



MHOS NEWSLETTER

www.mhos.us.com

September 2009

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.

2009 Meeting Dates

September 13 – "Zygo...What?" with speaker Paul Sheetz

October 17 (Saturday) – Fall Show and Sale (new date to avoid conflict with Columbus Day)

November 8 – Repotting presentation

December 13 – Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

2010 Meeting Dates

January 10

February 14

March 13 (Saturday) – Spring Show and Sale

April 11

"Zygo...What?" at Sept. 13th MHOS meeting



Paul Sheetz of JustPat Orchids will explore Zygopetalum species & hybrids, as well as the hybrids Zygosepalum, Promenea, Agonesia, Neogardneria, Mendocella, Pescatorea...etc. He will also have plants for sale – a mixed bag of orchids, succulents and unusual plants.

Paul has been growing orchids ever since he bought his first white cattleya at the Philadelphia Flower Show in 1976. He has been active in local orchid societies for the past 25 years and is currently Vice President of the Greater Philadelphia Orchid Society.

An accredited American Orchid Society judge and chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Region, Paul is active in show table judging for several local orchid societies.

Paul is the owner of JustPat Orchids. He has been exhibiting at orchid shows for the last 20 years and has been an orchid vendor at the Philadelphia Flower Show since 1996. He recently moved from Philadelphia to Honey Brook, PA (45 miles west) and built a new 30' x 48' greenhouse – which is now full in less than three years!

JustPat Orchids
1260 N Manor Rd (Route 82)
Honey Brook, PA 19344

Paul Sheetz
610-942-0981
JustPatOrchids.com

Sept. 13th Open House at Len Ellentuch's greenhouse

The morning of our September 13th meeting, Dennis Sandberg will be running an open house at Len Ellentuch's greenhouse (located 8.5 miles / 13 minutes by car from where our meetings are held).

If you are interested in coming, please contact Dennis at 914-962-1541 to schedule a time and to get directions.

Order Your 2010 American Orchid Society Calendar Now!!

Share the magic and joy of growing orchids with a gift of the AOS 2010 Calendar. The 12 superbly grown orchids pictured show the diversity in color, size, shape and fragrance found in the orchid family.

Join author Ken Slump as he shares secrets for growing the best orchids and then offers advice for successfully cultivating and flowering a dozen choices suitable for the greenhouse, home and under lights.

In addition to month after month of beautiful photography, the gift giver can feel good about supporting the American Orchid Society's mission of promoting and supporting the passion for orchids through education, conservation and research.

Order No. CL919M. Price: \$12.95 plus shipping and handling. \$2 from each sale benefits orchid conservation. AOS members receive a 10% discount.

- 24 pages
- 12 color photographs
- 11 x 22 inches when open
- Shrink-wrapped with heavy card stiffener

[Click here to order online](#) or call 561-404-2062.



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

MHOS Officers & Volunteers 2009

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Dennis Sandberg
914-962-1541

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845-343-2901

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Ruth Nattras
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Georgette Martin
845-473-6276
after 6 pm only

Newsletter and Website

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

Orchids are adaptable, but still need special care, especially those placed outdoors during the summer. Special care includes checking for bugs before bringing the orchids indoors at the end of summer or before the first frost appears. These bugs include slugs, snails, red spider mites, aphids, and the harder-to-find earwigs and woodlice beneath the leaf bracts, as well as ant nests, vine weevils and their grubs in the growing medium, all of which can be destroyed by soaking the plant in a bucket of water for 30 to 60 minutes.

Special care also includes extra watering of orchids grown outdoors, alternating between plain water and feed-water. If an orchid like a Vanda has a good aerial root system, the roots as well as the leaves can be sprayed with feed-water.

Some terrestrial orchids can be grown outdoors full-time, such as *Cypripedium reginae* (the pink and white lady's slipper orchid), *C. calceolus* and the *Dactylorhiza* hybrids with their tall spikes of mauve flowers. Similarly, if you were to move to a tropical climate, a lot of other orchids could be grown outdoors full-time. These include Cattleyas (like the *Laeliocattleya quo vadis floralia* with its twice-annual long-blooming rich pink flowers), Vandas, *Phalaenopsis* (with the fleshy leaves hanging down for good drainage), the red *Masdevallia infracta* (the only species of this genus found in the Brazilian Atlantic Forest) and the miniature easy-to-grow *Oncidium longipes*.



Cypripedium reginae



Phalaenopsis yalta

Orchids are as varied as they are adaptable. For example, *Bulbophyllum frostii* is sometimes called the clog orchid because the flowers resemble a certain type of footwear. This is due to the fusing of the lower sepals into a pouch-like slipper, while the petals and lip are nearly hidden inside each flower. Another example is *Phalaenopsis yalta*, a peloric flower that has mutated to produce three petals, each of which forms a lip instead of the normal lateral petal.

Getting Ready for the Fall Season

from the AOS

Like spring, fall is an important transitional season and orchid growers should be making preparations for the coming winter. As days get shorter and cooler, orchid growth will slow and in some cases, cease altogether. Unless a plant is in a crisis situation, put off any repotting until the lengthening days of spring. For many orchids, it is this change of seasonal conditions that begins flower initiation. As we move into November, be on the lookout for developing inflorescences on *Phalaenopsis*, *Cymbidium* and certain hybrids and species in other genera, and begin staking when spikes reach 6-8 inches.

If you have been summering some or all of your orchids outside, now is a good time to get your indoor growing area cleaned up and ready to welcome the returning orchids. Whether it is windowsill carts, a basement light setup or greenhouse, use diluted chlorine bleach (1:10) or Physan to clean off any accumulated algae. It is easier to make repairs when there are no plants, so make sure that your growing area is in top condition for the trying conditions of winter.

Make sure that heaters are working and that you have plenty of fuel. If you use backup devices or alarms, test them too. Be sure to check plants thoroughly for pests before returning them to the close quarters of your indoor growing area or greenhouse.

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

Other Area Societies

1st Sunday

Central NY – Syracuse
www.cnyos.org

1st Sunday-1 pm

Northeastern Pennsylvania
Society – Lakeville, PA

1st Tuesday – 7:30pm

Pinelands Orchid Society –
Medford, NJ
pinelandsorchidsociety.org

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 Wednesday

Greater NY – Bronx, NY
www.gnyos.org

3rd Thursday

Ramapo, NJ
www.ramapoorchid.org

MHOS Fall Show & Sale October 17th

Our Fall Show and Sale will be held on the third Saturday in October (it was moved to avoid a conflict with Columbus Day). A flyer is posted on our [website](#) for you to print out and distribute. As usual, the church will be open Friday evening for set-up. Also as usual, volunteers will be needed to work and to bring refreshments.

Please call MHOS President Dennis Sandberg at 914-962-1541 if you are able to lend a hand.

If you have plants for sale, remember to mark them with light-colored labels. 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).



Look for more show details in October's newsletter.

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. Call Bob Harvey at 845-424-3009 or email bobharvey@mac.com

At the September meeting, Ruth Silverman will have for sale (cheap) 6 orchids in need of fresh potting and some TLC (\$3-\$5). Also books: *Home Orchid Growing*, Rebecca Northen; *Manual of Cultivated Orchid Species*, Bechtel, Cribb, Launert; *Encyclopedia of Cultivated Orchids*, Hawkes; \$10 each or best offer. [E-mail Ruth](mailto:Ruth@MansfieldCommercial.com) in advance or call 845-255-6448.

"The Classifieds" is now a regular section of our monthly newsletter. Send your ads to Elisabeth@MansfieldCommercial.com or fax to 845-294-1070.

Events in the Northeast

September 13th – Amherst Orchid Society Plant Sale, Hadley Garden Center, Rt. 9, across from Buffalo Farm, Hadley, MA. Contact: Harold Norman, (413) 267-5124; leilani.norman@verizon.net.

September 26th & 27th – Central Ontario Orchid Society Show, Cambridge Hespeler Arena, 640 Ellis Rd., Cambridge, Ontario. Contact: Gerhard Kompter, 123 Mauser Ave., Kitchener, Ont N2M 3K6; (519) 745-3815.

October 3rd & 4th – Central New York Orchid Society Show, Beaver Lake Nature Center, East Mud Lake Rd., Baldwinsville, NY. Contact: Tammy Pomietlasz, 710 State Fair Blvd., Syracuse, NY 13209; (315) 468-2955; tammylyn@twcny.rr.com.

October 10th – Deep Cut Orchid Society Fall Auction, Colts Neck Firehouse #1, Route 537, Colts Neck, NJ. Contact Larry Desiano, LarryDesiano@verizon.net, (732) 615-0447

October 17th & 18th – 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 23rd to 25th – Susquehanna Orchid Society Show, Stauffer's Garden Center, 301 Rohrerstown Rd., Lancaster, PA. Contact: Barry Wolf, 1301 Malus Ct., Fallston, MD 21047; (410) 879-1654; woolfphoto1@comcast.net.

October 24th & 25th – Eastern Canada Orchid Society, Days Hotel and Conference Centre, 1005 Rue Guy, Montreal, Quebec. Contact: Judy Adams, 699 Cardinal, Saint Hilaire, QC J3H 3Z5; (450) 467-4795; judyd.adams@sympatico.ca.

October 25th – Nutmeg State Orchid Society Show, Pond House, Elizabeth Park, 1555 Asylum Ave., West Hartford, CT. Contact: Jeanne McDermott, PO Box 131, Farmington, CT 06034; (860) 677-5381; nsoscontact@comcast.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.