

Orchid Offshoots

The News Letter of the

Staten Island Orchid Society

Volume XXV, Issue 4

April, 2002

Our next meeting:

April 16, 2002

Time: 7:30 P.M.

at

All Saints Episcopal Church
2329 Victory Blvd.
(corner of Woolley Ave.)

Speaker

Paul Sheetz

Dendrobium latoura Section

2002 SIOS Officers, Chairmen and Trustees

President:	Ralph Wihlborg	Membership:	Carol Doran
Vice President:	John Foley	Monthly Raffle:	Jo Guardino
Treasurer:	Karen Woytowich	Editor:	James Hannah
Secretary:	Michael Corace	Show Table Judge:	Dick Doran
Ass't Treasurer:	Carl Phillips	Show Table Tally:	Jo Guardino
Hospitality:	Karen Silverman		

Trustees (1 yr): Olga Federico, Karen Silverman, John Stallone
(2 yr): Angelo Arena, Frank Ariosta, Frank Whitam
(3 yr): Gerry Cassella, Howard Fischer, Jo Guardino

Society Meeting Dates and Times [note: all meetings are monthly unless otherwise noted.]

Deep Cut Orchid Society:	2nd Tuesday (except July & Aug.), 7:15 PM
Delaware Orchid Society:	2nd Tuesday (except July & Aug.), 7:00 PM
Genesee Region Orchid Society:	1st Monday following 1st Sunday (except June, July & Aug.), 7:00 PM
Greater New York Orchid Soc.:	4th Wednesday, 7:00 PM
Greater Westchester Orch. Soc.:	2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Long Island Orchid Society:	2nd Thursday, 8:00 PM
Manhattan Orchid Society:	2nd Tuesday (except July & Aug.), 7:15 PM
Matinecock Orchid Society:	3rd Friday (except July & Aug.), 8:00 PM
Mid Hudson Orchid Society:	2nd Sunday, 1:30 PM
Northeast Center Judging:	3rd Saturday, 10:00 AM
North Jersey Orchid Society:	2nd Thursday, 8:00 PM
Pinelands Orchid Society:	1st Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Ramapo Orchid Society:	1st Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Southeastern Pennsylvania O.S.:	2nd Wednesday (except June, July & Aug.), 7:00 PM
<u>Staten Island Orchid Society:</u>	<u>3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM</u>
Suffolk Orchid Society:	2nd Monday

April special! Spot the typo in this issue. First person to identify it in an E-mail to me receives a \$2 gift toward next orchid purchase. Not on the 'net? No problem! First letter correctly identifying the typo also receives \$2. Caution: errors in orchid names or errors in the Membership list do not count.

Orchid Offshoots, the News Letter of the Staten Island Orchid Society

Distributed monthly to all paid members of the Staten Island Orchid Society.

Please note - all contributors to Orchid Offshoots give permission for reprint rights of their work in the news letters of other societies of the Eastern Orchid Congress, Inc.

The Staten Island Orchid Society is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c) of the I.R.S.

The Show Table

March highlights: (plants scoring 6 or more points.)

Orchid
Shown by:

Den. Shokel	Gerry Cassella
V. Sanderiana	" "
Rhyncolaelia Diglyana	" "
Cym. "Hoosailum"	John & Joan Chadderton
Phal. (Ever-spring King x Musashino)	Michael Corace
Onc. Golden Sunset "Moonspots"	Olga Federico
Phal. Mary Crockett	" "
Phal. Baldan's Kaleidescope "Golden Treasure"	Diana Milatta
AM/AOS	
Opcdm. Tiger Crow	Anthony Penza
Cym. hybrid	" "
Lc. Dorothy Fiene Spring Fever	John Stallone
Cym. York Sahar	" "
Phaius Tankervillae	Ralph Wihlborg
Phrag. Don Wimber	Karen Woytowich
Phrag. St. Peter	" "
Paph. Voodoo Magic	(Shown by a guest)

Points earned this month:

Windowsill

Angelo Arena:	23
Marianne Baranoski:	5
John & Joan Chadderton:	25
Michael Corace:	36
Howie Fischer:	16
Jo Guardino:	9
Diana Milatta:	15
Anthony Penza:	30
John Stallone:	34
Frank Whitam:	5
Ralph Wihlborg:	11
Karen Woytowich:	22

Greenhouse

Gerry Cassella	30
----------------	----

Lights

Olga Federico:	17
----------------	----

Errata: In the March issue, Howie Fischer and Karen Woytowich were listed at 19 points each. The correct points should have been 11 and 12 respectively. The correct number of points were actually awarded and were not affected by the 'typo'. Apologies to all. Ed.

Club Wear to be Available

Like to have an SIOS shirt? Printed with the SIOS legend and a picture of an orchid bloom? Well, you can get one [or more] soon. Thanks to the efforts of **Dr. Olga Federico**, you'll be able to get them through **Special Tees** of 250 Buel Avenue, S. I. The company provides special rates to non-profit organizations such as the SIOS.

The shirts will be available as T-shirts and also in an open collar, three button style. The T-shirts are \$10 up to XL, \$11 for XXL and \$12 for XXXL. The open collar shirts are \$13, \$14 and \$15 for the same sizes. You can even choose the fabric: 100% cotton or a 50/50 cotton polyester blend. Caps, in white only, are \$9.

Olga will not be at the next meeting [April] but will be at the May meeting to answer any questions and take orders. t

Ramblings: Not Just Another Orchid Book

I love browsing through the book offerings of houses such as Dover, Edward R. Hamilton and Daedalus. You just never know what you'll find on the next page. Dover specializes in reprints, while Hamilton and Daedalus carry lots and lots of discounted titles. And once in a while you run into something you just can't resist.

That's the risk you take flipping through the fliers.

Example: ORCHID FEVER: a Horticultural Tale of
Love, Lust and Lunacy, by Eric Hansen.

"From the Orinoco River to the hallowed halls of Kew Gardens to the peat bogs of northern Minnesota, here are luscious, sexy flowers, orchid smugglers, fist-fighting botanists, moths with 12 inch long tongues, and government officials who raid orchid nurseries with attack dogs and automatic weapons." So reads the blurb in the Spring 2002 flier from Daedalus Books, PO Box 6000, Columbia, MD 21045-6000. Website: www.salesbooks.com, or you can telephone 1-800-395-2665. It's available for \$5.98 + S&H. Or you can borrow my copy - I'll be happy to to to make it available as soon as it arrives and I've read it. Like I said, I've always been a sucker for a good blurb. jh t

Orchids on the 'Net

Thanks go this month to **John Foley** for two excellent orchid websites.

The first site this month is **www.orchidady.com**. This is the home on the net of Linda Fortner. If it's possible for a website to reflect the love that went into it, **orchidlady** does. Linda has created the perfect place in which to while away a long rainy afternoon. The first spot that caught my eye was the glossary. You'll find orchid terminology from acaulescent to zygote. My favorite of all was 'myrmecophilous - ant-loving; inhabited by ants.' [That's because my kitchen floor becomes myrmecophilous every spring.] Then there are all the links. You could browse them for days. And the pictures! If you haven't dropped by at Linda's place yet, you've been missing out on a good thing. There's lots and lots of delightful nooks and crannies to explore.

And then there's **orchidmall.com**. This website is the commercial side of orchids. Here you'll find suppliers for almost everything orchid. There are links to growers, medium suppliers and folks who have computer software so you can catalog your collection. There are nine listings of plant suppliers in Thailand alone. If you're looking for orchid jewelry, look no further. Orchid art? Orchid pots? They're all here, along with lots more. Orchid tiles? You betcha. And books - lots of books.

Of interest also at **orchidmall** is their listing of orchid events of all kinds. Think of it as a supplement to the back page of **Orchid Offshoots**. t

Playing Fair - A Showtable Reminder

I would like to inform all members that the plants you bring to the meeting to be judged for points are plants whose spikes and flowers were initiated by you. If you want to receive show table points, please don't enter plants that you've purchased already in spike or flower. If you want to bring in plants purchased in spike/flower to show to other members, please do not submit them for points. Also, you should not submit the same plant month after month while it bears the same flowers. Just a reminder. Angelo (Trustee].

t

A Man and His Orchids

[The following was typed verbatim from the article in the **Triboro Voice**.]

Flowers brighten up the workplace at Dyker Heights Station in Brooklyn, but not just flowers – these are exotic and beautiful orchids. Supervisor **Angelo Arena** is an orchid aficionado and expert: a Past President of the Staten Island Orchid Society. He has dressed up the office and windows with these gorgeous flowering plants.

Angelo's enthusiasm about orchids seems boundless, and they are interesting plants. Now all his coworkers are learning something new about plants and orchids and enjoying it. Angelo has raised and collected orchids for over 20 years and he has over 400 at home. Some collectors have thousands. It's called "Orchid fever" by those in the know. Angelo finally ran out of space and, through the kind support of Dyker Manager John D' Angelo, brought some of the colorful plants into the station to brighten it up. The effect has been very positive. Angelo said, "A lot of employees, even ones I would least expect, seem to really like the plants. Many have told me they are amazed at the colors and shapes of various plants and flowers. We have plants also in the swingroom and everyone seems to like it."

Angelo became interested in orchids when he began attending meetings at an orchid society twenty years ago. He was studying to be a vet, with a minor in Plant Science, and was always interested in plants and flowers. Orchid enthusiasts are a very social group: they have clubs and meetings. It's a nice hobby and you meet nice people.

Angelo says a lot of people think these tropical and exotic plants are hard to grow. They are delicate, but they can be grown and stay healthy if you know what to do. Orchids are one of the largest plant families: some of the rare ones can sell for up to \$1,000, but most are inexpensive and affordable.

Orchids can be grown three ways: on a window sill where you get good strong sunlight such as at Dyker, under fluorescent lights, or in a greenhouse.

For those interested in this fascinating hobby, one way to get started is by joining an orchid society. One of the largest orchid shows is held each year in NYC on Palm Sunday weekend. You can contact Angelo if you want to learn more.

[We have a "Take your Son/Daughter to Work" week. Perhaps we should also have a "Take an Orchid to Work" week. Sure would brighten up some of the workplaces I've known. jh.} t

One Last Thing

Our meeting place is a smoke-free area. That also includes the hallways and rest rooms. Those of you who smoke have been really great about remembering to step outside for that little puff or two. Keep up the good work! t