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# MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY

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April 2011

MONTHLY MEETING TUES. April 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:30

*Don't Miss Guest Speaker - Bob Aldrich, speaking on:*

*How to Grow Orchids in the Home Environment*

He has been collecting and raising orchids for fifteen years at The Inn at Weston. The greenhouse contains this large and varied collection. It is one of the largest private collections in the Northeast, containing over 375 unique species, hybrids, and mericlones and over 600 plants altogether. Some plants are huge, others are miniatures. Some are potted, others mounted on bark, tree fern or tree branches simulating the way they grow and thrive in nature. Phalaenopsis, vanda alliance, cattleya, laelia, oncidium alliance, bulbophyllum, paphiopedulum, miltonia, dendrobium, masdavellia, cymbidium and many rare species are all represented.



Oncidium Twinkle Red

Photo Courtesy of J & L Orchids



## Special Alert for the May Meeting...Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

Harold Koopowitz will be speaking on “Creating the new mini paphiopedilums”

*Harold grew up in South Africa where he attended university majoring in both Botany and Zoology. He then completed a doctorate at UCLA in California in 1968. A professor at the University of California at Irvine since graduating he was also the Director of the UCI Arboretum for twenty years.*

He is well known for his work on slipper orchids, both species and hybrids and is author of several books and a large number of research papers. His most recent books include “*Orchids and their Conservation*”, “*Clivias*” and now “*Tropical Slipper Orchids*” for Timber Press. He is currently working on a new introductory book on slipper orchids as well as one on “*Autumn Flowering Daffodils*”. Harold is Editor Emeritus of the *Orchid Digest*. He still grows and breeds paphiopedilums especially miniature hybrids as well as having an international reputation as a breeder of miniature daffodils.



MOS NEW MEMBERS

Chris Bowe, North Andover  
John Edson, Maynard  
Dave Gehman, Framingham  
Prakash Kadkade, Marlborough  
Sucheta Kadkade, Marlborough

The March Show Table was a sight to behold. We  
needed three tables to hold all the exhibits!

Congratulations to these ribbon winners!

Phal. H.P. Norton 'Kathy'  
Phal. Orchidview Tabasco 'Katherine'  
Vandopsis gigantean  
Phal. Artemis

Bob Richter  
Bob Richter  
Bob Richter  
Bob Richter



Photo courtesy of Brigitte Fortin

De. moniliforme 'mumei'

Ralph and Chieko Collins



Photo courtesy of Brigitte Fortin

Miltonia hanajime ono

Derek Santieri

C. aurantiaca

Warren and Sue Wainwright

Den. Angel Baby 'Little Darling'

Barbara Head

Phal. Taida 'King's Caroline'

Dave Roberts

Den. Zip 'Jack McM'

Brian Leib

Den. Bardo Rose 'Chris' HCC/AOS

Dave Roberts

Phal. Sogo 'Chabatic'

Dave Roberts

Phal. Alten Nasu x Ping Long Memory

Joel Shelkrot

### SPECIAL AWARD

Dendrobium delicatum kingianum x speciosum by Warren and Suzie Wheelwright



Photo courtesy of Brigitte Fortin



Ask Joan

Email your questions to [joan@massorchid.org](mailto:joan@massorchid.org)

*An occasional column answering questions and providing orchid growing information to our members. Some of this information is derived from the AOS member site and some from fellow MOS members. I've been growing orchids for about eight years, still a beginner, and this is a good way to learn and share. To keep the column lively and timely, please contribute your questions and comments.*

**Q.**

What is the best way to re-root orchids that have lost their roots for one reason or another? Specifically I'd like to know about re-rooting phals and plants in the Cattleya Alliance.

**A.**

*Traditional wisdom dictates that plants can be encouraged to root by providing a moist atmosphere while keeping the medium on the dry side. This enables the plant to remain turgid (not wilted) until the roots naturally come to support the foliage. In practice, this can be done by repotting the plants into the smallest container that will accept the root mass and encasing the entire product in a plastic bag. The bag can be supported off the foliage by making a wire loop and inserting the ends of the wire into the pot. The plant should be watered into the medium, covered with the bag and left in a shady spot until root growth is evident. You've created a kind of terrarium, and need add no more water. Depending on the season, this may take days or weeks. As days shorten after late September until January, it will take longer than in spring and summer as days lengthen.*

# Orchid Trivia ☺

A Fun Idea suggested by Susan Flier...if you have any things of interest for the newsletter, please email them to me at [newsletter@massorchid.org](mailto:newsletter@massorchid.org)



The largest orchid is generally agreed to be *Grammatophyllum speciosum*. It can weigh up to 2,000 pounds or 900 kilograms and is reputed to produce up to 10,000 flowers on a mature plant in nature. The pseudobulbs reach 10 feet or 3 meters in height with leaves along the full length. The species is found in Malaysia, the Solomon Islands, Sumatra, the Philippines, Papua and New Guinea.

These plants are usually rare in cultivation due to their spacial requirements. Plants require direct sunlight and intermediate to warm temperatures. Keep in temperatures of 75° to 85° F in the day and 55° -60° F in the night. Plants can tolerate temperatures up to 100° F and as low as 45° F. Plants need to be heavily fertilized during growing season. Pot in sphagnum moss or medium fir bark. Mix should be well drained. Keep area well ventilated. Water frequently in spring to early fall during growth period, but do not keep mix wet and damp. In the winter reduce watering and water when potting media is dried.



Do You Need A Consultation For Your Plants?

***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.

**WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR. IT'S FUN, INTERESTING AND A GREAT JOB FOR MOS. IF YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A WAY TO HELP OUT, THIS IS IT! BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS ARE NEEDED, BUT I'M HERE TO HELP – AT LEAST FOR NOW!!! Email me at [susan.johnston3@comcast.net](mailto:susan.johnston3@comcast.net)**

# Spring Orchid Sale

**Friday, April 8 - Sunday, April 10, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

[Lyman Estate Greenhouses](#), 185 Lyman Street, Waltham, Mass.

## **Admission is Free**

Hundreds of orchid plants are for sale, including many hard-to-find varieties. Among the varieties are for sale: cattleyas, laelias, paphiopedilums, and phalaenopsis. Both species and hybrid plants that are budded and blooming are available.

**Please call 781-891-1985 for more information.**

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## AOS JUDGING CENTER INFORMATION

An AOS Judging Center is a great place to see how new hybrids are blooming and what new species are coming out of the wilds or even flasks. Hybridizers, whose goal is to make better-looking flowers and plants, get to see what's working, and, what's not. All attendees get a first-hand look at the best, most unusual, and even the worst in orchid breeding.

The Judging Program affords exhibitors and judges alike with an opportunity to look at issues like this through informative presentations and lively discussions that precede plant judging. The bottom line is that Judging Centers are in place for the benefit of all orchid interests.

MOS has made a contribution on your behalf to support the AOS Judging Program at the Northeast Regional Centers in Boylston, MA and Elmsford, NY. The great thing about orchids is that there's always something in bloom. Please bring your plants and visit us soon. We look forward to seeing you!

**Programs usually begin at 10:15 AM. Plants submitted for judging should be registered by 11:45 AM.**

Judging sessions at both locations are Free and Open to the Public - donations to the Northeast Regional Center are always appreciated.

Monthly on the first Saturday. Next session, May 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Tower Hill Botanical Garden  
11 French Drive  
Boylston, MA

Bob Winkley, Chair  
617-282-7351

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



Cymbidium Lillian Stewart 'Monique', AM/AOS

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Visit us at:  
[www.massorchid.org](http://www.massorchid.org)

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