



Central Jersey Orchid Society Newsletter

October 2018 Issue

President's Message October 2018

I get an enormous amount of satisfaction and gratification each and every month at our CJOs meetings. In addition to our excellent speakers there is a new energy in our society. We almost always have upwards of 40 attendees. Just a few years ago 20 members at a meeting would have considered a good turnout. More and more members are contributing to CJOs's success. It is gratifying to see members take initiative to enhance our meetings. Tamara and Chris brought additional orchids for our raffle and Chris also donated light fixtures. Our judging/show table has many more orchids than in past years. It is also interesting to see orchids on the show table that members acquired in previous years raffles and holiday parties.

Remember to pay your dues by the November meeting so you can attend our outstanding upcoming holiday party chaired by Tamara and Mary Ann. They have made the last two parties truly memorable.

Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids in California will be our November speaker. A preorder plant list has been sent out to everyone with instructions. Alan has some excellent species and hybrids as well as clones to purchase. A bonus to you is that there will be no shipping cost.

One very sad note. Dot Slusarchyk passed last week after a long battle with ovarian cancer. Bill is residing in a care facility. I have sent out an

email with her obituary. CJOs will be making a contribution to the AOS in Dot's memory.



C. maxima "Chadwick's Dark"
(J. Thomas)

Newsletter Contents

Page 2 Meetings and Committees

Page 3-8 Judging

Page 9 Orchid Events

**Page 12 AOS Monthly Checklist Nov
Dec**

**Page 13 Reprint St Augustine Orchid
Society Oct 2018**

Meetings and Events

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at the at the Johnson Education Center (D&R Greenway Land Trust) One Preservation Place Princeton, NJ 08540

Sept: Mary Jo Gilsdorf :“Adaptive Potting Techniques and Other Cultural Tips”. **Will have Plant for sale**

Oct: Greg Griffis:
Jewel orchids and other Terrestrials

Nov: Allan Koch: Gold Coast Orchids

Cattleyas 365, 24/7. Get the knowledge on how to build a collection that will flower all year long and how to grow them. Learn the species that have been used by hybridizers for years to control bloom time. Talk is adapted to our climate!

Dec: Holiday Party

Jan: Paul Sheetz: Unifoliate Cattleya, How to Identify and distinguish them

Feb: Beth Davis: What is a Beth Orchid?

March: 2019 Bob Sprague: Orchid Trivia.

Apr: TBA

May: Annual Question and Answer Session

June: Annual CJOs Picnic

Officers and Committee's:

President -David Rosenfeld
orchiddoc@comcast.net

Vice President -Chris Bevins
njinsptr28@yahoo.com

Treasurer/Secretary -Anne Skalka
anne@skalkacpa.com

Refresments – Joy Gabriel
joy.a.gabriel76@gmail.com

Editor Newsletter- Ed Frankel
Edsharkf@yahoo.com

JUDGING October 2018

Cattleya

1. *C. maxima* “Chadwick's Dark”
(J. Thomas)



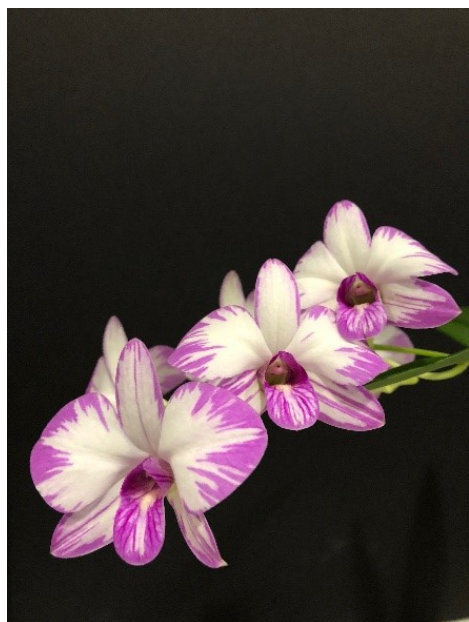
2. *C. Geri Male* (Jim Murtha)

3. BLC George King “Serendipity” AM
(Elaine and Charles Westhaber)



Den/Onc

1. Den Enobi 'Purple Splash' AM Larry Steele



2. Den Enobi 'Purple Splash' AM (Muffy Fink)

3. Alceara Dragon Wings 'Puff' (Renee Jolley)



Paph/Phrag

1. *Phrag. schlimii* (J. Thomas)



2. *Paph villosum* (Anne Skalka)

3. *Phrag Schroederiae* “David's Dream” CCM (Roz G)



Species

1. **Holcoglossum wangii** (Jeffrey Tryon)



2. **Stenocoryne aurea-fulva** (George Wallace)



3. **Catasetum fimbriatum** (D. Carrick)

Other

1. Ctsm Aurora (gladitorium x fibriatum) (Renee Jolley)



2. Monierara Millenium Magic 'Witchcraft' FCC (Sara Toth)



3. Masdevalia No ID ((J. Thomas)

Orchid of the Month



***C. maxima* “Chadwick's Dark” (J. Thomas)**

Orchid Events

Upcoming AOS Webinars



Greenhouse Chat

Ron McHatton

Wednesday, November 7th, 2018
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

Orchid Q&A



Los Pleurothallidinae y sus polinizadores

Adam Karremans

Wednesday, November 14th, 2018
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

Pleurothallid pollination in Spanish



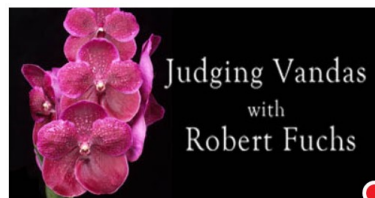
Discovering the orchids of Ecuador

Discovering the Orchids of Ecuador

Nile Dusdieker

Thursday, November 15th, 2018
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

A look at the orchids of Ecuador in their native habitat



Judging Vandas with Robert Fuchs

Robert Fuchs

Wednesday, December 12th, 2018
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

What makes a great Vanda?

Please Support AOS and Join as a member

AOS.org

We haven't had a volunteer for a while please consider taking some pictures.

How Do You Grow?

Each month, I would like to show a member's growing methods/conditions. We started with ours. Please send me pictures of your growing conditions (summer/winter) edsharkf@yahoo.com No submission this month. Let's get some pictures of your growing space

AOS 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 ensifolium produces delicate flowers with a delightful citrus fragrance.

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.



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

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.

CULTIVATION

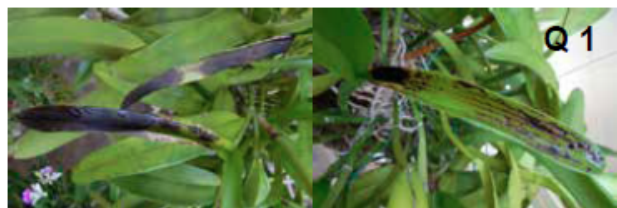


Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@gmail.com

Q1. I have some new leaves with streaks on a cattleya I have had for 10 years. It bloomed beautifully in May as usual. It is hanging under my lanai roof with a west exposure.

One leaf fell off and I noticed these others have the same problem. Most of the old growth looks fine. Any ideas?



A1. I think that's bacterial on the new growths. That new growth is so soft and tender that the bacteria can much more easily invade the tissue than the older mature growths that have hardened off with a good waxy cuticle layer. It was so rainy earlier this year that I moved almost all the cattleyas into the greenhouse, only the tough schomburgkias and schombocatts were left under the shade structure. That tender growth is just so susceptible; all you can do is cut off the infected stuff. I sprayed Zeritol before and after storms and it helped, probably copper or Physan would be better, but be careful with genera sensitive to copper.

Q2. I just dropped this cattleya into a clay pot rather than repotting, but decided it was time to repot. When I pulled it out of the clay pot, there are all these roots growing out of the plastic slotted basket. Now what do I do?

A2. As long as the mix inside the plastic basket is in good shape, don't disturb the cattleya or its roots. You can try water jetting out any material that you can remove, and then find a large wooden slatted basket. You may have to remove the top collar of the plastic basket so it nestles easily into the wooden basket. Get some nippers and just cut right



below the solid collar, where it joins the netted basket. The basket will lose its rigidity, but it will be supported by the wooden basket.

Q3. I recently bought this *Brassavola cucullata* bare root. Unfortunately, when I unwrapped it, the roots were all rotted. The vendor said it needs to be mounted "upside down" with the leaves hanging down. What is the best method to revive this plant? Can I still properly mount it and regrow the roots?



A3. Your first order of business will be developing new roots and you may need some rooting hormones to make that happen fast. I use Dip 'N Gro, but there are plenty of them on the market.

If you want to mount it, mount it so the growths will dangle pendulously from the mount, make sure it is immobilized with a couple cable ties, if it moves while the roots are developing, they'll be rubbed away and die.

You can put it in a slight shadier spot while you're waiting on roots to grow and spray it 2 or three times a day, or put a little sphagnum or Spanish moss (may be better) to keep humidity high around the roots. Once the roots attach, say 2 months down the road, you can move it into brighter light, remove excess moss, etc. If you need any help, don't hesitate to ask!