



# MHOS NEWSLETTER

[www.mhos.us.com](http://www.mhos.us.com)

January 2010

## Meetings

The Mid-Hudson Orchid Society meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

**January 10** – Elections and Holiday Pot Luck Dinner (postponed from December)

**February 14**

**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

## MHOS Dues and Website Password

When you receive this newsletter, check the subject line (for email) or the mailing label (for US mail) to see the year you are paid up through. If you have not paid your 2010 dues, this is the last newsletter you will receive.

The Members Only password for the MHOS website will be distributed in February to those members whose dues are paid through 2010. This password will give you 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.

Dues are \$25 for individuals, \$35 for families.

You can pay dues at any MHOS meeting or mail your check, payable to MHOS, to:

Ruth Natras  
2 Lake Avenue  
Middletown, NY 10940

## Snow Date

Since our December meeting was snowed out, Elections of 2010 Officers and the Holiday Pot Luck dinner have been rescheduled for the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please bring an ethnic dish to share.

## 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) 962-1541
Holly Read	(845) 855-1842



## 22nd Annual Open House

Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, January 31st 2010

10:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.

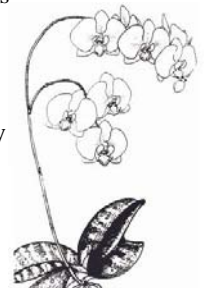
Our largest selection of blooming plants  
Many unusual and new arrivals

Once again we welcome **James Rose of Cal-Orchid** with a selection of orchids from around the world

Back by popular demand: Culture Talks, Friday & Saturday

**Sunday brunch 11:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.**

635 Wayside Rd., Neptune, NJ • 732-922-2635  
[www.silvaorchids.com](http://www.silvaorchids.com) • [silvaorchids@optonline.net](mailto:silvaorchids@optonline.net)



## MHOS Officers & Volunteers 2009

### President

Dennis Sandberg  
914-962-1541

### 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**:



*Miltonia confusa*

The diversity of orchids is legendary. Take, for example, *Miltonia confusa*, a fragrant orchid from Costa Rica, which produces memorable red and green flowers in spring and winter. Now compare it with *Dendrochilum glumaceum* in springtime, when the latter will be very fragrant for most of a month, but without the brilliant colors of the former. It's this diversity which keeps orchid growers working hard to highlight the art inherent in nature.



*Dendrochilum glumaceum*

Orchids are commonly grown in plastic pots, but some can thrive in the more aesthetic-looking hanging baskets, especially orchids that prefer more light or have droopy flower spikes. A good example of hanging-basket-friendly orchids are the stanhopeas, which produces flower spikes from the base of the plant. Other hanging-basket-friendly orchids include the bulbophyllums and cirrhopetalums, some cymbidiums, as well as the following: *Miltonia favescescens*, *Dendrochilum cobbianum*, *Gongora maculata*, *Encyclia radiata*, *Coelogyne cristata* and *Acineta superba*. So, for example, if you plant your stanhopea in a hanging basket, you may see flowers peeking out from the sides or bottom of the basket in about a year, instead of having those flowers hidden in the bottom or sides of a plastic pot.

There is also the hanging bark alternative to the plastic pot, ideal for the smaller-growing epiphytes with pseudobulbs emanating from an upward-growing rhizome, such as: *Brassia verrucosa*, *Dendrobium miyakei* and *victoria-regina*, *Encyclia polybulbon* and *vitellina*, *Laelia anceps*, *Maxillaria tenuifolia*, *Oncidium flexuosum*, *Sarcochilus Fitzhart* and *Trichopilia tortilis*. Imagine hanging all of these orchids from cork bark on a wall and admiring their diversity. The downside to the hanging-bark-friendly orchids is that daily watering or spraying and weekly additions of fertilizer may be necessary to grow them on bark instead of in pots.

There's also the tree-branch-mounting alternative to the plastic pot. This would work for small orchids in a humid environment, which can be provided by a greenhouse, and with just about any tree branch except for a resinous pine branch.

## Lazy Daze ... Part 3

(continued from MHOS December newsletter)

by Ken Slump, from *AOS Orchids Magazine*

**POTTING AND REPOTTING** - Orchid growers who amass sizeable collections typically dread repotting time and often become lax about it. Yet one of the biggest dangers to a mature orchid is a rotting root system trapped in an old potting mix that is rapidly breaking down. If you are an orchid grower prone to repotting procrastination, avoid organic ingredients in your mixes that tend to decompose quickly, such as many types of bark chunks. Coconut husk chips, coir (coconut fiber) or treefern fiber may provide a longer-lasting alternative. Similarly, if you grow orchids in open slat baskets, you will find that those made from teak last longer than those made from pine or other woods. When orchids grown in this way become too large for their basket, some growers find it convenient to slip such a basket into a larger one that will contain it, rather than disturb the plant. Nothing could be simpler or easier. Moving up versus tearing out can sometimes be adapted for potted orchids too. I have managed this on occasions when a plant with multiple leads had reached or extended a bit beyond the edge of a clay pot. I select a larger clay pot that allows about 1 inch (2.5 cm) of space into which I can tuck fresh growing medium all around the smaller one. For this to work well, the growing medium in the original pot must be in good condition. The method can be a real time saver, and the plant never misses a beat from suffering a severely damaged or destroyed root system. The reluctant repotter may also benefit from careful plant selection. Avoid those orchids that seem to do best with frequent or regular repotting, such as paphiopedilums and phalaenopsis. Choose orchids that do best when grown undisturbed, such as schomburgkias and many dendrobiums.

Nearly any dedicated orchid grower can find ways to simplify maintenance. Often, there are routine tasks that may be modified or eliminated in order to save time. Sometimes, it is important to analyze your growing conditions and select plants accordingly. Cull your collection if necessary, as it is much easier to manage a collection when most of the plants have harmonious cultural requirements.

### Other Area Societies

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

Central NY – Syracuse  
[www.cnyos.org](http://www.cnyos.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday-1 pm

Northeastern Pennsylvania  
Society – Lakeville, PA

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday – 7:30pm

Pinelands Orchid Society –  
Medford, NJ  
[pinelandsorchidsociety.org](http://pinelandsorchidsociety.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday

North Eastern New York –  
Albany/Colonie, NY  
[www.nenyos.org](http://www.nenyos.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Greater Westchester –  
White Plains, NY

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

Manhattan, NY  
[www.manhattanorchid.com](http://www.manhattanorchid.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

Connecticut – Hartford or  
New Haven  
[www.ctorchids.org](http://www.ctorchids.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

North Jersey – East Hanover  
[www.njorchids.org](http://www.njorchids.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

Long Island – Valley Stream

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

Southern Tier –  
Binghamton, NY  
[www.storchidsociety.com](http://www.storchidsociety.com)

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday

Staten Island, NY

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

Matinecock - Oyster Bay, NY

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

Greater NY – Bronx, NY  
[www.gnyos.org](http://www.gnyos.org)

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

Ramapo, NJ  
[www.ramapoorchid.org](http://www.ramapoorchid.org)

### J&L Orchids' January Thaw Sale

Everything is 20% Off!!\*

**January 16 – 24 9am to 4pm each day**

A great selection of plants!

*Blooming Masdevallias, Restrepias  
A large selection of fragrant plants,  
miniatures and much more!*

Best Savings of the Year!

*Come chase away the Winter Blues*

[www.jlorchids.com](http://www.jlorchids.com)

J&L Orchids  
20 Sherwood Rd  
Easton, CT 06612  
(203) 261-3772

\*at greenhouse only

### Northeast Judging Center Relocates for January, February and March

Due to renovations at the Hampton Inn, the Northeast Judging Center will meet at the Westchester Marriot, 670 White Plains Road, Tarrytown (it is one block away from the Hampton Inn, where judging is usually held) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of January, February and March.

For any further information, contact Rita Cohen at 516-374-6426 or [orchart@optonline.net](mailto:orchart@optonline.net)

### 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](http://www.mhos.us.com/supplies.html).

### Events in the Northeast

**January 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> – North Carolina Piedmont Orchid Society Show**, Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, 6500 South New Hope Rd., Belmont, NC. Contact: Virginia Rappold, (704) 912-2536; [vrappold@aol.com](mailto:vrappold@aol.com).

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> – Cape and Islands Orchid Society Show**, Resort & Conference Center at Hyannis, 35 Scudder Ave., Hyannis, MA. Contact: Tina Balog, (508) 540-5006; [tina@plaid.whoiedu](mailto:tina@plaid.whoiedu).

**January 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Open House, Silva Orchids**, 635 Wayside Rd., Neptune, NJ. Contact: 732-922-2635, [www.silvaorchids.com](http://www.silvaorchids.com), [silvaorchids@optonline.net](mailto:silvaorchids@optonline.net)

**January 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> – Triad Orchid Society Show**, Greensboro Council of Garden Clubs, 4301A Lawndale Dr., Greensboro, NC. Contact: Shirley Anglin, (336) 940-6272; [sanglin767@roadrunner.com](mailto:sanglin767@roadrunner.com).

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

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

**February 13<sup>th</sup> – Paphiopedilum Forum**, US National Arboretum, Washington, DC. Contact: Lynn & William Goldner, (410) 286-2664; [woodstream@chesapeake.net](mailto:woodstream@chesapeake.net).

**February 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> – 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](mailto:leilani.norman@verizon.net).

These events and others around the country can be found online at: [www.aos.org/aos/events](http://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:

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:orchart@optonline.net)

## The Classifieds

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

Send your ads to

[Elisabeth@MansfieldCommercial.com](mailto:Elisabeth@MansfieldCommercial.com)

or fax to 845-294-1070

## Mid-Hudson Orchid Society

42601 NY N<sup>W</sup> 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.