



The Greater Whorled Pogonia
Official Flower of the Club

Newsletter of the

AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY

An affiliate of the American Orchid Society

wa.hutchinson@comcast.net

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August, 2011

Well as everybody knows the monthly meeting/picnic/birthday party for July was at Verda Dales place. It turned out to be a very nice day. The weather was hot, but typical for a July day. As anybody that has attended any events at Verda's house knows, it is always a treat. This was a special treat with it being Verda's birthday also. There was plenty of food for everybody. There were about 35 plus people attending the picnic. The show table had many plants on it as always. Again, I would like to thank Verda for a wonderful event for the club at her house, along with Karen also.

Marc Gray

Happy 95th Birthday to Verda!!



August field trip: Once again, Keith Tibbetts has invited our club to visit his greenhouse in Cummington, Mass. This will take place on August 21st (the third Sunday). Plan to arrive anytime after 1:30 PM. Please bring food and drinks to share. [Directions to Keith's place are on page 7 of this newsletter.](#)

SEPTEMBER 10 & 11 IPA REGIONAL MEETINGS ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

The International Phalaenopsis Alliance (IPA), in cooperation with both the New Hampshire Orchid Society and the Northeastern New York Orchid Society, is presenting two spectacular offerings, in two different locations, of their annual Regional Meeting for the convenience of everyone in the New England, Tri-State and Eastern Canada areas. With the added benefit of AOS Judging at the New Hampshire meeting only, each meeting will present the same program, with Keynote Speaker Norman Fang of Norman's Orchids, Carlos Fighetti, Immediate Past President of the AOS and current First Vice President of the IPA and Carri Raven-Riemann, New England Regional Director, past IPA President and owner of the orchidPhile.

In addition to the featured speakers, each meeting will also feature a mini auction of several select Phalaenopsis, a roundtable discussion on culture, and several plant and supplies vendors. These events are open to everyone, IPA members or not, so we urge you to join us for what is always an informative, fun and relaxing day with both old and new orchid friends. And please note that our minimal registration fee just covers the cost of providing food for everyone attending – IPA will be underwriting the expense of the speakers – so this is a prime opportunity to learn from two very special speakers who would not normally be in our area.

Registration Forms – and details of each meeting - are available from three sources:

The IPA Website at www.phal.org

Marilyn Shapiro at mlshap2@juno.com

Adrienne Giovino at ipa.adrienne@gmail.com.

Since space at each event is limited, early registration is strongly encouraged. ***For the co-hosting society to plan on sufficient food and seating for all, we're requesting that you make your reservations even earlier than originally noted – for the New Hampshire meeting, please register by August 22 – for the New York meeting, plan to register by August 29.*** These earlier registration deadlines will assure that everyone has a chair and that we will have sufficient food for all – both societies are already gearing up, planning the menus and making arrangements to help us ensure two fun and information-packed meetings!

Remember, these deadlines are less than four weeks away so make your plans now!

Show Table July 2011

Marc Gray

- Nagaliella purpurea
- Pleurothallis sp. 'Like Hemirhoda'
- Otaara Jane Fumiye 'Hawaii'
- Zygonsia Cynosure 'Blue Birds'
- Maxillaria cacullata
- Bulbophyllum antenniferum
- Maxillaria rufcens
- Epidendrum Green Hornet
- Bulbophyllum sp. 'Mauve' (Cirr umbellatum)

Tom McCurry

- Cattleya Summer Spot
- Miltassia Shelob 'Tolken' AM/AOS

Marge Tanquay

- Phal Yu-Pin EverSpring 'Plum'
- Phrag Penn's Creek Cascade
- Paph Magic Lantern
- Paph Robinianum
- Brassavola Little Stars 'Yasuji Takasaki'

Maryanne Laukaitis

- Epidendrum capricornu
- Encyclia tampensis

Ann Jordan

- Mini Phal Sogo Twingo
- Ble Rustic Spots 'H+R'
- Phychopsis Mariposa 'Green Valley'



Encyclia tampensis



Cattleya Summer Spot



Phal Yu-Pin Ever Spring 'Plum'

The September Plant Sale

Sunday Sept 18, 2011

Again we will be having the sale at the HADLEY GARDEN CENTER, on Rt 9 in Hadley. The sale is the 3RD Sunday of Sept. Set up will start at 9 am and the sale is from 10-3 pm. We will not be letting people in before 10 am. There are no exceptions. We need to have everything in place before we start selling.

We are going to be in the back greenhouse again, which is on the right all the way in back. Members will be parking again in the area on the right hand side when you drive in. This is NOT the regular parking area. It looks like a storage area, but is their extra parking area and where extra things are stored. So there should be plenty of room back here. Try to fit in there as many of us as we can so we can save as many of the other parking spaces for the customers. This will actually give us access to the back door of the greenhouse for set up. This back door will be closed during the sale, but will make it easier to get our plants in there. We will also have a table set up for show plants, so bring in those in bloom that are not being sold. This helps sell the plants that are not in bloom. So please come and enjoy. It is a fun time and the more people we have there to talk to people the better. Please invite all your friends and anyone else who would be interested in coming to the sale.

I do ask that any members who will be there to please wear your orchid club T-shirts. This will help in picking out the members and will also help the Hadley Garden Center workers to know who is a member. Please make sure that if you are selling that you understand the NEW process for selling your plants. If you have any questions feel free to contact. **Joe Maciaszek tele: 1-508-344-8492 or email at :**

Maciaszek@gmail.com

What WE Need Help With

We will need 3-4 people to man the check out tables. Ideally two to take the plants and take the labels & do up the prices for the money people & two people to take the money. Please show up between 8:30 and 9 am so we can show you what is needed. We also need at least 2 people to help with directing traffic out front and to help with any people who need help either getting in or out of the store and our sale. We do not want to have the Hadley Garden Center workers having to deal with any problems due to our sale. So these jobs need to be filled all day long. We can have people change shifts, but please ask Marc or Joe, if you are unsure what your job is or what you should be doing. We would also like two people to sit at the show table to make sure none of the plants walk. I think due to this being in a nursery/greenhouse that it would be much easier for these plants to walk away. No one up front will be questioning plants going out. We also need people there to just help answer questions of the shoppers and to give out the plant fact sheets.

The more plants we have on display, the more plants we might be able to sell. Talking goes a long way and they really enjoy getting our input. We need bags and boxes brought in for the plants. So bring in what you can. Thanks. Any questions contact: **Joe Maciaszek tele: 1-508-344-8492 or email at :**

Maciaszek@gmail.com

People who are bringing plants

Anyone is free to sell their extra or unwanted plants at our September sale. The club receives 30% of the sale price; the seller gets the other 70%. If you will be bringing more than just a few plants, please contact **Joe Maciaszek**: Maciaszek@gmail.com and let me know how many plants you are bringing or how many tables you need ASAP. So try to do this before the middle of August. The tables are 4 x 6 or 3 x 6 and a maximum of 2-3 tables each seller for now. We might have more if needed, but I will not know until everyone contacts me. So please let me know ASAP what you might need. Also make sure you have **2** labels for **EACH** plant you are selling. See the instructions for the plant write-ups.

NEW PLANT SALE LABELING SYSTEM

We are going to try a new **two-label** system this year. The 3 x 5 cards are **NO LONGER** needed. So on the plant identification label, which goes with the plant, you should place a sticker marked with *your initials*, a *number* which identifies that particular plant, and the *price*. For example, **RW #1 \$25** would be written on Roger West's plant #1. If you cannot get the sticker to stay on the label, you may place it on the pot, or on the plant, itself. You should also make a **second label**, which includes your name or initials, the plant number, and the price. So this label would also look like **RW #1 \$25**. We will collect these tags at the check out line and then tally them up at end. These labels will be returned to you for future use. This second tag does not need to include the plant's name, unless you are concerned about people switching out the tags.

This new system will quicken the set up time for getting the plants ready and will make the check out process more efficient. The other thing that you can do is to have a master list with the plant names listed in numerical order on one sheet of paper that you can check against after the sale is over. We **WILL NOT** be checking these at check out time since it really slows down the check out line. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me- **Joe Maciaszek tele: 1-508-344-8492 or email at : Maciaszek@gmail.com**

SPREAD THE WORD!

There is a flyer included within this newsletter. Please make copies of it and post it on bulletin boards in your area wherever plant-lovers might be found. Tell your friends. Advertisement material will be available at Keith's place, also. In early September an E-mailable ad will be sent to everyone whose e-mail address we have. Please forward this to everyone you can think of who might have an interest in growing orchids.



Questions for “ASK BILL” can be given to me at the monthly meetings. If possible write them out. If you prefer you may call me at 413-253-7036, write me at 52 Jeffrey Lane, Amherst, MA 01002-2532 or reach me via e-mail at wa.hutchinson@comcast.net. Answers to written questions may take one or two months to appear. The e-mail questions I nominally will answer within 24 hours or less. Keep in mind that if you are puzzled by a growing problem, etc. someone else is too.

Go to <http://www.larchhillorchids.com> Click on Amherst Orchid Society. Additional information may be found on the Larch Hill pages. The web page now has the newsletter posted as a PDF file and most of them for the whole year are available.

Q. Has *Cypripedium acaule* been crossed with *Cyp. parviflorum* (yellow Lady Slipper)? They grow side by side in nature. Is there a natural cross?

A. Often plants which grow side by side may not cross for many reasons. But anything I have run across list the following hybrids with *Cyp. acaule*: *C. formosanum*, *C. candidum*, *C. yatabeanum*, *C. reginae* and *C. lichiangense*. The Genus *Cypripedium*, by Phillip Cribb, Timber Press 1997, p.97. While it is entirely possible that a cross as you suggest may exist none have been reported.

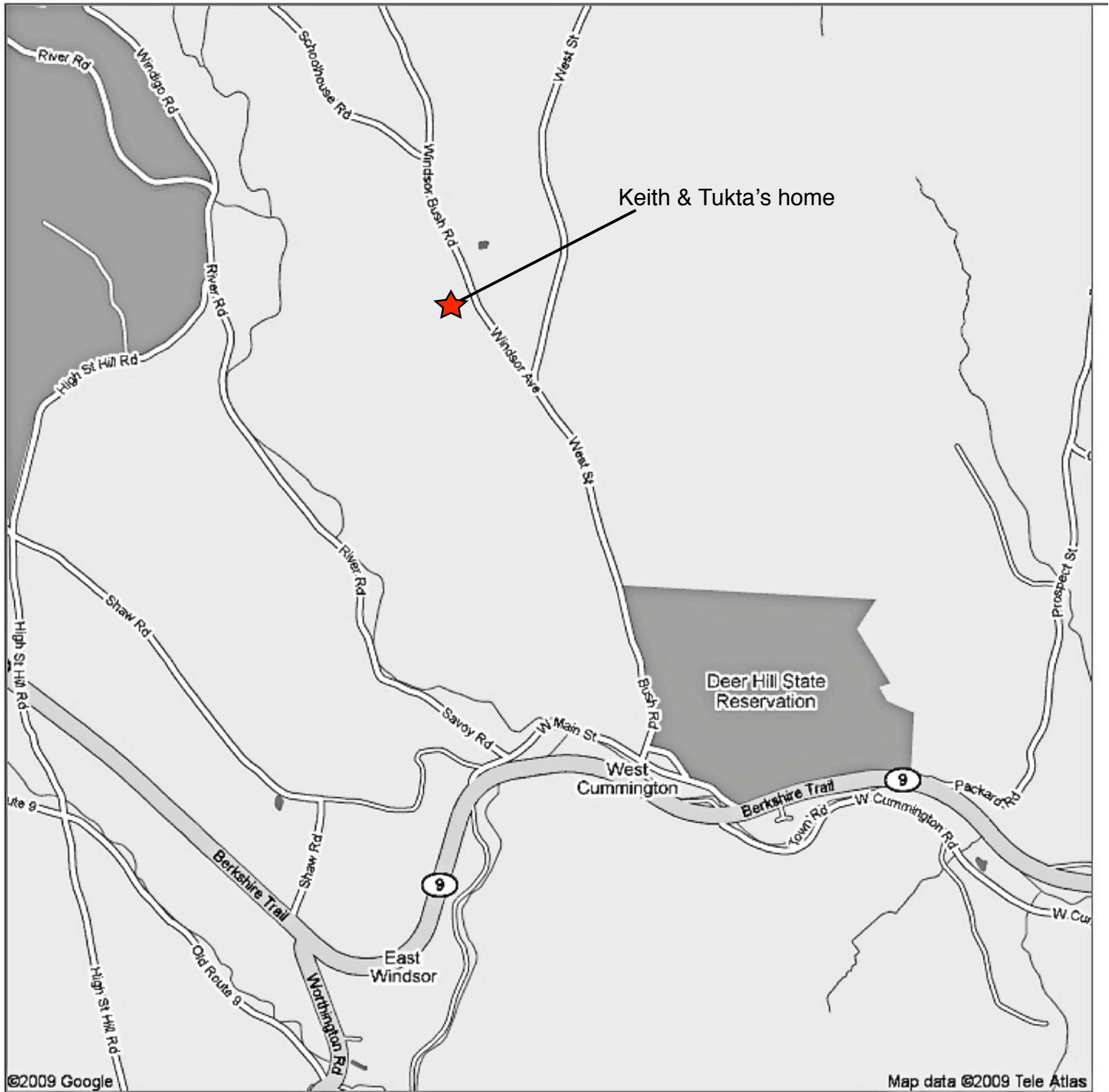
Q. Are there any orchids that need short days to initiate blooming?

A. Some of the white *Cattleyas* are reported to respond to short days but because of the regions in which they are native, it is more likely that most orchids are more apt to respond to changes in temperature combined with day length. Withner, vol.1 of *The Cattleyas and their relatives*. p. 33, notes that *C. labiata* and its hybrids ordinarily flower in late fall. If days are lengthened in the fall to 14 – 16 hours (actually decrease in length of continuous darkness, the plants will remain vegetative. The effect can be enhanced by increasing the temperature thus it is possible to delay flowering until Christmas or New Years by controlling both factors. There is little commercial interest in controlling *Cattleya* flowering and most flower naturally in the spring.

Q. If our Phal has crown rot but the rest of the foliage looks OK should we save the plant or toss it out? T. & D. Sullivan

A. As long as you have controlled the rot so it doesn't spread to the other leaves most Phals will overcome the problem but if it begins to spread to other leaves it is best to isolate it from other plants and if it keeps spreading it is most likely not worth the chance of infecting your other plants.

Keith Tibbetts has invited the club to visit his greenhouse Sunday August 21st from 1:30 to 4 PM. **Directions:** From Northampton take Route 9 West to Cummington, MA. It's about 20 miles. Near the center of Cummington you will cross a steel arched bridge. From this point travel another 5 miles and turn Right at a sign that says "West Cummington." You will now be on West Main Street. Go about 0.2 miles and turn Right onto Bush Road. (There is a yellow house on the corner.) Go about one mile to a fork in the road. Take the Left fork. A short distance from this point you will see a large green mailbox (#95) next to the driveway leading to the Tibbetts' home. Stay to the left and park near the greenhouse. Bring food to share.



To find the bylaws of the Amherst Orchid Society go to :
www.larchhillorchids.com. Click on **Amherst Orchid Society**
and then **bylaws**.

PRESIDENT Joe Maciaszek
53 Summer Street
North Brookfield, MA 01535
508-344-8492
maciaszek@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT Marge
Tanguay 1030 Oakwood
Trailer Park
51 Monson Tpk Rd
Ware, MA 01082
413-967-3228
bubba1137@comcast.net

TREASURER Steve Reardon
157 Shea Rd
West Brookfield, MA 01585
508-637-1181
bobfrosty1@msn.com

RECORDING SECRETARY
Holly Rainaud
49 Jackson Street
Belchertown, MA 01007
413-323-5898

CORRESPONDING
SECRETARY Leilani Norman
7 Maple St
Monson, MA 01057
413-267-5124
leilani.norman@verizon.net

DIRECTORS AT LARGE
Marc Gray
bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net

Lynn Reynolds
johnlynnreynolds@verizon.net

Tom McCurry
tmccurry@crocker.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Marion Jackman
PO Box 92
Leicester, MA 01524
508-892-3262

CONSERVATION CHAIR
Alex Loss
49 Jackson Street
Belchertown, MA 01007
413-323-5898
xanderloss@yahoo.com

LIBRARIAN Marge Tanguay
(See info for Vice President)

AOS REPRESENTATIVE
Harold Norman
7 Maple St
Monson, MA 01057
413-267-5124

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Bill
Arduser 413-369-0357
orchids@arduser.com

Upcoming Events

- Aug. 21st Field trip to Keith Tibbetts' place
95 Windsor Bush Road
Cummington, MA
- Sept. 10th International Phalaenopsis Alliance
"Focus on Phals" www.phal.org
- Sept. 18th Our annual plant sale
Hadley Garden Center

**Note to Members: Submissions for the
September 2011 newsletter must reach the
editor by August 31st to be printed.**

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings are held the 3rd Sunday
of each month *except the months of August
and September*. We usually meet at The
Munson Memorial Library 1046 Southeast
Street, Amherst, MA. Meetings start at 2 PM.
Sometimes there are beginner programs which
start at 1:30 PM.



Bill Arduser, editor
502 E. Guinea Rd
Williamsburg, MA 01096

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