



The  
**Orchid  
Collection**

Genesee Region Orchid Society Inc.

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## **NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, APR. 12, 2010**

"Orchids 101" 6:00 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 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, NY



*Odont. Tiger Crow*, grown by Lori Bayer, GROS  
Spring Show 2006. Photo ©Phil Matt.

**T**he Spring Show is upon us! For members and friends of the GROS, the Spring season is always heralded by the opening of our Society's major annual event. Just as seeds are being tucked into flats indoors and the first signs of Spring blooming bulbs and *forsythia* have arrived outdoors, the GROS is getting ready to present our best blooming orchids to the community.

But exhilarating and exciting as the Show may be, we still have our schedule of "regular" orchid activities to which we must - and gladly - attend.

**T**his month, we are fortunate to have a very special speaker - accredited AOS judge John

Dunkelberger, who will be giving a talk on "Odontocidium/intergenerics." John has degrees in both Biochemistry and Bacteriology, and has worked as a chemist, chemical engineer, lumberman, logger, and consultant. Additionally, he has been an accredited judge since 1972; he's judged at our Spring Shows many times. John has been an avid grower of orchids for more than 50 years, and currently specializes in *Cymbidiums*, *Odontoglossums* and *Oncidiums*. In 1987 John registered his first cross - *Brassidium* Nittany Gold. He currently has forty-six registered crosses, of which around 30 have received AOS awards. John will be bringing plants for sale, but he says that he has no objection to members bringing plants for sale as well.

**W**e will be taking John and his wife Shirley out to dinner at Bugaboo Creek Steakhouse, 935 Jefferson Road, at 5 p.m. on April 12th, prior to the meeting. If you'd like to join us (everyone pays for his or her own dinner), please contact GROS President Paul Batz. Show Table will be back, so don't forget your orchids that made for such nice displays in our Show this year. We'll see you there!

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## Meeting Minutes for March 8, 2010

President **Paul Batz** called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

A motion was made by **Barb Greene** to accept the February meeting minutes. A second by **Jeanne Kaeding** was followed by a unanimous vote. The February minutes were accepted.

**Noel Krzesinski**, George Eastman House liaison, thanked those who brought plants to the Dutch Connection at the George Eastman House. They were greatly appreciated as an addition to the Spring Bulb show last month.

Paul reminded us that Gardenscape will begin this week. Set-up is Wednesday morning, March 10th, at 9:00-1:00 in Minnett Hall at the Dome. Please bring your flowering plants to add to the display for the society. A few openings are still available to hand out fliers and promote the GROS at the show. **Sylvanna DaDelfa** will be giving tickets to those people who will and have signed up to help. If members aren't here, she will be contacting them.

Another reminder was made that Longwood Gardens in PA will be having their Orchid Show later this month. The show runs from Friday, March 26th through Sunday, the 28th.

Treasurer **Ron Uhlig** gave us the details of our financial state for the past month. The expense report was accepted.

Balance Jan. 31, 2010	\$14,092.40
Income	318.00
Expenses	2,935.03
Balance Jan 31, 2010	\$11,475.37

In the absence of **Len** and **Lorri Bayer**, Ron Uhlig appealed to the membership to sign up for time slots as Show Hosts and Hostesses. A clipboard was sent into circulation.

**Fran Murphy** reported on the Sonnenberg Orchid Show which took place the past weekend. 550 attended; they came from Rochester, eastern and southern New York. Our Show fliers were made available to all visitors.

**Ruth Espinosa-Barone**, Show Chairperson, reminded us that set-up for our annual Show, coming up April 10 and 11, 2010, will be on Thursday, April 8th. Judging is on Friday morning and afternoon, the 9th, followed by the awards reception.

Reservations for the reception should be in to Ruth by March 26th. As previously talked about at last month's meeting, the cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members. Forms were available.

This is the last week to reserve a space for an exhibit in our show. Copies of Rules and Regulations were also available tonight.

Volunteers will be needed for setting up GROS displays. Kitchen helpers to donate as well as set out food and paper goods on Saturday and Sunday are very much needed. Please see Ruth or sign up on the clipboard being circulated. If we don't get enough donations of food, we cannot provide lunches and snacks for the helpers and vendors.

Posters and flyers were available for pickup. A clipboard list was passed around to get people to take a poster and stack of fliers for distribution to florists and garden centers.

**Mike DeVito** is chairperson for the Members Sales Table this year. All plants must be brought in on Thursday to be sold on Saturday and Sunday. 15 plants per day is the maximum. Ruth offered packets with information and special labels to be used on plants this year. 15% commission will be taken from the total sold.

**Kathy Kluge** will be organizing the Video/Potting Demos this year. By popular demand, "hands-on demonstrations" will be done rather than videos. Kathy suggested that there be the owner's letter rather than a number on the members' sales plant labels to avoid confusion for the customers.

Program Chair **Diana Polle** introduced tonight's speaker, Terry Kennedy, and her husband Doug, from Orchids in Our Tropics of Vandorf, Ontario. Terry spoke about her colorful and interesting experiences from trips to Guatemala. Guatemala's national flower, "La Monja Blanca," (the "White Nun," after the way the flower resembles the headpiece of a nun's habit) is an orchid: *Lycaste virginalis*.

After the raffle, the show table was presented by Doug Kennedy. Members again appreciated good advice and comments on their wide variety of show table plants.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50.

Respectfully submitted by  
*Sandi Uhlig*  
Secretary



## Treasurer's Report for February, 2010

### Income Details

Raffle	53.00
2010 Show	240.00
Membership	25.00
Total:	\$318.00

### Expense Details

Speaker fee - Feb mtg.	314.10
Office Supplies	44.90
Orchids 101	6.48
Insurance	356.00
Show (rent - Eisenhart)	2,213.55
Total:	\$2,935.03

### Summary

Feb. 1 Balance:	14,092.40
Income:	318.00
Expenses:	2,935.03
Mar. 1 Balance:	\$ 11,475.37



## The Joy of Potting

All right, so I exaggerate the title a little bit to get your attention. I still consider repotting orchids to be a chore, but afterwards I do have the satisfaction of a job well done.

**How to repot.** People of independent means repair to the "potting shed;" the rest of us use the kitchen table. Gather the materials you will  
(to page 3)

**MARCH SHOW TABLE****Cypripedium Alliance**

<i>Phrag.</i> Mary Bess ( <i>besseae</i> × <i>longifolium</i> )	Greene
<i>Phrag. besseae</i>	Uhlig
<i>Paph. dayanum</i>	Batz
<i>Paph.</i> Olympian Yard × Maiden Paradise	Tandy

**Cattleya Alliance**

<b><i>Rhyncattleanthe (Rth.)</i></b> Love Sound	
( <i>C. briegeri</i> × <i>Rth.</i> Bouton D'Or)	Uhlig
<i>Rl. glauca</i>	"
<b><i>Rlc.</i></b> Pamela Finney	
( <i>C. Irene Finney</i> [1964] × <i>Rlc.</i> Pamela Hetherington)*	Batz
<b><i>Cattlianthe (Ctt.)</i></b> Tutankamen ( <i>Chocolate Drop</i> × <i>C. Mae Hawkins</i> )†	"
<b><i>Epi. centropetalum</i></b> (syn. <i>Oerstedella centradenia</i> )	Batz

**Vandaceous**

<i>Dtps.</i> Taisuco Firebird ( <i>Happy Smile</i> × <i>Taisuco Candystripe</i> )‡	Uhlig
<i>Ascda.</i> Su-Fun Beauty ( <i>V. Bangkapi</i> × <i>Ascda.</i> Pralor)	Levy
<b><i>Ascda.</i></b> Princess Mikasa ( <i>Royal Sapphire</i> × <i>V. coerulea</i> )	"
<i>Rhy. gigantea</i>	Batz

**Oncidium Alliance**

<b><i>Odyncidium (Ody.)</i></b> (syn. <i>Odcdm.</i> ) <i>Cherry Fudge</i>	
( <i>Odontostele Summit</i> × <i>Onc. leucochilum</i> )§	Tandy
<i>Bllra.</i> Peggy Ruth Carpenter ( <i>Tahoma Glacier</i> × <i>Milt. Purple Queen</i> )	Greene
<i>Bllra.</i> Pacific Pastel ( <i>Tropic Splendor</i> × <i>Odm. Conner</i> )	Batz

**Dendrobium**

<i>Den.</i> Kokomo ( <i>Ise</i> × <i>Kurenai</i> )	Greene
--	--------

**Pleurothallid Alliance**

<i>Masd.</i> Mary Staal ( <i>coccinea</i> × <i>Angel Frost</i> )	Bechelli
<i>Masd.</i> Maui Gold ( <i>Copper Angel</i> × <i>rex</i> )	"
<i>Pls. oxyglossa</i>	"
<i>Masd. sanctae-inesae</i>	"
<i>Pls. misera</i>	"
<i>Masd. glandulosa</i>	"
<i>Masd. dynastes</i>	"
<i>Masd. scabrilinguis</i>	"
<i>Masd. falcago</i>	"

**Miscellaneous**

<i>Cym. devonianum</i>	Butcher
<i>Trgdm. egertonianum</i>	Uhlig
<i>Lyc. Jason</i> ( <i>cruenta</i> × <i>lasioglossa</i> )	Levy
<b><i>Tainia penangiana</i></b> (syn. <i>Ania hookeriana</i> )	"
<i>Mo.</i> Jumbo Ruby ( <i>Cl. Rebecca Northen</i> × <i>Morm. ignea</i> )	Batz

**Show Table Notes**

\*A reminder: when there are two grexes with the same name, to differentiate, the date of registration or the registrant's name becomes part of the grex name.

†I have called the discrepancy in spelling between *Rhyncattleanthe* and *Cattlianthe* to the registrar's attention and asked him to fix it.

‡Taisuco stands for Taiwan Sugar Corporation, a state-run entity. When sugar cane production became unprofitable, the company diversified into several other industries, and is now one of the world's largest *pha-laenopsis* growers.

§This genus may be temporary until the reorganization of the *Oncidium* alliance has been completed.

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

The judges will appreciate it if your orchids in the upcoming shows are correctly entered, including the parents.

Please note: if there are any names you have questions about, don't hesitate to contact me.

- Iris Cohen  
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(Potting - from Page 2)

need, namely: a pot (if the plant needs a larger one); some potting mix such as bark; some Styrofoam peanuts (optional); a sharp knife; and, if you're going to divide the plant, some extra pots and plant labels. To avoid spreading virus, the knife and the pots should be sterilized before use if they have been used on other orchids.

The first step is to get the orchid out of the old pot. For plastic pots, this is usually not too hard. Be patient and try to break as few roots as possible. With a clay pot, the orchid roots will have all stuck to the pot. You may have to use the knife to cut around the rim of the pot, and in any case the adhering roots will all get broken. This is another factor against using clay pots.

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(Potting, from Page 3)

After unpotting the plant, you now usually see a mass of roots covering the entire outer surface of the root ball. The problem is to remove the broken-down medium from inside without damaging these healthy roots too much. I treat it as a puzzle like jackstraws: take your time and try to tease the roots apart without breaking them, picking out pieces of medium here and there as you can reach them. Eventually you'll get to the inside, where there will be very few roots and it is easy to remove the medium.

Actually, expert orchid growers don't pick apart the roots so carefully: they can't take the time, with their huge collections. But as a grower with only a few plants, you can afford the time. Remember that a careless potting can set a plant back a whole year.

You're supposed to leave the live white roots and cut off the dead brown ones. I find it hard to tell which is which going only by the color. Another test is to pinch the root between your fingers. If it's firm, it's alive; if it's mushy, it's dead. Despite what you may have heard, it doesn't actually hurt anything to leave some dead roots if you're in doubt.

**Divide and Conquer.** After removing the old medium and dead roots, you may decide to divide the plant. If the plant has two or more "leads" or active growing points which are sprawling in different directions, you should probably divide it into multiple, more compact plants. On the other hand, if the plant has multiple leads but remains compact, you may want to just put it in a bigger pot and grow it on into a showy "specimen" plant.

To divide the plant, just cut the rhizome with your sterilized knife and gently pull the pieces apart to disentangle the roots. If you have a problem with scale insects, this is the ideal time to spray, dip, scrub or swab the plant, since even the "underground" parts are exposed.

Next, prepare a pot by putting some Styrofoam peanuts in the bottom for drainage (don't use potshards unless they've been sterilized.) This step isn't really needed as long as you repot again before the mix breaks down,

**"You're supposed to leave the live white roots and cut off the dead brown ones. I find it hard to tell which is which going only by the color."**

grip the rim of the pot, but I seldom find these necessary. Finally, reinsert the plant label, or make new ones for your divisions. If you don't label your plants, you soon won't know what's what. I follow the practice of writing the repotting date on the label. This helps to figure out when it might be time to repot again.

## FEBRUARY SHOW TABLE

### Cypripedium Alliance

*Paph. sukhakulii* Butcher  
*Phrag. besseae* "

### Cattleya Alliance

*C.* Misty Girl × *Rlc.* Goldenzelle Butcher  
*Caulaelia (Cll.) Mizoguchi* (Snowflake × *L. anceps*) Hober  
*Guaricyclia (Gcy.)* Kyoguchi (*Gur. aurantiaca* × *E. incumbens*) "  
*C.* Mini Purple (*pumila* × *walkeriana*) "  
*C.* Astri (Enid [1898] × Edith Dorpe) Levy  
*C. amethystoglossa* three plants Salzman

### Vandaceous

*Rngm.* Rumrill (*Ren. monachica* × *Ascgm. calopteryum*) Levy  
*Rhy. gigantea* "  
*Aërgs. luteoalba* var. *rhodosticta* Butcher

### Oncidium Alliance

*Onc.* Sharry Baby (**Jamie Sutton** × **Honolulu**) Weimer  
*Hwra.* Lava Burst (Mini-Primi × *Rdza. lanceolata*) Fleischman  
*Cyrtocidium (Ctd.)* (syn. *Onc.*) Saint Dawn Gold Hober  
(Aloha Iwanaga × *Onc.* Sweet Sugar)

### Miscellaneous

*Lyc. skinneri* Salzman  
*Den. speciosum* var. *grandiflorum* Levy

but it can't hurt. Then, insert the plant, holding it where it's going to go. The old (non-growing) end should be against one edge of the pot to give maximum room for growth. Fill the pot with mix, stuffing it into all of the cavities as you go.

It helps to push it in firmly with your fingers, but you don't have to pack it with great force. If the plant is very wobbly, you can insert a stake and tie the plant to it, or use special clips which

**Done.** You can now replace the plant on its shelf. Remember not to water it for two weeks or so. This lets any broken or cut roots heal without rotting. Savor the true joy of potting - knowing you won't have to do it again for two whole years!

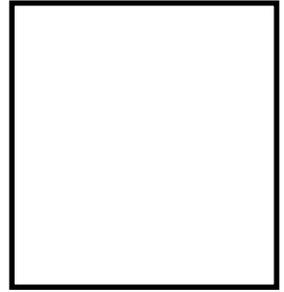
- Larry Kuekes  
Connecticut Orchid Society  
Newsletter



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# FIRST CLASS MAIL



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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.

## GROS Spring Show Quick Reference

*Setup: April 8*  
*Judging: April 9*  
*Awards Reception: April 9*  
*Open to Public: April 10 -11*  
*Breakdown & Cleanup: April 11*