

Orchid Offshoots

The News Letter of the

Staten Island Orchid Society

Volume XXVI, Issue 2
February, 2003

Our next meeting:

February 18, 2003 beginning 7:30 P.M.

at

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



Program

Speakers: Marilyn & Al Rutel

Subject: BUGS!



2003 SIOS Officers, Chairmen and Trustees

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- (2 yr): Gerry Cassella, Howard Fischer, Jo Guardino
- (3 yr): Olga Federico, Karen Silverman, John Stallone

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

- Deep Cut Orchid Society:** 2nd Tuesday (except July & Aug.), 7:15 PM
- Delaware Orchid Society:** 2nd Tuesday (except July & Aug.), 7 PM
- Genesee Region Orchid Society:** 1st Monday following 1st Sunday (except June, July & Aug.), 7 PM
- Greater New York Orchid Soc.:** 4th Wednesday, 7 PM
- Greater Westchester Orch. Soc.:** 2nd Tuesday, 7 PM
- Long Island Orchid Society:** 2nd Thursday, 8 PM
- Manhattan Orchid Society:** 2nd Wednesday (except July & Aug.), 6:30 PM
- Matinecock Orchid Society:** 3rd Friday (except July & Aug.), 8 PM
- Mid Hudson Orchid Society:** 2nd Sunday, 1:30 PM
- Northeast Center Judging:** 3rd Saturday, 10 AM
- North Jersey Orchid Society:** 2nd Thursday, 8 PM
- Pinelands Orchid Society:** 1st Tuesday, 7:30 PM
- Ramapo Orchid Society:** 3rd Thursday (except July & Aug.), 7:00 PM
- Southeastern Pennsylvania O.S.:** 2nd Wednesday (except June, July & Aug.), 7 PM
- Staten Island Orchid Society:** 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM
- Suffolk Orchid Society:** 2nd Monday

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

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

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The **Staten Island Orchid Society** is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c).

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN

Hi Guys,

I want to thank you all again for braving the "Arctic Blast" to bring yourselves and your beautiful plants to our last meeting. I was surprised and delighted to see such a good turnout and such an impressive Show table.

As you must realize by now, the Show table is the centerpiece of our meetings. Thanks to Gerry's insights, we all learn so much about these plants and their culture. Keep up the good work. I am really pleased to see how we're all progressing in our Orchid growing skills.

It's very important for you all to bring your plants to this month's meeting. The day after that meeting we'll be 'setting up' our display at the Deep Cut Orchid Show. I want to be able to have as many members as possible represented in that display. If you have any questions, please give me a call at (718) 996-1064. If any one of you would like to join us for the 'set up', please let me know. We'd love to have you there.

This month's meeting is going to be a lot of fun. Our guest speakers are going to be Al and Marilyn Rutel. Who can forget their last visit? They are the 'Burns and Allen' of the Orchid world. Bring a friend or two along so they can share in the learning and laughter.

So, guys, till I see you next time -- be well.

John

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A Really Big Show: (Apologies to Ed Sullivan.)

Early March in Philadelphia means the **Philadelphia Flower Show**. It's truly a floral extravaganza. If you've been there, you know what I mean. If not, just believe me - it's big! Really big! Lotsa orchids, too. Orchids to see, orchids to smell, orchids to wonder at and . . . orchids to buy and bring home, too.

This year, the Show runs from Sunday, March 2nd through Sunday, March 9th. There's a large website at **www.theflowershow.com** that you can explore. If 'puters aren't your thing, call **(215) 988-8899** and you'll get a recorded message stuffed with basic information about the show, the hours, registration, etc.

The Show fills the Convention Center at 12th and Arch Streets. Hours are: Sundays - 8 AM - 6 PM, Saturday - 8AM - 9:30 PM and weekdays - 10 AM - 9 PM. Admission, depending on the day, runs from \$20 (weekdays) to \$24 (opening Sunday). That's for adults, of course. Children are a flat \$10, but be warned here - 'children' means ages 2-12. This is a very well-publicized show. As such, it's really crowded on the weekends. If you plan to go, shoot for a weekday if at all possible. Even then, we've found it pays to get there early - about a half-hour before opening time is just about right. As an alternate, you can check for group trips sponsored by organizations such as the Staten Island Botanical Garden.

The Show Table

January started the year off in style. The 36 plants on the show table included many varied species. The brilliant colors of the flowers provided a nice antidote to the frigid temperature outdoors. Individual plants scoring 6 points or more were:

<u>Orchid</u>	<u>Shown by:</u>
Bl. <i>markai</i> x C. <i>maxima</i>	Angelo Arena
Paph. Inca	Gerry Cassella
Slc. Jewel Box 'Dark Waters'	“ “
Cym. Orkney	“ “
Den. Montrose	“ “
Den. Shoken	“ “
Den. Himozakura 'Sanokku'	Joan & John Chadderton
Phal. Zuma Pride x Pixie	Olga Federico
Calanthe St. Albans	Anthony Penza
Bulb. <i>Lindley</i>	“ “
Bc. Myumi'	Colman Rutkin
Paph. Vanda M. Pearman	John Stallone
V. Gordon Dillon x V. <i>aplicea</i>	“ “
Enc. <i>polybulbon</i>	Ralph Wihlborg
Oleaonia <i>longifolia</i>	“ “
Br. <i>nodosa</i>	“ “

Points earned by class were:

Windowsill:

Angelo Arena	10
Joan & John Chadderton	11
John Stallone	35

Greenhouse:

Gerry Cassella	39
Anthony Penza	60
Colman Rutkin	6

Lights:

Olga Federico	10
Ralph Wihlborg	34

A YTD tally sheet will be available at all meetings. See Jim Hannah.

Ramblings:

First, an omission. In Olga's article, on control of mealy bugs and other 'nasties', the words 'dipped in alcohol' got lost somewhere. The full sentence should have been:

'Mealy bugs in more exposed areas can be wiped off with a cue-tip dipped in alcohol before spraying.'

These things happen. Life goes on.

There are several interesting up-coming events in this issue. Do try to attend where possible. There's just nothing that is quite like getting together with other orchid enthusiasts.

And if you haven't yet met Marilyn and Al Rutel don't, repeat, don't pass up the February meeting. They are unique in the world of orchidists. I won't say another word.

IT'S DUES TIME AGAIN

**PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED FORM AND PAYMENT
BEFORE MARCH 31, 2003 TO:**

Karen Woytowich, Treasurer, Staten Island Orchid Society

_____ Enclosed as my check for \$20.00 (payable to: **Staten Island Orchid Society**)

_____ Attached is \$20.00 cash (**Hand in only! Do not mail cash**)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town/State/Zip(5/9 digit): _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail address: _____

I grow my orchids _____ in a greenhouse _____ under lights _____ on a windowsill

I would like to see programs on _____ care/culture _____ species _____ workshops

_____ other (please specify):

If not already serving, I would be willing to serve as a _____ committee chairman _____ trustee

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The Deep Cut Show!

Don't miss the upcoming **Orchid Show** of the **Deep Cut Orchid Society**. If you're getting four-wall-fever, this may be just the ticket to chase away those weary ol' winter doldrums. The show will run for four days at the **Monmouth Mall in Eatontown, NJ**. The dates and times are:

Thursday, Feb. 20: 12:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Friday - Sunday, Feb. 21-23: Open during the full Mall hours.

Eatontown is just a hop, skip and jump down the Garden State Parkway. Got a friend interested in orchids? Bring the friend along. It's a nice opportunity to share your interest. [As a side inducement, it's held in a shopping mall, right? Wink, wink.] For information on how to get there (and other good stuff), Call **Dennis Dayan** at **(732) 531-5058** or if you wish, Email him at **info@deepcutorchids.com**.

Staten Island will be represented, thanks to the efforts of a valiant band of merry men and women from our own Society. Say 'Hi' to them while you're there.

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Staten Island Botanical Garden

If you haven't yet been to see the orchid collection in the Carl Grillo Glass House at the Staten Island Botanical Garden, here's an event that just might coax you.

- The date: **Sunday, April 27th.** The time: **10:00 AM**
- The place: **Staten Island Botanical Garden**, 1000 Richmond Terrace.
- The event: **Orchid Culture and Potting Demonstration.**

The 'hook'?: Pricing is two-tiered. You can attend for a fee of either \$5.00 or \$25.00. Why the difference? For \$25, you go home with an orchid plant. For \$5, you don't. Either way, you'll spend a morning steeped in orchids. Pre-registration is strongly suggested, though admission 'at the gate' is accepted, too. Same low prices.

For information and registration, call the SIBG at: **(718) 273-8200**.

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March Exhibition Features Orchids in Landmark Victorian Conservatory

A Celebration of Orchids: An Exhibition and Sale of Fine Orchids
February 28-March 30, 2003

Surrounded by a mystique that few plants can rival, orchids inspire fascination, obsession, and awe. This winter the Garden will present a month-long *Celebration of Orchids: An Exhibition and Sale of Fine Orchids*, its most extensive orchid exhibition since the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory restoration was completed in 1997. Hundreds of plants from the Garden's collection of more than 5,000 specimens will be on display in the landmark Victorian crystal palace, including species from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and the Americas, along with many beautiful hybrids.

Designed by Philip Baloun, *A Celebration of Orchids* will feature dazzling displays throughout three galleries. In the Palms of the Americas Gallery, various species and horticultural hybrids will be set amid the palms and pool of the Palm Dome to welcome visitors to the exhibition.

In the Seasonal Exhibition galleries, a rainforest setting is the backdrop for tropical orchids in their natural habitat. Cattleya, Paphiopedilum, Cymbidium, Phalaenopsis, Phaius, Epidendrum, Dendrobium, Phragmipedium, and Laelia orchids will be shown together with their close cousins so visitors can experience nature's palette of orchids in the wild. This exhibit will also explain the extraordinary natural history and conservation stories of rare and endangered orchids in the rainforests of the world.

The show culminates in a mysterious bamboo "ruin" such as might be found in a deep and forgotten corner of the rainforest. Here, a treasure trove of tropical orchids cling to the moist and green-covered corners. This rich setting evokes images of an obsessed orchid collector, who has since disappeared without a trace, leaving only his treasured orchids and a few remnants of his collecting hut as testimony to his brilliant find in an obscure corner of the jungle.

After viewing orchids in these naturalistic settings, visitors can learn about growing orchids in a more domestic setting - at home. Although orchids have traditionally been thought of as delicate hothouse flowers that require specialized conditions to grow and bloom, home gardeners are discovering that caring for orchids is not as forbidding as it is often thought to be. (It's really quite easy!) Displays and public programs will show orchid aficionados how to select and care for a variety of orchids. Easy-to-care-for varieties of orchids will be for sale at the Shop in the Garden.

Curator-led tours, behind-the-scenes science tours, and children's tours will also complement the exhibition.

The exhibition is curated by Darrin Duling, the Garden's Curator of Glasshouse Collections, and Francisca Coelho, Conservatory Manager. Many of the orchids on display were cultured and grown by Marc Hachadourian, NYBG Gardener for the Orchid Collection.

A Celebration of Orchids is sponsored by The Tiffany & Co. Foundation.

The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road in the Bronx. The Garden is open year-round, Tuesday through Sunday and on Monday holidays, from 10 a.m.-6p.m. April through October, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. November through March. The best way to enjoy the Garden is with the *Garden Passport*, a combination ticket that includes grounds admission, the Conservatory, Rock Garden, Native Plant Garden, Tram Tour, and Everett Children's Adventure Garden, and costs \$10 for adults, \$7.50 for students and seniors, \$4 for children 2-12. Grounds admission is free to everyone all day Wednesdays and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. For information, call (718) 817-8700 or visit our Web site at www.nybg.org.

Media Contacts: Lisa Stillman or Maria Izquierdo (718) 817-8616