



Central Jersey Orchid Society Newsletter

April 2019 Issue

President's Message April 2019

The 53rd year of CJOS is rapidly approaching its conclusion. Our May meeting will be our annual Q&A session. Please think of questions that you would like discussed by our panel of experts. It would be best if you could email me some of your questions before the meeting. Feel free to bring in orchids that you have concerns about. I personally think that one of the best ways to increase your knowledge is to have us look at your problem plants and give you advice.

We will also be having a presentation by Luanne, Karen and Terry about their visit to a wonderful botanical garden during their recent trip to Costa Rica.

You should soon be receiving an invitation from Tamara and Mary Ann to our annual June picnic which will be held on Sunday June 2 at 5PM at the Johnson Education Center. Just a reminder there will be no regular CJOS meeting in June.



Jewel Box: J. Thomas

Newsletter Contents

Page 2 Meetings and Committees

Pages 3-8 Judging

Page 9-10 Orchid Events Silva Culture

Da/Sale, AOS webinars,

Pages 11-12 Reprint April 2019 St

Augustine Orchid Society: Culture

Page 13 Member Awards

Longwood Free Online Orchid Course

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

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: David Rosenfeld :Growing for perfection: secrets shared to help garner cultural awards.

May: Annual Question and Answer Session

June: Annual CJOs Picnic

Officers and Committee's:

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JUDGING April 2019

Cattleya

1. Slc Jewel Box 'Scheherazade' AM: J. Thomas



2. Blc. Nana Honda 'Volcano Queen': Westhaber's



3. Potinara Linda Vee: Larry Steele

Den/Onc

1. Den. Mini Snowflake: Jim Murtha



2. Den. Aussie Chip: Luanne A



3. Den. Starburst 'Firebird': G. Wallace

Phal/Vanda

1. Vanda Paki x Bill Burke: John Harman



2. NOID: Jim M.



3. NOID: J. Thomas

Paph/Phrag



1. Paph hirsutissimum; J. Thomas



2. Paph gratixianum: D. Carrick



3. Paph Camifax x Stoux Canza: Diana Frost

Species

1. Masd. Confetti: C. Bevins



2. Phal amabilis: L. Arico



3. Pelexia olivacea: Jeff Tryon

Other

1. Phaius Kryptonite: Larry Steele



Orchid of the Month

Jewel Box: J. Thomas



Orchid Events

Culture Day & Sale

at *Silva* Orchids

Fri., April 26th & Sat., April 27th 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

635 Wayside Road

Neptune, NJ 07753

Learn how to properly pot your orchids. We will discuss your plants and show you why we are handling your orchids in a certain way. You will see why we select a certain potting mix for your plants, if they need to be treated for pests and possible disease, and why we would divide a plant, or leave it alone entirely. It is a lot of fun, so come and enjoy a great day.

NOTE: this is not a scheduled lecture, but an on going discussion at the potting bench, about the plants which people have brought to be repotted.

First two repotted plants 7" and under are free

\$5.00 and up per additional plant

All are welcome!

www.silvaorchids.com



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.



Upcoming AOS Webinars

Our next webinar...

Tuesday, May 7th, 2019

8:30pm - 9:30pm EDT

Greenhouse Chat May 2019

Orchid questions, expert answers



Greenhouse Chat May 2019

Ron McHatton



Tuesday, May 7th, 2019
8:30pm - 9:30pm EDT

Orchid questions, expert answers



Asian Cymbidiums

species – hybrids – culture

with Ken Jacobsen,
Pacific Central Judging Center

Asian Cymbidiums

Ken Jacobsen



Thursday, May 16th, 2019
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT

All about Asian cymbidiums

Please join the American Orchid Society (AOS)

They need our support to exist. They offer many resources to new and expert growers. Membership is very reasonable and you get the Orchids Magazine plus more.

Membership is \$65 for Print/digital or \$40 for the digital only (see magazine online only)

There are many other benefits to joining. See their website **AOS.ORG**

CULTIVATION



Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@gmail.com

Q1. I have a *C. percivaliana* that has black, pitted spots on the old leaves and I'm concerned this will spread to the new growth. The plant is flowering now with 4 beautiful lavender blooms and I don't

want to upset it. It had a couple of bad years and just now seems to be recovering. Should I remove the tips of the leaves and treat them?

A1. That looks like bacterial brown spot, a slow moving bacterial disease in mature cattleyas. I wouldn't cut anything off. When it's done blooming and you get ready to repot it, you can cut off all the old ugly stuff and pot up the front half. It'll look brand new!

Q2 I've had this phal for 20 years and don't want to lose him. The problem started with one leaf and now has quickly spread to multiple leaves. Any ideas?



A2. It looks like it started with sunburn, that's the circular dark spot. Then maybe a secondary infection kicked in and spread into the leaf. Also looks like it hasn't been repotted in a while so I would wonder about the condition



of the roots. I would cut off the extremely damaged leaves about an inch below the discoloration with a single edged razor blade. Then I think let it keep blooming and enjoy it. Somewhere in the June time frame, it'll be time to cut off the blooms, repot the plant, allow it to recover from the transplant shock, grow new roots and then bloom for you next year. Your local orchid society can help you.



Orchids in Spring Courtney's Growing Tips

Spring is one of the busiest times of the year for orchid growers. Many genera are beginning their growth cycles with new leaves and roots, while Spring Cattleyas and Phals are in full bloom. In addition, those that have harbored their orchids in windowsills and bathrooms are ready to move them outside and

reclaim their living space. Be careful not to shock your orchids with sudden increases in light or dramatic changes in temperature. Spring may have sprung, but nights can still be cold.

Phalaenopsis begin to put out new roots, even while bearing flowers, when day length reaches 12 hours and temperatures are warm. A decline in night temperature caused by moving them outside or turning off the heat in the greenhouse can induce Phals to stop growing and spike again. This can lead to long spikes with a few flowers, with the corresponding cessation of growth. Summer blooming Phals exposed to cool conditions may abort both flowering and growth as they come from climates that are warm all year long.

Spring is an excellent time to repot because most orchids are in a growth mode, quickly replacing roots lost during repotting. Another reason is that media can sour or degrade in winter when gloomy days and low temperature allows media to stay wet and turn mushy. This is especially true for soil-less mixes and even for dense media containing a high proportion of fine bark. Paphs and Phals are especially susceptible, as they do not like to have their roots dry completely, so are more likely to be over watered. For these two genera, more frequent repotting is better than waiting too long. Other genera typically potted in coarse media that is allowed to dry thoroughly between watering will usually grow out of the pot before requiring repotting.

Vandas are generally considered warm growing, even though they tolerate cool conditions in winter. Their growth comes largely when temperature is high and nights warm. If they cool down too much each night, Vandas will often cease both root growth and the production of new leaves. Avoid prematurely placing them outside. Wait until night temperature is 60 degrees F or higher.



Most of us leave flowers on plants as long as possible for maximum enjoyment. If, however, an orchid has been weakened by losing part of its root system or by having dealt with disease or pests, removing flowers early can enhance growth and perhaps the survival of the plant. Flowers will not last as long, but removing them will prevent a tremendous drain of energy from the plant and lead to new growth. Each year mites cause damage, especially on thin-leaved Dendrobiums and similar-leaved orchids in my collection. By the time they are recognized in May the damage is done. This pest thrives on low humidity and can be prevented simply by keeping humidity high. If this is not feasible, a light spray of oil (Ultra-fine or Sun-oil) on the leaf, especially the underside, will limit the damage. Be sure to apply oils (and all pesticides) when leaves are cool. Leaves should be dry before they are exposed to bright light.

This year several Phals in my collection had cold water dripping into the crown each night, a sure way to develop crown rot. Not a single case developed on these or any other Phal in my collection during the past growing season despite not using any fungicide or bactericide. The only cases occurred on three newly purchased Phals. I have long believed that genetically weak plants and plants that have deficiencies in certain nutrients get rots. Avoiding excess nitrogen fertilizer, excess micronutrients, and providing more Potassium, Calcium and Magnesium is the key. If rots plague your Phal collection cut back on nitrogen and phosphorus and grow a year. Your plants will not grow as fast, but there will also be fewer rot problems.

Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from April 2002.

Members Awards

David and Joan Rosenfeld's 96th and 97th AOS awards. Getting closer to the magic 100 AOS Awards!



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

Worth Repeating One Last Time

Longwood Gardens Presents:

Free Free Free Free Free Free Free Orchid Course

Everything About Orchids

It is a **Free** Online Open Course

About this Class

Join us for a new learning experience at Longwood Gardens. We are excited to present Everything About Orchids to our guests as a free online open course. Whether you are new to orchids or a seasoned grower, this class will offer valuable insights from the experts at Longwood Gardens, one of the great gardens of the world.

Here is the website to start:

<https://longwoodgardens.org/events-and-performances/events/everything-about-orchids-online-open-class>

Dates: Now through May 6, 2019

Instructors

Greg Griffis and Peter Zale

Where

Fully Online