



The 2011

Native Orchid Conference

at  M^T-CUBA CENTER INC.

Speaker Topics and Biographies

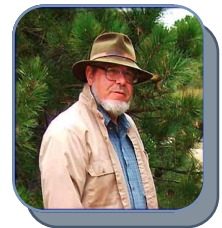
Douglas Gill: “What Makes Wild Orchids Set Seed-Experiments on *Cypripedium acaule*”

Doug is a Professor Emeritus in the Dept. of Biology, University of Maryland. He has done research in many areas, including empirical and experimental studies of over 6500 marked individuals of Pink Lady's-Slippers, *Cypripedium acaule*, in several natural stands.



Ted Gordon: “The Lure of the Pine Barrens”

Ted currently serves as chairman of the Governor’s Natural Areas Council. A rare plants specialist, a photographer and Pinelands historian, Ted is the director of Pine Barrens Inventories, a prestigious environmental consulting and research firm based in Burlington County, New Jersey.



Rob Griesbach: “The Arts and Crafts of Plant Propagation”

Rob is currently the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Technology Transfer in the USDA’s Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS). He helps to coordinate programs to optimize the transfer of research results across USDA-ARS to the private sector and other users for development and commercialization.



Jeffrey Hapeman: “Floral Evolution in the North American *Platanthera*: Plant-Pollinator Interactions.”

Jeff is currently the Chief Technology Officer at Wilshire Associates, a global investment technology firm. He holds an MS in Botany and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Hal Horwitz: “Orchids of Israel”

Hal is a retired pediatric dentist from Richmond, VA. He and his wife, Helen, have traveled extensively across North America photographing wildflowers, primarily wild orchids, for twenty years.



Cypripedium parviflorum var. pubescens
(large yellow lady's-slipper)

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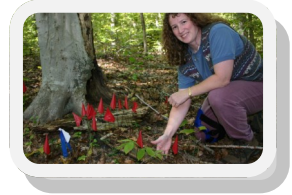
William McAvoy: "Orchids of Delaware"

Bill is the botanist for the Delaware Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. He has primary responsibility for planning, coordinating, and conducting inventories for rare plant species throughout the state of Delaware.



Melissa McCormick: "Orchids and their fungi - what do we know and what do we need to know?"

Melissa has been an Ecologist at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center since 1999. She received a BS in Biology from Trinity University, San Antonio, TX and a PhD in Ecology, Evolutionary Biology and Behavior from Michigan State University.



Phil Oyerly: "Introduction to Mt. Cuba Center and Its Orchid Collection"

Phil is the greenhouse manager and has worked in the plant propagation area at Mt. Cuba Center for 33 years. Phil and his staff grow native plants in support of landscape and research activities at Mt. Cuba Center.



Bob Sprague: "Hazleton Bog— Conservation Work in Progress"

Bob is a former Navy Supply Corps officer and a retired business executive. His psychology degree from Muhlenberg College should help him control his OCOD (obsessive, compulsive orchid disorder) but, he is a Director of the Native Orchid Conference and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Orchid Society anyway. Bob and his wife Amy travel extensively in pursuit of orchids and birds.



Dennis Whigham: "A Proposal for The North American Orchid Conservation Center "

Dennis is a Senior Botanist at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, MD. His current projects focus on wetlands, the rarest terrestrial orchid in eastern North America, and invasive species.



Robert Yannetti: "*Calopogon tuberosus* X *Arethusa bulbosa* - Are There Natural Hybrids?"

Robert is a retired electronic engineer with a lifelong interest in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey. That interest narrowed over time to the terrestrial orchid *Arethusa bulbosa*. He has made and registered five intergeneric hybrids among *Arethusa bulbosa*, *Calopogon tuberosus*, *Eleorchis japonica* and the allied genus *Bletilla striata*.

