



The **Orchid**  
**Collection**

Genesee Region Orchid Society Inc.

Volume 31, Number 4

December, 2009

[www.geneseearchid.org](http://www.geneseearchid.org)

## **NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, DEC. 14, 2009**

*"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*



*Fred Clarke with Fredclarkeara "After Dark"*

**T**his has been an interesting season., to say the least. The first "snow" ( a pretty feeble display, I think ...) didn't appear until the beginning of December. People in the wintry environs of Mississippi and Texas have already received Buffalonian amounts of snow. Something meteorological is up, but just exactly what it is - or might turn out to be - no one can say.

**O**rchids are another story. They know what season it is! With shorter days and lower temperatures, some species are beginning their winter rest period. Phalaenopsis have been sending forth their bloom stalks right on schedule for flowing later in the year.

**N**eed a break from "Fall/Winter?" The GROS is hosting yet another visitor from sunny California this month. Fred Clarke, the proprietor of Sunset Valley Orchids in Vista, CA, will present "*Catasetinae Species & Their Cultivation*" at our December meeting. Fred has been growing and hybridizing orchids for many years. He presides over a 20,000 square foot orchid nursery, Sunset Valley Orchids, in Vista, California. - <http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com>. His pioneering work in *Catasetum* intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, *Fredclarkeara* "After Dark," which produced "the blackest flower ever witnessed." This grex has received eight FCC's and three AM's on its first flowers shown for judging!

**F**red is a passionate and highly regarded orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is as broad as it is varied. Although developing *Cattleya* hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new *Bulbophyllum* and *Paphiopedilum* hybrids. An accredited AOS judge in the Pacific South Judging Region, he has presented talks around the globe. His plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society.

Please note that Fred will be bringing plants for sale to our meeting. He will also be accepting *pre-orders* from his website at a 10% discount - and no shipping charges for all GROS members who want to order ahead! Just visit his site, make note of what plants you would like, and email Fred with your request ASAP. His site has many excellent photographs and descriptions of his hybridizing aims for each plant listed.

Plans are still in the works for taking Fred to dinner on the meeting night - please watch the website for late-breaking news. The Show Table will be back, as usual, so please don't forget to bring your flowering plants. We'll see you there!

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## Meeting Minutes for November 2, 2009

President **Paul Batz** called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Paul reminded us that the website is a wealth of information. Members need to sign in to take advantage of all that's offered.

**Jim Marlow** requested a reminder that his Open House is coming up on Saturday, November 7th. Alan Salzman will also be selling orchids at this event. An offer was made to pot up any bare-root orchids from tonight's sales at the Open House.

The minutes for our October meeting were approved.

**Ron Uhlig**, Treasurer, brought us up to date on our financial situation:

Previous balance (10/1/09)	\$12,253
Income: (Dues, Raffle & Auction sales)	\$2,595
Expenses:	\$690
(Annual Website charge, last (Sept.) Newsletter mailing, Meeting Room rental, October Speaker's fee, Auction and Orchids 101 meeting supplies.)	
Current balance (11/2/09)	\$11,840

The Auction proceeds were down from the budgeted amount. We had planned on a profit of \$1,400 but only received \$1,088. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Paul apologized for the problem with getting in to Orchids 101 this evening. The meeting starts at 6:15 and due to JCC equipment being stored in the room, space was limited. Folks arriving after the starting time couldn't enter the room. We'll be looking into getting a larger room for this popular meeting.

Assistant Program Chair **Alan Salzman** introduced our speaker, Terry Root. Terry has come from Monterey, CA where he owns and manages the Orchid Zone Ltd. With forty years of experience growing orchids, Terry and his wife Samantha operate seven greenhouses and a total of 77,000 square feet of growing space. We

## GROS Members Exhibit at Niagara Region Orchid Show

For the first time in several years, the Genesee Region Orchid Society contributed an exhibit of blooming orchid plants to the Niagara Region Orchid Society Show in St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada, on the weekend of November 13-15, 2009. The NROS is planning to exhibit at our show this Spring, a happy reciprocity. Jeanne Kaeding set up the exhibit (featuring running water, one of her specialties) and Diane Bernard, Suzanne Flanders, Helene Novick, and Carol Butcher took the exhibit down on Sunday. Thanks to all of you. Without your efforts, the exhibit could not have happened.

Also important to the success of an exhibit are the people who loan their blooming plants to the Society. Thank you to Robert Wyman, Dwaine Levy, Judy Wischoff, Kim Hober, Carolyn Edwards, Alan Salzman, Len and Lorri Bayer, Robert Pfromm, Molly Weimer, and Jeanne Kaeding. The list of awards appears below.

The show room contained about 400 plants, about as many as we have here in Rochester in the Spring. The publicity was good. Even one of the inspectors at the Canadian border had heard about the show. Parts of the sales room were masses of color from the blooming plants. Several craft vendors with nature themes to their work were also present.

- Jeanne Kaeding

<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Plant</i>
Dwaine Levy	Best Vandaceous	<i>Tuberolabium kotoense</i> 'Mort'
Dwaine Levy	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	"
Robert Wyman	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	<i>Dtps.</i> Pretty Nice 'York' AM/AOS
	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	<i>Sophronitis cernua</i>
	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	<i>Phal.</i> Red Delight 'Patent'
	3 <sup>rd</sup> in class	<i>Odcdm.</i> Wildcat 'Carmela' HCC/AOS
Judy Wischoff	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	<i>Lc.</i> Angel Heart 'Hihimau' AM/AOS
	3 <sup>rd</sup> in class	<i>Pot.</i> Egyptian Queen 'Black Diamond' HCC/AOS
Kim Hober	3 <sup>rd</sup> in class	<i>Vandirea</i> Newberry Jasmine
Carolyn Edwards	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	<i>Oncidium ornithorhyncum</i>
	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	<i>Renanthera bella</i>
Alan Salzman	2 <sup>nd</sup> in class	<i>Bc.</i> Nakornpathome Silver
	2 <sup>nd</sup> in class	<i>Odcdm.</i> Cherry Fudge
Len & Lorri Bayer	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	<i>Laelia</i> Finckeniana
	1 <sup>st</sup> in class	<i>Promenaea rollissonii</i>
Molly Weimer	2 <sup>nd</sup> in class	<i>Bpl.</i> Golden Spice 'Red Peppers'

were treated to over 200 exceptional slides of his accomplishments not only in the *Paphiopedilum* field but also in other aspects of his life – several interesting animals (cats, chickens, rabbits...) and his hobbies keep him very busy.

After the raffle, Terry Root and Paul Batz presented the Show Table. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sandi Uhlig  
Secretary

"*Paphiopedilum fairieanum*, native to the mountains of Bhutan and Sikkim, was introduced in 1857, and flowered and was figured in the *Botanical Magazine* of the same year and subsequently lost. For 50 years its habitat remained unknown and a large reward was offered for its rediscovery, but all efforts failed until 1904."

- American Orchid Culture  
Edward A. White, 1945.

## Catasetums Are Orchids with "Attitude"!

Fred Clarke, proprietor of Sunset Valley Orchids of California and a renowned expert in the propagation and hybridization of *Catasetums*, will be the GROS guest speaker in December. As GROS President, I decided this would be an opportune time to introduce our members to this interesting and varied genus.

As orchid enthusiasts, we are familiar with plants that are 'particular' regarding their culture. *Catasetums* are no exception to this rule and their lack of popularity is probably due to a misunderstanding of their specific cultural requirements. However, when their cultural needs are understood and duplicated, this genus can be very rewarding to grow.

*Catasetums* are indigenous to seasonally dry habitats, primarily in Central and South America. During the spring and summer growth phase, these orchids experience moderate to heavy rains, bright but not direct sunlight ("Cattleya light"), and strong air movement. In Fall and Winter, as rains become less frequent and temperatures decrease, the leaves of *Catasetums* begin to yellow and drop.

Flowering varies from species to species, but is normally dependent on the availability of water, as well as on temperature and light intensity. The spectacular flowers of *Catasetums* are unique and distinctive from those of many other orchids. *Catasetums* produce both male and female flowers, sometimes on the same inflorescence. The female flowers, which are often green, bulbous and resupinate (upside down), are long lived and similar throughout most *Catasetum* species. The male flowers are frequently much showier, but are fairly short lived (usually two weeks.)

The flowers of *Catasetum* are more often fragrant than not, although sometimes the fragrance is not detectable to the human nose. *Catasetums* have a very 'direct' approach to pollination. Inside the male flower is a trigger that extends down the back of the lip. As an insect, usually a bee, flies in and presses against this trigger, the pollen will snap down. This is not

## NOVEMBER SHOW TABLE

### Cypripedium Alliance

<i>Paph. Hsinying</i> Alien (Raisin Pie × Supersuk)	Wischoff
<i>Paph. wardii</i>	Usuli
<i>Paph.</i> King Charles (Wawona Maiden × <i>charlesworthii</i> )	"

### Cattleya Alliance

<i>Laelirhynchus (Lrn.)</i> Sea Urchin ( <i>L. anceps</i> × <i>Rl. glauca</i> )	Wischoff
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### Vandaceous

<i>Angm.</i> Longiscott ( <i>eburneum</i> subsp. <i>superbum</i> × <i>scottianum</i> )	Butcher
<i>Vasco.</i> Pine Rivers ( <i>Asda.</i> Peggy Foo × <i>Rhy. coelestis</i> )	Wischoff

### Oncidium Alliance

<i>Trt. fuscum</i>	Wischoff
<i>Onc.</i> Ruffles ( <i>ornithorhynchum</i> × <i>fuscatum</i> )	Hober

### Pleurothallid Alliance

<i>Masd. lychniphora</i> × <i>floribunda</i>	Bechelli
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### Miscellaneous

<i>Den.</i> Pixie Charm ( <b>Yellow Chinsai</b> × <i>unicum</i> )	Hober
<i>Bulb.</i> Elizabeth Ann ( <i>longissimum</i> × <i>rothschildianum</i> )	Butcher

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

If there are any names you have questions about, don't hesitate to call or e-mail me.

- Iris Cohen  
iriscohen@cal.iris.org



a gentle snap, and against a human finger, this is felt as a very deliberate 'tap'. Imagine how this feels to an unsuspecting insect! The 'glue' that adheres the pollen to the insect rains down in such copious amounts that it splatters and sets instantly, insuring that the pollen will be carried away to another flower. The trigger mechanism is so sensitive that any movement while the plant is in flower can release the pollen, causing the flowers to fade quickly. As an experienced *Catasetum* grower, Fred Clarke will provide us with an in depth study of the cultural requirements of this interesting genus.

Consider this an opportunity to experiment with a *Catasetum* and try your hand at growing something new and different! Fred will also be accepting pre-orders and will be bringing plants for purchase at the meeting.

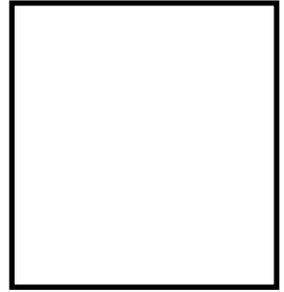
- Paul Batz



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

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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.

## NORTHEAST JUDGING CENTER

### Annual Judges' Auction

A Once A Year Opportunity  
**Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009 - 10:00 a.m.**  
**The Hampton Inn, Elmsford, NY**

This is a wonderful way to buy at auction very special plants, mostly grown by our Judges, and to take the mystery out of orchid judging.

All members and guests of AOS Affiliated Societies are invited to our Holiday Party, Auction and Judging Sessions.

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