

*Central Ohio Orchid Society*  
*Reporter*



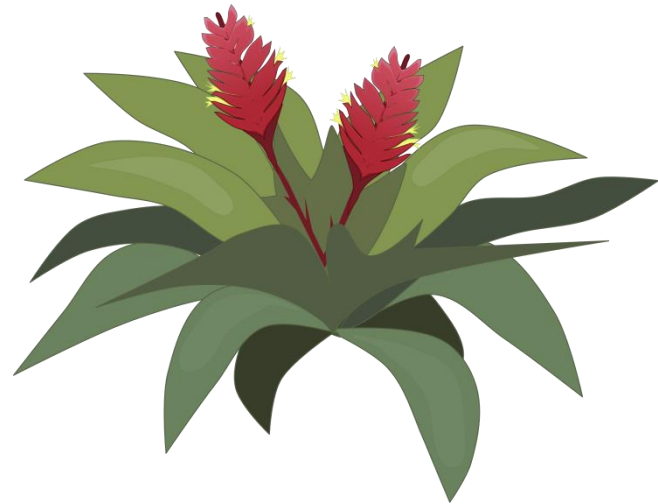
Newsletter Editor: Katrina Heap

February 2017

**February Meeting**  
**Speaker – Jerry Raack**  
**Topic: Bromeliads**

**Thursday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup> at Franklin Park Conservatory**  
**Beginner's Corner 7:30pm – Meeting starts at 8pm**

Dear Orchid Friends--For the Central Ohio Orchid Society meeting Thursday Feb 16th we will have a special guest. Many of you grow Bromeliads as orchid companion plants, and this is a great chance to learn more about them from one of the world's leading experts. Jerry Raack, past director and president of Bromeliad Society International and discoverer of several new species of Bromeliads will present "A Bromeliad Voyage through Ecuador". Jerry will talk about his trips to Ecuador and Peru searching for bromeliads, other interesting plants seen and the culture of the Ecuadorian people. He will also discuss growing bromeliads in our collections. He will also include images and information on Ecuadorean Orchids.



Here is a short bio on Jerry:

Jerry was born in Akron, raised in Tallmadge and attended OSU where he graduated with a BS degree in Mathematics and Computer Science, and he also obtained an MS degree in Computer Science from Purdue University. He worked for AT&T and Lucent Technologies for 35 years before retiring in 2001.



Jerry became interested in Bromeliads when his brother gave him a plant for Christmas one year. His interest has increased over the years and he has been the director, then president of the Bromeliad Society International for a number of years. He has made numerous collecting trips into Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Peru and has discovered several new species of Bromeliads. *Tillandsia raackii* and *Mezobromelia raackii* are named after him.

He still goes collecting; although, government regulations has made it impossible to bring plants into the US, so now he is collecting seed and pictures. He is currently working with Jose Manzanares of Quito, Ecuador in translating and editing Jose's 3rd volume of his book scientifically describing and picturing all of the bromeliads found in Ecuador.

We will have our usual pre-meeting speaker dinner at 6PM at the Rusty Bucket 2158 E Main St. All are welcome!



## Upcoming Orchid Shows and Events:

- February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> - Miami Valley Orchid Society Spring Show @ Cox Arboretum 10am-4pm
- March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> – Great Cincinnati Orchid Society Spring Show @ Krohn Conservatory 10am-5pm
- \*\* April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> – COOS Spring Show \*\* (Reminder – we'll need volunteers! 😊)



*Stay tuned for other society show dates.*



## **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

### **Upcoming General Meetings:**

2/16	Jerry Raack	Topic- Bromeliads
3/16	Eric Sauer	TBD
4/1 and 4/2	COOS Spring Show	TBD
4/20	Repotting Clinic	TBD
5/18	Russ Vernon	TBD
6/15	Tennis Maynard	TBD
July	COOS Picnic - date and locations 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

Mar 7, 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	<a href="#">_____</a>
Bill cavanaugh	2017	<a href="#">_____</a>
Susan Allison	2017	<a href="#">_____</a>

***Growers Contest to be updated in next newsletter.***

***Friendly reminder.....***

It's a new year and that means one thing...it's time to renew those memberships!! Edna will be taking over as Membership Chair so please see her at the next meeting and take care of this 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 bring it along to the next meeting.

# Culture Corner

Courtesy of the American Orchid Society



## Epiphyte or Terrestrial? Sympodial or Monopodial?

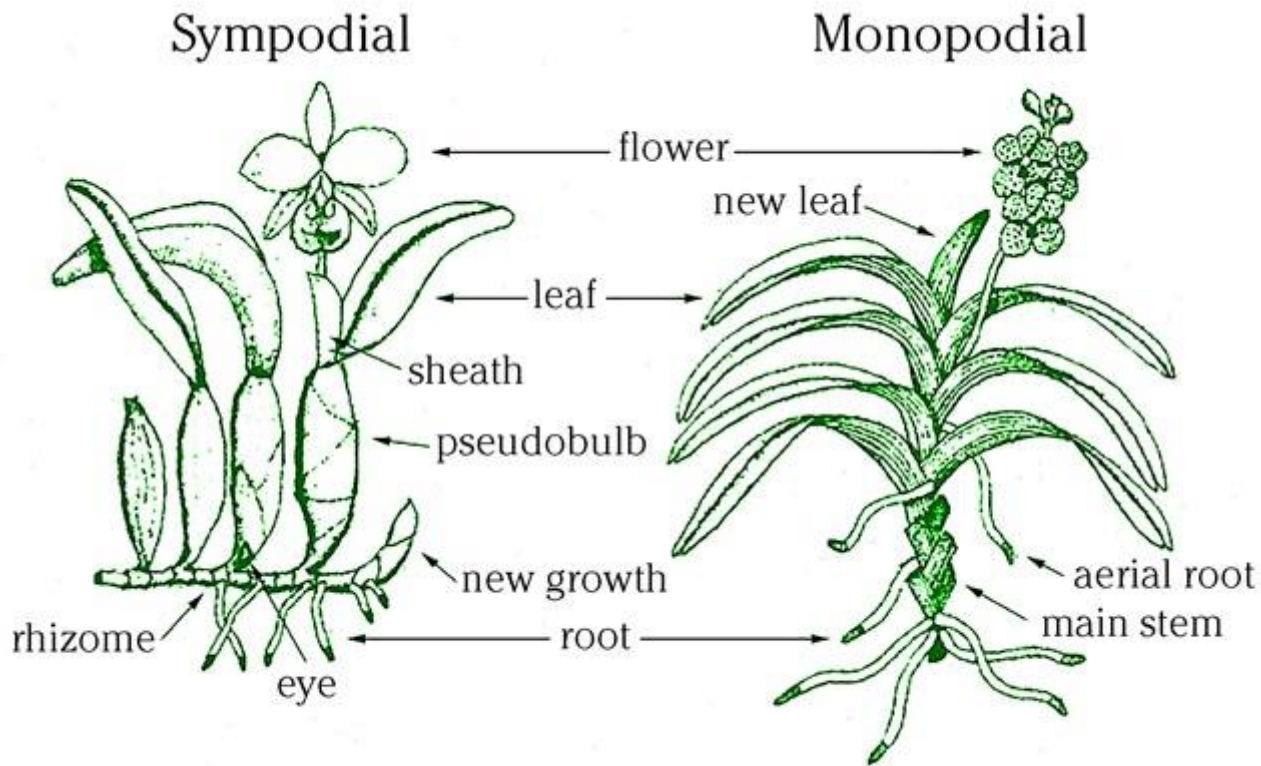
Understanding where and how orchids grow will help you better understand how to grow them. This newsletter looks at the growth habits of orchids.

The structure of an orchid plant is the same as any plant for it has roots, stems, leaves and flowers. But these parts are adapted to its way of life and differ somewhat from familiar plants which you grow in your garden.

### Epiphytes and Terrestrials

Most of the cultivated orchids are *epiphytes*, such as the Colombian *Cattleya trianae* pictured above. They do not grow in the ground but instead grow in trees or on rocks. This puts their roots out into the air rather than underground. The word "epiphyte" (EP-ih-fite) means "air plant" or literally "to grow upon a plant". Epiphytes are not parasites. They do not take anything from the host plant. Epiphytes perch upon other plants but get their moisture and nutrients from air, rain and debris. Cymbidiums and other orchids are terrestrial, which means "growing in the ground". The *Sobralia* pictured at the bottom of the page is a terrestrial orchid. Most of the native orchids of the United States and all the natives of Europe are terrestrials. Some epiphytic orchids have adapted to growing on rocks because nearby forests may not offer enough light. Rock-growing orchids are known as lithophytes.





## Sympodial and Monopodial

There are two types of growth found in orchid plants. One growth pattern is called sympodial (sim-POH-dee-al), the other is monopodial (mon-o-POH-dee-al).

For sympodial think of sideways. An orchid with sympodial growth moves sideways. From a connecting stem (rhizome) which grows horizontally, it puts up successive growths in which each one is a duplicate of the one before.

Examine the sketch. The upright growths are called pseudobulbs, each a repetition of the one before and growing parallel to each other. A plant may produce one new pseudobulb at a time, perhaps even only one per year. But it may make two or more growths simultaneously, and a large plant may make several new growths at the same time. Hybrids may have more than one cycle of growth per year.

The majority of the cultivated orchids are sympodial - they grow sideways. New growth begins at the base of the previous mature growth. *Cattleya*, *Oncidium*, *Dendrobium* and *Cymbidium* are all examples of sympodial orchids.

On the other hand, monopodial (mon-oh-POH-dee-al) orchid plants grow continuously taller - upwards, and some reach many feet in height under ideal conditions. Think of the vandas, growing outdoors in the tropics. Others have reasonable height limits, such as the phalaenopsis group. Monopodial means "one foot".

A monopodial orchid has neither pseudobulbs nor rhizomes. It grows continually upward from the top of the plant. It produces roots and flowers at intervals from the vertical stem.

Quite in contrast to the foliage habits of sympodial orchids, a monopodial orchid has alternate leaves the entire length of the stem. Lower leaves may fall off as the plant ages. *Phalaenopsis*, *Vanda*, *Ascocenda* and *Angreacum* are all examples of monopodial orchids.

*Greg Allikas*  
*August 2009*

***Did You Know?***

*Orchids grow naturally in very diverse environments. They can be found in tropical jungles and in Arctic tundras; in rainforests and dry savannas. Reinikka, Merle, A History of the Orchid, Timber Press, Portland Oregon, 1995, p. 3.*

Right: *Sobralia lilastrum* growing as a terrestrial in the Gran Sabana, Venezuela

