



The Orchid Collection

Genesee Region Orchid Society
Volume 30, Number 3
November, 2008

www.geneseearchid.org

Beginners Meeting 6:30 p.m. * Social "Hour" 7:00 - 7:15 p.m. * Meeting begins at 7:15 p.m.
Senior Adult Lounge at the Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgerwood Avenue, Rochester, NY

NEXT MEETING: NOV. 3, 2008



Photo illustration ©2008 Phil Matt
Grower: Windswept in Time Orchids
GROS Spring Show 2008

*Angraecum
didieri*

October was rather unsettling, to say the least. We divided most of our time between pitching the endless supply of political junk mail that seemed to arrive on a daily basis, and putting those other envelopes bearing news of our long-term investments under the bed, best saved for a less stressful time, such as when global climate change makes all of North America semi-tropical.

November's speaker is Tom Nasser of Carolina Orchids in Fort Mill, SC. Tom will be bringing us a discussion of "Angraecoids." Angraecoids - *Angraecums* and related species - are mostly white or green-flowered orchids, whose flowers possess long nectaries or "spurs." They require moderate light, (no direct sunlight) and have blooms lasting 3-6 weeks. As they are pollinated by moths in nature, their beautiful perfumes are strong after dark. The genus now includes just under 700 distinct species.

Perhaps the most famous member of the genus is *Angraecum sesquipedale*, the "Star of Bethlehem" or "The Star of Madagascar." Charles Darwin postulated that there must be a pollinator moth with a proboscis long enough to reach the nectar at the end of the orchid's 18-inch spur. In 1903, exactly such a moth was found in Madagascar, confirming Darwin's prediction. The large hawk moth was named *Xanthopan morgani praedicta*, or "Morgan's Sphinx", with the final part of the name honoring Darwin's prediction. It's the sole member of its genus, which makes Darwin's pollination hypothesis even more fascinating.

Carolina Orchids does not mass-produce orchids, as Tom notes. Their greenhouses contain Tom and his wife Shan's orchid collection, i.e. several different clones of a particular orchid rather than hundreds of plants of limited species or clones. You may want to check their website, www.carolinaorchids.com, where there are some plant and price lists. At the time of this newsletter going to press, we do not know if the Nassers will be bringing plants to sell at the meeting. It might be a good idea to call them this week if you are looking for a particular orchid.

We'll be taking Tom out to dinner prior to the meeting, at 5 p.m. - the venue is still pending. If you'd like to join us, please call Program Vice President Diana Polle at 637-2882 ASAP, to make sure we have enough room for you. The Show Table, having spent the past few weeks busily investing in *Masdevallia* futures, will be back - so don't forget your flowering plants! We'll see you there!

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Meeting Minutes for Oct. 6, 2008

President **Jeff Snyder** called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

We welcomed several visitors this month. In addition, it was good to see our orchid neighbors from Buffalo who made the trip to attend our meeting featuring Mario Ferrusi of Marsh Hollow Orchids. The president thanked everyone for coming.

Reggie Coleman resigned as Secretary but will continue to run the Beginner's Meeting, which precedes our regular meeting. President Jeff asked for a volunteer to replace Reggie and then nominated **Sandi Uhlig**. The nomination was seconded, accepted and passed.

Judy Ekberg, treasurer, gave us an update on our financial situation. "Well, it's not as bad as AIG!" In September, we had income of \$1,391 from dues and the raffle. Our output was \$2,312.03, the biggest chunk of which went for rent of our meeting room (the annual fee.) The rest went for raffle plants, insurance, postage and speaker fees. Our balance as of this evening is \$13,526.52.

Ruth Espinosa-Barone, our Show Chairwoman, made a last appeal for photographs to be used for the Show poster. She asked if anyone intended to submit anything and at least one hand was raised.

Kim Hober, Auction Tsarina, announced that her request last month for volunteers was overwhelmingly positive, with more than enough people to assist in all aspects of the event. With a giggle, she said she'd turn the list of willing members (that can't be utilized for the auction) over to Ruth to recruit helpers with our Spring Show! The auction is on Sunday, October 19th. Set-up will begin at 11:00 a.m.. Members and other interested buyers can preview the offerings from 12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m., at which time the auction will begin. Including refreshment and other breaks and bid wars, the auction will run from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Jeff Snyder, Auctioneer, will create a spreadsheet of the orchids that will be auctioned and it will be available beforehand on the website. It's always a wonderful way to spend a late October afternoon!

Supplying orchids for this year's auction are: Bloomfield Orchids; Cal Orchids; Jeanne Kaeding; Dwaine Levy; Cloud's Orchids; John & Dody Ellenberger; H & R Orchids; Marlow Orchids and Alan Salzman Orchids.

Jeff announced that starting with this meeting the raffle will have a different twist. When you buy raffle tickets, you are eligible for only one plant. The reason for this is aimed at getting plants into more members' hands. Please continue to purchase tickets as those lucky numbers get you some wonderful plants to add to your collection.

Jeanne Kaeding reminded us that this coming weekend, October 11 & 12, is the Buffalo Orchid Show. **Dean and Carolyn Edwards** will be using their artistic touch to set up our society's exhibit. At meeting time a volunteer was needed for take-down. Someone did volunteer at the meeting.

Fran Murphy said that **Alan Salzman** and he would be going to look at Sonnenberg's orchids. Two truck loads of plants were donated by **John & Dody Ellenberger** and taken to Sonnenberg to add to their collection. Fran said also that there are several duplicates in the collection given and some of them will be sold.

Jeff held up a box that he'd received from "Rainmaker Designs" with a DVD about a rotating garden chair. For more information, go to www.rainmakerdesigns.com.

Program Chair **Diana Polle** introduced our speaker tonight, Mario Ferrusi of Marsh Hollow Orchids in Fenwick, Ontario. Mario presented a delightful program entitled "Mario's Orchids A-Z". We were pleased to also have his wife, Conni, at our meeting. Mario presented the orchids on the Show Table, giving us various tips and comments from his wealth of orchid information as an accredited AOS judge and experienced grower.

Our meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:20 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by
Sandi Uhlig
Secretary*



Member Seeks Missing Plant

Do you have a plant of *Ascocenda Suksamran Sunlight* that mysteriously showed up in your collection last Spring? This plant was misplaced at our show in April and was recently discovered missing. This is a bright orange *Ascocenda in a basket*, part of a display arranged by Judy Wischoff and Kim Hober. If you know what happened to the plant, please call Judy at 315-331-0024 or bring the plant to the meeting in November.

Learn to Take Care of Your Clivias!

If you attended the Auction in October, you might have been rewarded with a *Clivia* seedling to take home. Wonder what to do with it? (Hint: not a winter-hardy outdoor plant - - *Ed.*) You might have a look at the website, www.sheildsgardens.com for some good advice. You might also ask a certain Auction Tsar about his adventures with growing *Clivias*.

Auction '08 Proves to Be Big Success

The 2008 GROS Auction held on October 19, was as usual a festive and fun event. It was a beautiful fall day in Rochester and this year we had a wonderful collection of orchids. We were well represented by our local vendors and in spite of the dreary state of the economy, members attended to support the GROS.

No one was disappointed, as there were great deals to be had. Our Fearless Leader, Jeff Snyder, was the master of ceremonies and auctioneer. He skillfully negotiated the best price for each plant, but kept things moving.

We again had a wonderful Powerpoint® presentation that provided an image for almost every plant we auctioned .

This year, all participants were able to pick a seedling when they registered and people who bid high on some auction items were able to choose again. Another new feature was an option of buying a raffle ticket for discounts on final purchases.

OCTOBER SHOW TABLE

Please note especially all names and abbreviations in boldface, and correct or **complete** your records, **including parentage** and new registrations.

Cypripedium Alliance

<i>Paph. liemianum</i>	Uhlig
<i>Phrag. fischeri</i>	"
<i>Paph. Angela (fairricanum × niveum)</i>	Bloomfield

Cattleya Alliance

Sc. Dream Catcher (Bright Angel × Beaufort)	Snyder
<i>B. nodosa</i>	Coleman
Bsp. Judy Robson (Bnts. Richard Mueller × Srt. Rojo)	"
<i>Isochilus aurantiacus*</i>	Bernard
Rsc. Susan Fender (Caesar's Head × Sc. Mary Ellen Carter)	Wischoff
Sc. Crystelle Smith (Beaufort × <i>C. loddigesii</i>)†	Batz
C. Marjorie Hausermann (Henrietta Japhet × Ethel Leder)	Murphy
Bsp. (Brassophranthe) Hawaiian Treat - 2 plants	
(Bnts. Richard Mueller × Srt. (Sophranthe) Trick or Treat)	"
Rsc. Ronald's Canyon (Ronald Hausermann × Bryce Canyon)	"

Vandaceous

<i>V.</i> Diane Ogawa (?) × Thananchaisand§	Murphy
<i>V.</i> Suksan Spots × <i>insignis</i>	"
<i>Mkra.</i> Golden Tommy (Sayan × <i>V.</i> Kultana Gold)	"
<i>V.</i> John Daguia (Danny German × Kasem's Delight)	Levy
<i>Aërgs. biloba</i>	Salzman
<i>Ascda.</i> Motes Burning Sands	
(<i>V. lamellata</i> × <i>Ascda.</i> Motes Goldpiece)	Wischoff
<i>Ascda.</i> Robert Mezey (Yip Sum Wah × Fuchs Joy)	Uhlig
<i>Micr. pallida</i>	"
<i>Neost.</i> Lou Sneary (<i>Neof. falcata</i> × <i>Rhy. coelestis</i>)	"
<i>Neost.</i> Lou Sneary	Hober
<i>Gchls. dasyopogon</i>	Bernard

Oncidium Alliance

<i>Odcdm.</i> Old Lace (<i>Onc. fuscatum</i> × <i>Odm. cirrhosum</i>)	Murphy
<i>Onc.</i> Hawaiian Sunset (<i>fuscatum</i> × Pupukea Sunset)	"
<i>Oncda.</i> Charlesworthii (<i>Cda. noezliana</i> × <i>Onc. incurvum</i>)	"
<i>Milt.</i> Earl Dunn (Goodale Moir × Minas Gerais)	"
<i>Ada glumacea</i> × <i>keiliana</i>	"
<i>Orpha. radicans</i>	Uhlig
<i>Incdm.</i> Popcorn (Cyrt. <i>flexuosum</i> × <i>Inps. utricularioides</i>)	"
Pyp. <i>krameriana</i> × <i>versteegiana</i>	"
Ons. (Oncostele) Everglades Elegance	
(<i>Onc.</i> Colon × <i>Rst. bictoniensis</i>)	Batz
<i>Onc.</i> Twinkle (<i>cheiophorum</i> × <i>ornithorhynchum</i>)	Snyder

Dendrobium

<i>Den.</i> Nalene Bui (Ise × Princess)	Hober
<i>Den.</i> Hisako Haraguchi (Pink Victory × <i>affine</i>)	"

Pleurothallid Alliance

<i>Masd.</i> Redwing (<i>infracta</i> × <i>coccinea</i>)	Bloomfield
<i>Masd.</i> Malcolm Adams (Redwing × Shuttryana)	"
<i>Platystele umbellata</i>	Bernard

Miscellaneous

<i>Pes. dayana</i>	Bernard
<i>Eria pumila</i>	"
<i>Eria acervata</i>	"
<i>Zga.</i> Adelaide Meadows (<i>Z.</i> Titanic × <i>Zga.</i> Dynamo)	Batz
<i>Max. nasuta</i>	"
<i>Lyc.</i> Jackpot (Auburn × Wyld Court)	Wischoff
<i>Aërgs. mooreana</i>	Flanders
<i>Ceratostylis rubra</i>	Batz
<i>Gal. baueri</i>	"

*According to recent information, *Isochilus* has been removed from the Laeliinae, but I will leave it in the Cattleya alliance for now.

†The consensus is that the pollen parent was actually *Cattleya harrisoniana*, which RHS did not recognize as a separate species.

§There is also a *Vanda* Sunkakul (Diane Ogawa × Thananchai).

- Iris Cohen

Auction - from p.2

In general, we all had a good time and the club made some money in the process. The final tally is left to our treasurer, but it appears that the club brought in about \$1,400 in profit.

However, this year was a little different in that we had an unusually high number of donations. All of our local orchid vendors not only significantly discounted the plants we purchased, but also donated a good number of plants. In particular, John Ellenberger called me a week before the auction, wanting to donate plants. When I went out to his greenhouse to pick them up, he wouldn't let me leave until he had filled my car with five crates of orchids! Other members, including Jeanne Kaeding and Dwaine Levy, also donated plants. In calculating the profit, about \$800 was generated from the plants we had purchased; another \$600 came from the sale of donated plants.

As members of GROS, we are very fortunate. We are one of the larger orchid societies in our region. We have many members who are knowledgeable and committed. We also are very lucky to have a number of local vendors who are active members of our society.

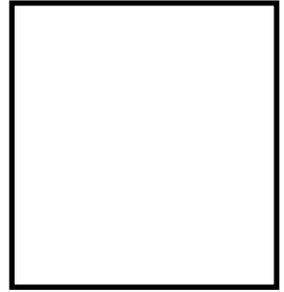
It's because of all of these people that we had such a successful auction. I had a wonderful response when I requested volunteers - more people than I had jobs for. Please consider being as generous with your time and volunteering for our next big event - the annual GROS Show.

- Kim Hober
Auction Tsarina

The *Orchid Collection* is a publication of the Genesee Region Orchid Society. It is published ten times per year for our members. Single membership is \$20.00, family membership is \$25.00 annually. Dues should be sent to the GROS at P.O. Box 20606, Rochester, N.Y. 14602

Phil Matt, Editor.
P.O. Box 10406, Rochester, N.Y. 14610

The Editor receives e-mail at webnews@geneseeorchid.org



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Genesee Region Orchid Society Officers 2008-2009

President	Jeff Snyder	377-5895	pres@geneseeorchid.org
Executive VP	Debbie Johnson	768-2599	veep@geneseeorchid.org
Program VP	Diana Polle	637-2882	prog@geneseeorchid.org
Treasurer	Judy Ekberg	546-8324	treas@geneseeorchid.org
Secretary	Sandi Uhlig	387-9940	sec@geneseeorchid.org
Member at Large	Alan Salzman	377-3213	matlarge@geneseeorchid.org

GROS Committee Chairpersons 2008-2009

AOS Rep.	Dave Weiss	544-3561	aosrep@geneseeorchid.org
Auction	Kim Hober	383-1994	
Beginners' Meeting	Reggie Coleman		beginners@geneseeorchid.org
Community Outreach	< open >		
Librarian	Karen McKay	924-7428	libr@geneseeorchid.org
Membership	Marshall Edgcomb		members@geneseeorchid.org
Monroe Cty. Liaison	Jeremy Bechelli	339-8631	monroe@geneseeorchid.org
	David Hayes	872-0112	monroe2@geneseeorchid.org
Newsletter	Phil Matt	288-7025	webnews@geneseeorchid.org
Nominating	< open >		
ODC Representative	< open >		
Property	(Exec. VP)		
Raffle	Dwaine Levy,	271-0201	
	Anna & Barbara Green, Lory Hedges		
Show	Ruth Espinosa-Barone	872-5658	show2009@geneseeorchid.org
Social	Lorri Bayer	288-5014	
Sonnenberg Liaison	Fran Murphy	924-7763	
Special Ops	Ron Uhlig	387-9940	regist@geneseeorchid.org
Webmaster	Phil Matt	288-7025	webnews@geneseeorchid.org



The Genesee Region Orchid Society (GROS) meets every month from September through May at the Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, NY, on the first Monday following the first Sunday of each month. (Dates sometimes vary due to holidays, etc.) The GROS is an Affiliate of The American Orchid Society and of The Orchid Digest Corporation. Material in our newsletter, *The Orchid Collection*, may be freely reprinted in other orchid society publications with proper attribution. Copyrighted illustrations, photographs or articles may not be reprinted without the express written permission of the artist or author.

**COMING IN
DECEMBER:
THE HOLIDAY
PARTY!**

Watch the website for details!