



North Eastern New York Orchid Society

contact@nenyos.org

June 2014

www.nenyos.org

Steve Male from Fishing Creek Orchids came to try and help us answer the big question – **How Do You Grow These Things?**

From Vandas to Draculas, Steve grows a wide ranging and extremely diverse collection of orchids in a single 30' x 50' greenhouse. He capitalizes on the microclimates that exist in the different pockets of space depending on access to light, moisture and temperature.

He highlighted 3 critical cultural factors.

1. Water quality – crucial to plant health and growth. Know what your water is (contains) and then buy a fertilizer that is compatible.
2. Watering Technique and Frequency – this is a function of size, type of pot and media. You must allow air in the mix. So best technique is to flood the plant and pot with water. There should be 20-30 seconds of water pouring through the plant. And water when the plant is dry.
3. Repotting – key points is frequency and size of container, the media and type of container is not critical. Do not pot larger than the plant. Keep small but change the media. Paphs should be potted every 8 months – it will help you get more growths.

Plants that go dormant in winter and spend a period dry. Steve likes to top-dress with Nutricote fertilizer and give them an extra boost

when they are actively growing since they have a short growth period.

Also for plants which need additional humidity around their roots, he uses a net pot and sets it into a clay pot to be dry but still moist.

One thing Steve also likes to encourage is experimenting – try different plants. Find out what grows in a similar environment to what you have and try it. The variety will expand your horizons and motivate you to stretch into other areas. Dendrobilums make great specimen plants, Habenarias are fun and colorful. Angraecums will have flowers that almost equal the leaf span. Lycaste are very exciting with some great fragrances.

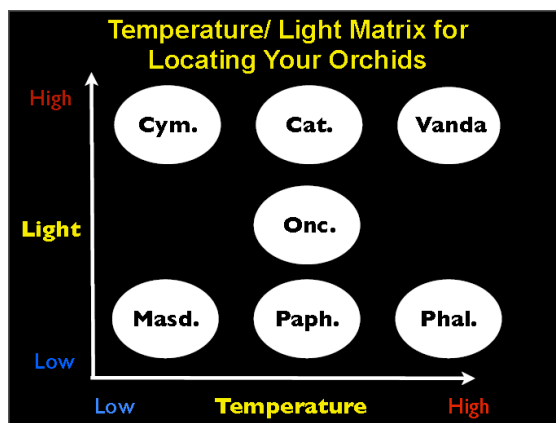
Additional tips:

Air movement – if you see brown spots on your leaves – increase your air movement. Steve has fans going year round – and in the summer – tons of fans.

Virus issues – he never reuses a razor blade. He buys them at a big box hardware store in the painting area – by the box of 100. Very rea-

sonable price.

If you ever see Neomoorea irrorata for sale – don't get sucked in to buy it. The leaves are 1 foot across by 6 feet tall. A huge plant! By Sandy Buxton



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Upcoming Meetings

May 31—Open House at Piping Rock Orchids in Galway, NY. 2270 Cook Road off of State Route 67. (This will take the place of June meeting.)

July—No Meeting

August 2—Annual Picnic at Stan & Fern Lee's in Scotia

September 6—Ron McHatton at Sanford Library

September 14—IPA Meeting with 3 speakers at CCE, 50 West High St, Ballston Spa

October 4—Alan Koch from Gold Coast Orchids in CA at Sanford Library

Nov 1—AUCTION at Sanford Library

Dec 6—Holiday Gathering at Sanford Library



MAKING IT WORK FOR NENYOS OFFICERS FOR 2014

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

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Sandy Buxton Newsletter Ed.
buxtonsandy@gmail.com

Upcoming Events in the Northeast

June 7, 2014 Shore FEST at Silva Brothers Orchids in NJ. Silvaorchids.com for more info.

September 20, 2014 Delaware Valley Orchid Council's 25th Speaker's Forum at Wyndham Hotel, Mt. Laurel, NJ. Speakers will include Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids, Gene Crocker, Carter & Holmes (ret), Matt Chen, Ten Shin Orchids, Ray Barkalow, First Rays Orchids. Cost is \$49 and includes continental breakfast, buffet lunch, speaker presentations and sales area. Early bird registrants (by Aug. 21) are entered into a raffle for an orchid package valued at over \$125. Send payment to DVOC, c/o Michael Kauffman, Treasurer, 222 Blue School Road, Perkasio, PA 18944 and print name and address of attendees.

October 25-26, 2014 3rd Annual Berkshire Orchid and Tropical Show at Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. The weekend event will offer up to twenty unique exhibits, a diverse program of educational talks, workshops and demonstrations, raffles and door prizes, and a limited number of vendors selling plants, supplies, and related materials. Centrally located within the scenic Berkshires and with plenty of parking, Berkshire Community College's Paterson Field House is the perfect location for this unique event. Visit www.berkshirecc.edu/orchid to see photos and information from prior years.

GROS—Greater Rochester Orchid Soc.
STOS—Southern Tier OS

CTOS—Connecticut OS
MHOS—Mid-Hudson OS

Check www.aos.org/events 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

Beginner Series Class—

And here's the list of upcoming beginner talks:

Beginner Talks 2014-2015

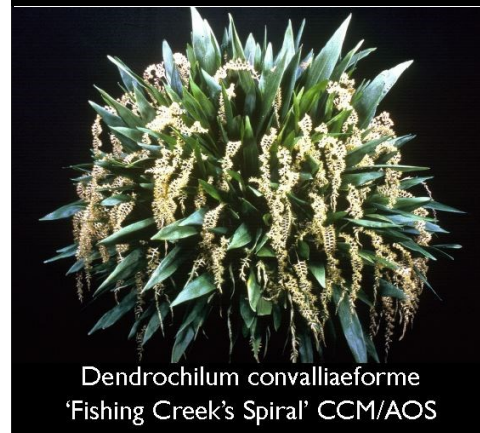
Sept	Repotting
Oct	Orchid Habitat
Dec	Orchid Databases
Feb	Preparing your orchids for display
Mar	An orchid genus we haven't talked about

Beginner Grower lectures are generally held before regular meetings at about 1:30 p.m. Arriving for a meeting early allows participants to check out the Show Table, have a snack and look at the Sale Table!! As well as find a chair with a good view and ask questions of the other members.

Much of our learning happens by gaining information from our peers!



Lyc. Geri Male 'Jeannette'
HCC/CCM/AOS



Dendrochilum convalliaeforme
'Fishing Creek's Spiral' CCM/AOS

2 photos courtesy Fishing Creek Orchids.

May 31st Open House at Piping Rock

The day starts at 10:30, Volunteers: please be a little early. More details at

www.pipingrockorchids.com.

Glen is offering a 10% discount to our members who sign up as volunteer help in advance.

Glen is supplying the meat, hot dogs, hamburgers and pulled pork. All our members are expected to bring a dish to pass. Please make it generous, there will be others there not from the club and not bringing food.

Wine and bottled water will be provided. If you want beer, bring your own brand. **Be sure to bring your own chairs.**

The address is 2270 Cook Rd. Galway NY 12074, phone [518-882-9002](tel:518-882-9002).

Directions—travel from Exit 12 off I-87 on Rte 67 west over 3 miles. Turn left to stay on Rte 67 West—travel 6 miles to Cook Road (Look for NENYOS signs). It is first road after Jockey St and the Smith Bros. Orchard. If you get to the Stewart's Shop at corner of Rte 145 and 67—you have gone too far.

Come and Visit a NENYOS meeting!!

One of the wonderful things about our NENYOS organization is we encourage anyone interested in orchids to come and visit our meetings.

You don't need to be a member to listen to the speaker or ask questions.

So, come and visit. Bring a friend. The more, the merrier as we all learn and enjoy the wonders of growing orchids.

2 bus trips

FIRST!!!!

The **June 7th** Saturday trip to SHOREFEST is leaving the Wolf Road Holiday Inn at 7am SHARP!

We would like to get there in time for the first lecture. When everyone assembles we shall be off, so get there as early as you can. Thanks to those who paid already, there are a few who signed up and have not. There is still space on this trip at \$40 per person. Call Janet (number below)

SECOND!!!!

We looked into a smaller bus for the J & L OPEN

HOUSE, **SUNDAY, June**

29th. As we still would not fill the bus based on the sign-up sheet, cost increases from \$40-45 each to \$60-65 each. **UNLESS THERE IS INCREASED INTEREST** in the J& L trip as a bus trip, it will remain a car pooling adventure. Please get back to Janet 518-673-3212 or roland@thebardrocks.com ASAP if you prefer the bus at \$60-65 each **AND** if you have interest in car-pooling with us.



Trading post

Aquarium For Sale - I have a 55 gallon aquarium with a wrought iron stand that I no longer use and thought that a member might be interested in it to make a terrarium for their orchids! It also has a full set of lights, not sure if it's the "correct" lights for growing orchids but they could always change the bulbs. I'm asking \$60.00 for it all. Contact for more info, brucemi-chaelscrafford@verizon.net and 518-451-0965.

VENDORS WHO HELPED WITH THE 2013 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

Carmela Orchids

Hakalau, HI
www.carmelaorchids.net

Danker Florist

658 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206 518-489-5461
www.dankerflorist.com

Island Sun Orchids —Karen Kimmerle; PO Box 909, Keaau, HI

Lehua Orchids

Mountain View, HI
808-968-8898
www.lehuaorchids.com

Piping Rock Orchids

2270 Cook Rd
Galway, NY 12074
518-882-9002
www.pipingrockorchids.com

Sunset Valley Orchids

Fred Clarke, 1255 Navel Place Vista, CA 92081(760) 639-6255
www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com

Tohru Takekoshi, former NENYOS, Member, Scotia, NY

The Orchid Works

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
scheeren@juno.com

The Tenacious and Very Gracious Verda Dale

Maryanne Laukaitis, Amherst Orchid Society, April 2014 newsletter (edited)

The April newsletter included a write-up about Amherst OS oldest member, Verda Dale.

It included some great history about Verda's years growing up in the Dust Bowl time in Coldwater, Kansas. She attended college with a \$150 loan from the Federated Women's Club during the Depression and attained the rank of Captain during WWII in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, training thousands of other women.

But the exciting part of Verda's ordinary story is how her career as an extension educator introduced her to orchids and allowed her to pursue this passion into her 90's.

I asked long time society member, Roger West, about the orchid he named for Verda:

"In the spring of 1989, I found out about an orchid show in Boston. I went down and was amazed by the flowers, as I had been growing them for about a year. Walking around the exhibits, I found one that said 'Amherst Orchid Society,' and I wanted more info on this society. Nobody was around to acquire any info, so I went back home and was going to look up the society in the phone book. Of course, there is nothing in the phone directory about an orchid society. Another year passes, and I'm back in Boston for another show, and there are two women misting the blooms at the Amherst exhibit. One was Rose Knapp, Verda was the other. Verda said that the

club was meeting the next Sunday and I was hooked. Wonder what history would have been if she wasn't there misting. Verda was the dominating figure of the 1990's, bar none, and this includes Bill Hutchinson. Verda was the program director for a good 6 years, and nobody could say no to her if she asked you to talk to the club. We had some really good speakers, and she demanded that there would always be a speaker for October and November meetings.

These two months [always had] good weather and [were] well attended. A typical meeting would go like this: Lots of discussion about anything, Margaret Trybus arguing for no other reason than to argue, Stan Buss trying to quiet Margaret, Bill trying to get a word in, and finally, after the end seemed near, quiet little Verda would give her opinion and that was final. Nobody spoke at all when the show table was being presented. She sat in the same seat every meeting, the hub of activity.

"Lc Park Ridge was a nice semi-alba that I had in my exhibit at our April show at the old Hadley gym, in 1996. It was partially opened at the show, and a fellow wanted to put it in their New Hampshire show the following weekend.

I took it up and won a CCM/AOS award with 36 fully opened blooms. It dominated that show. I needed to give it a clonal name because of the award, so I named it after Verda, the Club's matri-



Lc. Park Ridge 'Verda Dale'

arch. The official name is Lc Park Ridge 'Verda Dale.' The following year, the Verda plant bloomed in May, and I took it down to New York to be judged.

It won a CCM/AOS of 94 points with 88 blooms on 22 spikes. Every spike had 4 blooms and covered the entire plant. Coming back home, I stopped at The Hadley Garden and left it there, in a wheelbarrow, for the public to see. That night, I called Verda and told her to stop over at the garden center, [and that] there was a surprise for her.

The story doesn't end quite yet. Later that year, the AOS awarded the 'Verda Dale' plant by giving it the Butterworth prize as the best grown orchid of the year. [There was also] a cash prize of \$250 went with it. I divided that plant and gave a division to Verda, who gave it to her niece down in Florida where it blooms twice a year. ... Verda ... is a great gal."

Please visit the Amherst website for the full article.

www.larchhillorchids.com/newsletter

Editor note: So we should take heart and think about how our orchids bring us joy, relieve stress and keep us in the moment.

Monthly Checklist for May & 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



Cattleya purpurata, formerly in the genus *Laelia*, is without a doubt one of the most stately orchids to bloom in this season. © G. Allikas

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 fairrieianum-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.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.



Paphiopedilum Maudiae is a perennial favorite slipper orchid.

Show Table Tales



Donna Wardlaw brought in this beauty which she says is a reliable bloomer. Den. Ambile which she bought in 2006 at New York orchid Show. She carried it up 5th Ave!

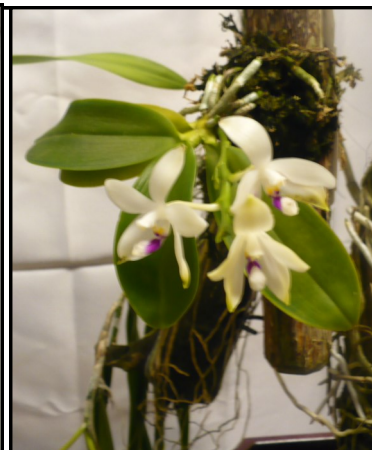
It dries out in winter, likes reasonable sun and goes outside in summer under 60% shade cloth.

One of the challenges is displaying it since it is on a mounted and suspended on a stand. A wonderful plant!!



Christina Anderson brought in the Epidendrum Charlie Brown (above) and the Den. Truananhii which blooms 1x/yr. She waters it 2x/week.

John Raymond and Phil Rudko brought in a Phal speciosa #1 xsb from India—sometimes the flowers will have different colors, even on the same spike.



Bob Bristol brought a great Potinara Irene Fell 'Ruby Eyes' (right) which he bought at our Nov. auction and has now flowered. I believe this is the first time he has exhibited a plant at the Show Table.





Christina Anderson brought in (top) Ascofinetia Cherry Blossom and Den. Cupid's Charm x Ise—which is more floriferous this year. It is a plant originating from a compot (community pot for seedlings) she bought 15 years ago.



Mama Finds Orchid— Well, got to see the last species in bloom. All the other terrestrials are seed podded out. Hillsides covered with other wildflowers, no less beautiful.

-Janet Vinyard on the road



Mark Conley brought in Sarcohartmannii and several other plants. Steve Male, our speaker, was very complimentary about this plant and asked about greenhouse temps. He has not had good success and feels it is because his GH doesn't get cold enough.



Donna Wardlaw brought this Tolumnia hybrid which she grows in charcoal near the mister by the Vanda (so lots of sun). She commented that she was told they like an hour of wet/day and otherwise want to be dry.

John Raymond and Phil Rudko brought several Epidendrums and Encyclias from Mexico. Gillen O'Brien had Neostylis "Blue Bird".



Beginner Talk – Orchid Taxonomy with Alex Shepherd

How did Orchids get their names?

Fun fact – the only group with more plant types than orchids is grass!

4 Orders; 880 Genera; 25-3000 Species

Orchids account for 10% of all the flowering plants in the world!

So, that being said—Fear no name tag!

Orchids have 2 names – their Generic or genus and their Epithet describing the species or cross. Names either come from Latin or Greek using terms which describe the plant somehow OR they are named for someone.

Also the suffix of the name sometimes tells you something.

-ara names have at least 3 different crosses (Wilsonara, Alicara)

-ensis or -ense are describing where an orchid is from (philipensis—the Phillipines)

-i, -ii, or -ae are plants named for who discovered them.

If there is a 3rd name on the tag, it describes the subspecies. The word forma differentiates between color forms (alba)

4th name is the cultivar or who developed the cross. These plants can be maintained by propagation not breeding.

-By Sandy Buxton

May Raffle Winners-bring a goodie in September

Raffle winners – Editor Note: several others passed on their ticket being drawn, which allowed a wider group to receive goodies. Once the Onc. Sugar babies were off the table, white Phals just didn't have the same appeal.

Bob Odess
Susan Sullivan
Stan Lee
Liz Sanderson
Beth Courler

Bob Bristol
Sandy Buxton I
Beth Courler
Joyce Constantineau



North Eastern New York Orchid Society

NENYOS c/o S. Lee, 130 Johnson Road, Scotia, NY 12302 www.nenyos.org

NEXT MEETING

May 31, 2014

**Open House at Piping
Rock Orchids, 2270 Cook
Road, Galway, NY**

9:30 a.m. NENYOS volunteers arrive

10:30 a.m. Other Guests arrive

Sales Tables and Greenhouse open.
Lots of orchid discussion, networking,
sharing of tips.

Noon Lunch **This is June meeting.**

1:30 p.m. Raffle Drawing

1:45 p.m. Speakers Kyle Saunders on
Cattleyas and J&L Orchids on Terrarium
growing.

(Times are approximate. Directions inside.)