



# MHOS NEWSLETTER

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

July 2009

## 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.

## 2009 Meeting Dates

**July 12** – Ice Cream Social and Diagnosis Day. Bring your ailing plants.

**August** – no meeting

**September 13**

**October 17** – Fall Show and Sale (sale date changed to avoid conflict with Columbus Day)

**November 8** – Repotting presentation

**December 13** – Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

## No August MHOS meeting / newsletter

After the July 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, the next meeting will not be until September 13<sup>th</sup>. In addition, there will be no August newsletter. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

## MHOS Member Open House



Ellyn Romano has invited MHOS members to her home in Staatsburg, NY for the next Member Open House on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> between noon and 3pm. Staatsburg is in Dutchess County, just north of Hyde Park. Ellyn's greenhouse has catts, phals, cymbidiums, dendrobiums, and some botanicals and vandas.

Ellyn's address and phone number, plus directions to her home, are included with the meeting minutes in this newsletter.

## New Supplies Coordinator

Thanks to Georgette Martin for eight years of friendly and efficient help as our Supplies person.

Starting January 2010, Rita Chase will take over the position. Her contact info will be included in a newsletter at the end of the year.

Thanks, Rita!

## MHOS Life Member Ruth Silverman

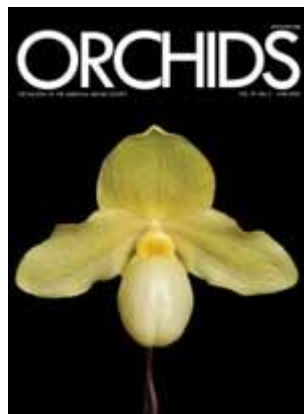
*Ruth Silverman was recently named an MHOS life member and was given a restaurant gift certificate. She sent this thank-you note to MHOS President Dennis Sandberg:*

Please let the membership know that I am very happy with the restaurant gift certificate. What a generous and thoughtful idea! Eating out is truly an occasional treat for me so I will enjoy the gift, each mouthful, each sip of wine.

I hope to see all of you from time to time, even though my orchid collection is very close to zero at this point. When I look at the show table, I remember how fascinating the plants and flowers are and how tempting to try them ALL.

With fond wishes,  
Ruth Silverman

## Join the American Orchid Society



Published since 1932, *Orchids* magazine (formerly known as the AOS Bulletin) is just one of the many benefits that membership to the AOS gives you. Each monthly issue is packed with topics of current interest for both beginners and advanced orchid

growers. In full color with spectacular pictures, the magazine also features dozens of pages each month of advertisements that link readers with sources of orchid plants and growing supplies. To learn more about membership in the AOS [click here](#).

## 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

Georgette Martin  
845-473-6276  
after 6 pm only

### 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**:

Some orchids in our part of the world like to come outside for the summer. These orchids include the light-loving, cool-growing, robust-foliaged types such as cymbidiums, dendrobiums, encyclias, odontoglossums, coelgyenes and a number of oncidiums, such as the hardy, mule-eared *Oncidium splendidum*. However, softer, wider-leafed orchids such as lycastes, anguloas and deciduous calanthes would be better left inside, along with masdevallias and other shade-dwellers. Nevertheless, pleiones that love cooler conditions could be left outside.

Cattleyas could be left outside under shade cloth in a tropical region, but not in our temperate one. Similarly, the warm-growing, shade-loving phalaenopsis and a number of the paphiopedilums can tolerate the tropical, but not our temperate, outdoors during the summer. Also, young orchids, older orchids growing in small pots, orchids in the process of producing flowers and recently repotted orchids are not suitable for outdoor living even during summertime.

*Dendrobium nobile* is an example of a Himalayan species that likes the outdoors, enjoys hanging from trees in large baskets, and flowers well after experiencing exceptionally cool nighttime temperatures. But an orchid does not have to be



*Dendrobium nobile*

Himalayan by nature to enjoy the outdoors. Even sick orchids can do well by going outside, especially cymbidiums or odontoglossums that may have been weakened by lack of light or excessive indoor temperatures.

The ideal outdoor location for orchids varies. Trees provide shade. Orchids that are mounted on bark can be hung in trees, but they will require lots of water on a daily basis, as will orchids in hanging baskets such as vandas, stanhopeas and *D. nobile*. Keep orchids away from fruit trees that harbor aphids and other pests as well as free-falling fruit. If trees are not available, orchids should be located where the sun reaches them only early or late, since orchids must be shielded from direct sun for most of the day.

## The Classifieds

### FOR SALE

I have two three-tier stainless steel grow light stands on canisters. They are 50" wide x 19" deep x 64 1/2" high with adjustable two-bulb fixtures. Originally \$595.00 each, I will sell them for \$150.00 each or trade for orchids.

Email Bob Harvey at [bobharvey@mac.com](mailto:bobharvey@mac.com) or call me at 845-424-3009.

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"The Classifieds" is now a regular section of our monthly newsletter. Send your want ads to

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

or fax to 845-294-1070.

**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 our web site. Supplies purchased through MHOS are at very reasonable prices, with no shipping charges. For prices, please check with Georgette or see the MHOS website at [mhos.us.com/supplies.html](http://mhos.us.com/supplies.html)

## 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)

## Move 'em Out

*from an article by Larry Desiano, Deep Cut Orchid Society*

Along with orchids' other obvious qualities like being bright, beautiful and long lasting, most orchids are in bloom during the fall, winter and spring when everything outside is dreary and gray (or white when the snow falls), so they brighten up the dull months in the northeast when nothing is growing outside. When it's time to break out and hit the beach during the summer, most orchids are no longer in bloom but in their growing mode, and they thrive outside.

Our area is ideal for growing almost all types of orchids outside during the spring, summer and fall months. Orchids appreciate good light, good air circulation and high humidity. Good light promotes growth, and most orchids need good temperature swings from day to night for flower production. All of these requirements are readily available outside in our area, and in good proportions, but not easy to accommodate inside with air conditioning and shades to control the heat in our homes.

So if you are growing indoors on a windowsill or under lights, look to the great outdoors for a break in orchid care. With your plants outside, it is also a lot easier to feed and water, along with all the other plants that you grow outside in the summer. No carting of plants to the kitchen sink or bathroom tub. Just drown them every other morning with a mild fertilizer solution, and watch them grow.

Even if you have a greenhouse like I do, you will find that your plants will most likely do better outside in the summer than in your greenhouse because of the great air movement and freshness that is not easily accomplished in a greenhouse.

### Do it Slow

The intensity of light outside is much higher than in your home, and is much higher than you think. Our eyes deceive us by restricting light to protect them, so you can't believe what you see. Yes, you've heard or read that Cattleyas can tolerate high light, but like any other plant, when you move orchids from inside to outside, you need to do it slowly so that they can acclimate to the good light, and not burn. Just like us, if we spend a day or two in the strong sun after being indoors all winter, we burn. Plants and orchids are no different.

Start in the shade and move progressively into the sun over a two week period. Then watch the color of the leaves. Dark green leaves means not enough light, and slow growth. With most orchids, light green leaves (not yellow) is good. It means good light, which combined with good feeding, yields good growth. Phalaenopsis and some Dendrobiums will develop a purple edging on their leaves, which is like tanning. This is also good and means good light.

### Enjoy your summer

So if you are concerned about what to do with your orchids as you head outside for some summer fun, just take your orchids out with you. They'll enjoy it as much as you.

## Events in the Northeast

**June 26<sup>th</sup> to July 5<sup>th</sup>** – J & L Orchids Summer Sale, 9am to 4pm. Lectures, workshops, sales. 20 Sherwood Road, Easton, CT 06612. Call (203) 261-3772 or email [jlorchid@snet.net](mailto:jlorchid@snet.net)

**July 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>** – Parkside Orchid Nursery 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Orchid Fest, 2503 Mountainview Drive, Ottsville PA. For information call 610-847-8039 or visit [www.parksideorchids.com](http://www.parksideorchids.com)

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

## **Mid-Hudson Orchid Society**

Goshen, NY 10924  
218 Greenwich Avenue  
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.