

Massachusetts Orchid Society

P.O. Box 1041
Medford, MA 02155



SEP 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Minute Minutes

President's Message

Upcoming Events

2022 MOS meeting program
schedule

September Auction Details

MOS Show and Sale call for
volunteers

AOS Article, "What should I look
for when I buy an orchid?"

Article, "Rhapsody in blue-
Spectacular rare orchid found..."

The AOS Corner:
Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton
Seasonal Care

Officers, Directors & Chairs



M inute Minutes

Notes from the Board



- ◆ *A SUPER shout-out to the Richters* for hosting the MOS BBQ at their lovely home, gardens and fabulous greenhouse! Bob and Marsha have many times over generously welcomed MOS for this fun and very important fundraising event. If you missed Bob's tours of the greenhouse, bursting with flowers from zillions of orchid genera, see page 2 for a few photos, courtesy of Emily D. Thank you, Emily 😊

- ◆ **CALL FOR AUCTION DONATIONS!**

Please email auction@massorchid.org with items, orchid names and information and photos of your donations. See details, page 3.

**AND- PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU ARE INTERESTED
IN VOLUNTEERING AS AN AUCTIONEER!**

- ◆ **Coming this October at SOI - The
MOS Annual Show and Sale!**

We need lots of volunteers to help set up, run and break down the show. This is always an exciting opportunity to hob-knob with renowned growers and vendors in the US, to learn about orchids and judging and for getting to know your fellow MOS buds. The best thing about it is you don't need any experience! Sign-up sheets will be available on our website soon. For all information, please email the show committee at show-committee@massorchid.org.

Did you know that you can submit articles to the newsletter? Got extra orchid supplies you want to unload or looking for garden swaps? Submissions are due 14 days prior to monthly meetings. Email Anne at newsletter@massorchid.org to post or advertise.

We are always interested in suggestions for speakers and topics, plus ideas for special programs for upcoming general meetings. Please email them to mos-board@googlegroups.com.

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/massorchid and Instagram at www.instagram.com/massachusettsorchid.

President's Message

First of all: A huge thank you to our wonderful hosts, the Richters, on the hottest day of the year (it sure felt that way)! We had an amazing turnout, with people coming and going throughout the afternoon. Thank you to everyone that brought the delicious sides, snacks, desserts and wines; you helped make this barbeque a resounding success.

This month, we have our auction! Bring your friends! This event is one of the best fundraising events for the year and for good reason: We have so many exciting donations coming in for you to bid on. Come early and come ready to spend, because there are orchid opportunities that you will want to jump on.

-Dina



THE MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY PRESENTS



World of Orchids
The Amazon

Orchid Show & Sale
October 21-23, 2022

Sons of Italy Hall
117 Swanton Street
Winchester, MA

www.massorchid.org/show

Calliaya violacea Photo Credit: Motohiro Sunouchi

MOS MEMBERS: We need your help!

Please consider volunteering for any of the following:

- *Show setup
- *Hospitality
- *Plant registration
- *Clerking
- *Ticket Sales
- *Raffle Table
- *Show Breakdown

To sign up, email show-committee@massorchid.org. For more information, click the "2022 Show" tab on the MOS website.

Show Dates & Times:

- Friday, Oct 21, 2022: 12:30 pm - 5 pm
- Saturday, Oct 22, 2022: 10 am - 5 pm
- Sunday, Oct 23, 2022: 10 am - 4 pm

Location:

Sons of Italy
117 Swanton St, Winchester, MA

Admission:

Adults \$10
Free to MOS members as well as children 8 and under.
Purchase tickets [online](#) or at the door.

UPCOMING EVENTSMonthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

03 Sep 2022 10:30 AM

Tower Botanic Garden,
11 French Dr., Boylston, MAPlease visit our website: nejcaos.orgMonthly Meeting - MOS Annual Auction*There Will Be No Show Table*

13 Sept 2022 7:00 PM

Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
Winchester, MAMonthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

01 Oct 2022 10:30 AM

Tower Botanic Garden,
11 French Dr., Boylston, MAPlease visit our website: nejcaos.orgMonthly Meeting – Bob Winkley AOS Judge, “What Judges Look For”

11 Oct 2022 7:30 PM

Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
Winchester, MAMonthly Meeting – Bob Cleveland of Cleveland Orchids - Demo, “Repotting Compot Seedlings Into Small Pots”

11 Oct 2022 7:30 PM

Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
Winchester, MA2022 Massachusetts Orchid Society Show & Sale: “The Amazon”

21–23 Oct 2022

Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
Winchester, MA

September is Auction Month Plant donations wanted!

Did you know the annual auction is one of MOS's largest fundraising events? In addition to orchids purveyed from the most elite growers and breeders in the US, we rely on plant donations from our members. If you have a seedling, a new division or blooming sized plant you would like to donate, email auction@massorchid.org. It is important to contact **BY SEPTEMBER 6th** so it can be added to our catalog. Please include the following information:

- ◆ Plant description; including full name, awards, and whether it is from a notable collection or grower
- ◆ Pot size (if potted), mounted or bare root
- ◆ One jpeg photo of plant, if possible, in bloom
- ◆ General growing conditions (Warm, intermediate or cool growing? Blooming season?)

DONATED PLANTS SHOULD BE HEALTHY (no pests or diseases please), though plants needing a little tlc are Okay. If you're unsure about a plant you want to donate, please bring it in a sealed, clear plastic bag and ask someone.

We also accept growing supplies, books, journals or other orchid-related items for donation.

To help people get into the buying mood, please bring a side dish or dessert! If you're able to arrive a little early to help set up tables and organize, that would be great. In addition to your favorite dessert or snack MOS will provide refreshments.

Remember to bring containers or bags to carry your new babies home with you. Credit Cards, Checks or Cash accepted.

To view the catalog, go to

auctria.events/MOSauction2022

Schedule

6:30 – 7:00	Setup
7:00 – 7:20	Item Showings
7:30	Auction Begins

NOTE, there will be no show table.

2022 MOS Meeting Program

Jan.	Mike and Daryl – repotting and mounting
Feb.	Fred Clarke of SVO – Becoming an 80 Percentile Grower
Mar.	Glen Decker (formerly Piping Rock Orchids)
Apr.	Francisco Miranda – Miranda Orchids
May	Carrie Reimann – The Orchidophile
June	Tim Culbertson
July	Kristin Uthus – New World Orchids
Aug.	MOS BBQ
Sept.	MOS Annual Auction
Oct.	Bob Winkley
Nov.	Bob Cleveland Orchids
Dec.	Annual Holiday Party!

What should I look for when I buy an orchid?

Many consumers, both retail and retailer, find themselves in a position today of having to make purchase-oriented decisions about an entirely new -- to them, at least -- class of plants: orchids. What should they be looking for? How can the purchase dollar be maximized? How can the best shelf-life -- of vital importance for both the retail and retailing consumer -- be obtained? Here are three helpful hints:



The Plant

Should be in proportion to the container, have roots in the media, be clean and unblemished, turgid and medium green, free of visible pests.

The Flowers

Should be lustrous and held well above the foliage on a strong, well-supported spike, be unblemished and free of fungal spotting, have some buds yet to open (never, ever accept a plant with flowers open to the tip of the spike, as it is impossible to judge flower life after all flowers have opened), and have a generally appealing aspect that fits with your decor.

The Vendor

Is the overall aspect one of cleanliness and order? Do the production plants look good? Is the staff attentive and interested in your welfare? Can they answer the most elementary of your questions? Selecting an orchid plant isn't really that different from any other flowering plant purchase, including the satisfaction that comes with the proper decision.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash for this essay.



Lyman Estate Greenhouses
185 Lyman Street
Waltham, MA
(617) 994-5913

Fall Orchid Sale

Shop our selection of hundreds of orchid plants, including Cattleyas, Laelias, Paphiopedilums, Phalaenopsis, and many more hard-to-find varieties. Species and hybrid plants that are budded and blooming will be available. Let our experts help you choose the right plants for your home.

Friday, September 9
Saturday, September 10
Sunday, September 11
9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Historic New England members save 10% on purchases.



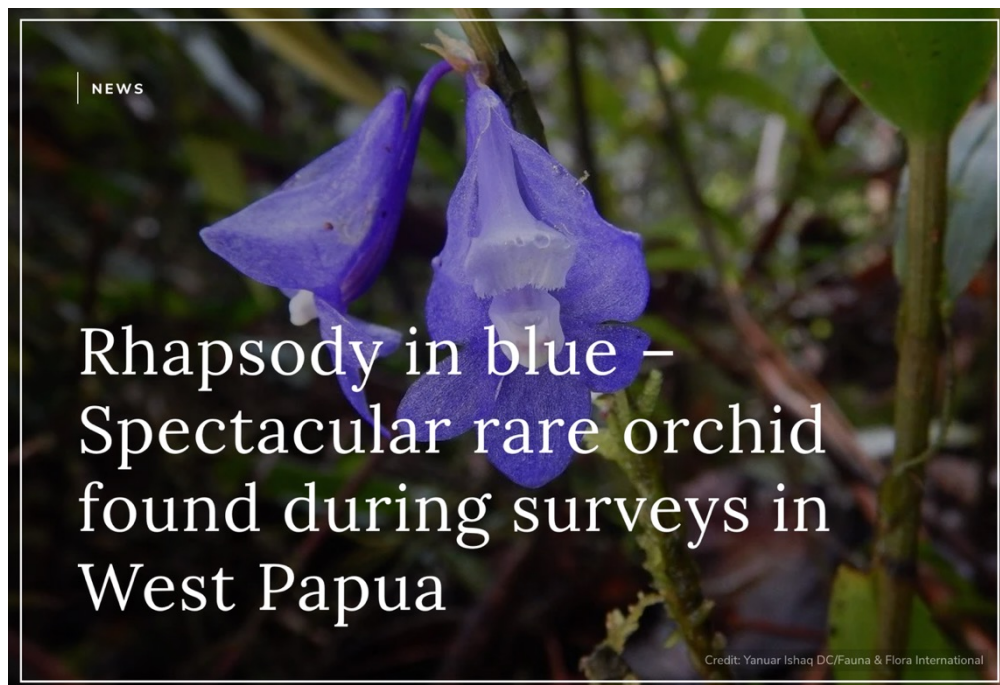
Reprinted from the July 2022 edition of the Journal,



Written by Senior Writer Tim Knight

(and special thanks for sharing this, MOS member, Steve Kirincich)

It's the botanical equivalent of bumping into a bird of paradise. A series of expeditions to a remote mountain top in West Papua in search of a legendary blue orchid have hit the jackpot.



Joint surveys led by West Papua's Natural Resources Conservation Centre (BBKSDA West Papua) in collaboration with staff from the Indonesia team of Fauna & Flora International (FFI) have helped to shed new light on a plant that has captured the imagination of scientists and amateur enthusiasts alike since it was first identified as a new species.

For BBKSDA and FFI, the story began in 2016, when a team conducting a routine biological survey in the forests of Waigeo – a remote island in West Papua – stumbled on a blue orchid. It is thought to be the first time that this species (scientific name *Dendrobium azureum*) has been documented in the wild.

TRUE BLUE

True blue orchids represent the holy grail for orchid aficionados everywhere, because very few of these flowers are blue in their natural state. Hardly anything is known about the population, distribution and life cycle of this particular species, beyond the fact that it is found only on Waigeo. With this in mind, West Papua BBKSDA recently undertook a series of follow-up surveys in the East Waigeo Nature Reserve, with the specific aim of searching for more blue orchids on the island.

Collecting data on the blue orchid habitat in East Waigeo Nature Reserve.

Credit: Yanuar Ishaq DC/Fauna & Flora International



With support from members of the local Mayalibit Bay community and FFI staff, the BBKSDA-led survey team recorded almost 80 rare plants, including a number of endemic species. And, as the images here attest, their blue orchid quest was a fruitful one.

According to Budi Mulyanto, Acting Head of West Papua BBKSDA, the success of the latest botanical expeditions has added to our understanding about the taxonomy, ecology and biogeography of the species and, in the process, made a vital contribution to its conservation.

“The rediscovery of *Dendrobium azureum* is an important part of efforts to protect Raja Ampat's forests, which are also home to other unique wildlife. From the exploration, we gained knowledge of what treasure we have, and the amount of effort needed to conserve it. Therefore, multi-stakeholder collaboration is the future key to preserve this forest wilderness.”

-Budi Mulyanto, Acting Head of West Papua BBKSDA



One of the rare blue orchids found growing as an epiphyte on a small tree. Credit: Yanuar Ishaq DC/Fauna & Flora International

RED REVIEW

Yanuar Ishaq DC, a member of FFI's Indonesia team who accompanied the expedition and photographed the orchid, believes that the plant's status on the IUCN Red List merits a reappraisal: “This endemic species has a narrow distribution within a specific habitat, and a population of fewer than 100 individuals in the wild. With this valuable information, it can be proposed to change the conservation status from ‘Not Evaluated’ to ‘Critically Endangered’ so that future protection efforts will increase, based on scientific evidence, and with enforceable regulations. Every kind of living thing in an ecosystem is valuable, and we don't want to lose any of them.”



The recent discoveries are merely the latest chapter in the remarkable saga of *Dendrobium azureum*, which began almost a century ago. The central character is the intrepid Evelyn Cheesman, who relinquished her role as an English governess to study entomology in the 1920s before embarking on a series of solo expeditions to remote locations, including New Guinea and – you've guessed it – Waigeo.

The stunning blue orchid in all its glory.
Credit: Yanuar Ishaq DC/Fauna & Flora International

THE LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS

Known by the Indigenous peoples she encountered as ‘the woman who walks’ and ‘the lady of the mountains’, the former governess found that the hills were alive with the sight of orchids. Cheesman recorded and collected numerous species unknown to the outside world. These included a blue orchid found on the summit of an extinct volcano, Mount Nok, which was among the specimens subsequently bequeathed to the Natural History Museum in London.



*View of Mount Nok, in East Waigeo Nature Reserve.
Credit: Fibrian Yusefa Ardi*

Fast forward to 2013, when Dr André Schuiteman, an orchid expert at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, unearthed a collection of unnamed *Dendrobium* orchids in a storage drawer at the museum. They included two specimens labelled ‘Orchid growing on trees; flowers deep sky blue’ – enough information for Schuiteman to suspect that he was looking at an undescribed species. Further close examinations and careful comparisons confirmed his initial impression. He named the new orchid *Dendrobium azureum*.

PARADISE ISLAND

Waigeo is the largest of the 1,500 islands and islets that make up the remote and biologically rich Raja Ampat archipelago. Due to its geological isolation, the island is a hotbed of evolution that has given rise to the kind of species richness described by Charles Darwin as ‘endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful’.

The island is renowned among ornithologists as the home of the stunning Wilson’s bird of paradise and the quirky Waigeo brush turkey, as well as exotic marsupials such as the Waigeo spotted cuscus. The presence of the blue orchid merely adds to the mystique of this extraordinary haven of biodiversity.



But this azure jewel is by no means the only botanical marvel endemic to this remote paradise. Unique forms of rhododendron, myrtle, soapberry and pitcher plant have also been found on Waigeo, hinting at the existence of other, as yet undiscovered, rarities. FFI is supporting our in-country partners to help ensure that these priceless forests receive the protection they so richly merit.

*Wilson’s bird of paradise is endemic to the rainforests of Waigeo and Batanta, West Papua.
Credit: Bjorn Olesen*

OFFERING ORCHID AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTS FROM CHINA

Ms. Wenqing Perner, of Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology (mainland China) is an exporter of orchids and ornamental plants to the U.S. She is offering the following items for sale in the U.S. **Please note the deadline for placing orders is September 20th**. Place your order ASAP as some items on the attached list are limited in quantity. For more information you may reach her at the links below.

Email: info@hengduanbiotech.com

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wenqing.perner/>

Dear Friends and Customers,

Please find attached our price list for our fall 2022 USA delivery. We plan to ship in late Oct. or early Nov. from China to the USA. After clearance, they will be shipped to San Francisco, CA and repackaged into individual orders. This takes up to an additional week. Please note, due to the strict COVID control situation in China, there might be shipping delays to the US.

We strongly recommend de-flasking your orchids upon receipt as they usually get quite jumbled in shipping, and sometimes the integrity of the sterile seal is also compromised.

Ordering:

Fill in the attached excel spread sheets and return to Wenqing at info@hengduanbiotech.com. Wenqing will follow up with a confirmation on availability, prices and estimated postage/shipping cost. This will be the amount due. Note we may need to bill you for additional postage costs depending on the service you select and individual packaging needs (e.g., large plants, need for insulated packaging, heat packs etc).

Paying by check or Paypal:

Make CHECKS payable to Wenging Perner (note, there is no "u" after the "q". Please make out the check properly as Citibank will not allow deposits unless the name is exactly correct).

Mail to Wenqing Perner

c/o Mary Gerritsen

541 Parrott Drive

San Mateo, CA 94402

Send PAYPAL payments to sales@hengduanbiotech.com. Please add 5% to your total to cover Paypal's international fees.

Shipping:

Please select USPS Priority Express (1-2 day service), UPS, or Fedex for shipping. Once we have the USPS Priority Express shipping costs (determined at the post office) we will add any additional costs to your invoice and ask that you pay them either by an additional check or Paypal. If you have a UPS or FEDEX account, please provide your account information when placing your order. On the form, please indicate choice of shipping and your account will be billed accordingly.

International Transport and Handling costs:

There is a \$4 international transport and handling fee. The maximum is \$60 US for 15 or more plants.

Pre-order form:

Please include your email, shipping address and contact phone number. Once shipment arrives you will be notified of an approximate deliver date.

Thank you for your business!

Wenqing Perner

Click here for:

[Orchids Order Form](#)
[Ornamental Plant Form](#)

• THE AOS CORNER •



Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton

Orchid related questions, answered by AOS experts.

Click [here](#) to watch now.

Note the specific times below if you wish to watch or listen to those topics.

- 00:44 Mealybugs and alcohol
- 03:04 Growing under lights air movement, watering and light time cycle
- 10:18 Phalaenopsis overwatering and saving the plant
- 16:20 Orchid labels and what they mean
- 23:32 Botrytis and thrips
- 28:28 Mounted orchids on trees
- 31:04 Phalaenopsis leaf damage
- 34:21 Sunburned leaves
- 43:17 Phalaenopsis reblooming
- 47:26 Fertilizer storage
- 51:21 Fascinated flower double bloom
- 54:24 Cutting the spikes
- 59:34 Using Nutricoat on orchids
- 1:02:39 Orthene and how to use it

Seasonal Orchid Care September/October

Click [here](#) for Checklist

Organizing orchid culture and its chores by season is a convenient way to make sure that your orchids get the proper care at the right time. Becoming in tune with your plants' growth cycles creates a connection with the natural world and makes you a better grower.

Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

Officers

President	Dina Deresh	dinad@massorchid.org
Vice President	TBD	
Past President	Brandt Moran	brandtm@massorchid.org
Secretary	Brandt Moran	brandtm@massorchid.org
Treasurer	Amanda Larson	amandal@massorchid.org

Directors

Linda Abrams	lindaa@massorchid.org
Mike Badia	mikeb@massorchid.org
Emily Dewsnap	emilyd@massorchid.org
Ralph DiFonzo	ralphd@massorchid.org
Anne Pfaff	annep@massorchid.org
Alexis Victor	alexisv@massorchid.org

Committee Chairs

AOS Trustee	Howard Bronstein	
AOS Representative	Brigitte Fortin	aosrep@massorchid.org
Conservation	Robert Hesse	conservation@massorchid.org
Social Media	Emily Dewsnap	emilyd@massorchid.org
Technology	Ralph DiFonzo	ralphd@massorchid.org
Hospitality Committee	Karyn Stewart	karyns@massorchid.org
Library	Open	librarian@massorchid.org
Membership	Ralph DiFonzo	ralphd@massorchid.org
Newsletter Editor	Anne Pfaff	newsletter@massorchid.org
Speaker Program		
Orchid Digest		
Representative	Brigitte Fortin	orchiddigestrep@massorchid.org

Orchid Show

Ralph DiFonzo	
Brigitte Fortin	show@massorchid.org

Orchid Show Program

Meg Bright-Ryan	program@massorchid.org
-----------------	--

Show Table

Mike Badia	mike@massorchid.org
Linda Abrams	lindaa@massorchid.org