

# MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY



## BEWITCHED BY ORCHIDS

See thousands of blooming, exotic orchids

Friday, October 31, 1-5pm, and Saturday & Sunday, November 1-2, 10am-5pm

Presented by the [Massachusetts Orchid Society](#)

FREE for Members of Massachusetts Orchid Society

Tower Hill Botanic Garden is proud to host "Bewitched by Orchids," the Massachusetts Orchid Society's Annual Orchid Show and Sale. Thousands of breathtaking (and sometimes spooky!) orchids will be on display in exotic settings throughout the Visitors Center and around the Orangerie. *[Click on either photo for a quick-time video.]* Spectacular for its variety, creativity and informational value, this show features twelve orchid societies and twelve major exhibitors. Orchid vendors from across the country will offer a wide variety of plants and supplies for sale. Art and educational exhibits will round out the show. Experts will answer orchid growing questions from the public throughout the weekend. Members of the Orchid Society will also offer demonstrations on orchid care, instructional videos, and guided tours of the show.



Twigs Café will serve lunch buffet style in the 1740 Farmhouse. Also look for special orchid-related items in the [Gift Shop](#), as well as just-arrived new merchandise. It is the perfect way to spend a fall weekend!

**The THBG is a joy on any occasion, especially so in the fall. Add to it your own MOS orchid show and you could not find a better way to spend a weekend day.**

**Remember entry is free to MOS members.**

## The Orchid Doctor is In!

MOS introduces the "Orchid Doctor," our monthly expert who will gladly answer questions and give advice regarding ailing plants brought to meetings by members. All we need now, since problematic orchids surely exist, are the "Doctors." Volunteer Docs need to be knowledgeable about orchid category, species, culture, pests, etc., arrive to meetings by 7 pm, and will rotate the position with other Docs throughout the year. So, please raise your stethoscope and join our "Doctor" team. Sign-up sheets will be posted at meetings or contact Susan Flier at 617-731-6145.

## Nov 11 Meeting

### Dennis D'Alessandro of

### Gypsy Glen Orchids

Dennis began growing orchids over 25 years ago and in 1977 moved to southern Ecuador where he was curator of the orchid collection at Orquideario Predesur, a botanical garden dedicated to the cultivation of the native orchid species of Ecuador.

Since then he has collected and cataloged over 1000 specimens, of which over 80 species were new to science.

Mr. D'Alessandro now divides his time between Ecuador where he

town of Vilcabamba, and the United States where he is the owner of Gypsy Glen Orchids in Beaver, Pa.

During the last 5 years he has spent a total of about 6 months in Borneo studying orchid habitats and visiting orchid nurseries around the island. Many nights were spent in the bush eating wild food. The days were spent trekking through the rainforest where the temperature and humidity were unbearable, and leeches cover your body.

Dennis has also discovered a number of new *Bulbophyllum* species that are pending identification.

## Dec 9 Meeting

### The MOS annual

### **Holiday Party**

Our annual Holiday Party is almost upon us. As always the Society will supply the Hams, Turkeys and Drinks. It will up to you to bring the fixings.

We will need appetizers, salads and deserts. Members whose last names begin with:

**A - F Deserts**

**G - L Appetizers**

**M - Z Salads**

Volunteers will be needed for setup at about 6:30 Pm. **Please bring A guest. All are welcome.**

**Error!**



The Editor regrets failure to properly credit two growing tips in the Oct. newsletter. Loren Pollack and Barry Lubin of the Illinois Orchid Society.

### MOS Survey

Let's make the most of our meetings!

1. How often do you attend meetings? all 6 per year 4 2
2. Are meetings too long too short just right?
3. Do most meeting topics interest you? yes no
4. Do you find some topics over your head? yes no
5. Do you usually learn something at each meeting? yes no
6. Do you attend off-site MOS activities (shows, etc)? yes no
7. Do you find members friendly? yes no
8. What topics would you like presented?

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9. Do you consider yourself a  novice intermediate expert orchid grower?
10. Where do you grow orchids? window sill under lights  
greenhouse
11. Do you consider yourself a successful orchid grower? yes no
12. Are you willing to mentor other growers? yes no
13. Would you like to present a topic at a meeting? yes no
14. Should we continue to provide drinks and snacks at meetings? yes no  
If yes, what would you like? \_\_\_\_\_
15. What are your favorite orchid web sites?

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16. What suggestions do you have to improve MOS?
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Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring to the November meeting.

### MOS Monthly Show Table

Judges: Cliff Derdarian, Betsy Opitz and Ray Barkalow  
Scribe: Linda Abrams - Displayed: 22 - Awarded: 7

Ornithopera radicans	Bob Richter
Lc. Varut Startrack 'Tropical Delight' X Pot. Netragiri Starbright AM/CST	Bob Richter
Phrag. Mary Bess	Harry Kubick
Stenoglottis longfoliai	Chieko & Ralph Collins
Pot. Nancy Gilmore	Sasha Varsanofieva
Phrag. Cardinale X schlimii	Linda Abrams
Lc. Mary Elizabeth Bohn 'Royal Flair'	George Baltoumas

## \*Book Review

*Bil Nelson - Contributing Editor*

### ***Moth Orchids: The Complete Guide to Phalaenopsis***

by Steven A. Frowine

This fall, Timber Press has hit a grand slam with the release of three fine orchid books, one of them being our favorite orchid genera. Steven A. Frowine, the author of *Miniature Orchids* and *Fragrant Orchids*, has created a wonderful and informative look into the *Phalaenopsis* genus. He collected information from a number of International *Phalaenopsis* Alliance members such as Carri-Raven Riemann, Carlos Fighetti, Eric Goo, Tom Harper and Peter Lin just to name a few. The book begins with the introduction "what makes an orchid a phalaenopsis?" He provides an easily comprehended but in-depth look at plant structure and naming. The next chapter takes a look at individual species, giving information on its history, descriptions and contributions to hybrids. The bulk of the contents deals with hybrids. Each chapter is devoted to a certain color or type. Building blocks are explained in depth. Frowine describes the evolutionary history of each color type and provides a fascinating insight on how we have achieved the modern and sometimes complex hybrids of today. Included is a look at Standard white, Pink, Yellow, Oranges, Reds, Purples, Harlequins, Novelties, Multifloras, and Miniatures. A section on culture offers a well rounded array of information that every orchid grower from beginner to seasoned will find useful. He covers lighting, potting, diseases and pests to name a few. The volume concludes with information on how to select and purchase plants and lists contact information for various North American growers. The use of high quality photos, illustrations and diagrams throughout the entire book only enhance an already recommended volume for every level of grower. 204 pages, 328 color photos, 6 color paintings, 16 b&w drawings, 1 b&w map and 2 color diagrams. Hardcover \$39.95

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**Who's What at MOS?**

#### Officers:

President	- Brian Leib	<a href="mailto:bleibume@gmail.com">bleibume@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	- Betsy Opitz	<a href="mailto:bfopitz@rcn.com">bfopitz@rcn.com</a>
Treasurer	- Sheila Selby	<a href="mailto:srselby@verizon.net">srselby@verizon.net</a>
Secretary	- Sasha Varsanofieva	<a href="mailto:mossecretary@gmail.com">mossecretary@gmail.com</a>

## Board Members:

Past President	- George Bonoff	<a href="mailto:bonoffg@rcn.com">bonoffg@rcn.com</a>
At Large	- Linda Abrams	<a href="mailto:lindabrams@yahoo.com">lindabrams@yahoo.com</a>
	- Susan Flier	<a href="mailto:sfflier@comcast.net">sfflier@comcast.net</a>
	- Don Gammon	<a href="mailto:rightplant@aol.com">rightplant@aol.com</a>
	- Manuel Garber	<a href="mailto:manual_garber@yahoo.com">manual_garber@yahoo.com</a>
	- Bernhardt Wuensch	<a href="mailto:mjwuensch@mac.com">mjwuensch@mac.com</a>

## Committees:

AOS Trustee	- Howard Bronstein	<a href="mailto:hbronst849@aol.com">hbronst849@aol.com</a>
AOS Representative	- Charlie Briggs	<a href="mailto:chasbriggs@aol.com">chasbriggs@aol.com</a>
Conservation	- Robert Hesse	<a href="mailto:drbobhesse@netzero.net">drbobhesse@netzero.net</a>
Hospitality	- Sasha Varsanofieva	<a href="mailto:mossecretary@gmail.com">mossecretary@gmail.com</a>
Library	- vacant*	
Membership	- Chu Jung	<a href="mailto:drcjung@exite.com">drcjung@exite.com</a>
	- Pamela Swearingen	<a href="mailto:pamswearingen@verizon.net">pamswearingen@verizon.net</a>
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Odontoglossum Alliance	- John Miller	<a href="mailto:jemiller49@aol.com">jemiller49@aol.com</a>
Orchid Show	- J. Eckstrom/ L Hennessey	<a href="mailto:mosorchidshow@comcast.net">mosorchidshow@comcast.net</a>
	- S. Varsanofieva/	
Program	- Betsy Optiz	<a href="mailto:bfopitz@rcn.com">bfopitz@rcn.com</a>
Show Table	- Linda Abrams	<a href="mailto:lindabrams@yahoo.com">lindabrams@yahoo.com</a>

\* Vacant. Please e-mail [mos@massorchid.org](mailto:mos@massorchid.org) if interested.



## Upcoming Events

Saturday, Nov 1 Dec 6	<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>
October 31-November 2	<b>MOS Fall Show and Sale "Bewitched by Orchids"</b> Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA; <a href="mailto:MOSOrchidShow@comcast.net">MOSOrchidShow@comcast.net</a>
Tuesday, Nov 11 Dec 9 Holiday Party	<b>MOS Meeting</b> , Suburban Experimental Station, 241 Beaver St., Waltham, MA, 7:30PM
December 21	<b>Winter Solstice Begins</b>
<a href="http://www.massorchid.org">www.massorchid.org</a> newsletter editor: George Bonoff	

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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

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

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