



# MHOS NEWSLETTER

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

June 2008

## 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, NY (Balmville).

Bring your blooming orchids for the show table.

**June 8<sup>th</sup>** meeting, repotting session and a discussion about roots

**July 13<sup>th</sup>** meeting, speaker to be determined

**August** – no meeting

**September 14<sup>th</sup>** meeting, J & L Orchids will give a talk on Pleurothallids, miniature orchids of the Andes.

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

**November 11** - We are hoping that Carri Raven-Riemann will be speaking on phalaenopsis

**December 9** - Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

## Bus Trip to Parkside Orchid Nursery Summer Orchid Fest, Ottsville, PA Saturday, July 26, 2008

The North Eastern New York Orchid Society has offered MHOS members a special discounted rate to join them on the bus trip to this annual event.

### Lectures/Workshops

Alan Koch on Brazilian cattleyas & mini catts  
Education session by the Philadelphia OAS Judging Team



**Plus** 21 vendors with plants, potting supplies and pottery

Admission to Parkside is free, but you should bring money for lunch and shopping.

Bus fare is \$30.00. The bus will pick up behind Sears in Newburgh at about 7:45am.

For bus reservations, contact Janet Vinyard at 518-673-3212 or [rvinyard@frontiernet.net](mailto:rvinyard@frontiernet.net). You **must** call to reserve your spot by **June 30<sup>th</sup>**!

## MHOS Meetings and Speakers

At our May meeting, Judy Becker of Lauray Gardens gave an informative presentation about plants that grow well with orchids. See their website at [www.lauray.com](http://www.lauray.com) to learn more.

The June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting will include a repotting session. Bring in your orchids that need repotting, for help and advice. Isabel Lopatin will also lead a discussion about roots.

As of this writing, we still do not have a speaker for the July meeting. If you have any suggestions, please contact Isabel.

## J&L Orchids Annual Summer Sale

June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 6<sup>th</sup> (at greenhouse only)  
9am to 4pm each day, including Sundays

**First Weekend Special Guests (June 27, 28 & 29 only):**

Lauris Rose of *Cal-Orchid, Inc.*  
Carri Raven-Riemann of *The Orchidophile*

**WORKSHOPS** on Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
**Enjoy a Delicious Free Picnic Lunch First Weekend !**  
Lots of fascinating new plants --- **15% off** all J&L stock

20 Sherwood Road, Easton, CT 06612  
email [jlorchid@snet.net](mailto:jlorchid@snet.net)

(203) 261-3772  
[www.jlorchids.com](http://www.jlorchids.com)

## 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 and Website

Elisabeth Mansfield  
845-294-1000

## Seasonal Orchid Care from rePotme.com

Select-A-Blend Potting Mixes & Supplies for Orchids

### To Do Now:

1. Fungus Gnats, those pesky little fruit flies that spring forth from damp mix, are not just pesky, they actually feed on orchid roots! Get rid of them organically by interrupting their life cycle with Gnatrol. We now carry the sought after new granular version - [Gnatrol WDG](#).
2. Now is the time to begin feeding at summertime levels. We like to increase food during the orchid's most active growth months by 50-100%. We recommend [FEED ME! MSU Orchid Fertilizer](#) for all year-round fertilizing.
3. Many orchids benefit greatly from spending summers outside. Many popular genera such as Cattleya, Cymbidium, Dendrobium and Oncidium really grow better and bloom more reliably when treated to the summer outdoors. One point to consider, if an orchid is classified as "high light" it does not mean the kind of full sun that tomato plants require. "High light" is a relative term and refers to the light requirements of the Orchid Family. Dappled shade is a good bet for many "high light" genera.

### Looking Ahead:

1. Native orchids abound and there are hardy varieties suitable for the garden in many areas. We are anxiously awaiting the bloom on our spiking Bletia Striata which grows in the garden next to the Lily bulbs.
2. In June we are at the height of active growth for most orchids; today's new leaf or pseudobulb is tomorrow's new bloom spike. Protect new growth and old from bacterial infection with [Physan 20](#).



Janet Jozwiak sent along a sale flyer last month from **Owens Orchids** of North Carolina. Unfortunately, it came too late to get into May's MHOS newsletter and that particular sale has now expired, but they frequently have other specials, and we encourage you to visit their website [owensorchids.com](http://owensorchids.com) or call 828-877-3313. Orders are accepted by phone, mail, and email.

## Events in the Northeast

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

**June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>** – Orchid Sale, Silva Orchids, 635 Wayside Rd, Neptune, NJ 07753, 10am to 5pm.  
Contact: 732-922-2635 or email [silvaorchids@optonline.net](mailto:silvaorchids@optonline.net)

**June 7<sup>th</sup>** – Spring Orchid Festival at Marlow Orchids, 2272 Scottsville Road, Scottsville, NY 14546. 9am to 4pm. Lectures, Displays, Sales, Guest Vendors. Call (585) 889-7083 or visit [www.marlowsorchids.com](http://www.marlowsorchids.com)

**June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 6<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)

**June 28<sup>th</sup>** – Open House/Repotting at the Greenhouse, 9am to 4pm, New Earth Orchids, 193 County Rd 628, Sussex, NJ 07461. Call 973-875-4014 or visit [www.newearthorchids.com](http://www.newearthorchids.com)

**July 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>** – Parkside Orchid Nursery Annual Summer Orchid Fest, 2503 Mountainview Drive, Ottsville PA. For information call 610-847-8039 or visit [www.parksideorchids.com](http://www.parksideorchids.com)

**October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>** – CNYOS Show and Sale, Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville, NY.  
[www.cnyos.org](http://www.cnyos.org)

**October 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>** – AOS Members Meeting hosted by Longwood Gardens at The Hotel DuPont, Wilmington, Delaware. Contact information to be determined

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.

## 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> Saturday

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

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

Mid-Hudson – Newburgh,  
 NY [www.mhos.us.com](http://www.mhos.us.com)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Greater Westchester –  
 White Plains, NY

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

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

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

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)

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> Thursday

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

### 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

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

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

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

Orchids illustrate the art of survival in various ways. A microscopic fungus called a mycelium co-exists with the root of an orchid in a symbiotic relationship. The orchid serves as a host for the mycelium, which releases nutrients absorbed by the orchid. Orchids thrive in colonies, which ensure that the mycelium necessary for seeds to germinate will be available.

Diversity also ensures survival, and orchids show their greatest diversity in the tropics, where orchids will only grow on certain trees in a size-oriented distribution pattern. For example, large orchids will grow on the main trunk or near the initial fork of large trees, while small orchids will grow higher up on the perimeter of the canopy. As the leaf cover of the rainforest increases, the large orchids will become darker-foliaged and healthier, while the small orchids will produce more flowers due to a greater amount of sunlight and more air circulation. However, as a result of “living on the edge”, the small orchids will exhibit yellowing foliage and shrinking pseudobulbs. But perhaps orchids have adapted most famously in their quest for pollination.

In what might be termed the “dance of the tropics”, *Ophrys apifera*, the bee orchid, opens its flowers in sync with the emergence of male bees, which start flying about three weeks before the females. As a result, male bees spend three weeks pollinating orchids while attempting copulation with flower lips that mimic female bees.



*Ophrys apifera*

In what might be called the “aroma of the tropics”, many Bulbophyllums have a lip or sepals that smell like decaying meat, which attracts the carrion flies and wasps that inadvertently pollinate the orchids in their search for a place to lay eggs. But some orchids smell better than others in the quest for pollination. An example is *Brassavola nodosa*, whose savory evening scent attracts moths and other nocturnal insects.



*Oncidium flexuosum*

In what might be billed the “elegance of the tropics”, the closely-clustered flowers of *Oncidium flexuosum*, which appear at the end of a long flowering spike, move to the rhythm of the wind, attracting small flying, pollinating insects.

## 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, with no shipping charges.



## Bottles Wanted

Georgette Martin requests members to bring clean empty Snapple-type wide-mouth bottles and caps to meetings so she can reuse them when selling liquid supplies. Please remember: she can't use it if it's not **glass**, and she can't use it unless it comes **with the cap**.

## 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

2624 NY 10924  
Goshen, NY  
3 Hatfield Lane, Suite 3A  
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.