July 13th, and check in with Susan Flier for renewal. If you wish, members may send a check made out to MOS to 27 Colchester Street, Brookline, MA 02446, but please identify yourself for proper bookkeeping!



Get an Extra Chance to Win an Orchid!

Simply bring a snack to share at the monthly MOS meeting, and you will be rewarded with an extra ticket for that meeting's plant raffle. We need snacks for our meetings, you need more orchids (doesn't everyone?), so we all benefit.

You also get a raffle ticket for every plant you bring to the show table.

[So don't be shy. Bring in your blooming plants to exhibit on the show table. It's fun and informative...and you might go home with a ribbon!](#)

RESULTS

June 2010

Cym.' Little Beauty"

Dave Roberts

Paph. 'Judge Philip'

Barbara Head

Laelia purpurata group	Brandt Moran
Paph.' Prime Child'	Brigitte Fortin
Soph. acuensis	Chieko & Ralph Collins
Tricopilia hennisiana	Jim Ayer
Rossioglossum 'Rawdon Jester'	Chieko & Ralph Collins
Laelia purpurata alba 'Marcia Richter'	Bob Richter
Stelis managalensis 'Marcia Richter"	Bob Richter
Paph. superbiens	Brian Leib
Laelia tenebrosa	Bob Richter



The MOS Website looks beautiful. Check out its new look and get lots of information about your organization. www.massorchid.org

SPEAKER REQUEST FROM THE LOWELL GARDEN CLUB

In booking programs for the coming year, the Executive Board of the Lowell Garden Club would like to schedule an orchid presentation for our October 19, 2010 meeting. We felt that the MOS would be the most logical place to find experts in the fields of orchid cultivation and propagation, as well as design and decoration utilizing orchids. We are open to leaving program content to the experts and are probably at a level of educational need best defined as orchids 101.

Please contact me via email or by phone at work (978-452-1181) or at home (978-640-0554). I will of course be needing information on cost and any major requirements to stage a program for about 45 members in a brightly lit church rectory. Our meeting time, incidentally, is from 2-4:00 p.m.

I appreciate your assistance and look forward to hearing from and working with MOS members on this program.

Regards,
Judy Blackburn, President Pro-Tem





Perfection? - No Such Thing.....

I was pulling orders this past Monday when I walked past my favorite plant. It is a *Phalaenopsis lindenii*, mounted and happily hanging on the wall. This specific "favorite" plant has many siblings surrounding it (close to 100 of them), all of them sending out new root growth.

My favorite plant, however, is by far the largest, strongest-growing plant of the group. It will, most likely, bloom well before its brothers and sisters. Yet it has not been purchased by a browsing customer, nor have I picked it for an order. Why? Well, my favorite plant happens to have a tear in its largest leaf. Although it is the grandest and most vigorous plant in the bunch, it is not the prettiest. Thus it remains in our greenhouse, growing steadily. This "ugly duckling" of a plant has thus become the "favorite," and I am anxiously awaiting its maturity so that it will repay my tender loving care with some beautiful flowers.

Orchids react to their environment. Black spots can appear when the plant gets too much sun, or when overwatered. A greyish-yellow color appears on the backs of the leaves when spider mites decide to take residence and chow down. If a plant is dropped or tips over, a split or tear in a leaf can occur. Old leaves can turn yellow, then fall off after repotting or when new growth takes over. Fungus spots occur when heat and humidity are high during the summer months.

All of these things affect the appearance of our orchid collection. These blemishes, in most cases, will never go away, just like the freckles and age spots that keep appearing all over Greg's body. When (if) I get old, I expect the same thing might happen to me.

We must learn to read these 'signs' that our plants are exhibiting, and adjust their care accordingly. But we must also appreciate the fact

that there are no perfect plants. A brown spot or yellow fleck here or there is not the end of the world. Rather, look at the new, fresh green growth and new roots. A spot on an old leaf is simply a reminder of an event in the plant's past that may not have been ideal.

When choosing a new plant, look mainly at the new growth. Both the new leaves and roots should be healthy and strong. If it has one old pseudobulb on the back that is shriveled, that's OK as long as the new growth looks healthy. If, however, the new leaves have spots, or are any color other than green, the plant is telling you that something is wrong and that it is time to take corrective action.

Insects usually go to the fresh, tender new growth, as does fungus, mold and black rot. By watching the newly developing leaves and roots of our orchids, we can tell if they are healthy or, conversely, in need of insecticide, miticide or fungicide.

But also, learn to appreciate the black spot on that old growth of your favorite plant. It helps to make it what it is--unique! Consider it a battle wound, or just a reminder that nothing in this world is perfect. Appreciate the beauty of your orchid collection - warts and all!

Happy Growing,

Liese

Oak Hill Gardens

<http://www.oakhillgardens.com/>



MOS IS ON FACEBOOK! BECOME A FAN.

BE AN ACTIVE PART OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY.
VOLUNTEERING IS A GREAT WAY TO GET INVOLVED.



Cymbidium Lillian Stewart 'Monique', AM/AOS

Visit us at:
www.massorchid.org

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