

Interested in becoming a member or attending a meeting?

Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at starting at 6:45 p.m. at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Gorham, Maine. We hold meetings from September through June. Membership dues are \$20.00 for an individual and \$30.00 for a household membership. We welcome you to join us!

For more information:

MOS President: David Sparks dsparks51@roadrunner.com

MOS VP1: Suzy Massey info@phoenixmassey.com

MOS VP2: Karen Maulden mldnorchd@aol.com

MOS Treasurer: Carl Burnham cburnham12@roadrunner.com

MOS Secretary: Suzanne Hamilton shamilton@rkmlegal.com

MOS News Editor: Vicki Tottle teton344@roadrunner.com

Please visit our Web Site at www.maineorchidsociety.org

Membership Form for Maine Orchid Society: September through June

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____



Fill out & mail with check to:

Maine Orchid Society
c/o Carl Burnham, Treasurer
1300 Cape Road
Limington, ME 04049

MaineOrchidSociety.org

*This is your personal invitation
to join a community of
orchid enthusiasts, from novice to expert.*



Formed in 1978, the mission of the Maine Orchid Society is to stimulate interest, provide education, encourage conservation and enable exchange of information among those interested in the culture of orchids in all of its aspects.



Membership Benefits

- Share ideas, growing tips and helpful practical advice
- Network with a community of orchid enthusiasts
- Receive **Maine Orchid Society Monthly Newsletter**
- Gain experience by participating in hands-on demonstrations & programs
- Get plants at a great price through member auctions
- Increase knowledge through presentations by guest speakers
- Gain confidence through appreciating our display table of blooming plants
- Enjoy great refreshments at meetings!
- Attend monthly meeting held the second Monday of the month, except July and August

Frequently Asked Questions

Are Orchids Hard to Grow?

No and Yes. Some orchids are as easy to grow as any other house plant. Different orchids have different growing needs. All it takes is a little understanding of what the plant needs in terms of water, light, food and temperature. Some tolerate benign neglect well while others require just the right culture for the orchid to thrive.

Do You Need a Greenhouse?

Not at all. Many popular orchids can be grown in your home on a window or under lights. Some may be grown outside and are able to withstand cold weather.

Where Do Orchids Come From?

Every country in the world, and every state in the United States, has its orchid species, including Alaska. Maine, for example, has 46 native orchids.

What Sort of Soil Do Orchids Need?

Orchids will grow satisfactorily in many different potting mixes if watering and fertilizing are adjusted appropriately. There are four types of orchids, based on how they grow in nature. Most are classified as epiphytes, or air plants, which grow on trees. The rock growers, or lithophytes, cling to the surface of rocks. Saprophytes are those that grow on mulch, often on the forest floor. Finally, there are the terrestrials, which anchor themselves in soil or sand. Most popular orchids can be grown in a variety of media, from fir bark to sphagnum moss, crumbled charcoal, pebbles, on wooden or cork plaques, or peat-based mixes such as Pro-Mix.

How Do I Grow Orchids?

All orchids require a certain mix of light, food, water, temperature and air that creates a "culture" conducive to its growth and blooming. For many of the popular orchids, creating a culture with the following conditions is a good place to start:

- **Light** Medium (east or west window) or bright (southern, but not direct sun)
- **Food** Half or quarter strength balanced fertilizer every other watering
- **Water** Water once or twice a week, and keep humidity high. Place plant on a pebble tray with water, or keep humidifier close by. Be sure roots get good aeration (water should flow quickly through the medium.)
- **Temperature** Intermediate, with about a 10° drop at night.
- **Air** All orchids do best where there is a steady breeze (use a small fan)

When Should I Repot?

Generally in Spring or after Blooming, every one or two years. This is when fresh rooting activity is expected. You'll notice succulent green root tips on plump white roots at the base of the plant. Orchids need repotting either when the potting mix is broken down (dead roots) or the plant has outgrown the container. Never over-pot! Re-pot in the same container, or one just large enough for the root system.