

Sandpiper Orchid Society



MARCH 2010

Sandpiper Meetings

Location

Galloway Branch of the
Atlantic County Library
system located at
306 East Jimmie Leeds Road
Galloway, NJ
Phone 609-652-2352

[Map of Meeting Location.](#)

March 18th

7:30 PM

Meeting held at Waldor Orchids
Linwood, NJ

(Meeting location & date change for
March's meeting only)

This month's program will be a review of the highlights of the *Deep Cut Orchid Show* of this past February and also what Sandpiper has planned for the upcoming *Longwood Gardens Orchid Show* as far as how our members can participate and help with our Society's entry of our Orchid Display.

The Orchid Help Guys



Before the Meeting
7:15 PM

Ask the *Orchid Help Guys* before any Sandpiper Orchid Society meeting for advice on any culture problems you may be having with your orchids.

LONGWOOD GARDENS

International Orchid Show and Sale

Friday, March 26, 2010

1:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Saturday, March 27, 2010

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Sunday, March 28, 2010

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Enter a world of dazzling orchids showcased by the best collectors and growers from Hawaii to South America.

Stunning exhibits fill the Conservatory and a wide array of orchids are for sale. Enjoy the American Orchid Society-judged show, guided tours, informative talks and a sales pavilion like no other.

Sponsored by the:

[Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society](#)
(SEPOS)



..... thanks to the LONGWOOD GARDENS website.

[LONGWOOD GARDENS INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW](#)

The Sandpiper Orchid Society
will enter an *Orchid Display* in the SEPOS Orchid Show.

Website: <http://www.SandpiperOrchidSociety.com>

Email: SandpiperOS@gmail.com

March '10 Newsletter
in a
MAGAZINE FORMAT

SHOW TABLE & Orchid Shows
Point Standings thru
February 2010

Bollenbach, G.	21
Cascioli, C.	3
Cascioli, P.	17
Class, B.	9
Ellingsen, B.	39
Fontaine, A.	26
Jankowski, L&R	36
McClellan, J&M	5
Michalenko, R.	11
Montgomery, A&B	10
Schairer, C.	17

How the Points are Earned

Rosette Award 10 pts
1st Place 5 pts
2nd Place 3 pts
3rd Place 1 pt

Joe Myers Award - Awarded to the member that accumulates the highest point total for the year as determined from Society Displays and the monthly Show Table results.

Lisa O'Neal Award - This award was established in 2006 upon the untimely death of then president Lisa O'Neal. Lisa was renowned for displaying her finest orchids on the monthly Show Table. The winner of this award is acknowledged as having grown the most outstanding orchid of the year which is chosen from those plants that received the 10 point Rosette Award.

Meeting Cancelled

Unfortunately, due to the snow storm and poor driving conditions, the **February '10** Society meeting was cancelled. This issue of Sandpiper's monthly Newsletter will not include it's normal follow up column of it's previous month's meeting or the normal previous month's Show Table pictures.

Society Meetings Ahead



APRIL

Orchid Mini-Auction

The Sandpiper Orchid Society will hold an **Orchid Mini-Auction** (Limited to 40-60 Member's Orchids) during it's **APRIL '10 Meeting**. The date for the **Mini-Auction** will be **Thursday, April 22nd**.

Doors will open at 6:30 PM for previewing the plants and the **Mini-Auction will begin at 7 PM**.

MAY




Annual Society Picnic/ShowTable/Meeting

The Sandpiper Orchid Society will hold it's **Annual Society Picnic/ShowTable/Meeting** on **Sunday, May 23rd** at the **Cape May Co. Zoo**.

Activities will begin around 12 Noon.

AOS Monthly Newsletter

Click on the link below to access the AOS's Monthly Newsletter



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.



[AOS Monthly Newsletter](#)

...thanks to Ron McHatton - Director of Education and Chief Operating Officer

Paphiopedilum acmodontum

Paphiopedilum acmodontum is a species native to the Philippines. This plant has unique yellow-green foliage with deep blue-green tessellations connected together by blue-green veins that run the length and width of the leaves. This is an easy to grow plant, preferring household temperatures. It typically blooms in the spring months, but has been known to send out a flower spike in the fall.

Light

This plant prefers low to medium light, from 700 - 1000 foot-candles. East windowsills are ideal. This is also an excellent plant for artificial light culture.

Temperature

This plant prefers intermediate to warm conditions, with winter night lows between 60° and 64° and winter day highs of 72° to 85°. Summer temps can be a few degrees warmer.

Humidity

50% or higher. Use humidity trays to help increase the humidity around the plants.

Water

It is best to use rainwater, distilled or reverse osmosis water. Municipal water with a pH of 7.5 or lower can also be used. Water as the plant approaches dryness, but never let it dry out totally between waterings. It rains

more frequently during the summer months in its native habitat. Do not be afraid to water this plant heavily during the growing season of spring through fall.

Fertilizer

Use GrowMore 20-10-20 Ureafree for municipal or well water. If using rain, distilled, or reverse osmosis water, add back in 5 - 10% municipal or well water to supply the necessary calcium and magnesium. Fertilize every other watering in the summer and every third watering in the winter.

Flowering

Flowers are colored in green, white and pink. They last 2 months or longer and



are borne on stems 10 - 16" in height. They usually emerge during the late spring to early summer months. When you first see the buds emerge, keep the plant more moist.

Repotting

Repot this plant in the spring after flowering, using a medium grade mix with bark, charcoal, sponge rock, and coconut husks. This will insure proper drainage and moisture retention for this plant.

...thanks to the [Orchid Web](http://www.orchidweb.com) website.



David's Monthly Orchid Tips

David Off is a 3rd generation member of the highly respected WALDOR ORCHIDS family.

Roots, Roots, Roots

After being at the Flower Show in Philadelphia for the past 4 days, I've had the question posed to me on many occasions, "My plant's leaves are soft and/or leathery." Each time I reply that it is a root problem, and usually has to do with watering. The leaves will show the same symptoms in both instances. The way to tell the difference is to look at the roots. Soft mushy roots are the result of a plant being over watered. Dry shriveled roots are dehydrated, and the plant has been under watered.

For soft mushy roots I would suggest that a late Spring early Summer repotting is in order and to get the plant into a smaller pot (whatever accommodates the roots) and some fresh potting medium.

In the case of under watering I would say put the plant in the sink and water it heavily every time you pass the sink that day. From that point on it should be able to get back on track.

This article is a reprint from the March '09 Society Newsletter.

**-2010 Society Dues-
Please remember to see**



**George Bollenbach
about your
Sandpiper Orchid Society Dues
at the
March 18th meeting.**



The Benefits Of Membership

Whether a beginner or an expert orchid grower, you will find membership in the American Orchid Society a truly rewarding experience. You'll join 18,000 others worldwide who share a passion for orchids, as well as furthering conservation and research efforts for these wondrous plants. And you'll enjoy a wealth of membership benefits.

...membership to the [American Orchid Society](http://www.aos.org)

American Orchid Society

Calendar of Events

April 2010

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

April 4 Easter Sunday

16-18 45th NJOS Orchid Show Frelinghuysen Arboretum
10 AM – 4 PM 53 East Hanover Ave. Whippany, N.J.
website: <http://www.njorchids.org/>

21 Mid-Atlantic Judging Center
Philadelphia Horticultural Center Phila, Pa.
website: <http://www.orchidjudging.com/>

22 Sandpiper Orchid Society **Mini-Auction**
Galloway Branch of the Atlantic County Library system
306 East Jimmie Leeds Road Galloway, N.J.
6:30 Orchid Preview 7:00 Mini-Auction

[EXTENDED CALENDAR DETAILS](#)

Sandpiper Orchid Society

Officers

President	Ron Ference
Vice Pres.	Andy Fontaine
Secretary	Linda Jankowski
Treasurer	Henry Zona
AOS Rep.	Walter Off
Past Pres.	John McClellan

Trustees at Large

Trustee 2010	Bergie Ellingson
Trustee 2011	Dr. Cary Stone
Trustee 2012	Pam Cascioli
Trustee 2013	George Bollenbach

Committee Chairs

Membership	George Bollenbach
Program Dir.	Andy Fontaine
Publicity	Gail Zona
Newsletter	Ron Ference
Show Table	Cary Stone
Hospitality	Alice Montgomery
Website	Ron Ference
Show Exhibits	Andy Fontaine
Historian	Chrissy Schairer
Photography	Ron Ference
Refreshments	Pam Cascioli
Raffle	Bruce Montgomery
Auction	Ron Ference
DVOC Rep.	Bruce Montgomery

[The Sandpiper OS is an Affiliated Member of the American Orchid Society](#)

Monthly Orchid Checklist for March and April

Cattleya

Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.

Cymbidium

Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

Dendrobium (Australian)

These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

Lycaste

This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

Miltoniopsis

This marks the beginning of the flowering season. Amazing displays of color will dazzle the grower over the next few months. Prepare your plants for optimum display by staking spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage. Do not miss the wonderful fragrance as the flowers unfold.

Paphiopedilum

March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents your doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year. Cleaned and potted paphiopedilums look happy.

The summer-blooming types will be showing the first of their buds in March and April. Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. It is especially difficult to clean mealybugs, in particular, once they have become established in the plant. Better to get to them before they get a good toehold.

Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Do not be too anxious to stake the spikes, because if they are staked too soon, the flowers may develop a "nodding" stance, where the dorsal will not stand upright. If the spikes seem to develop at an angle, let them, and stake after the flower has hardened for best carriage, especially on the hybrids with fairieanum background.

Phalaenopsis

In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging -- even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the look out for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs, and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them.

Pleurothallids

Members in this large and increasingly popular group will be looking their best now. If plants are not in flower, the next few months provide an excellent time to divide if needed or repot into fresh mix. Taking care of these tasks now will allow enough time for your plants to become established before the hot weather arrives.

.....thanks to the AOS and authors Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

Waldor Orchids



20% off *Waldor Orchids*
Post Flower Show Sale
March 12 & 13, 2010
Waldor Orchids invites you to our Annual Post Flower Show Sale. We will be offering a 20% discount on all plants and supplies. This is a wonderful opportunity to save on plants for around the home or to save on mix and other potting supplies.
www.waldor.com
10E. Poplar Avenue Linwood, NJ 08221
(609) 927-4126 Hours: 9am - 6pm
Our sale takes place at our Linwood location and is for our retail customers only. Internet sales are not included in this offer. We are sorry, but we are not able to re-pot or decorate plants during our sale. 20% off discount can not be combined with any other offer or discount.

Phone: 609-927-4126

Fax: 609-926-0615

Fridays and Saturdays
9AM - 5:30 PM

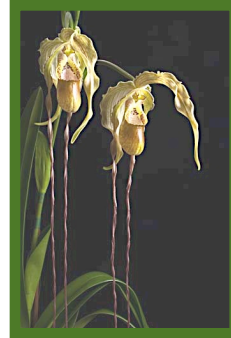
Website: <http://waldor.com>



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ORCHIDS April Preview



**Phragmipedium
Penns Creek Cascade
'Island Ghost' FCC/AOS**

....was one of the plants that received the AOS's highest award for flower quality. Exhibited by Bernard Lavaud at West Palm Beach judging; 4-25-09.

SPECIAL: Judging and Awards issue

- * AOS FCCs of 2009
- * AOS 2008 Specialty Awards
- * A Day at Judging
- * Preparing Plants for Exhibit
- * History of AOS Judging and more

...thanks to the [American Orchid Society](http://www.aos.org)

Sandpiper Orchid Society

Secretary
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Mailing Label