

September 2016 Newsletter

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# New Mexico Orchid Guild Newsletter September 2016

Our next regular meeting will be:  
September 11, 2016 at  
1:30pm

Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120  
Lomas Blvd NE  
(Just West of Eubank on the South  
Side of Lomas in Los Altos Park)

As usual, please bring something to share!

Members are encouraged to wear their membership badges.

Cover photo is Phal NOID grown by Debby Lieberman

Main Program: Stig  
Dahlstrom DVD Wild  
Orchid Man in the Land  
of the White Bear

We will have plants for sale  
from Gold Country  
Orchids

Growers Forum topic: The  
Importance of Fresh Air.  
Growers forum starts at 1pm

## From the President's Desk:

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September 2016

I think everyone enjoyed the Mote's visit on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Martin and Mary were a joy to have with us. Martin brought an excellent selection of reasonably priced vandaceous orchids and competition among buyers was intense. We won't wait another nine years to invite them to return.

We will be viewing the Stig Dahlstrom DVD Wild Orchid Man in the Land of the White Bear at our September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Grower's Forum topic will be the importance of air movement. Sale and raffle plants will be from Alan Koch at Gold Country Orchids. I hope you can attend.

Our October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a hands on repotting session. Bring a plant or two to repot. NMOG will provide orchidata mix. Please do not bring sick plants or those with insects. There will be a 10% discount on pots and potting media in October. Plants will be from Ecuagenera in Ecuador. These plants will be bare root so take advantage of the sale and repot your purchases during the meeting.

Just a reminder that you may bring plants to sell at silent auction. Simply fill out a bid sheet with your name, description of the plant and your minimum bid. At the end of the meeting you will collect from the winning bidder and pay our NMOG Treasurer 20% of the price. Plants not gaining the minimum bid will go home with you.

NMOG will have a display at Expo New Mexico (aka the State Fair) from September 8<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. Stop by the Flower Building and visit.

See you at the meeting  
Keith

NMOG Website: <http://www.nmorchidguild.org/>  
American Orchid Society Website: <http://aos.org>

# August Show and Tell Winners

Photos taken by Barb Beil



Advanced Division--First Place  
Daniel Perry  
Catacetum Susan Fuchs



Advanced Division-- Second Place  
Daniel Perry  
Bl. Jiminy Cricket



Intermediate Division - First Place  
Lauren Stephens  
Lc. Tai Rose



Intermediate division-- Second place  
Ed Hopper  
Zygopetalum Hyacinth



# CHILLING PHALAEOPSIS

With cool fall temperatures approaching, the question of "chilling" Phals. often comes up. Please read the following piece by Ray Barkalow of First Rays Inc. for info on initiating Phals into blooming.

First, we need to understand that not all species require it. Interestingly enough, those with white/pink/purple flowers generally do, while those with yellow/orange/red flowers mostly do not. Of course, considering the complex breeding in modern hybrids, that distinction is pretty much "blurred".

Most of us, as beginners, were led to understand that phalaenopsis "need to have a 10° - to 15°F day/night drop" in order to initiate spiking. Dr. Yin-Tung Wang, while at Texas A&M University, did some research into this area in order to optimize the growing and blooming of these plants, and determined that the day/night differential was not the key, but that an overall average decrease in temperature of the growing conditions led to spiking. More specifically, the plants were shown to require about 10 days to two weeks at an average growing temperature of 10°-15° lower than the temperature at which they had been normally growing. In other words, grown at a constant 85°, one could lower the growing area to a constant 70° and initiate spiking, without any day/night variation whatsoever.

Similarly, it can be shown that even with significant day/night temperature variation, spiking will not occur until the average is shifted downward.

If Dr. Wang's explanation of average temperatures was valid, we would expect that our phalaenopsis plants would start spiking approximately 6 to 8 weeks later, and in fact, that is exactly what happened, and then, as we approached a timeframe 6 to 8 weeks later than that, we saw the flower buds reach full development and begin to open.

Before anyone gets concerned about the low averages early and late in the year, let me explain that I control only the minimum temperature with a thermostat, and that's set to 60°, so the greenhouse temperature typically will match the outside temperature during the middle of the year when these various control points were reached.

It is also interesting to note (I won't bore you with the actual data) that of the 365 measured days, 222 of them actually sustained day/night temperature variations of 15° or more, and they occurred in every month of the year. Never however, did we experience 10 days to two weeks of such daily variation, further supporting that is the average temperatures that are important, and not the day-to-night variation.

One last comment on this before I go: Dr. Wang also pointed out that once spike initiation has occurred, the plants will grow their flower spikes best and flower the best if the average temperature is raised back to the elevated level and not kept at a low level

# Re-rooting Plants

## Question

What is the best way to re-root orchids that have lost their roots for one reason or another? Specifically I'd like to know about re-rooting phals and plants in the Cattleya Alliance. — P.J. Hatcher

## Answer

Traditional wisdom dictates that plants can be encouraged to root by providing a moist atmosphere while keeping the medium on the dry side. This enables the plant to remain turgid (not wilted) until the roots naturally come to support the foliage. In practice, this can be done by repotting the plants into the smallest container that will accept the root mass and encasing the entire product in a plastic bag. The bag can be supported off the foliage by making a wire loop and inserting the ends of the wire into the pot. The plant should be watered into the medium, covered with the bag and left in a shady spot until root growth is evident. Depending on the season, this may take days or weeks. As days shorten after late September until January, it will take longer than in spring and summer as days lengthen. — Ned Nash

## Classifieds

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Email [Kelly@dunnassoc.net](mailto:Kelly@dunnassoc.net) to list orchids for sale or trade, orchid related items, or "In Search Of" posts



Winning Orchid  
Tour

Panama  
Colombia  
Ecuador  
Costa Rica

For More Info Visit:  
[http://jonahwinn.com/orchid\\_tours/](http://jonahwinn.com/orchid_tours/)  
Or e-mail [winn0044@gmail.com](mailto:winn0044@gmail.com)

For Sale: Various orchid books. For a full list of available books, plus prices, contact : Madelin Coit 505-989-1670 or [mc@madelincoit.com](mailto:mc@madelincoit.com)

Orchidaceae

text - P. Francis Hunt  
plates - Mary A. Grierson  
Bourton Press 1973  
144 pp including index  
burgundy fabric sleeve  
gold on unbound edges

Venezuelan Orchids Illustrated  
Vol 1- 1959  
Dunsterville & Garay, Deutsch ltd pub.

Orchidacea Brasilienses –Band 1, Band 2  
G.F.J. Pabst, F.Dung  
Brucke Verlag 1977

Orchid Flowers, Pollination and Evolution  
L. van der Pijl and Calaway H. Dodson  
Atlantic Printers and Litho. 1966

Orchids, Flowers of Romance and Mystery  
Text Jack Kramer, photos Burgess, Wilson et cetera  
Abrams – 1927

Encyclopaedia of Cultivated Orchids  
Alex Hawkes, Faber & Faber, 1965.

Genus Phalaenopsis  
Herman Sweet PhD  
Orchid Digest, Vol 1. 1980

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