

WEST SHORE ORCHID SOCIETY

MAY 2012

NEXT MEETING Wednesday, May 16, 2012

TIME 6:00 p.m. Conversation: WSOS will provide drinks for the meetings.

6:30 p.m. Since it's that time of year, Edgar Stehli will demonstrate dividing and repotting orchids for some of the new members. He will also spend some time explaining the registration tags being used at the AOS judged shows as well as at our show table for plant registration.

7:00 p.m. Program: Steven A Frowine will again be our guest speaker. He spoke at our April 2010 meeting on fragrant orchids. This time around, he will talk about miniature orchids. Steve is an extremely accomplished professional horticulturist, garden writer and speaker. Steve holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in horticulture from Ohio State University and Cornell University respectively. Steve's wide ranging career as a horticulturist has taken him from Hawaii, to Cleveland and eventually Pittsburg where he was Director of the Phipps Civic Garden Center. After that he worked for several of the most prestigious horticultural firms in the United States including W. Atlee Burpee and White Flower Farm. A gifted communicator, Steve has lectured, written extensively and appeared on numerous radio and television shows. Today he is happily retired and resides in Ajijic, Mexico with his wife, Sascha, and two dogs where he greatly enjoys growing orchids and other tropicals outdoors, year-around. Steve is the author of several books including: *Orchids for Dummies*, *Fragrant Orchids*, *Gardening Basics for Dummies*, *Miniature Orchids*, and *Moth Orchids, the Complete Guide to Phalaenopsis*. He will be bringing books for sale which he will gladly sign. Wayne Roberts and Edgar Stehli will be bringing orchids for the sales table.

PLACE North Olmsted Community Cabin, 281 14 Lorain Road, North Olmsted

PROGRAM

SHOW TABLE Our show table was fabulous in April. We had 59 plants brought in for display. May will be the next show table and I hope to see even more plants showing up for judging. The results from the judging are listed below. Due to the large number of flowers in the Windowsill category, our judges, Eric Sauer and Edgar Stehli, decided to pick 2 entries for each of the awards. If there are any errors, please let me know and adjustments will be made.

APRIL SHOW TABLE WINNERS

GREENHOUSE	First	Cyp plectrochilum	Wayne Roberts
Professional	Second	Lycaste Pixie	Edgar Stehli
	Third	Pleurothallis chamensis	Edgar Stehli

GREENHOUSE Amateur	First	Vanda Kuliapee Flagrance	John Rini
	Second	Ren Marion 'Rodi'	John Rini
	Third	Odcdm Irish Mist 'Wintergreen'	John Rini
WINDOWSILL & UNDER LIGHTS	First	Den Yellow Song 'Canary'	Pat Corbett
	First	Paph villosum x spicerianum	Katherine Binder
	Second	Masd Machu Pinchu	Bob Lum King
	Second	Sedirea japonica	Chester Kieliszek
	Third	Phrag kovacii x schlimii	Bob Lum King
	Third	Max tennifolia x Sanguinea	Bob Lum King
FEWER THAN 20 PLANTS	First	Phalaenopsis Unknown	Karen Nader
	Second	Phalaenopsis Unknown	Marc Rothenberg
	Third	Phalaenopsis Unknown	Karen Nader
BEST SPECIES		Leptotes bicolor	Edgar Stehli
BEST MINATURE		Calypso Bulboca	Wayne Roberts

SHOW TABLE STANDINGS FOR 2012

STANDINGS FOR 2012	Greenhouse: Pro	Points
	Wayne Roberts	41
	Edgar Stehli	35
	Greenhouse: Am	
	John Rini	44
	Under Lights/Windows:	
	Bob Lum King	17
	Jim Thompson	16
	Katherine Binder	14
	Pat Corbett	14
	Chester Kieliszek	11
	Martha Bell	8
	Alan Lund	7
	Marolyn Smith	6
	Pam Everett	4
	Teresa Nemeth	3
	Amanda Hill	2
	Debbie Gotsch	2
	Rene M Doubrava	1
	Bob Galaska	1
	Less Than 20 Plants:	
	Karen Nader	17
	Barbara Brandon	10
	Marc Rothenberg	8
	Anita Vergilii	6

Thank you to all who brought in their blooming plants for our members to enjoy. For those of you who missed bringing in plants for the April Show Table you get another chance at the May meeting.

CPOS ORCHID SHOW MAY 5 – 6	Central Pennsylvania Orchid Society Show This will be held at Ag Arena, Penn State Campus, State College, PA. Contact: Cathy Riemer, 434 Chestnut St., Bellefonte, PA 16823 – (814) 353-8741
OSNP ORCHID SHOW MAY 12-13	Orchid Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania Show , JMC Arena, 423 West 38 th St., Erie, PA. Contact: Steve Kidder, stevekidder@verizon.net . West Shore will be setting up a display at this show.

Exhibitor # - We will have a sheet of lined paper with numbers starting with 1. When you register your plants, print your name next to the next available number on this sheet. This number is your exhibitor number and should be placed on the tag for each plant you register.

Exhibit # - If you plan to enter a plant as part of a society display, the society signs up and receives a number. All plants entered into that display then have the same Exhibit number. At our show, West Shore signed up and received #1 as the exhibit number. Each member also received their exhibitor number, so the tags for West Shore all had Exhibit #1 on them along with the exhibitor number of the member who entered the plant into the exhibit. There were a total of 50 exhibitor numbers given out at our show.

If you enter your own exhibit and anyone can do this, as the vendors do, the exhibit number and the exhibitor number are the same.

Plant Name - If you have a plant label, the name should be found on it. If you buy an orchid from a big box store, it probably will not have an identification label. If this is the case write unknown next to the genus, i.e. Phalaenopsis unknown, or Dendrobium unknown. If you have a label, write the name down, i.e. Phalaenopsis Jiahos Pink Girl, Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance', Epidendrum randii. Note: If the name has upper case letters in it, this usually means it is a Hybrid. If the name is in lower case letters as in *randii*, it is usually a species.

Cross – Some labels give the cross of the hybrid, i.e. Paph Saigon Pearl (Ho Chi Minh 'Pink Bubbles' x Avalon Mist 'Sunshine') with the name being *Paph Saigon Pearl* and the cross being in parenthesis – *Ho Chi Minh 'Pink Bubbles'* crossed with *Avalon Mist 'Sunshine'*. Sometimes the orchid is not named, but the cross is given as in Dtps (Hsinying Little Voodoo 'Stripe' x Brother Little Hatter) where the cross would be written on the tag as *Hsinying Little Voodoo 'Stripe' x Brother Little Hatter*.

Class # - This is probably the most difficult line to fill in. Each society show publishes a show schedule and there are classes listed from 1 through 108 in this schedule. Your orchid will fall into one of these classes. In AOS judging, each class is individually judged with all the entries into one particular class competing against one another. The classes are also grouped into sections, i.e. Cattleyas, Paphiopedilums, Phalaenopsis, etc. with the best orchid in that group winning a Best of Class Award. The classes are broken down by species, hybrids or color and size of the orchid flower. Do your best to put your flower into the proper class. If you are not sure of your class, it is best to put your orchid into the earliest entry number within its genus. Judges look at the entries and will move an entry into the proper class if that class has not already been judged. The schedule works well for common genera, but if you have something like a Sedirea, Acineta, Jumellea, Oeoniella or some other out of the ordinary genera, the Mid-America Orchid Congress publishes a Classification List. This 54 page document has all the genera listed alphabetically with the class number printed next to the name. You look up your orchid and next to the name will be a class number to enter it into. Some are listed by either species or hybrids with a different number for each (this is where the upper and lower case lettering on the labels comes into play). If you don't know the class number, ask for help. We had about 5% of the orchids at our show entered into the wrong class. The judges moved almost all of them into the proper class and they were all judged.

Tag# - We saved the best for last. You don't have to put anything on this line. When you turn in your completed tags to the register, they give it a number unique to the entry and put that number on the line for you.

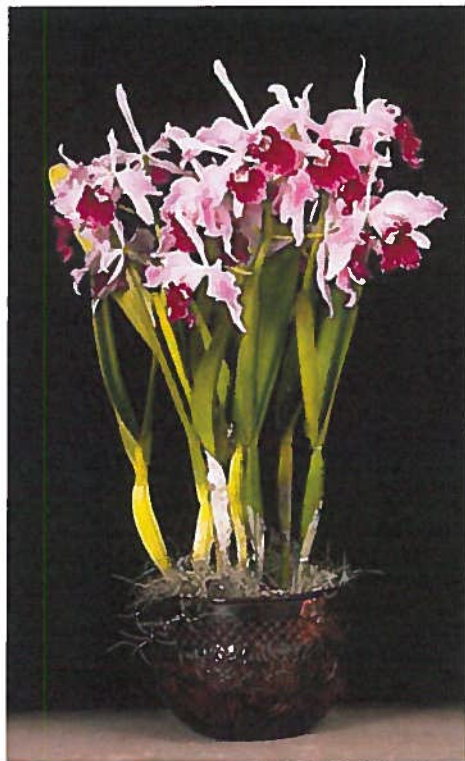
Completed tags – After filling in the tags at a show they are turned in to the registration desk. The register applies the tag number and then returns the bottom portion of the tag to be placed on the plant. The top of the tag goes into a folder with any other entries in that class. The judges then take the folders and judge each of the plants in that folder giving awards as they see fit. For our purpose, place the tag on

or under the pot for show table judging. The tags will be collected after judging and points awarded to the exhibitors marked on the tags.

We are looking for a new Librarian to manage our collection of orchid related books and videos. Edgar Stehli has been doing it for the last too many years to remember and is looking for someone to replace him. If you are interested, please contact Edgar or myself at the May meeting. That person will have a world of reading at their finger tips.

The following is an article taken from the American Orchid Society website. They have a checklist for what you need to be doing month by month to your orchids.

Monthly Checklist for May and June



Cattleya purpurata, formerly in the genus *Laelia*, is without a doubt one of the most stately orchids to bloom in this season. © G. Allikas

Cattleya

The last of the spring-flowering types -- those that flower from a ripened hard pseudobulb -- will be finishing, while the first summer-blooming types will be showing buds on their rapidly growing, soft pseudobulbs. Both may need potting, as signaled by deteriorating mix, this month. The spring bloomers present no problems, as you will be dealing with fully ripe, well-hardened pseudobulbs. They will be ready to root on the mature front pseudobulb and will establish quickly. The summer bloomers, will be brittle and may be in bud. Nonetheless, experienced growers know that unless potted now, they may not root later, as this type tends to be seasonal in its rooting behavior. Stake the lead growth to avoid breakage. May can still present some changing light conditions that can lead to burning of the foliage if the plants have not been properly acclimatized. Allow them to build up their tolerance to higher light gradually. Changing light and temperatures can also be the source of some frustration when trying to determine when plants need watering. While cattleyas will be entering into a period of rapid growth

starting this month, they have still not built up sufficient momentum to be significantly slowed by your missing a day or two of watering owing to dark weather. As always, it is safer to err on the dry side than on the wet. It is important, though, especially to the summer bloomers. Too much shade will cause rapidly developing inflorescences to droop unattractively.



Paphiopedilum Maudiae is a perennial favorite slipper orchid.

Paphiopedilum

The *Paphiopedilum Maudiae* types will be well into their season now, so a careful eye should be used toward staking. Do not be too anxious to stake, however. Many of this type, if staked too soon, will develop nodding flowers that do not face the observer. It is better to allow the flowers to ripen naturally, then support the spike right below the ovary for best display. This is especially common in *Paphiopedilum fairrieanum*-derived hybrids. If you have to do something when you first see the emerging spikes, just put the stake in the pot next to the spiking growth. Not only will this help you, but you will be able to see where the spikes are, so you can continue to pay attention to their development. The multifloral types will be entering their most active growth phase, so lots of light, water and fertilizer are called for to mature their large growths. Many will be spiking in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for the emerging inflorescences. These may benefit from earlier staking than most, as the inflorescences grow so quickly in some cases that they can be quite soft. Again, best support is right below the ovary of the first flower. This will allow the most natural presentation of the blooms.

Phalaenopsis

Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for potting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior. The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant. This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on *Doritis* background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the summer season. Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne pathogens and viral contamination. Phalaenopsis are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.