



MHOS NEWSLETTER

www.mhos.us.com

October 2008

Meetings

The Mid-Hudson Orchid Society meets the 2nd 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 11th (setup on October 10th).

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 11th

Our October meeting will be replaced by the Fall Show and Sale on Saturday, October 13th. 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 10th.

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 plants, please remember to label 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. Hildegarde 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.



Hildegarde 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.

From Pennsylvania...

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

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 31st.

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

1st Sunday

Central NY – Syracuse
www.cnyos.org

1st Sunday-1 pm

Northeastern Pennsylvania
 Society – Lakeville, PA

1st Saturday

North Eastern New York –
 Albany/Colonie, NY
www.nenyos.org

2nd Tuesday

Greater Westchester –
 White Plains, NY

2nd Tuesday

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

2nd Wednesday

Manhattan, NY
www.manhattanorchid.com

2nd Wednesday

Connecticut – Hartford or
 New Haven
www.ctorchids.org

2nd Thursday

North Jersey – East Hanover
www.njorchids.org

2nd Thursday

Long Island – Valley Stream

3rd Sunday

Southern Tier –
 Binghamton, NY
www.storchidsociety.com

3rd Tuesday

Staten Island, NY

3rd Wednesday

Matinecock - Oyster Bay, NY

3rd Thursday

Ramapo, NJ
www.ramapoorchid.org

4th Tuesday

Greater NY – Bronx, NY
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 4th & 5th – CNYOS 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 or visit www.cnyos.org

October 11th – 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

October 11th & 12th – Niagara Frontier Orchid Society Show. Contact Joe DiDomenico, diatomite@usa.net

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

October 18th & 19th – Orchid 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

October 24th to 26th – Susquehanna Orchid Society Show, Country Nursery, Mechanicsburg, PA. Contact: Patti Kay Dennis, (717) 439-1107; pk.dennis@verizon.net.

October 25th & 26th – Eastern 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.

October 31st to November 2nd – [Massachusetts 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.

November 7th & 8th – Fourth Annual Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium, Virginia Beach, Va. Contact Dot Pierce pierce.db@verizon.net

These events and others around the country can be found online at: 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:

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

3rd 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

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.