



December 2010

Pinelands Orchid Society

<http://www.pinelandsorchidsociety.org>

P.O. Box 954 - Voorhees, NJ 08043



December 2010—President's Message

As hard as it is to believe, here we are in December! Where did the year go? We will return to a tradition this month, with our Annual Holiday Covered Dish Party. I have always enjoyed this event. It is a time to share a meal, to talk, to laugh, to enjoy each other in our orchid community. We ask each member to bring a hot or cold covered dish, either a main course, a side or a dessert. We will not have a speaker, leaving plenty of time for fellowship among the club. We will have music, and there will be a small gift for each member.

As I look at my orchids this month, there are not many blooms, but there sure are a lot of spikes and buds coming along! As your orchids move into winter blooming mode, be sure to watch them carefully. Now is the time to add stakes for support (as opposed to the night of the meeting). Be sure not to move the plants relative to the light source. Even if the buds are very small, moving them around can cause the buds to twist and turn every which way, affecting the presentation of the flowers. Be sure to keep them watered now that the heat is on, and do continue to fertilize.

Enjoy the holiday season, and be sure to take time out to enjoy your orchids! See you at the party!



Miltassia Olmec 'Kanno'
Grown by Perry Krakora

Monthly Meeting Holiday Banquet December 7th, 2010



The next meeting of Pinelands Orchid Society will be held on Tuesday, **December 7th** at **7:30 p.m.**, at Medford Leas, 1 Medford Leas Way, Medford, NJ 08055



Doors will open to accept Show Table Plants at 7:00 p.m.

Please Remember:

Show Table plants, along with their completed Show Table slips, must be on the Show Tables by **7:30 p.m. sharp** in order to be eligible for judging!

Pinelands Orchid Society Monthly Meeting Time Schedule for December

- 7:00—7:30 Arrival of Show Table Plants
- 7:30—7:45 Business Meeting & Announcements
- 7:45—8:15 Break for Refreshments
- 8:15—9:00 Speaker/Program Presentation
- 9:00—9:30 Show Table Critique
- 9:30—9:45 Raffle

Tuesday—December 7th



Pinelands Orchid Society's Holiday Covered Dish Party!

7:30 p.m. ~ Medford Leas

*** Please note: alcoholic beverages are not permitted at Medford Leas.**



Lc. C. G. Roebling 'Blue Magic'
Grown by Bayard Saraduke



Blc. Hawaiian Style
Grown by Rosanne Nunez

December 10th & 11th and 17th & 18th
Winter Sale at Waldor Orchids
*We will be offering a 20% discount
on all plants and supplies.*

This is a wonderful opportunity to save on plants for around the home or to save on mix and other potting supplies.

Pinelands Orchid Society thanks Susan Taylor,
BellaOnline's Orchid Editor, for the
following article. For more great articles
about 'all things orchids', visit:
<http://www.bellaonline.com/site/Orchids>



Cattleya diseases

In general, orchids are quite hardy and have few pests or diseases under optimal conditions. When diseases occur it is normally due to infection from one plant to another, often spread by the use of unsterilized tools. Most experts recommend disinfecting tools thoroughly between use on plants and for very valuable plants the use of surgical gloves so that no viruses are transmitted. For most growers, this is either too cumbersome or time-consuming to do. Using disposable razor blades is a recommended alternative for cutting or trimming plants and not too expensive for the average hobbyist.

The most common diseases in Cattleya Alliance plants are the rots: bacterial rot, black rot, and Botrytis flower rot. All of these rots are spread by spores and occur when conditions are very moist which are the conditions under which the orchids are grown. Good air circulation and careful watering will reduce the incidence of these problems. Make sure that when misting is used that the plants have time to completely dry before night time.

Bacterial soft rot (*Erwinia*) shows up as soft brownish watery spots on the leaves. It is often caused by overhead watering or misting and can spread from plant to plant as water drips from overhead plants to those below. Cut out infected areas and spray with a bactericide. Increase air circulation or move the plant to an area which receives more air.

Black rot is a particularly virulent infection and if you notice black areas, especially on new growth, it is imperative that you act quickly or the plant may die -- sometimes in only a week. This rot most often occurs from the bottom of the pseudobulb and moves upward. Cut the plant back to healthy green growth and spray with a bactericide as soon as you are able to tend to the plant. It is recommended that you continue to spray on a weekly basis for a couple of weeks since the bacteria grow in the media also. If possible, transplant the plant and drench the entire plant in bactericide as you do so.

Botrytis flower spot shows as small light brown spots on flowers. Infected flowers should be removed and disposed of outside the growing area as soon as the problem occurs so that the spores will not spread to other plants and flowers. Remove any plant debris or spent flowers in the growing area as these are places where the spores grow.

Good sanitation practices, careful watering practices and adequate air circulation will keep these problems to a minimum. If you do notice any of these problems immediate action will allow you to keep your plants healthy.

Pinelands Orchid Society Officers, Trustees, and Committee Members 2010-2011

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Orchid Supplies

Vacant

Please Volunteer!

Sunshine Broker

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**Meeting Site Coordinator/
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John Ceresani
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Sunshine Broker

If you know of any member who would appreciate receiving a "get well" note or condolence card during the year, please let Anita McGann know.

Anita can be reached at
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rcm51402121@yahoo.com

A Note from the Newsletter Editor

Please be sure to inform our society Secretary/Treasurer, John DeGood, of any changes in your name, address, telephone number, or email address. Monthly newsletters are sent each month to email addresses only, so it is very important for us to have your correct email address!

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