

The Orchid Enthusiast

The Newsletter of the Central New York Orchid Society

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Page 1 Volume 11: Issue 3 March 2009

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 by the second week of the month before the next meeting to:

egalson@twcny.rr.com

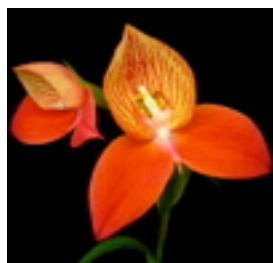
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Anyone who knows where the wireless card of the club computer is, please call Tom Daily

Next Meeting: Sunday, March 1 at 2 PM

The speaker will be Wally Orchard, who has a nursery called Afrodisa in Oregon in which he grows mostly Disas from South Africa. He will be speaking about Disa culture, He will bring along a limited supply of plants and seedlings to sell, and can take orders for more after he talks with people and they see his presentation. He has given us some web sites on which to look up information about him and the rather finicky group of plants in which he specializes. They are not for everyone, as you will see, but if you can give them the right conditions, they are very rewarding.



Here is his message:

"I do not have a website showing available plants for sale, but for general Disa information and photos, here are some links that should be useful:

Disa uniflora

My website: <http://worchard.home.comcast.net/~worchard/>

Diablo Disas: <http://www.disas.com/>

Gore orchid conservatory: <http://www.goreorchids.com/CatalogAndInfo/Disa.html>

Should anyone see photos of Disas that they just have to have, they can e-mail me or call me ahead of time with specific requests, but I can't promise anything. (worchard@peak.org, Tel 541 547 5474)"

Beginners' Meeting at 1:30 PM

This month's beginner's class will be on "Orchid labels", and will be led by Iris Cohen. Please bring along any labels you would like deciphered. Then the class will be open to questions.

President's Message

As a result of the last meeting we are now going to be having a regular Board Meeting to make sure we are all moving in the same direction.

We now have confirmed the dates of the annual orchid show to be the first weekend in October. The dates are October 2, 3, and 4. Setup will be Friday as usual.

We have also voted to raise the dues to \$20/yr. effective immediately.

Eva sent out an email to let you know of the big orchid event at the New York Botanical Gardens. They always put on a good show and I'm sure it would be worth the trip down.

Tom

Treasure's Report

Balance as of 2/1/09	\$3035.38
Net inflows/outflows 1/1/09 – 2/1/09	\$ 340.00

Dues

It's time to pay your CNYOS dues for 2009. They are \$20 per person, or \$22 per family. Send your check made out to CNYOS to Carol Haskell, 102 Wythrop Rd. Syracuse 13209.

Refreshment Volunteers

March -	Pamela Gotjen & Lori Hoffman
April -	Charles Ufford & Dolores Capella
May -	Rick Braue, Dale Corey, and Barbara Weller
June -	Picnic details TBA

Events Calendar

Jan. 24-April 26	Smithsonian, Washington, DC – Orchids Through Darwin's Eyes
Feb. 28-April 12	NY Botanical Garden Orchid Show "Brazilian Modern" at the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory at the Bronx Botanical Garden. Tickets at 718 817 8700, or NYBG.org
March 1	CNYOS meeting – Speaker is Wally Orchard of Oregon a grower of Disas
March 4-8	CNY Blooms –Syracuse Flower and Garden Show, Convention Center at Oncenter
March 6-8	Annual Orchid Show – Sonnenberg Gardens, 151 Charlotte St. Canandagua, NY for more information go to www.sonnenberg.org
March 7	Mid-Hudson Orchid Society Spring Sale & Blooming Orchid Display, Newburgh, NY
April 2-5	GROS Spring Show & Sale
April 5	CNYOS meeting - Glen Lehr of New World Orchids, a specialist in orchids of Japan
April 18-19	Dickman Farms Open House
April 24-26	STOS Spring Show & Sale
May 3	CNYOS meeting Orchid Auction
June ?	CNYOS Picnic Details TBA
October 2-4	CNYOS Show and Sale at Beaver Lake

Minutes (informal) – CNYOS Meeting January 11, 2009

(in the absence of the secretary, meeting notes were taken by Eva Galson)

Tom Daily opened the meeting and introduced a new member, Lori Burritt.

We have a date for the CNYOS Show and Sale at Beaver Lake. It will be October 2-4, with set-up Friday from noon on.

A motion was made to raise the dues to \$20 with family membership at \$22 starting immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a discussion on whether we should enter a display at CNY Blooms at the Oncenter, and it was decided not to, because that venue is too large and impersonal for us.

It was decided that we would participate in the Dickman Farms open house in Auburn on April 18 & 19. In addition to a display, we have to present a 15 minute talk on the 19th. Judi Witkin volunteered to be in charge of this effort, with Eva Galson and perhaps Tom Daily as helpers.

There was discussion as to whether we should participate in the Orchid Conservation Alliance, which protects the tropical rain forest on a large swath of land in South America. Participation of the group involves a fee of \$1 per member, or \$25 for individual memberships. Judi and Carol will look into the matter.

We also discussed whether to apply to become a 501.3c not for profit organization. This would enable us not to pay sales tax. Carol Haskell remembered that our accountant, Harry, has looked into the question before, and she will get the information from him.

Iris Cohen asked for volunteers to learn the registration procedure for orchid shows, A good opportunity would be registration for the GROS in April. Anyone interested should call her at 461-9226.

An important item is that the Club computer originally came with a wireless card, but it is missing. **Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the wireless card should contact Tom Daily.**

Mid- Winter Musings

By the second week in February daylight makes an appearance before 7 AM. It is my personal signpost that the days are growing longer and I can make it though whatever winter has left to dish-out. As I relax in my overstuffed chair on this cold winter's night looking to plants growing near a window, my thoughts turn to etiolation. What? What the heck is etiolation? (E-Tee-eh-lay shun) As I am typing, my 'WORD' application doesn't even recognize this word. Why should you, you ask? I feel it's important to keep expanding our knowledge of botany and our powers of observation. Etiolation is defined as, "A pathological condition of plants that grow in places that provide insufficient light, as under stones. It is characterized by elongated stems and pale color due to lack of chlorophyll." (American Heritage Dictionary)

Growing plants in natural light of our long winters can have major drawbacks. At this time of the year the sun's angle is still low in the sky and is only beginning to increase in intensity and day length. Many plants show signs of etiolation by becoming 'leggy'. The stems internodes increase stretching in an attempt to push the leaves towards the light source. The leaves become chlorotic as a result of inadequate light. The color of the leaf is not green but rather a cream color as a result of the lack of chlorophyll being produced. This condition is usually not seen under artificial light as low light levels can be compensated for by longer time under the lights. Many who grow African violets have seen their plants develop this stretched out look of long leaf petioles and smaller than normal leaves not to mention reduced flower production. The condition is irreversible for all plants. It can ruin that plant you wanted to grow into a specimen. Trying to grow high light orchids under light conditions less than optimal can also cause this stretching and may result in a plant that has an odd 'look'. Blooming can be seriously curtailed.

You now have another tool to recognize what your plant is telling you it needs. Compact beautiful blooming orchids are a result of a combination of cultural factors not the least of which is light equal in intensity and quality normally present in the wild.

I join you in looking forward to the warmth and bright light of spring! Tom Daily

Orchid Evolution

Recently, the first known orchid fossil, a piece of amber with a preserved ancient bee bearing primitive orchid pollinia, was found. Its discovery revolutionized the thinking about when and how orchids evolved. The Smithsonian Orchid Show "Orchids Through Darwin's Eyes" is displaying this groundbreaking fossil along with terrariums showing examples of the primitive orchids and their environment. This centerpiece will be flanked by other living orchid exhibits, illustrating just a few of the fascinating adaptations that have allowed orchids to flourish in so many environments throughout the world. This exhibit explores the alluring world of orchids through the eyes of Darwin and those he influenced—naturalists, horticulturists, and scientists who continue to find new insights and curious surprises while working with these captivating plants in greenhouses and laboratories, and in the wild.

February Show Table

<i>Cypripedium Alliance</i>	
<i>Phrag. besseae</i>	Coleman
<i>Paph. charlesworthii</i>	"
<i>Paph. niveum</i>	Ufford
<i>Paph.</i> Winmoore (Winston Churchill × Farnmoore)	Witkin
<i>Cattleya Alliance</i>	
<i>Sc.</i> Tangerine Imp × Fire Fantas	Weller
<i>Guarisophleya (Gsl.)</i> Whodunit (<i>Ctt.</i> Chocolate Drop × <i>S.</i> Psyche)	Capella
<i>Lc.</i> Angel Heart (Puppy Love × C. Penny Kuroda)	"
<i>Epi. centropetalum</i>	Coleman
<i>Vandaceous</i>	
<i>Phal.</i> In Charm Jade (Ho's Dreamy Jade × Timothy Christopher)	Woodworth
<i>Phal.</i> Orchid World (Malibu Imp × <i>D</i> eventeriana)	"
<i>Phal.</i> unknown	Bessette
<i>Phal.</i> Salu John (Ever-spring King × Ching Her Buddha)	Capella
<i>Dtps.</i> Yu Pin Summer (<i>Phal.</i> Modern Stripes × <i>Dtps.</i> Sun Jye Diamond)	Galson
<i>Phal.</i> unknown	"
<i>Ame. philippinensis</i> × <i>Tblm. kotoense</i>	Coleman
<i>Oncidium Alliance</i>	
<i>Odcdm.</i> Tiger Crow (Tiger Hambühren × Crowborough)	Lloyd
<i>Tolumnia (Tolu.)</i> Golden Triangle (Margie Crawford × <i>compressicaulis</i>)	Bradley
<i>Onc.</i> Hawaiian Sunset (Pupukea Sunset × <i>fuscatum</i>)	Hoffman
<i>Onc.</i> Twinkle (<i>ornithorhynchum</i> × <i>cheirophorum</i>)	Galson
<i>Odm. tenue</i>	Capella
<i>Onc. brunleesianum</i>	Coleman
<i>Chytroglossa aurata</i>	Daily
<i>Dendrobium</i>	
<i>Den. aberrans</i>	Capella
<i>Den.*</i> Ellen (<i>kingianum</i> × <i>tetragonum</i>)	Bessette
<i>Den. kingianum</i>	"
<i>Den. kingianum</i>	Weller
<i>Den.</i> Baby Pink (<i>affine</i> × <i>bigibbum</i> subv. <i>compactum</i>)	Coleman
<i>Den.</i> Aussie Chip (<i>aberrans</i> × <i>atroviolaceum</i>)	"
<i>Den.</i> Haleahi Buzz (Wee Wee × Golden Wasp)	"
<i>Pleurothallid Alliance</i>	
<i>Pths. eumecocaulon</i>	Daily
<i>Rstp. jesupiana</i>	"
<i>Rstp. elegans</i>	"
<i>Rstp. condorensis</i> †	"
<i>Rstp. chameleon</i>	"
<i>Rstp. falkenbergii</i>	"
<i>Trisetella triglochis</i>	"
<i>Trisetella didyma</i>	"
<i>Masd.</i> Peach Melba (Peach Fuzz × Angel Tang)	Capella
<i>Masd. striatella</i>	Coleman
<i>Pths.</i> sp.	Witkin
<i>Ste. cypripedioides</i>	"
<i>Specklinia grobyi</i>	"
<i>Drac. bella</i>	"

Rstp. *muscifera*
Pths. *nieoglobula*

““
“

Miscellaneous

Bulb. cpreum
Sinninga pusilla ‘White Sprite’ (Gesneriaceae)
Crtn.. fssellii

Cohen
“
Daily

*Every rchid genus that has been used in hybridizing has an official abbreviation.
†The scies epithet must agree grammatically with the genus name.

Iris Cohen

Free Raffle Tickets

On the show table each plant that has a complete & correct show table slip will receive a free raffle ticket.

Winners in January

Coleman 5, and one half price (Donald Prince)
Kot 2
Lloyd one half price
Galson 2 half price
Ufford one
Braue one
Capella 3
Weller one

Winners in February:

Witkin 3 1/2
Weller 1/2
Daily 8
Ufford 1
Capella 4 1/2
Woodworth 1 1/2
Coleman 8

Central New York Orchid Society Library

Below is a continuation of the list of books that is in our club library. The rest of the books were listed last month. The list may not be completely accurate, but there are plenty of books there for your pleasure and enlightenment.

Borrow some and enjoy!



Orchids of Africa-
Orchids of the Western Great Lakes Region-
Orchids of Tropical Africa-
Orchids of Brazil-
Orchids of Guatemala & Belize-
Orchids of the Northeast/A Field Guide-
Orchids-
Orchids You Can Grow-
Phalaenopsis a Monograph-
Phalaenopsis Culture a Worldwide Survey-
Proceedings: The 11th World Orchid Conference 1984
Report On Scale Insects-
The Biology of Orchids-

Stewart & Hennessy
Case
Stewart & Campbell
Jim & Barbara McQueen
Ames & Correll
Chapman
Peter Taylor (2 copies)
Logan
E. Christensen
Gordon

Cornell University
Dodson & Gillespie

The Cattleyas and Their Relatives-vol. 2-	C. Withner
The Forgotten Orchids of Alexander Brun-	Cribb
The Genus Encyclia in Mexico-	Dressler & Pollard
The Genus Phalaenopsis-	Orchid Digest (3 copies)
The Genus Paphiopedilum- Cribb	
The Genus Paphiopedilum-Natural History and Cultivation-vol. 2-	Braem
The Handbook on Orchid Nomenclature & Registration-	International Orchid Commission 1985
The Manual of Cultivated Orchid Species-	Crib & Launert
The New Orchid Doctor-	Dr. O. Wesley Davidson
The Orchid Doctor-	Dr. O. Wesley Davidson
The Orchids- Natural History and Classification-	R. Dressler
The Orchids: Scientific Study-	Carl Withner
The Paphiopedilum Grower's Manual-	L. Birk
The Scale Insects of Pennsylvania Greenhouses-	Stimmel
Ultimate Orchid-	Sheehan
When Does It Flower?-	Hamilton
You Can Grow Orchids-	M. Noble
You Can Grow Phalaenopsis Orchids-	M. Noble

From the AOS President

In the message from the AOS president, Carlos Fighetti, published in last month's newsletter, he indicated that the AOS is having a hard time financially, and that the organization will have to tighten it's belt. This month he communicated the decision of the board of directors to close the gift shop at the Florida site , and to close the AOS gardens to the public. They will be maintained by dedicated volunteers until a financial improvement will allow them to be open to the public again. Also, no more AOS grants will be given. However, AOS is committed to *Orchids* magazine, and to the maintenance and improvement of the AOS website.

Tragic Fire

Iris Cohen sent the following message: "Some of you may already know that bonsai master Bill Valavanis of Rochester and his family lost their home and most of their belongings in a devastating fire on January 27. His 90 year old mother lost her entire orchid collection which she was successfully growing on a windowsill. You know how traumatic such a catastrophe can be to a person of that age. Your help is requested in replenishing this orchid lover's collection. I will bring a few small divisions of awarded Paphs to the meeting. There is no set price, but please take one in exchange for a more substantial donation."



Monthly Checklist for March and April

Cattleya

Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.

Cymbidium

Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

Dendrobium (Australian)

These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

Lycaste

This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

Miltoniopsis

This marks the beginning of the flowering season. Amazing displays of color will dazzle the grower over the next few months. Prepare your plants for optimum display by staking spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage. Do not miss the wonderful fragrance as the flowers unfold.

Paphiopedilum

March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents your doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year. Cleaned and potted paphiopedilums look happy. The summer-blooming types will be showing the first of their buds in March and April. Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. It is especially difficult to clean mealybugs, in particular, once they have become established in the plant. Better to get to them before they get a good toe-hold. Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Do not be too anxious to stake the spikes, because if they are staked too soon, the flowers may develop a "nodding" stance, where the dorsal will not stand upright. If the spikes seem to develop at an angle, let them, and stake after the flower has hardened for best carriage, especially on the hybrids with fairieanum background.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay .

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, prior to all club meetings, events and functions.

Eva Galson, Editor
236 Lockwood Rd
Syracuse, NY, 13214
(315) 446-0224

egalson@twcny.rr.com

CNYOS website: <http://www.cnyos.org>

Central New York Orchid Society

President:
Thomas Daily 315/687-3449
V. President(s):
Charles Ufford 315/768-7466
Dolores Capella 315/469-8697
Treasurer:
Carol Haskell 315/468-0811
Secretary: Pat Cotter

The Central NY Orchid Society usually meets at St. Augustine's Church 7333 O'Brien Rd, Baldwinsville on the first Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm, with beginner's session at 1:30 pm, right before the regular meeting.

The Central New York Orchid Society
Your local AOS and Orchid Digest Affiliate
236 Lockwood Road,
Syracuse, NY 13214

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Beginner's Meeting at 1:30 PM