

Our SPOT



MAY 2011

“Sale-ing” through the snow

This year’s annual plant sale was blitzed by a ‘gift’ from Mother Nature, in the form of a large snowstorm. The storm knocked out power and affected the ability of folks to get around, which limited sale attendance.

(I spent hours running the laptop by generator in order to get public notices out to TV and radio stations that the sale was till on—Cindi)

The hardy folks who did attend found some beautiful plants to take home. New this year, by popular demand, were smaller orchid varieties like mini Cattleyas and Dendrobiums, as well as Masdevallias. There was also a large assortment of Phals, Oncidiums, Zygopetalum (these sold out quickly!), Miltonia & Paphiopedilums.

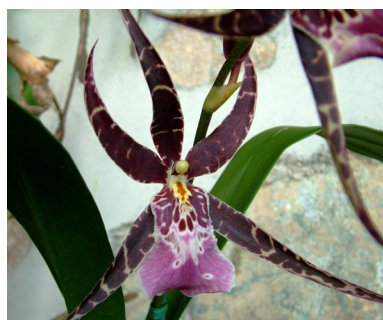
This year’s sale again offered a very successful raffle with wonderful prizes of jewelry, art, books, and gift certificates. Thanks to everyone who donated items!

The plant sale is the biggest fundraiser the club undertakes each year. It supports a book scholarship for a UMO student. Janelle Delicata presented the scholarship to this year’s recipient— Katey Couling. Congrats Katey!!

The plant sale is also an outreach to educate people about orchids, hopefully bust any myths about their care, & create the desire to own some. Two new members joined!

A warm welcome to Donna Salisbury and Anne Williams! May you enjoy many new friendships and learn more about orchids.

Thanks to the members who took time out of their day to help. As always, the club couldn’t hold events without member participation.



Dgmra. Mem. Jay Yamada Kauai,
purchased at the sale by Kathe Bartlett

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Susanne Wells
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BARKS:

- > Congratulations to Katey Couling—the recipient of the UMO book award!
- > Thanks to all the members that helped with the plant sale
- > Thanks to all the members that brought the orchid/ EMOS message to the public at the Bangor Flower Show

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Where new & old worlds meet

Dust off your passport! Don't have one? You still have time

The World Orchid Conference is coming soon. This year, it will be held in the garden paradise island of Singapore, from November 13—20, 2011. Singapore has a rich orchid history & warm tropical climate.

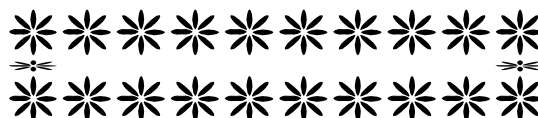
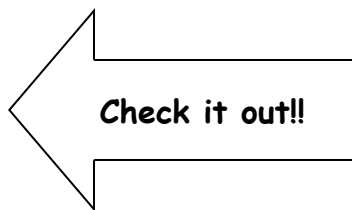
First class dining, shopping, and other attractions are also offered.

The WOC are only held every 3 years, so don't miss this one!

Orchid hobbyists, professionals & scientists from around the world will attend to take part in the show, lectures, tours, and meetings.

Introducing the new "People's Choice" Award!

Members can now vote for their favorite orchids brought in for Show 'n Tell! Winners will be featured on the club Facebook page & in the newsletter.



Food, Friends, Fun & Phrags

It's time for everyone's favorite meeting—the annual EMOS BBQ!

A New Day Farm will once again host the picnic, rain or shine.

It's being held a week earlier, so mark your calendars NOW!

This special meeting guarantees good **food**— EMOS provides the meat for grilling— members bring their favorite side dish to share.

The relaxed atmosphere, with gorgeous gardens, encourages quality time with EMOS **friends**.

The highlight of the day is always the tour through the now FIVE greenhouses of A New Day Farm. ANDF boasts one of the largest collections of rare orchids in the northeast. It is not open to the public, so EMOS members always relish this opportunity to view & learn about rare species.

The new geothermal system is complete, so come view & ask questions about it.

ANDF's vast collection of Phragmipediums has also expanded, so be prepared for a **Phrag** fiesta!

Bring a friend, camera, & favorite dish. We'll see you on Saturday, June 4.

***Note: several dogs roam freely at this picnic.**

We'll be watching for you at these events....



5/13 - 5/15/11

Redland International Orchid Festival - Homestead FL
fmi: www.redlandorchidfestival.org

5/14/11

EMOS meeting - Ellsworth ME, "Sex & the Single Orchid"
fmi: in2orchids@yahoo.com

6/4/11

EMOS picnic - Penobscot ME, potluck BBQ, tour of ANDF
fmi: andf@midmaine.com

9/10/11

EMOS meeting - Ellsworth ME
Int'l Phal Alliance - Bedford NH fmi: www.nhos.org

INTERNATIONAL PHALAENOPSIS ALLIANCE “FOCUS ON PHALS” DAYS

Our SPOT



**YOU MUST
PRE-
REGISTER
FOR THIS!!**

The New England and New York/Eastern Canada Regions of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance (IPA), in conjunction with two local AOS affiliated societies, will be hosting a “Focus on Phals” event.

NH Orchid Society is hosting it on Saturday, September 10th, in Bedford, NH. Sunday will be in Colonie, NY.

The Keynote Speaker will be Norman Fang of Norman's Orchids who will cover in-depth culture of the Phalaenopsis orchid in “*The Changing Face of Moss Culture: Tips for Success*”.

The second guest speaker will be Carlos Fighetti, Immediate Past President of the AOS and current First Vice President of the IPA. He will be speaking on “*Phal Species & Their Variants: Are They or Not?*”.

The third speaker, Carri Raven-Riemann of the orchidPhile, will give a brief overview of the newest directions in breeding in Taiwan.

Each day will begin with a continental breakfast, followed by presentations given by Carlos and Carri, a light lunch, a review of the show table & a mini auction of select plants—to help defray the speakers' expenses. The afternoon session will begin with Keynote Speaker, Norman Fang, and finish with a roundtable in-depth discussion of culture. Guest vendors will include Norman's Orchids, the orchidPhile and Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies (Pre-Orders from all three vendors will be available)

Fmi: Adrienne Giovino
ipa.adrienne@gmail.com

Barking up a new, sustainable tree

The orchid world has been the beneficiary of many advances in the areas of DNA & cultivation. But the latest advance in potting media is sure to make a huge impact for all growers.

The new product, Orchiata, is processed by Besgrow (a contraction of Best & Grow). It's a sustainable, organic growing substrate of the finest quality. It consists of 100% pure New Zealand *Pinus radiata* bark, and sourced from renewable, man made forests.

Pinus radiata is a hard, stable bark compared to other pine species; however, it needs to be processed from its raw state. Besgrow's unique process creates a quality, stable, long lasting, toxin free, growing substrate. It's available in different grades for any specific growing needs:

- **Precision** 3-6mm, the smallest, for young orchids or seedlings
- **Classic** 6-9mm, for young orchids, or second potting.
- **Power** 9-12mm, for young/mature orchids, or second potting.
- **Power+** 12-18mm, for mature orchids/those that require more
- **Super** 18-25mm, the largest, for mature orchids/those that require a high AFP.

This new media is long lasting, stable, holds water & nutrients, & contains no contaminants. Each chip has a slightly rough surface for roots to anchor to. It reportedly keeps potted plants in excellent condition in excess of 10 years!

A product that requires less watering, less repotting, less contamination, &



less fertilizing sounds too good to be true, doesn't it?!

EMOS member & AOS Delegate Denis Roessiger has been testing this product in the last year on his orchids at A New Day Farm & has reported excellent results.

(Note: I also repotted 1/2 of my orchids in the Orchiata & note significant improvement from the previous year! - Cindi)

<http://besgrow.com/orchiata>

EMOS Minutes—March 12, 2011

10 members attending

Cherie opened the meeting at 11 AM

Mary Lou read the Secretary's & Treasurer's reports. Both were accepted.

It was discussed that from now on the bank account totals will not be included in the minutes because they are visible to all on the internet in the newsletters. We'll just read them out at the meetings. It was also discussed that some members who don't have computer access haven't been getting newsletters - we need to send a few out by snail mail. Cindi will look into it.

New Business - Mary Lou brought up the question of all the glassware purchased for use at the NHOS show. She would like to purchase some of it to use at Greencare. Janelle explained which pieces we should keep for the club use. Other EMOS members are also welcome to purchase pieces we won't be using for shows.

Mary Lou brought up the fact that our insurance is about to expire & needs an OK to renew. This was approved with little discussion.

Carolyn mentioned that Lucy is asking if we could move the June picnic to the first Saturday in June so she could be here for it (since it's her house!). Motion was approved. The picnic will be June 4. Cindi wants our orchid photos for Facebook. She also suggested that we start giving a "People's Choice" award to best orchid at the Show & Tell table every meeting. Everyone liked this idea. We'll start in May & continue next fall.

Old Business - Plant Sale - Denis has orchids ordered & will be at the sale. He & Cindi will take care of unwrapping & pricing before the sale. Members working the show should plan on arriving at the Roger Clapp Greenhouse on campus at 8 AM or so. Someone needs to get a check from Susanne to get change (around \$100 worth?). Mary Lou has the wrapping paper & will also bring orchid supplies to sell. Melanie volunteered to put out sale signs in Orono. Janelle has the raffle all organized & brought tickets to sell, & will have more to sell at the sale - lots of nice prizes. \$1 per ticket or a book of 6 for \$5. Mary Lou brought flyers for members to take & post (Janelle designed). Cindi will get any new care sheet varieties needed. Cindi will do press releases & community calendar updates.

Bangor Garden Show - EMOS will do a talk/demo from 11:30-12:30 on Sunday, April 10th. Janelle, Dick, Melanie & Sue have volunteered to do "Orchids for Everyone."

Program - Janelle had a short presentation about the NHOS show with photos of our display & some other displays. She says the NHOS has invited us back for next year. She brought the ribbons we won to show off as well - a red ribbon (2nd place) for the overall display, & a special award for best background, in addition to individual awards.

Meeting adjourned around 12:20 PM.

Submitted by Mary Lou Hoskins, Secretary.

**INTERNATIONAL PHALAENOPSIS ALLIANCE
"FOCUS ON PHALS"**

Saturday, September 10, 2011

Bedford Town Hall, Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, NH

- 8:30 - 9:15 am Morning Refreshments & Sales Tables Open
- 9:30 - 10:15 am Carlos Fighetti: *Phal Species & Their Variants – Are They or Not?*
- 10:30 - 11:15 am Carri Raven-Riemann: *The Best & the Brightest - New Breeding in Taiwan*
- 11:15 - 11:45 am Mini Auction (to raise funds for future meetings)
- 11:45 - 12:45 pm Lunch Break & Sales Tables Open
- 12:45 - 1:30 pm Review of the Show Table
- 1:30 - 2:15 pm Norman Fang: *The Changing Face of Moss Culture: Tips for Success*
- 2:15 - 2:45 pm Roundtable Discussion with the Speakers
- 2:45 - 3:30 pm Open AOS Judging & Sales Tables Open

Directions to Bedford Town Hall: <http://www.nhorchids.org/index.php?page=monthly-meeting-directions>

**** We strongly recommend carpooling for this event since parking is extremely limited ! ****

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NON-NHOS MEMBERS' REGISTRATION FORM: Must be received no later than September 2, 2011

IPA/NHOS "Focus on Phals" for Saturday, September 10, 2011

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

STATE: ____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____ HOME ORCHID SOCIETY: _____

Enclosed is my check for _____ registration(s) at \$10 each (payable to IPA)

Send form with check to: IPA, c/o Marilyn Shapiro, 235 East 87th Street, Apt 5L, New York, NY 10128

Vendor Pre-Orders (lists available after Aug. 22) -

Please mention "IPA Regional Pre-Order" in subject line:

OrchidPhile: orchidphile@optimum.net (list available after August 22)

Norman's Orchids: norman@orchids.com or www.orchids.com

Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies: info@korchid.com or www.korchid.com

SPOTTING MEALYBUGS ON YOUR ORCHIDS



The Mealybug is one of the most serious orchid pests. They are related to another parasite—scale—but they lack the hard, protective cover. The mealybug is easy to recognize. They are whitish in color, with soft, plump, oval bodies, and legs on the sides.

There are over 2,000 species, with 39 found on orchids. Of these, the long-tailed mealybug is the most problematic.

They are mobile and active, and will crawl from plant to plant and bench to bench looking for hiding places. They will be found in crevices, folds, overlapping leaves, joints, curls, and also under pot rims, in the potting media,

and under benches. They will even hide in stem clips.

They get transferred from other infected plants, such as when bringing outside plants in. So, it's important to always quarantine new plants.

Females can produce hundreds of eggs in a 2-3 month life cycle! In a greenhouse there can be 8 generations within a year. So infestation can happen quickly.

The most common household remedy is rubbing alcohol, with a cotton swab or spray to get into hiding places. If the population is out of control, treating every two weeks may be necessary.

Almost all orchids are susceptible to mealybug, but especially Cymbidium, Paphiopedilum, Oncidium, Phragmipedium, and Phaleanopsis. Phals seem to be their favorite meal!

They also love many common houseplants—Pothos, Palms, Cacti, Ivy, and Spider plants.

Their feeding usually won't do much damage as long as the population is low. But they travel actively, and lay eggs frequently, so any sightings should be dealt with swiftly.

Orchids will show loss of vigor & growth, spotting, curling, and loss of leaves and flowers. Also, the mealybug produces a sticky honeydew that can attract mold.

Sadly, 10% of any club's membership does 90% of the work.

Everyone wants to be part of an active, fun club. But we simply can't hold events without member participation!

We NEED you!!!



~ Sex & the Single Orchid ~

The EMOS meeting on Saturday, May 14th in Ellsworth will present "Sex & the Single Orchid."

Orchids are an extraordinary study of evolution & intelligence. Their diversity in size, color, shape, and scent isn't accidental. Individual species have evolved to attract specific pollinators. These devious 'strategies' involve attraction, deception & exploitation.

Orchids will mimic insects, birds, moths, or any other pollinator they need to attract. Some have developed elaborate systems of hinges, traps, tunnels, slides, & weapons (like darts & hammers) to ensure pollination!

You're sure to realize a deeper respect, appreciation & passion for orchids after seeing this presentation!



Introducing... the Dendrobium

The Dendrobium is the most diverse group of all the orchid genera, with 900 - 1400 species.

The habitat covers the entire western half of the Pacific, so there is a variety to suit every growing condition.

It has been valued for centuries for medicinal & spiritual purposes, as well as food.

Belts, baskets, mats, hats, dyes, exorcism, aphrodisiac, toxin, cough suppressant, emollient, liniment & poultice are just some of the uses found for Dendrobiums throughout the world. They are also revered as symbols on stamps in many countries.

It's also one of the most popular orchids, and can be found in just about every collection.

The showy blooms make them a staple of the cut flower industry.

The most popular variety is the Nobile - with showy, multiple blooms from each joint on the cane.

Due to the diversity of this group, only 'general' care guidelines can be offered.



D. nobile

Dendrobiums prefer lots of light, and good air circulation.

Temperature requirements cover all ranges, because of the diverse climates they are found in naturally.

It's best to use a moisture retaining media to avoid excessive dryness. They need a slightly acidic pH.

It's critical for the roots to get aeration, so use a mix with particles all the same size. (variable sizes allow for the mix to 'pack' too tightly)

Some varieties will lose their foliage & die back to just canes between blooms.



D. scabrilingue

It has been valued for centuries for medicinal and spiritual purposes

The incredible, edible Dendrobium!

The Chinese have used the Dendrobium for centuries for medicinal purposes and food.

The golden colored flowers of the 'Gold Orchid' (Dendrobium chrysotoxum) are dried and used as tea. When placed in hot water, they regain their shape, and deliver a sweet light flavor and aromatic honey scent

The flowers can be eaten after, and used in marmalade. They claim to improve circulation, regulate the flow of Qi & calm nerves.

The Dendrobium family is also in high demand by Chinese beverage factories for making beer! The most popular brand is Tsingtao.

The flowers are also used in salad or as garnish. Who knew?!!!

Check us out on the web:
www.easternmaineorchidsociety.org
And on Facebook!



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enjoy a splendid summer!

The Orchid Tea Party

EMOS was one of the featured presentations at the Bangor Garden show in April.

It was named the "Orchid Tea Party" to encourage attendees to come relax informally mid-day, and enjoy refreshments while learning about orchids.

The presentation was "You Can Grow Orchids in Your Home." Our public education mission is to encourage orchid ownership, support interest, and dispel myths.

One important message that this presentation relayed to the public is that orchids don't require a greenhouse & special fixtures. They CAN be grown in every household environment ...even in basements!

This information encourages orchid ownership, and brings new members to the club.

Huge thanks to the members who presented. It's events like these that create interest & desire & let local gardeners know EMOS exists.



Thanks to the members who presented. We can't grow the club, or deliver the orchid 'message' without member participation!

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