

# Massachusetts Orchid Society



## December: Holiday Party

Let's have some fun. Bring your food, your orchids, and your holiday cheer.

**Turkey, ham and drinks will be provided by MOS. The rest is up to you!**

**Potluck** by first letter of your last name, but if you have a favorite dish please bring it!

**A-F:** Appetizers

**G-L:** Salads

**M-Z:** Desserts

Will we have a **show table**? Yes!

All MOS members in attendance will receive a **surprise gift** from MOS.



## MOS Annual Show "Orchid Jubilee"

I want to thank everyone for making our annual show such a great success. It was a fantastic way to celebrate MOS' 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

Tower Hill was once again filled with beautiful displays of color. Excited chatter filled the halls. Happy buyers took home their orchid prizes. I had a lot of fun and I hope you were able to join us.

MOS took home 41 ribbons. We also took home 3 awards:

- Best Fit of Show Theme, MOS Exhibit, Brigitte Fortin
- Best Pleurothallid, Masd. Aquarius, Ralph & Chieko Collins
- Best Miltonia/Miltoniopsis, Colm. Wildcat, Joe Rajunas

Congratulations to all of our winners!

Of course a show like this cannot succeed without our volunteers. I want to especially thank Joanna Eckstrom for all the work she puts into coordinating the

show. She is the glue that holds the show together.

Thanks to our plant donors, display crew, speakers: Bob Richter, Maria Caldini, Betsy Orpitz, Ralph and Cheiko Collins, Joe Rajunas, Betty Levine, George Baltoumas, Lynn Hennesey, Paula Athenasion Matt Swift, Brian Leib, Carl Geyer. To Bob Hesse for organizing judging and Cliff and Cathy Derderian for keeping us well fed throughout the weekend.

My infinite gratitude to the members of the MOS Board for all the countless hours you put into this and other MOS events. I cannot possibly express how grateful I am for all you do. You rock!

Thanks to all our vendors, exhibitors, Tower Hill staff, and all our neighboring orchid societies for your continued support.

Sasha Varsanofieva  
MOS President

## Upcoming Events

**December 11 –**  
MOS Holiday Party

**January 8 –**  
MOS Monthly Meeting  
Speaker: Denis Laperriere  
Topic: Montreal Botanical Garden Collection

**January 12-13 –**  
Cape & Islands OS Show & Sale  
[www.caio.org](http://www.caio.org)

**February 12 –**  
MOS Monthly Meeting  
Speaker: Alvin Kho



## MOS Board

### President –

Sasha Varsanofieva  
[sasha@massorchid.org](mailto:sasha@massorchid.org)

### Vice President –

Adrienne Giovino  
[adrienne@massorchid.org](mailto:adrienne@massorchid.org)

### Secretary –

Brigitte Fortin  
[brigitte@massorchid.org](mailto:brigitte@massorchid.org)

### Treasurer –

Jody Maggio  
[jody@massorchid.org](mailto:jody@massorchid.org)

### Directors –

Nick Pavey (Past President)  
[nick@massorchid.org](mailto:nick@massorchid.org)

Andrew Thompson  
[andrew@massorchid.org](mailto:andrew@massorchid.org)

Derek Scuteri  
[derek@massorchid.org](mailto:derek@massorchid.org)

Joan Gitlin  
[joang@massorchid.org](mailto:joang@massorchid.org)

Linda Abrams  
[linda@massorchid.org](mailto:linda@massorchid.org)

## Committee Chairs

### Membership –

Adrienne Giovino  
[adrienne@massorchid.org](mailto:adrienne@massorchid.org)

### Newsletter –

Sasha Varsanofieva  
[newsletter@massorchid.org](mailto:newsletter@massorchid.org)

### Annual Show –

Joanna Eckstrom  
[show@massorchid.org](mailto:show@massorchid.org)

### Program –

Brigitte Fortin,  
Adrienne Giovino,  
Sasha Varsanofieva  
[speakers@massorchid.org](mailto:speakers@massorchid.org)



Show table  
photography by  
Brigitte Fortin.

Ascofinetia furuse

## Membership

2012-2013 membership dues were due July 1<sup>st</sup>. Please renew your membership if you haven't done so!

Did you know you can now pay for your membership online using PayPal? - log into your account on [www.massorchid.org](http://www.massorchid.org) - click "View Profile" - click the "Renew" button.

Or send your dues (\$25 individual/\$30 dual) to: Adrienne Giovino, 47 Spellman Rd, Westwood, MA 02090

Or pay in cash or check at a meeting.

## MOS Welcomes New Members

*Michael Badia, Anne Pfaff and  
Karl Kelsey, Arabella and Nate  
Dane, Helen Gillis, James  
Riordan, Penny and Azhar  
Mustafa, Sabrina and Joan  
Cushing, Cathy and William  
Clafin, Yao Zhang*

## December Keiki Paste 2-for-1 Sale

Sometimes an orchid, instead of sending out a branch with new buds, a node on the spike will grow a keiki (Hawaiian for "baby"), an exact copy of itself. Some orchids are more likely to keiki than others.

However, you can induce orchids to keiki by using a keiki paste or solution. Through December 2012, KultureShock (<http://kultureshock.us/>) is offering a 2-for-1 sale for \$12.50 (shipping not included). They offer both paste and a foliar spray.

Keiki Paste is used in the propagation of orchids to create new genetically identical plants off of a mother plant. It can also be used to increase the number of flowers if applied to

dormant nodes while the plant is in bloom.

Keiki Solution Foliar Spray is used in the same way as keiki paste but it provides a more even application resulting in more keikis. It can also be used to break dormancy in orchids and induce flowering if used before any signs of flowering or after the old flower spike has dried. Keiki paste cannot be used in this way. This solution can also be used to induce branching in all branching plants, but it may need to be diluted for certain species.

If you have a special plant, you might want to give it a try. I know I will.

– Adrienne Giovino





An occasional column answering questions and providing orchid growing information. Some of this information is derived from the AOS member site and some from fellow MOS members. I've been growing orchids for about eight years, still a beginner, and this is a good way to learn and share. To keep the column lively and timely, please contribute your questions and comments to: [joan@massorchid.org](mailto:joan@massorchid.org)

## Ask Joan

**Q:** Dear Joan,

What's wrong with my orchids? The petals on my Phals suddenly have little brown spots on them. Leaves on several other plants are turning yellow and seem like they'll drop off soon.

**A:** You might have petal blight on your phals. This is a fungal disease (botrytis) which often occurs in the fall, especially with cool damp weather. Remove the infected flowers (sorry) and reduce the humidity. Yellowing leaves usually signal a normal aging process if these are old leaves. If they are newer leaves, the recent rains and cooler temperatures are again creating a too wet environment. Good air circulation is essential. Let the dying leaves drop off. Let the plants dry out to reduce the humidity, and treat with a fungicide. Physan 20 is a reliable fungicide or more handy is cinnamon, the spice you use when baking an apple pie. Use it on the diseased and cut surfaces.

Other common fungal and bacterial rots encountered in orchids include:



- **Black Rot**, a fungal disease characterized by soft, rotted areas that begin on leaves or new growth, then spread to rhizomes and roots. Infected areas are at first a purplish brown, then turn black. The outer margins of the infection site are yellowish. Black rot can spread quickly through an orchid collection.
- **Root Rot**, a fungal disease that usually enters the plant through the roots. Infected plants are stunted and wilted. Brown to black areas may extend from the roots into the rhizomes. As the disease advances, leaves will become twisted, wrinkled and yellowish.

Thanks to the American Orchid Society for this information. I hope this helps.

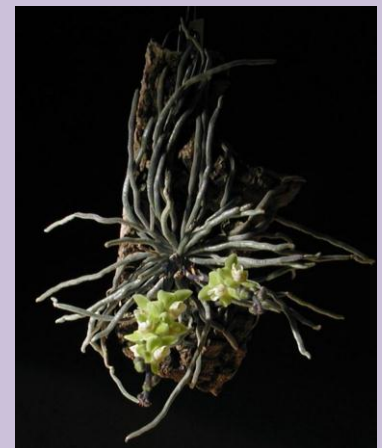
## Orchid of the Month: *Chiloschista usneoides*

*Chiloschista usneoides* is a leafless (or nearly so) epiphyte and a member of the Vanda alliance that hails from the Himalayan foothills in northern India and surrounding countries. Since it is essentially a bundle of roots that perform nearly all the food-making functions for the plant, it is best grown mounted. In its native environs, it enjoys medium-bright light, intermediate to warm temperatures, high humidity (70% or more), and seasonally fluctuating moisture levels.

We will pick up its annual cycle in late spring, just after blooming is finished. This is the rainy season in its home environs, and it enjoys abundant moisture during this time. In response to higher moisture and humidity levels, it will actually sprout an ephemeral leaf or two and begin working on a new set of roots. Older roots will often spring new root tips at this time, while up to a dozen new roots get their start from the base of the plant. At this point, it looks like a miniaturized, very mis-proportioned *Phalaenopsis*, with small *Phal*-like leaves at the tip of a tiny plant situated between roots that are quite large by comparison to the plant. It continues this cycle of growth until mid-Fall, when it naturally experiences

a cut-back on moisture levels. Cultivated plants should be allowed to go a day (or occasionally two) between waterings to allow them to experience this dry-down. The old bloom spikes and the new leaf will brown and die, and the root tips will begin to go to sleep as well. Overwinter, keep moist but not nearly as much as in summertime.

In mid-winter to early spring, the plant will start to develop new spikes, which will grow rather slowly over winter, but begin to accelerate in early spring. At this point, moisture levels should begin to be increased to help support the new spikes. Let the roots be your guide for watering...if they begin to shrivel, increase watering and/or humidity. Be sure to keep air circulation good as well...plants shouldn't remain wet for long periods of time...rather, they should be allowed to dry down like a vanda. In mid-to-late spring, the flowers will open. They are a greenish yellow with a creamy-white, boat-shaped lip with brown spotting. They have a nice, faint fragrance in the late morning not unlike a mixture of vanilla and menthol.



Full article: <http://www.tallyorchid.org/orcharium/gallery/chiloschista.htm>

## November Show Table Results

Plant	Owner
Vanda Sansai Blue	Elizabeth Janko
Pot. Susan Fender 'Cinnamon Stick' AM/AOS	Derek Scuteri
Masd. Peach Fuzz	Brandt Moran
Bulb. Unknown	Brigitte Fortin
Blira. Hawaiian Glacier 'Queen Anne'	Joel Shelkrot
Ascofinetia Furuse	Ralph & Chieko Collins
Den Steven Bachelor	Ralph & Chieko Collins
Bulb. unutupum	Ralph & Chieko Collins
Zeulekoa onusta	Ralph & Chieko Collins
Onc. Guilden Urchin	Joan Gitlin
Holcolglssum wangii	Joan Gitlin
Holcolglssum wangii	Bob Richter

In an effort to get our meetings started by 7:30, we kindly request that show table plants be ready for judging by **7:15pm.**



Blira. Hawaiian Glacier  
'Queen Anne'



Bulbophyllum unutupum



Den. Steven Bachelor



Holcoglossum wangii



Masd. Peach Fuzz



## MOS Show



## A&P Orchids Holiday Open House

To all MOS members,

We at A&P Orchids invite you to join us at our annual Holiday Open House on **Saturday, December 8 from 10:00AM-4:00PM**. As always, our signature Phalaenopsis and lady slippers are in abundance, but new offerings such as multiple Angraecum species, Habenaria species, Psychopsis species/hybrids, Podangis species, Polystachya species and many more will be available for purchase. Gift certificates available for everyone close to you. Light Hors d'oeuvres will be served. We look forward to seeing you at our event; Happy Holidays.

Kind regards,  
Azhar and Penny Mustafa

A&P Orchids

[www.AandPOrchids.com](http://www.AandPOrchids.com)

10 Peters Road, Swansea, MA



**Cape & Islands Orchid Society  
24th Annual Orchid Show  
"Orchid Garden"**  
January 12th & 13th, 9 - 5

Resort & Conference Center at Hyannis  
35 Scudder Ave. Hyannis, MA 02601

Preview Dinner Party  
Friday, January 11th at 6pm  
Preview the Show Before Opening Day  
Vendor Area Open after Dinner  
Awards Ceremony

Cash Bar \$45/pp

Reservation Details: [http://caios.org/images/Orchid\\_Garden\\_Buffet\\_Dinner.pdf](http://caios.org/images/Orchid_Garden_Buffet_Dinner.pdf)

## Upcoming Events

Date & Time	Event	Location
Sat, December 8, 10am-4pm	A&P Orchids Holiday Open House	A&P Orchids 10 Peters Road, Swansea, MA
Tue, December 11, 7:30pm	MOS Annual Holiday Party	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA
Sat, January 5, 10:30am	Monthly Regional AOS Judging	Tower Hill Botanic Garden 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA
Tue, January 8, 7:30pm	Monthly MOS Meeting Speaker: Denis Laperriere	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA
Sat-Sun, January 12-13, 9am-5pm	Cape & Islands OS Annual Show <a href="http://www.caios.org">www.caios.org</a>	Resort & Conf. Center at Hyannis 35 Scudder Ave, Hyannis, MA
Sat, February 2, 10:30am	Monthly Regional AOS Judging	Tower Hill Botanic Garden 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA
Tue, February 12, 7:30pm	Monthly MOS Meeting Speaker: Alvin Kho	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA



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