



CAIOS September Newsletter

Newsletter Number 191 *Orchids Grow Wild Where CAIOS Reigns*

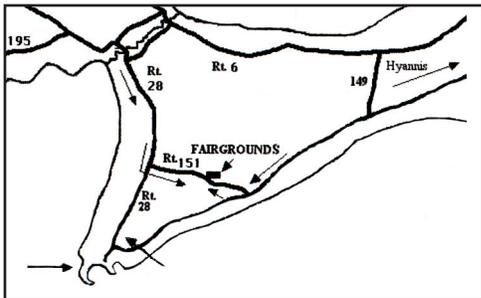
September 10th Meeting

at the Administration Building
of the Barnstable County Fair Grounds
at 1:30 p.m.
on Route 151 in Falmouth
1220 Nathan Ellis Highway, E. Fal. 02536
members A-E bring refreshments
There will be a show table and library.

The Fragrant Orchid including A Lesson in Orchid Biology

Lee Soule who is a certified Orchid Judge, as well as an expert on cattleyas will speak on Fragrant Orchids. He will bring slides and discuss some of the biology of orchid fragrances as well. He will also donate some nice cattleya plants for our raffles and Auction.

How To Find Us



**A quick and easy map to the
Barnstable County Fair Grounds**

October 15 Meeting The GIANT ORCHID AUCTION

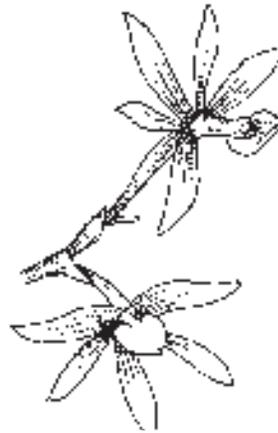
(for plant or related items)

For auction donations, please call Todd Drummey 457-0669 or e-mail lists to todd.drummey@verizon.net.
NOTE: This meeting is the THIRD Sunday of October, thereby avoiding Columbus Day Weekend.

(See Directions to the September meeting)

September 12 at 6:30 PM Massachusetts Orchid Society Auction at the Waltham Field Station Station

October 27 to October 29 Falling for Orchids Massachusetts Orchid Society Show at Tower Hill Botanic gardens, W. Boylston, Ma



The set up is on Thursday October 26, judging on October 27. Tina Balog (508 540-5006) will do an exhibit for CAIOS and will collect plants from all and sundry wishing to show their orchids. Individual members might still be able to sneak an exhibit in by trying: Peter V. Tishler
199 Coolidge Avenue, Apt. 510
Watertown, MA 02472
Tel. 617-926-2924
Peter.Tishler@channing.harvard.edu

News Etc.

CAIOS wishes web expert Lisa Parenteau a quick recovery from her neck operation.

Founder and ex-newsletter editor Maury Sussman has very graciously donated the remainder of his collection to CAIOS for Society benefit. Most will be at the Oct 15 Grand Orchid Auction, but a chosen few will be sold/raffled as they bloom at the September meeting, particularly a gorgeous Brassocattleya Keowee. These are mostly very well born Cattleya hybrids with a choice selection of Vandas and Paphs. A list will be shortly forthcoming with the Auction list.

DUES ARE DUE.

If you receive a subscription renewal and a return envelope with this newsletter, it is time for you to renew. Please look it over and be sure you address details are correct. Those who have recently joined will not receive a renewal notice. As always we apologize for any errors.

CAIOS: What We Do (A yearly restatement of purpose) Tom Gregg

The Society exists to popularize orchids and educate its members and the public about their botany, culture, beauty, and occurrence. CAIOS helps new growers grow the green thumbs needed for these unique plants with demonstrations, lectures, show exhibits, potting workshops and library. By sharing ideas, we help each other raise and bloom better orchids better. Dues, the auction, raffles, and the Great Annual CAIOS Show provide dough for events, library and newsletter. The newsletter is your forum for articles, orchid news, plants and/or related items for sale or trade, want ads, show announcements and anything that you think you can sneak past the editor, contributions welcome!

Get in touch with CAIOS President Tom Gregg at 508 540-2054 or e-mail him at tfgregg@capecod.net. You may also get in touch with the newsletter editor Jim Talin at jimtalin@cape.com.

Our meetings are held on the Second Sunday of each month (mostly), usually at 1:30 PM, and are open to the public and are handicap accessible. Locations will vary as per Newsletter and map. A short business portion of the meeting is followed by the featured speaker or slide show, the raffle, and then by the Show & Tell for all plants brought in by members or public. Members may bring any plants to show and present, all questions gently answered. Usually there are two plant raffles at the meeting. Each show table plant shown gets a Show Table Raffle ticket! Other raffle tickets may be purchased. The Society uses group purchases or donated plants for raffles, so if any members wish to contribute plants, feel free to do so, but call the Pres. (540-2054).

As said above, the Society depends on volunteers for just about everything, so, please join in, contribute expertise and time to the various doings. Members may bring in plants and orchid-related items to sell or trade at the meetings. Refreshments: Members bring simple finger foods while coffee/decaf/tea/juices are provided by various helpers. Our Fearless Librarian, Marty Tulloch (508 563-2327) brings selected books to meetings. He faithfully guards a good selection of Orchid books and magazines and will bring them if called in advance. He is also the proud proprietor of the CAIOS Meter to measure water pH and amounts of dissolved minerals. Orchid water should have a pH of around 6.5. sez Marty. Bring a clean water sample and he'll tell all.

Member Profile Ron Stewart

The purpose of this feature is to open the way for members to contact other members who might have similar growing conditions or types of orchids. The selection of who will be featured is solely at the whim of the author, though I do intend to try to highlight a variety of members – long time members, new members, greenhouse growers, window sill growers – you get the idea. I take sole responsibility for doing my best to represent the member featured.

Yours truly, Eleanor Phillips

Member: Ron Stewart

Lives in: East Bridgewater

Growing orchids: ... since grade school !!

Became interested in orchids: Ron grew up in rural New Jersey, liked plants and flowers, and loved the pink ladyslippers in the nearby woods. Then the NJ-Newark Star-Ledger News had a photo of a doctor in NJ growing orchids. Ron called him and was invited to visit him. Ron bought his first orchid, a *Cattleya mossiae*, from the doctor for \$15. The plant bloomed for him! Ron was hooked. He mowed lawns and clipped hedges to earn money to buy orchids when other kids were saving for the movies or a used car.

Grows orchids in: a greenhouse open to the kitchen of his new house. He's grown orchids on windowsills and a window greenhouse in the past.

Has: 150 orchid plants, prefers *Cattleya*, *Laelia*, and *Phalaenopsis*. Just

starting with *epidendrums*, and *phragmipediums*.

Favorite orchid: Ron can't pick a variety – he loves all orchids that bloom.

Favorite potting media: A fir bark and coarse sponge rock mix; he has tried coconut with mixed success

Happiest orchid moment: When he got the first plant to bloom the second time!

Anything else? Ron has experimented with propagation. He made a phal. cross which won a prize in the 2003 CAIOS show. He successfully hand pollinated a *dendrobium aggregatum* and grew the seedlings in a fish aquarium he adapted, with portals for rubber gloves. He got hundreds of plants from this effort.

Contact information: Ron enjoys sharing orchid growing experiences with others (phone 508-690-2006), and giving talks on orchids to library groups and garden clubs.

He says "orchids are fun, and easy to grow. If you are comfortable in your house, your orchids will be too"

