



North Eastern New York Orchid Society

contact@nenyos.org

September 2014

www.nenyos.org

Picnic 2014

By: Sandy Buxton

Despite the weather forecast, the Annual Picnic crowd enjoyed a phenomenal afternoon at Stan and Fern Lee's garden in Scotia. As always, the grounds reflected the care Stan lavishes on the property allowing everyone to enjoy the views. Of course, it is the nooks and crannies of the property which are fun since surprises peek out at you in many different places.



SBuxton2014

The food was varied and plentiful as members relaxed under the canopies and chatted. Everyone admired a white Phalaenopsis displayed at the end of the buffet line which Jane Smith brought for the Show Table. It is a Raffle winner from January that was spiking and currently has 19 enormous white blooms shingled off a single split



SBuxton2014

flower spike. Absolutely breathtaking!

The fish in the fountain pool watched as we procured food, hopeful that we might share some with them as they lazed about in the shadowed water.

Janet Vinyard ran an informative re-potting clinic demonstration with some plants borrowed from a friend. The plants were in need of some care – dividing, re-potting, analysis of possible survival... Members of the group observed Janet discussing and making decisions and then they potted

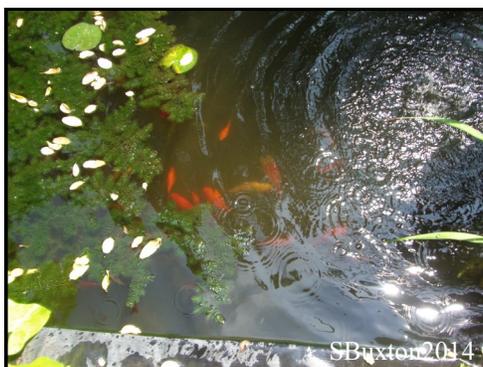
up the survivors into appropriate pots. As always, Janet and Mark Conley answered questions about what was happening and why with the plants.

Several key rules were stressed:

- Do not over pot. Orchids like to be snug and comfortable. Unlike other plants, they do not respond well to extra space.
- Know what size potting mix to use—small roots=smaller pieces. Large roots=large pieces
- A plant should be packed into the pot tightly enough to hold itself in the pot when lifted.
- And whatever you do, don't injure the growing root tip!



SBuxton2014



SBuxton2014

September 2014

Table of Contents

Accessible Garden	page 4
Announcements	page 2
AOS Corner	page 3
Auction Supporters	page 3
Gift Plant Give-Away	page 6
Orchids on Radio	page 5
Picnic Table Tales	page 7

Upcoming Meetings

September 6—Krum Sotirov of Watertown, NY at Sanford Library in Colonie —*this is a last minute change.*

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

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 2015 - luncheon at Wolfert's Roost

Board of Directors meeting on September 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

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, Perkasie, 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

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

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!

4th Annual IPA Focus on "Phals" Day (NY)

Sun. September 14, 2014, 50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY

Co-hosted by IPA and the North Eastern New York Orchid Society. This day-long event will include the following speakers: Norman Fang of Norman's Orchids, North Carolina hybridizer Mike Mims, and Carri Raven-Riemann of the orchidPhile, Past IPA President & current Regional Director. Also on the schedule are a roundtable discussion, vendors and a mini-auction of select plants.

To register, visit www.phal.org for form. Or see NENYOS July 2014 for form Deadline is August 31st!!

AOS Corner

From Laura Newton, *Chair-Membership and Affiliated Societies Committee, AOS*

Webinars are a great way to learn about Orchids from the comfort of your home. On August 21st at 8:30pm EDT, Lois Cinert will host “*Phragmipedium* Species and Hybrids.”

**This one is for Members only, so if you aren’t a member yet, now’s the time to join and with the new digital membership of only \$40, it’s a steal!

If you cannot join us on this date, keep in mind that all of the webinars are recorded and can be found on the website for listening whenever it’s convenient for you.

Also, I encourage all of you to plan to attend the AOS Fall Members’ Meeting October 29th through November 2nd in conjunction with the 16th International Slipper Symposi-

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.

um, along with special Meetings and Events for the International Phalaenopsis Alliance, the Pleurothallid Alliance, and the Slipper Orchid Alliance. Check out the extraordinary list of speakers and topics at www.aos.org or www.slippersymposium.org !!

Our Next Speaker:

Krum Sotirov of Watertown, NY will be speaking on “the Royal Botanic Gardens - Kew where I spent four years taking care of the South American portion of the Royal collection of orchids. The lecture includes many culture related tips and a “tour” of the garden which many listeners find extremely interesting... Lecture includes talk about “my” portion of the collection which was *Cattleya*, *Laelia* and *Encyclia*, but also all other genera in the collection which came from other parts of the world, requiring similar growing conditions: Madagascar, Australia and etc. ...”

He encourages us to visit his website where he has numerous articles and notes about growing orchids:
www.ionopsis.com

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

**Accessible Gardening:
Vertical Wall Gardens**
West Virginia University Ext.

Vertical wall gardens grow plants on walls, whether they are indoors or outside. This type of vertical gardening is becoming popular in areas that have poor growing soil, or little soil, like in urban areas. Like vertical gardening, vertical wall gardens bring plants to eye level. This takes most bending and kneeling out of plant care. Vertical wall gardens also have a cooling effect on the space around them.

There are a couple of differences between vertical wall gardening and vertical gardening. Vertical wall gardens grow non-vining plants, like moss, alyssum, and orchids, on thin panels usually without soil. The wall becomes the garden's planting area. Plants grown in vertical wall gardens are trained to grow 'out'. Another difference is that vertical wall gardens tend not to use soil. Vertical gardening tends to use vining plants, like peas, tomatoes, and cucumbers, which naturally like to grow up or sprawl. These plants are either tied to vertical structures or use their own ability to grip things to grow on and climb. Vertical gardening grows plants with soil and in the ground.

Growing plants that do not mind growing out, instead of up, and use hydroponics (growing plants without soil) will do best. Plants that climb, creep, trail, or ramble can also be grown in this type of garden. Cacti, ferns, orchids, mosses, grasses, and air plants are examples. Plants that grow on another plant or struc-

ture, like a rock, also grow well in vertical wall gardens. Flowering plants, like alyssum, impatiens, moss, and roses, are examples of plants that are often used to fill in extra room on the living wall. Filling in all areas of the wall garden will make it look like a colorful carpet. Avoid growing plants that sucker onto surfaces if brick is being used.

Basic Construction

There are many different ways to build a vertical wall garden. Ideas range from simple to complex. One way to quickly make a vertical wall garden is to mount a large, trough-shaped planter box on the side of a wall. A more difficult way to build one is described below.

- Build a wood frame that can hold a four foot high, five foot wide, and eight inch thick block of soil-less mix. (Soil-less mix can be a nutrient mix that feeds plants. It can also be medium culture that takes the place of soil. Medium culture can be made out of brick shards, clay pellets, gravel, rock wool, roof venting fiber, plastic fiber materials, insulation panels, and carpet padding. For more information, see 'Accessible Gardening: Hydroponic Gardening' fact sheet.)
- Fasten the frame to a sturdy wall or fence at a height at which you are comfortable while gardening.
- Add a wood plank

with drain holes to the bottom of the frame.

- Line the side of the frame that will face you when you are gardening with black, plastic sheeting.
- Cover the sheeting with a lightweight paneling frame, like a trellis or chicken wire. Back the paneling frame with two inch square galvanized wire fencing.
- Attach the trellis to either the left or right side of the frame with a piano hinge along the entire side. This allows the front to be unbolted from the opposite side and swing open like a door for easy emptying. Leave the top of the wall open in order to fill with soil-less planting mix and for general watering.

Continued on page 5 ==>

Ward's Nursery in Great Barrington, MA had several vertical planters which provide a small version of the vertical wall and look very interesting.



SBuxton 2014

(Continued from Page 4)

Plant care tips

The wall, that your vertical wall garden will be on, will be in contact with water much more than it would be under normal weather conditions. This is because plants in a vertical wall garden have their roots against the wall. Putting a waterproof barrier on the wall you have chosen for your vertical wall garden will keep water from seeping through the wall. It will also help keep mold from growing. Put the waterproof barrier on before fastening the frame to the wall.

Vertical wall gardens can be heavy. Remember to keep weight in mind when choosing a wall on which to grow your garden.

You can water your garden with a drip water system or, by frequently giving it a soft misting of water. If you choose to use drip irrigation tubes, place them above the paneling so water constantly drips into the medium culture.

You can grow your vertical wall garden using soil. You can do this by using paneling that is wide enough to hold small amounts of soil.

Resources : You can grow your garden on an existing wall or you can buy a kit. For more information on making your own vertical wall garden, visit www.gardenguides.com/vertical-wall-gardens or call your local agriculture extension agent. - See more at: <http://greenthumbs.cedwvu.org/factsheets/vertical-wall.php#sthash.351xg3Yu.dpuf>

Orchids on Radio—Vermont National Public Radio (NPR) broadcast a great program. To hear it, visit: <http://digital.vpr.net/post/spice-life-all-about-spices> - Lots of neat info about orchids due to the angle of vanilla being an orchid with substantial commercial importance.

The Spice Of Life: All About Spices

By Jane Lindholm & Sage Van Wing

Did you know that cinnamon is actually the bark from a tree? Imagine walking through a cinnamon forest...Hank Kaestner knows just what a that smells like. He spent 33 years buying spices around the world. He can also tell us about the unique way that vanilla plants are fertilized, and how much vanilla is actually in your vanilla extract.

We'll talk to Hank Kaestner, Shelburne, VT, who was a spice buyer for McCormick & Co., the world's largest spice company, for 33 years.

Broadcast live on Monday, August 11 at noon; rebroadcast at 7 p.m.

Just an FYI:

Buxton Receives National Award

On Thursday, July 24 in Mobile, Alabama, Sandy Buxton, of Cornell Cooperative Extension's Capital Area Ag and Horticulture Program and based in Hudson Falls, was awarded a Distinguished Service Award by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents at their 99th Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference.

Nominated by her peers, Buxton's nineteen year career assisting farmers to improve their businesses and educate the public about ag issues was the triggering factor. Her work with both local projects and state-wide activities such NYS Dairy Farm Business Summary, Labor School and the on-farm cooling project. As one of the national honorees, Buxton has now received the highest honor given by her professional association resulting from a careful search by the national committee.

In addition to the DSA, Buxton also was recognized as a National Finalist in Communication Awards for a Factsheet she prepared for use on OSHA issues in agriculture and a Northeast Regional Finalist for her personal columns which appear in several CCE publications.

Buxton, based in Hudson Falls, NY, is the daughter of Sandra Y. Buxton, formerly of Kensington, NH and the late Robert E. Buxton Sr. She is a graduate of Exeter Area High School, Phillips Exeter Academy, Cornell University and Plattsburgh State University. She has had a varied career in both Vermont and New York working on a dairy farm and with the agriculture community.

Sandy receives her award from NACAA President Henry Dorrough during the final banquet.



Gift Plant Give-Away



Vandaceous family – there were several Ascocendas which are related to Vandas.

Cattleya – they want water and then dry. Bright light but less than what a Vanda needs. May need to be repotted. Water every 4-5 days when hot. Every 10-14 in winter.

Dendrobiums – want t drop in temperature at night

Epidendrums in the baskets – water 1-2 x/ week treat them similar to Phals.

Repotting clinic

Every year NENYOS provides a free gift plant to members at the picnic. It is an opportunity for the timid to break out and try something new, enjoy the familiar or totally be bold.

This year is no exception.

Our Treasurer decided to purchase a variety of spiking/blooming plants of many different types. The gathered crowd was asked to place their name in the basket and when all names were present, the selection order was drawn and people raided the tables selecting their prize.

Prior to the drawing, Janet Vinyard, Christina Anderson and Mark Conley provided some information about some of the different plants present so members could make a more educated choice.

Some of the plants were:

Vandas – which are showy but need high light, lots of water when hot and sunny. They are heavy feeders.

Neofinetia – have to be careful with the water since they are in sphagnum moss. Janet said no more than a couple of teaspoons at a time. And she pointed out the hole in the bottom of the pot that the New Earth Orchid owner told us about at Shorefest. It is where you can put your finger and feel how wet or dry the orchid is.

Gill's plant



Picnic Table Tales



Mark Conley brought in a BLC Hawaiian growing in his greenhouse.

Stan Lee showed off a Vanda which he has rebloomed!! He hoses it 1-2x/day. It lives high up in the greenhouse for high light and

lots of temperature variation and appears to be very happy.

SBuxton 2014



As we mentioned on the front page, Jane Smith brought a January Raffle plant which has an impressive bloom presentation!

The spike is not staked and she brought it riding in her SUV's passenger floor space. Wow!

Gillen O'Brien also brought a Zns. Cynosure "Alba" that he bought in February. It has 1 spike and 3 blooms. However, I did not

obtain a good photo of it.

Stan also had several great Brassias blooming which lit up the greenhouse.



SBuxton 2014



SBuxton 2014

He also mentioned the large Cattleya which he purchased last year at Parkside and is in bloom in his greenhouse.



SBuxton 2014

Picnic Raffle Winners

Liz Sanderson Jim Imbody
 Alex Shepherd Sunanda Koshy
 Joyce Villa Kristie Center
 Jane Smith Gill O'Brien
 Janet Wierzchowski

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

Welcome New Members

Sunanda Koshy
 Jim Bolton
 Gerald Stulc



North Eastern New York Orchid Society

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

NEXT MEETING

Sept. 6, 2014

2:15 Krum Sotirov from Watertown, NY "The Orchid Collection of the Royal Botanic Gardens - Kew "

1:30 Beginner talk

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

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

(Times are approximate.)