



October Meeting – Growing Native Orchids in Your Garden

Thursday, October 20, 2005

7:30 p.m., Franklin Park Conservatory Classrooms

7:30 – 8:00 p.m., Beginners' Corner

Got your dibble handy? Have you been outside poking holes in the ground and plopping in tulip bulbs and hyacinths and daffodils for next spring? And did you save some room for hardy orchids?

You mean grow orchids in my yard?? You betcha. *Cypripediums*, *Calanthes*, *Platantheras*, *Calopogons*, *Bletillas*, *Spiranthes*, *Pogonias* ... in your backyard. Or front yard.

It's time for another dirt-under-the-fingernails how-to-grow-them meeting and to that end we've invited Dr. William Mathis to join us Thursday evening, October 20, to guide us through the process of establishing beds of native orchids in our yards. Bill's talk is titled **The Best Kept Secret in the Gardening World: Hardy Terrestrial Orchids**.

Bill's nursery is The Wild Orchid Company (www.wildorchidcompany.com) located near Philadelphia. He will not be bringing plants or corms for sale at the meeting since he is flying in for the day, but he will be accepting orders for their subsequent delivery. (You can poke around his website and picture how a bed of *Cyp. Hilda* would look outside your bay window.)

Bill will be bringing copies of his recently published book for sale: *The Gardener's Guide to Growing Hardy Perennial Orchids*. If you live in an apartment or condo, you'll still want a copy of this book just for the photos. If you plan on trying native orchids on your property you'll want the book because, as he wrote to me, "I will bring my book to sell at the meeting and with each book purchased comes a rebate (good for up to the full price of the book depending on the dollar amount plants purchased) to go toward future plant purchases."

But since we like to have plants available for purchase at all of our meetings, we'll declare a members' plant sales night for the October meeting. Bring your excess divisions and seedlings for sale at the meeting and be sure to remit 20% of your sales total to our treasurer.



Join us 6-ish at the Old Bag of Nails restaurant for something to eat before the meeting. People who would like to grow white calopogons and people who would like to grow pink calopogons are equally welcome.

- Tom Franczak

Cypripedium Hilda (Yes, you **can** grow this and many other beautiful orchids in your garden here in Ohio!)

Newsletter Changes

After some discussion, the COOS Board has made the decision to make some changes in the way our newsletter is distributed. Currently, nearly all of our annual dues go toward covering the cost of printing and mailing paper copies of the newsletter. At present, we send the newsletter out by e-mail to a small number of members. The Board has decided that, starting in 2006, we will no longer mail out a paper copy of the newsletter. The newsletter will be posted to the COOS web site for all to see. In addition, this will be e-mailed as a .pdf file to those who would be interested in receiving the newsletter directly by e-mail. If you do not have access to e-mail, you can go to any area library to access our web site. You can also establish a free e-mail account through any number of services such as Yahoo. For those of us that refuse to join the 21st Century, we will also have a few paper copies of the newsletter available at our regular monthly meetings (see schedule for 2006 in this newsletter). The Board will review this policy after we have tried it out for six months. In addition to seeing the newsletter photographs in color, everyone should be able to get their newsletter a bit sooner each month. This will also free up some of our funds for such things as distributing free plants as part of potting workshops.

COOS OFFICERS

President	Tom Lochner	614-487-8197
Vice President	Tom Franczak	614-868-5636
Treasurer	Chuck Hill	614-442-6995
Secretary	Jennelle Szczepanski	614-868-7309

COOS TRUSTEES

Tom Bell-Games	614-487-1623
Sue Dervin	614-866-4059
Jim Harper	614-965-1921
Matina Ross	614-263-4819
Don Weber	614-846-7712
Cathy Willis	614-847-0676

Membership	Tom James	614-231-9046
Chair, Mini-shows	Jon Young	614-272-5256
Guest Speaker/Programs	Tom Franczak	614-868-5636

2006 COOS Calendar

January 19, 2006	Marguerite Webb – Masdevallias and other Pleurothallids [http://www.jlorchids.com]
February 16	Brian Gerhard, Australian Orchids [http://www.duno.com.au]
March 16	Meeting (speaker to be determined)
March 25-26	Annual Show
April 20	Meeting (speaker to be determined)
May 18	Meeting (speaker to be determined)
June 3-4	Mini-show
June 15	Meeting (speaker to be determined)
July 23	Picnic, tentatively set for Franklin Park Conservatory grounds
September 28	Meeting (speaker to be determined)
October 19	Meeting (speaker to be determined)
November 4-5	Mini-show
November 16	Potluck Dinner

Board Meetings. Board meetings will generally be held the second Tuesday of odd numbered months with the exception of September:

January 10	July 11
March 14	September 19
May 9	November 14

Election of New COOS Officers

It is time to elect a new set of officers for the Central Ohio Orchid Society. With the exception of two of the trustees, all positions will be held for two years starting in 2006. The following were presented at the September regular meeting and will be voted on at the October meeting.

President:	Tom Franczak	4-year Trustee:	Jim Harper
1 st Vice President:	Tennis Maynard	4-year Trustee:	Screll Jones
2 nd Vice President:	Tom Bell-Games	2-year Trustee:	Ken Mettler
3 rd Vice President:	Naila Caruso	2-year Trustee:	Nancy Wagener
Secretary:	Nancy Heath	Past President:	Tom Lochner
Assistant Secretary:	Bill Cavanaugh		
Treasurer:	Dawn Mettler		
Assistant Treasurer:	Jon Young		

NOTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

We had an extremely interesting talk by Dennis D'Alessandro on the orchids of Borneo. This was topped off by several great stories of the trials and tribulations of orchid hunting in this part of the world. Mr. D'Alessandro brought a very nice collection of plants for sale – if you missed the meeting, you missed a good one!

Jim Harper reviewed the show table. Among some of the plants noted were the following.

Cattleya and Related Hybrids

Don Weber	<i>Cattleya loddegesii</i>	1 st
Dave Evans	Bl. Morning Glory 'Remar'	2 nd

Oncidium Alliance

Tom and Pat Stinson	<i>Oncidium Sweet Sugar 'Emperor'</i>	2 nd
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Paphiopedilum

Dave Evans	<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum</i>	1 st
Tom James	<i>Paphiopedilum Shireen</i>	1 st
Dave Evans	<i>Paphiopedilum bellatulum</i>	3 rd
Naila Caruso	<i>Paphiopedilum Red Glory x fairrienum</i>	3 rd

Phragmipedium

Tom and Pat Stinson	<i>Phragmipedium ainsworthii</i>	2 nd
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Other

Dave Evans	<i>Cycnoches bartiorum</i>	1 st
?	<i>Pipteranthus pellucdus</i>	2 nd
Dave Evans	<i>Aerangis splendida</i>	3 rd

Growing Tips

With the sudden onset of cool weather, plants that summered out of doors should be brought in. Many can remain out of doors until truly cold weather arrives, but you may want to start bringing them in sooner. Some, such as Cymbidiums, can even tolerate a light dusting of snow. This is the ideal time to look things over for unwanted pests. In general, plants that summer out of doors tend to be less bothered by insects. This may be due to mechanical removal (rain and wind) as well as predation by other beneficial insects. Nonetheless, all of your plants should probably be sprayed with a general purpose insecticide prior to coming indoors. A small number of insects will bloom into a full fledged invasion after a few months indoors. Horticultural oils work well for light infestations and are safe for use even indoors. If you need to bring out the big guns, consider some of the stronger insecticides such as Malathion. In all cases, read the instructions carefully and do not mix more chemical than you will use. Do not spray if the plants will be subjected to full sun as this has a tendency to burn leaves. For best results, plan on spraying your plants at least three times about five to seven days apart. This ensures you get the insects in all stages of growth. Be especially careful with sensitive or thin leaved species which may react badly to harsh chemicals.

For some plants, depending on the species, this is also a good time to repot. Watch for evidence of new root growth. If there are actively growing roots (you will see tender green tips on the end of the roots with new roots sprouting from the base of pseudobulbs) your plant will quickly re-establish in the new growing media. Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums can be repotted anytime and seem to respond very favorably to frequent repotting (at least once a year). If you have a plant that is in very old media that is very soft and decomposing, it is probably best to repot it now, regardless of what is happening with the roots. A plant in this situation is very susceptible to rot if left in a pot with very old media. Old media will have a tendency to remain wet and soggy – a deadly thing for most orchids.

While you're moving things around, this is also an ideal time to do a little fall cleaning. A clean tidy growing area looks great and helps minimize disease. Old dried up leaves can carry bacteria and spores from fungus that can re-infect your other plants.

The change in temperature might trigger flowering in some of your plants. Phalaenopsis, in particular, seem to respond to a few weeks of cool temperatures and shorter days. With any luck, our plants are planning a nice flush of blooms for us to enjoy in the middle of winter!

REGIONAL SHOWS The following are upcoming shows within a reasonable distance from the central Ohio area:

October 21-23, 2005

Mid-America Orchid Congress 'Orchidfest' co-sponsored by the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society and the Miami Valley Orchid Society. Location will be at the Kings Island Resort and Conference Center in Mason, Ohio. Additional information and registration materials are available on the MAOC web site:
www.gardenersutopia.com/MAOC2005fall/

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CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER