

The Orchid Enthusiast

The Newsletter of the Central New York Orchid Society

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Page 1 Volume 12: Issue 5 May 2010

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 first week of the month before the next meeting to:

egalson@twcny.rr.com

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***It's time to renew
your membership!
Individuals \$20
Family \$22***

***Send check to:
Carol Haskell, Treas.
102 Wythrop Rd
Syracuse NY 13209***

Next Meeting: Sunday, May 2 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. We will have only orchids from vendors to bid on, but there will be a small silent auction of about 15 plants left over from our Dickman Farms sale.

Two special items will be included in the main auction:

- 1. A sample of Dr. James Brasch's keiki paste, donated by Iris, which will enable you to propagate your favorite phalaenopsis orchids vegetatively.***
- 2. The latest version of OrchidWiz, the orchid encyclopedia and data base, which ordinarily retails for more than \$250.***

There will be no show table or raffle table at this meeting. 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!

President's Message

Hi everyone. Happy Spring! Hopefully you are seeing new growth and buds on your orchids!. Is there a plant that you have been hoping to get? Make sure that you come to our next meeting on Sunday May 2nd, as it is our annual vendor auction. It is also a great time to bring a friend and introduce them to orchids. Many thanks to those of you who did set up and take down of our display at the GROS Orchid Show and the STOS Orchid Show. Also, congratulations to our members who won awards! Hope to see you in May.

Lori

Dues

It's ***overtime*** 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.

GROS Show



CNYOS Exhibit at GROS

The GROS show was a success for CNYOS. Many thanks go to the dedicated members who contributed their plants, and to Jan, and her helpers who set up our display which won:

1st Place for Best Orchid Society Exhibit of more than 15 plants. (This is the third year that we have won this prize at GROS under Jan's set-up leadership)

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

Iris Cohen

Bct. Little Mermaid 'Janet' AM/AOS-BM/JOGA	3d
Paph. spicerianum	1 st
Onc. Twinkle 'Red Fantasy'	1 st

Sue & Jerry Finger

Cat. Mari's Song 'CTM-217' HCC/AOS	2d
Prom. Chameleon	3d

Jan Woodworth

Dtps.Fuller's Lilly	3d
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Judi Witkin

Coel. massangeana	1 st
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Donna Coleman

Ctt. Exotic Mini Treat	1 st
Den. Aussie's Chip	1 st
Phrag. Memoria Dick Clemens	1 st
Phal. Baldan's Kaleidoscope	3d
Phal. Timothy Christopher	1 st

Eva Galson

Paph. Prim-n-Proper	1 st
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David Ditz

Stellis cypripedioides 3d
(Our sympathies go to Dave, one of whose plants was stolen right from our exhibit table)

Charles Ufford

Phal. bastianii 3d
Educational Exhibit 2d

Congratulations to all the winners!

STOS Show

Our club will also have a display at the Southern Tier Orchid Society (STOS) which will take place at the Oakdale Mall, Center Court, at Exit 70N off Route 17 in Johnson City. Set up is Thursday, April 22 starting at 3PM. Judging will be on Friday, and the show is open to the public on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with take down at 5PM Sunday. Our display will be set up by Jan Woodworth and Barbara Weller.

CNYOS Meeting April 11, 2010

About eight of us met in the sunshine in the parking lot of the church before car pooling to GROS in Rochester. Lori reviewed what was known about the plans for the May auction. She will contact Tom Daily who has served us so well in past years as our auctioneer.

Charles Ufford stated that things were on track for our Fall show.
No other business was conducted.

Refreshment Volunteers

April	No refreshment needed – Rochester Show	
May	1. David Ditz	2. Pat Cotter
June	Spring Picnic	Everyone Contributes

Events Calendar

April 23-25 STOS(Southern Tier Orchid Society) Show & Sale (set-up 4/22)
May 1&2 African Violet Society of Syracuse Show & Sale. May 1-Sale 10-5, Show 1-5; May 2- Sale and Show 10-4. Beaver lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville (parking fee). See the show before the CNYOS auction.
May 2 CNYOS meeting Orchid Auction
June ? CNYOS Picnic Details TBA
July & August No Meeting
September 12 CNYOS Meeting TBA (second Sunday of the month because of Labor Day)
October 1-3 CNYOS Show and Sale

Monthly Checklist for May and June

Cattleya

The last of the spring-flowering types -- those that flower from a ripened hard pseudobulb -- will be finishing, while the first summer-blooming types will be showing buds on their rapidly growing, soft pseudobulbs. Both may need potting, as signaled by deteriorating mix, this month. The spring bloomers present no problems, as you will be dealing with fully ripe, well-hardened pseudobulbs. They will be ready to root on the mature front pseudobulb and will establish quickly. The summer bloomers, will be brittle and may be in bud. Nonetheless, experienced growers know that unless potted now, they may not root later, as this type tends to be seasonal in its rooting behavior. Stake the lead growth to avoid breakage. May can still present some changing light conditions that can lead to burning of the foliage if the plants have not been properly acclimatized. Allow them to build up their tolerance to higher light gradually. Changing light and temperatures can also be the source of some frustration when trying to determine when plants need watering. While cattleyas will be entering into a period of rapid growth starting this month, they have still not built up sufficient momentum to be significantly slowed by your missing a day or two of watering owing to dark weather. As always, it is safer to err on the dry side than on the wet. It is important, though, especially to the summer bloomers. Too much shade will cause rapidly developing inflorescences to droop unattractively.

Paphiopedilum

The Paphiopedilum Maudiae types will be well into their season now, so a careful eye should be used toward staking. Do not be too anxious to stake, however. Many of this type, if staked too soon, will develop nodding flowers that do not face the observer. It is better to allow the flowers to ripen naturally, then support the spike right below the ovary for best display. This is especially common in Paphiopedilum fairrieanum-derived hybrids. If you have to do something when you first see the emerging spikes, just put the stake in the pot next to the spiking growth. Not only will this help you, but you will be able to see where the spikes are, so you can continue to pay attention to their development. The multifloral types will be entering their most active growth phase, so lots of light, water and fertilizer are called for to mature their large growths. Many will be spiking in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for the emerging inflorescences. These may benefit from earlier staking than most, as the inflorescences grow so quickly in some cases that they can be quite soft. Again, best support is right below the ovary of the first flower. This will allow the most natural presentation of the blooms.

Phalaenopsis

Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for potting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior. The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant. This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on Doritis background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the summer season. Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne pathogens and viral contamination. Phalaenopsis are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

Dendrobiums Demystified

The genus is a huge one with perhaps over 1000 species distributed from Japan southeastward through the Pacific Islands, westward to India; South China southward throughout Malaysia, Indonesia, New Guinea to Australia and New Zealand. In addition to the vast territory the genus covers, species can also be found over an equally vast elevation range from sea level to several thousand feet.

In spite of their habitat variability, there are several common rules to good culture:

1. Use the smallest pot possible - NEVER overpot this genus!
2. Well-drained media promote good root growth and minimize media breakdown
3. Most DO NOT appreciate root disturbance - repotting can lead to shock
4. NO fertilizer for most species Halloween through Easter
5. Hang tall plants to control top heaviness or place small pots inside much larger pots and weight down with rocks
6. DO NOT use copper based fungicides with dendrobiums
7. ALWAYS repot only when roots start to grow (usually spring) so re-establishment is fast

Don't be discouraged. In addition to the common rules, the whole genus can be broken down into 7 or 8 groups with similar culture. The key to flowering dendrobiums is in their dormancy requirements.

Cultural Sections

[The Dendrobium phalaenopsis group](#)

[The Antelope \(Spatulata\) group](#)

[The Nobile \(pronounced NO-bih-lee\) group](#)

[The "Warm Nobile" group](#)

[The Callista group](#)

[The Formosae group \(Often called the Nigro-hirsute group\)](#)

[The Australian Hard Cane \(Dendrocoryne\) group](#)

[The Pedilonum/Calyptrochilus group](#)

[Section Macrocladium](#)

[Section Oxyglossum](#)

[Section Stachyobium](#)

[Section Fytchianthe](#)

[Section Breviflores](#)

Look up the dormancy requirements of each group to be a successful grower.

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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.

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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.

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

***May 2010 Issue – CNYOS Meeting May 2 at the Church.
Vendor Orchid Auction***