

# M ORCHID S

A newsletter for the members of the Maryland Orchid Society



September 2006

## president's message

Dear MOS Friends,

Welcome to another year of Maryland Orchid Society activities, meetings and events. I hope you and your orchids survived another hot summer in the mid-Atlantic region and that you are ready to bloom on!

Our meeting dates this year are listed on page two of this newsletter – please save it! We will remind you monthly of the next meeting's date and speaker but you can also put the schedule on your calendar now. Plan to bring your blooming plants for the Show Table, participate in the NCOS (National Capital Orchid Society) and SOS (Susquehanna Orchid Society) shows, help with the auction, work at the MOS show in early March and learn more about orchids.

Valerie Lowe will continue to chair the Away Shows committee with the help of new director Eric Wiles. They will have a busy October with show set-ups on October 5 at NCOS and October 26 for SOS. If you have a good-looking plant to loan for either show, please label it with *its* name and *your* name and drop it off at The Little Greenhouse or contact Valerie for other drop-off points.

Our annual Auction of new and "used" orchids will take place on Saturday, November 25 at the Ellicott City Armory. Gary Smith, Aaron Webb and Bill Ellis are working on the auction as I write, making improvements and rounding up plants. They would appreciate hearing from anyone who wants to help! If you have divided orchids this summer and want to donate some to the auction, please let them know ahead of time. Plan to come, bid and take home some terrific plants. (Some of my best plants came from the auction.)

Although it seems like a long time away, the annual MOS Orchid Show and Sale, scheduled for March 7-11, 2007 will be here before we know it. Put the dates on your calendar and join in the



fun. Bill Scharf is our Show chair and will be having the first Show Committee meeting shortly.

Finally, in order to do all of the things we have scheduled, we need members. Use the form on page 5 to renew your membership or bring the form to the September meeting.

Ann Lundy

## Tom McBride to Present Past Year's Show Table Results at September Meeting

Tom McBride, our Show Table chair, an AOS judge and our resident orchid guru, will present the Show Table cumulative results from 2005-2006 at our September meeting. If you wondered what Tom does with all of those pieces of paper we fill out when we put a plant on the Show Table, he will tell you at this meeting! Find out who earned the most points/won the most ribbons in each class over the past year, pick out seedlings if you earned points by winning ribbons or bringing plants to put on the Show Table – and collect money if you earned lots of points!

This meeting always whets our appetite for more, bigger or better plants and starts off the year with an enthusiastic scramble for new plants to add to our collections. Tom will also talk about what the Show Table judges are looking for each month and how to improve your chances of winning a ribbon.

The auction table this month will have, in addition to plants in bloom, an "instant auction" of cork bark, tree fern mounts and pots and assorted plastic pots and accessories. We will also be auctioning a large format book of orchid paintings. Come early to buy, stay late to bid!

# show table > june 2006

## Novice

1. Paph. (*philippinense* x Emerald) - Don Forester
2. Phal. Hybrid - Marilyn Lauffer

## Home Grown

1. Den. *laevifolium* - Bill Scharf
  2. tie Den. Bonanza 'Okayama' - Chris Zajac
- Phal. Hybrid - Phuong Tran
3. tie Phal. American Dreams - Jim Clever
- Dtps. Murray's Quest 'Harford' HCC/AOS - Lorie Lee-Young

## Greenhouse Under 200 Square Feet

1. Ascda. Butterfly - Barbara Buck
2. Paph. Hybrid - Lou Vadorsky

## Greenhouse Over 200 Square Feet

1. Lyc. *aromatica* - Cy Swett
2. Phrag. Dominicanum 'Gloria Ann' AM/AOS - Marty Vittek
3. Phrag. Court Jester 'The Clown' HCC/AOS - David Smith

## Cattleya Alliance

1. Pot. Haw Yuan Gold 'Yung Kang #2' - Michael Moran
2. C. (Princess Bells x *walkeriana*) - Cy Swett
3. Enc. *cochleata* - Marty Vittek

## Phalaenopsis Alliance

1. Dtps. Huey-Join Chang x Phal. (Flower Maid x Striped Prince) - Marty Vittek
  2. Phal. Mystic Golden Leopard 'Cheetah' - The Adams
  3. tie Dtps. Little Gem Stripes 'Stars' - Jim Clever
- Phal. Rio Candy x Dtps. City Girl - Phuong Tran

## Oncidium Alliance

1. Milt. Hajime Ono - Michael Moran
2. Colm. Wildcat 'White Cat' - Barry Woolf
3. Brsdm. Hybrid - Eric Wiles

## Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

1. Phrag. *caudatum* 'Regal Bearing' AM/AOS - David Smith
2. Paph. Angela - The Lundys
3. Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz - Barry Woolf

## Miscellaneous Hybrids

1. V. Robert's Delight 'Crownfox Big Red' FCC/AOS - Barry Woolf
2. Blptm. Midnight Blue - Eric Wiles
3. Den. Nora Tokunaga - David Smith

## reminder

If you have not done so already, now is the time to renew your MOS membership. Fees are \$20 per household and should be made out to the Maryland Orchid Society. For your convenience please fill out the membership form on page 5 and send it along with your payment to the Maryland Orchid Society, P.O. Box 5651, Baltimore, Maryland 21210. Thank you for supporting the MOS.

## Species

1. Bulb. *lobbi* 'Kathy's Gold' AM/AOS - Marty Vittek
  2. Rhy. *coelestis* - Jim Clever
  3. tie Paph. *niveum* - The Lundys
- Anct. *burmanniaca* - Val Lowe

## Miniature

1. Chsch. *viridiflava* - Michael Moran
  2. tie Neof. *falcata* f. *variegata* 'Harford' - Marty Vittek
- Phal. *parishii* #2 - David Smith
3. Ngl. *purpurea* - The Woolfs

## First Bloom Seedling

1. Paph. Saint Swithin - The Woolfs
2. Paph. (James Bacon x Greyi) - Jim Clever
3. Ren. *monachica* - Marty Vittek

## Fragrance

1. Phal. Ember 'Carmela' AM/AOS - The Lundys
2. Enc. *radiata* - Cy Swett

The Judges Choice of the Evening was Bulb. *lobbi* 'Kathy's Gold' AM/AOS, exhibited by Marty Vittek. The Judges were Patti Kelt, Steve Adams, and Valerie Lowe. There were 107 plants on the show table!

## calendar for 2006-2007

September 21, 2006	MOS monthly meeting
October 5, 2006	NCOS Show display set-up at the National Arboretum
October 7-9, 2006	NCOS Show and Sale at the National Arboretum
October 12, 2006	MOS Board Meeting at Lorie Lee-Young's
October 19, 2006	MOS monthly meeting
October 26, 2006	SOS Show display set-up in Harrisburg, PA
October 27-29, 2006	SOS Show and Sale in Harrisburg, PA
November 16, 2006	MOS monthly meeting
November 25, 2006	MOS Orchid Auction at the Armory in Ellicott City
December 21, 2006	MOS monthly meeting
January 11, 2007	MOS Board Meeting at Ann and Lee Lundy's
January 18, 2007	MOS monthly meeting
February 15, 2007	MOS monthly meeting
March 7-11, 2007	MOS Show and Sale at the Maryland Home and Garden Show in Timonium
March 15, 2007	MOS monthly meeting
April 12, 2007	MOS Board Meeting
April 19, 2007	MOS monthly meeting
May 17, 2007	MOS monthly meeting
June 21, 2007	MOS monthly meeting
July 12, 2007	MOS Board Meeting

# board meeting minutes

July 11, 2006

**Members in attendance** : Ann & Lee Lundy, David & Margaret Smith, Steve & Rachel Adams, Lou & Barbara Buck, Amy & Barry Woolf, Lorie Lee-Young, Aaron Webb, Eric Wiles, Hilda Sukman, Bill Ellis, Peter Robinson, Yuko Ota, Valerie Lowe, Tom McBride, Marty Vittek, Cy Swett, Gary Smith

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm. Minutes from the last board meeting were approved.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The MOS is financially stable. The treasurer and controller are updating the checking account and other funds that the society has and a full report will be given at the next meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Auction** – Gary Smith announced new co-chairs - Bill Ellis and Aaron Webb. A budget request was submitted and reviewed. A motion was made and the budget was approved.

**Away Show** - Valerie Lowe. There will be 2 away shows this year – SOS and NCOS. Plants are needed for the MOS display, please contact Valerie if you have plants in bloom to lend.

**Program** – Barry Woolf has declined to take program chair position but will work on speakers for the fall. Mark Robbins will be returning in September and the society will ask that he continue to be the program chair. Tom McBride will provide Barry with a list of potential speakers from the AOS Philadelphia judging region. Our September speaker will be Tom McBride.

**Spring Show** – Ann reported that there is a tentative date for the show committee meeting in early August. March 7-11, 2007 is the date for the spring show.

**Newsletter** – A paper copy of the newsletter will go out in September. As of October the newsletter will be sent out electronically. Articles are welcome, please send them to Laura Sobelman.

**Education** – David Smith announced that Eric Wiles has offered to help with the education committee.

**Show Table** – Tom McBride submitted a show table budget for the coming year. A motion was made to approve the budget with an increase in the amount of money for seedlings – budget was approved.

Aaron Webb will take over monthly meeting auction box.

**Library** – Anne Minkowski is the new committee chair. Bill Ellis will join the Library committee. Members should speak to Anne if there are suggestions as to what books they would like to see in the MOS library.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Reimbursement Policy** for mileage was discussed and reimbursement at the IRS mileage rate was approved for Away, Program and Auction chairs, or their designees, with a limit of \$300 per year.

**Sunshine committee** – A motion was made to abolish the Sunshine committee and let the President take over sending cards, etc. Motion was denied. MOS will keep the Sunshine committee.

**Committee budgets** - Committee chairs (ie: education, library, newsletter, etc.) have been asked to submit a proposed budget for the coming year. The budget requests are due by October.

**Donations** – The board had approved at a prior meeting to donate \$2000 to AOS in memory of Merritt Huntington, \$250 to ODC in memory of Merritt. AOS has not made plans as at what they will do in memory of Merritt, therefore MOS has not made the donation.

MOS will make a donation of \$200 to AOS in memory of Pete Lynch for the AOS slide scanning project. Pete's wife will be notified of the donation.

Motion was made to donate \$200 to NCOS judging region. Motion approved.

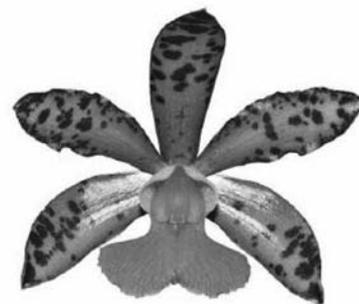
**AOS** - Bill Ellis is our new AOS representative.

The next board meeting will be October 12, 2006 – Thursday 7:30pm at Lorie Lee-Young's house. All Board and other Society meetings are open to the membership. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 10 pm.

The National Capital Orchid Society  
presents

## Orchids for Everyone!



### 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Orchid Show & Sale

Come Join Us and Enjoy the Beauty of Orchids!  
Free Admission!

\* Free copy - 60 page "Guide to  
Growing Orchids"

\* Lectures and workshops on home  
orchid growing

**October 7-9**  
Sat 9am-6:30 pm  
Sun 10am-5pm  
Mon 10am-3pm

US National Arboretum  
24<sup>th</sup> and R St., NE  
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Directions: [www.usna.usda.gov](http://www.usna.usda.gov) or  
202-245-2726 Information: [www.ncos.us](http://www.ncos.us)

# Neem Oil

By Susan Jones

One of Nature's Pesticides



**THE NEEM TREE** (*AZADIRACHTA indica*; also known as indian lilac or margosa) probably originated in India or Burma. Neem is a large, fast-growing evergreen that can reach approximately 40 to 80 feet (12 to 24 m) in height. The tree is drought resistant and heat tolerant, and may live up to 200 years. It grows in many Asian countries, as well as tropical areas of the western hemisphere. Neem oil, which is extracted from the tree's seeds, has been used for its medicinal and

above Naturally occurring compounds found in the neem tree, both its leaves and seeds, have been utilized for their valued insecticidal and insect-repellent properties for thousands of years.

insecticidal properties for more than 4,000 years.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR HUMANS

Since ancient times, man has utilized neem products for their pest-repellent properties. Neem has been shown to ward off sand flies and mosquitoes,

aiding in control of the spread of diseases such as malaria. Neem oil has been used to treat lice and scabies, and tea brewed from the leaf of the tree employed as a termite control. Neem leaves placed in the pockets of woolen clothing are said to fend off moths; added to stored grains and beans, they help keep insects out. Neem products are included in some dog soaps and shampoos to repel fleas and ticks, and used as a cattle-feed supplement to kill parasites. The application of neem derivatives to bags and stored grains provides safe and relatively inexpensive protection against insect pests, fungus and even rats, reducing post-harvest losses in developing countries.

Uses for the tree include wood used for cooking fuel, firewood and for housing material, and neem twigs have been used as toothbrushes. Neem oil is burned as fuel for lamps, as well as added to soap, toothpaste, tooth powder and mouthwash. Finally, neem leaves were used in the earliest societies in India to exorcise the spirits of the dead.

GREG ALLIKAS

**MEDICINAL USES** Neem-tree products have been used for medicinal purposes for thousands of years. Its antiseptic, antimicrobial, analgesic, antipyretic, anti-inflammatory and antihistaminic effects have been harnessed for medical applications such as relieving the symptoms of psoriasis and ulcers, reducing the insulin requirements for some diabetics, fighting cancer, malaria, heart disease and the AIDS virus, male and female birth control, treatment of cuts, rashes, and chicken pox, infections, worms, fever, hemorrhage, piles, dressing wounds, bedsores, varicose veins, eye diseases, jaundice, poisoning, fumigation and even gray hair.

**INSECTICIDAL PROPERTIES** Neem is considered harmless to humans, animals, birds, beneficial insects and earthworms, and has been approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency for use on food crops. Azadirachtin and other active ingredients in the neem seed have insecticidal properties that are effective against a broad spectrum of insects, many mites and nematodes, and even snails and

#### LINKS

<http://www.neemfoundation.org/index1.htm>

This is an extensive Web site with links to just about every type of information about neem one could possibly wish for, including therapeutic, environmental, pest management, fertilizer and organic farming uses and much more.

<http://www.siu.edu/~eb1/leaflets/neem.htm>

"The Neem Tree: The Village Pharmacy," by Loetitia S. Lilot, provides an interesting look at mankind's uses for neem products through history. This article was excerpted from the Southern Illinois University Carbondale/Ethnobotanical Leaflets, and appears on the University's Web site.

*continued on next page*

fungi, and do not seem to generate resistance in the pests they affect.

Neem products do not provide absolute insect control, but frequent applications can reduce pest populations dramatically by repelling them; inhibiting their larval development, growth, fertility, mating and egg laying, and deterring feeding. A solution of neem oil smothers insect pests and has antifungal properties as well — the oil coats the plant's surface and prevents the germination of fungal spores. Neem oil can also be used as a safe, natural leaf polish.

**APPLYING NEEM** A recipe for a neem-oil foliar-spray solution suggested by growers is as follows:

Mix 1 teaspoon (5 ml) of neem oil and ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) of a gentle, plant-safe liquid dish soap (as a spreader and sticker for the oil) to 1 quart (.9 l) of warm water, or 4 teaspoons (20 ml) of neem oil and 2 teaspoons (10 ml) of liquid dish soap to 1 gallon (3.8 l) of water. A 50:50 solution of isopropyl alcohol and warm water can be substituted for plain water.

Shake the solution intermittently during application to keep the ingredients well mixed. Because the oil smothers insect pests, be sure to completely cover all plant surfaces for maximum effectiveness. Some sources indicate that the mixture begins to break down after eight hours, so a fresh batch should be used at every application. The insect-controlling properties of neem lose effectiveness over time, especially in warmer temperatures, and may be washed off during watering or by rainfall, so repeat sprayings at weekly to biweekly intervals are needed to control successive generations of pests. In addition, it is useful to keep up manual removal of bugs as part of the control regime.

**PRECAUTIONS** Oil solutions should never be applied to plants during hot weather (85 F [29 C] or warmer) or in direct sunlight. To prevent burning of tissues, treated plants should be shaded until the application is dry. Another consideration is avoiding strong or excessive amounts of detergent or use of ammonia-based cleaners, as these may damage your plants, especially sensitive parts like buds and flowers. This is particularly true of soaps that could remove natural protective waxes from plant tissues. One source suggests that the flowers

of some orchids, such as *Miltonia* and *Masdevallia* species, may be sensitive to neem oil. Horticultural oils, including neem, can also affect bees if it contacts them — once the spray has settled it is no longer harmful.

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS** Most growers like to see insect pests drop dead right away. Although pesticides usually provide that instant gratification, their use contributes to the buildup of toxins in the



environment, can affect beneficial insects and generate populations of pests resistant to their effects. In addition, these chemicals are responsible for the accidental poisoning of humans, pets, livestock and wildlife populations.

As an option for ecologically friendly pest management, neem is non-toxic to humans, animals and beneficial insects. It is biodegradable, does not build up resistance in pests and is relatively inexpensive. For safety and health reasons alone, controls such as this may be the only option for indoor growers or those whose collections reside in or very close to their living area.

#### References

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- Golden Harvest Organics LLC, 2004. How safe is it? <http://www.ghorganics.com/NeemOil.html>.
- Johnson, Paul J. Mealybugs on Orchids. Insect Research Collection, South Dakota State University. [http://nat\\_hist.sdstate.edu/orchids/pests/mealybugs.htm](http://nat_hist.sdstate.edu/orchids/pests/mealybugs.htm).
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*membership renewal*

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Topics you would like covered in our meetings \_\_\_\_\_

Maryland Orchid Society, P.O. Box 5651, Baltimore, Maryland 21210. Thank you for supporting the MOS.

# Next General Meeting

September 21, 2006

7:00 pm Show table setup  
7:15 pm Beginners' corner  
7:30 pm Judging begins  
8:00 pm Meeting begins  
8:15 pm Program begins

The Maryland Orchid Society meets at the First Christian Church Hall, 5802 Roland Avenue, Baltimore MD.

## side note

Bill Soyke has several dozen yellow variety Bletilla orchid seed pods he is willing to bring to the next meeting if anyone is interested in trying to plate the seeds. These are hardy terrestrials with very long-lasting flowers which need full sun and winter over in your yard. Please see him at the next meeting if you are interested or email him at [Wsoyke@lifebridgehealth.org](mailto:Wsoyke@lifebridgehealth.org)

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