

MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY



February 12th Meeting

Culture Corner

In lieu of a guest speaker, the society will hold a Culture Corner session. Members are encouraged to bring in plants. Do you have a success story worth sharing, or is there a particular plant that has been a continuing source of frustration? Are you unsure of potting media, pot sizes, fertilization, lighting, etc? The collective experience of the society is both broad and deep, and a few simple suggestions might set you and your plants on a permanent path of peaceful coexistence. If your plant is infested with some lovely critters, please wrap the plant in a plastic bag before the meeting.

Something Ventured, Something Gained

By Steven Kirincich

When President Brian Leib sent out the call for plants for the Society's display at the Cape and Islands Orchid Show, I was fortunate to have a number of blooming plants to choose from. With the support of Anne-Marie Beauregard, my two slipper orchids were entered for judging. When I went to get my returned plant from Anne-



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Marie, I was pleasantly surprised to find a blue ribbon attached to the pot. Did I really grow a plant worthy of such an honor? After all, I grow orchids for my own satisfaction, and the opinion of judges has never been a great concern. That being said, I am quite pleased with the result, and I hope this example will encourage other Society members to not only donate plants for future displays, but to also submit their plants for judging. I must say that is quite nice to get some type of affirmation that I really am a pretty good orchid grower.

From the Beginning . . .

By Steven Kirincich

Until I was exposed to orchid growing, the only thing I knew about these plants was their exotic, aristocratic image. I had never been the green thumb type, but I was nonetheless intrigued when I saw a tiny advertisement in The New York Times for Venamy Orchids in Brewster, NY. This was the early 1990's, and being in the throes of a graduate school program in upstate NY, "spare time" and "leisure" were unfamiliar terms. During the summer I occasionally disappeared from the laboratory for a weekend and indulged myself by visiting my parents at their lake house near Danbury, CT. On one visit, I talked my Mom into coming along with me to visit this retail orchid business. The greenhouse was quite impressive as were the blooming plants and the prices. The variety of shapes, sizes, and colors were stunning. Could these all really be orchids? Being in very unfamiliar territory, I resisted temptation and did not purchase a plant that I surely would be unable to keep alive for more than a few months.

Fast forward several years. I had finished graduate school, and I was working in a research group for a professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. While living in the neighboring town of Carrboro, I usually went to the farmers' market on Saturday mornings. On one such occasion, I met a member of the Triangle Orchid Society who was selling orchids at reasonable prices. Maybe the prices were really not reasonable when compared to an African violet, but after all, the seed had been planted several years earlier in Brewster, NY, and now was the time for action. I really can not remember what the plant was, and I am quite sure that is no longer with us. This gentleman's easy manner and willingness to recruit new Triangle Orchid Society members sealed the

deal. I would have people to hold my hand through this new experience, and I might even make a few new friends along the way. From this point onward I suspect that many of us share a very similar experience that I think of as the slippery slope of orchid collecting and growing. Knowledge and confidence increased with each month's society meeting and each new issue of Orchids. On top of this, the opportunity to purchase additional plants became all too easy with society meetings, regional society shows, and the discovery of several local orchids retailers. Did I forget mail order? I think the true kid-in-the-candy-store moment came when I made the drive from NC down to Newberry, SC. Before moving back to the Northeast to start a new job, I figured that I needed to see Carter and Holmes with my own eyes. With a credit card in hand and numerous greenhouses full of orchids to see, I was in trouble. Let's just say that what happens in Newberry, SC stays in Newberry, SC!

It is my hope that fellow MOS members will consider writing about their introduction to orchids



What's New...

Have you seen the new American Orchid Society? We know that you have seen the changes at the AOS over the last year as administration has changed, policies have changed, and our direction has changed - we have come full circle to refocus on our Members - to listen to our members and to make membership better - we are not done yet! (From the President's Letter January 2008 Orchids magazine.)

As 2008 opens there's a new "look" of the AOS. There is a new logo, new brochures, updated membership program, new events at the garden and a new website is on the way! The new website is scheduled to launch soon...look for an all new, reconstructed, easier to navigate



Newsletter Editor Needed

Due to increasing family obligations (birth of second child in June), my last newsletter will be the May 2008 edition. If you have experience with Microsoft Word and Outlook, please consider this opportunity to serve the Society. With my assistance, I can assure you that the transition will be simple. Please contact me (Steve Kirincich; skirincich@comcast.net; 978-369-5375) if you are interested



website with an updated membership login. We will keep you posted on the launch date. (Note: the new website will be located at the same web address www.aos.org)

Keep your eyes open to enjoy the American Orchid Society's newest features.

New Hampshire Orchid Society Show

February 8-10
Nashua, NH

See more details on back page



To view photographs from the 19th World Orchid Conference:

<http://flickr.com/photos/minicatt/sets/72157603794773297/detail/>

Amherst Orchid Society Show

We are looking for exhibitors large and small, clerks and judges, and visitors. Here are the dates:

Feb 21: Set Up

Feb 22: Judging

Feb 23/24 open to the public.

I would love to have some more art exhibits, as that is often lacking at our show. Anyone interested should email me Ellen Kennedy E832847@aol.com or call 413-369-8070, if no one answers leave a message and a good time to call back. Hope to see many of you there!

E. Kennedy
President,
Amherst Orchid Society



MOS Monthly Show Table January 2008

Judges: George Baltoumas, Bob Richter, Bob Hesse
Scribe: Linda Abrams
20 plants displayed
10 plants awarded

Paph. purpuratum
Ian Catlett

Onc. ornithorynchum 'Rose' x Onc. ornithorynchum 'Sellow'
Warren & Susan Wheelright

Diodonopsis erinacae
Dendrobium Nagasaki
Sophronitis coccinea 4N x self
Ralph and Chieko Collins

Slc. Chocolate Wine
Sasha Varsanofieva

Dendrobium Yellow Chinsai
Betsy Opitz

Blc. Hazel Boyd 'Sunset'
Susan McCain

Blc. Karnmaneethong
Harry Kubick

Paph. Judge Phillip
Steven Kirincich

*See the
February issue
of Orchids for
an interesting
article on
fertilization by
past AOS
President
Marvin Gerber*



"SPEAKERS' DAY"

Sponsored by the Joint Presidents Council
In conjunction with The American Orchid Society

Saturday, May 31, 2008

Holiday Inn North - Newark International Airport - Newark, New Jersey

The **Joint President's Council** of the metropolitan New York Area in conjunction with the **American Orchid Society** present the 25th "Speakers' Day" featuring talks by leading orchid authorities from all parts of the world. The daylong event will highlight four outstanding speakers; orchid plant and book sale raffle of fine plants; morning refreshments and a complete lunch, all included in the registration price of \$39.00. COME MEET, HEAR AND TALK WITH THESE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SPEAKERS:

Carlos Fighetti has grown and been involved in orchids for more than 30 years. He has served as a volunteer in many positions in the past for The American Orchid Society and is currently the President of the AOS. He is the past President of the Greater New York Orchid Society, where he also served for eight years as Show Chair. In addition, he is a member of many other Orchid Societies and a current director of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance. An accredited AOS Judge, Carlos has judged in many international Orchid Shows. He lives in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, where he grows a beautiful mixed collection of over 1,500 orchid plants, many of which are species. The subject of his talk will be: "The 'other' Phalaenopsis species and their varieties"

Frank Smith moved to Florida in the late 1970s and has since built one of the most successful Orchid nurseries in the United States, (Krull Smith). Frank excels as a highly knowledgeable hybridizer and grower of all types of Cattleya, Paphiopedilums and Phalaenopsis as well as other genera. Frank Smith, an AOS certified Judge in the North Florida Judging Center, has received over 675 American Orchid Society Awards through December 1, 2007: AQ(21), FCC (39), AM (437), HCC (183), CCE (seven), CCM (30), CHM (one), CBR (one) and JC. He will be talking to us about hybridizing and growing his magnificent Paphiopedilums, which has been described as his obsession

Ron McHatton, a PhD Chemist by training, is currently the AOS Director of Education and Regional Operations and an Accredited Judge. Prior to accepting this position he was Apopka production manager for Kerry's Bromeliad Nursery, possibly the largest wholesale orchid nursery in the United States. Ron has been growing orchids for more than 43 years and has an eclectic collection of plants representing a wide cross-section of the orchid family. Ron's passion for orchids has spanned virtually every growing regime from windowsills to under lights to greenhouses running from a 200 square foot hobby house to several acres of commercial growing space. Over the years his private collection has numbered in excess of 2500 plants. In addition to Ron's volunteer and professional support of the AOS, he has also been a long-time supporter of the Orchid Digest, and has been its President for three consecutive terms. The subject of his talk will be: "Sex in the greenhouse".

Juan Carlos Uribe, Graduated in Agronomy from the National University of Colombia, Received a master's degree in Agronomy from Texas A&M University. He has been growing Orchids since 1984. With his wife Andrea, founded **Orquideas del Valle** in 1986 where they specialize in Colombian Orchid species for export and Hybrids for the local market. Since 1994 Juan Carlos has been the award photographer for the Cauca Valley Orchid Society and has participated as an orchid judge in both National and International Shows. He is also a noted lecturer about Orchids from Colombia as well as the world of Orchids.

A SPECIAL PLANT FOR EARLY REGISTRATION

There will be a special raffle for those registering early: a mature division of the recently awarded *Paph. Michael Koopowitz 'Crystelle'*, AM/AOS. Register before April 1st and you will receive 12 raffle tickets; before April 30th, six tickets; and before May 19th, three tickets. **ADVANCE REGISTRATION is REQUIRED. LIMITED ADMISSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR. SPACE IS LIMITED: SEND IN THE "FORM" BELOW NOW!**

Speakers' Day will begin with morning refreshments and the opening of the sales room at 8:30 a.m. Introductions will take place at 10:00 a.m. followed by the morning speakers. Luncheon will be at 12:30 p.m. followed by the afternoon speakers at 2:00 p.m. The day will conclude with a raffle at 4:00 p.m. The sales room will close at 4:30 p.m.

Driving Instructions to the Holiday Inn-North, Newark International Airport

New Jersey Turnpike to exit 14-Newark Airport. After paying the toll stay to the right. Take the second right exit marked "**Frontage Road**". Make a left turn and pass the Sheraton Hotel on the right to the Holiday Inn-North. There is also regular bus service on New Jersey Transport buses to Newark Airport from the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan. Take the Holiday Inn-North shuttle van from the airport terminal to the hotel.

REGISTRATION FORM - JPC 'SPEAKERS' DAY' - SATURDAY May 31, 2008

Name

Phone #

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Enclosed is my check for - registration(s) @ \$39.00 each. Checks must be made payable to **JOINT PRESIDENTS COUNCIL** and mail to **Rita Cohen, 1433 Kew Avenue, Hewlet, NY 11557** Tel: 516-374-6426 YOUR CHECK IS YOUR RECEIPT. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS

Upcoming Events

Saturday, February 2 March 1	Northeast Judging Center Boylston, MA , Tower Hill Botanic Garden, 11 French Dr., Boylston, MA, Robert Winkley, rwinkley@aol.com . Presentations begin @ 10:00 AM. Judging begins at 12 PM. Directions
Tuesday, February 12 March 11	MOS Meeting , Suburban Experimental Station, 241 Beaver St., Waltham, MA, 7:30PM
February 8-10	New Hampshire Orchid Society Show , New location!: Radisson Hotel, Nashua, NH (formally Sheraton Tara) just off US Rt. 3 at exit 1. Exhibits, Workshops, and Sales Friday Feb. 8 - Preview Party and Early Bird Sales Saturday Feb. 9: 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM Sunday Feb. 10: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
February 23-24	Amherst Orchid Society Show , Smith Vocational School, 80 Locust St. (Rt. 9) Northampton MA, (next to Cooley Dickenson Hospital) Directions Feb. 21: Set Up Feb. 22: Judging Feb. 23-24 open to the public Contact: Ellen Kennedy E832847@aol.com or call 413 369 8070
www.massorchid.org newsletter editor: Steve Kirincich mailto:skirincich@comcast.net ; 978-369-5375	

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.massorchid.org

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