

WEST SHORE ORCHID SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2012

NEXT MEETING Wednesday, November 14, 2012 **NOTE:** This is a week earlier than normal due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

TIME 6:00 p.m. Conversation: WSOS will provide sandwiches and drinks for the meeting. Anyone wishing to bring goodies in is more than welcome too.

6:30 p.m. Chester Kieliszek will review our plant registration tags used currently on our show table. This is the same tag we will be using to register your plants at the upcoming shows we will be displaying in next year. I am pleased with the results of using the tags on the show table and will answer any questions as well as point out some of the problems members are having with the tags. Show season is a time to show off your orchids and I hope more people will bring their blooming plants to the 5 events we are looking forward to entering. Registration is a part of these events and is fairly easy once you learn some of the rules.

7:00 p.m. Program: Edgar Stehli will be speaking on one of the largest genera in the orchid family, *Bulbophyllum*. Kim and Edgar Stehli started Windswept in Time Orchids, in 1999. The company began by selling *Phalaenopsis* to the local florist shops. The business began as the result of a hobby out of control. Edgar began his interest in orchids as a little boy when he found a flower growing in the roadside ditch. The flower turned out to be an orchid. He began growing orchids in the 60's and had a small collection by the late 70's. While at college, the orchid collection made a trip south with his parents. Edgar met Kim at the Cleveland Botanical Garden, dated for a few years then got married in Nairobi, Kenya. One of the first changes after getting married was to build a sun-room on the house. This is when the hobby got out of control. Within a few years the sun-room was full, and a greenhouse was just a matter of time.

 Today Windswept in Time Orchids attends about 15 AOS shows a year and gives lectures to both orchid societies and garden clubs. They grow a wide variety of orchids in the greenhouse and have received many awards on their plants and exhibits.

 Edgar will be bringing plants in for sale.

PLACE North Olmsted Community Cabin, 28114 Lorain Road, North Olmsted

PROGRAM

SHOW TABLE Our show table was again fabulous in October. We had 44 plants brought in for display. There are two show tables left in the year, so bring in your blooming plants for the November show table. The results from the judging are listed below. If there are any errors, please let me know and adjustments will be made.

ORCHID CALENDER

Open House - Windswept in Time Orchids

When Saturday & Sunday Nov 3 – 4, 2012 - 11:00 to 5:00 both days

Where Edgar and Kim Stehli's greenhouse, 8066 Skyline Drive, Broadview Hts. Tel. 440- 838-5757.

Description This is just west and north of the Wallings Rd. and I-77 interchange.

Open House - Robert's Flower Supply

When Friday & Saturday Dec. 7 – 8 & Saturday Dec 15, 2012

Where Wayne & Nancy Robert's greenhouse, 12390 Root Rd., Columbia Station, OH Tel. 440-236-5571.

Next WSOS Meeting

When Wednesday Dec 19, 2012 – 6:00 PM, Dinner 7:00 PM

Where North Olmsted Community Cabin, 28114 Lorain Road, North Olmsted

Description We will have our annual holiday dinner and give out plants to all memberships in attendance. We will also elect officers for the next 2 year term.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I X Center

As discussed at our October meeting, the Great Big Home and Garden Show, which West Shore has attended as an exhibitor in years past, will charge all exhibitors a fee starting next year. Prior to this coming year, non-profit organizations were given exhibit space at no cost. This event is our best avenue for advertising our March show as we give out a number of our show flyers. It also brings in between \$700.00 to \$1,000.00 for the society to cover costs for the speakers we bring in during the year as well as monies to run the society. The I X Center will charge us \$600.00 for the exhibit space. A vote will be taken at the November meeting to determine if we want to use our funds to rent this space for advertising our show or use some other means to get our show fliers out to the public.

OCTOBER SHOW TABLE WINNERS

GREENHOUSE Professional	First	Aerengis mystacidium	Edgar Stehli
	Second	Bulbophyllum rothschildianum	Edgar Stehli
	Third	Onc Shlendum	Wayne Roberts
GREENHOUSE Amateur	First	Paph gratrixianum	Bill Crocs
	Second	Pot rubescens x Slc tangerine Jewel	Bill Crocs
	Third	Cirr Elizabeth Ann Buckleberry	John Rini
WINDOWSILL & UNDER LIGHTS	First	C downiana	Teressa Nemeth
	Second	Paph Pulsar	Marolyn Smith
	Third	Spiranthes Cerhua	Dan Dolney
FEWER THAN 20 PLANTS	First	Phal Unknown	Anita Vergilii
	Second	Phal Unknown	Anita Vergilii
	Third	Milt Glynoskein 'Light Dancer'	Wilma Jean Kelch
BEST SPECIES		Phal violacea	Bill Crocs
BEST MINATURE		Haraella retrocella	Edgar Stehli

SHOW TABLE STANDINGS FOR 2012

STANDINGS FOR 2012	Greenhouse: Pro	Points
	Edgar Stehli	124
	Wayne Roberts	73
	Greenhouse: Am	
	John Rini	103
	Bill Cruce	54
	Mel Goldstein	1
	Under Lights/Windows:	
	Katherine Binder	40
	Teressa Nemeth	32
	Pat Corbett	21
	Chester Kieliszek	19
	Bob Lum King	17
	Jim Thompson	17
	Alan Lund	16
	Marolyn Smith	15
	Debbie Gotsch	11
	Dan Dolney	11
	Pam Everrett	10
	Martha Bell	9
	Amanda Hill	7
	Colleen Croniger	1
	Rene M Doubrava	1
	Bob Galaska	1
	Mary Beth Mansour	1
	Dave Miller	1
	Less Than 20 Plants:	
	Marc Rothenberg	26
	Barbara Brandon	22
	Anita Vergili	37
	Karen Nader	18
	Wilma Kelch	14
	Christine Knott	5

Bring in your blooming plants to our next show table in November.

I would like to welcome the following new members to West Shore since the last newsletter went out, but we don't have any, so get out there and bring a friend who likes growing things to our next meeting and introduce them to the wonderful world of orchids.

We now have 69 of our 94 members on email. Anyone not receiving a newsletter email and wanting one can request it by emailing Chester Kieliszek at kieliszekc@ferro.com and I will put you on the email list.

We are still looking for people interested in running for office to take over some of the West Shore leadership as the two year term for the current officers' ends at the end of the this year. If you are interested, contact one of the current officers, or Edgar Stehli, head of our nominating committee. We would like to announce the candidates at the November meeting as voting will take place at the December meeting. As of this newsletter, we have Teressa Nemeth nominated for President and Wayne Roberts for Vice President. This is your society, if you feel the need for change, this is your opportunity to promote your ideas to make the society better.

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 November and December

Cattleya

Growers of just about every level of expertise will have begun to notice autumn conditions by now. Days are becoming shorter, hence cooler; the sunlight has less intensity as a result of the sun's lowering angle, nights are longer and generally cooler. Plants are responding by slowing and ripening their growth in preparation for winter.

The first cultural change noticed should be a reduced frequency of watering, as the plants dry out more slowly. This is a function of both the reduced day length and lower temperatures, as well as the plants' slowing growth rate. Reduced water needs signal a reduced need for fertilization. Note that the key word is reduced, not eliminated. Feed less frequently and at lower dosage, but feed. Growths, made during summer's heat, and relatively soft and green, will be ripening -- hardening -- in preparation for a brief period of rest (in many cases).

Many of these ripening growths will have a sheath, presaging the coming winter or spring flowering season. In some cases, these sheaths will have been evident since as early as July. (Early sheath development does not mean early flowering on plants with winter-spring seasons.) You may notice that some of these sheaths are showing signs of yellowing. This is not abnormal. Autumn's more pronounced temperature fluctuation can lead to water condensation inside the sheath, hastening the normal process of senescence, so yellowing sheaths can be left on the plant only so long before they must be carefully removed to preserve the bud primordia within. Water condensation left unchecked can rot the bud primordia. The sheaths can be safely removed by slitting open and peeling down toward the pseudobulb.



Cymbidium ensifolium produces delicate flowers with a delightful citrus fragrance.

Cool-Growing Orchids

One can almost hear a sigh of relief from all of the cool-growers, from masdevallias to odontoglossums. As day temperatures decline, one can see a noticeable improvement in these plants. Shorter days and lower light levels do not seem to bother them. Repot before winter arrives.

Cymbidium

Finally we begin in earnest the main cymbidium season. *Cymbidium ensifolium* can give some early and fragrant hybrids, but it is now that the bulk of the crop will be flowering. The season lasts for about seven months, adding color to any collection. Miniature varieties will peak for the next three to four months. There are three important things to do: stake inflorescences ramrod straight for best presentation, watch for slugs and snails (especially just after a rain), and fertilize with a mild balanced formula regularly.

Oncidium crispum Complex

This is the season for plants in *Oncidium* section *crispum* from Brazil to shine. Extremely vigorous hybrids come in wide varieties of markings dominated with chestnut and brown and butter yellow. Give plants high light to produce strong upright inflorescences. The pseudobulbs should be plump, so do not let the plants dry out while they are in bloom. Later, plants will enter a dormant period.

Paphiopedilum

The flowering season for the "toads" or "bulldog" paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. Paphiopedilums are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath's rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike.

While paphiopedilums rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease problems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With paphiopedilums, especially, "cleanliness is next to godliness" and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flowers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

Phalaenopsis

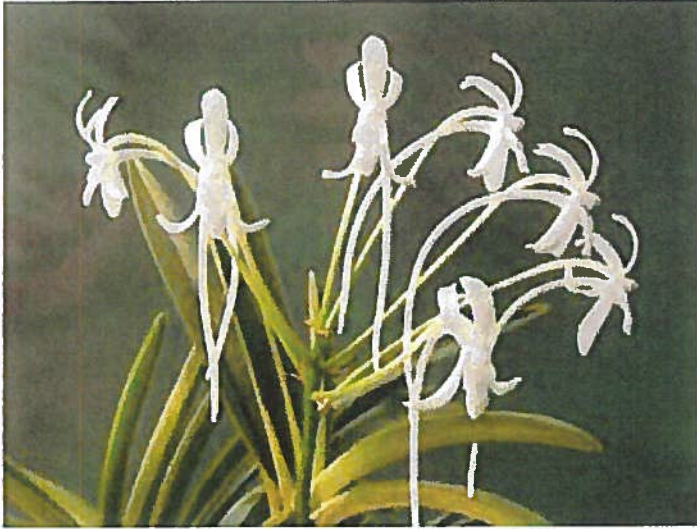
Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in phalaenopsis. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our phalaenopsis will not begin to bloom until Valentine's Day at the earliest.

A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a "bloom booster"-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a

copper-based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.

Vandaceous Genera

Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules.



Neofinetia falcata will thrive in cooler temperatures and produce graceful vanilla-scented flowers.

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