



The Cape and Islands Orchid Society

September 2013 Newsletter

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest Corp.

***New and Beautiful Cymbidiums You Can Grow on your  
Windowsill***

**Speaker: Tim Culbertson**

**Sunday, September 8, 2013 at 1:30 PM**

**THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OF THE CAPE COD FAIRGROUNDS  
(formerly known as the Barnstable County Fairgrounds)**

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

**Thank you** to *CAIOS member, Monika Wildman* for sharing her culture magic on growing Dendrobium kingianum and her growing tips for other Dendrobium species she has had luck with, and enlighten those of us who know little about Pleurothallis culture.

**Thank you** to *CAIOS member, Mike Sullivan* our resident Lady Slipper naturalist for sharing best locations to find Lady Slippers in abundance on Cape Cod and the wonderful photos.

The members learned helpful hints to growing their orchids and local locations to see Lady Slippers here on the Cape at our June meeting.



**September Meeting:**

*Member and AOS Judge, Tim Culbertson* will speak about “*New and Beautiful Cymbidiums You Can Grow on your Windowsill*”

Cymbidiums are among the most beautiful and long lasting of all orchids. The thick waxy blooms, often 20 or more to a spike can last for months! Many of today's "new" cymbidiums can bloom in a 5-6" inch pots and can be grown on a windowsill. These new hybrids have been made with warmer growing species, many of which are smaller statured in plant and flower size. Another program and speaker you will not want to miss!

Refreshments: Goodies provided by **MEMBERS S - 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.

**Members Corner:**

Do you have something to sell or trade or of interested to share with other members? Let me know and we will add it to the next newsletter

Members may also bring in plants and plant-related items to sell or trade at the meetings.

You may find what you need in the [CAIOS Library](#), contact: Denise Hedderig, 508 428-7246, dhedderi@capecod.edu.



**Announcements:**

And the BIG news! -- Jack Martinelli Retires as treasurer. Good Luck and our deep thanks for years of very excellent and accurate service. CAIOS needs a new volunteer to act as treasurer. Yr. Pres. has done it in

years past and found it to be interesting and not too time consuming. Experience helps of course, but is not really necessary.

The "Quicken" software is straightforward and a recent computer comes with the job. The main duties are collecting and posting dues, paying bills and managing show funds in and out. Lots of helpers can be assigned especially at Show time. For the time being, bills and loot to VP Tina Balog, 64 Carol Ave. E. Falmouth, MA 02536 or Yr. CoEd/Pres, Tom Gregg at 26 Pond Rd. Falmouth, MA 02540

Jack has left his orchid collection to CAIOS to benefit from, and it will appear as raffle plants, sale and auction items for which CAIOS is very grateful. Some are in bud and will appear on a sale table very soon.

From *Nimtuk*, our webmaster:

This coming January, **the Cape & Islands Orchid Society Celebrates 25 Years, A Silver Anniversary.**

CAIOS is putting together a favorite recipes cookbook "Cooking CAIOS".

There is still time for you to submit you recipe(s) to be included. We would like to include all our "Solstice Party Favorites and let's not forget the monthly extravaganza of delectable's. You know who you are -if we eat it -we want the recipe!!! Thank you to those of you that have already supplied us with your recipes. We are off to a great start, but we need MORE and need to have them as soon as possible.

Please continue to send your digital recipes to: [webmaster@caios.org](mailto:webmaster@caios.org) Or make a copy, add your name to the page & mail to: Tina Balog, 64 Carol Ave., E. Falmouth MA, 02536

*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 sent separately via E-mail or in this sending by snail.



## Orchids Questions – Answers – Helpful Hints

Thank you for your e-mails with your questions. Several of the members have asked about fighting pests. Here is a portion of an article reprinted with permission from the JANUARY 2005 issue of *Orchids* -- The Bulletin of the American Orchid Society. Copyright American Orchid Society -- [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org). [The full article may be viewed on the CAIOS website](#)

**Hand Picking** The first line of defense, if a plant is not heavily affected by pests, is to pick bugs, slugs, and snails from the plant and squash them. Pests have yet to develop a resistance to this type of control.

**Water** Pests like mites are usually most severe on plants in heated homes during the winter, when the air is dry and there are no natural enemies to keep them under control. Raising the ambient humidity through humidity trays, saucers of damp pebbles placed under each plant, or even a room humidifier can help.

For mites, aphids, mealybugs and other insects, a gentle brush or jet of water can kill and dislodge them from plants. Regularly washing the foliage thoroughly with soapy water, wiping every leaf, and rinsing with a sink sprayer is one way to bring populations down.

Soaking is a third way water can be used to combat insects. Completely immerse the pot and potting medium of the affected plant in a bucket of water overnight to evict ants, roaches, sow bugs, and pill bugs from the medium.

**Rubbing Alcohol** Soak a cotton swab in 70 percent isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and dab scale, mealybugs, mites and aphids off orchids. The alcohol dissolves the insect's waxy covering, and is a good tool to reach the pests hidden down in the sheaths and leaf crevices. Pay particular attention to the midrib, other veins, and leaf edges. Repeat the treatment at seven to 10 day intervals to remove successive generations.

Another method is to spray alcohol, mixed with a few drops of mild liquid soap, from a misting bottle or small pump sprayer. Avoid strong or excessive amounts of detergent, as this may damage your plants, particularly buds and flowers. Alcohol can be combined with insecticidal soaps, but not with oil, and should never be used near fire. One of the advantages to using alcohol is that insects do not develop resistance to the treatments.

Please continue to send your questions and helpful hints to [OakH35@yahoo.com](mailto:OakH35@yahoo.com). They will be answered either in upcoming newsletters.

**[September and October](#)**, here are the things to do to care for your orchids from AOS:

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

**Cattleyas:** Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom. Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.

**Paphiopedilum:** Standard, green-leaved paphiopedilums begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

**Phalaenopsis:** The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid-type fertilizer, is beneficial.

**Cymbidium:** Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

**Dendrobium:** This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.



## Upcoming Events

### **INTERNATIONAL PHALAENOPSIS ALLIANCE -"FOCUS ON PHALS" DAY**

Co-hosted by the New Hampshire Orchid Society, Saturday, **September 14, 2013**

Bedford Old Town Hall, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, NH

Early registration by August 30, 2013 Check our website for additional details. [www.caios.org](http://www.caios.org) or:

[http://www.nhorchids.org/uploads/event\\_docs/NHOS\\_IPA\\_Regional\\_Meeting\\_Registration\\_Form.pdf](http://www.nhorchids.org/uploads/event_docs/NHOS_IPA_Regional_Meeting_Registration_Form.pdf)

### **MASSACHUSETTS Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale – October 31 through November 3, 2013**

You are cordially invited to join us at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, 11 French Drive, Boylston Massachusetts, for the Massachusetts Orchid Society's Annual Show and Sale, *Orchids in Wonderland*. Set-up for all participants is Thursday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>; Ribbon judging and AOS judging is on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>; public hours will run from 1:00 – 5:00 PM on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM on Saturday Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9:00 AM-4:00 PM on Sunday Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. *Orchids in Wonderland* is a judged event. Exhibitors are required to register plants and displays to be eligible for show ribbons and/or show trophies. Unless marked 'Not for AOS Judging', all plants and displays are eligible for AOS awards. Complete registration information will be available around October 1st.

**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. Afternoon, see/join AOS judging. Learn to speak orchid! Fall foliage at Tower Hill is spectacular!- 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.

**OCTOBER 13:** Holger Perner from China! Famous seeker of rare Cypripediums! [hengduanbiotech.com/](http://hengduanbiotech.com/)

**NOVEMBER 10:** Fred Clarke, super West Coast grower! <http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com>

**DECEMBER 8 at NOON!:** The FAMOUS CAIOS Solstice Party and Auction



**CONNECTICUT Orchid Society Show ---**

It looks like Yr Co.editor Tom G., is going to lead the charge to the Garden Center. I plan to go down on Thursday and stay nearby to clerk at the American Orchid Society ribbon judging on Friday morning. Anyone free to come and set up and maybe stay to clerk is welcome(car pool?), and there is a good seafood restaurant very close to the motel.

I will need plants so call me at 508 540-2054 to arrange pickup and return. Their website will likely have judging preregistration available soon.

[www.ctorchids.org/](http://www.ctorchids.org/)



Connecticut Orchid Society  
presents  
**Orchid Harvest 2013**  
*Orchid Show & Sale*  
Fri., Oct. 18 2:00 ~ 5:00pm  
Sat., Oct. 19 9:00 ~ 5:00 pm  
Sun., Oct. 20 9:00 ~ 4:00 pm  
Lecture Schedule: Sat. & Sun. 11:00 am/12:30pm/2:00pm  
Ample parking and food available on premises.  
Van Wilgen's Garden Center  
51 Valley Rd. (off Rt. 139)  
North Branford, CT 06471



**CAIOS** It is with great sadness I report to you, the passing in June, of a well loved member of CAIOS, **Gail Barnett**. Gail joined CAIOS over ten years ago & began doing service for the group almost immediately. First as Publicity Director for our annual Orchid show, later holding the positions of President and Vice President. We will miss her no nonsense perspective, her sense of humor, her kindness, her big funny hats, the way she worked the microphone to announce the "next speaker" at the show, her special "awards", her presence. A memorial page can be found on the CAIOS website.

**CAIOS 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Orchid Show:** *"Kaleidoscope of Orchids"* Mark your calendars -- the show dates are **January 25 – 26, 2014.**

**CAIOS:**

[www.caios.org](http://www.caios.org)

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Corresp & AOS Rep.	Tom Gregg,	26 Pond Rd. Falmouth, MA 02540	

Motto: Orchids grow **WILD** where CAIOS



reigns!

Speaking of wild orchids, this is *Cypripedium reginae*. In a bog in central Vermont.