

March 2011

Volume 4 Issue 7



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Next Meeting March 8, 2011

Speaker: Ron Parsons

Topic: Orchids of Crete

Crete, the largest of the Greek islands is situated in the eastern Mediterranean Sea. This beautiful island is approximately 250 kilometers long and 56 kilometers wide at most and only 12 kms wide at its narrowest point. The island is like a giant rock garden, with many beautiful plants (and far too many goats!) growing in its stony soils. Many of these are endemic to the island. Where the orchids are found, they can be very numerous in both species and quantity. There are more than 60 species of orchids here, many of them very variable, several with regional subspecies. There are lots of natural hybrids also, making identification difficult. This talk features the orchids (as well as some of the other beautiful wildflowers) seen on a trip there in the middle of April, 2007.



Meeting Schedule

• 7:00

Social Time and
Showtable Set Up

• 7:30

Showtable Reviewing

• 8:00—8:15

Business Meeting

• 8:15—9:00

Program

• 9:00—9:25

Raffle Prizes

Ron Parsons is considered by many to be one of the finest flower photographers in the United States. His photography and encyclopedic knowledge of orchids is known both nationally and internationally. He has been photographing orchids, wildflowers, and almost every other kind of plant for over 25 years, and has a slide collection that numbers well over 80,000 slides! He went "digital" just over a year ago, and in this short time has taken thousands of photos orchids, wildflowers and other rare plants. some of his new digital photographs. Ron loves to travel, photograph orchids and wildflowers *in situ*, visit orchid and other plant enthusiasts collections, and most of all, to take photographs of plants and flowers that he likes.

THE DELAWARE ORCHID SOCIETY**Officers**

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Library	Vicki Gawiak
Show Table	John Rogan
Membership	Vera Lee Rao
Hospitality	Lori Weaver
	Maryann Ozlanski
	Vicki Gawiak
AOS Representative	Lynn Fuller

News and Notes...

April: Bob Hamilton and John Leathers, (Hawk Hill Nursery): "Odontoglossums"

May: Patricia Harding, (orchid enthusiast and author)-"Huntleyas and Related Orchids"

June: Annual Banquet – *Speaker TBD*

DOS & The Longwood Show

Delaware Orchid Society will again participate in SEPOS at Longwood by constructing an exhibit of member's blooming orchids. This year we will use a smaller, free standing exhibit featuring good quality, pest-free, healthy plants. We will need 50-70 orchids from members so we ask every member to look in anticipation at what they may have available. Now is the time to start talking and singing to your orchids.

The exhibit will be set-up Thursday March 24, and disassembled at 6PM Sunday March 27. We ask that members bring plants for exhibit to Erdmans or Raos by Wednesday, March 23. We plan to use wicker or bamboo baskets to display the plants so members are welcome to bring plants in baskets if available. All plants should be cleaned and securely staked for transport to avoid broken flowers or inflorescences and pots and baskets marked with name of members. Return labels stuck on are welcome.

Members must submit names and description of plants for exhibit on the attached form by mailing or e-mailing to Nancy Sato, 400 Foulk Road, Apt.3A6, Wilmington, DE email: NancySato2000@gmail.com We plan to have all exhibit plants Show Judged. Members must identify on 2012 DOS Exhibit Plant form if they desire AOS judging.

Roots..... By Liese Butler, Oak Hill Gardens

Watching the root growth on your plants can help you understand what your plant needs and also allows you to catch problems before they get out of hand. By the time the leaves of an orchid are dehydrated or wilted, the roots are usually either rotted or dried up. When you observe healthy roots, healthy leaves are usually present also.

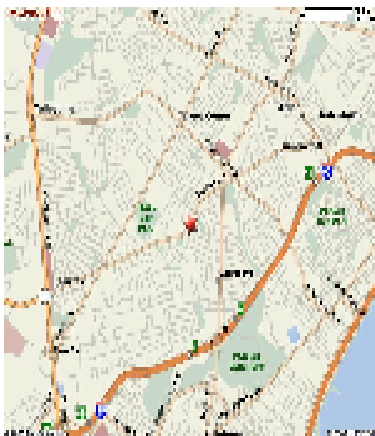
Root growth slows down, and in many cases stops, during cold winter months, just like the plant growth. Here in Chicagoland, we see almost no new roots developing during November through February. Now, in early Spring, the roots begin to grow again. After the roots grow out, new plant growth begins.

Many orchids that go dormant (and die back to bulbs) will lose most of their roots during the winter "dry spell." When you stop watering your dormant orchids, those nice big fleshy roots also dry up. Now in spring, new plant growth will appear accompanied by beautiful new roots. Sympodial orchids mainly send out new roots with the new growth, so most new root growth will be observed at the leading edge of the rhizome. When the plant is divided and the back bulbs potted, the new root growth, again, will be formed where the new growth appears, not on the old, dried-up back bulbs.

Many new orchid growers cringe when they watch us re-pot a plant. Roots get cracked, shoved in a pot, surrounded by chunky bark that is crammed in around the roots. The plant is not harmed by this. Any point at which a root is cracked or trimmed has the potential for branching and continuing to grow. Trimming very long roots during re-potting is often a better option in order to avoid over-potting, which may cause excess water reten-

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Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August) at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 1006 Wilson, Wilmington at 7 PM. Visitors are always welcome.



FEBRUARY SHOW TABLE

PLANT

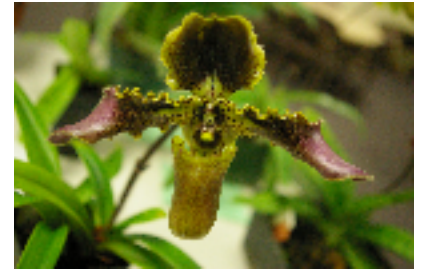
GROWER

Non- Greenhouse

Paph. Fairrieanum	Duane & Judy Erdmann
Paph. Esquirolei	“
Paph. Druryi ‘Judy’	“
Blc Yuan Nan ‘Mini’	Dave Emerson
Den. Oriental Smile	“
Den Oriental Smile ‘Fantasy’	“
Onc. Big Mac	“
Cal. William Murray	Harry Kutch
Paph. (Hsinying Inspiration X Robert De Veer)	“

Greenhouse

Masd. lintriculata	Vera Lee & Malli Rao
Unknown species	“
Masd regina	“
Masd benettii	“
D. ulangina	“
Masd attenuate	“
Pleur. sicaria	“
Trichophylia suavis	“
Masd mataxa	“
Phal amabilis var. variegata	“
Paph spicerianum	Duane & Judy Erdmann
Oberonia setigera	“
Den Shirotae ‘Pearl’	“
Den virginalis	“
Dendrochilum bicallosum	“
Rstp. jesupiana	“
Bc Princess Teresa ‘Princess Michiko’	“Best Grown” John Rogan
C. trianae ‘Jungle Queen’	“
Dendrochilum tenellum	“
Ang. Veitchii	“Best Grown” Dave Nickey



Paph Esquirolei - 22 years in the making - The Erdmann's



Tricopilia suavis - The Rao's



tion and lead to - you guessed it - rotted roots!

If you see one of your orchids with leaves that look limp or wilted, take the plant out of the pot and look at the roots. Many times the plant has been over-watered or the potting material has broken down and the roots are kaput. If this is the case, trim off any dead roots and re-pot the plant in fresh media into a small pot. A small pot will dry out quickly and the plant will produce new "water-seeking" roots.

New root growth takes weeks to appear, sometimes months. Orchids are generally slow-growing, and a badly dehydrated plant can sometimes take a year or more to recover. Do not pot a root-rotted plant into sphagnum moss. Moss holds too much moisture and does not allow enough air to the roots. Epiphytic orchids, in the wild, grow in trees with their roots exposed to the air. They DO need moisture to grow. However, the air exposure to the roots is essential for good growth. Happy Growing!

Don't forget to bring your blooming babies for all to enjoy!

Delaware Orchid Society

c/o 505 N. DuPont Road
Wilmington, DE 19807

We're on the web!

www.delawareorchidsociety.com

↑ And.... Speaking of the web, we've got a new website! Be sure to take a look as it has a much improved design and will be updated regularly with new and exciting information!

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Cal-Orchid	Orchids Limited
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Celebrate Orchids	Piping Rock
Creative Hydroponics	Silva Orchids
Fishing Creek Orchids	Stony Brook Orchids
J & L Orchids	Suwada Orchid Nursery
Kelley's Komer Orchid Supplies	Waldor Orchids
Little Brook Orchids	Woodstream Orchids
Main Street Orchids	



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