



*The Cape and Islands Orchid Society*

April 2014 Newsletter

*Affiliated with the American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest Corp.*

## ***“Orchidarium Set-up and Culture”***

***Sasha Varsanofieva, President of Mass. Orchid Society***

***Sunday April 13, 2014 at 12:30 P.M.!***

**!THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OF THE CAPE COD FAIRGROUNDS  
(formerly BARNSTABLE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS)**

1220 Nathan Ellis Hwy. (Rt. 151) East Falmouth MA 02536 (White fences on North side of Hwy.)

**April Meeting (New time continued !) = 12:30 PM to help travelers and finish earlier):**

## **April Meeting: Orchidarium Set-up and Culture**

Sasha Varsanofieva's presentation will teach you how to increase the humidity levels and decrease your maintenance of your indoor growing orchids by setting up an orchidarium. She will discuss the tank selection, set-up, lighting, air movement and watering systems. You will learn how easy it is to create your own orchid spa right in your home.

Sasha is the president of the Massachusetts Orchid Society. She has been growing orchids in small Boston condos for 8 years. With only 1000 square feet of living space, orchid real-estate was hard to come by. Fortunately this did not dampen Sasha's orchid addiction and fostered her fascination with miniature orchids. The small orchids did not fare as well in the dry Boston winters and as the number of orchids increased, it became clear that it was time for a change. Sasha bought an aquarium and converted it into an orchidarium. The high humidity and ease of watering made both owner and orchids happier. So much so that Sasha's home now houses 2 cats (orchid helpers), 250+ orchids, 2 orchidariums and has recently seen the introduction of automated watering systems.

**Thank you Tim Culbertson and Ed Bonacci** for starting the March meeting with a very informative discussion of the members show table plants. The meeting continued with Tim's presentation focusing Australian Sarcocilus. We learned how these plants grow well on the cool windowsills of New England and can be grown in a pot or mounted. These orchids are found naturally growing in low to medium light conditions on the lower bark of trees in grassy areas. Tim also had some plants for sale, which were provided by A&P Orchids (the only American grower of these Australian orchids). We are looking forward to seeing your success with these plants.

**Next meeting:** May 18, 2014 **The Giant Orchid Potting Workshop! Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies will be there. Preorder on line for free delivery of any supplies.** ☞ **Great on-line catalog** ☞ <http://www.kkorchid.com>

PO Box 539 Milford, NH 03055-0539 Phone: (603) 673-9524 Fax: (603) 673-9524 --repeated below--

**Welcome New Members!**

**Refreshments:** Goodies provided by **MEMBERS O - Z PLEASE!**

**Raffle and Member Show Table:** Members should bring any plants they wish to show and have the best available expert discuss them with audience participation, all questions kindly answered. As an incentive, each plant shown will receive a Raffle ticket for orchid plants. Another raffle will be for purchased tickets only. The Society appreciates donated plants for raffles.

## **CAIOS News and Members Corner**

**Don't forget your yearly membership dues. Renew now before it's too late. New and Renewal form below**

**CAIOS** still needs a **treasurer**. ☹ ☹ ☹

**Newsletter: From Tom our Senior (co)Editor:** Please advise the senior editor of any e-mail and address changes so you don't miss your newsletter! Membership list available.

**The Orchiata** Bark caper is still on. Available in the 2 middle sizes: Power 3/8" -1/2", suits young and mature orchids, AND Power+ =1/2"-3/4", suits mature orchids; \$25 a bag of 1.4 cu ft.; Tom at 508 540-2054 [tf.gregg@verizon.net](mailto:tf.gregg@verizon.net)  
Also – Orchiata and All other orchid needs -- Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies <http://www.kkorchid.com>

“Cooking CAIOS” cookbooks are here! Get your copy of this wonderful collection so you can make these special recipes any time at home. The cookbooks will be available for purchase (\$15.00) at the meeting.

Tina will have Nutricote for anyone that is interested. Nutricote is a time-release fertilizer. It will not burn plants and there is no flash nutrient release. It contains N, P, and K with high nitrate nitrogen content. You may use as top-dressing and may be used in conjunction with liquid fertilizing.

## Orchids Questions – Answers – Helpful Hints

It's that time of year to get ready for the next meeting: **The Giant Orchid Potting Workshop! Bring some plants!**

**Repotting time:** Spring is the best repotting time of the year and now is the time to get started. Clean up all your pots in preparation. Make sure you have all the materials you regularly use so that you don't get caught in the middle of doing it without enough media, pots or moss. Make a checklist of the plants you will need to repot so you won't miss any that should be done. If you need bark or any orchid supplies, pots, fertilizer, mounting media etc. you can pre-order from Kelly's Korner and save shipping costs and ordering ahead ensures your supplies will delivered to the meeting in May. You can find a listing of their products at <http://www.kkorchid.com>. Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies, P.O. Box 539, Milford, NH 03055-0539. Phone: (603) 673-9524 Fax: (603) 673-9524 Email: [info@kkorchid.com](mailto:info@kkorchid.com).

Go through your plants and identify which ones are not performing well for you or which do not seem happy in your conditions. Sometimes you will have a plant that is growing, but has never bloomed for you. These are not the plants you want to continue taking time and care with. Donate them to the CAIOS raffle table or sell them at a meeting to make room for plants you can enjoy more.

I welcome your e-mails, snail mail or talking to you at the meetings. You may contact me via e-mail ([OakH35@yahoo.com](mailto:OakH35@yahoo.com)) (or see me at one of the monthly meetings) with your questions, hints or something you would like to share with the members which may be added in subsequent newsletters and/or on our website [www.caios.org](http://www.caios.org). Lynne Schaeffer - 35 Ashumet Rd., 9C Mashpee, MA 02649

**March Checklist:** AOS monthly suggestions:

**Paphiopedilum:** Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong.

**Lycaste:** Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

**Miltoniopsis:** Prepare your plants for optimum display by staking spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage.

**Dendrobium (Australian):** These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

## Upcoming Events:

**April 4 - 6, 2014:** Spring Orchid Sale at Lyman Estate Greenhouses, 185 Lyman St, Waltham, MA, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Free admission. 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. Let the Lyman's gardening experts help you choose the right plants for your garden. Additional information - call: (781) 891-1985

**April 11-13, 2014:** The South Eastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society show (SEPOS) International Orchid, is once again held at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia, PA.

**GOT** a good plant? **American Orchid Society Judging** on first Saturdays at the **TOWER HILL BOTANICAL GARDEN**, West Boylston, MA, near Worcester. 10:30 AM - student or judges' presentations. Serious, but often a lot of

laughs. Lunch is Brown bag or deli sandwich (nearby farm stand) or good on-site cafe with view. Afternoon, see/join AOS judging. Learn to speak orchid! ? Daffodills!- 495N to 290W, off at Churchill St., Go Rt 3.5 mi., nearly to end, Sign on Rt, Free, just say "Orchid Judging" at gate. (11 French Drive, Boylston, MA 01505 - 508 869-6111) <90 min. from CC Canal, Easy drive.

**Second Warning:** The April meeting is at **12:30 PM**, NOT 1:30 PM

**CAIOS: www.caios.org**

Prez. Tom Gregg 508 540-2054 tf.gregg@verizon.net  
 Veep+ Tina Balog 508 540-5006 tina@plaid.who.edu  
 Secretary Cathy Fewore 508 540-2600 capecodcathy@yahoo.com  
 Publicity Joan Kozar 508 432-6052 joan.kozar@gmail.com  
 Director Jo Mayzel 508-432-7809 bellaorchid@verizon.net  
 Director Marsha Fredericks 508-694-6279 busywomancc@comcast.net  
 Library Denise Hedderig 508 428-7246 dhedderi@capecod.edu  
 Show Chair Tina Balog the great 508 540-5006 tina@plaid.who.edu

Newsletter Lynn Schaeffer 508-477-2681 OakH35@yahoo.com  
 Tom Gregg 508 540-2054 tf.gregg@verizon.net  
 Treasurer Tom Gregg (acting) 508 540-2054  
 Webmeister Nimituk 508 888-4087 webmaster@caios.org  
 Corresp & AOS Rep. Tom Gregg, 26 Pond Rd. Falmouth, MA 02540

Motto: Orchids grow **WILD** where CAIOS reigns

If CAIOS rains, wrap yourself in thoughts and you won't get wet.

**REMINDER- CAIOS MEMBERSHIP: New or Renewal**

**Last Newsletter unless dues paid**

Paper copies have a **Red Dot** if you have not paid

Newsletters by E-mail have a message below if dues unpaid. --**YOU HAVE PAID! (THRU FEB 1, 2015)**

Please check with the treasurer if questions

Membership dues annually, starting in Jan. 2014 = \$20.00

Each additional member at same address is only \$10.00 more.

Please mail this form along with a check payable to CAIOS to:

Tom Gregg  
 26 Pond Road  
 Falmouth, MA 02332-5206

Official renewal date was **Feb 1, 2014**

Forms are also available at meetings

(Or -- return to any CAIOS Officer at meetings)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Cellphone\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \*\*: \_\_\_\_\_

(\*Use for Newsletter and any correspondence, late breaking news, faster, saves CAIOS postage and color will look better)

\_Newsletter preference: (Please check one) Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Snail Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Optional

**FINAL REMINDER: The April Meeting is at 12:30 PM!**

