SIOS

NOVEMBER, 2010
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NEWSLETTER

Next meeting NOVEMBER 16th 7pm

NEWSLETTER
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The SIOS meets on the
3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm
All Saints Episcopal Church,
2329 Victory Blvd., SI, NY 10314

A Message from John

Hello Friends,

I'm loving the chill in the air, but I know bad things are on the way.

I hope you enjoyed Wayne last month. He's royalty in the Orchid World.
A really great guy too.
He donated his fee to the AOS.

I wont be at our next meeting, however Cara is taking over with a participatory evening.
Bring in a Max of 2 plants. Our group of expert minds will show you what to do. Sick, non productive plants, Plants you want to mount etc. If you want to mount, please bring your mount and supplies (careful Norman,
I know what you're thinking now).

Barbara and I are well and will miss seeing all of you.

So be Well and be Good till we meet again.

~John

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

November's meeting is going to be a little outside the box, and I think we will all have some fun with it!! I am sure that a few of us have some plants that they are wondering what to do with... Whether it be how to repot, how to divide, or what can I do differently, we will be able to solve all of our problems at November's meeting!!
Everyone is welcome to bring (2) plants that they would like some help with. We are not going to have one person up front giving a demo - We are going to have an "open forum" kind of meeting... We will spread out, and dig in, and help each other. Quite a few of us will make ourselves available, and will bring some bark, pots and tools. If you have any supplies you can share, please bring them, as well!

See ya'll on the 16th! *Cara Minucci*

GET WELL SOON WISHES TO

ROY FOX

SIOS hopes you are on your way to a speedy recovery.

http://www.siosonline.com

SHOW TABLE OCTOBER

GREENHOUSE

Lew Werb - 24
Colman Rutkin - 6
Ronald Altman - 15

LIGHTS

Joseph Schwab - 38
Pat Cammarano - 25

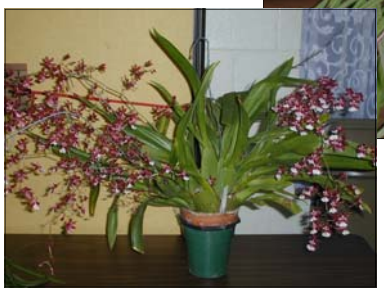
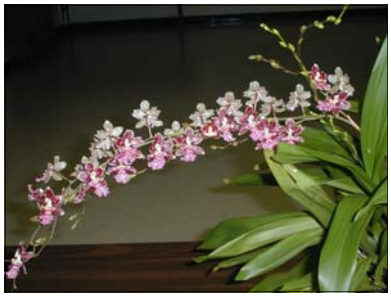
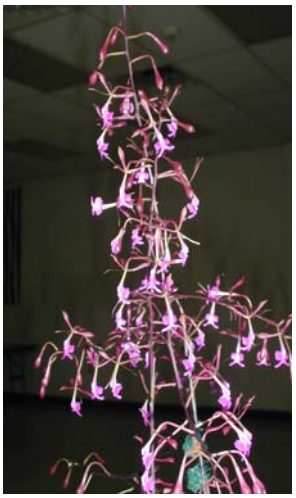
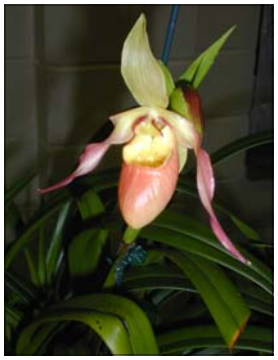
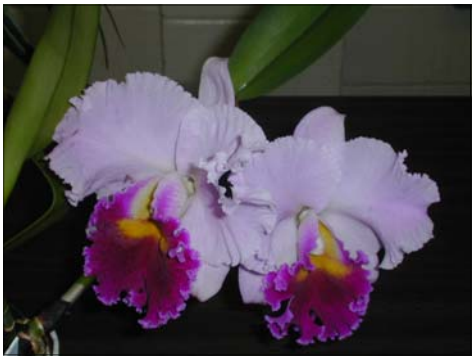
WINDOWSILL

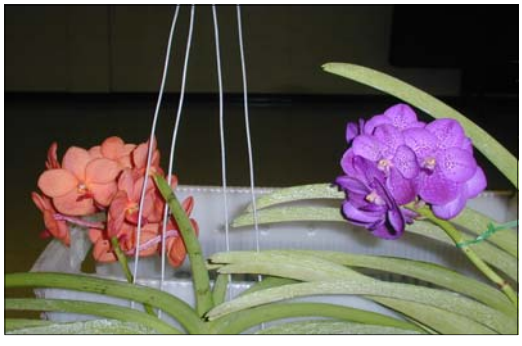
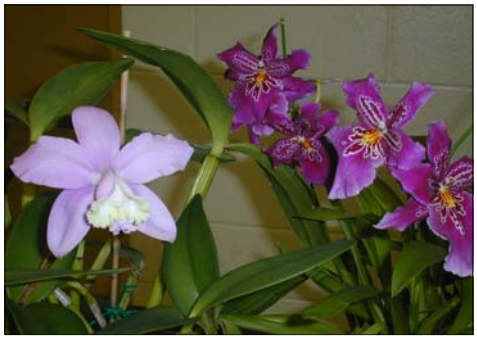
Michael Corace - 15
Renee Lichtman - 6
Kathleen Ruoti - 6
Amy E. Trautwein - 16







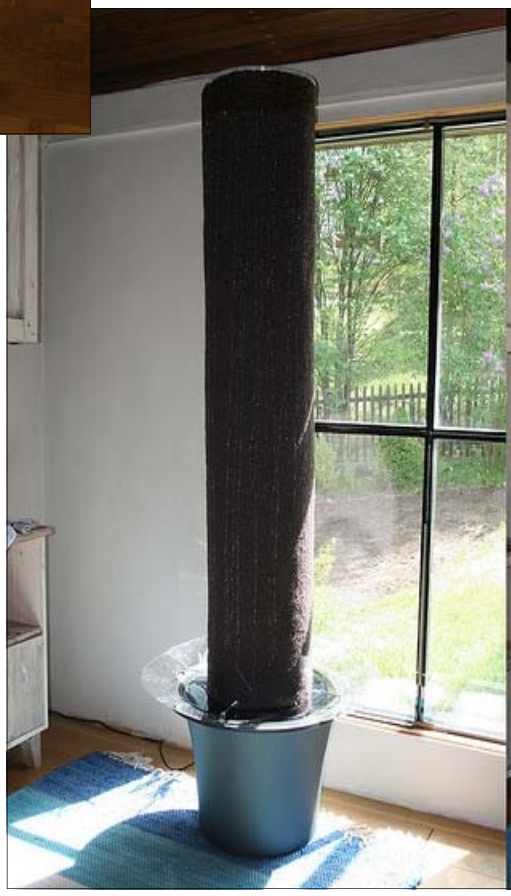



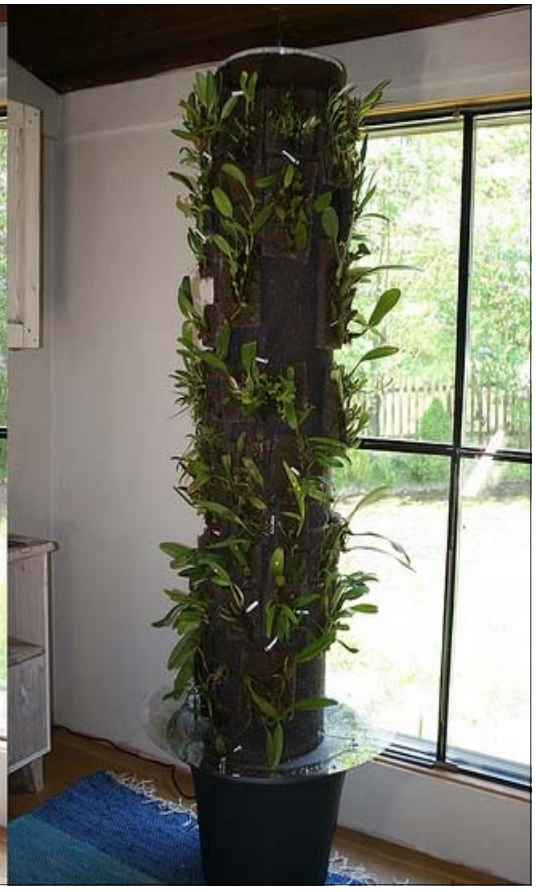
photos by Pat Cammarano

THE WOMEN IN THE PICTURE IS LIKA FROM SWEDEN. THIS HANGING AREA CAN BE BUILT AND USED AT HOME OR IN THE GREENHOUSE TO GIVE YOU MORE SURFACE AREA. LIKA HAS A GREENHOUSE AND SHE IS DEALING WITH TEMP.OF MINUS 20.

I AM NOT SURE THIS IS WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE LOOKING FOR IN YOUR NEWSLETTER ?

PAT





LIGHT REQUIREMENTS BY GENUS

Looking at your plant s label, determine what it s genus is that is the first name on the tag. How much light your plant will require will depend on the type of orchid it is. Below find light requirements recommended by the American Orchid Society:

Cattleya --Medium to High

Cymbidium --Medium to High

Dendrobium --Medium to High

Masdevallia --Low to Medium

Miltonia --Medium

Odontoglossum --Medium

Oncidium --Medium to High

Paphiopedilum --Low to Medium

Phalaenopsis --Low to Medium

Vanda --Medium to High

Low Light = 1,000 2,000 foot-candles, two hours of filtered sunlight per day, 14 hours of fluorescent light within 8 inches of the tubes. These plants can be grown indoors under indirect light or outdoors under shade.

Medium Light = 2,000 3,000 foot-candles, four hours of sunlight per day, 16 hours of fluorescent light within 6 inches of the tubes. Outside, moderately sunny windows or under lights would be suitable.

High Light = 3,000 4,000 foot-candles, six hours of sunlight per day, within 3 inches of tubes, near the center of the fixture. In a sunny window or outdoors would be ideal for these plants.

Foot-candles is a standard measure of light for plants and can be determined with alight meter.

Source: Your First Orchid, AOS, Stephen R. Batchelor

Entered by Rhonda_in_FL

Hi everyone,

Welcome to the land of mystery, beauty and intoxication. That's my spin on the species Cattleya, which has approximately 50 or so different types of orchids. From Mexico through Central America and right down to the jungle and mountain countries of South America. They grow in all types of conditions, but generally speaking they all worship the sun for their survival, they also need humidity ranging from 50- 75 percent. They also grow high up in the treetops where they receive much of the needed moving air which helps in their survival. Some grow along stream beds and outcrops of rock formations. Many of the Cattleyas are grown from cool to warm conditions the ones I will be speaking about are labiata, and intermedia .Intermedia is a bifoliate, meaning it normally has 2 leaves growing from the top of the pseudobulb .The bifoliates also differ in appearances by their thin and straight tubular pseudobulbs.I find their a bit more finicky to grow and bloom, than the larger flower single leaf cattleyas. I believe they just need a little more attention and love than the big leaf unifoliates. However they will bring great joy when you find some of the secrets to their character.

I have been growing orchids since 2002, however I have been growing roses and other perennials for over 25 years. Orchids to me really shine over the others, maybe its because of their somewhat mysterious growing habits? All I know, is that I don't know much about growing orchids, which leads me to the challenge. To me that is where the fun is, delving into the unknown, sharing with my sister and friends the adventures and tragedies of the journey. I have enclosed some pictures of these orchids I hope you enjoy them.

The first and most described by John Lindley a botanist from England 1859, oh by the way Lindley named the genus after William Cattley a prolific plant collector. There is certainly no plant of which I have any knowledge that can be said to stand forth with an equal radiance of splendour and beauty. For it is not merely the large size of the flowers and the deep rich crimson of one petal (the lip) contrasted with the delicate lilac of the others that constitute the loveliness of this plant ,it owes its beauty in almost equal degree to the transparency of its texture, and to the exquisite clearness of its colors, and the graceful manner in which its broad flag-like petals wave and intermingle when they are stirred by the movement of air. I would also like to add that some of the scents that emanate from most of the cattleyas are spectacular in their uniquentence. Most of the aromas defy our list of categories, which adds to the unknown dogmas of culture. That cattleya orchid Lindley was describing is called labiata, meaning resembling a mouth.

Cattleya labiata is a warm to intermediate temperature growing epiphytic, meaning it enjoys growing on trees in Venezuela and Brazil, and it is not parasitic to the trees, only attaches itself. When the wind blows it causes millions of seeds from a seed pod to flow aimlessly through the jungles and sides of mountains. The seed pod is germinated by an insect, which causes germination with a bacteria to bring maybe 2 or 3 seeds that will become possible flowering plants.

Their are 14 varieties of distinct colors in this family, some of them are alba, semi alba, coerulea, flamea, lilas, concolor and rubras just to name a few. Labiata has mainly 2 tropical seasons, one is wet and the other dry. The areas I will be writing about are in northern Brazil. One region is called Ceara where the flowers are smaller, rounder and darker in color, oops usually but not always. The other is from Pernambuco and Alagos where they are lighter and larger in size.My next cattleya is intermedia a bifoliate also from Brazil, where it grows south of Rio De Janiero along the meandering coastline all the way thru Argentina and Uruguay. They come in many varieties of colors and sizes. When growing Intermedia we must be patient for she is a very slow grower in her earlier years. Make sure she doesn't dry out for this could be her demise, remember she grows along the coast in swamps and wet climate. The southern population has a smaller rhizome than her northern coastal relatives. The northern grow predominately on the beach sand dunes of Rio, they are not used as the primary plants to specialize and hybridize .In the southern swampy areas the humidity is very high,which in turn helps in the abundance of growing plants. The trees are sometimes loaded with plants that produce in one season 100 pseudobulbs. The trees are illuminated like Christmas trees, showing off to the murky waters of the swamp.

The 2 pictures I have attached are labiata semi alba and intermedia alba, have fun ,enjoy and good hunting.

Godspeed Joseph Schwab

The Orchid Pot

Why do some oncidiums and phalaenopsis develop long spikes with bracts but no flower buds? Others, with the same care and conditions . develop normally .

Some oncidiums require a cool treatment for flowering, while others require a warm. All phalaenopsis need a cool treatment of about 2 weeks with night temperatures of 55 F to develop spikes and set flower buds.

Is there any advantage in using cork for potting cattleyas in place of tree – fern?

No. The tree-fern will hold much more water and nutrient for plants than the cork. Cork slabs are good for growing some miniatures, but a small piece of osmunda, sphagnum or tree-fern is necessary to start the plant.

How long does it take to grow cymbidiums and phalaenopsis from flask and community pot to blooming-size plants?

Cymbidiums from flask and community pots to first flowering take 3 – 4 years, phalaenopsis, 2 ½ years. This assumes good culture.

It should be borne in mind that excessive nitrogen in 30-10-10 fertilizer " designed for fir bark" feeds the bark microbes, not the plant. The microbes metabolize nitrogen as they break down the bark. If you don't feed the bark with extra nitrogen, the microbes will steal nitrogen which should go to the plant. If you do add extra nitrogen, then the bark breaks down faster. It should be obvious that there is a vicious circle here.