

The Cape and Islands Orchid Society

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest Corp.

Next meeting: Sunday April 14, 2013 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:

April Meeting: April 14 🖱️ **Joe Silva** of SILVA ORCHIDS,

Topic "A Short History of Orchid Growing in the Northeast, Care and Repotting Begins Earlier than you Think"

Joe Silva is a second generation orchid grower who along with his brother Tony operates Silva Orchids in Neptune, New Jersey. The brothers sell premium quality flowering orchids and other orchid specimens to the high end flower shops in New York City. Their greenhouse is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays. They also have an online catalog.

The company has received over 75 AOS awards and they were the winner of the 2006 Ernest Hetherington Award for the best plant grown in the country for that same year and the Robert Dugger Award for the best Odontoglossum grown in 2005.

Silva Orchids is the home of the Shore Orchid Festival held annually in June. (7, 8, 9) The festival boasts 20 vendors from around the world with AOS Judging, free lecture and workshops. For more info visit their web-site at silvaorchids.com.

Tips of the Month

Finally, Mother Nature has caught up with the calendar and the long awaited Spring temperatures are here! This also is a good time to go through your orchids to determine which are not performing for you or do not appear happy with the environment you have been providing and consider what you may need to do to make changes.

Spring is also the time to check your plants to see which will need repotting as immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time of the year for repotting. Take an inventory of the materials you will need for repotting. Do you have enough pots in the correct size, enough media?

You may also need to stake spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage.

If you are growing the following orchids here are a few suggestions from AOS of what you can also consider doing right now:

Cymbidium

Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs, and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. If your plant is healthy but not blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. Many of the members have also found

Paphiopedilum

Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Check the crowns of your plants as buds maybe appearing, as well as insects.

Phalaenopsis

Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. The lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water. Check for mealy bugs and scales that accompany the flowering season.

Pleurothallids

If plants are not in flower, now is an excellent time to divide if needed or repot into fresh mix allowing enough time for your plants to become established before the hot weather arrives.

Do you have a helpful tip, picture or article to share with other members? Would you like more information on a specific orchid you are experiencing trouble with? Let us know. (Introducing our new co-editor Lynne Schaeffer oakh35@yahoo.com)

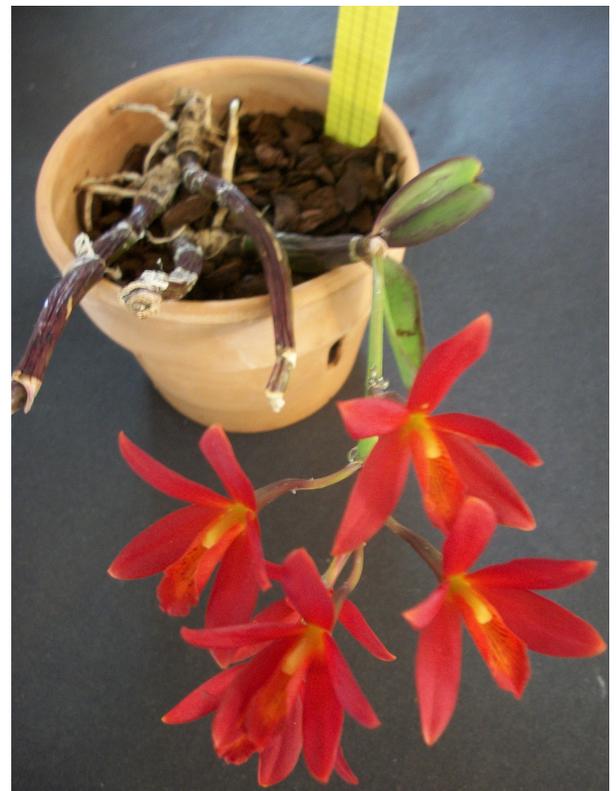
There maybe still time ✂️ **From Joe Silva: Radiata bark at \$30/bag, preorder via Silva Orchids website - www.silvaorchids.com/ (Bark info at <http://www.acadianwholesale.com/FAQ.aspx>)**

May Meeting: May 19 The GIANT Potting workshop

CAIOS:

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Remember! 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 cafe with view. April shower season! Afternoon, see/join AOS judging. Learn to speak orchid! - 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, ? car pool.



Lc Rojo, Grower and Photo: Jack Martinelli



CAIOS Exhibit at Amherst – AOS Show Trophy!
Happy Buddha!