



# MHOS NEWSLETTER

MHOS is an Affiliated Organization of the American Orchid Society

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

September 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, 44 Balmville Road (corner of Balmville Road and Beech Street), in Newburgh, NY

Bring your blooming orchids for the show table.

## 2011 Meeting Dates

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

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

**November 13** – speaker Connie Ballado of Ballado Orchids “Mounting Orchids and What Types”

**December 11** – Pot Luck Holiday Dinner

## 2012 Meeting Dates

**January 8**

**February 12**

**March 10** – Spring Show and Sale

**April 1** – (one week early due to Easter)

**May 6** – (one week early due to Mothers Day)

**June 10**

**July** – no meeting

**August** – no meeting

**September 9**

**October 13** – Fall Show and Sale

**November 11**

**December 9**

## Elle Ronis on Miltoniopsis at September 11<sup>th</sup> MHOS Meeting



Elle Ronis was in Home Depot one day about eight years ago, bought a Phal, and started growing Phals under plant lights in her living room. She became more interested in growing and developed her collection with warm growing plants: Cattleyas, Vandas and Paphs.

She started growing Miltoniopsis and became quite interested in the genus. Carrie Raven, who is a noted Phal grower and vendor, is a neighbor in Connecticut. Carrie asked Elle if she could display any of Elle's plants in her exhibit at the 2005 International Orchid Show at Rockefeller Center in New

York. Elle gave Carrie *Miltoniopsis Maui Falls* and it won the best plant in the show against 10,000 entries from both amateur and professional growers.

Since then Elle's plants have won numerous awards from the American Orchid Society.

Elle now has over 2,000 plants and has developed a cool growing collection of Masdevallias, Draculas, Odontonias and Cymbidiums.

The AOS *Orchids* magazine published an article about Elle in April 2009. Written by Marguerite Webb of J & L Orchids, the piece gives details about Elle's basement growing environment. That article is being posted on the MHOS website; you can read it on the Calendar page, under September 11<sup>th</sup>.

The first third of Elle's September 11<sup>th</sup> talk is a "how to" on culture. The second two-thirds is comprised of slides, all of which were photographed by Ron Parsons, the famous orchid photographer whose work is frequently featured in *Orchids* magazine and *Orchid Digest*.



## MHOS Fall Show & Sale Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

Our Fall Show and Sale will be held on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 3pm (10am for members). A flyer is posted on [our website](http://our website) for you to print out and distribute. The church will be open Friday evening from 5:30 to 7:30pm for setup, and will open at 8:30am the day of the Show. (**Note: setup must be completed no later than 9:30am Saturday.**)

**If you will be selling plants, please let Elisabeth Mansfield know ASAP, via [email](mailto:elise@mhos.us) or at 845-294-1000, and also let her know what you will be selling, so she can try to coordinate the best possible variety of plants.** (Elisabeth will not be at the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ruth Natras will take names at that meeting of those who wish to sell, otherwise please call Elisabeth.)

Also, we will need volunteers for the show to work and to bring refreshments. Please tell Ruth at the September meeting, or contact Elisabeth at 845-294-1000, if you are able to lend a hand.

Remember to label your plants correctly; instructions are on the MHOS website [here](http://www.mhos.us.com).



*These phals made a beautiful table at our March 2011 show and sale*

**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**:

Hybridized orchids started with the tropical epiphytes known as Cattleyas. One well-known Cattleya hybrid is the autumn-flowering Cattleya skinneri, the national flower of Costa Rica. It was first collected in Guatemala in 1838 and named for orchid hunter George Ure-Skinner. It has been extensively hybridized, resulting in several lovely color forms. Another hybridized Cattleya with exquisite color is C. Golden Girl. However, not all Cattleya hybridizing is for color. A good example is late-spring-blooming Laeliocattleya Carrie Johnson, where the Laelia influence allows the plant to be grown at a lower temperature, whether indoors or in a greenhouse.



*Cattleya skinneri*

Tangerine-lovers will find Laeliocattleya Chit Chat 'Tangerine' hard to resist. This vivid spring-flowering hybrid results from crossing C. aurantiaca from Guatemala with L. cinnabarina and L. harpophylla from Brazil. Incidentally, the latter two were crossed in 1902 to produce L. Coronet.



*Laeliocattleya Magic Bell  
'New Trick'*

Beyond color and temperature, another important goal of hybridizing is the size of the flower. Summer-blooming Laeliocattleya Gypsy Queen has gorgeous frills on its large-sized flowers, which feature red lips and yellow centers. However, for bi-colored petals and sepals, autumn-blooming Laeliocattleya Magic Bell 'New Trick' is hard to beat.

Laeliocattleya Pomme d'Or is a spring-and-autumn-blooming hybrid that illustrates that sometimes "less is more". The smaller flowers are more numerous on the spike, with a fleshier texture. Moreover, a rich yellow color is combined with a red-throated lip. However, for startling color contrast, there's Laeliocattleya Starting Point 'Unique', with large autumn-blooming white sepals and petals surrounding deep purple lips.

The spring-blooming Sophrolaeliocattleya Jewel Box 'Dark Waters' has the shape of Laelia and the startling red color of Sophronitis. This hybrid has the additional functional utility of a specimen plant since it continually produces several new growths from one pseudobulb.

Some growing tips for Cattleyas are to use coarse bark compost as a growing medium, with lots of water in summer and little in winter. The foliage should be misted and shaded in summer, with full light in winter.



*Sophrolaeliocattleya Jewel Box  
'Dark Waters'*

**MHOS Elections**

Nominations for MHOS Officers will be held at our November meeting. If you are interested in being one of the three members of the nominating committee, please contact Elisabeth Mansfield. The following officers' positions expire on December 31, 2011:

- Vice President - Ruth Nattras - second term
- Treasurer - Bob Phillips - third term
- Recording Secretary - Lois Brennan - second term

If you are interested in learning more about the requirements of these positions, please contact Elisabeth at 845-294-1000.

**From Tom Hoodack,  
NENYOS**

The June 4<sup>th</sup> picnic at Piping Rock was a great success. We have been talking with Glen Decker to plan a similar event next year. Here is what we have so far:

**NENYOS Event 2012**  
Piping Rock Orchids,  
Galway, NY  
Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012  
11:00 am start  
Picnic Lunch at 12:30 pm

We hope to have two speakers. I will send out more info when we have it. Thank You and we hope you will be able to attend.

**MHOS Classifieds**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Downsizing Greenhouse.** Greenhouse benches, orchids, and large aluminized greenhouse covers for sale. Located in New Paltz, Ulster County. Contact John & Rita Rashak, (845) 256-3868 [johnrashak@aol.com](mailto:johnrashak@aol.com); [ritarashak@aol.com](mailto:ritarashak@aol.com).

## Other Area Societies

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

Central NY – Syracuse

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

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday-1 pm

Northeastern PA – Lakeville

[nepaorchidsociety.org](http://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

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Greater Westchester –  
White Plains, NY

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Deep Cut – Tinton Falls, NJ

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

Manhattan – New York, NY

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

Connecticut – Farmington or  
Cheshire

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

North Jersey – East Hanover

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

Long Island – Lynbrook

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

Western PA – Pittsburgh, PA

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

Southern Tier – Binghamton

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday

Staten Island, NY

[sionline.com](http://sionline.com)

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

Matinecock - Oyster Bay, NY

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

Greater NY – Bronx, NY

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

Ramapo – Englewood, NJ

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

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

Jersey Highlands - Augusta, NJ

[jerseyhighlandsorchid.wordpress.com](http://jerseyhighlandsorchid.wordpress.com)

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

## Customer Appreciation Orchid Sale – J & L Orchids

To thank you as a mail order customer, **J&L Orchids** is offering a **20% discount** on all orders received in response to this exclusive offering. Orders must be received between **now** and **October 17, 2011**. **You may order as often as you like during this time period and receive the discount on every order.** We are constantly adding plants to the website but at the same time some stock is limited so plants are also being removed.

Place your order using our shopping cart. **Please mention this offering under Special Instructions so we can ensure you receive the discount.** The shopping cart total will not show the **20%** discount, but we will subtract this amount when we charge your card. You may order by phone, fax, mail or email, indicating that you wish to take advantage of our customer appreciation discount. This discount offer is for mail order only.

Discount does not apply to our ELITE list and may not be combined with any other discount offer or specials.

**J&L Orchids, 20 Sherwood Road. Easton CT 06612**

Tel: (203) 261-3772

E-mail [jlorchid@snet.net](mailto:jlorchid@snet.net)

Fax: (203) 261-8730

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

## Events in the Northeast

**September 10<sup>th</sup> – International Phalaenopsis Alliance “Focus on Phals” Days**, Bedford, New Hampshire. Contact: Adrienne Giovino, (781) 326-8921, [ipa.adrienne@gmail.com](mailto:ipa.adrienne@gmail.com)

**September 11<sup>th</sup> – International Phalaenopsis Alliance “Focus on Phals” Days**, Ballston Spa, NY. Contact: Adrienne Giovino, (781) 326-8921, [ipa.adrienne@gmail.com](mailto:ipa.adrienne@gmail.com)

**September 24 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Delaware Valley Orchid Council Speakers’ Forum**, Wyndham Hotel, Rotue 73, Mt. Laurel, NJ. Send registration fee of \$44 to Michael Kauffman, 222 Blue School Road, Perkasio, PA 18944

**September 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> – Central Ontario Orchid Society Show**, Cambridge Hespeler Arena, 640 Ellis Rd, Cambridge, Ontario. Frank Maine (519) 823-1089; [maine.f@sypatico.ca](mailto:maine.f@sypatico.ca).

**October 1<sup>st</sup> – Deep Cut Orchid Society annual auction**, Colts Neck Fire Co. #1, 86 W Route 537, Colts Neck, NJ. [deepcutorchids@gmail.com](mailto:deepcutorchids@gmail.com)

**October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> – Central New York Orchid Society Show**, Beaver Lake Nature Center, E. Mud Lake Rd., Baldwinsville, NY. Nancy Loveland (315) 638-4741, [nloveland@tweny.rr.com](mailto:nloveland@tweny.rr.com).

**October 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> – National Capital Orchid Society Show**, US National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC. Erin Fearn (703) 507-7462, [eferns@c-o-r.com](mailto:eferns@c-o-r.com).

**October 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> – Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania Festival**, Phipps Garden Ctr, 1059 Shady Ave, Pittsburgh, PA. Virginia Mortimer (724) 224-4012; [v.mortimer@comcast.net](mailto:v.mortimer@comcast.net).

**October 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> – Niagara Frontier Orchid Society Show**, Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens, Buffalo, NY. Susan Charles (716) 649-6455, [scc1959@verizon.net](mailto:scc1959@verizon.net).

**October 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> – Connecticut Orchid Society Show**, VanWilgen’s Garden Center, 51 Valley Rd, North Brandford, CT. Cheryl Mizak (203) 264-6096, [alcher@millenicom.com](mailto:alcher@millenicom.com).

**October 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> – Susquehanna Orchid Society Show**, Stauffers of Kissel Hill, 301 Rohrerstown Rd, Lancaster, PA. Sara Bortner (717) 292-4693, [sbortner@att.net](mailto:sbortner@att.net).

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> – Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Show**, Krohn Conservatory, 1501 Eden Park Dr, Cincinnati, OH. Stan Better (513) 745-0014, [stanbetter@stanbetter.com](mailto:stanbetter@stanbetter.com).

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> – Eastern Canada Orchid Society Orchidfete 2011**, Hotel Espresso, 1005 Rue Guy, Montreal, Quebec. Judy Adams (450) 467-4795, [judyd.adams@sypatico.ca](mailto:judyd.adams@sypatico.ca)

**October 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> – Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium**, Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel, 4201 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, VA. David Bryan (757) 650-2250, [daveandjoannebryan@verizon.net](mailto:daveandjoannebryan@verizon.net).

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.HVgardencalendar.com](http://www.HVgardencalendar.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.

### **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.

## **Mid-Hudson Orchid Society**

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

