



The Cape and Islands Orchid Society
Affiliated with the American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest Corp.

September 2015 Newsletter

“CAIOS Orchid Auction”

September 13, 2015 at 12:30

Plants provided by Frosty Hollow Orchids and Wendy Oliver

THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OF THE CAPE COD FAIRGROUNDS

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

September's Meeting: It's a *Gala Welcome Back* to all new and established CAIOS members after a particularly lovely summer here on Cape Cod. The CAIOS first meeting will be an **Orchid Auction**. **Frosty Hollow Orchids** and our longtime friend Wendy Oliver, is closing one of her greenhouses and graciously offered to supply our Society with a large number of choice plants. Paphiopedilum, Cattleyas, Phals, Oncidinae, Vandaceous, Bulbophyllums and more! Dick Phillips is sending some BIG plants and some rooted keikis too! The Auction is open to the public.

We invite all of our E-listed orchid friends and not just CAIOS paid members. Please join your fellow orchidphiles (bring a friend or neighbor) for an afternoon of socializing, feasting, and a wonderful opportunity to acquire new premium plants for your collection (or to start a collection)! We may have a plant list later this week which will be posted on our website www.caios.org.

Annual Meeting: We will also be seeking your comments and approval of the new Board members at the September meeting. The following members have been nominated to fill the corresponding positions for CAIOS 2015-2016.



Nominations:

President:	Tina Balog	Director:	Jo Mayzel
Vice President:	Marsha Frederick	Director:	Tom Gregg
Secretary:	Cathy Fewore	Treasure and AOS Representative:	Tom Gregg
Newsletter and Webmaster:	Lynn Schaeffer		

Upcoming Meetings:

October: To Be Announced - Alan Koch probably

November: We are happy to announce Jean Stefanik has been rescheduled to speak on Native New Zealand Orchids. This time we don't expect any snow to force the cancelation of her presentation. So mark your calendar for another presentation you will not want to miss!

Raffle and Member Show Table: No Raffle and Show Table this month due to Auction.

Starting October-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.

Refreshments: For this first meeting would **Members A-M(toZ?)** please bring a plate of goodies to share. We have so many wonderful cooks and bakers and you know your offerings are always appreciated!

Orchids Questions – Answers – Helpful Hints



The following are answers to your recent questions. Please continue to send your questions, helpful hints or articles which will be featured in our newsletters, our website, or upcoming programs covering your topics. If you acquire a new plant at the auction and need culture information let me know. Our website www.caios.org now has some AOS culture sheets posted under “Helpful Hints”.

What causes the leaves on my Miltonia to be crinkled? Crinkled leaves are an indicator that the plant received insufficient water while the new leaves were developing. This can be caused by 1) loss of roots due to keeping the growing media too wet, which has killed most of the roots, or 2) simply not enough water to an otherwise healthy root system. Miltonias prefer to have their roots constantly damp, but never soggy. Miltonias also prefer lots of humidity, with 50-75% being the ideal amount. Light, morning misting of the foliage is helpful in hot, dry conditions but be sure to keep standing water out of the leaves or soft rot may develop, especially if there is poor air circulation around your plants..

What's the difference between a hybrid seedling and a meristem seedling?

A **hybrid seedling** is an orchid plant that has been produced by seed through the hybridization process. Two parent plants were used to produce the seed and the individual seedlings all have their own unique characteristics, like brothers and sisters in a family.

A **meristem seedling** is a seedling that has been produced using the cloning process. Each "mericlone" plant has an identical genetic make-up and each meristem or mericlone plant will look exactly the same, like identical twins.

What is the difference between a terrestrial and an epiphytic orchid?

Terrestrial orchids live on the ground, usually in rotting wood and leaves. These orchids need a constantly moist, never soggy, medium in which to grow. Paphiopedilums and cymbidiums are examples.

Epiphytic orchids live on the branches of other plants -- usually trees. They obtain no food from the trees on which they grow. Epiphytic orchids have "air-roots" which are accustomed to drying out in between periods of rain. The roots should be allowed to become moderately dry between watering. Cattleya, vanda, phalaenopsis, and dendrobiums are examples.

How do I know if I'm buying a healthy plant?

These tips will not “guarantee” your plant is healthy, but they are a few indicators you are purchasing a quality plant. Note: If you are experiencing any of the first 5 tips with your own collection, you should take the necessary steps to correct the problem before it's too late.

1. Check and see how firm the plant is in the pot. If it is shaky and not firm then it has either been recently repotted or has a bad root system. If it has been recently repotted check the mix, you may want to replace it. Sphagnum moss is often used to pot the orchids in for shipping. Sphagnum can rot the roots very quickly since it does not dry out as quickly as other media, unless you adjust watering.
2. The pseudobulbs should be fat and plump. Beware of the shriveled pseudobulbs
3. The leaves should be firm. Leaves that are limp or crinkled like an accordion are indications that the plant may have been exposed to excessively cold temperatures or lack of water due to no root system or just being watered incorrectly. Are the leaves brown or have spots? This is an indication of exposure to excessive sunlight or high temperatures. On many of the orchids, like Phalaenopsis, make sure the center leaf is still growing and there is not damage to the crown of the orchid. This damage can result in crown rot and the orchid will die.

4. Is there a sticky substance on the leaves? THE PLANT HAS BUGS! Avoid bug-infested plants.
5. Are the flowers limp or the buds turning yellow? Are there buds missing? This is an indication the plant has been stressed too much and will most likely drop all its flowers and buds within a few days no matter what you do for the plant. It could also be an indication of poor roots.
6. Does the plant have a correct label? The label should say more than just "ORCHID PLANT."

Vandas is a species native to Southeast Asia that grows in bright, warm and high humidity. Vandas can flower at any time of year. The heaviest flowering season is between spring and fall. Vandas require warm temperatures except for vanda coerulea and some of its hybrids. Daytime temperatures in the 70's to 90's are ideal, with night temperatures in the low to mid 60's

Light: Vandas require a good amount of light, enjoying the early morning sun with shading in the late morning/early afternoon. Leaves should be a light green color. Darker green indicates to little sun. A south window exposure is best when growing indoors.

Humidity: 50 percent or above is ideal.

Water: Plants in pots should be watered just as the medium dries out, approximately every 5-7 days.

Fertilizer: Fertilize every other watering year round.

Repotting: Repotting should be done every 2 years or as the root system expands above the pot. After repotting, keep the plant a bit on the dry side for the first couple of weeks as this allows any cracked roots to heal. Vandas prefer clay pots as they breathe better than plastic.

Reminder: Keep watching your plants for any unwelcomed visitors and show them the door as quickly as possible! Check the CAIOS website or previous newsletters on how to rid your plants of pests. You will also now find some AOS culture care sheets on our website.



Do you have a hint or experience you would like to share with the members? Have you acquired a new plant and you need some advice? Please continue to contact me via e-mail (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. All of your questions answered in upcoming newsletters.

Members Corner:



Don't forget your yearly membership dues!

We have several members which have not paid their annual membership dues. Please submit your payment NOW! Tom is waiting to hear from you. Last letter to unpaids(We've been very nice to keep some on our lists.

Do you have something to sell or trade or of interested to share with other members? Let us know and we will add it to the next newsletter. (Sr Ed. Tom or Ed. Lynn Schaeffer, e-mails below).

Check our website www.caios.org or our Facebook page frequently for last minute news and events. A Calendar of Events is updated frequently on our website. Please make sure you "refresh" your browser to enable you to see updated information.

JANUARY 21-24, 2016 CAIOS ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW – Mark your calendar for next year’s show dates.

Sign-up sheets coming soon! Start to consider now how you can help make the 2016 show another success. If you have any suggestion, please contact any of the Board members.

Upcoming Events:

September 11-13, 2015: Silva Orchids Shore Orchid Fall Festival. Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 635 Wayside Rd., Neptune, NJ. Kristin Uthus of New World Orchids and Kevin Gall and Kevin Gallagher and Joe Magazzi of Green Earth Agriculture will be speaking on Saturday. Please see their website for additional information <http://www.silvaorchids.com>

October 16-18, 2015: Orchid Harvest. Presented by the Connecticut Orchid Society, 51 Valley Rd, (off Route 139), North Branford, CT Friday 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.- Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Please see their website for additional information and plant registration forms. www.ctorchids.org

American Orchid Society Webinars: (some require AOS membership)

September 17, 2015. 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Growing Phalaenopsis: the basics of growing the beautiful moth orchid. Tom Harper, AOS Judge and owner of Stones River Orchids discusses helpful hints about successful growing of this orchid. Advanced Registration (space is limited) required and this webinar is free to everyone. Please see the website for additional information and registration. www.aos.org

October 7, 2015 Time to be announced **Semi-hydro; growing orchids without fir bark** presenter Ray Barkalow.

Do you have a good plant? American Orchid Society Judging: Judging takes place at the **Tower Hill Botanic Gardens of Worcester**, 11 French Dr., Classroom C, Boylston, MA on the first Saturday of the month. Monthly program is at 11AM, plants for judging must be in place by noon. Free, just say “Orchid Judging” at gate. Take I-495 N to I-290 W . Take exit 24 from, Church St Go Rt 3.5 mi. Central St, nearly to end, Sign on Rt., Approx..90 min. from Cape Cod Canal.

Announcements: Please check the caios.org website for last minute CAIOS news. Unexpected meeting cancellation will be posted if necessary. **A monthly calendar of events and meetings can now be found on our website.** We also post information on our Facebook page, stop by and “like” us and become our “friend”. Please e-mail webmaster@caios.org with any additions or corrections.

Please advise the senior editor of any e-mail and address changes so you don’t miss your newsletter and late breaking news!

CAIOS:	www.caios.org		
Prez. Tina Balog	508 540-5006 tina@plaid.who.edu	Newsletter Lynn Schaeffer	508-477-2681 OakH35@yahoo.com
Veep+ Jo Mayzel	508-432-7809 bellaorchid@verizon.net	Tom Gregg	508-540-2054
Secretary Cathy Fewore	508 540-2600 capecodcathy@yahoo.com		tf.gregg@verizon.net
Publicity Joan Kozar	508 432-6052 joan.kozar@gmail.com	Treasurer Tom Gregg (acting)	508-540-2054
Director Tom Gregg	508-540-2054 tf.gregg@verizon.net	Webmeister Lynn Schaeffer	508-477-2681 webmaster@caios.org
Director Marsha Fredericks	508-694-6279 busywomance@comcast.net	Corresp & AOS Rep. Tom Gregg,	26 Pond Rd. Falmouth, MA 02540
Show Chair Tina Balog	the great 508 540-5006 tina@plaid.who.edu		

Motto: Orchids grow *Wild* where CAIOS reigns