



Central Ohio Orchid Society
Reporter



Newsletter Editor: Katrina Heap

September 2015

September Meeting

**Kristen Uthus of New World Orchids –
Travelogue of her recent trip to the Tokyo Grand Prix International Orchid Show
& she'll discuss the culture of Japanese orchids**

Thursday, Sept 17, 2015

Meeting starts 8:00 p.m. @ Franklin Park Conservatory

Beginner's Corner is 7:30-8pm

Our speaker this month will be Dr Kristen Uthus. Kristen studied both plant and animal ecology and evolution at Virginia Commonwealth University and The Ohio State University. She has taught biology and ecology at several Colleges including the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University. She has been growing orchids for over 20 years, but recently fulfilled a lifelong dream to make orchids a full-time commitment by going into business with Dr. Glenn Lehr at New World Orchids. Although she enjoys growing many varieties of orchids and other plants, New World specializes in Japanese species including *Neofinetia falcata*, *Dendrobium moniliforme*, and *Sederia japonica* as well as Asian *Cymbidium* species. Kristen is supported in these pursuits by her husband, Dr. Kevin Wehrly, her two sons, Henry and Gus, and a veritable menagerie of loving animals.

Her topic will be a travelogue of her most recent visit to the Tokyo Grand Prix orchid show, along with some culture of Japanese orchids. Japanese orchids are not typical in the orchid world. Kristen will speak about what makes these orchids stand out in a crowd.

New World Orchids was founded by Dr. Glenn Lehr and his wife, Maria over 20 years ago. Located in Manchester, MI, NWO specializes in Japanese orchids, especially *Neofinetia (Vanda) falcata*, *Dendrobium moniliforme*, *Sederia japonica*, and Asian *Cymbidiums*. Glenn was recently joined by Dr. Kristen Uthus who is working to maintain NWO's reputation for excellent plants as well as knowledgeable and personalized service.

Kristen will be bringing plants for sale as well as taking pre-orders. For more information, visit their website ([New World Orchids](http://NewWorldOrchids.com)) or their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/newworldorchids).

We aren't sure if she'll make it in for the pre-meeting "Meet and Greet" dinner but I'll send out an update once I hear something.

President's Message

A Change of Seasons

Elections are upon us, and are on my mind; the changing of the guard.

I will be putting down the gavel soon. Someone else will step into the President's spot and I will hand over the reins to another and move to the backbench on the board as 'Immediate Past President' .

What have I learned in the past two years? What have I learned in the past ten, twenty, thirty years?

For me, COOS is 'home'. Another family. It will always be dear to me, and I will always care about its welfare, and each and every member. We all have something to contribute, something to share. It IS a family of sorts, a place where we can share endlessly about our obsession with orchids and no-one gets bored or annoyed hearing us gush about them. No one says 'stop'.

Our little family must grow to survive. I said it at the beginning of my term almost two years ago, and again this past January. Other times, too. We need new members. Members are the lifeblood of this great thing of ours, COOS. It has been a family to those like us for almost sixty years now. I was four years old when it was founded, and had no idea how important to me it would one day be.

Go out and grab some new members. Interest some new people in COOS. Bring them to meetings. Show them your plants, your flowers. Start that fire in them that we all share.

And once I have shed the mantle and duties of President, I will have more time to do what I enjoy: grow orchids and mingle, share, and talk about them with all our members. Without someone tugging on this sleeve about one thing, someone else tugging on the other sleeve with more important COOS business, without my name being called from across the room by several different people while I'm trying to look at - or talk to someone about - yes - orchids.

I hope you'll all stay, come back next year and bring new friends, new members, to share with me - with all of us.

Let's make this little 'family' thrive.

Sincerely,

Tennis Maynard,
President

2014/2015 COOS Board Members

Term of Officers – January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015

President:	Tennis Maynard	
1 st Vice President:	Bill Cavanaugh	Program Chair
2 nd Vice President:	Dave Markley	Home Show Chair
3 rd Vice President:	Ken Mettler	Away Show Chair
Secretary:	Justin Pepperney	Recorder
Assistant Secretary:	Katrina Heap	Newsletter Editor
Treasurer:	Edna Markley	Collect/Disburse Monies
Assistant Treasurer:	Tom Bell-Games	Membership Chair

Immediate Past Pres Tom Franczak

COOS Trustees

Term of Office Expires December 31st of year shown

Lori Baldwin	2015
Eileen Ansley	2015
Screll Jones	2017
Elly Campbell	2017

2015 COOS Calendar

General Meetings –

Sept 17th Kristen Uthus of New
World Orchids

Oct 8th Hadley Cash of Marriott
Orchids

Nov 19th Potluck Dinner

Board Meetings –Board meetings will be held the second Tuesday of odd numbered months. 7:00- 8pm and there is only one left this year – Nov 9th. All members are welcome to observe.

Hospitality

We need volunteers, folks! Please email or call Terry and Sandra and let them know where and when you can help out.

Sept – Screll Jones – we need 2 more people!

Oct – Suzanne Cavazos – again, we need 2 more people!

Culture Corner

Courtesy of the Ameican Orchid Society website:
Because we are going into the fall/winter months...

Orchid Nutrition for Winter

By Susan Jones

Planning for the optimum health and blooms of your orchids through winter and into spring is as important as their day-to-day care. Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can boost their resistance to damage from pests, disease and winter temperatures in the coming months

Overall Health

Orchids will fare better in encounters with pests, diseases and temperature extremes if they are in a good state of overall health. A plant suffering from under or over-fertilizing, or stressed from lack of water is much more likely to be injured by any additional strain.

Orchids grown under less than ideal conditions are more likely to be a target for infection or infestation. Make an extra effort now to get plants and their greenhouse or growing area in good shape for the shorter, darker days ahead by removing old foliage, weeds and dying flowers. An autumn cleanup can minimize or prevent the pest and disease problems that can crop up in the darker and more crowded conditions that often characterize the winter growing area.

Fertilizer - © Greg Allikas

Winter nutritional practices differ from those of the active growing season.



General Nutrition

Light levels and temperatures begin to fall at this time of year, and your orchids' nutritional needs change accordingly. Orchid growers can take the following steps now to help prepare their collection for optimal health through the months ahead.

If your orchids will winter outdoors, fertilizing properly can help them resist cold, insect and disease damage, as well as give them two to three additional degrees of cold resistance. This can mean the difference between a dead orchid and an unscathed plant or one that just loses a few leaves.

Use a fertilizer low in nitrogen (which should be nitrate nitrogen, not urea nitrogen) and high in potassium; the numbers on the label should read something like 10-5-20. Watering and fertilizing should be reduced in frequency for the cooler autumn season, and orchids that bloom during the winter and into spring should be given a couple of doses of blossom booster in October and November; bloom boosters should have a higher middle number, such as 10-50-10.

Ideally, this change in fertilizer should start by mid-November and continue through the end of January. This regime will sacrifice plant growth in December and January in favor of plant protection, but it can help keep the plant healthier overall.

Some growers recommend using Dyna-Gro Pro-TeKt (0-0-3), a liquid nutritional potassium-silicon supplement for plants. The product is supposed to improve heat and drought tolerance in orchids, as well as boosting their resistance to pests, disease and environmental stress.

Specific Genera

Seasonal nutritional needs differ among various orchid genera, and may diverge still further depending on local climatic conditions in disparate geographic regions. The following guidelines may require modification to accommodate individual growing conditions.

Cattleya Watering and fertilizing frequency should be reduced, as the plants dry out more slowly in the cooler temperatures and shorter days. Bud sheaths may yellow at this time of year as temperature fluctuations can cause water to condense inside the sheath. Should you notice condensation in the sheath, it should be opened or removed to allow the developing buds adequate air circulation and prevent bud blast caused by rots. Simply slit open the sheath and carefully peel it down toward the pseudobulb, exercising caution so as not to damage the delicate bud primordia within.

Dendrobium Autumn and winter needs vary according to the species or hybrid parentage in this diverse genus. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* hybrids will benefit from a fertilizer with a low nitrogen formula for optimal flowering. The leaves of *Dendrobium nobile* types and their hybrids begin to yellow and drop at this time of year in preparation for their winter dormancy. Plants should be given plenty of light and good air circulation and kept dry from November through February. Mist occasionally if their canes become overly shriveled.

Paphiopedilum Generally, these do not require a great deal of fertilizer. This is especially important with the cooler-growing bulldog types to reduce nitrogen levels at this time of year for best flowering. (Bulldog *Paphiopedilum*s have plain green leaves as opposed to the mottled-leaf types. One of the best-known bulldog-type hybrids is *Paphiopedilum Winston Churchill*.) Watch for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath or for late-season warm spells, as either can rot the sheath and destroy the developing inflorescence. While *Paphiopedilum*s should not be allowed to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced in the cooler days. Overwatering can cause root rot or *Erwinia* problems.

Phalaenopsis Growth slows and inflorescences begin to appear. Reduce watering and fertilizing frequency, and apply a bloom-boosting fertilizer. Many growers also recommend applications of epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) to *Phalaenopsis* at this time of year to prevent yellowing and loss of lower leaves and to enhance blooming.

Once buds are evident on the inflorescences, keep temperatures and humidity consistent to prevent bud drop. *Phalaenopsis* grown in the greenhouse are especially prone to bud blast in February and early March, when the heat is still coming on at night and the greenhouse temperatures rise during the day.

Vanda Aside from *Neofinetia falcata*, vandaceous orchids generally do not tolerate autumn and winter's cooler temperatures (below 60° F [16° C]) well and need to be carefully protected from chills. Vandaceous orchids still need as much light as possible as the days become shorter and light levels fall. Reduce the frequency of fertilizing and watering to accommodate the slower growth period they are entering. Starting the first week of October, Julie Rosenberg at R.F. Orchids in Homestead, Florida, recommends feeding vandaceous genera a blossom booster fertilizer exclusively, once a week for four to six weeks, at 1 teaspoon per gallon of water (15 ml to 3.8 l), with normal watering between. In November, begin fertilizing every other week, using a balanced 20-20-20 fertilizer at 1 teaspoon per gallon (15 ml to 3.8 l), substituting bloom booster every fourth feeding.

Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can mean happier, healthier and more productive plants year round.

Susan Jones was the editor of Awards Quarterly and assistant editor of Orchids. American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33446

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Upcoming Orchid Shows

We have some upcoming shows and need volunteers for set up/tear down. If you can help with either (or both!) locations, please contact Ken Mettler as soon as possible. Ken can be reached at 740 380-3509

- Kentucky Orchid Society show is September 26-27 (set up is on the 25th) in Louisville, KY
- Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society fall show is October 24-25 (set up is on the 23rd) at the Krohn Conservatory in Cincinnati.