**REGIONS 17 & 18: NY, Eastern Canada, New England**

Carri Raven-Riemann & Marilyn Shapiro, Regional Directors

Mark your calendars now for our 5th annual Fall weekend of IPA Regional Meetings in the northeast ! The New England Region (Region 18) will once again be co-hosted by the New Hampshire Orchid Society in Bedford, New Hampshire, on Saturday, September 12, 2015. The same program will then be presented to Region 17 in Voorheesville, New York, that Sunday, September 13, co-hosted by the North Eastern New York Orchid Society.

We’ll be following the same format as our previous four years, activities to begin at 8:30am with a continental breakfast, sales tables open, and two presentations before lunch. After a mini-auction of select plants, our afternoon session finishes with our third speaker and, time permitting, a Q&A opportunity, adjourning at 2:30pm. A small Registration Fee just covers the breakfast and lunch with the two IPA Regions providing the speakers as a benefit for everyone.

Of special note: Our New York meeting on Sunday will begin an hour later than usual, at 9:30 am, and will take place at a different venue from prior years.

For our 2015 meetings, we’ve invited Norman Fang of Norman’s Orchids to present Part II of Moss Growing Culture – Part I was extremely well-received four years ago, and Norman will be covering in greater detail the secrets to successful moss growing. Our second speaker will be Tom Mirenda, Orchid Collection Specialist at the Smithsonian in Washington, DC, covering Phal. species in situ and how to grow them successfully in cultivation. Carri Raven-Riemann will round out the day by bringing everyone up to speed on the newest directions in breeding as seen at the recent 2015 Taiwan International Orchid Show and several nurseries in Taiwan.

All are invited to join us at either venue, IPA members and non-members alike. We’re once again looking forward to two great days of orchid information and sales, good food and connecting with old friends and new. Our very special thanks goes out to both of our co-hosting societies !

Registration forms with more detailed information will be available on our website, [www.phal.org](http://www.phal.org) and will also be posted on the websites and Facebook pages of all the New England & New York Orchid Societies.