



North Eastern New York Orchid Society

contact@nenyos.org

www.nenyos.org

October 2014

A Behind-the-Scenes Visit to Kew

By Sandy Buxton

Krum Sotirov of Watertown, NY entertained members with a great presentation on “the Royal Botanic Gardens – Kew”. Born in Bulgaria, Krum had an indirect path to this opportunity but he gave us a great visit.

The Royal Botanic Gardens – Kew are the private collection of plants owned by the Queen of England. They have been kept for more than 400 years and include more than 30,000 species of plants from around the world.



SBuxton

While there are private spaces, the Queen has a “cottage” on the property, much of the garden is open to the public and includes 20 miles of bike trails and its own tube stop (subway). Located under the flyway for Heathrow Airport, every person flying out of Heathrow pays a 1 pound fee which supports the work of the garden. Numerous re-

search projects are carried out as well as conservation efforts under the auspices of Kew as well as the Royal Horticultural Society which is the registry of plants for the world.

Other wonders in the garden include a museum of Marian North paintings, the Alpine house, a temperate house and treetop walk. More than 96 attractions make up the full display. There is an annual picture of staff members for the garden and it has included a number of titans of botany due to the research the garden participates in. The herbarium, a collection of dead plants with records back to Charles Darwin’s travels, still receives plants from around the world. Many of these are newly discovered.

Krum spent four years taking care of the South American portion of the Royal collection of South American orchids as well as South Africa and Madagascar. The collection is housed in a tremendous Victorian glass greenhouse complex.

In the Princess of Wales greenhouse, the orchids are grown as close to how they occur in nature as possible. One of the interesting facts Krum relayed to us was about life expectancy of orchids. There was a Vanda which lived 80 years at the garden and another orchid that was 110 years old.

Some of Krum’s culture tips included the need for growers to show the plant what season it is – that may happen either by light levels, temperature or amount of water available. It is important know where your plant comes from and what type of

natural conditions it might experience.

If an orchid is in the right environment, it should be doing something. If it is not, change the conditions. It will recover in a few days



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and should show something.

Another key point Krum made was he had 5 groups of plants – collected by temperature – cool to hot. (Question – how much cool can the orchid take?) Key point to understand that heat will kill an orchid quickly. Cool will slow things down but not kill so quick – except in the case of an actual freeze.

Great websites to check out:

www.Apps.kew.org/wcsp/home.do

www.Apps.rhs.org.uk/

horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister

for some really useful info about orchid plants.

October 2014

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Upcoming Meetings

October 4—Ron McHatton from American Orchid Society at Sanford Library in Colonie

Nov 1—AUCTION at Sanford Library

Dec 6—Holiday Gathering at Sanford Library

January 17, 2015 - luncheon at Wolfert's Roost

February 7—Drew Monthie, "Growing Orchids Hydroponically"

March 7—TBA

April 4—TBA

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

Board of Directors meeting on December 6.

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

NENYOS Contact:
Contact@nenyos.org

Sandy Buxton Newsletter Ed.
buxtonsandy@gmail.com

Upcoming Events in the Northeast

October 3rd to 5th—Susquehanna Orchid Society Show "The Art of the Orchid". Ware Center of Millersville University, N. Prince Street, Lancaster, PA. Jay Holcomb 717-252-6092 jayh530@comcast.net

October 4th & 5th—Central New York Orchid Society Show. Beaver Lake Nature Center, 8477 East Mud Lake Road, Baldwinsville, NY. Eva Galson 315-446-0224 egalson756@gmail.com

October 10th to 12th—National Capital Orchid Society Fall Show Exhibit and Sales Event. Behnke Nursery, 11300 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD. Joseph J. Francis 703-437-9066 jjfran1@verizon.net

October 11th & 12th—Niagara Frontier Orchid Society Show. Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo, NY. Donna Lipowicz 716-479-7698 ladysliper@roadrunner.com

October 11th—Deep Cut Orchid Society Annual Orchid Auction. St. Mary's Catholic Church, State Highway 34 & Phalanx Rd. North, Colts Neck, NJ. Joan Mesander 732-787-4460 jmesand1@verizon.net

October 17th—Connecticut Orchid Society Show "Orchid Harvest". Van Wilgen's Garden Ctr, 51 Valley Rd, North Branford, CT. Cheryl Mizak 203-264-6096 alcher@millenicom.com

October 18th—Mid-Hudson Orchid Society Orchid Show and Sale.

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. Visit www.berkshirecc.edu/orchid to see photos and information from prior years.

GTOS—Greater Rochester Orchid Soc.

CTOS—Connecticut OS

STOS—Southern Tier 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

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!

Info from the Board of Director's Meeting – 9/6/2014.

The annual summer gift plant is given in the manner of "one plant for each paid membership" due to the cost of the plant. If you are a single membership or a family membership, it is still only one plant. If you would like to receive another plant, then sign up as another single member.

The gift plant is a way to help expose members to varieties of orchids that might not think about trying in a cost effective manner. We hope that you, the members, agree with the goal.

Beginner Talk – Repotting Orchids

Alex Shepherd started the talk with the heartening words, “There is no reason to fear.” Knowing this is not have some beginners feel since they seem to have such a time keeping their plants going especially after the shock treatment of a repotting session.

But knowing the rules helps all achieve success. And Alex was focused on us being successful.

Be prepared – have clean pots, sterilized tools, gloves to protect you from splinters and your plants from germs. Wash your potting medium or at least rinse it until it is clear.

The process to re-pot. Water you orchid first. Then unpot it. Inspect the entire plant to ascertain its condition. Remove old medium and clean the roots. Trim the dead roots and healthy ones too big for pot. NOT the ones with a new growth tip! Pot the orchid so it is firmly anchored in pot. Stake if needed

How do you know when to repot?
The potting medium will look

run down, “sad” or be breaking down (was big pieces but now the size is smaller).

Or you might have a pest problem that won’t go away.

A plant is too big for its pot (growing off the side) or you have just bought a new orchid and want to repot it.

The best time to repot is AFTER blooming; before new roots reach ½ inch in length or when roots are 5-6 inches long.

There are lots of potting medium choices – you should try to be consistent in your collection to make watering easier since they will generally dry out at a similar rate. And remember, the thicker the root, the larger the medium it should be potted in.

When choosing a pot, remember to pot the roots and not the plant. Smaller is better. Over potting is a prime killer of orchids. It is difficult to understand but they don’t grow or react like other plants.

The goal is to provide your orchids with breathing room – literally by adding air to the mix around their roots.

There is no right way or a wrong way – it is important to meet the needs of your plant and your culture (growing) habits.

By Sandy Buxton II

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.



SBuxton

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

Meet The Ladies: The Slipper Orchids

From U.S. Forest Service <http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/beauty/cypripedium/>

Did you know that in addition to the tall trees for which we are best known, a beautiful and sometimes hidden treasure of wondrous native orchids are on our National Forests and Grasslands?

They might have been one of our best kept secrets - but no more.

We want to share with the public this diverse, and frankly, awe-inspiring national treasure.

Shy and pale, or flaunting in glorious color, they can be found under trees, in small openings, grassy meadows or prairies. Some are rare or becoming rare, but with quality management and the help of our partners we can reverse that trend. To that end we practice conservation and manage their habitats so that future generations will also be able to enjoy their many benefits.

It is our hope that you too will be struck by their beauty and complexity as you meet here the elegant "ladies" of our National Forests and Grasslands and help us in our efforts to protect them.

Lady's slipper orchids are in the genus *Cypripedium* in the Orchidaceae family.

The genus name *Cypripedium* is derived from the Greek words "Cypris" an early reference in Greek myth to Aphrodite, and "pedilon" for sandal. This is because the fused petals that form the orchid's pouch or modified lip (labellum) resemble a slipper or shoe. The staminode (sterile stamen) is often showy and seems to welcome the insect into the pouch where it makes its way to a back-door exit and in so doing transfers pollen to the stigma.

There are about 50 species that are widespread throughout boreal, temperate, and tropical regions of

the European, Asian, and North American continents. More than 30 species are distributed in the Northern Hemisphere. Twelve species occur in the US and eleven are represented on National Forest System lands.

The *Cypripedium* orchids of North America are hardy terrestrial plants that can grow in cold climates and flower in early to mid-spring when there is plentiful moisture and cool temperatures. Species such as *Cypripedium guttatum* and *C. passerinum* that grow in Alaska are so well adapted to cold their shoots sprout up under the snow in the spring.

For centuries *Cypripedium* species have been sought after and collected not only for their unique beauty but also for the medicinal trade. Widespread collection, attempts at transplantation, and loss of habitat have drastically reduced their numbers. Wild lady's slippers have special requirements that make them difficult to cultivate, and rarely survive transplanting from the wild.



Photo by Thomas G. Barnes

Because of that, on federal lands it is illegal to dig or pick the orchids.

Cypripedium reginae: Showy lady's slipper

The showy lady's slipper occurs from the northeastern seaboard west to Min-

nesota, south to Arkansas in widely scattered colonies. Throughout its entire range, it is listed as threatened or endangered in almost every state where it still exists.

Cypripedium reginae is a large, multi-stemmed plant with stems up to 35 in. in length and with 3-5 leaves per stem. The mature plant will have 1-3 large flowers. The flower is mostly white with a rosy lip and white petals and sepals.

Cypripedium reginae grows in hummocky, damp deciduous forests and on rocky outcrops with rich organic soil that may be alkaline or limestone based. Like all other *Cypripedium* species, requires well-drained soil.

Cypripedium parviflorum:

C. parviflorum var. *pubescens*: Greater yellow lady's slipper (Syn: *Cypripedium calceolus* var. *pubescens*, *Cypripedium pubescens*)
C. parviflorum var. *parviflorum*: Lesser yellow lady's slipper (Syn: *Cypripedium calceolus* var. *parviflorum*)

The species occurs from the eastern United States and Canada west to the Rocky Mountains north to Yukon and Alaska. Occurrence is infrequent in far western and southwestern US.

Cypripedium parviflorum grows in a variety of habitats from shady, damp forest understory of mixed deciduous and coniferous forests to open meadows and along streams in acidic soils. (continued on Page 5)



Nevin Aspinwall

Meet the Ladies—from Page 4



Teresa Prendusi

Both varieties of *Cypripedium parviflorum* grow in multi-stemmed clumps. Plants at maturity bear 1 to 2 flowers and 3 to 6 leaves on each stem. The petals and sepals range from pale to deep magenta-brown and the lip is intense

yellow with reddish spotty venation in its interior.

Cypripedium parviflorum variety *parviflorum* tends to be smaller and less hairy than variety *pubescens*.



Retha Edens

***Cypripedium acaule*: Moccasin flower, pink lady's slipper**

The moccasin flower, or pink lady's slipper, occurs from central and eastern Canada, south across the north central and northeastern United States.

Cypripedium acaule has two basal leaves from which emerge the flowering stem carrying a single flower. The pouch is mauve to magenta and



Ottawa National Forest

has a split in the front instead of the usual round opening.

Cypripedium acaule grows in mixed hardwood coniferous forests of pine and hemlock on rocky/mossy slopes in semi-open or in deep humus and acidic but well-drained soil under birch and other deciduous trees of eastern United States forests.

***Cypripedium arietinum*: Ram's-head lady's slipper**

The ram's-head lady's slipper occurs from central and eastern Canada through the great lakes region of the north central and northeastern United States.

Cypripedium arietinum is a small plant with usually 3, but up to 5, leaves per stem. The species is distinguished by the single flower on each flowering stem having divided lateral sepals and a distinctive pouch shaped like an inverted, hairy, conical hat covered with crimson varicose venation and white at the lip.



Susan Trull

The plants grow in cool, moist woodlands and coniferous forests among tamaracks and spruce or cedar with a preference for moist, mossy bogs. However, it also can be found in shady roadside ditches.

Ones that are not grown in our area include: California lady's slipper, White lady's slipper, Clustered lady's slipper, Spotted lady's slipper, Mountain lady's slipper, Sparrow's egg lady's slipper, and Kentucky lady's slipper.

For further information about *Cypripedium* orchids

- Cech, R. 2002. *Growing at-risk medicinal herbs*. Horizon Herbs Publications, Williams, OR.
- Coleman, R. A. 1995. *The wild orchids of California*. Comstock, Ithaca, NY.
- Cribb, P. 1997. *The Genus Cypripedium*. Timber Press, Portland, OR.



Susan Trull

October's meeting is an opportunity for NENYOS members—**Members can sell plants at the meeting.** So if you have something you think someone else might enjoy, get it ready and bring it to display.

October Speaker is Dr. Ron McHatton, Director of Education from the American Orchid Society. He will give a presentation on "Orchids of Madagascar".

We previously saw Ron as a speaker at the IPA meeting several years ago when he did an AMAZING presentation on pests and their control.

Just a quick reminder to members, our meetings are open to anyone and everyone. We encourage people to invite friends and neighbors who love plants and orchids to come and participate. Please make everyone feel welcome.

Don't forget—November is our Annual Auction. Please invite all of your plant loving friends!!

We will have posters available at the October meeting for you to take and post around your home area.

More Show Table Tales

John Raymond and Phil Rudko who like to grow challenging orchids sent some pictures since they didn't make the meeting.

#1 is *Dendrophylax Barrettiae* from Cuba

#2 is *Gongora Armeniaca* from Mexico

#3 is *Bulbophyllum Fascinator* x *Odoratissimum* from India

Both the *Dendrophylax* and the *Bulbophyllum* are growing in the back part of our solarium so that they receive only a bit of morning sun (less than 1 hour) each day, while the *Gongora* is hanging up to full sunlight which it gets about 2 – 3 hours daily. Remember, the glass on the solarium is Multi Coat Low-E Super Solar Control, so it greatly reduces the sunrays.

Forgot to mention watering – really simple – for all of our mounted orchids, and those in baskets, I give them a daily spray, and in summer months when we have an abundance of sun and they dry out quicker I give a morning and late afternoon spray. Also we keep the temps at a maximum of 80/82 degrees in the Solarium.



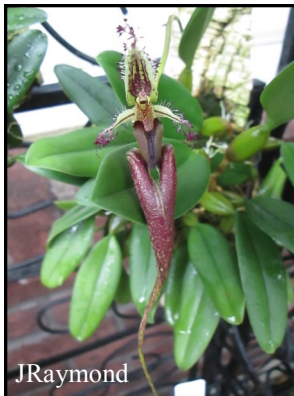
#1. JRaymond

#2 →

#3 ↓



JRaymond



JRaymond

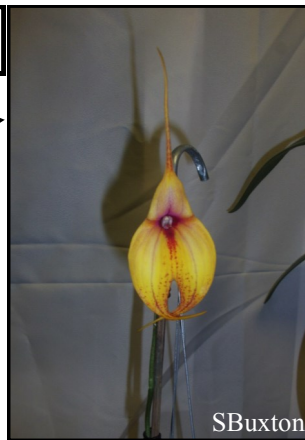
Wake's BLC Hausermann's Addison Jade. ↙



SBuxton

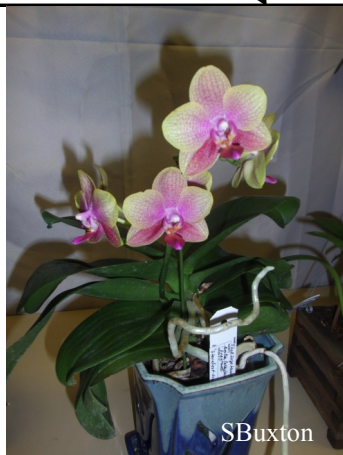
Show Table Tales

Donna Wardlaw – Masdevallia O'Brien's Passion "Only One" AM/AOS is a plant she bought in April from Tom and John, our speakers. It has been in bloom since then with this being the 6th flower. Since the plant is too big for her terrarium, she is growing it in her greenhouse near the humidity area.



Phal. Sogo Lawrence

Jim Imbody brought a Oncastele Wildcat "Yellow Butterfly" bought at Trader Joe's.

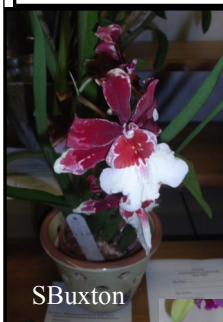


Christina Anderson brought Miltoniopsis Red Brick Road 'Arbec' and Den. kingianum

Wake Gardner brought Paph. Honey which he puts outside during the summer.

Epi. Miracle Valley 'Aiko'

Cynoches Wine Delight was bought at J & L orchids several years ago – very fragrant. This is a deciduous plant which Wake does not water from mid-Nov until usually late Feb. But during the growing season, he fertilizes it very heavily (1 tsp/gal) ramping it up as the plant gets bigger to prevent leaf tip burn. Grows in LOTS of light, almost Cattleya light and is watered 2x/week when growing.





North Eastern New York Orchid Society

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

NEXT MEETING

Oct. 4, 2014

2:15 Ron McHatton, AOS

**“The Orchids of
Madagascar”**

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.)

Raffle Winners

Lisa Eash
Sandy Buxton II
Lorraine Whiting
Mike Williams
Stan Lee
Bob Odess

**Welcome
New
Members**
Lorraine
Whiting



Don't forget if you
are a Raffle winner,
please bring a good-
ie to the September
meeting to help all
of us celebrate!

Thank you For Your Efforts!!!

Big thanks to Stan Lee who hosted the Guilderland Garden Club at his home this summer. They toured the garden and the greenhouse taking the time to learn a little about orchid growing.

They made a donation for a Speaker's Fee and Stan turned it over to the NENYOS Treasury.

Another speaker who raised some money for the club was Christina Anderson after speaking to a garden club.

Thanks for all efforts!!



Another Successful IPA Event

On Sunday, September 14, a group of orchid explorers enjoyed an event in Ballston Spa with Mike Mims from North Carolina and Carri Raven Rieman from Connecticut. It was disappointing to not have Norman Fang who was out recovering from a car accident but the show went on and lots of great information was exchanged.

Mike is a Phalaenopsis breeder who works to create plants with good form, fragrance, leaves and color. He gave the advice to other neophyte breeders, "Just pick up the toothpick and get started." We also heard about stem propagation, using a lab to take your creation from seedpod to flask. He had lots of info and showed us some lovely plants including one which went from seed to plant with 52 buds and blooms in about 4 years!

Carri gave the update on Taiwan and the focus areas they are concentrating on. Teacup size plants, broad lip Phals and more consistent coloring top the list.

The crowd utilized the sales time well and many had made pre-orders with Kelly's Korner.

Many thanks to NENYOS volunteers Stan Lee, Wake Gardner, Deb Lambeth, Janet W., and Jane Smith.

Mid-Hudson Orchid Society brought a number of members up as well as the Montreal ladies and some orchid friends from around the area.

Continued on back =>

NENYOS 2014 Ballot

Several Officer positions are up for election. Please vote by placing a check mark next to the name of the nominated candidate for whom you wish to vote for or write the name of someone else for whom you would like to vote.

Treasurer: _____ Janet Vinyard (2 year term) or _____

Co-Presidents: _____ Donna Wardlaw & Janet Vinyard (2 yr. term) or _____

Other officer suggestions: _____

Mail completed ballots to Deb Lambeth, 114 Front Street, Schenectady, NY 12305 prior to the November NENYOS meeting or bring your completed ballot to either the October 4 or November 1 meeting.



Mike Mims answered questions from the audience. (left)

Other scenes from the event where we learned new things, bought plants and participated in an auction to help fund next year's speakers.



Panel Discussion

The panel of Daryl Yerdon, Carri and Glen Decker provided some insight into some culture techniques.

Glen did admit that most Phrags do better if they can sit in water, even compared to watering them every day.

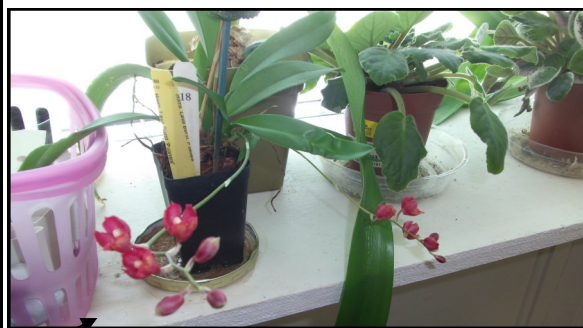
Some valuable household products:

Peroxide—to be added to rainwater which many growers save and use when watering their plants. It should be added to oxygenate the water 1x/wk. at a level of 200:1 or 300:1 especially in summer. Will help prevent Erwinia developing.

Neosporin ointment—as a bactericide, can be used on plants that are having a problem. Clean them off first, then apply.

Listerine—the Original formula—is good to spray at 100% on plants with bacterial or fungal rot problems. Clean off the infected area and then spray the whole plant.

=by Sandy Buxton II



Orchids in the office—very exciting that a Hwra Lava Burst 'Puanani' has been living in an east window at my office and decided to rebloom with 2 spikes this August! Offers hope to those who think its impossible.