

Massachusetts Orchid Society



January: Jerry Kessler

**Topic: My One and Only
(Award-Winning!) Orchid**

Jerry E. Kessler recently retired after thirty eight years as a professor of Dental Laboratory Technology. In that period of time, he established four Dental Technology Programs, one of which he taught at for 33 years, Middlesex Community College, in Lowell Massachusetts. Technician of the Year was awarded to Kessler by the Massachusetts Dental Society.

He belongs to the American Orchid Society, New Hampshire, and Nutmeg State Orchid Societies. He recently presented a lecture, at Tower Hill, Boylston, MA, on the twenty years of cultivating his Cymbidium Pauwelsii 'Kessander', CCM/AOS.

Hear more about this (soon to be infamous) plant at our meeting!

Upcoming Events

January 10th –

Speaker: Jerry Kessler

Topic: My One and Only Award-Winning Orchid

January 28 & 29 –

CAIOS Annual Show

See page 5

February 10-12 –

NHOS Annual Show

See page 5

February 14th –

MOS Monthly Meeting

Plants & Help for CAIOS Show

Hi folks!

On **January 28 and 29**, the Cape & Islands Orchid Society will hold their 23rd Annual Orchid Show "Orchid Vessel". The Massachusetts Orchid Society has long had a display at this show and this year is no different! To that end, I need plants! No, not just because I'm a little nutty about orchids but mostly because I need plants to put in our display for the show!

If you have plants you are willing to let me use in the display, you can either bring them to the January meeting, or, preferably, I'd meet you closer to the show or, and even

better, you'll bring them down and meet me at the show.

If you want to help with the setup or dismantling of the show (setup on Thursday, January 26, judging/clerking Friday, January 27, tear down Sunday, January 29 at 5 pm), please let me know! Clerking is a fun way to get to know more about orchids and meet more people in the orchid community. (When you help setup, one often has a first look at what the vendors have....)

Thanks!

Brian – brian@massorchid.org

Please see page 5 for more show info.



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Program –

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Adrienne Giovino,
Sasha Varsanofieva
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MOS 2011 Show
photography by
Nick Pavey.

Membership

If you haven't paid your 2011-2012 annual dues, please do so ASAP!

Please send your dues to:

Susan Flier
27 Colchester Street
Brookline, MA 02446

Save the Date

Saturday, September 8, 2012

IPA Focus on Phals Day

Bedford NH

More details to come

Conservation Matters



Conservation of orchid species and their habitats has been a cornerstone of the AOS since our founding in 1921. Through its members and staff, the Society plays a major role in the formulation of world orchid conservation opinion and

policies. By working to save orchids and their habitats here and abroad, we preserve their beauty and important role in the planet's ecosystem.

Learn more about the AOS' conservation efforts: <http://aos.org/Default.aspx?id=50>



Liese Butler
Oak Hill Gardens

www.OakHillGardens.com



Have Your Keiki (and Grow It Too)

How exciting! After the Phalaenopsis had bloomed out after three months of flowering, the spike was trimmed above a growth node on the stem. Now, only a few weeks later, a new spike was forming on the node where the cut was made! The spike was monitored with excitement as it steadily lengthened. Then bewilderment set in. Leaves and roots were forming on the old spike, instead of the anticipated flower buds.

The new plant forming on the bud spike is called a "Keiki," pronounced 'kay-key', which is the Hawaiian word for baby, or child. This occurs commonly among some varieties of orchids, and is a way for the plant to asexually reproduce on its own. Many Tolumnia, Dendrobium and Phalaenopsis species throw off keikis regularly. Some Phalaenopsis hybrids also produce keikis. We have even seen them form on the tops of the old leafless pseudobulbs of Zygopetalum, Coelogyne and Anguloa.

Usually keikis occur on a completely healthy plant. However, they sometimes

are formed when the plant is stressed. Dendrobiums, for instance, produce keikis quickly if the main plant is rotted out and "on death's door."

A keiki should be left alone and allowed to remain attached to the "Mother Plant" until leaves and a few nice roots have formed. At this point the keiki can be cut off the spike (below the roots, of course) and potted in a fine mix. This is usually best done in spring or summer during the plant's active growth period.

The keiki may also be left on the mother plant. Many times these keikis will actually bloom while still attached. However, this will, in many cases, prevent the parent plant from producing a new bud spike. The "Mother Plant" is putting all of its energy into the new "baby," instead of producing more buds and flowers.

Keikis are fun to watch develop and grow. They are just one more fascinating phenomenon of the orchid growing process.

Enjoy yer hobby! - Liese

Orchid Trivia: The Spurred Helmet Orchid



I am found in open forests and woodlands of eastern Australia from north Queensland to Tasmania.

Plants of my genus are very distinctive orchids because of their relatively large, purplish-red "helmet-shaped" flowers. I am a terrestrial herb with a single basal leaf up to 25 mm long by about 15 mm wide, purplish on the underside. My 15 mm diameter flowers occur singly and are seen in late autumn and winter. I form large

colonies but become dormant in summer when I die back to underground tubers.

I am cultivated mainly by orchid enthusiasts as I am difficult to maintain for any length of time. Generally I am grown in pots in a freely draining, sandy mix. I require good air circulation in a protected position of about 50% sun during the active growing period after flowering. In cultivation, my flowers may abort before fully opening if there is insufficient humidity in the growing environment. When I become dormant in summer, repotting of tubers can be carried out.

What am I?

Find out at the bottom of page 4.

Original text and photo from:
<http://anpsa.org.au/c-aco.html>



Helmet Orchids

Additional photos from:

<http://peonyden.blogspot.com/>

November Show Table Results

6 Plants Awarded

Judges: Carl Geyer, Brian Leib, George Baltoumas

Scribe: Linda Abrams

Plant	Owner
Plant Group	Bob Richter
Mediocalca decoratum	Ralph & Chieko Collins
Restrepia species	Ralph & Chieko Collins
Bc. Hippodamia	Elizabeth Janko
Phal. Zuma's Pixie 'Taida Little Cutie'	Brigitte Fortin
Onc. Maureen x Haematochilus	Brigitte Fortin
Zygopetalum hybrid	Brigitte Fortin

In an effort to get our meetings started by 7:30, we kindly request that show table plants be ready for judging by **7:15pm.**



Orchid Trivia Answer:
Corybas aconitiflorus



J&L ORCHIDS' JANUARY THAW

Everything is 20% Off!!*

January 21-29, 9 - 4 each day

We have been working hard to propagate plants to make sure we have an exciting selection of unusual species and hybrids. Some special plants are in limited quantities and available ONLY at the sale!

Best Savings of the Year!

Come chase away the Winter Blues

www.jlorchids.com

J&L Orchids, 20 Sherwood Rd, Easton, CT 06612

[\(203\) 261-3772](tel:(203)261-3772)

*at greenhouse only



Cape & Islands Orchid Society

23rd Annual Orchid Show "Orchid Vessel"

January 28th & 29th 2012 (9-5)

Admission \$10

Resort & Conference Center at Hyannis
35 Scudder Ave. Hyannis, MA 02601
More information: www.caos.org

**You Are Cordially Invited to Our
Preview Dinner Party**

"French Soirée"

Friday, January 27th at 6pm.

\$45/pp - For Reservations Contact Joyce at 508-758-2888

Reservation Deadline is Friday January 21st.



New Hampshire Orchid Society

21st Annual Orchid Show "Parade of Orchids"

February 10: 1 pm to 5 pm &
7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

February 11: 9 am to 5 pm

February 12: 9 am to 4 pm

Radisson Hotel, 11 Tara Blvd., Nashua, NH

More information: www.nhorchids.org

Upcoming Events

Date & Time	Event	Location
Sat, January 7, 10:30am	Monthly Regional AOS Judging	Tower Hill Botanic Garden 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA
Tue, January 10, 7:30pm	Monthly MOS Meeting	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA
Sat & Sun, January 28 & 29	Cape & Islands Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale	More info: www.caios.org
Sat, February 4, 10:30am	Monthly Regional AOS Judging	Tower Hill Botanic Garden 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA
Fri-Sat, February 10 - 12	New Hampshire Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale	More info: www.nhorchids.org
Tue, February 14, 7:30pm	Monthly MOS Meeting	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA
Sat, March 3, 10:30am	Monthly Regional AOS Judging	Tower Hill Botanic Garden 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA
Tue, March 13, 7:30pm	Monthly MOS Meeting	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA
Sat, April 7, 10:30am	Monthly Regional AOS Judging	Tower Hill Botanic Garden 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA
Tue, April 17 , 7:30pm (third Tuesday)	Monthly MOS Meeting	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA



**Massachusetts
Orchid Society**

