



# MHOS NEWSLETTER

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

October 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 (Balmville), NY

Bring your blooming orchids for the show table.

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

**November 11** – Nomination of upcoming officers (balance of program to be announced).

**December 9** – Elections and Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

**2009 dates to be announced**

## Fall Show & Sale October 11<sup>th</sup>

Our October meeting will be replaced by the Fall Show and Sale on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. If you are selling plants or would like to bring a display plant for the show, the church will be open for setup from 6 pm to 8 pm on Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Reminder:** Members will be admitted to exclusive shopping at 10 am Saturday, and the public will be admitted beginning at 11:00 am and continuing until 3:00 pm.

If you're selling plan them correctly (as described in the September newsletter).

Requests were made at the September meeting for members to bring healthier finger foods (instead of the usual abundance of sweets and treats).

## Collection for Sale

At the Fall Show, Dennis Sandberg will bring about 300 plants from Len Ellentuch's spectacular collection of paphs, phals, and bulbos. These are very high quality crosses from some of the country's best hybridizers, including crosses made by Len himself.

**Please note: Dennis is responsible for ALL sales of Len's plants, so if you are interested in any of Len's collection or would like to make an appointment at Len's greenhouse, please call Dennis at 914-962-1541.**

## Help Wanted

After many years of finding us wonderful speakers and programs, Isabel Lopatin will retire as Program Secretary at the end of this year. Hers are big shoes to fill, but we need a volunteer to take over this very important office. Please contact Dennis Sandberg if you are interested.

## Hearts-Ease Nursery / Tewksbury Orchids presents Orchid Lecture Series -- Fall 2008

Learn to grow and care for orchids from the experts! Now that the summer gardening season is waning, remember that fall through winter is the time for most orchids to come into bloom. Hildegard Howell of Tewksbury Orchids, herself an orchid expert and multiple award winner, has invited three of her best friends and colleagues to present a series of lectures on a diversity of orchid species and the parameters for each that promote successful growth and maximum bloom.



*Hildegard Howell*

All lectures are on Saturdays at 2 pm, in the main greenhouse at Hearts-Ease Nursery (just north of Oldwick, NJ, on the west side of Route 517 / Old Turnpike Rd.). Refreshments will be served and the lecturers will graciously answer your questions following each presentation. All events are free and open to the public, and beautiful orchids and other precious botanicals will be on display for viewing and for sale.

Saturday, October 4: Cool Growing Orchids: Maximum bloom / Minimum heat  
*Marc Hachadoarian, New York Botanical Gardens*

Saturday, October 25: Culturing the Cattleya Species / Hybrids in the Home and Greenhouse - *Rory Jones, American Orchid Society judge*

Saturday, November 22: Ladyslipper Orchids - *Glen Decker*

**Hearts-Ease Nursery / Tewksbury Orchids**

213 Old Turnpike Rd, Califon, NJ 07830 (908) 832-2708

## MHOS Officers & Volunteers 2008

### President

Dennis Sandberg  
914-962-1541

### Vice President

Ruth Nattras  
845-343-2901

### Membership

#### Secretaries

Ruth Nattras  
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 Nattras  
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

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

All types of orchids tend to be very adaptable. For example, lithophytes are the orchids that live on rocky cliff faces, arguably a more exciting habitat than that of the tree-bound epiphytes and soil-bound terrestrials. Not surprisingly, lithophytes often find themselves alone as they hang on limestone cliffs. Other lithophytes may find a home among moss-covered rocks, where a crevice allows their roots to gain a foothold.

Lithophytes get their moisture from mists and rains, and must be able to withstand long periods without precipitation. Additional moisture and nutrition may be available from their meandering roots, especially those of the *Pleiones* and some species of *Paphiopedilum*. The somewhat extreme environment of lithophytes has allowed some, like *Phragmipedium besseae*, to be discovered only recently, with the help of aerial transport.



*Phragmipedium besseae*



*Coelogyne nitida*

The distinction between epiphytes and lithophytes becomes blurred when opportunistic epiphytes growing near the base of trees move to nearby moss-covered rocks. Likewise, opportunistic terrestrial species of *Paphiopedilum* may move to nearby rocks when there is a sufficient cover of moss or humus for their roots. Furthermore, consider *coelogyne nitida*, which can grow epiphytically at the top of a tall tree. However, if it falls from the tree, it may still survive as a terrestrial orchid.

The adaptability of orchids goes beyond the blurring of distinctions between types of orchids and extends to the latitudinal and altitudinal ranges of orchids. For example, while most epiphytic orchids are found in tropical rainforests, the latitudinal range of these orchids extends from the foothills of the Himalayas south to the southern tips of Australia and New Zealand.

Altitudinally, the range of orchids is equally fascinating. While shade-loving *Phalaenopsis* is found near sea level, *odontoglossums* and *masdevallias* are found near the snow line in the Andes at nearly 10,000 feet in elevation.

F r o m P e n n s y l v a n i a . . .

### Bucks County Orchid Society

#### Orchid Auction

Thursday, October 16, 2008

Churchville Nature Center

501 Churchville Lane, Churchville PA

Preview at 6:30 PM - Auction begins 7:00 PM

Over 100 plants and orchid supplies from club members and professional orchid growers will be up for bid. Highlights: many in bloom; surprise boxes loaded with lots of orchid plants and orchid-related goodies; helpful hints on orchid culture; refreshments; fun. ***A Great Opportunity to get Quality Plants at Great Prices!***

For info: [www.buckscountvorchidsociety.org](http://www.buckscountvorchidsociety.org)

## Dues notice

Since the MHOS membership year is October 1 through September 30, it is now time to pay your dues. Ruth Nattras will accept dues payments at the Fall Show and at monthly meetings, or you can mail a check payable to MHOS to:

Ruth Nattras  
2 Lake Avenue  
Middletown, NY 10940

Dues are \$20 for individuals, or \$25 for families. Dues must be paid by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

## 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.

## New AOS Rep

Thanks to Lois Brennan for volunteering to be the new AOS Representative in 2009. And we send many thanks to Janet Jozwiak for her years of service.

## 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> 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> 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

## From Orchidweb.com:

Fall is here and most of your orchid plants should be in by now. Be sure to check for insects, slugs and pill bugs that can be in the potting mix. We recommend a 10 power hand lens to see smaller insects such as spider mites. We offer a number of insect control products in the [supply section](#) of our website.

Using **P.L. Lights** for artificial light culture is a great way to grow orchids indoors. If you are thinking of an indoor growing area [check out our P.L Light section here](#).

**Phragmipediums** are one of our favorite orchids and we have a number of interesting hybrids now, such as the [Phrag. Estelle Getty](#) with deep purple flowers. These plants are blooming size in 3.25' pots. [Phrag. Red Lightning](#) is perhaps one of our favorite long petaled hybrids because of the fantastic red color in the petals and the fact that the flowers are held well above the leaves. We have grown these plants for several years now and they are nice multiple growth plants that are producing flower spikes right now. Check out the [Phrag. Ice Princess](#) with its beautiful icy green white flowers with pastel rose. It is an easy plant to grow and flower!

Phrags require low to medium type light and water that is generally low in mineral content. They also require copious watering at least twice per week. Some folks simply grow them in a saucer of water and let the plants absorb water through the roots system. Wait till the saucer is nearly empty and then flush the potting mix, refilling the saucer. Phrags prefer temps below 85 degrees for daytime and cooler at night in Winter at 58 to 63 degrees Fahrenheit.

The flowers on most Phragmipediums last a couple of weeks but because of their successive blooming habit, the flower spikes can bloom for several months and some, like besseae or Jason Fischer, can be in flower for 9 to 11 months. Phrags prefer a small bark mix or rock wool and will also grow very well in a coco husk mix. They also require a little less feed, so fertilizing every other time you water seems to work best.

## Events in the Northeast

**October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>** 6CNYOS Show and Sale, Beaver Lake Nature Center, 8477 East Mud Lake Rd., Baldwinsville, NY. Contact: Nancy Loveland, 2046 Recreation Ln., Baldwinsville, NY 13027; (315) 638-4741; email [nloveland@tweny.rr.com](mailto:nloveland@tweny.rr.com) or visit [www.cnyos.org](http://www.cnyos.org)

**October 11<sup>th</sup>** –Deep Cut Orchid Society annual auction, Colts Neck Fire Co, Route 537, Colts Neck, NJ. Contact: Larry Desiano at 732-615-0447; [LarryDesiano@verizon.net](mailto:LarryDesiano@verizon.net)

**October 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>** 6Niagara Frontier Orchid Society Show. Contact Joe DiDomenico, [diatomite@usa.net](mailto:diatomite@usa.net)

**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.

**October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>** 6Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania Festival, Phipps Garden Center, 1059 Shady Ave., Pittsburgh, PA. Contact: Edye Van Dyke, 840 Old Mill Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15238; (412) 963-9790; [cvandyke@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:cvandyke@andrew.cmu.edu)

**October 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>** 6Susquehanna Orchid Society Show, Country Nursery, Mechanicsburg, PA. Contact: Patti Kay Dennis, (717) 439-1107; [pk.dennis@verizon.net](mailto:pk.dennis@verizon.net).

**October 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>** 6Eastern Canada Orchid Society Show, Days Hotel and Conference Centre, 1005 Rue Guy, Montreal, Quebec. Contact: Judy Adams, 699 Cardinal St., St. Hilaire, Que. J3H 3Z5; (450) 467-4795; [judyd.adams@sympatico.ca](mailto:judyd.adams@sympatico.ca).

**October 31<sup>st</sup> to November 2<sup>nd</sup>** 6Massachusetts Orchid Society Show, Tower Hill Botanic Garden, 11 French Dr., Boylston, MA. Contact: Joanna Eckstrom, 14 Laurel Hill St., Wilton, NH 03086; (603) 654-5070; [jkeckstrom@comcast.net](mailto:jkeckstrom@comcast.net).

**November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>** –Fourth Annual Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium, Virginia Beach, Va. Contact Dot Pierce [pierce.db@verizon.net](mailto:pierce.db@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** 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 or on our website. And if you have a picture of the award-winning orchid, w e ' d l o v e E m a i l i n c

[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.