



# The Orchid Collection

Vol. 33, No. 3 - November, 2011

Genesee Region Orchid Society, Inc.  
<http://www.geneseeorchid.org>

## NEXT MEETING: The Auction! - NOV. 7, 2011

✿ Pre-Auction Plant Viewing Opens at 6:00 p.m. ✿ Bidding Starts at 6:30 p.m. ✿ Auction Ends 9:00 p.m.  
Senior Lounge, Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Ave., Rochester, NY



It's Auction time once again! Come join your fellow members at the GROS for an evening of great orchids and great fun! With many great plants up for bid, everyone is sure to find a healthy, beautifully grown orchid - at an affordable price, too! You'll be able to bid on plants that our buying power as a club brings to our members & friends at truly spectacular savings.

Auction 2011 will be held at the JCC, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, as in previous years. The Auction starts at 6:00 p.m. for plant

browsing. Bidding starts promptly at 6:30 p.m. We plan to be done at 9:00 p.m. With over 100 plants up for bid, you can be sure of a fast-paced, enjoyable experience. With our now-legendary Auction presentation, you'll be able to actually see what a particular species' or hybrid's flowers look like on an adjacent viewing screen as the plant comes up for bid! It's a really great way to see what a plant will look like when it flowers - even if it isn't in flower at the Auction. [A full listing of all orchids up for bid](#), arranged in the order in which they will be auctioned, is up on our website.

The Auction is a wonderful way to add to your orchid collection at very reasonable cost. Remember, every plant you buy at the Auction helps the GROS in running our many yearly activities. If you have friends who might be interested in our Auction, bring them along! The Auction is open to everyone, free of charge. For those of you who've never attended one of our auctions, there will be orchids for windowsill, under-lights and greenhouse growers, orchids for experts, orchids for beginners - orchids for everyone! We will have a good selection of both hybrids and species, with many plants in bud or bloom! The antics of our auctioneers are always fun - "Informal" is the key concept!

We ask that all members bring a food item to the auction to share with fellow members and guests. We suggest that people with an odd number birthday month (Jan., March, May, etc.) bring a savory and people with an even number birthday month (Feb., April, June, etc.) bring a sweet. Paper products, eating utensils, coffee, tea, cider and water will be provided. Please remember: There is no Orchids 101 Meeting the night of the auction! There will not be a Show Table, either. We'll see you there!

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Meeting Minutes	2
2011-2012 Budget	2
President's Corner	2
Show Table	3

## Meeting Minutes for October 3, 2011

The meeting opened with Bill's monologue. We welcomed 2 new members. Tom Nassar, our speaker from Carolina Orchids, generously donated orchids to each of them!!

Bill thanked **Carol Butcher, Molly Weimer,** and **Diane Bernard** for setting up, and tearing down the GROS display in Syracuse.

We now have Auction Chairpersons. **Cheri Dills,** and **Tony Gerardi** have agreed to work with **Jeff Snyder.**

Jeff took a general survey on what types of orchids members would like to have available at the November Auction.

Several suggestions for plants to purchase were: Species, *Brassias*, and miniCatts. They will be purchasing approximately 100 plants. Jeff is also looking for suggestions for growers to purchase from.

Set-up for the Auction will begin at 5:30 p.m., registration begins at 6:00 p.m., and the auction will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Bill thanked **Fran Murphy** for teaching tonight's Beginners Meeting, "When to Repot Your Orchids." We are still looking for volunteers to teach other Beginners Meeting classes.

Bill also announced a request from Wayside Gardens. They are looking to offer a wider variety of orchids, and wondered if any of the local growers would be interested.

**Josh Vince** presented the current Treasurer's report.

The Buffalo Orchid Show is Oct. 14 – 16. We need volunteers to set up the display. Diane Bernard has agreed to tear it down.

We are still in need of a Show Chairman. **Ron Uhlig** has agreed to help with plant registration at the Show.

**Carol Butcher** introduced our guest speaker. Tom Nassar from Carolina Orchids He spoke on his "Favorite Unusual Orchids."

**Jim Marlow** presented the Show Table

(Wow, lots of ribbons from the Syracuse show!) And the meeting was adjourned.

- *Natalie Auburn*  
GROS Secretary

## GROS 2010-2011 Budget Released

Category	Income	Expense	Net
Auction	1800	800	1000
CITES/Phyto (permits)		100	-100
Commission (sales @ meetings)	50		50
Donations		700	-700
Dues	2385		2385
GardenScape	0	0	0
Insurance		500	-500
Legal Expenses (non-profit)		900	-900
Library		200	-200
Newsletter		18	-18
Occupancy		1260	-1260
Office Supplies		200	-200
Picnic		400	-400
Program (Beginner's)		300	-300
Program (Speakers)		3000	-3000
Raffle	500	500	0
Travel (out of town shows)		30	-30
Web Site		75	-75
Show Subtotal	14975	10790	4185
<b>Totals:</b>	19710	19773	-63

## President's Corner

As you know from October's meeting, many GROS' orchids brought home trophies and ribbons from the Syracuse show. Thank you to all the members who had blooming plants available for the show. A big Thank You goes out to Carol Butcher and Molly Weimer for setting up our display at the show and Diane Bernard for taking down the display and bringing our orchids home. As I update this article, Carol is heading to Buffalo to set up the GROS' display for NFOS' show. Over the weekend, Diane will be taking down the display. Another big thank you goes out Carol,

Diane and everyone with blooming plants to share.

We had a great response to our Vote for The Picnic Ballot. Overall, June had more votes than August, but one of the August dates has the second most votes. By popular vote, our picnic will be June 24: June 24<sup>th</sup> had 18 votes, August 19<sup>th</sup> had 15 votes, June 10<sup>th</sup> had 13 votes and August 5<sup>th</sup> had 7 votes. We have reserved a pavilion at Mendon Ponds Park. As the date gets closer we will be looking for a chairperson or a pair of co-chairs to coordinate the picnic. However, if you are interested, you don't have to wait. Just let me know and we will fill in your name.

I feel that GROS has helped me grow my orchid knowledge and I have had non-orchid growers tell me that I am an orchid expert. I always tell them that I am only an intermediate orchid grower. I have a lot more to learn before I can even start to consider myself an expert. Besides, I have not decided what I would like my orchid expertise to be and I have plenty of time and things to learn before I have to decide.

I remember when I decided that I was no longer a beginner orchid grower and I had moved into the intermediate orchid growing arena. It was at a GROS meeting and I was talking with another member. They were talking about the importance of not getting water in the crown to prevent crown rot. I laughed and said "that is not how I kill orchids." I realized that I understood my growing environment and how it impacted the orchids I grew. I could listen to a guest speaker or another GROS member and know how to apply it to my environment.

As a window sill orchid grower with supplemental lights, I find it nearly impossible to find someone who is growing the same orchids in an environment that exactly matches mine - but I can listen to other orchid growers and know how to improve the way I am growing my orchids.

One of the most exciting things about growing orchids is that the adventure is never over. There are always new things to learn and new plants to enjoy.

*Keep Growing,*  
- Bill

## 6 Household Items: How To Improve Your Orchid Growing

**Bamboo Skewers:** These are great for staking bloom spikes on small orchids or helping to stabilize a plant, and my kitchen is always stocked with them. Since they are made for food preparation, I don't have to worry about any harmful things getting into my orchids.

**Wire Hangers:** Wire hangers from the dry cleaner always seem to accumulate. With a pair of pliers and a few minutes, I have rhizome clips custom made to fit the pot I am working with.

**Bleach:** I use a 10% solution of bleach to clean my pots and hydrotron before I reuse them. How long you soak them in the bleach solution is up for debate. The shortest time I saw was 20 minutes, the longest 3 hours. However, if you error on the side of too long instead of too short, you will have a better chance of

nothing harmful making it to your orchids. Don't get to rinse your plastic pots well and soak your clay pots in fresh water before using them.

*(Ed: As a long-time user of Hydroton/Leca/clay pellets, I prefer to soak my used pellets in a solution of 1/2 c. bleach to 5 gallons water for about 1 day. Then, 2 days of soaking in changes of clean water. Before use, I check that the pellets don't retain any odor of bleach. A good resource for clay pellet info is under "Semi-Hydro" at <http://www.firststrays.com>. No one knows more about the use of clay pellet growing media than Ray Barkalow!)*

**Q-tips:** I dip these in hydrogen peroxide and wipe away undesirable critters from my orchids. I find it very satisfying when the peroxide makes a bug turn to foam. The cotton swabs are also good for removing water that accidentally ended up in the crown of a plant during watering.

**Cinnamon:** I was very surprised to find that cinnamon is a natural fungicide that can be used on orchids. Shaking a little cinnamon on

a root broken during repotting can help the root through the healing process. It is important to use pure cinnamon without any additives. **Hydrogen Peroxide:** I have been using hydrogen peroxide to care for my orchids since our newsletter carried an article by Doug Hart. When I am bringing in my orchids in the fall, I use hydrogen peroxide to kill many of the hitch hikers that the orchid medium picked up over the summer. It does not kill 100% of the bad guys but the numbers that do make it into the house is greatly reduced.

You can read Mr. Hart's article at <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Recreation/OrchidSNS/news/04/04maynews.pdf>.

**Old Venetian Blinds:** These can be cut up into labels for your orchids. Molly Weimer shared this recycling tip with me.

Do you have helpful household items that you use and would like to share?

*Keep Growing,  
- Bill*

## OCTOBER SHOW TABLE

### Cypripedium Alliance

*Paph.* Doll's Kobold (*charlesworthii* × *henryanum*)  
*Paph.* Deperle × Chastity  
*Paph.* Janet Kunkle × Willowspring

Weimer  
Pfromm  
Uhlig

### Cattleya Alliance

*Rhyncholaeliocattleya (Rlc.)* Grezaffi-Hill (Joe × Oconee) Wischoff  
*Cattlianthe (Ctt.)* Bactia (*Gur. boweringiana* × *C. guttata*) "  
*Bct.* Hawaiian Treat (*Bc.* Richard Mueller × *Ctt.* Trick or Treat)  
*C.* Brabantiae (*loddigesii* × *aclandiae*) Weimer  
*C. aclandiae* Salzman  
Levy

### Oncidium Alliance

*Ons.* Wildcat (Rustic Bridge × *Onc.* Crowborough [1965]) Renick  
*Pyp.* Butterfly (*sanderae* × *papilio*) Uhlig  
*Orpha. radicans* "

### Vandaceous

*Neost.* Lou Sneary (*Neof. falcata* × *Rhy. coelestis*) Uhlig  
*Phal. bellina* Butcher

### Miscellaneous

*Den.* unknown Galley  
*Ang.* Irene (syn. *Dubia*) (*clowesii* × *uniflora*) Levy  
*Pna. herrerae* "  
*Bif. aureofulva* Uhlig  
*Cym.* Mary Pinchess (*floribundum* × *Pajaro*) Laubisch

**Please note especially all names and abbreviations in boldface, and correct or complete your records.** Once the parents are printed, kindly include them the next time you show the plant.

Also: The names of grexes (orchid hybrids) are never enclosed in quotes. Clone names are enclosed in single quotes only. If there is a year or a name in parentheses or brackets after a grex name, that is a permanent part of the name and is always included.

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

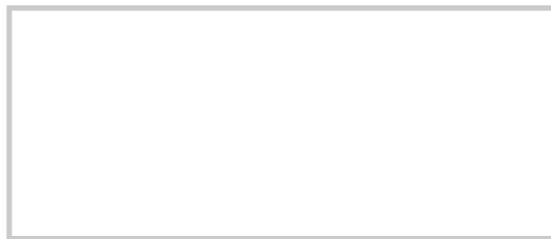
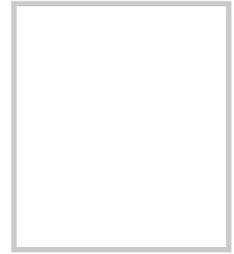
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The Genesee Region Orchid Society (GROS) meets every month from September through May at the Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, NY, on the first Monday following the first Sunday of each month. (Dates sometimes vary due to holidays, 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.