



The Cape and Islands Orchid Society

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest Corp.

**Next meeting: Sunday April 10, 2011 at 1:30 PM at
THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OF THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
1220 Nathan Ellis Hwy, (Rt. 151) East Falmouth MA 02536 (White fences on North side of Hwy.)**

Next Meeting: Jean Stefanik returns! The topic is - "Epidendrums"

***Epidendrums...* "An overview of the awards for species and hybrids in the genus, followed by some of the more interesting examples of newer and more unusual species."**

Jean is a long time friend of CAIOS and a recognized expert in tropical and New England orchid species. She lives in New Hampshire, a state with endangered species in "secret" places that she only knows. Jean is a traveler especially to Ecuador where many Epidendrums flourish. Orchid conservation in Peru and Ecuador are her particular interests, so, maybe we'll hear a bit about efforts to save habitat for Epi.'s and others.

Epidendrum, abbreviated ***Epi.*** in horticultural trade, is a large neotropical genus of the orchid family. With more than 1,100 species, some authors describe it as a mega-genus. The genus name (from Greek, "upon trees") refers to its epiphytic growth habit. When Carolus Linnaeus named this genus in 1763, he included in this genus all the epiphytic orchids known to him.

(For the interested ---This genus has the following characteristics :

1. *A slit rostellum (small extension or little beak to the median stigma lobe), producing a transparent or white thick and adhesive liquid.*
2. *The sometimes fringed lip is adnate to (= united with) the column (forming a nectary tube (but rarely producing nectar), continuing through the pedicel).*
3. *The pollinarium contains 4 pollinia (with sometimes 2 very reduced pollinia), rarely only 2 pollinia.*
4. *The erect, pendent, or creeping stems are reed-like, simple or branching, or may be pseudobulbs or thickened stems)*
5. *Allied to the showy Cattleya Alliance, there are many intergeneric hybrids of great beauty and cultural interest.*

The Society asks that members A –L provide treats to share. A raffle of choice plants will happen and reports from the Boston Flower Show and the Westport trip will be presented. Enjoy friends, bring your plants of any sort for the Show Table. Ideas for next years meetings are needed especially as it has been pointed out to the Board that topics like windowsill growing tips & techniques would better suit the CAIOS average grower and allow for questions and answer sessions.

Westport: The Field trip to the Westport homes of Dick & Ellie Phillips, John Miller & Bill & Jane Wisneski was a great success. About 30 members came alone or carpooled to the beautiful Westport and Westport Point towns to enjoy the wide Buzzard's Bay view, the neat & large farmers fields and the sparkling high tide in the Westport River. The Wisneski setup is all lights, in a high ceiling cellar with 3 X 400 watts of Hi pressure Sodium light. The bright, cheery house was filled with blooming plants in every corner, with many Paphs. and Angraecums. The view, to the Elizabeth Islands is so soulful, a shining sea of distance and history, over the ancient stone walls built so many years ago. The groups then exchanged homes, driving via the pretty Horseneck Beach Road.

John's home is a treasure trove of varied modern paintings and lovingly selected artifacts, including pieces of the Apollo Moonshot computer that he helped to create at the Draper lab at MIT in Boston. His greenhouse contains many excellent cold growing Odontoglossums and what is likely the most complete species Cattleya collection on the East Coast. Many pretty blooms were seen. He presented the basics of cool growing and his experience with insect pests, insecticides and the Odontoglossum Alliance of whose newsletter he is the editor.

And then Onto Dick & Ellies for a grand lunch of Wild Boar Ham, Westport Beef Swedish meatballs and a wide variety of fancy fixings, salads, and cookies, cakes and Ellie's own very good Merlot Red wine! Tables with a view of the river were spread out in their spacious home and we basked in their hospitality. A spin into Dicks large, warm greenhouse revealed huge specimen plants in full bloom and a lot of space, maybe for even more plants? After digestion, most went to A & P orchids in Swansea to do some selective shopping from the Doctor. A hearty thanks from the Board and all viewers to the Phillips's, Wisneskis and John for their hospitality and a chance to see very different growing environments. A special thanks is extended to all who brought food to the feast.

Radiata Bark: The Westport group, as above, is planning to buy, if CAIOS joins them, 2 pallets of the new and highly accepted bark called Orchiata. This is processed to be roughened and yet

last much longer than regular bark. It's not cheap but if it lasts longer, it will be worth the difference. The website to read about it is at acadianwholesale.com. A 2 pallet delivery is cheaper by about 10%, and 45 bags per pallet at 1.4 cu. ft./bag probably can be used up over time. There are 4 grades 3/8, 1/2, 3/4 and 1" and a pallet can be mixed sizes. The bigger growers in CAIOS hope to get one pallet (small, med & Lg, not 1") and sell it to members for about \$23-25 per bag. Visit the site above and get back to Tina or Tom G. if interested. We'll probably go ahead anyway.

The 2011 Boston Flower & Garden Show Exhibit was a resounding success due to the efforts of the many people who helped from CAIOS, Massachusetts Orchid Society, and the New Hampshire Orchid Society. I especially want to thank the talented artist Kim Barry of Clay Trout Pottery fame who created many of her distinctive clay containers for the All New England Orchid Society Display. I also want to thank all those who allowed us to use their plants to create the container themed display in Boston at the Seaport World Trade Center. Thanks to Peter for transporting much stuff and Jean Cochrane for picking up American Doll items for the display. Jack picked up and returned borrowed plants from A&P Orchids. Nancy & Jack assisted with the grooming and tagging efforts.

A big thank-you to Valerie Knott who arranged for us to borrow blooming orchid plants from Allen Haskell Horticulturist Inc. located in New Bedford. In addition she also provided her own nautical items for one portion of the display and working hard both at set up and break down. Special thanks to Paul Miskovsky,, Cathy Fewore, Jo Mayzel, Nancy Burtis, Liz Wolff, Brian Leib, Chuck Crisler, Lucille Pavel, Marsha Fredericks, Tom & Ginny Gregg for all that you did to help create a very colorful orchid display once again. Thank-you once again to all members of the local Orchid Societies who attended the event as a docent for the display. I also want to thank-you to Paine's Patio in Pocasset for allowing us to borrow their fantastic outdoor furniture. Specifically the sand colored Adirondack chair made of composite materials and the outdoor bar and two comfortable bar height chairs. Thank-you A&P Orchids in Swansea for the dozen Paphs, six large white Phals, and the two large species Dendrobiums.

Remember! American Orchid Society Judging is held Monthly, on first Saturdays at the TOWER HILL BOTANICAL GARDEN, BOYLSTON, MASS, NEAR WORCESTER. 10:30 AM is for presentations. Brown bag or deli sandwich from nearby farm stand or cafe at Tower Hill. Afternoon, see/join AOS judging. See and walk the beautiful grounds, gorgeous views, Spring peepers, daffodills!, big Orangerie and new Limonea Greenhouses! and garden/gift store. Learn by listening + seeing quality plants critiqued by judges. -under 2 hours from Falmouth- Rt 495N to Rt 290W, off at Center/Churchill St, go L. nearly to end, Sign on Rt, Get in free, just say "Orchids" at gate. (11 French Drive, Boylston, MA 01505 - 508 869-6111)

The Third Sunday - May 15, The Great Potting Workshop: Once again this is the opportunity to repot numbers of your plants. Daryl Yerdon of Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies will be there to sell CAIOS and each of us needed potting media, tools, fertilizers, pots and even books ("Orchids for Dummies"). With help from more experienced growers, each member can pot and have potted a reasonable number of plants, using materials supplied by CAIOS. Bring your stuff, even bring special pots to use. Expect to get your hands dirty and dress warmly for this outdoor (under the tent) affair. Please warn the Society if you have a giant Cymbidium to repot so that the BIG machete and big pots can be brought. If you need bark or bulky supplies, pre ordering from Kelley's Korner saves shipping cost, which is brutal for bark. See their catalog - <http://www.kkorchid.com/> -- Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies, PO Box 539, Milford, NH 03055-0539 Phone: (603) 673-9524 Fax: (603) 673-9524. E-mail info@kkorchid.com Not on Mother's Day!

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& Membership 7 Samoset Ave., Duxbury, MA 02332 We say: **ORCHIDS GROW WILD WHERE CAIOS RAINS!**

Dues please! \$20 To Jack Martinelli

Friends & old CAIOS members & Past CAIOS President Lyn Bugbee & Ed B. are retiring! 1 352.795.4614 For Sale- Home and Orchid Nursery Business IN Citrus County Florida Near Gulf of Mexico, 5 treed Fenced Acres , 4 Bedrooms, 3 Full Baths, Office w/outside access, front porch w/Ramp, Pool, dog kennel. Includes: 2 Freezers, 4 Large Automatic Greenhouses 5,800 Sq Ft Open Potting & grooming Shed 3 locking Sheds - 1 set up as lab, Dixie Chopper Mower, 2004 Dodge Sprinter Van w trailer All Office Equipment, Orchid Plants, Orchid Research Books & set up for 2 Sales booths Floral Display supplies --- Listing Agent: Deborah Dawson 1 352 362 5583 www.doubleddealty.com