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BCOS Meeting and Program November 17, 2016

Churchville Nature Center
501 Churchville Lane
Churchville, PA 18966
Show Table Setup-7:00 p.m.
Meeting 7:30 p.m.

AUCTION UPDATE

Last month's BCOS orchid auction was very successful. President Sandy Kern expressed her appreciation to "EVERYONE who donated plants, who worked to label and set up before the auction, people who worked during the auction, people who shopped at the auction, and people who did all the behind the scenes paperwork. We made a net profit of around \$1,000. This money will be used to support not only orchid conservation worldwide, but also our American Orchid Society. Our members will also benefit throughout the year by learning from our knowledgeable speakers, and the comradery of our members as we meet every Thursday on the 3rd Thursday at the Churchville Nature Center. "

Special thanks to all of the members who donated their plants for auction and those who worked the night of the auction, with a special thanks to our auctioneers , Alan Block, Andy Braun and David Carrick, who also collected photos of the auctioned plants and distributed them to the membership; to Mitch Paroly, and Gary Dunbar who moved the plants to boxes; and to Chuck Keiser and Jean Norton who did a fantastic job keeping track of the winners and collecting payment. Thanks to all the people who brought food for the refreshment table.

Program: The Five Keys to Stunning Orchid Photographs

Our speaker this month is professional photographer, Paul Donohoe. He has been making photographs since the 1950's. What has always attracted Donohoe to photography, other than the ability to capture people, events and nature at a particular point in time, is that it is a technical art. Besides needing to be creative and be able to visualize compositions that are interesting, a photographer must understand the technical aspects of the tools being used. Exposure, lighting, film speed (ISO settings in the digital world), and computer manipulation all require technical mastery.



Donohoe has studied photography with Nancy Ori, who taught at Ansel Adams workshops, and with Chip Forelli, a noted commercial and fine art photographer.

Donohoe has been specializing in photos of orchids (he calls them Orchid Portraits), animals, landscapes and seascapes, architecture, and choral concert performances. Many of his works are available for purchase as prints, with or without matting and framing , He recently has been working on a project to photograph the entire orchid collection at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden- more than 6,000 different plants!. For a more complete showcase of his works, go to Donohoe's Orchid Portraits website at: <http://www.orchidportraitsonline.com>.

Come join us for a most informative presentation that will appeal to both the person who wants to make a record of their own orchids and more serious photographers.



Some of the 150+ plants auctioned off at last month's BCOS auction.

Members who wish to sell orchids are invited to do so this month. Please bring them at the Show Table setup time. Sandy Kern will be bringing several plants in bloom \$10- \$12

Monthly Care

NOVEMBER

Elena Gaillard & Michael Morales

Baby, It's Colder Outside!

Keep your windowsill orchid plants away from cold drafts at night. But leave some windows open at least a crack if your house is already overheated! Without a few weeks of cool nights, many orchids will fail to bloom this winter and next spring.

Light- and warmth-loving plants, such as Oncidiums and Vandas, may slow growth over winter owing to shorter days and lowered temperatures. This means slowed intake of water and nutrients. Don't overwater or overfeed. Don't repot unless absolutely necessary.

Cool-growers such as Masdevallia, Odonoglossum, Miltoniopsis, Pleurothallis and various oncidiums should be perking up and increasing their growth activity. Repot them now if necessary.

Closed windows plus warm radiators equals dry air—relative humidity of the average apartment in winter can be lower than that of the average desert! People, pets, furniture and plants will benefit from increased humidity. Humidifiers require regular cleaning, and their impact may not be all that great. Humidity trays beneath plants, that steadily evaporate water runoff, are a simpler option. And mist a lot!

The Busy Season

Last call to repot warm-growing plants, if they are wintering on a cool windowsill and if they are making new root growth. Plants grown under lights or in otherwise unchanging conditions, and that are in constant growth (like paphs), may be repotted whenever necessary.

Do NOT repot plants entering dormancy. They will need their roots intact to make strong new growth when they awaken. (The exceptions are tuberous terrestrials such as bletillas, which are easier to transplant when dormant, and will grow strongly as long as their rhizomes are not damaged.)

Becoming Manipulative

Plants requiring long nights to flower (winter-blooming cattleyas, Christmas cacti, poinsettias, etc.) should get only 10 hours of light a day. Cover plants with opaque black cloth at night if necessary (photographer's Black Out Cloth, avail-

able at darkroom supply stores). Underlights growers can give a mixed collection shorter days at this time, to make sure any photoperiod-sensitive plants are given a fair chance to set buds.

Phalaenopsis should receive two weeks of a 20-25F day/night drop to set flower spikes. (Many plants already felt this drop during the cold spell in mid-October.) It takes about 100 days for a phal to go from spike to first open flowers. Once spikes appear, too-cool temperatures will slow development.

Red and purple flower colors will be more intense if buds develop in bright light and low temperatures. Greens, yellows and whites will be clearer and more vibrant if they develop in diffused light. Keep humidity high and temperatures low (below 60 F at night).

Settling Down For A Long Winter's Nap

Deciduous epiphytes (nobile Dendrobiums, Catasetums, Mormodes) need **bright light** while resting. Place them in a cool, humid, sunny place and mist them regularly to prevent dehydration. As they come from deciduous forests, they are designed to receive full winter sun. (Note that some Catasetum hybrids are making one last set of spikes before resting!)

Deciduous terrestrials (Pleiones, Bletillas, Habenarias, Stenoglottis) often spend winter buried in leaf litter, and prefer a cool, shaded resting spot. Don't let them go completely dry either for too long: apply water every 10-14 days until new growth appears in spring.

Evergreen dendrobiums such as *D. jenkensii*, *D. chrysotoxum* and *D. bellatulum* should be gradually dried off in a cool bright spot once leaves and growths are mature. Mist them to keep them plump and alive. *D. kingianum* wants really cool temperatures – some clones will not bloom unless they get winter nights in the 40s! Make sure the plants don't freeze.

Deciduous *D. loddigesii*, *D. pierardii* and *D. unicum* should be dried off as their leaves begin to brown and fall off. Mist these plants also to keep them alive. Most cane-type dendrobiums need this autumn rest period of lowered temperatures and drought in order to set buds in the spring.

Dendrobium moniliforme hybrids tend to lose their leaves while they are budding. Keep the plants cool for better flower color, and only reduce watering a little as the numerous buds require moisture.

Older *Dendrobium nobile* hybrids should be placed in your coolest, sunniest spot, and kept dry. The leaves on older canes may yellow and fall off. Nights should be in the low 50s. As of the end of November, you should water the plant only once every 10 days, and mist the plants to prevent desiccation. Too-warm night temperatures will cause keikis (plantlets) to form instead of flowers at the leaf nodes. (More recent Hawaiian-bred hybrids stay evergreen.)

Looking for Buds

This is the big season for *Aerangis*, *Aer-anthes* and *Angraecum* species to spike, including the famous *A. sesquipedale*.

Many *Cattleya* species and hybrids are still budding: *Brassavola nodosa* and many of its hybrids; *Cattleya intermedia*; *Laelia anceps*; *Sophronitis coccinea*, *S. cernua*.

Clowesia and Clowesetum hybrids (Clw. Rebecca Northern etc) are spiking and budding, while also dropping their leaves.

Masdevallia and Pleurothallid species & hybrids of all kinds.

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium species and many hybrids are budding, including the big complex hybrid Paphs.

Early-season miniature and standard cymbidiums may be spiking. Star-shaped Phals are making new spikes. ☺

Reprinted from the November
2016 Manhattan Orchid Society
Newsletter.

SOCIETY NOTES

Hospitality Table

The Society is in need of 2 or 3 people to assume coordination of refreshments for the Hospitality Table.. Please contact Allen Applebaum at sirapples@aol.com to volunteer.

Plant Clinic:

You are encouraged to bring in that sick plant for evaluation by the expert orchid growers in our Society. Please, bring the needy plant in a closed plastic bag and we will try to advise you on bringing it back to good health.

Show Table Judging Rules:

See the website for information on submitting plants for the show table, www.buckscountyorchidsociety.org/showtables/STRules.htm BCOS recognizes and awards the growing and flowering of plants. Keeping this in mind, members are asked to please remember that anything brought to the show table for judging, should have been in their care for at least 90 days. Bring an orchid to the show table or refreshments and get a free raffle ticket for that night's raffle.

Officers, Other Societies and Vendors:

The list of officers, other societies and vendors is now exclusively available on the BCOS website, www.buckscountyorchidsociety.org/About.htm for officers and www.buckscountyorchidsociety.org/Links.htm for other societies and vendors.

Library:

Contact Allen Applebaum at sirapples@aol.com to borrow any item in the BCOS Library (See the Society's website for a list of books, equipment and videos.)



EDITOR'S NOTE – Contributions to the newsletter will be greatly appreciated. Please submit relevant news, photos, awards or information relating to the Society, its members, the care and culture of orchids to the Editor at kaplrs@comcast.net. I am also looking for your favorite tip on growing orchids, for the feature, **Orchid Tip of the Month**. Please submit your copy by the first day of the month.

WEBMASTER NEEDED

The Society is in need of a person or persons to manage and maintain our website. If interested, please contact the President, Sandy Kern.

skern0713@aol.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 15, 2016 BCOS Holiday Cookies and Culture Meeting
Churchville Nature Center, Churchville, PA

Orchid Tip of the Month

Judging Illegal Paph Plants¹

From the American Orchid Society website

The AOS Trustees have accepted the position of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that it is not the responsibility of the AOS to enforce USFWS regulations; hence, our judges may judge plants presented to them without seeking documentation. However, this does not absolve exhibitors of the responsibility of following current restrictions, having appropriate documentation for their plants or obeying the law. The AOS does not promote or condone the illegal importation of plants or the importation of plants on protected lists.

Paphiopedilum gigantifolium² and its hybrids — they are considered legal ONLY if they can be connected to a receipt from Piping Rock Orchids.

Paphiopedilum hangianum is simple — NO hybrids are legal and the only species plants that are legal were brought into this country in July of 2011. They were mature plants.

Paphiopedilum vietnamense and *helenae* — all are considered legal.

Paphiopedilum wenshanense are considered legal because they entered the country during a period where they were considered to be x Paph. *concoloratulum*

ALL other Paphiopedilum species described after 1990 are not in legal cultivation. For more information see the [CITES website](#)

1. Cultivars of species released into cultivation by Hengduan Biotech (Holger Perner) from South China and hybrids between these species and other pre-ban species of Paphiopedilum may be AOS judged. To complete processing of the awards, exhibitors will be required to provide proof suitable to the AOS that such plants are traceable to legally released material. Such proof must include a copy of the CITES document issued to Hengduan Biotech under which the plants were entered into the country in which the exhibitor resides AND a copy of the receipt of sale transferring said plants from Hengduan Biotech to the exhibitor. If the exhibitor has purchased plants from third parties, a complete chain of receipts will be required in order to complete award processing.

2. Cultivars of Paphiopedilum gigantifolium and hybrids between this species and other Paphiopedilum species and hybrids legally in cultivation may be AOS judged only if the cultivar can be traced directly to plants sold by Piping Rock Orchids. To complete processing of the award, the exhibitor will be required to furnish a copy of the receipt from Piping Rock indicating purchase of the plants and a copy of Piping Rock's EXPORT CITES list on which Paph. gigantifolium is listed. If plants were purchased from sources other than Piping Rock directly, for the award to be processed, a complete chain of sales receipts must be provided that trace the cultivar awarded from the exhibitor to a plant originally sold by Piping Rock. .