



MHOS NEWSLETTER

www.mhos.us.com

February 2010

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 (Balmville), NY

Bring your blooming orchids for the show table.

2010 Meeting Dates

February 14 – Al Tamashausk, "Orchid Growing at the Swartz Brewery, Oxford, NJ"

March 13 (Saturday) – Spring Show and Sale

April 11

May 2 (meeting changed due to Mothers Day)

June 13

July – no meeting

August – no meeting

September 12

October 16 (Saturday) – Fall Show and Sale

November 14

December 12 – Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

February Speaker: Al Tamashausk

Orchid Growing at the Swartz Brewery, Oxford, NJ; Adaptation of a 19th Century Structure to a 21st Century Application



Albert V. Tamashausk will be at our February 14th meeting to describe how he grows miniature orchids, under lights, in the remnants of the historical Swartz Brewery.

Oxford, in the central western corner of Warren County, NJ, had one of the earliest blast furnaces in the nation, supplying iron for armaments and utilitarian items for the Revolution, and continuing to produce iron until the late 1950s. The Swartz Brewery was one of many small breweries that sprung up during the early 19th century to provide beer to local workers and inhabitants.

The Swartz brewery consisted of a main "utility building" and an attached subterranean "cave" six feet below the surface that served as a "lagering" chamber for the beer. Albert will describe in detail the layout of the cave, the renovations performed to allow orchid cultivation within the cave, and the unique "cloud forest" environment provided by this underground structure.

Albert Tamashausk began growing orchids in 1974. The orchid bug bit so hard that he dropped out of college to work full time for Lager & Hurrell Orchids, Summit, NJ. Albert has been growing orchids in the lagering cave at the Swartz Brewery since 1980.

Plants Albert will bring for sale: A general mix of miniature species including some from the genera Dendrobium, Bulbophyllum, Masdevallia, Porroglossum, Maxillaria, Laelia, Sophronitis, Sophronitella, Phragmipedium, Paphiopedilum, Pleurothallis, etc, etc. All plants are 100% grown under lights and are ideal for fluorescent light culture.

MHOS Website Password

The Members Only password for the MHOS website is included with this newsletter, in the meeting minutes. This password gives MHOS members access to minutes of previous meetings and to the 2010 Member Directory.

If you forget the password, you can call Elisabeth Mansfield's office at 845-294-1000 and – as long as your dues are current – it will be given to you.

MHOS Spring Show & Sale March 13th

Our March meeting will be replaced by the spring show and sale on Saturday, March 13th. Please contact Dennis Sandberg at 914-954-7132 if you are able to lend a hand. As always, everyone is invited to bring finger foods.



If you are selling plants or would like to bring display plants for the show table, the church will be open for setup the preceding evening from 5:30 to 7:30pm, and will open at 8:30am the day of the Show. Members only will be admitted at 10:00 Saturday morning; the public will be admitted beginning at 11:00am, until 3:00pm.

Instructions on how to label your plants will be in the March newsletter and also posted on our website, on the Members page.

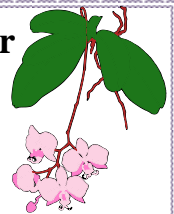
Please go to the Calendar page of our website, print out the flyer and post it to help publicize the show.

New MHOS Member Cherie Jemsek ...

...brought dozens and dozens of plants to our January meeting. Everyone who attended received a free orchid, and the rest of the plants were auctioned off.

Wow, what a great way to introduce yourself!

Thank you, Cherie, and welcome to MHOS.



MHOS Officers & Volunteers 2010

President

Dennis Sandberg
914-954-7132

Vice President

Ruth Nattras
845-343-2901

Membership Secretary

Ruth Nattras
845-343-2901

Corresponding Secretary

Holly Read
845-855-1842

Program Secretary

Carolyn Sanders
917-774-1018

Recording Secretary

Lois Brennan
845-255-7931

Treasurer

Bob Phillips
518-784-9403

AOS Rep

Lois Brennan
845-255-7931

Librarian

Ruth Nattras
845-343-2901

Supplies

Carolyn Sanders
917-774-1018

Newsletter and Website

Elisabeth Mansfield
845-294-1000
[Elisabeth@Mansfield
Commercial.com](mailto:Elisabeth@MansfieldCommercial.com)

Here is this month's contribution by MHOS member **John J. Rashak**:



Active eye at the base of pseudobulb

Orchids can propagate vegetatively like other plants. Monopodial orchids, like vandas, grow from an upright rhizome, with new leaves growing from the center of the rhizome. This is in contrast to orchids with pseudobulbs, which produce a sympodial growth, meaning that new growths generally emanate from one or two of the tiny eyes that appear at the base of the pseudobulb. Any eyes that do not grow are dormant spares that may be activated in the future.

Each pseudobulb remains on the orchid until it loses its foliage in a few years and becomes a "back bulb", which can be severed and potted up on its own. The repotted bulb can sprout new growth from a dormant eye. Although new growths generally start from the base of a bulb, they occasionally sprout from the top of a leafless bulb. The majority of sympodial orchids with pseudobulbs can be propagated from old bulbs, except for the odontoglossums.

The odontoglossums are very reluctant to grow from older pseudobulbs, but you can try cutting off the latest pseudobulb as soon as it has matured. With luck, the repotted bulb will sprout new growth & the old bulb will do likewise for the mature plant. However, flowering of either plant is at least a few years away, if at all.

For the sympodial orchids that do not produce pseudobulbs, like the paphiopedilums and the phragmipediums, propagation is possible by severing and repotting a small portion of the back of the orchid when it has at least four strong growths. The "phrags" are better suited for this technique than the "paphs", which grow more slowly.

For the cattleyas, which are also sympodial and have a thick rhizome, there are two growing seasons: spring and fall. Here's the propagation tip: separate one or two of the older pseudobulbs from the main plant (without repotting them) in the fall, then repot them in the spring.

Growing Tips from orchidweb.com

January was the bottom of winter and it is already encouraging to see sunlight sticking around longer each day. Many plants like a drier rest at this time of year like Cattleyas and Laelias or certain Dendrobiums. Natural light levels are improving but still on the low side so fertilizer frequency can be reduced somewhat. Once we passed mid-January, light levels are on the way up. By mid-March we will be 9,000,000 miles closer to the sun than we were in September. Fertilization can be increased to summer levels beginning in March unless your growing area has cool temperatures.

Artificial lights will keep your plants growing throughout the season. There are many lighting options on the market such as fluorescent lighting (check out our [Orchid Light Cart](#) and [Orchid Light Table Top](#)), LED lights (still quite expensive), and [High Pressure Sodium Fixtures](#). These fixtures can light an 8' x 8' room so that even in a basement you can grow and bloom all types of orchids.

Insects are usually a lot less active and not an issue until light and temperatures are on the increase. Fungal diseases can appear at this time of year due to cooler soil temps and slower drying out of potting medium. If you do develop root rot, [treat the mix with fungicide](#), dry the potting medium out for a couple of weeks, then resume watering.

Orchid Extravaganza at Longwood Gardens

January 23–March 31



The divas of the plant world put on an unforgettable show throughout the Conservatory. See thousands of orchids from around the world, including a living orchid curtain and orchid topiaries, among many other innovative displays.

Longwood Gardens
1001 Longwood Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
1-800-737-5500

Other Area Societies

1st Sunday

Central NY – Syracuse
www.cnyos.org

1st Sunday-1 pm

Northeastern Pennsylvania
 Society – Lakeville, PA

1st Tuesday – 7:30pm

Pinelands Orchid Society –
 Medford, NJ
pinelandsorchidsociety.org

1st Saturday

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

2nd Tuesday

Greater Westchester –
 White Plains, NY

2nd Tuesday

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

2nd Wednesday

Manhattan, NY
www.manhattanorchid.com

2nd Wednesday

Connecticut – Hartford or
 New Haven
www.ctorchids.org

2nd Thursday

North Jersey – East Hanover
www.njorchids.org

2nd Thursday

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 Wednesday

Greater NY – Bronx, NY
www.gnyos.org

3rd Thursday

Ramapo, NJ
www.ramapoorchid.org

Inclement weather

In case of inclement weather, it is possible our regular meeting could be cancelled. If this happens, the officers will notify a few volunteers who offered to accept calls from the membership to relay this information.

These volunteers do not call anyone, they will just stand by their phones to accept calls from other members who want to know if the meeting will be held. In bad weather, call any of these members:

Ruth Natras	(845) 343-2901
Dennis Sandberg	(914) 954-7132
Holly Read	(845) 855-1842



Orchids in Orange Magazine

There is a wonderful piece about orchids, featuring several MHOS members, in the February/March issue of the free publication *Orange Magazine*.

It was written by journalist and MHOS member Deborah Medenbach.

Supplies If you would like supplies brought to an MHOS meeting, please call Carolyn Sanders before Friday preceding the meeting at 917-774-1018. For a list of supplies, refer to the Members section of our web site. Supplies purchased through MHOS are at very reasonable prices, with no shipping charges. For prices, check with Carolyn or see the MHOS website at www.mhos.us.com/supplies.html.

Events in the Northeast

January 23rd to March 31st – Orchid Extravaganza at Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Road, Kennet Square, PA 19348. 1-800-737-5500 www.longwoodgardens.org

February 5th to 7th – Deep Cut Orchid Society Show, Dearborn Market, Rt. 35 South, Holmdel, NJ. Contact: Faye Arnett, (732) 786-8583; farnett@gmail.com.

February 6th to April 11th – Orchids: A Cultural Odyssey, U.S. Botanic Garden, 100 Maryland Ave. SW, Washington, DC. Contact: For Information (202) 225-8333

February 12th to 14th – New Hampshire Orchid Society Show, Radisson Hotel, 11 Tara Blvd., Nashua, NH. Contact: Jean Hallstone, (603) 880-0404.

February 12th to 14th – Southern Ontario Orchid Society Show, Toronto Botanical Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. E., Toronto, Ontario. Contact: Wayne Hingston, 2050 Seventh Conc., Uxbridge, ON L9P 1R4; (905) 649-2467; w2hingston@yahoo.com.

February 13th – Paphiopedilum Forum, US National Arboretum, Washington, DC. Contact: Lynn & William Goldner, (410) 286-2664; woodstream@chesapeake.net.

February 20th & 21st – Amherst Orchid Society Show, Smith Vo-Ag High School, Locust St., Route 9, Northampton, MA. Contact: Leilani & Harold Norman; (413) 267-5124; leilani.norman@verizon.net.

Feb 26-28 - Virginia Orchid Society Show, Contact: Valerie Thacker, 11419 Georgetown Rd., Mechanicsville, VA 23116 ; (804) 338-7100; vthacker@comcast.net

February 27th to April 11th – The Orchid Show: Cuba in Bloom, at **The New York Botanical Garden**, 200th Street and Kazimiroff Boulevard, Bronx, NY. 718-817-8700 www.nybg.org

Feb 27-28 - Orchid Society of the Royal Botanical Garden Show, Royal Botanical Gardens, 680 Plains Rd. W, Burlington, ON. Contact: Chris Foden, 889 Morley Ave., Milton, ON; (905) 876-4848; fodens@sympatico.ca.

Feb 28-March 7 - Philadelphia International Flower Show, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA. Contact: Jane G. Pepper, PHS, 100 N. 20th St. 5 FL, Philadelphia, PA 19103; (215) 988-8826; bgreene@pennhort.org.

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. Everything published in *Orchids* magazine is also on the web page.

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: Due to renovations at the Hampton Inn, the Northeast Judging Center will meet at the Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Rd, Tarrytown (it is one block away from the Hampton Inn) in January, February and March, 2010.

For further information, contact Rita Cohen at 516-374-6426 or orchart@optonline.net

The Classifieds

"The Classifieds" is a regular section of our monthly newsletter.

Send your ads to

Elisabeth@MansfieldCommercial.com

or fax to 845-294-1070

Mid-Hudson Orchid Society

42601 NY N^W Goshen
118 Greenwich Avenue
c/o Elisabeth Mansfield



Directions to AOS Judging at the Hampton Inn in Elmsford – NOTE: These are directions to the Hampton Inn. Due to renovations at the Hampton Inn, the Northeast Judging Center will meet at the Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Rd, Tarrytown, one block away from the Hampton Inn, in January, February, and March, 2010.

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. Hampton Inn is on your left.

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.