Naples Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

The Naples Orchid Society is a non-profit organization, devoted to the promotion of, interest in, and the appreciation of orchids and the preservation of our native orchids. It is also our aim to disseminate information pertaining to their culture and hybridization.

www.naplesorchidsociety.org

President: Kit Kitchen-Maran
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Newsletter Editor: Kris Morton, & Marilyn Moser
Kwmehm@comcast.net

Come to the July Meeting Thursday July 5, 2012 At the Moorings Presbyterian Church

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Flower Registration 6:30 p.m.
Flower Judging 7:10 p.m.
Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Program 7:45 p.m.

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The Program will be Thomas Hecker

"Birds, Bees & Sexy Orchids in Your Trees, or Living Fireworks in the Trees this 5th of July"

Deadline for entries in the Newsletter is the 15th of the month, 3 pm.
Kwmehm@comcast.net

July 2012 NEWSLETTER

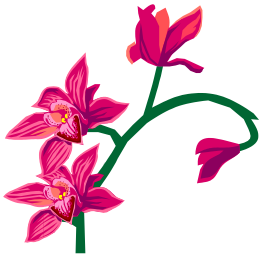
Upcoming Events

Next meeting August 2
Joe Hayden
Sun Bulb
Topic to be announced

NEXT NOS BOD MEETING
July 19, 2012
Moorings Presbyterian, 7 pm
Classroom B upstairs
All are welcome

AOS JUDGING
WPB Judging Center next judging date: August 25
(July 28 is a business mtg.)

NEXT NOS SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING
September, 2012
Date to be announced later
Moorings Presbyterian, 7 pm
Classroom B upstairs
All are welcome



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Kit Kitchen-Maran
kachinusa@aol.com

Fellow NOS Members,

I hope you are enjoying the summer wherever you might be. Here in Naples it is sunny and hot, with cool-down after the sun hits the lower western skies. It's an ideal time to do your repotting if you haven't finished already. As David Junka, our program presenter for June told us, it's not too late to get optimal growth for fall blooming. He did an outstanding demonstration/talk on "dividing and conquering" those outsize orchids that cry out for repotting. Key point: don't be afraid, since neglect will surely downsize and maybe even do in your favorite orchids. I know this to be true from experience.

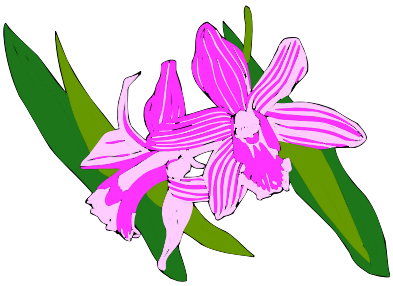
While on the subject of *dividing*, please consider contributing divisions to Ted Moore's beautification project over at the County Museum, and also for the NOS fall sale. And also on the subject of *contributing*, please consider selling some of the coupons for Macy's *Shop for a Cause* sale on August 25. NOS could really use your help in raising funds this year to ensure that the annual potluck dinner in December includes the benefit of a new orchid for your collection.

The way that *Shop for a Cause* works is that any coupon NOS members sell for $5 each, NOS gets to keep the WHOLE $5!!! The coupon entitles the holder to special offers and discounts at the Macy's event August 25th. If all our members (235) sold or bought just one coupon, our treasury could be ($5 X 238=) $1190 richer!! Please help NOS out this way, won't you?

Back to the NOS community beautification efforts; the Garden of Hope and Courage at the downtown Naples Community Hospital and the Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens have both had numerous orchids hung in the trees by NOS members. If you feel strongly about retaining the botanical beauty at the Zoo, please contact your local county commissioner or all the commissioners before June 26th and let them know this is part of the zoo that you value.

I know that this part of the year is when we take time to kick back and rest up from the past busy season, but I'm asking that you become just a bit more involved, with just a little expenditure of time and effort, for an organization we all enjoy. We will all benefit if each one of us will do it.
While you are at your computer, check out the NOS website! Sue Roehl has done a fantastic job with it. There is a new link on the homepage for members who are more interested in native species and the research ongoing. Our July meeting will introduce us to the interns we are sponsoring to do work at the FL. Panther Preserve and Fakahatchee Strand State Park.

Thanks, and have a safe and happy 4th of July!
Kit



AOS CORNER
Marilyn Moser
AOS Rep.
MM3purple@aol.com

I started thinking about our orchid society and after reading Dennis Cathcart's "*Tropiflora* Newsletter" I see that he brought up several very relevant points. Look at what some people miss when they rely only on the internet for their orchid information. At our society, you meet people face to face, share ideas in a live group and see people's reactions. There are always orchids to see first-hand, and often orchids to buy or be raffled. It is our society that helps you grow your collection more than any other source and you learn so much from other members taking advantage of their experience and knowledge. We always have interesting programs where you can see and learn about your favorite orchid. Ask questions, get answers, have a discussion, get advice. An NOS meeting is one of life's most enjoyable, simple pleasures.

TIPS FROM MARILYN

Don't give up on those non-flowering plants until you have tried everything.

***Find out the conditions the plant likes and try to provide those conditions.**
***Fertilize the plant on a regular basis and try a bloom booster.**
***Change its location gradually, either increasing or decreasing the light. The leaves should be the color of a lime.**
***Repot the plant and be patient.**
***Vendors force plants into bloom for a specific show because buyers like to purchase plants in bloom. Because of this it might take the plant a year or two to acclimate to its new growing environment.**

When repotting, this is what you should look for when examining the roots:

***The roots should be plump and white. Brown stringy roots should be present as well as this is a sign of normal aging. Cut these away with a sterile instrument as decaying roots accelerate the deterioration of the media.**
***Blackened root tips can indicate an accumulation of salts which can come from the water source or from your fertilization techniques. Leach the medium thoroughly once or twice a month. Using rainwater can prevent this problem or eliminate it.**
***Snow mold can appear around the root zone or on the potting media. This occurs frequently when the media is kept too moist. Snow mold is a fungus. Repot the plant removing all the old media and soak the roots in a weak solution of Physan or RD20.**

Please welcome new members:

Jose Davila & Jim Laffey, 705 Shadow Lake Lane, Naples, FL 34108, phone # 591-1251, email jldavila10@hotmail.com.

Taken from the American Orchid Society Website – All About Orchids – Monthly Checklist
July and August

Cattleya **- Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs owing to characteristically high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a must in areas of the country where it is effective. Where it is not (the more humid regions), care needs to be paid to proper venting to keep temperatures within reason. Bottom vents in conjunction with top vents provide enough rising airflow to help keep plants cool. Increased air flow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent damping down and watering, in areas where high humidity is not a problem. Higher light and heat indicate more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of this autumn, winter and spring's blooms, so applying adequate fertilizer this month is the best way to ensure future blooms. Higher temperatures and humidity may also lead to fungal or bacterial rot problems, so it is important to closely observe your plants for any early indication of problems. Pests are also at a high point this month for the same reason.**

Paphiopedilum **- Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these two months to prevent stress and avoid disease problems. Watering needs to be closely monitored to ensure that plants do not dry out. Warmer-growing hybrids will be at the peak of their blooming, with attention needing to be paid to staking of spikes. Look for water lodging in growths, which can rot emerging spikes and lead to the loss of the entire growth.**

And from Bill Overton: **They say if you live long enough, you'll either see or experience just about everything, and then some! This is apparently true with growing orchids. Many years ago, I grew a Cattleya hybrid, orange with a red lip. It was a very nice flower but I lost it some years later. One year that Cattleya hybrid grew a keiki, at the apex (at the base of the leaves) of the pseudobulb. This was on a two or three year old bulb. The keiki got to be of sufficient size that I did repot it and give it away. Now for another unusual Cattleya event.**

I had a bloom spike regrow. Yes, a bloom spike on Schomburgkia undulata. Two bloom spikes on my plant began to elongate and grow in January. Both got to the point of making buds but for some reason, probably too warm and too dry, one spike aborted the buds and turned brown. The bloom spike died back completely. The other spike was fine and a dozen flowers opened during March and April. Now for the unusual part. This second spike elongated and there are now an additional 7 or 8 flowers open! Simply amazing!! I do not believe I have ever seen this in Cattleyas before.

There are several genera that will re-bloom on older spikes such as Tolumnias. Usually they re-bloom because the spike branches, producing more buds and flowers. Phalaenopsis can re-bloom when you cut back the spike to just above a node and then the spike produces more flowers. Many Phalaenopsis have spikes that will elongate from the apical tip and produce more flowers. But I have never noticed this happen with a Cattleya before. As I type this, Broughtonias come to mind. I wonder if they exhibit this trait of re-blooming? I have purchased several Broughtonias lately and they are now in bloom. I will watch then for further development of flowers on the main spike. Has anyone else observed a Cattleya Alliance plant re-blooming like this?

A special thank you goes to Sue and Jim Brown for donating 6 huge Cattleya plants to NOS. Norm, Patrece and Ralph were able to divide and create approximately 42 new plants to be offered at our November NOS Sale. There were also many back bulbs that may be offered at future sales or raffles. Thank you so much Sue and Jim!

THANK YOU TO OUR JUNE COOKIE BAKERS
Ruth Bethem, Deborah Gallagher, Patrece Remmel, and Kit Kitchen-Maran

AND TO OUR BEVERAGE PROVIDER
Barbara Aldrich

REMINDER TO COOKIE BAKERS FOR JULY
Linda Shockley, Walter & Trudy Dehmel, Deborah Gallagher, and Pam Fowler

AND ANOTHER SPECIAL THANK YOU
Mark Hudak has graciously agreed to take over as Refreshment Table Chair

THANK YOU TO OUR PLANT TABLE WORKERS
Bill Overton, Dave Orr and Kim Pendleton

THANK YOU TO OUR RAFFLE TABLE WORKERS
Denise Sapia and Carol Talanian

RAFFLE TABLE PROFITS FROM OUR JUNE 2012 MEETING: $208
ATTENDANCE AT OUR JUNE MEETING: 78

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ralph Brand will have his annual orchid sale Saturday, August 4, from 9 am – 12 noon, @ 443 Dundee Court. He will have Cats., and Paphs. for sale at very reasonable prices. For more information contact Ralph @ 649-1325.

South Florida Orchid Society "Autumn Festival of Orchids"
October 5, 6 & 7, 2012, Coral Gables, FL
For more information contact: www.sflorchid.com

NOTE: If you are interested in a NOS bus trip to the Orchid Fall Festival in Redlands in October please contact Deborah Gallagher @ deborahsgourmetgarden@comcast.net.

REMINDER: Our NOS website *member* password has changed. New password is *NOS2012.*

Minutes of the NOS Monthly Meeting
June 7, 2012
Submitted by Cynthia Carlson, Secretary

- **President Kit Kitchen-Maran called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.**
- **Kit distributed medals to the volunteers who worked at the Orchid Show.**
- **Rather than orchid stories, Kit asked everyone to introduce themselves to those sitting next to them.**
- **Coalition for Orchid Species is having an Orchid Symposium in Coral Gables. Info is on the NOS website.**
- **Macy's is again having their Shopping for a Cause. Tickets sold by NOS members benefit NOS.**
- **Kit presented a draft of the new NOS business card.**
- **Membership Chair Nanett Boerner reported the new members. Total of 238 members.**
- **Director Ralph Brand is having an orchid sale on August 4, from 9am to 12 noon.**
- **Treasurer Bill Overton reported that there is $4,010 in checking, and $14,719 in Vanguard. Many of the annual expenses have been paid, hence the low balance in the checking account. Bill will be investigating moving funds in a better interest rate account. Next fundraiser is the plant sale in November.**
- **Deborah Gallagher reported that there will be a bus trip on Oct 6th to the Redlands Orchid Sale. Details to come next month.**
- **Member Jim Dunkelberger announced that he has made plant stands from white PVC. He has offered to share how to make them.**
- **Ted Moore announced that he is working on outreach. He has contacted Collier County Museum to hang orchids in their gazebo. Ted will publish his wish list for orchids in the newsletter. Please consider donating an orchid.**
- **Webmaster Sue Roehl will be doing a survey on use of the website.**
- **Speaker David Junka, Junka Bear Orchids, spoke about dividing orchids and getting orchids ready to re-pot.**
- **The plant table winners were announced.**
- **Raffle winners were announced.**
- **The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.**

Jade Orchids of Collier, Inc.
285 Morgan Road
Naples, FL 34114
Tuesday to Saturday **Owners:**
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM **Dave & Judy White**

Email: JadeOrchids@embarqmail.com
Offering 10% discount on plants for NOS members.

An Orchid Vignette—A New Neon Keepsake

Hawkinsara is a complex genus involving species of *Broughtonia*, *Cattleya*, *Laelia* and *Sophronitis*. When a man-made genus (nothogenus) involves more than three genera, the genus name is that of a deserving person with "-ara" added. Thus this genus is named after Hawkins (whoever he or she is or was). There are several really neat Hawkinsaras but these two are my favorites.

Hknsa. Keepsake is a relatively old cross, created by Stewart Orchids when they were in California, and registered by them in 1986. It is a cross between *Ctna*. Why Not and *Slc*. Precious Stones. Both of these parents have red flowers, and so does *Hknsa*. Keepsake, although it also inherited the yellow "tongue" in the throat from its *Ctna*. Why Not parent. It also inherited the small stature that characterizes both parents; the pseudobulbs and single leaves together, are less than a foot tall. The flowers, about two inches across, are borne in clusters of three or more on spikes that extend well above the foliage. They are long lasting, and the flowering period is at least three weeks to a month.

Hknsa. Keepsake has earned 17 AOS awards (all AMs & HCCs) among which 'Denver Gold,' the cultivar I have, earned an AM in 1996. It has also been used as a parent in three crosses.

Hknsa. New Neon is a much "newer kid on the block," created by W. H. Huang (who is a mystery man) and registered by him in 1999. New Neon is a cross between *Ctna*. Why Not and *Slc*. Maricana. *Ctna*. Why Not has a red-orange flowers and *Slc*. Maricana has yellow flowers. So, as you might expect, its offspring has a more "mellow" color tending more toward orange with magenta tips to the petals and lip. The quite pleasing flowers, a little over two inches across, are borne on spikes that extend beyond the foliage. It has been pretty much ignored in the literature (and maybe even in collections). It has yet to earn any AOS awards and has not been used for breeding. Keep your eyes peeled, though because I think you will see more of this plant in the future.

For me, both of these plants do well in clay pots in a lava rock, charcoal, Hydroton mix, growing in a west-facing pool cage. I fertilize "weakly-weekly. They should flower two or three times a year, but particularly in the summer.

When so many genera are involved in orchid crosses, it is inevitable that they would get caught up in the taxonomic name shuffle. So now that *Laelia* and *Sophronitis* are both *Cattleya*, this is no longer a four-genera cross, so the new genus is *Guaricattonia*. They are still neat plants!

Contributed by Dick Pippen

Growing Your Plants Better

By Bill Overton

As we progress as orchid growers, we should always be willing to learn how to improve our craft. Part of that learning process comes from observation. When we attend an orchid meeting, not only can we connect with friends and enjoy an informative program, but we have a wonderful opportunity to visit the plant table. But honestly, how many members really LOOK at the table?

Just a month or so ago, there was a plant of Oncidium sphacelatum on the Oncidium table. It had a couple of spikes with dozens of flowers. I enjoy them because they are easy to grow and provide a wonderful show. But let me ask you this - how many of you noticed that the plant wasn't grown well? I would venture to say not many. So many plants of the Oncidium Alliance have very fine roots. These slender roots demand a finer media and larger amounts of water in order to grow well. This plant on the table was in a fairly open and coarse mix. Its' pseudobulbs were deeply furrowed or grooved. This is usually a sign that the plant is not getting enough water. To further add to its' problems, the plant was in a clay pot. The plant should produce hundreds of flowers, not 'dozens.'

Here in South Florida, we should be growing our fine rooted Oncidiums in plastic pots because they generally hold more moisture. We should also pot them up using a finer mix making use of seedling bark and seedling grade sponge rock and charcoal. This finer mix in conjunction with a plastic pot would provide more water to the roots, which is what these plants really demand. That same night, I couldn't even contemplate bringing in any of my Oncidium sphacelatums since they were simply too huge for me to safely carry. My plants are in plastic pots with a finer mix and all had multiple leads per plant, each with two, three or four inflorescences per lead. Each plant had strong, erect spikes with two hundred and fifty to three hundred flowers on each! The bench in my lanai where they grow was a solid wall of yellow for five weeks while they were in bloom. The bulbs on my plants were not grooved or furrowed but full, fat and robust. You can grow orchids, and then again, you can GROW orchids!

While you look over the plant table, information is there for you to use if you only look and see it. If you see a plant on the table and you have something similar, take note. If this plant is flowering and yours is not, why not ask the grower what he or she might be doing that you are not in terms of culture. Just peek under the 'green tag' and find out who the plant belongs to. Go over and ask questions and see if there might be something you might do in order to get your plant to grow better. More can be accomplished from visiting the plant table other than voting. Educational opportunities abound if we just open our eyes and see them! It really takes no more effort to grow a plant well rather than growing one poorly. Often the improvement can be made quite easily.

In the past, I would read countless articles and books on orchid growing. I couldn't get enough material to read. But today, so much information is available on line that we as orchid growers rarely read anything on the subject. However, you are really missing a golden opportunity at a monthly meeting to learn how to grow your plants better. Use the plant table and all of the entries to learn how to grow better plants yourself. Beginners in orchids should jump at the chance to learn, to improve as orchid growers. Every plant table exhibitor is willing to share information but you need to ask the question!

JUNE 2012 PLANT TABLE AWARDS

Photographer: Susan Roehl

SPECIAL SPECIES AWARD
Grammatophyllam stapeliiflorum
Owner: Joylett Davis

SPECIAL HYBRID AWARD
Lc. Mishima Luster 'Jean'
Owner: Ted Moore

Plant Table Results
June 7, 2012

Large Cattleyas
First Place: Rlc. Toshie Aoki 'Robin'
Owner: Lola Moncsko
Second Place: Blc. Goldenzelle 'Lemon Chiffon'
Owner: Gayle Dorio
Third Place: Blc. Keowee 'Mendenhall'
Owner: Lola Moncsko

Small Cattleyas
First Place: Ctna. Happy Face
Owner: Gayle Dorio
Second Place: Lc. Mishima Luster 'Jean'
Owner: Ted Moore
Third Place: Bl. Yellow Bird
Owner: Debbie Starrett

Large Vandas
First Place: Ascda. Kulwadee Fragrance
Owner: Ralph Brand

Small Vandas
First Place: Ascda. Sainoi Pink
Owner: Ralph Brand

Dendrobiums
First Place: Den. Isumi Blue- Cana
Owner: Eunice Walker
Second Place: Den. Palolo Sunshine
Owner: Barbara Crist
Third Place: Den. Emma Queen
Owner: Barbara Crist

Phalaenopsis
First Place: Dtp. Taiwan Red Cat
Owner: Lola Moncsko

Special Hybrid Award
Plant Name: Lc. Mishima Luster 'Jean'
Owner: Ted Moore

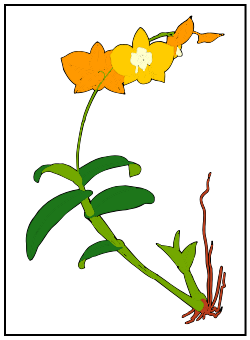
Large Species
First Place: Laelia purpurata var. carnea ' Lady Godiva'
Owner: Ralph Brand
Second Place: Laelia tenebrosa
Owner: Bill Overton
Third Place: Rhyncholaelia digbyana
Owner: Wilma Swan

Medium Species
First Place: Grammatophyllam stapeliiflorum
Owner: Joylett Davis
Second Place: Encyclia tampensis
Owner: Elaine Gates
Third Place: Encyclia tampensis
Owner: Elaine Gates

Small Species
First Place: Aerides odorata
Owner: Corrie Van Caulil

Oncidiums
First Place: Brsdm. Wild Warrior 'Chieftan'
Owner: Corrie Van Caulil
Second Place: Wils. Tropic Breeze
Owner: Deborah Gallagher
Third Place: Brs. Eternal Wind 'Summer Dream'
Owner: Mark Hudak

Slipper Orchids
First Place: Paph. Vanda M Pearman
Owner: Ralph Brand
Second Place: Paph. Jerry Spence
Owner: Ralph Brand
Third Place: Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz
Owner: Ralph Brand

Special Species Award
Plant Name: Grammatophyllam stapeliiflorum
Owner: Joylett Davis

Green Tag Winner:
Laura Stacell
Ralph Brand
Corrie Van Caulil