



# MHOS NEWSLETTER

MHOS is an Affiliated Organization of the American Orchid Society

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

March 2011

## 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.

## 2011 Meeting Dates

**March 12 (Saturday)** – Spring Show and Sale

**April 10** – Extended show table and judging

**May 1** (a week early due to Mother's Day) – speaker Carri Raven-Riemann, the orchidPhile

**June 12** - Wayne Roberts of Robert's Flower Supply, speaking on cypripediums and native orchids that can be grown here in our northeast gardens.

**July** – no meeting

**August** – no meeting

**September 11** – speaker Elle Ronis on Miltoniopsis

**October 15 (Saturday)** – Show and Sale

**November 13**

**December 11** – Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

## MHOS Spring Show & Sale Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

Our March meeting will be replaced by the spring show and sale on Saturday, March 12th.



Please contact Elisabeth Mansfield at 845-294-1000 if you are able to lend a hand. As always, everyone is invited to bring finger foods. Please bring foods other than sweets – we'll be there most of the day.

Also, members are requested to bring boxes so we are able to pack up each sale properly.

The church will be open for setup Friday evening from 5:30 to 7:30pm, and will open at 8:30am the day of the Show.

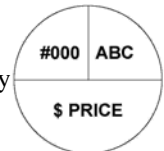
Members only will be admitted beginning at 10:00am the day of the sale, and it will be open to the public from 11:00am until 3:00pm.

Don't forget to post flyers about the sale! You can download and print them from the Calendar page of our website at [www.mhos.us.com](http://www.mhos.us.com)

## Labeling your plants for the MHOS Show / Sale

If you're selling plants, please be sure to use light-colored labels only. Remember that well-groomed plants will always sell better, and a picture of the blooms will help sell plants that are not in bloom at the sale time.

There should be only one label on each plant, with your member number and initials on the top half, and the price on the bottom half (see sample at right). All plants and items should be individually priced (we cannot accommodate "3 for \$10" type pricing), with prices in twenty-five cent increments (we only have quarters for change, no dimes, nickels, or pennies).



## A question from February's meeting...

The meaning of "equitant" came into question during our discussion of mini orchids at the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Says Rob Greene:

I couldn't find it in the glossaries of several of my orchid books, but the huge Webster's New International Dictionary came through. Under "botany" it means: "Overlapping each other; -- said of leaves whose bases overlap and bestride the leaves within or above them, as in the iris." It even includes an illustrative drawing. So our characterization of "fan-shaped growth, with no pseudobulbs" was in the ballpark. By now, any member who really wanted to know has probably Googled it; but in case there are other dinosaurs like me who still rely on printed references, I thought you might consider including this tidbit in the next MHOS Newsletter.



Thanks, Rob! Along with the info you sent, here is a photo we found through – you guessed it – Google.

## MHOS Classifieds

Downsizing greenhouse. Orchids for sale. Located in New Paltz, Ulster County.

Contact John & Rita Rashak at (845) 256-3868

[johnrashak@aol.com](mailto:johnrashak@aol.com);

[ritarashak@aol.com](mailto:ritarashak@aol.com).

## MHOS Supplies List

The list of supplies that we carry and the prices have been updated and are now posted on our website. We are arranging for more vendors and hope to be able to reduce prices further, once we get a better handle on the volume of supplies that our members need. If there is something that is not on the list that you would like us to carry, please contact Carolyn Sanders or Elisabeth Mansfield.

**MHOS Officers  
& Volunteers  
2011**

*President \**  
Elisabeth Mansfield  
845-294-1000

*Vice President \**  
Ruth Nattras  
845-343-2901

*Membership Secretary \**  
Ruth Nattras  
845-343-2901

*Corresponding Secretary \**  
Dennis Sandberg  
914-954-7132

*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)

\* MHOS Officers  
Other positions  
are volunteer

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

Orchids are sometimes besieged by pests. Aphids, for example, include the greenflies, whiteflies and blackflies of summer. Greenflies like the softer parts of orchids, such as buds in particular and the early growths of soft-leaved orchids like lycastes and pleiones. Aphids can be washed off an orchid with warm water and a little insecticidal soap. Aphids secrete a sticky honeydew, which ants devour. However, this secretion can also cause a dark mold on an orchid's leaf.



Bees are another pest, surprisingly enough, as they take pollen from flowers, causing the flowers to die. Mice also like to eat pollen. Another pest is the mealy bug, which is larger than an aphid, and which can leave an ugly yellow patch on an orchid, similar to the damage done by scale insects. However, mealy bugs are more mobile than scale insects, and will move from the base of leaves to developing flower spikes.



Moss flies breed in the growing medium, and most of these flies can be eliminated by putting the orchid in a bucket of water that reaches the rim of the plant's pot for about 30 minutes. The adult flies can be controlled by placing insectivorous plants like sundews and butterworts nearby. Other orchid pests include the sap-sucking red spider mite, the similar "false spider mite", slugs, snails and scale insects. The latter are brown or white insects with a round scale-like shell, which can be hard or soft.

Snails and slugs like to eat roots, buds and pseudobulbs. These pests can be rounded up by placing slices of apple on the growing medium, since they like to congregate underneath the apple slices. Adding a few toads to the greenhouse is another environmentally-friendly control technique for these pests.



There are other pests, like leaf-chewing weevils and caterpillars, as well as woodlice, ants and earwigs. Woodlice and ants will cause the growing medium to break down prematurely, thereby preventing oxygen from reaching an orchid's roots, while earwigs attack roots and pseudobulbs.

**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 Nattras | (845) 343-2901 | Dennis Sandberg | (914) 962-1541 |
| Holly Read   | (845) 855-1842 |                 |                |

**Artificial Light  
Schedule**



Here are the **hours per day** you should run artificial lights for tropical orchids, on a monthly basis:

- January 1 to 15: 11 hours + 45 mins
- January 15 to 31: 12 hours
- February: 13 hours
- March through August: 14-16 hours
- September: 13 hours
- October: 12 hours
- Mid November to Mid January: 11 hours + 45 minutes.

(more on page 3)

**NENYOS Event  
at Piping Rock Orchids  
Galway, NY**

**Saturday, June 4, 11am to 5:30pm**

- Greenhouse open for shopping
- Picnic lunch
- Guest speaker Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids, speaking on "Mini Catts"
- Questions answered by Alan Koch and by Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids

Non-NENYOS members: small donation appreciated.  
Bring a folding chair if possible.

Please RSVP so they can prepare for the correct number of attendees. Contact Tom Hoodack:

[thoodack@nycap.rr.com](mailto:thoodack@nycap.rr.com)

(518) 753-6614 (Please – no calls after 9pm!)

## 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 PA – Lakeville

[www.nepaorchidsociety.org](http://www.nepaorchidsociety.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday – 7:30pm

Pinelands – 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

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

Manhattan, NY

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

Connecticut – Farmington or Cheshire

[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 – Lynbrook

[longislandorchidsociety.org](http://longislandorchidsociety.org)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

Western PA, Pittsburgh, PA

[www.oswp.org](http://www.oswp.org)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

Southern Tier – Binghamton

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday

Staten Island, NY

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

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)

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

Jersey Highlands - Augusta, NJ

[jheydel@optonline.net](http://jheydel@optonline.net)

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

**NOW IN JUNE**

Announcing the second annual  
**SHORE ORCHID FESTIVAL**

Friday, June 10 – Sunday, June 12, 2011 • 10:00a.m. – 5:00p.m.

Held at Silva Orchids

*Guests:*

Andy's Orchids	Oakhill Gardens
Brennan Orchids	Orchid Phile
Cal-Orchid	Orchids Limited
Canaima Orchids	Parkside Orchids
Celebrate Orchids	Piping Rock
Creative Hydroponics	Silva Orchids
Fishing Creek Orchids	Stony Brook Orchids
J & L Orchids	Suwada Orchid Nursery
Kelley's Komer Orchid Supplies	Waldor Orchids
Little Brook Orchids	Woodstream Orchids
Main Street Orchids	

*Food Vendors On Site*

Free orchid workshops on Saturday & Sunday for beginners & experienced growers  
Great food on site • Free admission • Free parking • Rain or shine • All activities tented


635 Wayside Road • Neptune, NJ • 732-922-2635 • Easy access from major highways  
Visit our web site for more information [www.silvaorchids.com](http://www.silvaorchids.com)

*Come for a day or enjoy a "Jersey Shore Weekend"*



## Artificial Lights

Many orchids are photo-periodic, meaning that they require shorter day length (under 12 hours) for a period of time (six to eight weeks) in order to develop flower buds. If given too many hours of light throughout the year they will grow but may never flower. This includes a number of Dendrobiums, Cattleya species and hybrids, as well as a number of other types.



By following the schedule (see page two) and making sure there is a good temperature drop at night (below 65 degrees Fahrenheit) and having a warmer day (68 to 75 degrees) you should have good flower production.

## Events in the Northeast

**Through March 15<sup>th</sup> – Orchid & Tropical Bonsai Show**, Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens, Pittsburgh, PA. (412) 622-6914 [www.phippsconservatory.org](http://www.phippsconservatory.org)

**March 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> – "Escape to Spring" Gardening Expo**, Van Wilgen's Garden Center, 51 Valley Rd, North Branford, CT. (203) 488-2110 [www.vanwilgens.com](http://www.vanwilgens.com)

**March 5<sup>th</sup> to April 25<sup>th</sup> – "The Orchid Show: On Broadway"**, New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY. (718) 817-8703 [www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org)

**March 5<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> – Philadelphia International Flower Show "Springtime in Paris"**, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA. 215-988-8899 [www.theflowershow.com](http://www.theflowershow.com).

**March 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> – Maryland Orchid Society Show**, Timonium Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD. William Scharf (410) 456-1794 [willworks@hughes.net](mailto:willworks@hughes.net).

**March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> – Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania Show**, Phipps Garden Center, 1059 Shady Ave., Pittsburgh, PA. Charles VanDyke [cvandyke@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:cvandyke@andrew.cmu.edu).

**March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> – Nutmeg State Orchid Society Show**, West Hartford Convention Center, 50 S. Main St, West Hartford, CT. Jeanne McDermott (860) 677-5381 [jtmcdermott@comcast.net](mailto:jtmcdermott@comcast.net)

**March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> – London Orchid Society Show**, North London Optimist Community Ctr, 1345 Cheapside St., London, Ontario. Shean Moore (519) 645-7747 [spmooore@rogers.com](mailto:spmooore@rogers.com).

**March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> – Brookside Gardens Orchid Show & Sale**, 1800 Glenallan Ave, Silver Spring, MD. Gloria Sherman (301) 980-2867 [Ilovegardening1@verizon.net](mailto:Ilovegardening1@verizon.net)

**March 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> – Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society Show**, Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA. Mary Beth Clarke [mcarna2go@aol.com](mailto:mcarna2go@aol.com).

Orchid events around the country can be found in the AOS magazine *Orchids* or on the AOS website at [www.aos.org/aos/events](http://www.aos.org/aos/events). Check before traveling to see if there may be a local orchid event at your destination. For Hudson Valley gardening events, see [www.HVgardenalendar.com](http://www.HVgardenalendar.com).

## **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.

For 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 and prices, refer to the Members section of our web site:

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

Supplies purchased through MHOS are at very reasonable prices.

## **Mid-Hudson Orchid Society**

6624 Goshen, NY 10911  
218 Greenwich Avenue  
c/o Elisabeth Mansfield



### **Directions to AOS Judging at the Hampton Inn in Elmsford**

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 Route 119 Elmsford, NY, turn right on Route 119, go about 2-3 long blocks. See Hampton Inn on left.