



*Memphis*

*Orchid Society*

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# Message from the President



**Bc. Hoku Gem 'Super Spots'**  
**Source: Melissa Garner**

Greetings All,

Once again fall has arrived bringing with it the extra chore of moving our pampered orchid collections indoors for a long winter nap. It's a bittersweet experience since many of them are in bud or flower and we do enjoy their beautiful blossoms. A few members have recently culled their collections due to space restrictions which brings the opportunity for some of us to increase our collections. So bring lots of money for the auctions this month and next to help support our society.

Our guest speaker for October is Rick Lockwood. The topic is "The Nutrients Your Orchids Need to Grow".

See you on Sunday

**Jimmy Harwell**  
**President**

# MOS 2015 OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT:**  
**VICE PRESIDENT & PROGRAMS:**  
**TREASURER:**  
**SECRETARY:**

**JIMMY HARWELL**  
**DAVID POTTS**  
**DEBRA BAKER**  
**OPEN**

**Other Volunteer Functions:**  
**HOSPITALITY SECRETARY:**  
**GREETERS & ORIENTATION:**  
**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**  
**WEBMASTER AND FACEBOOK:**  
**SOCIETY PHOTOGRAPHER:**  
**SHOW CHAIRS:**  
**PUBLICITY:**  
**AOS REPRESENTATIVE:**

**ELLEN WATSON**  
**BILL & NANCY DETLING**  
**RORY THEEUWES**  
**MELISSA GARNER**  
**MARCUS VALENTINE**  
**MARK MILLS**  
**KATHARINE PERRYMAN**  
**CHUCK PINTNER**

## MEMPHIS ORCHID SOCIETY 2015 CALENDAR

October	25	2:00	Richard Lockwood	Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee The Nutrients Your Orchids Need to Grow
November	22	2:00	Janet Lamborn	Agdia, Inc.
December	6	200	 <b>HOLIDAY PARTY</b>	

## **SPEAKER**



**Rick Lockwood**

Rick Lockwood is an environmental toxicologist for ENVIRON International, where he is a managing scientist for the aquatic toxicology division of the Nashville, Tennessee office. He has focused on salt (in particular, potassium) toxicity issues since 2005. His wife, Robin, rekindled his love of orchids in 2001, and has since been passionately pursuing the study of species orchid culture, breeding and conversation.

He is an active and past office holder of the Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee and a major contributor on the Slippertalk orchid forum. Slipper orchids are his favorite, but it took almost 10 years before he “got it right” to the point where he is achieving AOS awards with his favorite flowers.



**Blc. Fort Watson 'Blazing' grown and shared by Ken Lister  
Source: Carter & Holmes c/o Charles Pintner**

## September Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President Jimmy Harwell. Welcome to our visitors Pat and Rachel Dhority, Joann Glover, John Wessels, Carolyn Jones. We welcome our speaker Tom Harper who has brought in a wonderful selection of Phalaenopsis. Refreshments today are provided by Carlos Rivera, Don & Rory Theeuwes.

### **Announcements:**

The annual renewal to the Botanic Garden has been sent in and we have received 6 VIP passes which are available to the Membership.

David Potts announced that from Adrian Giles he has for sale Orchid mix. Adrian is closing his greenhouse (it measures 14 x 22) and has it for sale which includes the plants, heaters and fans for \$250.00. If you are interested please see David who also has pictures to view.

Mark Mills will be bringing plants for auction/sale from his collection and Adrian's. He will not be able to send out an advance list but there are Cattleya and Oncidium for sale. Bart Jones brought in 4 baggies of Pterostylis curta seedlings, please make a donation to the Society.

### **Show and Tell:**

Debra Baker – *Coelogyne fimbriata* 'mini', LC Wolterde, *Cattleya R. Prowe* (*C. intermedia* x *C. Suzanne Hye*), *Odontobrassia Summit* 'French Town'

Bart Jones – *Habenaria medusa*

Marcus Valentine – *Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica*

Hunter Shephard – *Oncidium Wildcat* 'Camela'

Ellen Watson – *Catasetum tenebrosum*, *Catasetum penang*, *ornithophora radicans*, *Barbosella handroi*

Leanne Burton chose:

First Place Bart Jones – *Habenaria medusa*

Second Place Marcus Valentine – *Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica*

Third Place Ellen Watson – *Catasetum tenebrosum*

Stopped for Refreshments.

[Type text]

MEMPHIS ORCHID SOCIETY

OCTOBER 25, 2015

Our speaker this month is Tom Harper of Stones River Orchids whose presentation is on Phalaenopsis Culture – Basic Survival Techniques. He has been growing orchids for 46 years. The following is his presentation. Right amount of water is number 1 to successful growing. Temperature, Light, Fertilizer, Humidity and Repotting. Also a Phalaenopsis in bloom can be made to bloom again on the same inflorescence.

- **Light** – East is the best, south is ok, west is ok but north is the worst. Watering – do not overwater, roots can rot and the plant dies. Allow to dry out between watering. Don't let a pot sit in water.
- **Fertilizer** – does not ensure the plant will bloom or grow. A nitrogen – phosphorus – potassium of 15-15-15 is ideal but you cannot find this. Michigan State 15-13-15 inorganic fertilizer is readily available. Organic fish emulsion, seaweed in really low rates (he adds together). Constant feeding of plants but do not overfeed.
- **Temperature** between 85-65. Leaf damage can occur if too cool. If this happens remove the leaf to stop any bacteria.
- **Air Movement** – should always keep fans going for air movement but not directly on plants, use indirect such as ceiling, walls & floor. - **Humidity** – also needed with 60% ideal. Humidity fluctuates day and night.

Phals mounted with a little moss can take more water when the roots are growing. Species of Phals have growing spurts, growth season then rest. For reblooming if the stem is green you can cut 1 – 2 nodes on the spike. Please note the flowers will be smaller and less in number. If the stem is brown then the blooming is over. Sometimes the plant will send out a new spike on its own.

**Diseases** – Mealy Bugs and Scales can be a problem and each will leave behind black waste which is sticky, they can also be seen. Techniques which are not very expensive; Tom keeps 3 bottles on hand of Hydrogen Peroxide 30% & Cinnamon (it is like an antibiotic), use when making cuts. He uses straight from the bottle, attached a sprayer head. Rubbing Alcohol 70% also straight from the bottle, attached a sprayer head, BUT do not spray the flowers. Horticultural Oil (petroleum base) 1 tsp per quart of water. Kills adult and retards eggs, you have to shake the bottle a lot. You can also use Neem Oil. Spray every 3 to 4 days, maybe up to 5 to 6 times to complete the bug cycle (bug/eggs/larva). Bayer Complete. Granular is also an option. Also use Sarfi, but very expensive (1 tsp to gallon water). DO NOT use this outside – suspected to killing bees. Use only in greenhouse. READ THE DIRECTIONS AND FOLLOW.

**Disease & Bacteria (Cultural)** – Sunken area on leaves cut the leaf off or dry the leaf then cut cross hatch marks, spray the hydrogen peroxide and sprinkle cinnamon. Keep the leaf dry. Remove dead roots when repotting. Bacteria soft rot: remove leaf as the disease can spread through the vascular system, spray with hydrogen peroxide it will dry up. If left it can kill the plant. If a plant get too hot or sunburn cell damage can also occur which can result in the bacteria occurring. If this happens do the same steps.

**Virus** – Worst case scenario. Be on lookout for damage on leaf could be a sign of cultural or virus.

**Temperature** – A 15 degree difference day/night temperatures for blooming – when the weather gets cooler make sure you water early (lightly), plants take cold better if on the dry side.

Tom uses rubber gloves while repotting. Disease can be spread by cutting tool and hands. Be sure and sterilize your cutting tool, he uses a small butane torch.

**Repotting** – Be sure and thoroughly water the plant before removing and after cleaning it. The moss technique is best when used with 6 inch pots or smaller. If larger pot needed use bark. After cleaning the roots from the moss or bark, be sure to cut dead roots, BUT repot in just 1 size larger. Roots want to be snug. This may be harder to get potting material in, just take your time and be careful. Use a wire or stake (sterilized). Whichever you prefer sphagnum moss (be sure you squeeze all the excess water out), firmly packed with no air pockets or bark (soak 12 – 24 hours then drain). Orchiata (Austrian Pine Bark) is very hard and breaks down slowly. Note if you see a new root you will see a new leaf or reverse, see new leaf, then there is a new root. Roots outside of pot – soak the roots for some time, this will allow you to bend the roots back inside the pot. Once repotted DO NOT WATER for at least a week, maybe 2 weeks. Give the roots time to heal so bacteria will not occur. If a root has a break (down to the interior line) go ahead and cut, more likely when you pot it may break. Long roots DO NOT CUT, leave them alone. Phal roots do not branch. Cattleya roots will branch when cut.

Once the growth slows down you can step down the fertilizing until the plants starts growing again. It has taken up all the fertilizer it needs to promote the spike. All flower buds are created in the first couple of inches.

Debra Baker  
Acting Recording Secretary



**Habenaria Regnieri grown and shared by Greg Uzar  
Source: Carter & Holmes c/o Charles Pintner**

## Visitor and Membership Report

We welcomed six visitors to our September meeting. Pat Dhority, her daughter Rachel Dhority, and Joann Glover said they had some Phalaenopsis and were especially interested in hearing Tom Harper's presentation on growing Phals. John Wessels said he had a growing mixed genera collection, and was trying to decide how he will manage them this winter—maybe a cart? Carolyn Jones has a few orchids, one of which she brought to the meeting, hoping for advice on her growing technique. She was delighted to find she is doing everything right! Sandy Peters has grown orchids for many years. Her husband was employed by Fed Ex, so they have moved many times, always taking the orchids with them. Sandy says growing orchids in Alaska was the most challenging. Now they are interested in doing more traveling and would like to reduce her collection. Since a lot of us will be bringing orchids in need of new homes to this next meeting, we hope Sandy can make it too. We'll do our best to find them loving homes.

See you all Sunday.

Bill and Nancy



**Congratulations to MOS member, Marcus Valentine.  
Awarded October 12, 2015 at the St. Louis, MO judging center.  
Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica var alba 'Mahvelously Yellow' 81pt AM/AOS; 88pt CCM/AOS.  
Source: Melissa Garner**

## **MOS Announcements:**

**Name Tag.** If you would like a Memphis Orchid Society Name Tag, the cost is \$8.00 for a pin tag and \$10.00 for a magnet tag. See Debra Baker

**Fertilizer** is now available at \$4.50 per bag. See Debra Baker

### **Holiday Party and 2016 Meetings**

It's already time to think about the holiday party, coming up on December 6! **Ellen Watson will bring the sign-up sheets for the party and for the 2016 meetings to the October meeting.**

## 2015 MOS REFRESHMENT VOLUNTEERS

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SWEETS</b>	<b>SAVORIES</b>	<b>DRINKS</b>
January 25	Nancy Detling	Cynthia Spangler & Ruth Williams	Randy Bayer
February 22	Fay LeVine	Doug Mallory	Andrea Price
March 22	Dixie Henderson	Mark Mills	David Potts
April 26	Sue Hall	Laura Evans	Marc Valentine
May	<b>SHOW – NO REGULAR MEETING</b>		
June 28	La Nelle Lindsey	Debra Baker	Ellen Watson
July 26	Emily Linn	Linda & George Bond	Hunter Shepard
August 23	Forrest Brem	Debra Baker	Judy Holzer
September 27	Emily Linn & Hunter Shepard	Carlos Rivera	Don & Rory Theeuwes
October 25	Dorothy Goode	Ronnie & Susan Young	Sue Hall
November 22	Leanne Burton	Paul & Melissa Garner	Don & Rory Theeuwes
December 6	 <b>Holiday Party</b> 		

# TIPS & TRICKS

## Tasks for October From Motes Newsletter Courtesy: Melissa Garner

- Space plants to increase air circulation.
- Water as early as possible in the day.
- Move Himalayan dendrobiums, catasetums, calanthes and other seasonally dormant plants to dry bright locations.
- Reduce general fertilizer.
- Apply extra magnesium and potassium.