

The Orchid Enthusiast

The Newsletter for the Central New York Orchid Society

Volume 8: Issue 8 Sept. 2006 CNYOS is affiliated with the American Orchid Society and the Orchid Digest

September Meeting(s): Beginner's Meeting Sept. 10th at 1:45p.m.

Topic: Bringing Your Orchids Indoors

Regular session 2p.m. Ray Barkalow of First Ray's Orchids presenting on Semi-hydroponic Orchid Culture.

This month we will be holding our first Beginner's Meeting at 1:45p.m. right before the regular session at our regular meeting place at St. Augustine's Church. Tom Daily will be leading a short discussion on "Bringing your Orchids Indoors" for the basics of how to prepare for getting your orchid plants cleaned up and brought back indoors. This is an important topic, so we will be presenting a short text version as the main article for this newsletter.

Ray Barkalow will be traveling up from Southeastern Pennsylvania to talk to us about how he uses a novel but very practical method for growing his orchids, which is based on the way many orchids grow in nature.

This month we are starting a regular schedule of Beginner's Meetings which though geared towards beginners and new club members, can be attended by all. Many of us feel that it would be very helpful if we presented basic beginner's topics before the regular session so that those new to orchid growing can pick up some valuable information from the more experienced members in an informal setting. Topics will be very basic, and questions are expected! Anyone is welcome to attend and ask questions. If there is a topic you would like to learn about, let us know!

(volunteers needed for refreshments this month!)

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Tom will also be doing an orchid book review each month, complete with an interesting excerpt taken from the book/publication. The review and excerpt will be in each month's newsletter.

Minutes – CNYOS Meeting: June 11, 2006

Judi Wilkins opened the business portion of the meeting. at 2:05P.

1. Carol Haskell reported that the CNYOS May Auction netted a profit of \$1214.50. The club account currently contains a total of \$5805.35.
2. Judi reminded the club that we still need to buy a digital projector. She will call Carol with cost, etc. soon as she gets the buying information.
3. Judi received the contract from the Orchid Conservancy for the 1% donation program for native orchid conservation. She found their contract too complex and stringent in its requirements and would prefer to make a donation for the 1% towards an orchid conservation project, on our club's own initiative. She asked for volunteers to serve on a committee and sent a sign-up sheet around during the meeting. She would like to meet late June/early July to investigate contributing 1% to Beaver Lake to help replant native orchids.
4. New Business:
 - Judi reminded the club that our meeting in September 2006 (9-10-06) will be held the second Sunday of the month due to Labor Day weekend, which occurs on the first Sunday of that month. Ray B., First Rays Orchids, will be our speaker in September.
 - The October meeting will be our show meeting. Our 2006 show will be held Saturday, October 14, and Sunday, October 15. Setup will take place on Friday, October 13. We will need volunteers to help set up. Judi also asked everyone to start thinking about plants to enter in the show.
 - Judi asked the members if they would consider starting our regular meetings at 1:45PM, instead of 2PM, starting in September. This extra 15 minutes could be used for a Beginners' Meeting, which would be open to all members but would cover topics of special interest to beginning orchid growers, such as potting or lighting. The club agreed to the new meeting time.
 - Kim B. reminded the members that Charles has included a Trading Post in the newsletter so any member can advertise any plants, growing materials, books, etc. that they are looking for or want to get rid of. Contact Charles Ufford to place a listing.

Misc. business

Club Vice-President Kim Boronczyk has many orchid-related supplies for sale. Please contact Kim at 315-455-7587 before regular meetings to discuss what she has available and can bring to the next meeting. Club President Judi Witkin and Librarian Tom Daily recently cleaned out the closet at St. Augustine's and have sorted out the wheat from the chaff! The club has a good selection of orchid-related books available to sign out. Please contact Judi or Tom to find out what is available and to sign out a book. A list will soon be posted showing what is available. The Wolles are still collecting clothing, household items, baby supplies and other food and paper stores for the Living Hope Christian Center in Syracuse. Members can bring their donations to the meeting to give to the Wolles.

Volunteer Schedules - Refreshment List for Fall 2006

Sept. 10th – ? Don't have schedule, volunteers likely needed for snacks!

Oct. 1st - 2 volunteers needed

Oct. 14th-15th volunteers to bring club-purchased goodies to show, to host show guests and other details

Please remember to bring your flowering orchids to the meeting for our show table!

Bringing Your Orchids Indoors - by Tom Daily

Three main things you can do to prepare for a healthy indoor growing season:

As the nights get cooler and we smell autumn in the air, it's time to bring our orchid collection indoors. Our plants have grown large and conversely we notice the strange phenomenon of our shrunken inside growing area. The larger plants along with any new specimens acquired over the summer won't fit quite as easily as did the group brought out in May. This poses some new challenges not only with space management but keeping healthy plants healthy and making sure we don't bring some insect or infection inside.

The first technique and most important, is developing an 'eye' so you can 'see' what it means to have a healthy plant as well as recognize the symptoms of a problem. Learning to 'see' sometimes begins with knowing what common diseases or insect pests look like. One of the best reference books out is Orchid Pests and Diseases Guide by the American Orchid Society. Developing confidence may take some study and help from someone with years of experience. You are looking for aphids, scale, red spider mites, mealy bugs, ants, snails, and slugs. Insects should be scouted for on a regular basis throughout the year not just at the end of a summer outdoors. After having gained some ability to recognize common pests, next comes learning where they are typically found. Some specifics are observing both surfaces of the leaves, in leaf axils, on stems, inside stem bracts or pseudobulb sheaths, and on flowers. If you see any soft, brown, or black tissue areas, it could be a sign of a bacterial or fungal problem.

Let's not forget the medium. You need to assess the results of summer growth and the possible need to repot. This gives you the perfect opportunity to look closely at what is usually hidden. Remove the pot and look for earwigs, fungus gnats, snails, and ants. Look at the condition of your roots. Remember if you have an epiphyte, the roots are different than the roots of house and garden plants. Learning to understand how and why will help you maintain a healthy root system critical to all aspects in the life of the plant. Are the roots plump, white, and healthy looking, or soft and brown, or dry and papery? If they are not healthy looking you'll need to trim them off with a sterile blade. Has the medium broken down? If this is the case you'll probably see some rotted roots accompanied by fungus gnats and or earwigs. These pests can eat tender new roots or feed on the broken down medium. If the medium seems overly wet or the roots are dry and papery perhaps your watering habits indicate you should use a different medium. Perhaps you just haven't repotted in a long time. Here we are presuming the immediate need to repot, as some species are quite particular about when their roots get disturbed. Without a specific plant in mind, pot size can only be spoken of in a general way. Monopodial orchids grow upwards from one point and should be repotted only when the medium decomposes or the plant gets too tall for the current pot or basket to support it. Sympodial orchids basically grow horizontally. Repot into a container that will allow for no more than two years growth.

Remember, if your plants are now going to be living closer together, bringing in plants with problems is the quickest way to spread insect and disease infestations. It can really set back the progress made by having your orchids outside.

Second, do your homework. Before any treatment you must identify the origin of the problem. It could be a pest, a bacterial or fungal infection, an environmental cause, or a combination of issues. Learn from books, from online scientific articles, and from other more experienced growers as to how to handle specific problems. This is especially important when dealing with sensitive species. The idea is to identify and treat problems before they are brought indoors. Otherwise, you will multiply the dangers associated with having to use insecticides in your home and around pets, not to mention the lingering bad smell.

Third, take the time. If all you need to do is to trim some dead roots and repot with fresh medium then your task is an easy one. We've heard or learned the hard way regarding quarantine of new plants for two weeks to make sure we are not bringing any unwanted additions to our collection. This same minimal period of two to three weeks should be used for treatment and elimination of conditions that we do not want coming in on our orchids whether they are bacterial, fungal, or insect in nature. With insects there are life cycle issues to be considered. At different stages

in the life cycle an insecticide may not be effective. So, in order to be sure you get a complete kill you must repeat treatment weekly, sometimes for up to three weeks or longer.

It may be a daunting task but well worth the effort. Don't be afraid to ask for help. We will be discussing in depth many of the specific issues from the above article in our monthly beginners forum before the start of the monthly meetings beginning at 1:45.

Tom Daily

Expanding Horizons: Books of Interest

The Journals of Hipolito Ruiz, translated by Richard Schultes and Maria de Jarmillo-Aarango. This book is a translation of the journal of the travels of one of the great plant collectors of all time, Hipolito Ruiz. It takes place during his botanical collecting in Peru and Chile between 1777-1788. It is not mainly about orchids but rather about all the different plants that come across. Over 2000 species are listed. Interwoven into the story, are the geography, weather, and local practices of the time. It provides an interesting look into the difficulties and discoveries of such an expedition, all within the cultural context of 18th century Chile and Peru. This might be available through an inter library loan.

(The following is an excerpt from the book) "Maxillaria bicolor, called caccacacca, which means joined pavement; where the plant grows, the soil is so densely covered with its pseudobulbs that the ground appears to be intentionally paved with them. These bulbs are so tender and juicy that they are easily chewed, and at the same time there oozes forth an abundant juice that is insipid, fluid, and clear as water. Six bulbs are enough to assuage thirst. In order to avoid descending to the bottom of a gorge to get drinking water, the natives frequently take advantage of this property when traveling through areas where caccacacca abounds."

For those who would like to buy it, you might find it at www.abebooks.com. Used copies are very reasonable.

Tom Daily

JUNE SHOW TABLE

Please note especially all names and abbreviations in boldface, and correct or **complete** your records, including parentage and new registrations.

Cypripedium Alliance

<i>Phrag.</i> Paul Eugene Conroy (warszewiczianum [<i>wallisii</i>] x <i>longifolium</i>)	Capella
<i>Phrag.</i> Grande (<i>longifolium</i> x <i>caudatum</i>)	"
<i>Paph. exul</i>	Witkin
<i>Paph. hookerae</i>	"
<i>Paph.</i> Bel Royal (<i>kolopakingii</i> x <i>rothschildianum</i>)	"
<i>Mxdm. xerophyticum</i>	"
<i>Phrag.</i> Sedenii (<i>longifolium</i> x <i>schlimii</i>)	Weller
<i>Paph.</i> Limelight (<i>Maudiae</i> x <i>Chiara</i>)	Cohen
<i>Paph. venustum</i>	"

Cattleya Alliance

<i>Encyclia guatemalensis</i>	Witkin
<i>B. nodosa</i>	Ufford
<i>Slc.</i> Exotic Mini Treat (<i>Lc.</i> Trick or Treat x Seagulls Mini-Cat Heaven)	Braue
<i>Bc.</i> Little Marmaid (<i>C. walkeriana</i> x <i>Bc.</i> Maikai)	"
<i>Lc.</i> Angel Heart (Puppy Love x <i>C.</i> Penny Kuroda)	Capella
<i>L. purpurata</i> = <i>S. purpurata</i>	"
<i>B. nodosa</i>	Cohen
<i>C. luteola</i>	Weller

Vandaceous

<i>Phal. lueddemanniana</i>	Ufford
<i>Phal. pulchra</i>	“
<i>Phal. corningiana</i>	“
<i>Phal. deliciosa ssp. hookeriana</i>	“
<i>Phal. floresensis</i>	“
<i>Dar. Charm</i> x <i>Vf. Virgil</i>	Braue
<i>Nak. Newberry Apricot</i> (<i>Vf. Virgil</i> x <i>Asctm. curvifolium</i>)	“
<i>Phal. unknown</i>	Buehler
<i>Phal. Baldan's Kaleidoscope</i> (<i>Hausermann's Candy</i> x <i>Daryl Lockhart</i>)	Coleman

Oncidium Alliance

<i>Mps. phalaenopsis</i>	Witkin
<i>Tolu. variegata</i> (?)	“
<i>Brs. Rex</i> (<i>verrucosa</i> x <i>gireoudiana</i>)	Capella
<i>Ornithocephalus (Orcp.) bicornis</i>	Boronczyk
<i>Oda. Marko Holm</i> (<i>Petit Port</i> x <i>Refulcis</i>)	Ditz
<i>Odcdm. Wildcat</i> (<i>Rustic Bridge</i> x <i>Crowborough</i>) 2 plants	Coleman
<i>Mtssa. Shelob</i> (<i>Olmec</i> x <i>Brs. Edvah Loo</i>)	“

Pleurothallid Alliance

<i>Tris. triglochis</i>	Daily
<i>Pths. tribularioides</i>	Boronczyk
<i>Masd. virgo-cuenca</i>	“
<i>Pths. brighamii</i>	Witkin

Dendrobium

<i>Den. atrovioleaceum</i>	Daily
<i>Den. cruentum</i>	“
<i>Den. unicum</i>	Braue
<i>Den. hercoglossum</i>	Coleman
<i>Den. victoriae-reginae</i>	“

Miscellaneous

<i>Bulb. psychoon</i>	Witkin
<i>Krl. Alice Marlow</i> (<i>Pescatoria ecuadorana</i> x <i>Kefst. tolimensis</i>)	Boronczyk
<i>Max. tenuifolia</i>	Braue
<i>Cnths. discolor</i>	“
<i>Sinningia</i> ‘Tyler Snow’ (Gesneriaceae)	Capella
<i>Coel. ochracea</i>	“
<i>Kohleria</i> ‘Texas Rainbow’ (Gesneriaceae)	Coleman

Iris Cohen

Neighboring Society/Orchid-related news

The Southern Tier Orchid Society will be having their Annual Orchid Auction Sept.17th at the Vestal Public Library in Vestal, N.Y. See their website at <http://www.storchidsociety.com> for more details

The Genesee Region Orchid Society will be having speaker Mario Ferrusi present on *Masdevallias* on Sept.11th. See their website at <http://www.geneseeorchid.org> for more details

The Orchid Trading Post - no entries this month

Central New York Orchid Society

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The Central New York Orchid Society meets at St. Augustine's Church, 7333 O'Brien Rd., Baldwinsville, at 2:00^{pm} on the first Sunday of each month from September through June, with Beginner's Sessions at 1:45p.m. right before the regular meetings. Yearly dues are \$15.00 per individual, or \$17.00 per family. Dues should be paid to the CNYOS Treasurer, Carol Haskell

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September Issue: - Meeting date Sept. 10th,

**September Meeting: Ray Barkalow and Semi-hydroponic Orchid Culture and
Beginner's Session: Bringing Your Orchids Indoors**