

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 5 May 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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From Charles Ufford::

I am wondering if anyone out there has any Phal species that they originally bought at Jim Rice Orchids in Homer, NY? I am looking at either Phal mariae or bastianii/deltonii, or any of the other species he had for sale, whether Phals or not. Actually I'm curious to know what plants anyone may have that originally came from Rice's, and if there are possible keikis or divisions available?

Next Meeting: Sunday, May 3 at 2:00 PM at the church.

It's time for our fabulous orchid auction again!

Here is your chance to pick up some great orchids at bargain prices. This year, we will have only orchids from vendors to bid on, rather than member orchids also, to make the meeting end at a reasonable time. There will be no show table or raffle table for the same reason. Guests are welcome, but will be charged \$5.00, unless they join the club at the meeting.

Come early to pick up your bidder number and look over the available plants, so we can start on time!

(for those of you anxious to auction off your own surplus plants, we'll do that at our silent auction next January)

Beginners' Meeting

There will be no beginner's meeting this month. Rick Braue did not get a chance to give his beginners presentation on growing plants semi-hydroponically last month, but will be on the agenda next season.

President's Message

The Southern Tier Orchid show is April 24th -26th. Jan Woodworth and Donna Coleman are going to set up. However, if you want to learn how to do a show set up or could help by providing another vehicle to transport orchids back and forth please contact Jan I'm sure she'd love the help. It's really important that new people step up and help. It's fun, interesting and you'll meet some interesting people as well.

Eva, Judi, and I will be at Dickman Farms in Auburn on the 18th & 19th to represent our club and sell a few plants, mostly just talk with folks who have questions about orchid growing.

(note from the editor: Tom, Judy and Eva had a great time at Dickman Farms. The orchids Judy bought from Just-Pat Orchids went like hotcakes at the bargain price of \$15/each. We talked to lots of people who were fascinated with orchids, but were scared to try them, giving them reassurances and tips.

Quite a few people took information about CNYOS, and we got one new family member. Tom gave a 15 min talk on orchids to an interested audience)

We are postponing our beginner's meeting till the fall. I have received a few email questions from beginners that I have been happy to answer. You can email me your questions to me at growing24@verizon.net. and I'll do my best to answer them or put you in touch with someone who can.

The May Auction is going to be held at the regular meeting area at the church, not the parish hall. Remember there will be no raffle or show table, it's just too much for one short afternoon. Our auction entry fee will only apply to guests and will be a \$5.00 donation to the club. Please let your guests know ahead of time so they're not surprised. In addition it's always a good thing to get there at least 30 minutes early to look over what's being auctioned. We want to begin at 2PM so we can finish in a reasonable time.

Again, if anyone would like to host the club picnic please let me know, otherwise it will be in the parish hall.

Lastly, anyone who has sources for free publicity for our fall orchid show contact Nancy or me. Thanks.

Tom Daily

Treasure's Report

Balance as of 4/4/09	\$2875.10
Net inflows/outflows 1/1/09 – 4/4/09	\$ 179.72

Dues

It's **overtimetype** for paying 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, or pay at the auction.

Refreshment Volunteers

May - Rick Braue, Dale Corey, and Barbara Weller
June - Picnic details TBA

Events Calendar

April 24-26 STOS Spring Show & Sale- Set-up on the 23, Judging on the 24, show open 24-26
May 2&3 African Violet Society of Syracuse Show & Sale. May 2-Sale 10-6, Show 1-6; May 3- Sale and Show 1-6. Beaver lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville. See the show before the CNYOS auction.
May 3 CNYOS meeting Orchid Auction 2 PM
June ? CNYOS Picnic Details TBA
October 2-4 CNYOS Show and Sale at Beaver Lake

GROS Show

The Genesee Region Orchid Society (GROS) Show which was held in Rochester April 4 and 5 was a success for CNYOS. Many thanks go to the dedicated members Jan, Judi, and Charles who set up our display which won:

1st Place for Best Orchid Society Exhibit of more than 15 plants

Tom Daily won a 1st as Best of Dendrobium Alliance for Den. Senile 'Mary Ann' AM/AOS
The same plant also won a CCM of 84 points from the AOS (see picture and article p. 4)

In addition, the following members won ribbons for their plants:

Tom Daily	Trichoglottis pusilla	2d
	Den senile 'Mary Ann' AM/AOS	1st
Donna Coleman	Den. 'Aussie's Chip'	1st
	Phrag. Memoria Dick Clements	3d
	Phal, Timothy Christopher	2d
	Phal. Mini Mark	2d
Judi Witkin	Paph hirsutissimum	1st
	Paph. venustum	3d
	Phrag. Red Lightning	3d
	Phrag. Jason Fisher	2d
	Polystachya pubescens	3d
Iris Cohen	Anoectochilus chapaensis	3d
	Paph. spicerianum 'Dody Ellenberger'	3d
Charles Ufford	Phal. stuartiana	2d
	Promenaea Meadow Gold	2d
Eva Galson	Lc. Voclano Sunset	3d
Jan Woodworth	Phal. Sogo Champion	3d

Dendrobium senile Culture

A number of people have asked me to share my cultural 'secrets' to blooming my *Dendrobium senile* 'Mary Ann' AM-CCM/AOS.

From the book *Dendrobium And It's Relatives*, "This is a small epiphyte from Myanmar, Thailand and Laos where it grows at altitudes of 500 to 1500m in areas with bright light and seasonal rainfall." The pseudobulbs can get to be 6" in length and can have 5 or 6 leaves towards the ends of the pseudobulb. Interestingly they are

deciduous, meaning the leaves tend to fall off as you begin cutting back on watering. The book says there are about 3 flowers per pseudobulb. This year one of mine carried 5 flowers and three had 4. This was the first year that some of my pseudobulbs passed 6" in length. Flowering season is late winter and early spring. For me, peak time is usually two weeks before the show in Rochester! The flowers last about three to four weeks in good condition.

It's recommended to grow this beauty mounted. Mine came mounted on a stick from Andy's Orchids about 5 ½ years ago. I highly recommend buying this from a reliable source like Andy's, where you know you're starting with an established plant.

I grow all of my orchids under lights and have for many years. I use T-5 fluorescents for my high light orchids. I have found these units to be everything they promise as far as high light output goes. The minimal heat they give off is a plus for this species. I put the *senile* within 3 or 4 inches of the lights. So it gets the really bright light and warmth. A couple of other key elements are constant air circulation and a humidity level that ranges from 50 to 75% all year round. I have a 'Vicks' ultrasonic humidifier on a timer to help maintain the humidity levels. Without a doubt the higher humidity extends the longevity of any flower. Air circulation can't be understated. Most of the year, these guys need to be heavily watered then dry off in a reasonably short time to prevent rotting. When I started getting orchids from Andy's I remember the cultural notes sent with the plant that recommended dunking the plant to water it. This more closely duplicates the heavy rains that fall in the tropics. So once a week, when not in bloom I dutifully set the plant into a deep tray for 10 minutes or so depending on how busy I am. Then during the week it's misted at some point in the day and with the breeze and humidity it seems quite happy.

And now, the secret of my success: "It requires intermediate or warm temperatures and must be given a dry season of about 3 months with little water if good flowering is to be achieved". My interpretation culturally was to begin to taper watering in the beginning of November. So instead of dunking every week it becomes only twice in this month. In December I stop dunking altogether and just mist on a regular basis. Through this time the leaves turn from green to yellowish brown and fall off. By January there are usually no leaves left. The pseudobulbs may shrivel a little. That's ok. But they shouldn't look like they're dead. But don't water yet! If you start back into your normal watering routine you'll get only new growths and no flowers. So be patient. If all is going well, you will see the new buds developing but don't water yet... I start watering when the majority of buds have formed. That means they look like flower buds. Not just little green knobs on the pseudobulbs. When I do resume regular



watering, I try to keep the flowers dry when dunking or misting. This helps prevent botrytis from infecting the flowers. When fully open the flowers have a light lemon scent.

That's all there is to it! Good growing! Thomas Daily

Quotes from Dendrobium And It's Relatives by Lavarack, Harris, and Stocker. Timber Press.

APRIL SHOW TABLE

Please note all names and abbreviations in boldface.

Cattleya Alliance

C. intermedia Lloyd

Vandaceous

Dar. Charm (*Neof. falcata* × *Vasco*. Tham Yuen Hae) Braue

Phal. bellina "

Oncidium Alliance

Onc. Sharry Baby (Jamie Sutton × Honolulu) Corey

Alcra. Sunday Best (*Brsdm. Gilded Urchin* × *Milt. spectabilis*) "

Oncidumnia Carnival Costume (*Onc. Sarcatum* × *Tolu. Red Belt*) "

Miscellaneous

Ddc. zamboangense Capella

Aergs. Rhodotrata (*citrata* × *luteoalba* [var. *rhodos t i c t a*]) "

Bulb. blumei "

Unknown Corey

Coel. ochracea "

Angcm. elephantinum Braue

Aergs. biloba Galson

Iris Cohen

If you have any questions, you can always call 461-9226 or e-mail iriscohen@aol.com.

So You Want To Summer Your Orchids Outdoors

By Wayne Hingston

(This article appeared in the May 2000 edition of the Orchid Enthusiast. With summer just around the corner, we hope, it seemed like a good time to print it again)

If you're considering putting some of your orchids outside for the summer, here's a little advice worth heeding. Moving your orchids outdoors for the summer months has several advantages, but some noteworthy disadvantages, as well. Each individual must decide whether their orchids would be better off outside, or continue to grow in their protected indoor environment. Unless an outside growing area can provide cultural conditions not available in your indoor environment, the effort and problems of outside culture are not always justified. Outdoors

usually offers much higher light intensities, more air movement, and greater temperature fluctuations, but not necessarily higher humidity. Outdoors also offers much less control over timing and amounts of water as well as undesirable exposure to new pests. My experience, over 15 years, is that SOME plants in a diverse collection demand outdoor culture to thrive. Cymbidiums need high light, cooling breezes, and the cooler nights of late summer to grow strongly and produce their flowers. Conversely, some plants are best left indoors where crown rot (Paphs, Phals) and leaf damage in thin-leaved plants (Calanthe, Catasetum, Eulophia, Phaius) can be prevented. The best outside location should offer bright light conditions that can be modified to prevent sun burning, some protection from high winds, and easy access for watering. A lattice top and sides can offer bright dappled light and reduced wind. I summer my plants under a balcony on the south side of the house, with a lattice screen on the west side. Some shade cloth is used to reduce mid-day light levels.

Plants are raised on benches in galvanized metal trays or hung to reduce slug problems. Cool growing orchids such as most Cymbidiums, Nobile Dendrobiums, and some Oncidiums can move outdoors in mid-May (Central New York and the north east). Cattleyas, warmer-growing Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Brassias, and others should stay indoors until early June. Each year and each location modifies this schedule. The plants must be acclimatized to the increased light and wind, being protected from exposure for the first few weeks. My Cymbidiums move from bright / direct indoor light to bright shade outdoors. Once they move forward into brighter light, the next wave of plants get the spot with bright shade. Increased light, more wind, and higher temperatures demand that the plants be watered and fertilized more frequently. Late June and early July may dictate that you water every second sunny day. As summer progresses, watering and fertilizer is reduced in accordance with the lower temperatures, reduced light, and degree of completion of the plants' seasonal growth.

Cymbidiums shouldn't be fertilized after mid-July to allow flower buds to form. I usually return the plants to the indoors in the reverse order. The warmer growers that were the last ones outside are inside again by Labor Day, while the coolest growers are moved inside around Thanksgiving (depending on the temperatures that year).

Prior to re-entering the house the plants will need to be inspected for insects and/or slugs. These treatments must start a couple of weeks before your anticipated return of the plants indoors. An additional advantage of outdoor culture is that pest problems can be attacked vigorously with a much reduced risk to your health. A successful summer eradication program can reduce or eliminate your pest problems the next winter. As long as I have such diversity in my orchid collection, I will summer some of my plants outdoors.

This article is from the S.O.O.S. News, May 1997, by way of the O.S.N.S. News, May 1998. It was most currently reprinted from the Kingston Orchid News,

Two Attractive Orchids



Cattleya dowiana
Bateman & Rchb.f.

This is one of the most spectacular of the labiate Cattleyas. The striking crimson lip against yellow petals and sepals is responsible for a whole line of breeding that has produced beautiful hybrids. This native of Costa Rica has a variety 'aurea' from Colombia which is similar except for more pronounced veining on the lip. Some authorities treat them as separate species. *C. dowiana* is sensitive to excessive water at the roots during winter so keep it dry

during this rest period.

Laelia dayana var. *coerulea* Rchb. f.

This species is still occasionally erroneously referred to as a variety of *Laelia pumila*. Distinct keels on the lip, size and form of flowers make identifying *Laelia dayana* easy. Most forms of the species are poorly shaped with reflexed petals and sepals and flowers that droop. Occasionally one finds a superior plant with fine flowers.



Plants can be grown like *L. pumila*; intermediate temperatures and coarse well-drained media in a basket or pot. Bright filtered light is best although the small plants will readily adapt to the lower levels of under-lights growers. From the low elevations in the Organ Mountains in Rio de Janeiro state.

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www.orchidworks.com

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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
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May 09 Issue - Meeting: Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 2:00 PM
Vendor Orchid Auction