

PRUNING & GROOMING!



Welcome Back! It is with no shortage of amazement that I sit here putting together the first newsletter for yet another CNYOS season. As the summer wanes into fall, we have lots to look forward to—for one thing, cooler temperatures! This has been a record-breaking summer for Central NY, with an astonishing 23 days with temperatures over 90°F—the average is 8 days, with the overall record of 28 days > 90°F set back in 1955. The high temps not only took their toll on us, but I'm sure on our orchids as well. I discovered the hard way that mealy bugs really—REALLY—love the warm weather.

The biggest event we have to look forward to is our annual show, coming up this September 27-29. Our friends in Binghamton and Rochester will be participating again, and we've lined up a good group of vendors as well; CNYOS regulars Joe Kunish of Bloomfield Orchids, MaryCarol Frier of Frier's Orchids, and Jim Marlow of Marlow's Orchids will all be returning, along with new-comer Paul Sheitz of JustPat Orchids. Unfortunately, Darrin Norton of Mountain Orchids is in high demand, and won't be able to join us due to the Mid-America Orchid Congress. Set-up is on the 27th, and your help will be needed! Please plan on volunteering for some of the many tasks necessary for a successful show. And we'll also need blooming plants for the display, which brings us to

the topic for this month's meeting, **September 8, 2:00PM**, St. Augustine's Church: **Pruning & Grooming!** Senior CNYOS members will discuss how to properly prepare your blooming orchids to present them to their best advantage. This does not include simply pulling off the dead leaves, but making sure they are free of insects, cleaning water spots off the leaves, and properly staking the flowers so that they are displayed in a natural manner, while not appearing to be staked. It can be challenging, but in the end the results are worth it. Remember—It's all about the packaging!

Lc. Park Ridge, Photograph © Cathy Riemer
www.personal.psu.edu/staff/c/r/crr2/629.jpg

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ANNUAL CNYOS PICNIC HELD IN JUNE

This past June, Co-VP Ken Renno and his wife hosted our annual summer picnic at their home in Liverpool NY. There was a good turn-out of roughly 25 members. Although the day turned out to be a bit on the cool side, most of Ken's back yard had some sun to offset the temperature.

There was a short meeting, where upcoming events were discussed (State Fair, the Junior League Holiday Shops, and the Fall Show). In addition, there was a mini-auction where a number of orchids that arrived too late for the auction were put on the block. In addition, member Mike Candella brought a selection of hanging baskets and bedding plants to be auctioned off as well.

Thanks go out to Mike on behalf of the club for his wonderful generosity! After the meeting the club settled down and enjoyed some great food, and lots of great conversation. A few pictures from the picnic are shown on page 11.

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CNYOS AT THE GREAT NY STATE FAIR!

For the third year in a row, CNYOS members set up a booth in the horticultural building at the Great NY State Fair. The booth was well received and generated a moderate amount of interest. In addition to giving directions to the rest rooms, I have it on good authority that some of the members manning the display and information booth were actually asked

1. The Great New York State Fair: Ken Renno will chair, and Judi will assist. Val Introne volunteered to produce a poster for the Fair to advertise the show. Participants will need special passes to set up/take down, & parking passes.
2. The sign-up sheet for meeting refreshments was circulated.
3. Sign up sheets for tasks for the Show were circulated. A number of vendors have asked to participate in our Show: those who will be vending include Joe Kunish, Jim Marlow, MaryCarol Frier, and Paul Sheitz. We had inquires from as far away as Taiwan and Peru. For the Show registration, an extra person is needed to help Elihu. As always we need to encourage people to pre-register as much as possible.
4. The club has obtained approval from the Junior League to participate in the Holiday Shops. Blooming plants will be provided by MaryCarol Frier.
5. If one of your beauties blooms during the Summer send or e-mail a picture of the happy event to Charles Ufford for the virtual show table.
6. Elinor Burton, as our Orchid Digest representative, asked for a show of hands of OD members.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Weller, CNYOS Secretary

about orchids, and a few new members may even result! The club owes much thanks to all of those members who helped out, either with set-up and breakdown of the display, donation of orchids for the display, and manning the booth. Hopefully we'll get a few new-comers to our upcoming show, and perhaps some new friends as well.

- September 8** **First Meeting of the 2002-2003 CNYOS Season:** Grooming your orchids for success!
- September 27-29** **2002 CNYOS Annual Fall Orchid Show & Sale:** Shoppingtown Mall. Details in this issue!
- October 6** **Regular Meeting:** Program to be announced.
- November 3** **Regular Meeting:** Program to be announced.
- November 9** **Tentative Trip to Jim Marlow Orchids in Scottsdale NY**
- December 1** **Annual Holiday Party!** Details to be announced.
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GROS NEWS: NEWS FROM THE GENESEE REGION ORCHID SOCIETY

Join us for the first meeting of the season as we reconnect with old friends and welcome many new ones. Our speaker for September is no stranger to the GROS - it's Paul Sawyer, owner of Sawyer's Exotic Greenhouse in Grafton, NH, a vendor and exhibitor at our Spring Show. Paul will present a talk on the Eric Young Orchid Foundation (EYOF), world famous orchid collection and research facility on the Isle of Jersey, a Channel Island off the northwest coast of France. A frequent exhibitor and award winner at many major international orchid events, the EYOF is known for its advances in modern phragmipedium breeding.

The Foundation was established in 1958 by the late Eric Young, a trained scientist and a gifted horticulturist. Before his untimely death he had developed one of the finest collections of orchids anywhere in the world. Eric Young's dream was for the Foundation to maintain and develop the collection in perpetuity. To that end, a new greenhouse facility with 25,000 square feet of growing space and eight different controlled environments was completed in 2001, replacing an older, outdated facility.

Taken with permission from *The Orchid Collection*, Newsletter of the Genesee Region Orchid Society, Vol. 24, No. 8, June 2002, Phil Matt, Newsletter Editor (716) 288-7025.

STOS NEWS: NEWS FROM THE SOUTHERN TIER ORCHID SOCIETY

The first meeting will be on September 15TH. The STOS orchid auction will also be held in September. Further details are not available at this time.

Monthly meetings begin at 2:00^{PM} in the Vestal Public Library. For directions, etc. call STOS president Kenneth Lattimore at 570-553-2753 or e-mail him at <klatt@epix.net>.

| | | | |
|--|---------|--|---------|
| Cypripedium Alliance | | <i>Aër. maculosa</i> (sic) | " |
| <i>Paph. Joyce Hasegawa (delenatii x emersonii)</i> | Weller | <i>Phal. Little Emperor</i> (Sogo Lit-Angel x Golden Amboin) | Bordoni |
| <i>Paph. concolor</i> | Wilson | Oncidium Alliance | |
| <i>Paph. malipoense</i> | ? | <i>Onc. lindleyi</i> | Capella |
| <i>Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz (delenatii x malipoense)</i> | Stuart | <i>Mtdm. Bartley Schwartz (Milt. Red Pali x Onc. Honolulu)</i> | Coleman |
| <i>Phrag. Paul Eugene Conroy (wallisii x longifolium)</i> | Stuart | <i>Onc. Mendenhall (Butterfly x Psychopsis papilio)</i> | Ditz |
| | | <i>Oda (Danilo x Mont al 'Abbe)</i> | Stuart |
| Cattleya Alliance | | Dendrobium | |
| <i>Prosthechea vitellina</i> | Ditz | <i>Den. primulinum</i> | Ditz |
| <i>L. purpurata</i> | Capella | <i>Den. griffithianum</i> | " |
| <i>Sc. Beaufort (S.*coccinea x C. luteola)</i> | Witkin | <i>Den. hercoglossum</i> | Coleman |
| <i>Euchile</i> (Syn. <i>Encyclia</i>) <i>citrina</i> | " | Pleurothallid Alliance | |
| <i>Kalopternix sophronites</i> | " | <i>Pths. (?) pseudoglomeratum</i> | Groll |
| <i>Bc. Binosa (B. nodosa [sic] x C. bicolor)</i> | Bordoni | <i>Pths. racemiflora</i> | " |
| <i>Slc. Jewel Box (C. aurantiaca x Anzac)</i> | Stuart | Miscellaneous | |
| Vandaceous | | <i>Prom. xanthina</i> | Witkin |
| <i>Neof. falcata</i> | Capella | *The official abbreviation of Sophronitis has been changed to S. | |
| <i>Phal. buyssoniana</i> | Ufford | Iris Cohen | |
| <i>Phal. Memoria Woody Marceil (Cher Ann York x Arthur Freed Nuuanu)</i> | Stuart | | |
| <i>Phal. Taisuco Perferz (Pinlong Perfection x Lippeherz [sic])</i> | Coleman | | |
| <i>Phal. Golden Peoker (Misty Green x Liu Tuen-Shen)</i> | Ditz | | |

THE CNYOS 2002 FALL SHOW & SALE!

SEPTEMBER 27-29

Our annual show seems to come around faster and faster each year... Perhaps that's because it means the end of summer to CNYOS members, or because we don't want to admit that time is flying far faster than we'd prefer... At any rate, the show is less than a month away, and there's still a great deal to do. Last year's show was remarkably successful, despite the fact that it was the week-end immediately following the national disaster that was September 11TH. For the first time in several years we had four vendors (one more than our usual three), so that the overall show was larger. In addition, several of our own members set up individual displays, which were well-received by the judges. The show will have four vendors again this year, including regulars Joe Kunisch (Bloomfield Orchids) and MaryCarol Frier (Frier's Orchids). In addition, Jim Marlow will be joining us again. Unfortunately, Darrin Norton (Mountain Orchids) is unable to participate in our show this year due to a schedule conflict with the Mid America Orchid Congress, but hopes to rejoin us next year. Paul Sheitz of JustPat Orchids (Philadelphia) will be taking Darrin's place. Many members may remember Paul from a program on Wilsonaras that he presented at our meeting in November of 2000. Paul has also participated at the Southern Tier shows for the last several years. At any rate, in order to guarantee a repeat of last year's success, CNYOS needs your help.

Continued on Page 10...

CLUB REMINDERS

Orchid-Growing Supplies are now available, including fir bark, sphagnum, sponge rock, charcoal, and 40W fluorescent tubes. Call Rich Groll for details on pricing and availability (451-4248).

The **CNYOS Club Library** is now located at St. Augustine's church. Make arrangements with Val Introne (682-8595) if you want to borrow an item from the Library.

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR
BLOOMING ORCHIDS FOR THE MONTHLY
SHOW TABLE!!!**



Phalaenopsis bellina (violetaceae), photograph by Vagisha Sharma, with digital enhancement by J. Stuart.

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| September 8 | Barbara Weller |
| October 6 | Val Introne |
| November 3 | Need Volunteers! |
| January 12 | Judi Witkin & Gary Stensland |
| February 2 | Deb Coyle & Dianne Bordoni |
| March 2 | Need Volunteers! |
| April 6 | Need Volunteers! |
| May 4 | Need Volunteers! |

We still need volunteers for the months indicated above, as well as for October (two per month). Please consider signing up!

CNYOS IS NOW ON-LINE!

CNYOS is on-line at www.paphiopedilum.net. The site is regularly updated and will be changed as the club's two crack web-masters (Jeff Stuart & Charles Ufford) have time to do so, so check back frequently!

CHECK OUT THE NEW FEATURES AT THE CNYOS WEB SITE!

The club web site has a new feature, thanks to Charles Ufford. The Virtual Show Table is up and running. Members can post photographs of their blooming orchids—especially those that won't cooperate and tend to bloom in-between meetings or over the summer—by sending or e-mailing a photo to Charles, who will put it up on the site. There's already a nice collection to view. Take a peak at Carol Haskell's *Coryanthes macrantha*—that's one you definitely don't see every day! To date there are about two dozen photographs posted. This feature is sure to become a popular one! Send your pictures soon!

CATTLEYA LODDIGESII & EPIDENDRUM DIFFORME

An amazing aspect of orchids is their diversity; both of the following selections are in the same tribe (Epidendreae, Laeliinae), yet are astonishingly different in appearance. Would you have guessed that they're related?

Cattleya loddigesii may well be the most familiar Brazilian bifoliate, having been in cultivation since the early 19th century and used often as a parent since. Long before the current trend of spotted mini-catts, *C. loddigesii* was being used to create popular multifloral "Cocktail Cattleyas," *C. Henrietta Japhet* being perhaps the most familiar. Although *C. loddigesii* has no special cultural requirements it is best repotted early in the spring so that the new growth has chance to establish some roots before it produces up to six pink 3-1/2" flowers in

early summer. Otherwise, it is adaptable to most intermediate conditions and grows easily. There are several named color varieties including *alba* and *coerulea* forms. A pale bluish clone, "Blue Sky," is of particular beauty and generally available. Occasionally very dark forms of *loddigesii* show up, but these are thought to be intergrades with the darker *C. harrisoniana*.



Cattleya loddigesii

© 2000 Greg Allikas

Epidendrum difforme could be considered an orchidaceous weed; its range is broad, covering most of the tropical Americas.

This is a highly variable orchid, indeed some authors consider it to actually be a group of about 100 closely related species. In fact, this particular plant may actually be

Epidendrum barbeyanum (syn. *Neolehmannia barbeyana*), which has relatively large flowers of a pronounced chartreuse, and a lip twice as wide as the normal *Epi. difforme* flower. The more desirable flowers exhibit a thick almost plastic texture and bright chartreuse flowers such as the pictured plant from Honduras.

These orchids tend to ramble and are best suited to growing in a basket or on a mount. They are quite adaptable to a wide range of light and temperatures making them an easy-growing addition to any orchid collection.



Epidendrum difforme

© 1997 Greg Allikas

Just a few weeks ago in mid August, I found myself in Albuquerque NM on business. After my commitments concluded—and after a pleasant few days relaxing in Taos Ski Valley—I decided to take the opportunity to pay a visit to Bill Schneider of Countryside Orchids, located right outside Albuquerque in Corrales, NM. Bill is a long-time friend of the Central New York Orchid Society, both as a former member and vendor at one of our shows several years ago, prior to relocating his home and greenhouses from Massachusetts to New Mexico.

When I think of the best places in the country to grow orchids, places like the Pacific Northwest, the California coast, and the Southeast come to mind. The sunny Southwest does not immediately come to mind, at least not to me. Of course, different groups of orchids will thrive in different areas of the country, especially in locations where the climate is particularly well suited for them. For instance, the Pacific Northwest and the

EXTERIOR VIEW OF COUNTRYSIDE ORCHIDS



BILL SCHNEIDER STANDING IN FRONT OF HIS COOL TEMPERATURE GREENHOUSE.

San Francisco Bay area can be ideal locations for growing orchids that thrive in cooler climates. And some of the best growers of Vandaceous orchids are found in the Southeast where they benefit from lots of sun, warm temperatures, and high humidity. So one of the first questions I had for Bill was what motivated him to move his entire business, including a huge collection of orchids, from the Northeast to the hot and arid Southwest. His answer was not entirely surprising—Bill and his wife Margie had fallen in love with the area after many trips to Albuquerque over many years—I'd like to point out that falling in love with the wide sweeping vistas bounded by mountains and cut by deep river gorges, the abundance of sun, and exceptionally mild winters would be easy to do... And in addition, they already had a nice collection of friends in the area, so the decision seemed natural. OK, orchids weren't the primary draw, but the question remained, how well can orchids be grown in the Southwest? From what I can see,



Interior view of the cool house, showing repotting benches and the growing area to the rear.

orchids thrive under Bill's care at Countryside!

Countryside Orchids is located on the outskirts of Albuquerque, just 5-10 minutes off of Route 25. Bill and Margie live in a wonderfully landscaped adobe ranch-style home, surrounded by gardens filled with roses and many different types of perennials, all, I might add, looking exceptionally better than my own gardens in the Northeast—largely due to more mild winters, a much longer growing season, and LOTS of watering. The greenhouses are located beside the house, one for cool-growing species and the second for intermediate to warm growing species. Both are sizable hoop houses with extensive ventilation systems and ample bench space, as well as work areas for repotting, etc. A massive reverse osmosis unit is located in the front corner of the cool house. Just as most commercial growers, Bill uses RO water for all of his orchids. The local well water, which is ultimately derived from the Rio Grande, is

very high in dissolved solid, measuring over 1500 ppm! Just for comparison, most of us in Central New York have water with values of roughly 180 to 200 ppm if on a municipal water supply, or around 600 to 800 ppm from well water. Even the relatively high-quality water that many CNYOS members are accustomed to is inadequate for growing more sensitive species like *Masdevallias*. Bill's RO unit is highly efficient, and only rejects about 20% of the treated water as waste. His system has two huge storage tanks where fertilizer can be added, coupled to a pump and pressurized tank for watering. Incidentally, the Rio Grande runs right near Bill & Margie's home, although in their area it is more like a large slow moving creek than a grand river!

The first greenhouse Bill showed me was the cool house. The change in climate upon entering was remarkable—outside the temperature must have been in the upper 80s or low 90s (with very low humidity), but inside the greenhouse the



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE WARM HOUSE, SHOWING THE AREAS USED TO GROW MOUNTED ORCHIDS.



ONCIDIUM CRISTA-GALLI IN THE COOL HOUSE.

atmosphere was buoyant and humid, and at least 10 to 15 degrees cooler—I felt immediately refreshed and comfortable, and made the comment to Bill that I’d never want to leave the cool house if were it my place! Bill immediately pointed out his desk, computer, and numerous working areas in the front... The climate inside the cool house is maintained by a series of swamp coolers along the back wall; swamp coolers are composed of long porous corrugated slats stacked side by side that are open to the outside and

THE RARE AND EXOTIC *FERNANDEZIA IONANTHERA* WITH ITS BRILLIANT RED-ORANGE FLOWER. THE FLOWER IS SHOWN LARGER THAN LIFE SIZE.



kept constantly moist by flowing water. Large fans in the front of the house pull air in through the slats. The slats add moisture to the air, and the process of evaporation reduces the ambient air temperature. Once the swamp coolers become covered with algae, the slats can be replaced without too much effort.



MILTONIA SPECTABILIS VAR *MORELIANA*. THE ALBA FORM IS SHOWN IN THE PICTURE ON PAGE 10.

The collection of orchids in the cool house was pretty remarkable, with benches filled with Odontoglossums, Laelias, Encyclias, and other cool growing species, including a nice selection of vigorously growing Pleurothalids. There was a fish pool of sorts to the side filled with water plants, which undoubtedly helps to keep the humidity up, but also adds a bit of whimsy among the blooming orchids. At the end of each bench along the center aisle were frames containing hardware cloth for hanging mounted orchids. A particularly exciting orchid in bloom was a bright red *Fernandezia ionanthera*, which is exceedingly rare and difficult to grow.

The atmosphere was notably warmer in



CATTELEYA ORCHIDS IN THE INTERMEDIATE TO WARM HOUSE.

the intermediate house, although the air retained that same buoyant yet humid quality I had noticed earlier. Here I found a large selection of warmer-growing species—many of which grow too warm for my conditions—including Cattleyas, Epidendrums, Vandas, and Bulbophyllums, in an arrangement similar to the cool house. A specimen *Miltonia spectabilis* var. *moreliana* caught my eye, as well as its alba counterpart. Although both did indeed catch my eye, neither

caught my wallet. A few *Kefersteinias*, a *Dendrobium senile*, and an *Epidendrum barbeyanum* managed to do that...

All in all, I was quite surprised—and impressed—to find orchids being grown so successfully in New Mexico. Bill and Margie Schneider very much enjoy the climate, including the lack of both snow and oppressive winters. Their orchids, however, enjoy climates far different—as far as they're concerned, they reside in the climates of the South American Andes, the Central American rain forests, or the Philippine mountains and the jungles of the Far East. And they like New Mexico just fine!



MILTONIA SPECTABILIS ALBA

All photos by Jeff Stuart.

Continued from Page 4...

Annual Fall Show

Please be prepared to volunteer to help with show set up and break down, provide refreshments on Saturday morning, and to man the booth and the displays. Helping vendors and societies both set up and break down is greatly appreciated, and helps them feel welcome. Display monitors are needed for all day Sat. 12:30-3:30 (2) 3:30 -6:30 (2) and 6:30-9:30 (2) and early Sun 11-1 (2) 1-3 (1). The society booth also needs volunteers for the same hours on Saturday, as well as Sunday afternoon: 1-3 (2) and 3-6 (2). There will be a supplemental show issue of *THE ORCHID ENTHUSIAST* sent out prior to the show with complete schedules and other miscellaneous information. And one last thing—not only will we NEED your blooming orchids for the club display, but also consider entering a display of your own, on any orchid-related theme. Themes could be educational, artistic, or horticultural. If you feel qualified to conduct a demonstration to the public on repotting or mounting orchids, that would also be a welcome addition. This is one of two major yearly public appearances by CNYOS, so let's work to make it a successful one. All of the final arrangements for the show will be made at the September 8TH meeting. Hope to see you there!

CNYOS President Deb Coyle brings the meeting to order by strategically blocking the path to the food. Someone, it seems, has snuck by her.



CNYOS Treasurer Elinor Burton discusses the finer points of protocol during the meeting, or perhaps she's threatening a fellow member not to bid on a certain *Phal*. Little Emperor during the mini-auction...



Tom Lloyd catches some rays after dinner. Meanwhile other members seem to be holding a forum in the background. "...You distract the club while I grab all the deserts—we'll meet at my place..."



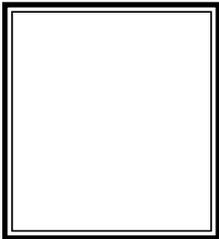
Although the show table was a small one, it was impressive nonetheless. But who was trying to butt in on my photograph?



Next Meeting: September 8: Preparing your orchids for the show.



CNYOS Annual Fall Show & Sale: September 27-29!



THE CENTRAL NEW YORK ORCHID SOCIETY
Your local AOS & Orchid Digest Affiliate
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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. Yearly dues are \$15.00 per individual, or \$17.00 family. Dues should be paid to the CNYOS Treasurer, Elinor Burton.

THE ORCHID ENTHUSIAST

The CNYOS Newsletter, *The Orchid Enthusiast*, 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, or functions.

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