



MHOS NEWSLETTER

www.mhos.us.com

April 2008

Meetings

The Mid-Hudson Orchid Society meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 1:30 pm at the Union Presbyterian Church at the corner of Balmville Road and Beech Street in Newburgh, NY (Balmville).

Bring your blooming orchids for the show table.

April 13th meeting, "Diagnosis Day" with Ron Midgett of New Earth Orchids

May 4th (meeting held one week early because of Mother's Day), Judy Becker of Lauray Gardens will speak about plants that grow well with orchids

June 8th meeting, speaker to be determined

July 13th meeting, speaker to be determined

August – no meeting

September 14th meeting, we are hoping to get Weyman Bussey to come from California

October meeting to be replaced by the Spring Show and Sale on Saturday, October 11th (setup on October 10th)

March 8th Sale

The Spring Show and Sale was a success despite some rainy weather. Everyone who attended had a good time, and we gained a few new members. Thanks to all the people who pitched in and helped out.



This photo and additional photos from the show have been posted on the MHOS website. If you own any of the pictured plants, please let us know your name and the plant's name/cross – we'll change the caption to reflect them.

Diagnosis Day with Ron Midgett at April Meeting

Bring in your tired, your poor, your unhappy orchids to the April 13th meeting, and Ron Midgett of New Earth Orchids will give you his best advice to help make them thrive. Ron will also have many (healthy) plants for sale.



Orchid News from the Tokyo Dome Show 2008

Michael Sinn, Canaima Orchids of Florida, returned from the 2008 Tokyo Orchid Show and has these photos to share with us. The first is the grand prize winner *Eulopiella roempleriana*. The grand prize is \$20,000 plus a Mercedes Benz! Evidently this is a very rare orchid and this particular plant was an immaculate specimen.

A large plant like the *Eulopiella* is difficult to appreciate in the photo at right, but it must have been spectacular to beat the Reserve Grand Champion *C. trianae* 'Okada' with 233 flowers (see photos below). You can see from the photo showing the back of the cattleya that it is growing in a basket in sphagnum moss, and the basket is tipped



Eulopiella roempleriana



C. trianae 'Okada'

forward to display the blooms to their best advantage. Reserve Grand Champion receives about \$5,000 but no car.



Rear view

(Continued on Page 2)

MHOS Officers & Volunteers 2008

President

Dennis Sandberg
914-962-1541

Vice President

Ruth Natras
845-343-2901

Membership

Secretaries
Ruth Natras
845-343-2901
& Betty Gilbert

Corresponding

Secretary
Angie Collini

Program Secretary

Isabel Lopatin
845-265-9057

Recording Secretary

Lois Brennan
845-255-7931

Treasurer

Bob Phillips
518-784-9403

AOS Rep

Janet Jozwiak
845-298-8735

Librarians

Ruth Natras
845-343-2901
& Marian Kent
845-561-8558

Supplies

Georgette Martin
845-473-6276
after 6 pm only

Newsletter/Website

Elisabeth Mansfield
845-294-1000

(Tokyo Dome Show...continued from Page 1)



Third place phalaenopsis

Third place was this beautiful white phalaenopsis (pictured at left with Michael Sinn) whose name we do not have. These flowers are so heavy the inflorescence had to be heavily staked to support the flowers. It is great to be able to see this from the back (see photo below). This plant did not receive a gold medal because the three inflorescences are not identical. They hold, respectively, 32 flowers, 32 flowers, and 30 flowers. Perfection is difficult to come by.

Thanks Michael for these wonderful photos.



Rear view of phal

Supplies - If you would like supplies brought to an MHOS meeting, please call Georgette Martin before Friday preceding the meeting at 845-473-6276. Please call only after 6:00 pm. For a list of supplies, check the back pages of your Member List or refer to the Members section of the web site. Supplies purchased through MHOS are at very reasonable prices, and there are no shipping charges.

Orchid Hints & Tips

The September 2007 issue of *Orchids*, the magazine of the American Orchid Society, included an article about Dot Henley who writes the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society newsletter. She frequently includes tips and home remedies for orchid growers. Below are some of her useful suggestions:

- Rather than expensive and potentially dangerous herbicides, spray full-strength vinegar to kill weeds between pavers and on greenhouse floors. (Do not spray on orchids).
- Clear or translucent plastic pots seem to encourage phalaenopsis orchids to send their roots into the growing medium rather than outside the pot; the green roots may also carry on photosynthesis.
- To clean orchid pots more easily, add some detergent to the chlorine bleach solution. It will loosen the roots that cling to the pot, saving the need for scrubbing.
- Aspirin (just $\frac{3}{4}$ of one 325 mg tablet per gallon of water) helps protect plants from fungal and viral pathogens when used as a spray. (Do not exceed this amount.)
- Control fungus gnats in orchid medium with cinnamon, which kills any fungus that attracts the gnats.
- Homemade insecticide (mix in gallon jug): one pint rubbing alcohol, one pint Formula 409 spray cleaner, and three quarts water.
- Red spider mite killer: in a blender, mix equal parts buttermilk and water to which you have added a few drops of dishwashing soap. Blend for 15 seconds, transfer to sprayer and spray all exposed parts of infected plants.
- Isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol (70%) can be put into an empty spray bottle and used to treat scale, mealybugs, thrips, aphids, red spider mites and perhaps other pests. Rubbing alcohol will also kill slugs if sprayed on them.
- Neosporin can be used to treat orchid crown rot; remove rotted area of plant before treatment.

Henley suggests that when using any new home remedy for pest or disease control, you should test the recipe on a few plants (preferable not your favorites) before treating your entire collection.

Other Area Societies

1st Sunday

Central NY – Syracuse
www.cnyos.org

1st Sunday-1 pm

Northeastern Pennsylvania
 Society – Lakeville, PA

1st Saturday

North Eastern New York –
 Albany/Colonie, NY
www.nenyos.org

2nd Sunday

Mid-Hudson – Newburgh,
 NY

2nd Tuesday

Greater Westchester –
 White Plains, NY

Deep Cut – Tinton Falls, NJ
<http://deepcutorchids.googlepages.com/>

2nd Wednesday

Manhattan, NY
www.manhattanorchid.com

Connecticut – Hartford or
 New Haven
www.ctorchids.org

2nd Thursday

North Jersey – East
 Hanover
www.njorchids.org

Long Island – Valley
 Stream

3rd Sunday

Southern Tier –
 Binghamton, NY
www.storchidsociety.com

3rd Tuesday

Staten Island, NY

3rd Wednesday

Matinecock – Oyster Bay,
 NY

3rd Thursday

Ramapo, NJ
www.ramapoorchid.org

4th Tuesday

Greater NY – Bronx, NY
www.gnyos.org

Check for date changes.
 Many do not meet in
 July or August

March/April Orchid Care from rePotme.com (Click on the links for more info)

To Do Now:

1. March is the **prime time for repotting orchids**. Take this opportunity, before April showers turn to May flowers, to get your orchid repotting done. Our orchid care [repotting section](#), complete with [orchid repotting clinics](#), can help make the task easier. We have a wide selection of orchid mixes from our wonderful [Selected Blends](#) to our exquisite [Imperial Orchid Mixes](#).

2. **Mounted orchids** are fun and beautiful. Take a look at our new care sheet on [mounted orchid care](#). We have [orchid supplies](#) for all your mounting needs, including new [virgin cork tubes](#) in single, double, triple and extra wide sizes.

3. **Orchid pests can be difficult to control indoors**, especially in winter, as most insect sprays are too dangerous for indoor use. Staying vigilant and keeping a close eye out for pests is a good way to nip an outbreak right away. Physically removing pests from orchids by cleaning plants under a stream of water works well, however the bugs will likely return since removing adults usually leaves behind their eggs. Treatment for bugs needs to be repeated every week until there are no longer any more signs of trouble. rePotme offers our exclusive [GET OFF ME! all natural orchid bug spray](#) made from cinnamon as seen in Orchid Magazine. This spray can be used alone or mixed 50/50 with rubbing alcohol to increase its effectiveness. Unlike harsh chemicals, GET OFF ME! is all natural and can be used indoors.

Looking Ahead:

1. April is still one of the **best months of the year for repotting orchids**. If you have a lot of orchids to repot, consider getting orchid mix by [THE BOX](#). Prefer exclusive Imperial Blends? [THE CUBE](#) is for you.

2. With Spring comes **Orchid Shows and new orchids!** Check out our care sheet on [new orchid acquisitions](#) for some practical care tips.

3. Spring is when we see **new growth** and orchids enter their prime growing months. [FEED ME! MSU Orchid Fertilizer](#) is ideal for feeding orchids year round.

4. Did you know that **orchids can live indefinitely?** Unlike cut flowers that fade within a week or two, an orchid can bloom for months and live for many, many years. Timely repotting is critical to orchid health. [Find the right mix for your orchid here](#).

5. If you have not already had a chance to try some of the more **exquisite orchid media offerings** such as Monterey Pine Bark, Cork Nuggets, or New Zealand AAA Sphagnum, now is your chance. We have a complete line of [Imperial Blend Orchid Mixes](#) which include these and other media.

Events in the Northeast

April 18th to 20th – North Jersey Orchid Society Show, Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 53 East Hanover Ave., Morristown, NJ. Contact: Ron Midgett, 193 CR 628, Sussex, NJ 07461; (973) 570-3930; ron@newearthorchids.com.

April 19th & 20th – Toronto Artistic Orchid Association Show, Chinese Cultural Center of Greater Toronto, 5183 Sheppard Ave. E, Scarborough, Ont. Contact: Louisa Fung, (416) 402-6113; louisafung@rogers.com.

April 25th to 27th – Southern Tier Orchid Society Show, Oakdale Mall, Center Court, Reynolds Rd. & Harry L. Dr., Johnson City, NY. Contact: Paula Matienzo, 1211 Caferty Hill Rd., Endicott, NY 13760; (607) 754-5702; pmatienzo@stny.rr.com

April 26th & 27th – Greater Cleveland Orchid Society Show, South Euclid Community Center, 1370 Victory Dr., South Euclid, OH. Contact: Dawn Schlote, 7916 Stanhope Kellogsville, Williamsfield, OH 44093; (440) 364-9590.

May 3rd & 4th – Central Pennsylvania Orchid Society Show, Ag Arena, Penn State Campus, State College, PA. Contact: Cathy Riemer, 434 Chestnut St., Bellefonte, PA 16823; (814) 353-8741.

May 10th – Northeast Judging Center Symposium, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 232 Durham Rd., Madison, CT. Contact: Judy Becker, 432 Undermountain Rd., Salisbury, CT 06068; (860) 435-2263; jbecker@mohawk.net.

May 10th & 11th – Orchid Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania Show, JMC Arena, 423 W 38th St., Erie, PA. Contact: Steven Kidder, 1645 West 39th St., Erie, PA 16509; (814) 866-1830.

May 31st – JPC Speakers Day, Holiday Inn North, Newark International Airport, Newark, NJ. Contact: Rita Cohen (516) 374-6426

These events and others around the country can be found online at: www.aos.org/aos/events courtesy of the AOS. Check this website before traveling to see if there may be a local orchid event at your destination.

AOS Judging

The Northeast Judging Center holds two monthly orchid judging sessions:

1st Saturday of each month at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA. New contact for directions: Robert Winkley (617) 282-7351.

3rd Saturday of each month at Hampton Inn, 200 Tarrytown-White Plains Rd (Rt. 119), Elmsford, NY (at I-287, exit 1). Slides or presentations at 10am, judging begins around 12pm; bring your lunch.

Attention

Award-Winning Members

We would like to give recognition to MHOS members when they receive any award. If you have been honored with an award, please notify us so we can include it in our correspondence on our website. And if you have a picture of the award-winning orchid, we'd love to include it! Email Elisabeth@MansfieldCommercial.com

Mid-Hudson Orchid Society

42601 YAN'goshen
A Suite 3A
3 Hatfield Lane,
c/o Elisabeth Mansfield



Directions to AOS Judging at the Hampton Inn in Elmsford (Note: there may be construction at the I-287 exit to Route 119 so keep your eyes open for lane closures or slight changes.)

FROM ORANGE, ULSTER COUNTIES, NEWBURGH, KINGSTON:

South on the NYS Thruway, to I-287 East (toward White Plains), go over the Tappan Zee Bridge. Continue on Thruway to second exit: Exit 8 – Cross Westchester Expressway (Route 287 East). Take 287 East to first exit on your right – Exit 1. Take the fork on your right to Elmsford. At the end of the ramp, turn right on Route 119. Hotel is on your left. Go to the second light, make U turn and go onto the Hotel ramp to the parking lot.

FROM NORTHERN WESTCHESTER, PUTNAM, DUTCHESS COUNTIES: South on I-684, to Cross Westchester Expressway Route I-287

West. Stay on 287 West to Exit 1 make left turn at light – Hampton Inn is a short distance on right. OR South on Taconic Parkway to South/West Sawmill to I-287 West to Exit 1, make left turn at light – Hampton Inn is a short distance on right. OR South on Route 9 to 9A to Rt 119 Elmsford, NY, turn right on Rt 119, go about 2-3 long blocks. See Hampton Inn on left, make U turn at light, and turn into Hampton Inn on right.