

THE ORCHID ENTHUSIAST

The Newsletter of the Central New York Orchid Society

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Editor's Note:

Contributions to the Orchid Enthusiast by members of the CNYOS are welcome. Articles, pictures, or ideas for discussion subjects should be submitted **two weeks** before the next meeting to: csmith23@twcny.rr.com

In This Issue...Page

President's Message.....	1
Minutes	2
Vendor List	2
Upcoming Webinars	2
Show Table	3
AOS Corner	4
AOS Article	5-6
April Events	7
Refreshments	7
Cymbidium Potting Mix	8
2019-2020 Save the Dates	9

Membership Renewal Reminder

2019 Memberships - Dues are \$20 for individuals and \$22 for families.

Send to:

Carol Haskell, Treasurer
102 Wythrop Road
Syracuse, NY 13209

President's Message:

Hello CNYOS Members,

Spring is here and it's time to celebrate the beauty of our orchids that have bloomed for us all winter -- the joy that we have that regular people just can't even begin to imagine.

It's time to share this quote:

"Just as I wonder whether it's going to die, the orchid blossoms and I can't explain why it moves my heart, why such pleasure comes from one small bud on a long spindly stem, one blood red gold flower opening at mid-summer, tiny, perfect in its hour." ~ Sam Hamill

~ Lori Burritt



Vendor List:

Our auctions and shows have benefited greatly from the generosity of the following vendors. When shopping for new orchids and supplies, please check them out first!

<http://www.andysorchids.com>

<http://marlowsorchids.com> **

<https://www.kkorchid.com> **

<http://www.jlorchids.com>

<https://www.mountainorchids.com>

<http://www.pipingrockorchids.com> **

<http://www.fairorchids.com>

<http://www.stonybrookorchids.com>

edgarstehli@sbcglobal.net

To contact Windswept in Time Orchids

<https://www.msorchids.net> **

**** denotes vendors at our show**

Upcoming Webinars:

American Orchid Society: Register at aos.org

April 9, 2019 - 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Greenhouse Chat April 2019

Ron McHatton

(Open to All; submit questions by Apr 7th)

April 18, 2019 - 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM

How to Grow Habenarias

Jim Heilig

(Member Only Webinar)

You can watch a variety of recorded webinars any time at your convenience at aos.org

Minutes: March 3, 2019

No Updates

Treasurer's Report: March 3, 2019

No Updates



Show Table: March 3, 2019

~ JUDI SETLA ~

Rhyncattleanthe Your **Mine** L
 (Rth Fuchs Orange Nuggett x Rth Wakurdal)

~ JACK HASSE ~

Dracula lotax L,T
 Masdevallia Fire Queen L,T
 (Masd Southern Sun x Masd Monarch)
 Maxillaria tenuifolia L, O
Gastrochilus retrocallus L,O
 Phalaenopsis wilsonii L
 Dendrobium **lindleyi** L,O

Growing Key:
 L=lights
 W=windowsill
 G=greenhouse
 T=terrarium/tank
 O= outside summer

~ LORI BURRITT ~

Cattleya Mini Purple 'Blue Hawaii' **AM/AOS** W
 (C pumila x C walkeriana)
 Bc Yellow Bird W
 (Brassavola nodosa x Brassocattleya Richard Mueller)
 Cattlianthe Gold Digger 'Orglade's Mandarin' W
 (Ctt Red Gold x Ctt Warpaint)
 Paphiopedilum Hampshire Beau W
 (Paph Beauhill x Paph Winston Churchill)
 Dendrobium Yellow Chinsai 'Little Joe' **HCC/AOS** W
 (Den Chinsai x Den heterocarpum)
 Dendrobium SOOS Celebrates 50 W
 (Den aberrans x Den Little Atro)

.....
 : **AOS Orchidist's** :
 : **Word of the Month:** :
 : **tuberoid** :
 : **(TEW-ber-oyd)** :
 : A thickened root :
 : resembling a tuber, as :
 : those found in many :
 : terrestrial orchids. :
 :

Some reclassifying has happened with some plants. Please make note and change your labels and records.

- ~ Haraella retrocalla (odorata) is now **Gastrochilus retrocallus**
- ~ Den. aggregatum is now Den. **lindleyi**

Other changes have been noted in names and award status. All changes are in **bold print.**

Thanks for a great Show Table!

~ Submitted by Sue Finger



THE April 2019 AOS CORNER

From the desk of Denise Lucero, Vice Chair, AOS Affiliated Societies Committee
(dluceroaosmembership@gmail.com)

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

It's been a tough winter and struggles to maintain our orchid environments has been difficult at best for most of us. Hopefully, as spring arrives and the days grow longer, your orchids are appreciating the additional light and warmth enough to commence their annual growth cycle and are producing abundant blooms. This brings us to one of my favorite times of year... Orchid Show time! One of the primary efforts of the Affiliated Societies Committee is to provide support for the success of the affiliates. Through our sharing, we have found creative activities that are easy to include and can aid in your own show's success.

Special Announcement

We are pleased to announce the completion of the Greenhouse Chat index project. The idea is simple enough. When you click on LEARN MORE on any recorded greenhouse chat webinar, you will now see a time stamped table of contents that you can browse for topics that interest you. So, if you missed a chat, or could not remember the chat where a specific topic of interest to you was discussed, you can quickly zero in on what you want to see, and skip directly to that section when you view the recording. These webinars are such a great asset to our membership and we encourage you to take advantage of them. Also, of note is that the indexes are integrated into the search capabilities of aos.org. so, you can expect to see Greenhouse Chats in the list of search results. For example, if you search on MSU (because you are interested in MSU fertilizer) you will notice that is discussed in 2 chats; June 2018 and February 2015.

THE APRIL ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- The New Refugium Botanicum – *Eriopsis werklei* - Franco Pupulin
- Orchid Gardens – Inkaterra, Peru – Tom Mirenda
- For the Novice: Adaptation to an Epiphytic Lifestyle - Sue Bottom
- Judges' Corner: The Species Identification Task force - Jay Norris
- Judges' Forum: An Analysis of Cymbidium Awards - Kevin Hill
- Look Twice, Think Thrice: The 2018 First Class Certificates - Carol Klonowski
- The 2017 Year-End Special Awards: Special Orchids, Special People - Nile S. Dusdieker
- The Art of Small Displays - Sergey and Elena Skoropad

RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON THE AOS WEBSITE:

See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new "Latest Orchid Awards" page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. Free to members and non-members.

Let's grow together, Denise Lucero

Feed Me: The Basics of Choosing a Fertilizer and Application

~ Prepared by the AOS Education Committee

*This is a re-print of an article from **Orchids Magazine**, April 2013*

If their other requirements are met, orchids will grow and flower for fairly long periods without fertilizer. Witness the people in tropical areas such as South Florida who grow them mounted on trees and let nature do the rest. Indeed, that is how epiphytic orchids grow in nature. But hobbyists generally try to give their orchids more than the bare minimum so that the plants flower at or above their potential.

There are many different points of view on how to fertilize orchids and what fertilizer to use. Everyone has a favorite fertilizer or supplement. There are so many variables that how and when you fertilize depends on what kinds of orchids you grow and how and where you grow them. This article will offer a brief explanation and general guidelines on fertilizing orchids. For more specific application, join your local orchid society and ask someone there who grows the same kind of orchids as you. It is unlikely that you will kill any orchids with orchid fertilizer so following the recommendations here will provide your plants needed nutrition.

If you are a gardener, you are probably familiar with the N-P-K listings on fertilizer bags. Orchid fertilizers have them too. Let's go over these three elements and see how they affect plant growth. Nitrogen (N) helps make plants green and helps them grow faster. It is the element responsible for vegetative growth (the leafy parts). Phosphorus (P) is good for root growth, disease resistance, seed and fruit growth, and especially for blooming and flowering. Potassium (K) helps with increasing root growth, drought resistance and disease resistance.

OPTIONS There are three main types of fertilizers used for orchids: balanced, high nitrogen and bloom booster.

◆ Balanced fertilizers have been traditionally recommended for use with orchids potted in inorganic potting media such as lava rock and Aliflor, and tree fern (which has fallen out of favor due to conservation concerns). Plants mounted on cork bark or other substrates also benefit from using a balanced fertilizer. An example of a balanced fertilizer would be represented by the numbers 20-20-20.

◆ High-nitrogen fertilizers have long been recommended for use with orchids potted in fir bark or fir bark mixes. The reason for extra nitrogen is that the bacteria that cause the bark to decay use up much of the available nitrogen, thus depleting the orchid. This practice has recently come into question. Nonetheless, using a high-nitrogen fertilizer, especially in the spring at the beginning of the growing season, can promote strong vegetative growth under ideal conditions. An example of high-nitrogen fertilizer would be 30-10-10.

◆ Bloom or blossom-booster formulas are high in phosphorus. Typically, high-phosphorus fertilizers are applied every other week for four to six applications the season before expected bloom. For winter-spring blooming orchids, bloom booster is usually applied in the autumn. Vandaceous hybrids and other orchids that bloom throughout the year can be given bloom booster every third or fourth fertilizing.

~ Continued on page 6

Feed Me: The Basics of Choosing a Fertilizer and Application continued...

An example of a bloom booster would be 10-30-20. Fertilizers used on orchids should contain little or no urea. This is because soil organisms must first convert the nitrogen in urea to a form useable by plants, and because orchids do not grow in soil, this conversion does not occur efficiently.

APPLICATION How fertilizer is applied varies as much as orchids themselves. Typically, plants are fertilized once a week during spring and summer and every two weeks in the autumn and winter. Regardless of the fertilizer that you choose, most experienced growers use ½ the label-recommended strength. Remember, in nature epiphytic orchids' roots are exposed and the only nutrients they receive are from bird and animal droppings, decaying insects and detritus. The old saying about fertilizing orchids is: Feed them weekly weakly. Fertilizer is best applied in the morning on sunny days. For mounted orchids, or orchids with exposed roots, such as vandas in empty baskets, many growers routinely first water the plants and then follow with fertilizer a half hour later. The watering before fertilizing prepares the spongy

velamen of the orchid roots to better utilize the fertilizer. Orchids in pots are usually not watered first but some growers have their own techniques.

There are requirements specific to certain orchids. For instance, do not fertilize nobile-type dendrobiums after early autumn. This rule actually applies to all orchids that have decided rest periods and all deciduous orchids. Fertilizing them while in their rest period keeps them in continual growth instead of resting before producing flowers. In other words, you may get a lot of growth and no flowers.

There are also many secret recipes growers use that supposedly produce stronger plants or more flowers. Certainly, vitamins and micronutrients are as essential as the building blocks of plant growth mentioned above. Elements such as magnesium, boron, calcium, carbon and others are required for strong plant growth. All in all, although there are certain practices that are documented as being helpful, it has not been proven that supplements actually contribute to improved growth in orchids — but it probably doesn't hurt to use them.



Lycaste Spring Present 'Redwood' AM/AOS
Photographer: Chaunie Langland



Habenaria Light Wings 'Matt's Lemon Gem' HCC/AOS
Photographer: Ken Jacobsen

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

April 2019 - No Meeting

May 5, 2019 - Annual Auction
(Donations Requested)

June 2, 2019 - Picnic
(No formal program)

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**September 8, 2019 - TBD & Show Planning**

**October 4 - 6, 2019 - CNYOS Annual Show and Sale**

**Refreshment Volunteer List:**

April 2019 - No Meeting

May 5, 2019

Jan Woodworth/Dave Ditz

Beverages: Donna Coleman

June 2, 2019 - Annual Picnic

Everyone Brings a Dish to Pass

~~~~~

A sign-up sheet will be at the May & June Meetings for Fall 2019 Meetings

SEPOS 2019 Show - April 5 - 7

at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center

~ The largest show of its kind in the Northeast~

24 beautiful exhibits

20 vendors

Free guided tours

Free lectures

Fragrance Judging

For more information go to

<http://www.sepos.org>

*the Southern Tier
Orchid Society
Presents their fabulous*



Orchid Show

Saturday April 27 12 - 5pm

Sunday April 28 12 - 5pm

**Roberson Museum
30 Front St, Binghamton NY**

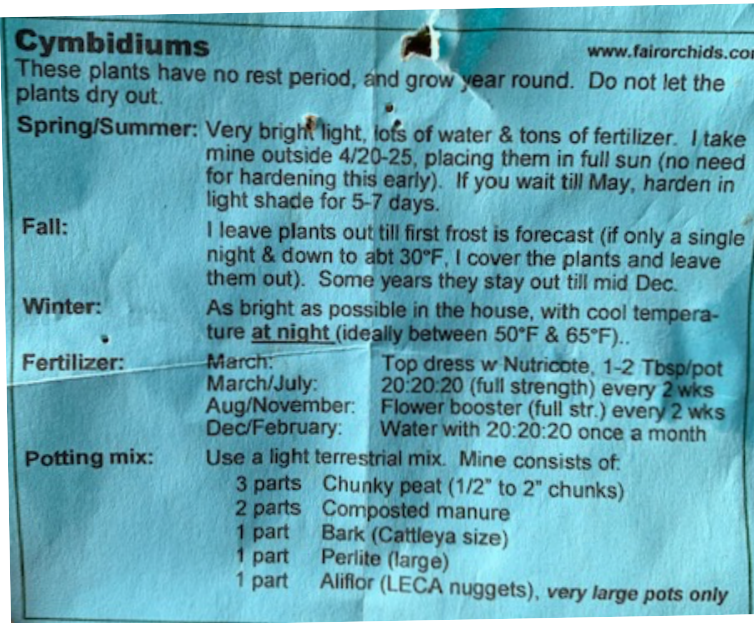
**Exotic Orchid Displays
Orchids for sale
Viewing and advice FREE**



**Also visit the
Earth Day Festival
at the Roberson Museum**

www.roberson.org

From the February Meeting on Chinese Cymbidiums presented by Jonathan Jones of Marlow Orchids, here is the Cymbidium mix recipe Jonathan mentioned:



~ Open Houses ~
Area greenhouses that generously support CNYOS Annual Auctions with donations. They support us, so let's support them.

Marlow Orchids Open House - April 13, 2019
Food, Fun, Instruction & Shopping!!!
Go to marlowsorchids.com for more information and directions.

Piping Rock Annual Picnic & Open House
June 2019
Free Guest Speakers, Vendors, Lunch & More Shopping!!!
Go to pipingrockorchids.com for more information on date, times and directions.

“Spring is when you feel like whistling, even with a shoe full of slush.”
~ Doug Larson

As you can tell (**see Save the Dates 2019-2020 on Page 9**), I'm pretty excited over the work that's been done on speaker acquisition. I have worked with Donna in Albany, Carol in Rochester, and Donna in Buffalo to get these schedules to coordinate. I found Peter Lin on Facebook (awesome pics!). Go and like his page so you can see what he hybridizes.

Open houses at greenhouses that support CNYOS? Pretty important to go to since they donate lots of plants for our Auction.

I hope to see lots of you at our upcoming meetings and other outings. If there is a speaker or topic you would like covered, then let me know. We may be able to work more dates into our schedule for the clubs from Albany to Buffalo. Linda Wilhelm has been here before and is willing to come again but no dates have been mentioned yet for her.

Happy Growing!
~ Submitted by Sue Finger, VP

Save the Dates: 2019-2020 Events Schedule:

April 2019: *CNYOS Program - No Meeting*

April 5-7, 2019: South East Pennsylvania Orchid Society Show www.sepos.org

April 13, 2019: Marlow Orchids Open House marlowsorchids.com

May 5, 2019: *CNYOS Program - Annual Auction*

Annual Auction of Donated plants by our favorite vendors. A list of donated plants will be published. Donations by members have been requested. This is our annual fund-raiser so we need you there!

June 2, 2019: *CNYOS Program - Annual Picnic*

No formal program, bring a dish to pass, your table service and beverage. Just fun and food.

June 2019: Piping Rock Annual Picnic/Open House - Go to pipingrockorchids.com for more information on date, times and directions.

July - August 2019: No summer time meetings!

September 8, 2019: *CNYOS Program - Final Planning for CNYOS Annual Show and Program TBD*

October 4, 5, 6, 2019: CNYOS ANNUAL SHOW & SALE

Friday - set-up display and help get vendors settled, pizza; Judging Saturday Morning; Open to the Public Saturday - Noon-5 and Sunday 10-4. Sign up early to help out with clerking or show room monitoring and food. Co-chairmen - Judi Witkin and Sue Finger

November 3, 2019: *CNYOS Program - Guest Speaker Fred Clarke* of Sunset Valley Orchids in California! His topic will be decided later. He is an expert in so many areas. He will bring plants for sale. This will be a must-see program!

December 1, 2019: *CNYOS Program - Holiday Luncheon*

No formal program, bring a dish to pass, your table service and beverage.

~ **2020 Don't forget to pay your dues as 2020 is gonna be fantastic for CNYOS!** ~

January 5, 2020: *CNYOS Program - Silent Auction*

February 2, 2020: *CNYOS Program - TBD*

March 1, 2020: *CNYOS Program - TBD*

April 5, 2020: *CNYOS Program - Guest Speaker Peter Lin* of Diamond Orchids in California

May 3, 2020: *CNYOS Program - Guest Speaker Alan Koch* of Gold Country Orchids in California

June 7, 2020: *CNYOS Program - Annual Auction/Picnic*

Central New York Orchid Society

The Central New York Orchid Society meets at St. Augustine’s Church, 7333 O’Brien Rd, Baldwinsville, at 2:00PM on the first Sunday of each month from September through June except for January and September (date moved to second Sunday because of national holiday weekends).

Website: <http://cnyos.org>

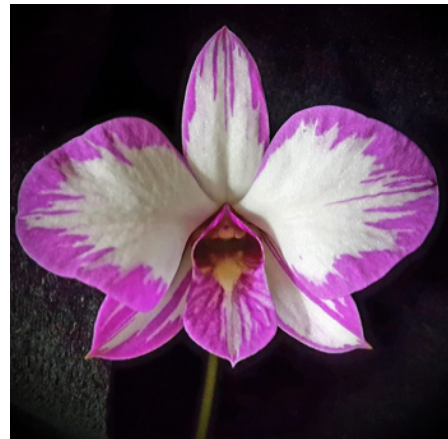
Directions to St. Augustine’s Church:

<http://www.cnyos.org/directions.html>

CNYOS Facebook Page:

If you have not checked out our Facebook Page, you can search “Central NY Orchid Society” on Facebook or go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/CNYOS/>



Reminder: Be sure to “Like” our page!

Central New York Orchid Society

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The Orchid Enthusiast

The CNYOS Newsletter is a publication of the Central New York Orchid Society and is distributed to the Society’s members ten times per year.

Chris Smith, Editor

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