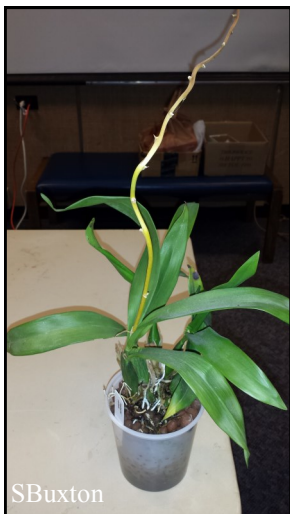


Growing Semi-Hydroponically

As an in-house expert, Drew Monthie of Glens Falls offered to speak on the culture method he uses to grow many of his orchids. As an example of how successful this system can be, he brought an Encyclia with a tall flower spike still on the plant. It had started blooming in April and had lasted with continuous blooms until New Year's Day – about 8 months of fun!

The system Drew described to us is not what most people would think of when hearing hydroponic growing – long tubes of continuous flowing nutrient solution running through plants nestled in rock wool. Certainly a more commercial application situation.



What he showed us was a system using clay pellets or LECA (Lightweight Expanded Clay Aggregate) that can be good to use since they don't break down like bark, can be re-used and serve to raise the humidity around the plants growing in them. Drew washes the pellets in the sink with dish detergent to remove mineral deposits or algae.

A number of orchid species appear to thrive in this type of system: Bulbophyllum; Cattleya; Cymbidium; Dendrobium; Epidendrum; Maxillaria; Oncidium; Paphiopedilum; Phalaenopsis alliance; and Phragmipedium.

The pot for this system are clear containers with 2 small (size appropriate) holes on each side cut into them about 1 inch from the bottom of the pot. This turns the bottom inch into a reservoir which enables roots to access water.

When potting with the clay pellets, it is a deal if they can be soaked for 2 hours before use. Something that is important to note, the clay changes color when it dries which can help gauge when plants should be watered.

The process:

Take the plant to repot out of its current medium. Rinse off the roots under warm water.

Add a few pellets to the pot. Then add the plant, spreading out the roots and begin backfilling with

Dorothy Heffernan works on repotting a plant.

SBuxton



pellets. It may be necessary to stake the plant for support.

If the pellets were pre-soaked don't water the new potting immediately, allow 2-3 days and watch the plant.

To water the new pot, run water into the top until it runs out the holes. Drew fertilizes regularly and flushes the pot about once/month to prevent salt buildup on the pellets. He did comment that sometimes algae will grow on the pellets but it doesn't bother the plants. (Cont'd on pg 4)



March 2015

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Upcoming Meetings

March 7—Ryan Georgia of Native Exotics. Canceled by speaker—will be filled by NENYOS in-house with appropriate topic

April 4—John Salventi with Tom Purvience formerly of Parkside Orchids will premiere an AOS topic "Orchid Nutrition".

May 2—Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids at Sanford Library in Colonie

June 7—Piping Rock Open House—co-hosted with NENYOS, in Galway, NY.

July—No Meeting

August—Summer picnic at Fern & Stan Lee's in Scotia.

MAKING IT WORK FOR NENYOS OFFICERS FOR 2015

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

NENYOS Contact:

Contact@nenyos.org

Sandy Buxton Newsletter Ed.
buxtonsandy@gmail.com

Upcoming Events in the Northeast

Feb. 21-22, 2015 Amherst Orchid Society Show—Smith Vocational & Ag High School, 80 Locust St, Northampton, MA; Contact Marc Gray, 802-348-7926; bulbophyl-lum@myfairpoint.net

Feb 28 – Mar 8, 2015 Pennsylvania Horticultural Society "Philadelphia Flower Show" at Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 N. 20th St., 5th Floor, Philadelphia, PA. Contact: Betty Greene 215-988-8826 or bgreene@pennhort.org

Mar 14 – 15, 2015 Genesee Region Orchid Society's Annual Orchid Show and Sale at Monroe Community College, 1000 E Henrietta Road, Rochester, NY. For more info, contact: Bill Renick at 585-746-1632 or billrenick64@aol.com

Mar 28 – 29, 2015 Les Orchidophiles de Montreal "Orchidexpo 2015" on College de Maisonneuve, 2700 Bourbonniere St., Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Contact: Andre Poliquin at 450-653-5416 or mor-pol@sympatico.ca

Mar 28 – 29, 2015 Nutmeg State Orchid Society "Come See Our Bloomers" at West Hartford Meeting & Conference Center, 50 South Main St., West Hartford, CT. Contact: Sandra Myhalik 860-677-0504 or myhalik@comcast.net

Apr 24 – 26, 2015 Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society International Orchid Show & Sale at Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA. Contact: Bob Sprague at 484-919-2922 or bobsatcyndal@aol.com

May 2 – 3, 2015 Southern Tier Orchid Society Annual Show at Oakdale Mall, 601-605 Harry L. Drive, Johnson City, NY. Contact: Anne Quain at 607-797-1383 or anneetinker@yahoo.com

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

CTOS—Connecticut OS
MHOS—Mid-Hudson OS C 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

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!

Wake Gardner's Display basket



SBuxton

The February 2015 AOS Corner-
From the desk of Laura Newton,
Membership and Affiliated Soci-
eties Chair

The Webinar for this month:
February 25, 2015, 8:30 PM EST
Harry Gallis, Accredited AOS
Judge and Board of Trustees Vice
President will present, Demystify-
ing AOS Judging: What are those
Judges Looking For?

Dr. Harry Gallis has been growing or-
chids since 1980, and currently has about
380 plants. The largest groups are Cattley-
as, Phalaenopsis, and Dendrobiums, the
latter being his current passion. His plants
have received 41 AOS awards and, says
Harry, "I very much enjoy growing plants
for shows and awards." He entered the
AOS judging program in 1991, and is an
Accredited Judge and Past Chair of the
Carolinas Judging Center in Greensboro,
NC. In 1999, he was asked to take on the
position of national training coordinator for
AOS judges. He served as Chair of the
Judging Committee for two years. Harry
knows lots about judging; getting plants
awarded, and will help us all understand
what the judges want and how we might
get one of those awards.

If you are already an AOS mem-
ber, sign up for the webinars today
on our website www.aos.org. If you
are not yet a member, now is the
time to become one and start enjoy-
ing all the many benefits of mem-
bership!

The webinar lineup for the next four
months:

March- Ron McHatton, Those
Pesky Diseases

April- Greg Allikas, Cattleya
lueddemanniana

May- John Salventi, The How and
Why of Fertilizer

June- Peter Lin, Novelty
Phalaenopsis Breeding

In the February 2015 issue of Or-
chids, there are articles on so many
diverse genera:

- Cattleyas:
 - o C. lueddemmanniana, by Michael
Sinn
 - o C. maxima, by Clare and Johan
Hermans
 - o C. Betty Ford, by Arthur and
A.A. Chadwick

□ Rhynchostylis by Peggy Alrich
and Wes Higgins, describes this
small genus and their powerfully
scented flowers.

□ Orchids of Mexico, by T.J
Hartung is a fascinating look at Epi-
dendrums, Oncidiums, Trichocen-
trums, Rhynchosteleas, Prosthecheas,
Lycastes, Isochilus and Mormodes.
It is jam-packed with great cultural
information. I've never seen any-
thing like Prosthecea guttata, with
the unusual spines on the backs of
the flowers!

□ Bletilla, by Hideka Kobayashi
and Tony Avent, introduces us to
this genus and the breeding trends
of these interestingly keeled lips.

□ Great Ideas, by Ed Wright and
Bill Tippit, shows us how to in-
crease our growing space by using
vinyl guttering.

Show Season is coming into full swing;
check out all the great shows coming
up, under the events and news tab on
the website, or by this link [http://
aos.org/Default.aspx?id=512](http://aos.org/Default.aspx?id=512) Shows
are a great place to see new and inter-
esting Orchids and also a great place to
get information from the vendors about
plants that you already have in your
collection.

Let's grow together,
Laura Newton

**VENDORS WHO HELPED
WITH THE 2014
AUCTION & Activities**

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

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 NE-
NYOS, 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
WFScheeren@juno.com

We Need You!

Once again, the primary educational and orchid outreach

event of NENYOS is about to take place – the Capital District Garden and Flower Show at Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) March 27-29 in Troy.

Thousands of people walk through the doors of the event and while they don't all walk by our display, a healthy portion of the group does. Like most people they have the opinion that orchids are extremely fragile, only look like Phalaenopsis, are often blue AND should be watered with ice cubes.

This is your chance to meet people, smile and invite them to look at the wonders which can be grown here and are a beautiful addition to any household.

No matter how new you are, you will know more than most of the visitors and there are always experienced growers volunteering on the shift with you. Some people want to talk culture – how to grow, why won't the plants re-bloom, and how finicky they are.

But others are fascinated by some of the trivia which they can't imagine:

- There are more orchids native to Alaska than Hawaii. New York has approximately 42 native orchids which include Lady Slippers, a protected species which should never be picked.
- There are more than 30,000



different kinds of orchids in the world.

- Orchids grow on all of the continents except Antarctica and at all different temperatures and climates.
- Even if you are watering with ice cubes, orchids need fertilizer.
- Low light does not mean no light.
- Orchids can have some interesting fragrances associated with their blossoms. Oncid. Sharry Baby smells like chocolate. Maxillaria tenuifolia seems like coconut. Many of the Bulbophyllums smell like rotting meat.
- Orchid blooms are all about how or who is going to pollinate it. Flies, bees, birds and moths are just some of the designated workers.

This is just a small sample of how a shift might unfold. Most of us don't have blooming plants to contribute to the display but we can take a shift and help the public learn more about orchids. It is a great way to meet and share some of your passion for these great plants. There will be information at the March meeting or you can contact Stan Lee at 573-____.

Continued from Page 1—
Hydroponic Growing.

Tips:

- You need to figure out how often to water based on the temperature and microclimate in your house or growing area.
- If you are re-potting in the cool season – err on the side of dryness until the plant is

established. Pellets are a colder growing medium than bark and may stress plants. Root rot is only a problem if re-potting in the winter.

- Some orchid species will not thrive in a semi-hydroponic system or medium. Not well suited to semi hydroponic culture: Acineta; Stanhopea; Tolumnias, and many Lithophytes.
- As always for most orchid work, for city water it is important to let it sit overnight to reduce chlorine content.

As Drew stressed, growing semi-hydroponically can be a real benefit to many of us with busy lives and less than perfect growing conditions. It enables us to:

- ⇒ Water less frequently.
- ⇒ Repot less often.
- ⇒ Provide a constant food supply.
- ⇒ Provide a system where roots can draw water/moisture up from a reservoir.
- ⇒ You cannot overwater!

So enjoy trying this system and see if it might help you branch into some new orchid varieties that have been challenging for you.

By Sandy Buxton II

Alison Platt proudly holds her newly potted plant.



SBuxton

From the Orchid Digest Program on Diseases:

Orchid Digest is a wonderful publication. Members are encouraged to subscribe to it or to check our copy from our library.

Primary Orchid Diseases:

Some diseases are deadly and some only cause cosmetic injury. They can be classified as:

Viral

Bacterial

Fungal

Non-disease problems which mimic diseases

Viral: Can reduce plant vigor and make them more susceptible to diseases. Plants can show signs of slower growth, unsightly leaves, or color break on flowers. There are 25 to 30 orchid viruses. These can be transferred to other plants. Some types are the **tobacco mosaic virus**. (This can be transmitted from a smoker, so if you smoke, be sure to wash your hands before handling your orchids), **Cymbidium mosaic virus**, and the **orchid fleck virus**.

How can you tell if your orchid is virus infected? By the plant's appearance. There may be mottling of the leaves on the top and bottom sides. Sharply defined mottling goes all the way through the leaf. Creamy colored blotching. Color breaks in flowers. Irregularly shaped flowers. Red streak. Poor and weak growth.

Transmission of Virus: Spider mites can transmit virus to other plants. Some plants themselves are carriers. They show no symptoms, but you can do a test to tell for sure. These can be very dangerous plants in your collection. Insects, tools, your hands, physical contact, reuse of pots and other equipment without sterilizing first. Soak pots in a **10% bleach solution** to sterilize them. Keep a jar of bleach to dip your tools. Use a butane torch to cook the germs off of the tools. **Trisodium phosphate** is good to use for this purpose also. When working with their plants, some growers use disposable gloves and recommend using a new pair for each plant they touch. Clean your surfaces or use clean newspaper for your repotting bench for each plant you repot. Keep insects under control so they don't spread any viruses among your plants.

Slipper orchids don't seem to show signs of viruses and nothing is known about transmission in slipper orchids.

Bacterial and Fungal Diseases: It is difficult to tell which is which. Bacterial infections usually are wet and may seep or weep. Fungal infections usu-

ally are dryer looking. Both can produce similar damage. The effects can range from minor disfiguration on leaves to rapid death of the plant. Most are associated with periods of excess moisture and less air circulation.

Bacterial Black Rot – spreads rapidly; signs are black or brown water-soaked lesions; be sure to remove infected lesions before the rot gets into the stem

Bacterial Brown Rot (found mostly on Paphs)
Bacterial Brown Spot – no good effective control, just good care. You should cut out any bad parts and dust with suitable chemical to control bacteria. Spreads rapidly in leaves and roots. Slows or stops if dried out. **Treatment with Physan:** good for all spots.

Fusarium Wilt – a common vascular wilt fungal disease; yellow thin leaves and stems

Rhizoctonia Root Rot – caused by the soilborne fungus *Rhizoctonia solani* which can be found in most soils.

Anthracnose – a fungal disease; brown circular sunken spots with yellowish margins on leaves or stems

Cerospora – a leaf spot disease

Grey Mold Botrytis – caused by the *Botrytis* fungus; fuzzy gray mold forms on plants under conditions of high relative humidity; spores form which become airborne and spread the disease. The spores must have moisture to germinate and infect. Banrot is good treatment

Prevention of Bacterial and Fungal Problems: Keep your plants dry overnight. Observe adequate spacing between plants. Insure good air movement by running fans when the lights are on or if it is humid. Colder air is dryer air. Water orchids in the morning. Lower the humidity at night. In warmer weather move your plants outside in the sunshine. The ultraviolet light will kill most of the bad stuff and they will be much healthier.

Other Types of Problems that Can Resemble Disease:

Hail

Sunburn

Frost Damage

Squirrel Damage

Nutritional Problems

Genetic Leaf Markings

Ensifolium Crud

Too much fertilizer or salt in the water

-Orchid Digest

Beginner Talk – Grooming a Plant for its Best Display

By Sandy Buxton

Donna Wardlaw, stepped in to cover for Alex Shepherd, our regular speaker, and fate provided a great plant for the discussion. Donna claims she found the Catt. unexpectedly blooming in her greenhouse. And it is a beautiful plant for the demonstration.

One of the key points is the need to stake plants before they are in bloom. Once they're blooming, you have to be extra careful because you can snap a stem or damage a bloom by causing it to turn, pinching the stem.

Wire and stakes are sized in an inverse relationship to their number, size 8 is thicker than size 12. She stressed making sure the stake is in the proper place to display the bloom. And ALWAYS bend the wire rather than force the stem or bloom.



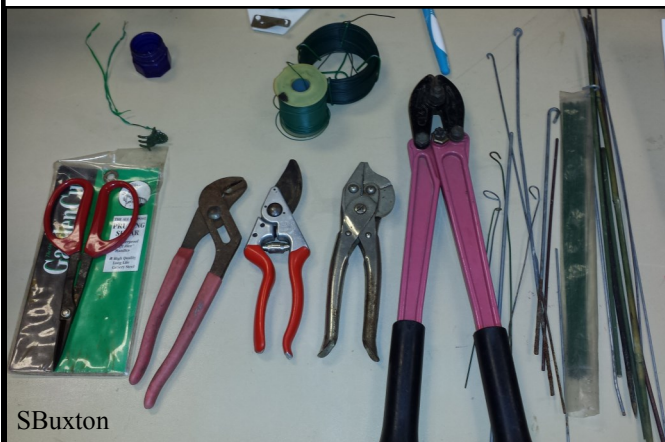
wire across the base of the stem area below where the leaf emerges. The goal is to hold the plant securely for transport.

Other actions to take include removing dead material – leaves, sheaths and stems. Donna uses a propane torch to sterilize her clippers which she heats to red hot rather than use individual razor blades. She cautioned that if you use heat as a sterilizing tool, you MUST allow the implement to cool before you use it on the plant.



A prime tool is a toothbrush for scrubbing off dead material and old sheaths. Alcohol can help to clean the leaves and impart a shine. Donna doesn't use milk or any other substance.

The final step is to put the plant into a decorative planter and maybe to put some moss over the surface to provide a more finished look though some people prefer a more natural finish.



As with most plant work, clean/sterile equipment is a necessity. Donna showed us how to make plant stakes out of wire by using a pair of pliers to grip the top of the wire turning it into a round loop formation which can be used to support plant stems. Donna has a craft case containing numerous sizes of clips to hold stems against stakes. Some clips are plastic plant ones while others maybe designed for hair. The goal is to use something that won't be too tight when gripping. Wire ties and floral tape can also be used. Put the

Pulling together equipment prior to beginning the project also helps it to go safely and smoothly.



Show Table Tales

Drew Monthie— Bulbophyl-
lum sp. Is a NOID, bought from
Glen Decker that has just start-
ed to bloom.

Den. spectabile lives in a south-
facing window. He waters it
every 10 days. It lives outside
between frost spring to fall. He
waters only occasionally when
outside allowing Mother Nature
to care for the plant. Wild
Blooms !!



Bob Phillips brought a Paph mi-
cranthum which originates in
Vietnam. It is a low light plant
that makes a sheath during the
summer and then blooms in the
winter.



Kristie Center
Far right - Cymbidium
Mark Hanbury – a plant
she won at a previous
NENYOS meeting that
she grows in Glens
Falls.

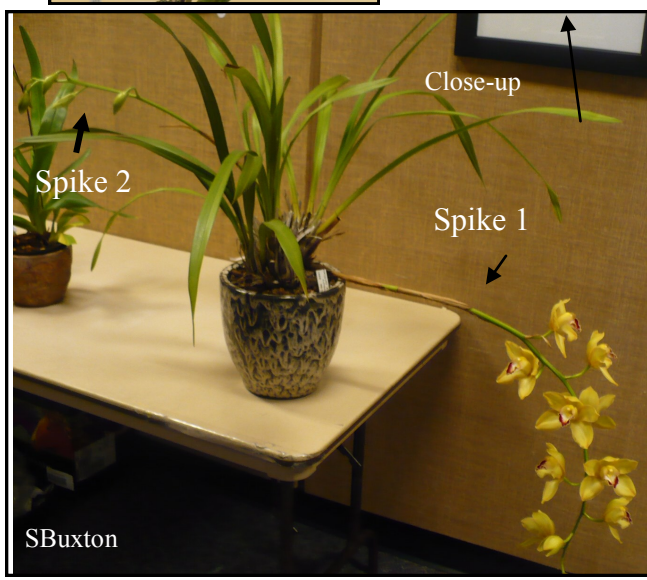
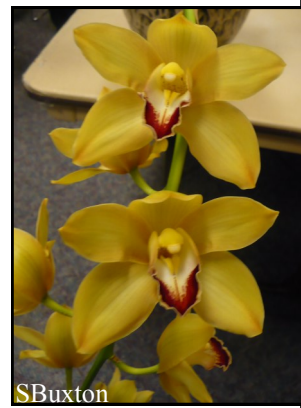
Phrag. Eric Young Mon
Millas AM/RHS x
Phrag. carinatum
'Aileen'. Paph
Venus Knight
(above Cymbidi-
um)



Jim Imbody brought
Paph. Buena Boy #2 x Magic Potinara Psycho Bride 'NN'
Mtn. Serendipity



Wake Gardner brought a
beautiful basket –pg 2 and
this Phal. There were also
others but I will have to
provide some info in the
next issue.





North Eastern New York Orchid Society

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

NEXT MEETING

March 7, 2015

**2:15 NENYOS In-House
meeting—due to can-
celation**

1:30 Beginner talk

**2:00 p.m. Show Table,
After presentation—Questions
and Raffle**

The meeting is at the William K. Sanford Li-
brary, 629 Albany Shaker Road, Colonie
(Loudonville, 12211)

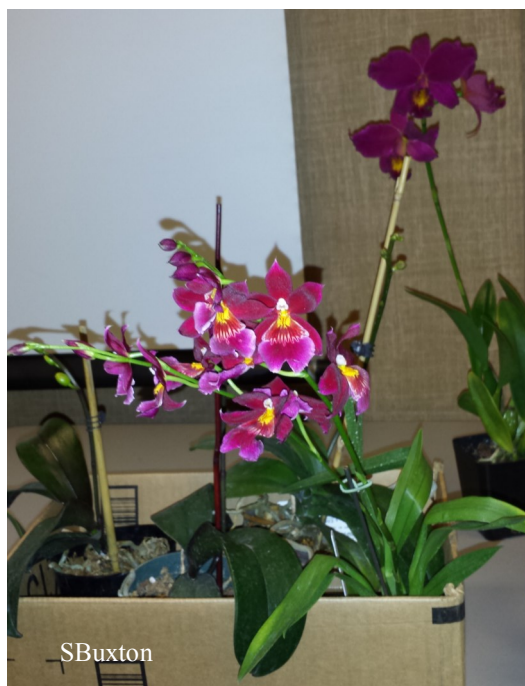
(Times are approximate.)

February Raffle Winners

Jim Bolton
Jim Imbody
Allison Platt
Wake Gardner
Gretchen Sharp
Kristie Center
Janet Wierzchowski
Deb Chowdhury
Sue Labonville
Mary Menzies

Don't forget, Raffle winners are asked to bring a "goodie" to the next meeting to help celebrate their good fortune.

Due to the speaker's cancelation, this will be an open meeting where members can sell plants if they have some



beau-
ties
they
would
like to
share
or be-
cause
they
need to
reduce
their
collec-
tion.

SBuxton

Orchid Digest “Diamond Award”

The NENYOS board of directors surprised the Sandy Buxtons (both 1 and 2) when they were called up to the front of the meeting in February. In honor of the work they both do as the newsletter and PR team and the value their work has brought to the orchid society, they have been awarded the “Diamond Award”. *Orchid Digest* encourages affiliated societies to reward outstanding members with some special recognition.

Nominated by the NENYOS board, Janet Vinyard and Donna Wardlaw presented the award to the very surprised recipients amid applause. As discussed in the presentation, while they have only been members for 5 ½ years, they have been creating the newsletter magic for over 5 years.



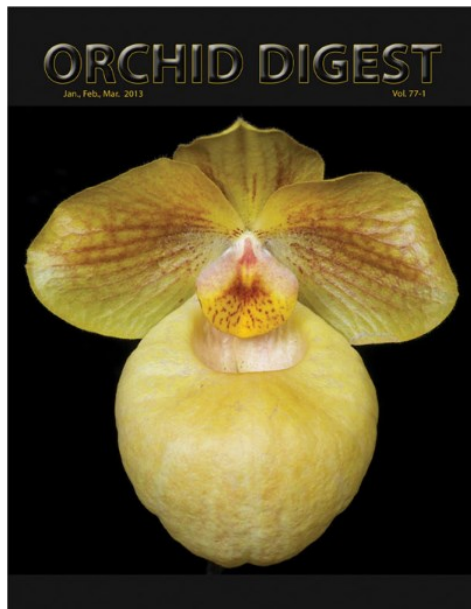
Sandy Buxton I holds the dazzling award in its case.

Sandy II said, “We were attending our 3rd meeting when several board members approached Sandy I about having me write for the newsletter. I didn’t know anything about orchids and only owned one because we won it in the raffle at our first meeting. We were attending meetings because Mom (Sandy I) was growing orchids and wanted to learn more.”

“We have learned so much by being part of the group,” Sandy I said.

“Because we stepped up to volunteer, we have been able to see and explore different parts of orchid culture.”

Editor note: We would like to thank the board (and the orchid society members) for their confidence and appreciation of our work. We hope other members will embrace opportunities which can help them stretch their knowledge and wings!



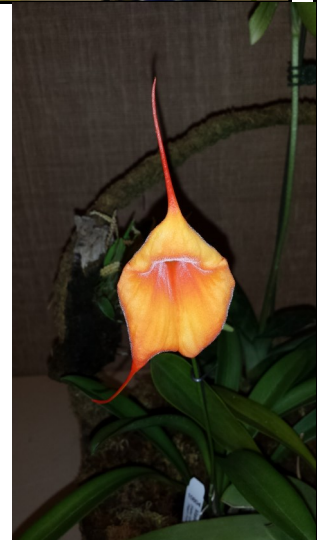
More Show Table



Donna Wardlaw brought a mounted *Aerangis hyaloides* and *Oncidium cheiroporum*



Pictures from Dot and Lew Hargett – Den. *Auriculatum* was a November auction purchase and has been doing very well blooming at their home.



Wake Gardner brought a nice selection of



Paphiopedilum armeniacum Fumi’s Delight ‘Maplethorpe’ AM/AOS. Photographed by Eric Huntand; grown by George Stagi. On *Orchid Digest* cover.

Repotting Catasetums (2014 Gift plant)

Sue grows her catasetums in a greenhouse in North Florida. The greenhouse is covered in 50% shade cloth and an extra 30% cloth layer is added in March and removed in October. The catasetums hang on poles in the highest part of the greenhouse above the cattleyas so they get bright light. Plants are divided and repotted after entering dormancy into sphagnum moss with some spongerok added. Time released fertilizer is interlayered with moss to provide the extra nutrition these heavy feeders crave.

Potting Mixes. If you can control the amount of water your plants receive, high quality sphagnum moss is a good choice for potting catasetums. The moss has a life of one to two years, but if you repot them annually, degradation of the potting mix is not that great of a concern. The sphagnum holds plenty of the moisture your catasetums need during their spring and summer growth spurt. If you are growing outside where you cannot control the rainfall your plant receives and you are prone to tropical storms or week long rainy periods, you will have to lighten your mix by adding sponge rok, charcoal, hydroton or a similar inert material to the sphagnum moss. Outdoor growers may also select a more freely draining mix so plants don't rot during extended rainy periods. Soil-less mixes containing peat blended with sponge rok and charcoal are a good choice. Make sure you have a time release fertilize like Dynamite handy when you are repotting because you will interlayer this with your potting mix to make sure the plant has plenty of fertilizer during the growth season.

Repotting Catasetums. Inspect your dormant plants regularly during the November to March time period. You can repot after they have entered dormancy or wait until they are just sending up a new growth. Don't wait any longer, you know the growth cycle is beginning and it is time to repot. Remove the plant from the pot and cut most of the old roots off. Leave enough of the old dead roots on to stabilize the plant, say a half inch or so. If you wish to divide the plant, old back bulbs can be cut from the plant and repotted. They will send up a new growth in a month or so.

Interlayer Potting Mix and Time Release Fertilizer. If you are using a standard sized pot (as opposed to an azalea pot) or the plant is small, add a few styrofoam peanuts to the bottom of the pot. Then start layering in your moist sphagnum moss or other potting mix, some time release fertilizer, more sphagnum moss/potting mix and another sprinkle of time release fertilizer. Set the plant slightly below the top of last year's growth and position the new growth in the center of the pot. Continue packing the potting mix around the plant being careful to keep the moist moss/mix away from the new growth. Top dress with a final sprinkle of time release fertilizer. Tie the old bulb to a short stake to stabilize it. Return your plant label to the pot and move the plant to a warm growing area where it will get moderate light.

Do Not Water after Repotting. DO NOT WATER AT THIS TIME! As much as this is counterintuitive, your new growth will rot if you water at this time. Catasetums have plicate leaves that unfurl as they grow. Any small amount of water entering the whorled leaf will rot the new growth before the leaves can unfurl. Wait until the new growth is 4 or 5 inches tall. Only then is it safe for you to water your plant.

From Sue Bottom, St. Augustine OS

Repotting video links:

<http://catasetinae.com/culture-repot.htm>

Repotting video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SaRfPOZv5R0>

Extra Show by John Raymond & Phil Rudko

In case you should need a few extra photos for the next newsletter here's a few of the orchids now in bloom while it's 5 degrees outside!!

The first is a rather rare kind of Brassa-Cattleya called Binosa x Brassa Little Stars
The second is our Phragmipedium Les Dirroulles which is blooming prolifically this season for whatever reason!?



The third is our Phragmipedium Fliquet (Dick Clements x Grande) which has put out more blooms than ever after 2 years of nothing! (Right-hand photo.)

Obviously since we grow our orchids in only natural light it affects every kind of orchid differently; some do better with more sun and others better with less, and so we never know what to expect from year to year. Probably if we made a daily or monthly log like Donna does we could then figure out what going to happen more or less.

