

WEST SHORE ORCHID SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2011

NEXT MEETING	Wednesday, November 16, 2011	
TIME	6:00 p.m.	Conversation: WSOS will provide drinks for the meeting. At the October meeting we asked for volunteers to bring in the snacks for this months meeting. If you would like to volunteer to bring in snacks for one of the meetings, please contact Chester Kieliszek at 330-467-3731 or Barb Brandon – head of Hospitality at 440-842-9044.
	6:30 p.m.	Beginners corner - Edgar Stehli will talk on growing dendrobiums.
	7:00 p.m.	Program: Ken Mettler a member of Central Ohio Orchid Society will speak on Orchid Babies and what's needed to get an orchid from seed to plant. Windswept in Time and Roberts Flower Supply will be bringing in plants for sale.
PLACE	North Olmsted Community Cabin, 28114 Lorain Road, North Olmsted	

PROGRAM

SHOW TABLE	There were a number of beautiful orchids on the October Show Table and there are two more show tables left this year so it is still anyone's race to win in the different categories. Remember, you can't win if you don't bring your plants to the show table for judging. We could always use more plants on the show table, so if it is blooming, bring it in to the November show table. Everyone in attendance enjoys seeing the different orchids in everyone's collections
------------	---

ORCHID CALENDER

OPEN HOUSE NOV. 5 & 6	Saturday & Sunday, Nov. 5 & 6 Windswept in Time Orchids from 11am-5pm at Edgar and Kim Stehli's greenhouse, 8066 Skyline Drive, Broadview Hts. Tel. 440- 838-5757. This is just west and north of the Wallings Rd. and I-77 interchange.
MINI SHOW NOV 5 & 6	Central Ohio Orchid Society Fall Mini Show, Franklin Park Conservatory, 1777 East Broad St., Columbus, OH. Contact: Nancy Wagener Tel. 614-276-8890
OPEN HOUSE DEC 10 - 11 & 17	Robert's Flower Supply - Wayne & Nancy Robert's greenhouse, 12390 Root Rd., Columbia Station, OH. Tel. 440-236-5571.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PICNIC	Pictures are posted on the website http://www.westshoreorchidsociety.org/
--------	--

OCTOBER SHOW TABLE WINNERS

GREENHOUSE Professional	First	Bulb.	Edgar Stehli
	Second	Dendrochilum cohianum	Edgar Stehli
	Third		
GREENHOUSE Amateur	First	Epilc. Volcano trick	John Rini
	Second	Den nemorale	John Rini
	Third	Vanda Panclera Delight	John Rini
	Third	Paph lienianum	Mel Goldstein
WINDOWSILL & UNDER LIGHTS	First	Phrag Grande x caudatum	Mary Beth Mansour
	Second	Dend. Hybrid	Colleen Croniger
	Third	Phal Green Star	Pam Everett
FEWER THAN 20 PLANTS	First	Phal No Name	Anita Vergilii
	Second	Phal No Name	Anita Vergilii
	Third	Pot Hsinying Pink Doll	Marolyn Smith
BEST SPECIES		Bulb.	Edgar Stehli
BEST MINATURE		Dend. Hybrid	Colleen Croniger

SHOW TABLE STANDINGS

STANDINGS FOR 2011	Greenhouse: Pro	Points
	Edgar Stehli	94
	Wayne Roberts	54
	Greenhouse: Am	
	John Rini	90
	Mel Goldstein	24
	Under Lights/Windows:	
	Teressa Nemeth	26
	Mary Beth Mansour	20
	Colleen Croniger	14
	Debbie Gotsch	10
	Chester Kieliszek	10
	Jane Stroomer	6
	Chester Gordon	6
	Dan Dolney	4
	Pam Everett	4
	Mary Jo Marshall	4
	Joseph Hruby	4
	Less Than 20 Plants:	
	David Less	26
	Barbara Brandon	18
	Anita Vergilii	16
	Lyn Michaels	10
	Gina Moore	10
	Christine Knott	4
	James Croniger	4
	Marolyn Smith	4

It is nice to see more new names as show table winners and just goes to show you, most members have some very well grown orchids sitting at home just begging to come in to a show table. Bring in your blooming plants to our next show table in November.

I would like to welcome the following new member to West Shore since the last newsletter went out: No new members, so everyone should look to bring one of your friends to the next meeting so we can hook them on growing orchids and make them a new member.

We now have 65 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.

Our new website is still under construction, but we are making progress. We are looking for someone to take pictures of our upcoming show tables and show so we can add them to the site. If you have pictures you want added to the site, please email them to Chester Kieliszek at kieliszekc@ferro.com and I will get them put on the site. You can check it out at <http://www.westshoreorchidsociety.org/>

The following is an article taken from the American Orchid Society website. Written by *Ned Nash and James Rose*. Copyright American Orchid Society -- www.aos.org

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.

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.



Cymbidium ensifolium produces delicate flowers with a delightful citrus fragrance.

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.