



North Eastern New York Orchid Society

contact@nenyos.org

www.nenyos.org

The Picnic/Open House

On a hot, sunny June 1st, an international crowd descended on Galway, NY to enjoy a festive and educational occasion with Piping Rock Orchids and Mario and Marc. The crowd of about 80 was there to look, learn, chat and buy, bolstered by good food and fun.

Mario Ferrusi Marsh Hollow Orchids in Canada proved to be an engaging speaker, providing a very hands-on talk. He demonstrated many of his point with the two plants he divided and re-potted all while talking to us and answering questions. Then, he gave the new plants away!



SBuxton 2013

He discussed making his own potting mix which includes 25% Styrofoam "beads" which he feels is crucial to keeping the mix 'open' (translate – full of air, lightweight). He said understanding that orchids are epiphytic plants or air-breathers is important to being successful with all orchids and especially the Masdevallias and Draculas that he raises.

Several other practical tips that

Mario stressed included the need for a proper fertilizer mix that provides all the micro and macro nutrients needed by the plants. 30-10-10 is not enough. He recommends Michigan State University's mix which can be purchased at various locations.

Unlike most plants or- chids do not obtain nutri- tion from

the potting media they rest in. They are in media for human convenience and aesthetics. In the wild, they are gripping a tree, bush, cliff or the ground. The media breaks down due to watering which then may upset the plant with an acidic pH from the decay acting on the orchid roots.

All plants need good water, good air movement and fertilizer. If they are getting those items, they should have tons of roots. [Editor note – I would add plenty of light too.]

Another interesting point Mario made was geared for anyone breeding, growing and selling. He has developed a labeling system to insure that he never accidentally sells a 'mother' plant. The original plant gets a white label and one plant al-



SBuxton 2013

ways keeps that even if he divides it. All of the divisions or other new growths receive a green tag or a label with a green stripe. That is his code for the fact the plant in the pot is a division. He developed this after a fellow breeder accidentally sold all of his plants including the 'mother' plant of a particular cross he had made. Very expensive lesson!

Mario's greenhouse is at 85-90% humidity year-round. So he repots the cool growers in January to March or October to November to allow the plants to have a chance to grow strong roots before the summer gets really hot which is very stressful for his type of orchids.

Continued on page 3 →



SBuxton 2013

July 2013

Table of Contents

Announcements	page 2
Auction Supporters	page 3
Beginner Class schedule	page 2
IPA Schedule & Registration	Pg 5
Lady Slippers in Garden	page 7
Pearls from Marc	page 6
September Speaker	page 3
Traveling with Orchids	page 4
Raffle Results	page 8

Upcoming Meetings

July—No Meeting

Aug. 3—Anniversary Picnic at Stan's in Scotia

September 7—Andrea Nielsen, Cali, Columbia

September 15—International Phalaenopsis Alliance at CCE, 50 West High St, Ballston Spa, NY—all day event

October 5—TBA, Sanford Library, Colonie

Nov. 2—Auction at Sanford Library, Colonie

Dec. 7—Holiday Event at William Sanford Library, Colonie

Jan. 11—Annual Luncheon

Board of Directors will hold a meeting on August 3 in Scotia at Stan's house at 10:30 a.m.

MAKING IT WORK FOR NENYOS OFFICERS FOR 2013

Stan Lee	President
Deb Lambeth	Secretary
Janet Vinyard	Treasurer
Ed Belemjian	Director
Donna Wardlaw	Vice President
Sandy Buxton	Director
Steve Condon	Website
Ernie Reis	Past President
Sandy Buxton	AOS Rep
Gillen O'Brien	Name Tags
Joan Gardner	Refreshments
Bob Odess & Ed Belemjian	Raffle Greeter

NENYOS Contact:

Contact@nenyos.org

Sandy Buxton Newsletter Ed.
buxtonsandy@gmail.com

Upcoming Events in the Northeast

June 21st & 22nd 2013 Waldor Orchids, NJ is planning its first Summer Open House. We will be offering workshops throughout the day along with a wide selection of orchid plants on special. Please watch www.waldor.com for more information in the near future.

7/26/2013 - 7/28/2013 Summer Orchid Festival, Parkside Orchids, Ottsville, PA
In the field at Parkside Orchid Nursery
Friday 12 noon - 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate orchids at the Parkside Orchid Summer Fest! Orchid vendors from throughout the area will be at Parkside to sell plants and other orchid accessories. In addition, we will be scheduling educational lectures during

the day and AOS plant judging. And, there will be food

Oct 19 - 20, 2013 Eastern Canada Orchid Show, Hotel Espresso, 1005 rue Guy, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Contact: Brian Dunbar 514-684-3904 or bcd@videotron.qc.ca

Oct. 31—Nov. 2, 2013 Massachusetts Orchid Society Annual Show at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA. Contact: Joanna Eckstrom 603-654-5070 show@massorchid.org or jkeckstrom@comcast.net

GROS—Greater Rochester Orchid Soc.
CTOS—Connecticut OS
STOS—Southern Tier OS
MHOS—Mid-Hudson OS

~~~~~ check this website before traveling to see if there may be a local orchid event at your destination. Everything published in *Orchids* magazine is also on the web page.



## Fun Things to Read

The NY Times has been profiling some interesting info lately on orchids and many things natural. A recent article talks about the opening of the Native Flora Garden at the Brooklyn Botanical Garden. It is allowing some great opportunities.. One quote "Two rare orchid species, rose pogonia and grass pink, were rescued from a bog in Ocean County, N.J., that was about to be covered over by a road-widening project."

For the full article visit: [http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/13/garden/native-flora-garden-opens-at-brooklyn-botanic-garden.html?pagewanted=all&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/13/garden/native-flora-garden-opens-at-brooklyn-botanic-garden.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0)

## Beginner Series Class—

And here's the list of upcoming beginner talks:

**September** – What Could Possibly Go Wrong? Orchid troubleshooting

**October** – And the Winner Is... How orchids are judged and awarded

**November** – Auction (no presentation)

**December** – Info Please! A look at orchid databases

**January** – Luncheon (no presentation)

**February** – A Closer Look at... (some genus we haven't talked about)

**March** – The Scoop on Fertilizers and Fertilizing

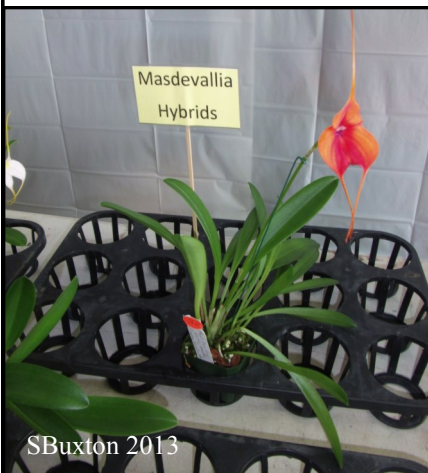


Continued from Page 1

He ripped the Masdevallia apart that he repotted and told us that he doesn't like bigger pots for the plants because the center doesn't get enough air. And since his plants had tons of roots, he must be one the right track. He hangs his Dracs in net pots in the upper area of his greenhouse where it is at least 10 degrees warmer than on the bench. The Dracs are in straight sphagnum in net pots or baskets because their inflorescences go down.

Another comment from Mario was that most orchid growers are too timid. They are not willing to try other things – different places, potting media, pots, etc. and he finds that a waste.

By Sandy Buxton



SBuxton 2013



There was a nice crowd at Piping Rock .



### Pre-Orders from September Speaker

We are very lucky to have Andrea Niessen of Orquideas del Valle from Cali, Columbia as our speaker in September. If you would like to pre-order plants, Ms Niessen will be taking orders until **July 15th**. Here is a link to their webpage with some information on pre-ordering <http://www.orquivalle.com/how%20to%20order.htm>

This is a huge opportunity to get something you REALLY want through the paperwork process but you have to send in your request SOON!!

Photos compliments of Orquivalle



### VENDORS WHO HELPED WITH THE 2012 AUCTION & Activities

#### Gretchen Bellinger Textiles

24 Mill Street  
Albany, NY 12204

#### Bill Doran, Co Flower wholesalers

45 Industrial Park Rd, Albany, NY 12206 (518)-465-5285  
[www.billdoran.com](http://www.billdoran.com)

#### Cal Orchids, Lauris & Jim Rose

Santa Barbara, California.  
[calorchid@cox.net](mailto:calorchid@cox.net)

#### Carmela Orchids

Hakalau, HI  
[www.carmelaorchids.net](http://www.carmelaorchids.net)

#### Lehua Orchids

Mountain View, HI  
808-968-8898  
[www.lehuaorchids.com](http://www.lehuaorchids.com)

#### Piping Rock Orchids

2270 Cook Rd  
Galway, NY 12074  
518-882-9002  
[www.pipingrockorchids.com](http://www.pipingrockorchids.com)

#### Quarter Acre Orchids,

"everything for orchids" Supplies.  
[info@quarteracreorchids.com](mailto:info@quarteracreorchids.com)

#### Sequoia Orchids California

Toll Free: 1-866-SORCHID (767-2443)  
707-725-5020

[www.sequoiaorchids.com](http://www.sequoiaorchids.com)

#### Sunset Valley Orchids

Fred Clarke, 1255 Navel Place Vista, CA 92081(760) 639-6255  
[www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com](http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com)

#### The Orchid Works

[Rayna@theorchidworks.com](mailto:Rayna@theorchidworks.com)  
P.O. 278 Hakalau, HI 96710  
wholesale and retail lists online

#### Walter Scheeren

44-3265 Kalopa Mauka Rd  
Honokaa, HI 96727  
808-775-1185  
[wfscheeren@juno.com](mailto:wfscheeren@juno.com)

### Traveling With Orchids – De-Pot Them

Here is a story – not for the faint of heart or inexperienced. Our illustrious vice-president Donna Wardlaw, intrepid orchid buyer that she is, made use of a different technique to bring plants home from the Redlands Orchid Festival in Florida recently.

She traveled to the event with an extra soft-sided suitcase (it does have a frame), her small suitcase was inside the larger bag. She purchased orchids at the event and then under the guidance of Dr. Pat Harding, one of our recent speakers, and Nancy, an AOS Trustee, started prepping her plants for the journey home.

Each plant was un-potted then packed in shredded newspaper and rolled in newspaper in a manner that protects the blossoms and gives some stability. Blooms may also be cushioned with crumples of toilet paper placed around them and taped to a stake. The newspaper tube is then folded over, taped and positioned in the suitcase.

Donna reported she brought home a substantial number of plants that arrived in good shape. Of course there are some challenges to this system:

If your bag sits on the tarmac very long – very cold or hot weather will defeat the system..

You have to have space to bring plants and be prepared to check a bag. Though many people travel with orchids in carry-on luggage, just don't leave anything in the package that will excite TSA.

You must re-pot after you get home. That means having potting material appropriate for whatever you just purchased and maybe pots because they didn't make it into the luggage..

Also, you need to know if it is OK to bring plants in or out of wherever you are domestically flying. International flights usually require paperwork to fly plants around which we don't have, but some states like California might also.

On the pro side, you get to see the condition of the roots immediately! And Donna assures me that you can bring home an amazing amount of plants. So, think about it!

By Sandy Buxton



SBuxton 2013

It really is basically the reverse of what most people do when orchids arrive from elsewhere when they unpack them!

By Sandy Buxton



SBuxton 2013



SBuxton 2013



SBuxton 2013



SBuxton 2013

NENYOS now has a Facebook page with a direct portal from our website. This could serve as an additional way to share info and plants that may not make it into the Show Table.

**Steve was posting fun LIVE stuff from the June event, I hope no one did anything too risqué!!**

Keep watching for more info!





Join us for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual:

## INTERNATIONAL PHALAENOPSIS ALLIANCE

### "FOCUS ON PHALS" DAY

Co-hosted by the North Eastern New York & Mid-Hudson Orchid Societies

Sunday, September 15, 2013  
50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY

In conjunction with the North Eastern New York & Mid-Hudson Orchid Societies, IPA is pleased to present its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Speakers' Day, "Focus On Phals". This day-long event will include our keynote speaker, Norman Fang of Norman's Orchids who will delve deeper into the secrets of growing successfully in New Zealand Moss. Joining him will be Tom Harper of Stones River Orchids in Tennessee. His presentation will focus on the top six Phal species influencing today's modern hybrids. Carri Raven-Riemann, past IPA President & current Regional Director, will update us on some of the cutting edge directions in breeding from the Taiwan 2013 TIOS Show and from some new young hybridizers.

The day will also include a roundtable discussion and a mini-auction of select plants. The Registration Fee covers just the cost of morning refreshments and a light lunch. We invite all orchidists, IPA members and non-members alike, to join us for this very special Speakers' Day. Guest vendors will include: Norman's Orchids, Stones River Orchids, the orchidPhile and Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies.

### PROGRAM SCHEDULE:



|                  |                                                                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 - 9:15 am   | Morning Refreshments & Sales Tables Open                                                |
| 9:30 - 10:15 am  | <b>Tom Harper:</b> <i>The Six Most Important Species Influencing Today's Hybrids</i>    |
| 10:30 - 11:15 am | <b>Carri Raven-Riemann:</b> <i>From Mega to Micro: New Horizons in Phal Hybridizing</i> |
| 11:15 - 11:45 am | Mini Auction (to raise funds for future meetings)                                       |
| 11:45 - 12:45 pm | Lunch Break & Sales Tables Open                                                         |
| 12:45 - 1:30 pm  | <b>Norman Fang:</b> <i>Moss Culture: Part II</i>                                        |
| 1:30 - 2:00 pm   | Roundtable Discussion with the Speakers                                                 |
| 2:00 - 4:00 pm   | Open House at Piping Rock Orchids                                                       |

**\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: EARLY & FULLY PAID REGISTRATIONS BY AUGUST 30th ARE REQUIRED !**

Registration for NENY & Mid-Hudson OS Members Only: \$ 15      Registration for non-NENY/Mid-Hudson OS Members: \$18

Registrations must be received & paid for by August 30th to assure we have enough food for all !

#### For further information contact:

New England Regional Director: **Carri Raven-Riemann** at [orchidphile@optimum.net](mailto:orchidphile@optimum.net) or (203) 329-7255

New York Regional Director: **Marilyn Shapiro** at [mlshap2@juno.com](mailto:mlshap2@juno.com) or (212) 831-3076

New Jersey/Pennsylvania Regional Director: **Mitch Paroly** at [hilolip@aol.com](mailto:hilolip@aol.com) or (215) 943-7516

Mid-Atlantic Regional Director: **Les Werner** at [leswer@verizon.net](mailto:leswer@verizon.net) or (410) 793-0756

Additional information will also be available on the **IPA Website** ([www.phal.org](http://www.phal.org))

#### **REGISTRATION FORM: Must be received no later than August 30, 2013**

**IPA/NENY/Mid-Hudson OS "Focus on Phals" for Sunday, September 15, 2013**

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME ORCHID SOCIETY: \_\_\_\_\_

**NENY/Mid-Hudson OS Members Only:** Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ registration(s) at \$15 each

**Non-NENY/Mid-Hudson OS Members:** Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ registration(s) at \$18 each (payable to IPA)

Send form with check, Payable to IPA, to: IPA, c/o Marilyn Shapiro, 235 East 87<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt 5L, New York, NY 10128

#### **For Vendor Pre-Orders - Please mention "IPA Regional Pre-Order" in subject line:**

OrchidPhile: [orchidphile@optimum.net](mailto:orchidphile@optimum.net) (list available after August 16)

Norman's Orchids: [www.orchids.com](http://www.orchids.com)

Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies: [info@korchid.com](mailto:info@korchid.com) or [www.korchid.com](http://www.korchid.com)

## Pearls from Marc

Marc Hachadourian, from the NY Botanical Garden, gave another fun presentation with numerous nuggets and pearls of wisdom. As always he brings some fun and information to his presentations, and this time he prepped how he would mount plants in different ways..

One of the primary points he made is that “orchids have climbed the trees as part of their evolution”. These distinctive plants have developed numerous adaptations to survive and thrive in a variety of locations but for most air movement and water movement are two critical pieces of their living space. With over 30,000 natural species and more than 150,000 manmade species, orchids have a wild side and history.

The best thing a grower can do is try to convince the orchid plant it is growing on the side of a tree.

Such a location provides lots of air, rain falling from the sky gives fast flowing water containing a tiny bit of bird and lizard poop for fertilizer.

Potting media is a grower's attempt to trick the plant into thinking it still lives on the tree. We want the plant to be anchored in a pot because it is convenient. Marc makes the point that even at home on a windowsill with a little ingenuity, you can grow some mounted plants. Using a piece of driftwood or hunk of something in the woods, plants can be anchored with a tiny pad of moss and green florist wire or fishing line

on a the item. Never use cotton string – fast rotter or copper wire – some plants are very sensitive to the copper. (The branch could be stood in a pot with cement holding it in.) Minis can be attached and then set in the windowsill. It works best if the plants have similar blooming needs (a chill period, or drying out or day length).

Marc said plants are social organisms, developing microclimates around the group. So even if you aren't sure about mounting lots of orchids, you can use “friendly” plants that work well with orchids like Tillandsia and Bromeliads. If you are using wood, make sure you set up the mount so it will look good hanging or horizontal so it can be used as a centerpiece. Be Creative!!

When choosing orchids that can be used as mounts, think about their needs and where the piece will be displayed. Cattleyas, Tolumnias and Oncidiums will tolerate more dry conditions. Masdevallias and Draculas would have to shower twice a day to be happy and thrive.

To have the best luck when transferring to a mount or repotting, the plant needs to be at the right stage of growth – actively growing with some new roots. Set the plant so it is actively growing toward the mount. Marc said when a plant reaches for the light, the roots reach in the opposite direction so then they will cling to the mount. The goal is to fan the roots and get good exposure to the mount, secure the plant so it doesn't wobble. And just make it secure, it doesn't have to survive a tornado hit.

Mounted plants require a great deal more water than potted ones because they must get everything that way and they are exposed to more air and will dry out faster. Tillandsia and other plants can be affixed to the mount by using a compound called Liquid Nails™. Since they don't have roots, it will help them get a good grip on the rough hardwood bark.

If you decide to mount a Phalaenopsis, position it on its side or upside down so water won't collect in the crown and stem areas. Den. Nobile is another plant that grows well on a mount – it might have a pendulous bloom spike.

When the plant over grows the mount and a new one is needed, just attach the old mount to a new piece and let the plant keep growing. This is why you have to do a good job in the beginning, since you might be looking at it for awhile!

If you are a windowsill grower with some mounts, Marc's suggestion is to mist daily and then take to the sink once/week to give it a thorough drink. He is not a fan of throwing the plants in a bucket to get their drink. Two reason: 1 you might leave the plant in the water too long and suffocate/drown the plant or 2. You can spread bacteria because you are exposing the nooks and crannies of the plant to pooling water that other people have been in, like sharing colds at a day care. The goal is to minimize that kind of sharing!

Consistency is one of the most important things you can provide in orchid culture. A plant that is too stressed according to Marc won't bloom, it will just die. You should grow with the motto “Disturb a happy plant as little as possible!”

Marc likes growing outdoors and gives his plants a mild detergent and water soak before bringing them back inside. Soaps might be Ivory™ and others, but never Dawn™. Additionally while your plants are outside, you should take the time to clean the humidity trays with a 10% bleach and water solution, and don't forget to clean the rocks too!

-By Sandy Buxton

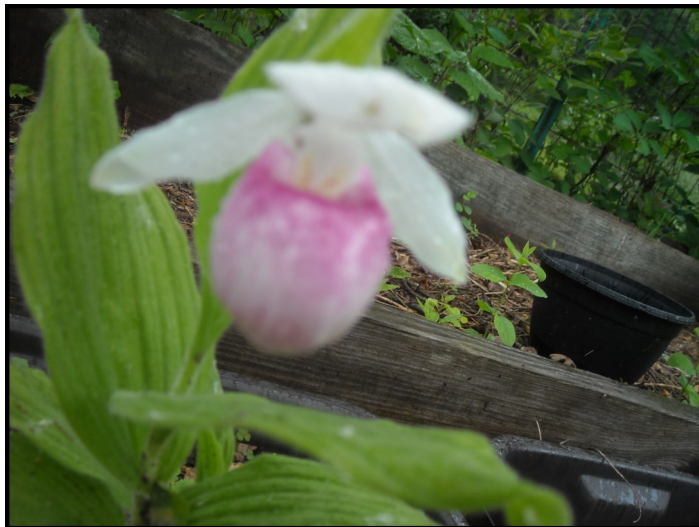




## Lady Slippers in the Garden

The first is a showy lady, *Cypripedium reginae*. It is just coming out today 6/11, this picture taken in the rain. This is a plant purchased this year. I lost the first one I tried. I think the slugs ate it. I am waiting till fall when it goes dormant to un pot it and plant it into the ground. It needs moist well drained soil with a pH close to 8 and protection from the afternoon summer sun.

The second is a Large Yellow Lady Slipper, *Cypripedium pubescens*, growing in the



bog garden about 6 inches above the water level. It has been there several years and is doing well with two spikes. It has been in bloom for a week or two and will soon fade. In summer if it really dry like last year I water to keep the water level up. The soil is a mix of good garden soil, compost and rotten wood chips.

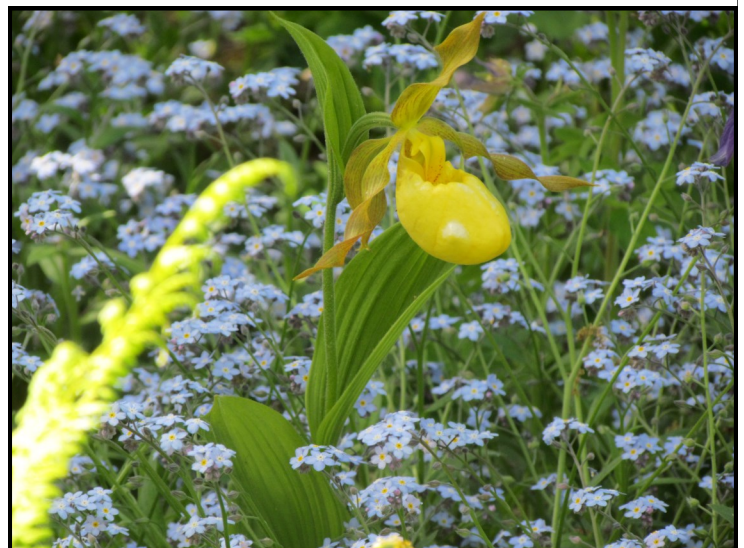
The third is the Small Yellow Lady Slipper, *Cypripedium parviflorum*. This year it bloomed about the middle of May and the blooms lasted only for a week. Probably the extreme heat we had. It is supposed to be the easiest to grow. I have it in both the bog garden and the nursery bed. And it has done quite well in both places. Again soil with lots organic material that is well

drained but not allowed to dry out.

In the winter I like to mulch them with 3-4 inches of pine needles. Pine needles stay fluffy and do not pack down and smother everything as regular leaves do. In the spring they are easy to rake right off.

Wards in Great Barrington had several types for sale this spring. The Showy, Small yellow and some hybrid with the Asian varieties. \$60 each. Their big sale should be coming soon. Check the Hillside Nursery web site for more information and growing instructions.

Story & Photos By: Stan Lee  
NENYOS President



## June Raffles

Our winners this month will be on for providing snacks at the September meeting.

### Congratulations - Enhanced Raffle Winners:

|                                                      |              |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Joyce Villa                                          | Mark Conley  |
| Sue Finger, CNYOS                                    | Don Reynolds |
| Cathy Melanson, Clifton Park, an unaffiliated person |              |

Alex Shepherd                      John & Shelia Warren,  
MHOS

Jan Woodworth, CNYOS    Stephanie Lotey  
Wake Gardner                Monica McClary

And for the SUPER Special Raffle:

Phrag. Kovachii—Donna Wardlaw,  
NENYOS

Paph. Prince Edward of York— not present  
(name on ticket)



# North Eastern New York Orchid Society

**NENYOS c/o S. Lee, 130 Johnson Road, Scotia, NY 12302** [www.nenyos.org](http://www.nenyos.org)

## NEXT MEETING

# August 3, 2013

**Picnic at Stan & Fern  
Lee's home at 130 John-  
son Road, Scotia, NY**

**Come and celebrate  
NENYOS's 50th  
Anniversary**

**Lunch after 12:00 noon**  
**Repotting Clinic**  
**Member Plants for sale**  
**Fun, Food and Friends!**