



## October Meeting – Growing Native Orchids in Your Garden

Thursday, October 20, 2005

7:30 p.m., Franklin Park Conservatory Classrooms

7:30 – 8:00 p.m., Beginners' Corner

**Got your dibble handy?** Have you been outside poking holes in the ground and plopping in tulip bulbs and hyacinths and daffodils for next spring? And did you save some room for hardy orchids?

You mean grow orchids in my yard?? You betcha. *Cypripediums*, *Calanthes*, *Platantheras*, *Calopogons*, *Bletillas*, *Spiranthes*, *Pogonias* ... in your backyard. Or front yard.

It's time for another dirt-under-the-fingernails how-to-grow-them meeting and to that end we've invited Dr. William Mathis to join us Thursday evening, October 20, to guide us through the process of establishing beds of native orchids in our yards. Bill's talk is titled **The Best Kept Secret in the Gardening World: Hardy Terrestrial Orchids**.

Bill's nursery is The Wild Orchid Company ([www.wildorchidcompany.com](http://www.wildorchidcompany.com)) located near Philadelphia. He will not be bringing plants or corms for sale at the meeting since he is flying in for the day, but he will be accepting orders for their subsequent delivery. (You can poke around his website and picture how a bed of *Cyp. Hilda* would look outside your bay window.)

Bill will be bringing copies of his recently published book for sale: *The Gardener's Guide to Growing Hardy Perennial Orchids*. If you live in an apartment or condo, you'll still want a copy of this book just for the photos. If you plan on trying native orchids on your property you'll want the book because, as he wrote to me, "I will bring my book to sell at the meeting and with each book purchased comes a rebate (good for up to the full price of the book depending on the dollar amount plants purchased) to go toward future plant purchases."

But since we like to have plants available for purchase at all of our meetings, we'll declare a members' plant sales night for the October meeting. Bring your excess divisions and seedlings for sale at the meeting and be sure to remit 20% of your sales total to our treasurer.



Join us 6-ish at the Old Bag of Nails restaurant for something to eat before the meeting. People who would like to grow white calopogons and people who would like to grow pink calopogons are equally welcome.

- Tom Franczak

*Cypripedium Hilda* (Yes, you **can** grow this and many other beautiful orchids in your garden here in Ohio!)