



MHOS NEWSLETTER

MHOS is an Affiliated Organization of the American Orchid Society

www.mhos.us.com

April 2017

Meetings

The Mid-Hudson Orchid Society meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 1:30 pm at the Union Presbyterian Church, 44 Balmville Road (corner of Balmville Road and Beech Street), in Newburgh, NY 12550.

Bring your blooming orchids for the show table.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Feb 12 – elections and member discussion (P)

Mar 18 – Spring Show & Sale

April 9 – David Horak of Brooklyn BBG on *Catasetums* and other deciduous orchids (P)

May 7 – Tom Mirenda of Smithsonian “Orchid Hunting in Central America” (P)

June 11 – tbd

July 9 – tbd

No meeting in August

Sep 10 – tbd

Oct 14 – Fall Show & Sale

Nov 12 – tbd

Dec 10 – elections and holiday potluck dinner

P: member plant sales permitted.

NP: member plant sales not permitted

April 9: Dave Horak of Brooklyn Botanical Garden

Deciduous orchids are easy to grow because they tell you when they do not want to be watered. Nonetheless, growing them can be nerve-racking. Dave Horak will tell us how to grow such genera as *Catasetum* and *Galeandra*, giving us the reassurance we need to feel comfortable with them.

Special Offer from Carter & Holmes

Carter & Holmes is allowing societies to place group orders this spring. Plants that are not part of a special offer will be marked down 25%. Members need to place their own orders using a promo code of **MHOS25**. You may place your order through their website (<https://carter-and-holmes.com/>) or by phone (803-276-0579). All member orders will be shipped at once to one address for a flat fee of \$25 and then brought to our May meeting. You may start ordering on April 1 and the last day you may order is April 30. You may place multiple orders during this time using the same promo code. There will be a bonus plant for each person who orders. Supplies may not be included.

March Show Ribbons

This time around, the judges divided the orchids in the show into classes and gave three ribbons in each class. They also bestowed a Best in Show ribbon and a Fragrance Ribbon. The judges were Rob Greene, Fred Plant, and Maryelise Blundell. Three of the less well-known species that won ribbons are discussed on the following pages.

Best in Show	<i>Brassia Rex</i>	Margaret Bridge
Fragrance	<i>Cattleya. nobillor</i> ‘Amaliae’ x sib (‘Select’ x ‘Miss Blue’)	Elaine Grega
Cattleya first place	<i>Lc. Hsin Buu Lady</i>	Isabel Lopatin
Cattleya second place	<i>Cattleya flava</i>	Rob Greene
Cattleya third place	<i>Cattleya walkeriana</i> semi-alba ‘Kenny’	Elaine Grega
Dendrobium first place	<i>Dendrobium nobile</i> hybrid	Isabel Lopatin
Dendrobium second place	<i>Dendrobium tanii</i> x <i>bracteosum</i>	Isabel Lopatin
Dendrobium third place	<i>Dendrobium Super Ise</i>	Isabel Lopatin
Slippers first place	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Memoria Larry Heuer (<i>malapoense</i> x <i>emersonii</i>)	Rob Greene
Slippers second place	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Taisuco ‘America’s Aromas’ x Hagrid ‘Skydiving’	Bob Phillips
Slippers third place	<i>Paphiopedilum villosum</i>	Rob Greene
Misc. first place	<i>Cymbidium</i> Sylvia Miller	Rob Greene
Misc. second place	<i>Maxillaria schunkeana</i>	Fred Plant
Misc. third place	<i>Coelogyne flaccida</i>	Isabel Lopatin
Mounted first place	<i>Dendrobium</i> Pixie Charm	Elisabeth Mansfield
Mounted second place	<i>Oncidium roseum</i>	Elaine Grega
Mounted third place	<i>Ascocentrum</i> Mona Church	Elisabeth Mansfield

MHOS Officers & Volunteers

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* MHOS Officer

Other positions
are volunteer

Maxillaria schunkeana was the least common orchid on our show table. It is a temperature-tolerant species from coastal Brazil that likes to be grown moist; water it when it approaches dryness. Light should be intermediate to bright. It can supposedly be grown as cool as 40F at night, but 60F is enough to make it bloom. The photo on the left is Fred's specimen, but because the unusual texture of the lip is not visible in that image, a second one has been included.



By Orchi (Self-photographed) [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>) or CC-BY-SA-3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Cattleya flava, formerly called *Laelia flava*, is found on rocks in southern Brazil, away from the seacoast. Its roots grow into fissures in the rock that collect sand and some organic detritus. This is an exposed environment, so Rob grows his at the top of his greenhouse. He has had it in an organic medium, but it has been in the pot so long that not much of it is left.

In general, the bifoliate *Cattleyas* of southern Brazil get lots of rain in summer and far less in winter: a cool and dryish fall and winter is therefore necessary for triggering bloom. Rob grows his "on the dry side", and it is especially important to let it dry completely between waterings during the cool part of the year. Keeping it pot bound will help with this. They cannot be grown the way the unifoliate *Cattleyas* from the Andean countries are grown because the rainfall and temperature differential is not as pronounced for those orchids.

Rob notes that although he had three new



growths on his plant, only one bloomed. He believes this is because it needs repotting. He cautions that when repotting *flava*, divisions should be at least six growths. Because the blooming plant is top-heavy, he puts it in a second pot to keep it stable.

Oncidium roseum can be difficult to bloom where summers are hot. In its native habitat in Ecuador and Peru, it's found at elevations from 5000-7500' where temperatures rarely rise above 80F and rainfall is heavy most of the year. If kept wet enough, it will do alright during our summers, but a sudden heat wave in the spring can damage it.

The photo below illustrates the type of environment this orchid grows in. Note the low clouds that provide significant humidity. This plant is usually grown potted to help the roots stay moist



but, as Elaine has demonstrated, it can grow mounted if you water it daily and provide humidity.

Orchids and Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee

When Queen Victoria celebrated 60 years on the throne, the prime ministers of her dominion states were among the thousands of people who came to London for a huge celebration. Each of the prime ministers brought orchids from their countries which, along with many other orchids sprays, were mounted in a nine foot high crown-shaped arrangement that contained an estimate 50,000 flowers. A *Disa* and *Stenoglottis fimbriata* were brought from South Africa, Vandas from the East Indies, and Cattleyas and Oncidiums from Guyana. English orchidists had already named a number of plants for the queen, including *Dendrobium victoria-reginae*, *Cattleya* Empress of India (*dowiana x purpurata*), *Cattleya* Our Queen (*guttata x labiata*), and *Cattleya* Victoria Regina which were probably also used in the arrangement.

The Queen sat in front of the orchid crown, which was referred to as a bouquet, during the celebratory dinner. Among the attendees were Crown Princess Liliuokalani and Queen Kapiolani of Hawaii (photo at left), who sported their own orchid bouquets. After dinner, Victoria's huge bouquet was moved to her boudoir. She continued to enjoy it for several days.



Photo from archives of Bishop Museum, Honolulu HI

Societies in our Region

1st Sunday, 11:30am

Central NY – Syracuse

www.cnyos.org1st Sunday, 1 pm

Northeastern PA – Lakeville

1st Tuesday, 7:30pm

Pinelands – Medford, NJ

pinelandsorchidsociety.org1st Saturday, 1:30pm

North Eastern New York –

Albany/Colonie, NY

www.nenyos.com2nd Monday, 7:30pm

Suffolk – Setauket, LI

2nd Tuesday, 7pm

Greater Westchester –

Harrison, NY

www.facebook.com/WestchesterOrchids2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm

Nutmeg State – Unionville CT

www.nutmegorchids.com2nd Tuesday, 7:30pm

Deep Cut – Tinton Falls, NJ

www.deepcutorchids.com2nd Wednesday, 7pm

Manhattan – New York, NY

www.manhattanorchid.org2nd Wednesday, 7pmConnecticut – Farmington or
Cheshirewww.ctorchids.org2nd Thursday, 7:30pm

Long Island – Hicksville, LI

longislandorchidsociety.org2nd Thursday, 8pm

North Jersey – East Hanover

www.njorchids.org3rd Sunday, 2pm

Southern Tier – Binghamton

www.storchidsociety.com3rd Tuesday, 7pm

Staten Island, NY

www.siosonline.com3rd Wednesday

Matinecock - Oyster Bay, NY

3rd Wednesday, 7pm

Greater NY – Bronx, NY

www.gnyos.org3rd Thursday, 7pm

Ramapo – Englewood, NJ

www.ramapoorchid.org4th Tuesday, 7pm

Jersey Highlands - Augusta, NJ

www.jerseyhighlandsorchid.wordpress.com

Announcements

American Orchid Society 2017 Spring Members Meeting May 17-21. Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Rd, Coral Gables, FL 33156
<https://aosmembersmeeting.com/meetingschedule/2017-aos-spring-members-meeting/>

DUES ARE DUE! Please bring your payment (\$25/individual, \$35/family) to the April meeting and hand them to the newly elected membership secretary.

Kitchen Chair Needed! Arrive at 12:30 – with milk – and make coffee. Set up for snacks. Draft people at end of meeting to help with cleanup. Recruit members to bring snacks to next meeting. President Ruth is handling this now, but she needs relief.

Supplies Coordinator Needed! John Warren's family donated to MHOS the supplies he had been selling. President Ruth took them to her house, but now we need someone to take them over. If you can do this, please talk to her at the meeting.

Webmaster Wanted: Can anyone take over updating our website? For details of what's involved, talk to Isabel at the meeting.

MS Word Expert Wanted: We need someone to convert the newsletter template from .doc to .docx format. If you can do this, talk to Isabel at the meeting.

Events in the Northeast

GENESEE REGION ORCHID SOCIETY SPRING ORCHID SHOW

Rochester Museum & Science Center, Eisenhart Auditorium, 657 East Avenue, Rochester, NY. April 1-2.

OTTAWA ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW "ORCHIDOPHILIA"

RA Recreational Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, ON, Canada, April 22-23

SOUTHERN TIER ORCHID SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW

Oakdale Mall, 601-605 Harry L. Drive, Johnson City, NY, May 20 (Binghamton)

NORTHEAST JUDGING CENTER

CHAIR, STAMFORD - JOHN SULLIVAN, 299 VILLAGE PLACE, WYCKOFF, NJ 07481; C: (201) 835-0113, H: (201) 891-6657, EMAIL:JOHNSULLIVAN@OPTONLINE.NET

Judging takes place at the Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens, Silver Educational Center, 151 Brookdale Road, Stamford, CT at 12:00PM on the third Saturday of the month. Send cut flowers to: John Sullivan, 299 Villiage Place, Wyckoff, NJ 07481.

Orchid events around the world can be found in the AOS magazine *Orchids* or on the AOS website at www.aos.org. Check before traveling to see if there may be a local orchid event at your destination.

AOS Judging

The Northeast Judging Center holds two monthly orchid judging sessions:

1st Saturday of each month at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA. New contact for directions: Robert Winkley (617) 282-7351. www.towerhillbg.org.

3rd Saturday of each month at the Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens, 151 Brookdale Road, Stamford, Connecticut. Slides or presentations at 10am, judging begins around 12pm; bring your lunch.

For further information, contact Rita Cohen at 516-374-6426 or orchart@optonline.net

Check out our
Facebook Page



It's [Mid-Hudson Orchid Society](#)

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c/o Isabel Lopatin

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Mid-Hudson Orchid Society



Directions to AOS Judging at the Bartlett Arboretum & Gardens

Formerly at the Hampton Inn, Elmsford, the regular AOS Northeast judging meetings have moved to a new location about 15-20 minutes away, at the Bartlett Arboretum & Gardens, Stamford, CT.

From the Merritt Parkway (Route 15). Take Exit 35 and follow High Ridge Road (Route 137) north for 1.5 miles to Brookdale Road. Turn left on Brookdale Road and proceed 3/10 of a mile. The entrance to the Bartlett Arboretum will be on your right.

It is a beautiful facility and a great place to visit. Their website is www.bartlettarboretum.org or you can call 203-322-6971.