#### **Delaware Orchid Society**

Volume 9, Issue 6 November 2011

### General Meeting: Tuesday, November 8

## Speaker: Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids

## Topic: "Today's Mini and Compact Cattleyas"

Today, mini and compact growing Cattleya's come in many colors and shapes. Learn about the small growing Cattleya species, the important breeding plants and what hybrids are available for the orchid enthusiast. Fred will cover the 'best practices' for growing these little gems. Fred has been growing orchids for 33 years and has been hybridizing for 25 of those years. With over 25 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, he applies these skills at his orchid nursery; Sunset Valley Orchids located in Vista, California. Fred is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Although developing Cattleya hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new Bulbophylum and Paphiopedilum hybrids. His pioneering work in Catasetum intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, F Fredclarkeara After Dark, which produced "the blackest flower ever witnessed". This grex has received eight FCC's, four AM's and the coveted 'Award of Distinction' on the first flowers shown for judging! Fred is an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region. His plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society

Fred will also bring plants for sale and will be supplying a great selection of plants for door prizes!

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Pot. Mem. Jim Nicou x Slc. Circle of Life (Sunset Valley Orchids)

Join fellow DOS members for dinner before the meeting at Stanley's Bar & Grill at 5:30– 5:45 p.m. If you would like to join us, confirm your attendance with Phyllis Railson (302-475-6034) or Lynn Fuller (302-594-0765)

#### DOS STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Board is looking for some new, cool, ideas for trips, speakers, events the society members may be interested in doing. If you have any suggestions, contact Scott Cunningham (scottdanielcunningham@gmail.com).

#### **AOS Corner**

At the Trustees' Meeting in San Antonio last month, it was announced that the sale of headquarters of the American Orchid Society was approved and closing on the sale will be the end of November 2011. The Sandra C. Slomin Foundation and Family Center for Autism and Related Disabilities is purchasing the site to use as a day care facility and eventually a private elementary school to serve children with autism and related disabilities. The Board of Trustees also approved the process to enter into negotiations for a strategic partnership with Fairchild Tropical Botanical Gardens in Coral Gables, Florida. The move, if an acceptable partnership is approved, should be completed by the end of the first quarter 2012.

The Trustees also approved the Library Committee's report which gave the Committee the direction to thoroughly inventory the extensive art collection, rare books and manuscripts and archives of the American Orchid Society in anticipation of its headquarter change. The Library Committee has the authority to determine which items will remain property of AOS and the disposition of those items that will not be retained. If any member wishes to inquire about a specific item's disposition, they may contact the Library Committee through their email library committee@aos.org.

What's new at www.aos.org?

- The 2012 Calendars are available for sale a 14 month calendar loaded with beautiful orchid photographs, free shipping for AOS members. You may purchase it on line.
- Do you enjoy writing? The Dillon-Peterson Essay Contest has been announced. The topic is: The Greatest Influence On My Orchid Passion. It's your opportunity to tell the world what person, place, event, book, magazine article, orchid or thing changed your orchid growing hobby forever. The deadline is November 30. The website has the rules and regulations as well as past winners.

 Call for Nominations. If you have ever had any interest in 'getting involved' with the AOS, or know of a shining star to recommend for consideration of the Nominating Committee, this is your opportunity. You may send an email to nominating committee@aos.org.

Lynn Fuller, Chair AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

Pass the Word!

# ORCHID SEMINAR AND REPOTTING CLINIC

December 3, 2011 10 am- Noon

Delaware Seed and Garden Supply, LLC 3624 Kirkwood Highway Wilmington, DE 19808 Phone 302-999-1616

Join Delaware Orchid Society members as they present a seminar on orchid care and answer questions you have about your orchids.\*\*

Bring your orchids with you and for a nominal fee, you can get your orchids repotted. The seminar is FREE.

\*\* DOS volunteers are needed. Reserve your time early to help out by contacting Scott Cunningham. Limited space is available for DOS volunteers.

Use Flyer attached to this newsletter to promote the seminar among your peers.

# The state of the s

Ascda Laksi Red CM – October Best Grown #1 Steve Chang



Ornithophera radicans - October Best Grown #2 Mary Ann Ullman

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### **NOVEMBER 8 DOS GENERAL MEETING**

PLACE: EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TIME: 7:00 PM

Speaker: Fred Clark, Sunset Valley Orchids

#### **DECEMBER 4 ORCHID POTTING DEMONSTRATION**

PLACE: DELAWARE SEED & GARDEN

TIME: 11:00 AM

#### **DECEMBER 8 DOS GENERAL MEETING**

PLACE: EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TIME: 7:00 PM

Speaker: Tom Mirenda, Smithsonian Institute

#### **JANUARY 10, 2012 DOS GENERAL MEETING**

PLACE: EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TIME: 7:00 PM

Speaker: Karen Zolnay. Hawk Haven Orchids

#### FEBRUARY 14 DOS GENERAL MEETING

PLACE: EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TIME: 7:00 PM

Speaker: Bayard Saraduke, Pinelands Orchid Society

#### MARCH 4-11 PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL FLOWER

**S**How

PLACE: PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION CENTER

#### MARCH 13 DOS GENERAL MEETING

PLACE: EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TIME: 7:00 PM

Speaker: To Be Determined

#### MARCH 23-25 INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW & SALE

PLACE: LONGWOOD GARDENS

#### **APRIL 10 DOS GENERAL MEETING**

PLACE: EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TIME: 7:00 PM

#### **APRIL 14 ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION**

PLACE: EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TIME: 10:00 AM

#### MAY 8 DOS GENERAL MEETING

PLACE: EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TIME: 7:00 PM

Speaker: Leon Glictenstein

#### JUNE 12- DOS BANQUET

PLACE: TO BE DETERMINED Speaker to be announced

#### **OCTOBER 2011 SHOW TABLE WINNERS**

#### **GREENHOUSE**

GREENHOUSE		
Drac. roezelii		Vera Lee & Malli Rao
Masd. brachyuran		u
Masd. deceptrix		u
Masd. carnosa		u
Masd. icterina		u
Masd. jarae Masd.( herradurae X xanthina)		u
Masd. mendozae		u
Masd. glomerosa		u
Barbosella nandroi		Duane & Judy Erdmann
Rstp. antennifera		u
Rstp. purpurea		u
Ornithophera radicans	"Best Grown"	Mary Ann Ulmann
Cyc. loddigesii Aerodv. Kinnarree 'Redland Gold'		u
Ascda. Summer Delight		u
Ocd. Carnival Costume		u
Neostylus Lou Sneary		u
Blc Hauserman's Jade		u
Blc Miya's Fascination		u
Ascda. Laksi Red	"Best Grown"	Steve Chang
Den. Emma White		u
Den. Sena Red		u
Mtssa. Shelob		II.
Cat. Bowringiana Lc Empress Elizabeth 'Red		u
Velvet' HCC/AOS Lc Mary Elizabeth Bohn 'Royal Flare' AM/AOS		John Rogan "
Pot. Burana Beauty 'Burana'		u
Cat. El Dorado 'Orlata'		Alfieri & Downs
Cat. Labiata		u

#### **NON-GREENHOUSE**

Spiranthes odorata 'Chadd's	
Ford'	Duane Erdmann Duane & Judy
Rstp. howeii	Erdmann
Masd. tubuliflora	u
Porroglossum dreisei	u
Rstp. species	u
Masd. peristeria	u
Scaph. Tiaratum	u



Phal. equestris v. aurea – Duane & Judy Erdmann

# DOS Memberships are renewed each September.

Have you renewed yet this year? If not, for your convenience, you may turn it in to Joel Balogh at the October meeting.

If you would prefer to mail it in send it to: 245 South Fairville Road, Chadds Ford, PA 19317.

#### THE DELAWARE ORCHID SOCIETY

**Officers** 

Scott Cunningham, President John Rogan, Vice-President Joel Balogh, Treasurer Nancy Sato, Secretary

**Board of Directors** 

Olivia Landis

Marie-Christine Viallet

Dave Emerson Lynn Fuller Adrian Ross

Fr. Jerry Ozlanski, Past President

**Committee Chairs** 

Program Mali Rao
Library Vicki Gawiak
Show Table John Rogan
Membership Vera Lee Rao
Hospitality Lori Weaver
Maryann Ozlanski

Vicki Gawiak

AOS Rep Lynn Fuller



Delaware Orchid Society Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August) at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 1006 Wilson Road, Wilmington, Delaware at 7 PM. Visitors are always welcome.



Check out our website!

www.delawareorchidsociety.com

Doors open: 7:00 p.m.

Social/Judging 7:30-8:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00-8:15 p.m.

Speaker: 8:15 – 9:00 p.m.

Show Table/Raffle/Door Prizes: 9:00

Paph. Violascens

Paph. Spicerianum

Ascda. Pralor

Den. Salaya

Unk. Oncidium

Sol & Bee
Paph. Maudiae

Coel. usitana

Den. Blue Foxtail

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"

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Coel. Waster and the spice of the spice



#### Baby It's Cold Outside!

Reprinted in part from American Orchid Society webpage (www.aos.org)

First the good news; cooler temperatures and/or shorter days send the signal to many orchids that it is time to flower. Inflorescences on many Phalaenopsis (left) and Cymbidium hybrids should be well developed by Christmas. Be on the lookout for bugs that think of your precious orchid buds as tasty winter treats. Mealybugs will be the most likely suspects. Fortunately, these soft-bodied pests can be easily controlled with one teaspoon castile soap (we use Dr. Bronner's Peppermint Soap) in a quart of water in a hand sprayer. This safe home treatment may require several applications every other day until control is achieved. Don't be tempted to mix any chemical control, even one as benign as soap, stronger than recommended.

It is a good idea to begin staking Phalaenopsis spikes before they get too far along. We will have a photo essay in the April issue of ORCHIDS magazine showing how to prepare orchids for display, but for now there is a brief explanation of how to stake a Phalaenopsis here. Certain Cattleya species bloom on cue for the holidays, notably Cattleya trianae and C. percivaliana (although both bloom across wider seasons in nature). It is a good idea to stake cattleyas also, as the flowers will display better. Decorating the home with blooming orchids can provide colorful accents that are always admired by guests. If you have any orchid shows nearby at this time of year, try to make the time to attend one and pick out a few plants that will bloom reliably at the holidays for years to come.

If you are a windowsill grower, the light will be entirely different at this time of year. Assess it carefully and make any necessary adjustments. A south window may be brighter due to bare trees and the sun being lower in the sky. Watch for sunburn and move plants back from the window or add a sheer curtain to cut down the light.

Shorter days and gloomy weather in many parts of the country can cause plants to produce soft growths that are more susceptible to pests and disease. Some orchids will not flower if they do not receive enough light. If necessary, use a growlight on a timer to provide additional light in winter.

Orchids grow more slowly in winter and will need less water and fertilizer. Most growers cut their fertilizer back to twice a month at half strength. Monitor orchids to keep them at their proper moisture level for their type. Generally, orchids will need about half as much water in winter as they do in summer. Some orchids must have a dry winter rest in order to flower. Click here to learn how to water your orchids.

The loss of humidity as a result of forced air heating can take its toll on your orchids. Remember, most orchids grow optimally with 60-75% humidity. If your home is especially dry, and you will know by the way your own skin reacts to winter, provide extra humidity for your orchids. A tried and true method is to set orchid pots on trays of pebbles that are filled with water; just make sure your plant is not setting in the water. Misting a couple times a day can also help.



Winter is cold, so protect plants from drafts. If buds start falling off of a Phalaenopsis inflorescence the first thing to suspect is a drafty window (second thing is ethylene gas from a nearby heater). Do not put plants close enough to a window to touch the glass!



Rstp. antennifera 'Paprika' - Vera Lee & Mali Rao



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Bring your orchids with you and for a nominal fee, you can get your orchids repotted.

#### The seminar is FREE.

Delaware Orchid Society was founded in 1954 and now celebrating its 57th anniversary, The Delaware Orchid Society is a 501(c)(5) non-profit educational organization whose purpose is to help people learn about orchids and orchid culture.

Our membership includes novice growers with one or two plants as well as those with private orchid greenhouses. Members live in Delaware and nearby Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland. All orchid enthusiasts are welcome. We have regular meetings on the second Tuesday of each month except for July and August. For more information about Delaware Orchid Society, check out our website at www.delawareorchidsociety.org.

# ORCHID AUCTION MARYLAND ORCHID SOCIETY SAME GREAT LOCATION

#### Saturday, November 12, 2011

**American Legion Dewey Lowman Post 109** 1610 Old Sulphur Spring Road, Halethorpe, MD 21227

#### **Preview** 11:00 AM / **Auction** 12:00 to 4:00 PM

- Hundreds of orchids in bud or bloom from respected local and nationally recognized growers. Plus pre-priced "instant auction" plants, and supplies from Quarter Acre Orchids.
- **W** Lunch and a full line of refreshments available on site.
- Free admission and registration.