



Central Ohio Orchid Society
Reporter



Newsletter Editor: Katrina Heap

May 2017

May Meeting

Speaker – Russ Vernon of New Vision Orchids

Topic – “Lycaste – You Gotta Love ‘Em!”

**Thursday, May 18th at Franklin Park Conservatory
Beginner’s Corner 7:30pm – Meeting starts at 8pm**

Our speaker this month is Russ Vernon of New Vision Orchids. Russ will be giving a talk on Lycastes...one of his specialties. If you have seen the beautiful flowers of this spectacular orchid genus, you know this will be worth checking out! And if Lycastes are new to you, well you are in for a treat!

Russ is an AOS judge, a longstanding friend of the society, a fantastic speaker, and one of our excellent vendors. He will be bringing a number of amazing orchids for sale. You can also contact him for any pre- orders.

See www.newvisionorchids.com



We will have our usual pre-meeting speaker's dinner at the Rusty Bucket on Main St in Bexley at 6PM. All are invited!



Grower's Contest Results:

April Show Table results:

Paphiopedilum

Tom and Pat Stinson	Paph hirsutissium	1st
LaRioja	Paph glaucophyllum	2nd
Tom and Pat Stinson	Paph hybrid	3rd

Oncidium

Tom and Pat Stinson	Mps Martin Orendein Shirley P x Mps Meadowdale 'Eureka'	1st
Cory Curran	Ond Dancing Lady	2nd
Nancy Shapiro	Banfieldara Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze'	3rd

Dendrobium

Katrina Heap	Den anosmum var alba	1st
Ken Mettler	Den Love Memory 'Fizz'	2nd
Ken Mettler	Den Bill Takamatsu	3rd

Cattleya Species

Katrina Heap	C. Valda	1st
Tennis Maynard	C Heathii coerulea	2nd
Tom and Pat Stinson	Iwan Apple Blossom 'Fantastic'	2nd
Ken Mettler	Leptotes bicolor	3rd

Phalaenopsis

Tom and Pat Stinson	Phal hybrid	1st
Tom and Pat Stinson	Phal hybrid	2nd
Tom and Pat Stinson	Phal hybrid	3rd

Phragmipedium

Tom and Pat Stinson	Phrag St Quen	1st
Dave and Edna Markley	Phrag Eric Young x Beaufort	2nd
Dave and Edna Markley	Phrag Living Fire	3rd

Cypripedium

Tennis Maynard	Cyp - I don't have the form -	1st
Tennis Maynard	Cyp japonicum	2nd
Tennis Maynard	Cyp henryi	3rd

Other

Katrina Heap	Lycaste Pixie (campbellii x cochleata) - POM	1st
Tennis Maynard	Ansellia africana 'Wendy'	2nd
Tennis Maynard	Gastrochillus bellinus	2nd
Tom and Pat Stinson	Masd Peach Allure	3rd
Dave and Edna Markley	Zygo Advance Australia	3rd

West Shore show results to be updated next month.

Upcoming Orchid Shows and Events:

Windswept in Time Orchids – OPEN HOUSE!

Edgar and Kim Stehli

2017 Open House Events

Spring: May 27 & 28 (Sat. & Sun.) 11am – 5pm

Fall: November 4 & 5 (Sat. & Sun.) 11am – 5pm

8066 Skyline Drive

Broadview Heights, Ohio 44147

440-838-5757

Ohio Valley Seminar – Saturday July 8th!

Speakers ~ Fred Clark of Sunset Valley Orchids and Sam Tsui of Orchid Inn.

Both speakers are encouraging pre-orders among all the genera they sell so you are not limited to their sales table offerings. Pre-orders from Sunset Valley Orchids (Fred Clarke) receive a 10% discount plus free delivery. Email Fred your choices and note that they are to be brought to the seminar. Deadline for his pre-orders is June 28th.

Orchid Inn (Sam Tsui) updated its website a week or so ago. Pre-orders receive a 10% minimum discount (except divisions, packages and NET items) received by June 30th. See Sam's discount schedule under "Terms" on the Orchid Inn website. Email him your choices and note that they are for his seminar visit. He may also have some additional new flasks by May.

For the seminar, Fred will be speaking on *Catasetinae* and Australian *Dendrobiums* - both programs are updated. Sam will be speaking on *Paph. sanderianum* - the species, its hybrids, habitat and culture and on *brachypetalums* - The *sanderianum* program is brand new and the *brachy* program is updated. Sam will speak Sunday at judging on *Paph. rothschildianum* - the species, its hybrids, habitat and culture. This program is also new. Fred may also speak Sunday - still to be worked out.

Registration Form – last page of this newsletter.

Membership ~ Friendly reminder.....

It's a new year and that means one thing...it's time to renew those memberships!! Edna has agreed to take on the role of Membership Chair (along w/her many other duties!) so see her if you haven't already taken care of this very important task. Dues are \$20 for individual and \$25 for family. Click [HERE](#) to download the membership form and either mail it, along w/your check, to the address listed OR save yourself the postage and bring it to the next meeting.

Hospitality:

We are in need of a lot more volunteers! Please see Terry and Sandra and get your name added to the list to help out one or two months this year.

Current volunteers:

May – Scott Bever, Elly Campbell, and Jennifer Sonnenberg

June – Cheryl Early and Jessica Badger - 1 more please!!

July – Picnic

Aug – no meeting

Sept and Oct – need 3 for each month, please.

Culture Corner:

Article courtesy of the American Orchid Society website

Talking to Your Orchids

For those of you old enough to remember the 1973 best seller, *The Secret Life of Plants* by Peter Tompkins and Christopher Bird, the concept of "talking" to your plants is probably as natural as talking to your dog. The main difference is that you may practice the former only in private. Even your best friend might think you a little touched if they found you carrying on a conversation with your favorite *Phalaenopsis*. Today the idea of talking to our orchids has a broader connotation. More correctly, our orchids "talk" to us. We just have to understand what they are saying. This newsletter will cover some recognizable orchid symptoms, both benign and acute, and what they mean and how to treat them when necessary.

Diagnosing orchid symptoms is a mixed bag. Because they are slow growing plants, it often takes some time before the symptoms of an ailment are actually evident enough to alert the grower to the problem. On one hand, this can be an advantage: due to the slow growth, the grower has time to remedy the problem. On the other hand, sometimes the problem may be too far along to cure when the grower finally notices. As if that were not confusing enough, some orchid ailments move very quickly, such as Black Rot (caused by *Pythium ultimum* and *Phytophthora cactorum*). By the time you notice Black Rot on a cattleya, it has already infected the plant and only surgery may save what has not been already destroyed.

CULTURAL PROBLEMS

Shriveled, desiccated leaves can indicate both overwatering, and underwatering. The plant is not able to take up sufficient water and so the leaves take on a shriveled appearance. This may simply be due to the fact that you are not providing enough water for the orchid-pot-media combination such as this bare-basket *Cattleya* shown at right. This is easy to solve: water the plant more frequently or switch to a different media and pot. An orchid can also be water-starved because its roots are in poor condition, or absent, and cannot take up water. This is usually the result of overwatering, or old, spent potting media that has broken down and compacted around the roots. You can determine the condition of the roots and media by leveraging the plant out of the pot on one side with a tool such as an oyster knife or dull chisel. With experience, working your index finger into the pot can also tell you a lot about the condition of the media.



If root loss is the cause of shriveled leaves, such as this overwatered orchid at left, remove the plant from the pot and using a pair of sterilized garden shears or scissors, cut off all of the dead roots. It's a good idea to spray the remaining root mass (if any) with a broad spectrum fungicide or algacide such as Captan or Physan. We then like to place the orchid into an empty clay pot, or a pot with a small wad of sphagnum in the bottom. The orchid is kept shadier than normal (but watered along with

the other orchids) until roots begin to emerge. When they are a half-inch long, the plant can be repotted in fresh media. There are a few "tricks" that may help encourage growth, spraying the plant every other day with liquid seaweed (1tsp per quart of water) does not hurt and can provide organic nutrients and hormones for a weak plant. We have had some success getting cattleyas to push growth from dormant eyes by applying a film of a cytokinin growth hormone like Keikigrow Plus.

Although these shriveled leaves resemble the symptoms above, the bleached color of the leaves indicates that the plant is heat-stressed because of too much light. The fact that the orchid was mounted made the problem worse.



Other problems can create symptoms that look similar. Heat stress can cause orchid leaves to shrivel. Heat stress is due to excessive temperatures as the name suggests. Usually though, shriveled leaves are accompanied by bleaching and often, sun burn. Although orchids can show signs of heat stress just by being in an enclosed area of high temperatures for an extended period of time, the usual cause of the problem is too much light. If you suspect that an orchid is suffering from heat stress, hold a leaf on a sunny day. If the leaf is much warmer than your other hand, you need to give the plant more shade. If it is close to a greenhouse roof, move it lower. Putting an electric fan nearby will also help keep leaf temperatures down.

If you use agricultural chemicals for any of the problems we will cover in future newsletters, don't think "more is better". Follow label recommendations closely and do not be tempted to "put in a little extra, just to be sure". Agricultural chemicals are powerful tools that should be used only when necessary, and with extreme caution. Many orchids are sensitive and can be severely damaged by improper use of chemicals. Plants damaged by chemicals can show signs of leaf spotting that mimic fungal infections. Be aware of phytotoxicity and do not spray agricultural chemicals during the heat of midday and be sure plants have been thoroughly watered beforehand. Often the carrier used in emulsifiable concentrates (EC) will cause damage to orchids so use wettable powders (WP) if available. And protect yourself as well. Wear long sleeves and a respirator. Wash face and hands thoroughly after using agricultural chemicals and be sure to store them out of reach of children.

*Greg Allikas
July 2010*

Meeting Calendar:

5/18	Russ Vernon	Lycaste – Gotta love them!
6/15	Tennis Maynard	"Making Growing Spaces"
July	COOS Picnic - date and location TBD	
Aug	TBD	
9/21	TBD	
10/19	TBD	
11/16	Annual Potluck and Awards Dinner	
Dec	No Meeting	

Upcoming Board Meetings:

2nd Tues of Odd Months @ 7pm
 May 9, July 11, Sept 12, Nov 14

COOS Board Members	
President	Dave Markley
1st VP / Program Chair	Justin Pepperney
2nd VP/ Home Show Chair	Acting - Dave Markley
3rd VP / Away Show Chair	Ken Mettler
Secretary	Suzanne Cavazos
Asst Secretary/Newsletter	Katrina Heap
Treasurer	Edna Markley
Asst Treasurer/Membership Chair	Acting- Edna Markley
Immediate Past President	Tennis Maynard

COOS Trustees	
Elly Campbell	2017
Don Weber	2017
Bill Cavanaugh	2017
Susan Allison	2017

26th Ohio Valley Seminar
Saturday, July 8, 2017

Civic Garden Center
2715 Reading Road
Cincinnati, OH

First Lecture 10 am EDT
Plant Sales 9 am - 4 pm

Noon auction of select plants to benefit the Cincinnati Judging Center

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Seminar Reservations _____ x \$17.50 = _____

Box Lunches from Scherpies' Deli includes 2 sides + bottled water or soft drink

Roast Beef on Croissant	_____	x	\$ 8.25 =	_____
Chicken Breast on Croissant	_____	x	\$ 8.25 =	_____
Turkey on Wheat	_____	x	\$ 8.25 =	_____
Vegetarian	_____	x	\$ 7.50 =	_____

Total: \$ _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Email for confirmation: _____

Register and pay by Paypal at <http://cincinnatiorchids.org> or mail check payable to GCOS to 4110 Rose Hill Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45229. To ensure a box lunch, register by July 1, 2017. Check GCOS web site for travel directions. Questions: jyates11@earthlink.net