



The *Orchid*
Collection

Genesee Region Orchid Society Inc.

Volume 31, Number 5

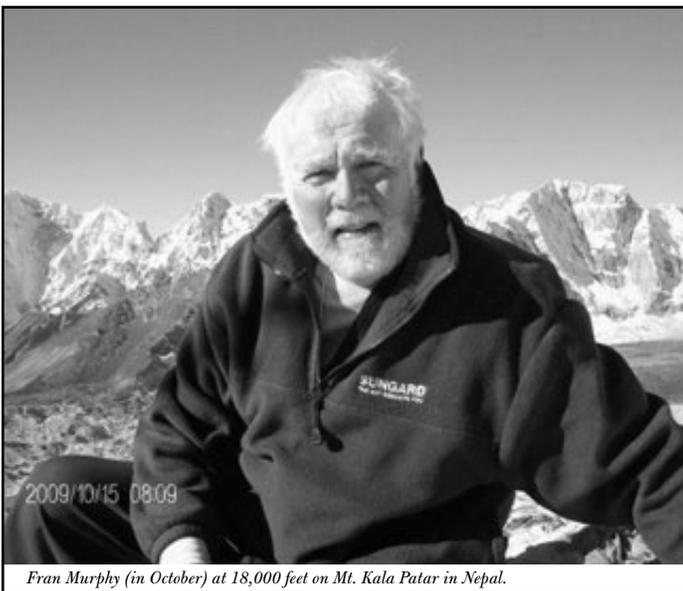
January 2010

www.geneseearchid.org

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, JAN. 4, 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



Fran Murphy (in October) at 18,000 feet on Mt. Kala Patar in Nepal.

There isn't any better way to begin the New Year than with an orchid meeting! It's more or less our "tradition" to brave the winter's cold and snow and head on down to the JCC on a blustery evening. (I've always marveled at how the Show Table gets populated so nicely even in the depths of the winter...) The GROS will kick off 2010 with an especially warming topic: "How to Grow Your Orchids Outdoors." (Naturally, you won't want to start using the techniques you'll learn for at least a "little while.")

GROS member Fran Murphy has been growing orchids for over 40 years. For the last 30 years, Fran has been raising orchids in a greenhouse. To obtain maximum growth, though, Fran supplements his greenhouse regimen by growing his plants outdoors during the warmer months. In this way, his orchids

obtain maximum growth, humidity, light, temperature, and rain water to achieve maximum photosynthesis - turning fertilizer into stored energy for the next flowering cycle.

The vast majority of Fran's plants are Winter-Spring blooming. (You may recall seeing his Spring Show exhibits with their many *Cymbidium* and *Paphiopedilum* plants.) His presentation on Growing Your Orchids Outdoors will focus on selecting which plants, when to place them outdoors, choice of outdoor locations, use of shade cloth, - and when to bring them back inside, of course.

Fran is also an accomplished world traveller, trekker and mountain-climber - check out the photo! He's been a GROS member, vendor and active Show exhibitor for many years. As far as we know, he's the perennial winner of the Most Trips to Hawaii contest.

Plans are still in the works for taking Fran to dinner on the meeting night - please watch the website for late-breaking news. The Show Table will be back, as usual, so bundle up your flowering plants and bring them in. We'll see you there!

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Meeting Minutes for December 14, 2009

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

We had a few visitors and friends at this evening's meeting. Paul's friend **Janet Pitt** came to hear our speaker and we welcomed a visitor from Buffalo, **Sue Locke**.

The November minutes were accepted.

Our Treasurer, **Ron Uhlig**, could not be with us tonight, but pending detailed information (to be published in the newsletter), his Treasurer's Report was also accepted.

Paul mentioned that the Dutch Connection at the Eastman House is coming up soon. Paul said **Noel Krezenski** will be giving us more information at the next meeting.

Assistant Program Chair **Alan Salzman** introduced our speaker, Fred Clarke. Fred is from Sunset Valley Orchids and has greenhouses totaling 20,000 square feet of orchids. An AOS judge, he holds 1000's of quality awards on his hybrids of many genera. We enjoyed over 90 minutes of interesting and informative, often amusing, details of his adventures in hybridizing. His intrgeneric hybrid *Fredclarkeara* After Dark was named for him (Genera: *Mormodes* + *Catasetum* + *Clowesia* = *Fredclarkeara*).

An announcement was made to anyone wishing to donate plants for the raffle. Please bring them to the next meeting or call **Jeff Snyder** and he will pick them up.

After the raffle, the show table was presented by Fred Clarke and Jeanne Kaeding.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted by
Sandi Uhlig
Secretary

DECEMBER SHOW TABLE

Cypripedium Alliance

| | |
|---|--------|
| <i>Paph. spicerianum</i> | Matt |
| <i>Paph.</i> Krull's Worthy Web (<i>Hsinying</i> Web × <i>charlesworthii</i>) | Weimer |
| <i>Paph.</i> Starburst × Milmoore | " |

Cattleya Alliance

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Eyv.</i> Florida Bay (<i>B. nodosa</i> × <i>E. pyriformis</i>) | Batz |
| <i>Rhyncattleanthe</i> (<i>Rth.</i>) Love and Fame | " |
| (<i>Ctt.</i> Fame 'N Glory × <i>Rth.</i> Love Sound) | " |
| <i>L. anceps</i> | Levy |
| <i>Rl. glauca</i> | " |
| <i>Barkeria</i> hybrid unknown | Gillette |
| <i>Rlc.</i> Nacouchee (Headon × C. Estelle) | " |

Vandaceous

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Ascda.</i> Phak Hai × <i>Rhy. coelestis</i> 'Pink' | Wischoff |
| Unknown* | " |
| <i>Dar.</i> Charm (<i>Neof. falcata</i> × <i>Vasco. Tham Yuen Hae</i>) | Levy |
| <i>Neost.</i> Lou Sneary (<i>Neof. falcata</i> × <i>Rhy. coelestis</i>) | " |

Oncidium Alliance

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Ros.</i> Rawdon Jester (<i>grande</i> × <i>williamsianum</i>) | Levy |
| <i>Brassosteale</i> (syn. <i>Odbrs.</i>) Billabong | |
| (<i>Rst. bictoniensis</i> × <i>Brs. gireoudiana</i>) | Murphy |
| <i>Bllra.</i> Marfitch (<i>Mtssa. Charles M. Fitch</i> × <i>Oda. Fremar</i>) | " |
| <i>Oncda.</i> Space Noez (2 words) × <i>Onc. hyphaematicum</i> | Gillette |

Pleurothallid Alliance

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Masd.</i> Marmalade 'Crosman'† (<i>barlaeana</i> × <i>strobilii</i>) | Bechelli |
| <i>Masd.</i> Tortoise (<i>uniflora</i> × <i>angulata</i>) | " |
| <i>Masd. limax</i> | " |
| <i>Masd.</i> Urubamba (<i>ayabacana</i> × <i>veitchiana</i>) | " |
| <i>Masd. sanctae-inesae</i> | " |
| <i>Masd.</i> Sandi Sprinkle (<i>Falcata</i> × Annette Hall) | " |

Miscellaneous

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Bulb.</i> Wilbur Chang (<i>echinolabium</i> × <i>carunculatum</i>) | Batz |
| <i>Lyc.</i> Lucianii, <i>Lyc.</i> × <i>lucianiana</i> (<i>lasioglossa</i> × <i>skinneri</i>)‡ | Wischoff |
| <i>Morm. ignea</i> | Marlow |
| <i>Lyc. cruenta</i> | Salzman |
| <i>Lyc. brevispatha</i> (syn. <i>candida</i>) | " |
| <i>Lyc.</i> Wyldfire (<i>Balliae</i> × Wyld Court) | " |
| <i>Sudamerlycaste dyeriana</i> | " |
| <i>Lyc. guatemalensis</i> | " |

(To next page)

Show Table, from p.2

*There is no registered grex in the *Vanda* alliance named Ruby Gem. Contact your supplier.

†After the Crosman Seed Corporation (assuming this is the correct spelling).

‡This is both a natural hybrid and a registered grex.

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 send me an e-mail.

- Iris Cohen
iriscohen@aol.com



Record Keeping for Your Orchids

One of the secrets to good orchid growing is observation. If you grow indoors, you have a certain advantage in this respect. Living among your orchids, you're more likely to observe them daily, which has some practical benefits such as catching pests and problems early. But it is the long-term observation of your orchids' cycles of growth and flowering that converts beginners into experienced orchid growers.

As a beginner, when you see something poking out from between your *Phalaenopsis* leaves, you always think it's a flower spike, and then you're disappointed when it turns out to be just another root. After observing your plants for a couple of years, you know the difference between a spike and a root, and furthermore, you know what time of year to expect spikes.

I started keeping records on my orchids mainly to keep track of when they bloomed, and for how long. I started a loose-leaf notebook with one page for each orchid. Then I wrote a one-line entry for each significant event: when and

where I bought the orchid (and how much it cost); when I first detected a spike (or first noticed buds inside a *Cattleya* sheath); when the first flower opened (and how many flowers there were); when the last flower faded; when I repotted or divided the plant.

After two or three years, patterns emerged. Certain orchids always bloomed at a particular time of year (and not always when the books said they did.) Others, especially *Paphs*, bloomed at varying times, some more than once a year.

Since I work with computers, I eventually decided it was silly to be keeping these records on paper. I entered the information into a computer database, which I have been maintaining ever since. I must tell you that as my collection grew, I became lax about recording every single blooming period. I have made sure, though, to keep the database up to date whenever I acquire an orchid, even if I don't always track the flowering progress.

Now, for those computer-phobes among you, you can keep perfectly adequate records in a loose-leaf notebook, like I did at first. But if you have a home computer, you might find it fun to computerize your orchid collection. Any database or filing program will work just fine,

"The horror of that moment," the King went on,
 "I shall never, never forget!"
 "You will, though," the Queen said,
 "if you don't make a memorandum of it."

Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking Glass

since what we're talking about here is just a simple list. Most such programs have fairly powerful reporting facilities built in. In my case, I can easily get the total number of orchids in my collection. I can also list my orchids, sorted by tribe, or sorted by flowering season.

I can almost hear you protest: "How dare you take orchids, the essence of romance and mystery, and put them into a computer to be ground up and reduced to numbers!"

But that isn't my intention at all. The computer is, for me, a useful tool to help me in my goal of having a well-rounded collection. My data-

base also reveals that my very first orchid was *Vuykstekeara* Cambria 'Lensing's Favorite,' AM/AOS, which I bought in December, 1982. It bloomed that winter and the next, and succumbed to rot the following year. How well I remember its first flowering in my living room window! It was those incredibly exotic flowers, which hooked me for life on orchids.

But I must admit I would have forgotten exactly when I got it, or how long I had it, or what eventually killed it, if I hadn't "made a memorandum of it."

- Larry Kenkes
Connecticut Orchid Society
Newsletter



Treasurer's Report for Dec. 2009

Income Details

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Orchid Zone Plant Sales | 1,080.00 |
| Auction Income | 50.00 |
| Raffle | 45.00 |
| Dues | 65.00 |
| 2010 Show | 950.00 |
| Total | 2,190.00 |

Expenses

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Orchid Zone Plant Purchase | 500.00 |
| Program Costs | 550.00 |
| Auction Plants | 100.00 |
| Total | 1,150.00 |

Thus the over all summary is:

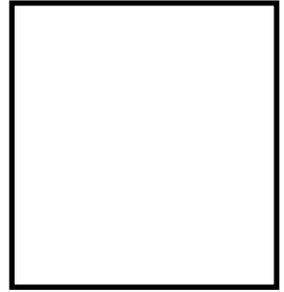
| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Nov. 1 Balance | 11,840.45 |
| Plus Income: | +2,190.00 |
| | 14,030.45 |
| Less Expenses: | -1150.00 |
| Nov. 30 Balance: | \$12,880.45 |

- Ron Uhlig
Treasurer

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 2009-2010

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|----------|--|
| President | Paul Batz | 356-0999 | pres@geneseeorchid.org |
| Executive VP | Kim Hober | 383-1994 | veep@geneseeorchid.org |
| Program VP | Diana Polle | 637-2882 | prog@geneseeorchid.org |
| Treasurer | Ron Uhlig | 387-9940 | treas@geneseeorchid.org |
| Secretary | Sandi Uhlig | 387-9940 | sec@geneseeorchid.org |
| Member at Large | Alan Salzman | 377-3213 | matlarge@geneseeorchid.org |

GROS Committee Chairpersons 2009-2010

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------|--|
| AOS Rep. | Dave Weiss | 544-3561 | aosrep@geneseeorchid.org |
| Auction | Jeff Snyder | 377-5895 | auct09@geneseeorchid.org |
| Education | Jeremy Bechelli | 339-8631 | beginners@geneseeorchid.org |
| Community Outreach | < open > | | |
| Librarian | Kim Hober | 383-1994 | libr@geneseeorchid.org |
| Monroe Cty. Liaison | Jeremy Bechelli | 339-8631 | monroe@geneseeorchid.org |
| Newsletter | David Hayes | 872-0112 | monroe2@geneseeorchid.org |
| Nominating | Phil Matt | 288-7025 | webnews@geneseeorchid.org |
| ODC Representative | < open > | | |
| Property | Alan Salzman | 377-3213 | |
| Raffle | (Exec. VP) | | |
| Show | Jeff Snyder | 377-5895 | |
| Social | Ruth Espinosa-Barone | 872-5658 | show2010@geneseeorchid.org |
| Sonnenberg Liaison | Lorri Bayer | 288-5014 | |
| Special Ops | Fran Murphy | 924-7763 | |
| Webmaster | Ron Uhlig | 387-9940 | regist@geneseeorchid.org |
| | 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.