



The Orchid Collection

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

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, NOV. 5, 2012

*“Orchids 101” 6:00 p.m. ❁ Social “Hour” 7:00 - 7:15 p.m. ❁ Meeting begins at 7:15 p.m.
Senior Lounge, Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Ave., Rochester, NY*



Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids

You can avoid that one last evening of those pesky electioneering robocalls and media ads on November 5th by heading out to the JCC to hear our guest Fred Clarke present “Today’s Mini and Compact Cattleyas”. No matter what your personal political proclivity, you’ll find that it will be an evening well spent.

Today’s Mini and Compact growing Cattleyas come in many colors and shapes. Learn about the small growing Cattleya species, the important breeding plants and what hybrids are available for the orchid enthusiast. Fred will also cover the ‘best practices’ for growing these little gems.

A popular speaker on many orchid topics, Fred Clarke lectures nationally and internationally. He is an accredited AOS Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region and an active trustee for the AOS as well. His orchids have received many quality AOS awards, including several “First Class Certificate,” the AOS’ highest award. Developing Cattleya hybrids has been his sustaining interest; he is also actively creating new hybrids in other genera. In fact, after 10 years of work, Fred’s catasetum intergeneric hybrids produced an orchid with the blackest flowers ever witnessed. That plant, of course, is Fredclarkeara “After Dark” which has been awarded eight FCCs thus far.

Fred has been growing orchids for over 34 years and has been hybridizing for 27 of those years. Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery, Sunset Valley Orchids, located in Vista, California, just north of San Diego. His nursery’s website is www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com/ or you can contact him directly at 760-639-6255.

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 or call Fred with your request ASAP. Be sure to identify yourself as a GROS member as he will be speaking to other societies during his New York visit. The last date for preorders is October 30th. The last time Fred was here, his sales table at the meeting was wiped out by our eager members, so be sure to arrive early for the best selection.

Plans are still in the works for taking Fred to dinner on the meeting night - please watch the GROS 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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GROS Members Win Awards At CNYOS Fall Show - 2012

Once again the GROS participated in the Central New York Orchid Society Fall Show and Sale held at picturesque Beaver Lake Nature Center in Baldwinsville NY. This Oct. 6 - 7 show was on the north-west side of Syracuse, a travel-friendly one hour drive from Rochester. Fortunately, the orchids cooperated and thirty beautiful plants in bloom from six GROS members were collected, transported and set up in a display. This was an AOS judged show, and one of the plants in our group was awarded a Certificate of Cultural Merit (CCE) of 92 points, *Gomesa radicans* 'Elise Sage' CCE/AOS, grown by Sandi Uhlig! Many thanks to all who participated in this year's event, and to our host CNYOS. We look forward to seeing the CNYOS members at our GROS event in the Spring of 2013! Following is a complete listing of all awards won by our members at the CNYOS Show.

- Carol Butcher



The GROS exhibit at the October CYNOS Show

Bloomfield Orchids (Joe Kunisch)

Best of Cattleya (D)

Rlc. Creation 'Summer Choice'

Best of Cypripedium Alliance (E)

Phrag. Don Wimber 'Norma'

Best of Vandaceous Alliance (F)

Rnya. Rhtcm. Laddagold × Prra. Luke Thai

Best of Miscellaneous Genera (M)

Cycd. Wine Delight 'Jem' FCC/ACC

Best Hybrid in Show

Rnya. Rhtcm. Laddagold × Prra. Luke Thai

Class 33 Cattleya & intergeneric hybrids, yellow or orange.

1st Eplc. Vocano Trock 'Orange Fire'

Class 36 Cattleya & intergeneric hybrids, blue, splash-petal, and any other color not defined above.

1st Rlc. Creation 'Summer Choice'

Bloomfield Orchids (Joe Kunisch) - cont'd.

Class 40 Paphiopedilum species, Brachypetalum.

1st Paph. godefroyae v. Leucochillum

Class 44 Paph. hybrids, vinicolor or flame.

3rd Paph. Hilo Magic × Hilo Ruby

Class 45 Paph. hybrids, Maudiae type, any other color.

2nd Paph. Hilo Green Tea × Hsinying Citron

Class 53 Phrag. hybrids containing P. besseae.

1st Phrag. Don Wimber 'Norma'

3rd Phrag. Fritz Schomburg

Class 54 Phragmipedium hybrids, any other type.

2nd Phrag. Grande 'Mem. William Schroeder' AM/AOS

Class 64 Vanda & allied genera hybr. & intergen. other than above.

1st Rnya. Rhtcm. Laddagold × Prra. Luke Thai

Class 65 Miniature Vandaceous species & hybrids any plant or growth under 6 inches in height or width, exc.

2nd Neof. falcata syutenno

3rd Neost. Lou Sneary 'Blue Bird'

Class 130 Dendrobium species.

2nd Den. tannii

Class 157 Any other orchid hybrid not covered elsewhere.

1st Cycd. Wine Delight 'Jem' FCC/ACC

Marlow Orchids (Jim Marlow)

Best of Dendrobium Alliance (K)

Dendrobium (Den.) laevifolium

Best of Zygopetalum Alliance (N)

Zygopetalum (Z.) Wilpena

30 Cattleya & allied Class genera species.

2nd Cattleya (C.) maxima 'Picotee'

Class 36 Cattleya & intergeneric hybrids, blue, splash-petal, and any other color not defined above.

2nd Cattleya (C.) C.G. Roebling

Class 42 All other Paph. species, single flowering.

2nd Paphiopedilum (Paph) venustum

Class 44 Paph. hybrids, vinicolor or flame.

1st Paph. Hilo Ruby × Curio

Class 104 Oncidium species, excluding Tolumnia.

1st Rodriguezia (Rdza.) lanceolata

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(CNYOS Awards, from previous page)

Marlow Orchids (Jim Marlow) cont'd.

Class 109 Oncidium alliance hybrids & intergenerics other than above.

3rd Gombrassiltonia (Gbt.) Hilo Ablaze 'Hilo Gold' HCC/AOS

3rd Oncidesa (Oncsa.) Jiuhbao Gold 'Tainan' AM/AOS

Class 130 Dendrobium species.

1st Dendrobium (Den.) laevifolium

2nd Dendrobium (Den.) cuthbertsonii '1'

3rd Dendrobium (Den.) victoria-reginae

Class 136 Miniature Den. alliance species & hybrids any plant or growth under 6 inches in height or width,

1st Dendrobium (Den.) laevifolium

3rd Dendrobium (Den.) cuthbertsonii '1'

Class 151 Masdevallia hybrids & intergenerics.

3rd Masdevallia Marguerite 'Mem. Terry M. Flanigan' AM/AOS

Class 156 Any other orchid species not covered elsewhere.

2nd Stanhopea (Stan.) reichenbachiana

2nd Rodriguezia (Rdza.) lanceolata

Class 161 Zygopetalum hybrids & intergenerics.

1st Zygopetalum (Z.) Wilpena

Class 163 Zygopetalum alliance hybrids & intergenerics other than above (not containing Zygopetalum).

2nd Angulocaste (Angest.) Olympus 'Chad's Ford'



Gomesa radicans 'Elise Sage' CCE/AOS. Grower: Sandi Uhlig

Alan Salzman

Margery & Fred Ummer Memorial Award

Rlc. Andean Treasure 'Paradise'

Alan Salzman - cont'd.

Andy Myers Memorial Award

Phrag. Mont Fallu

Class 32 Cattleya & intergeneric hybrids, pink or lavender.

1st Rlc. Francis Y. Hoshino 'Carteria Ruby'

Class 33 Cattleya & intergeneric hybrids, yellow or orange.

2nd Rlc. Andean Treasure 'Paradise'

Class 45 Paph. hybrids, Maudiae type, any other color.

1st Paph. Clair de Lune 'Edgard Van Belle'

3rd Paph. Mystic Jewel x Oriental Lawrence

Class 46 Paph. hybrids, multiple or successive flowering.

2nd Paph. Sommers Phil

Class 54 Phragmipedium hybrids, any other type.

2nd Phrag. Mont Fallu

Class 60 Angraecoid & related species, hybr., & intergenerics.

1st Angraecum distictum

Class 63 Vanda & allied genera species Class other than above.

2nd Dyakia hendersoniana

Class 101 Miltonia & Miltoniopsis hybrids & intergenerics.

1st Miltoniopsis Lillian Nakamoto 'Tonto'

Class 122 Cymbidium hybrids, miniature or semi-miniature.

2nd Cym. Amazing

Sandi Uhlig

Best of Oncidium Alliance (H)

Gomesa radicans

Best Species in Show

Gomesa radicans

James Rice Memorial Award

Gomesa radicans

Class 65 Miniature Vandaceous species & hybrids any plant or growth under 6 inches in height or width, exc.

1st Neofinetia flacata var. shutennou

Class 108 Oncidium alliance species other than above.

1st *Gomesa radicans*

Class 156 Any other orchid species not covered elsewhere.

3rd Bulb. rothschildianum

Carol Butcher

Best of Phalaenopsis Alliance (G)

Phal. bellina 'Montclair'

AOS Monthly Checklist for November and December

Cattleya

Growers of just about every level of expertise will have begun to notice autumn conditions by now. Days are becoming shorter, hence cooler; the sunlight has less intensity as a result of the sun's lowering angle, nights are longer and generally cooler. Plants are responding by slowing and ripening their growth in preparation for winter.

The first cultural change noticed should be a reduced frequency of watering, as the plants dry out more slowly. This is a function of both the reduced day length and lower temperatures, as well as the plants' slowing growth rate. Reduced water needs signal a reduced need for fertilization. Note that the key word is reduced, not eliminated. Feed less frequently and at lower dosage, but feed. Growths, made during summer's heat, and relatively soft and green, will be ripening - hardening - in preparation for a brief period of rest (in many cases).

Many of these ripening growths will have a sheath, presaging the coming winter or spring flowering season. In some cases, these sheaths will have been evident since as early as July. (Early sheath development does not mean early flowering on plants with winter-spring seasons.) You may notice that some of these sheaths are showing signs of yellowing. This is not abnormal. Autumn's more pronounced temperature fluctuation can lead to water condensation inside the sheath, hastening the normal process of senescence, so yellowing sheaths can be left on the plant only so long before they must be carefully removed to preserve the bud primordia within. Water condensation left unchecked can rot the bud primordia. The sheaths can be safely removed by slitting open and peeling down toward the pseudobulb.

Cool-Growing Orchids

One can almost hear a sigh of relief from all of the cool-growers, from masdevallias to odontoglossums. As day temperatures decline, one can see a noticeable improvement in these plants. Shorter days and lower light levels do not seem to bother them. Repot before winter arrives.

Cymbidium

Finally we begin in earnest the main cymbidium season. *Cymbidium ensifolium* can give some early and fragrant hybrids, but it is now that the bulk of the crop will be flowering. The season lasts for about seven months, adding color to any collection. Miniature varieties will peak for the next three to four months. There are three important things to do: stake inflorescences ramrod straight for best presentation, watch for slugs and snails (especially just after a rain), and fertilize with a mild balanced formula regularly.

Oncidium crispum Complex

This is the season for plants in *Oncidium* section *crispum* from Brazil to shine. Extremely vigorous hybrids come in wide varieties of markings dominated with chestnut and brown and butter yellow. Give plants high light to produce strong upright inflorescences. The pseudobulbs should be plump, so do not let the plants dry out while they are in bloom. Later, plants will enter a dormant period.

Paphiopedilum

The flowering season for the "toads" or "bulldog" paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. Paphiopedilums are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath's rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike.

While paphiopedilums rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease problems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With paphiopedilums, especially, "cleanliness is next to godliness" and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flowers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

Phalaenopsis

Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in phalaenopsis. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our phalaenopsis will not begin to bloom until Valentine's Day at the earliest.

A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a "bloom booster"-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a copper-based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.

Vandaceous Genera

Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules. *Neofinetia falcata* will thrive in cooler temperatures and produce graceful vanilla-scented flowers.

- From the American Orchid Society website, <http://www.aos.org>.
The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.



(CNYOS Awards, from Page 3)

Carol Butcher - cont'd.

Class 53 Phrag. hybrids containing P. besseae.
2nd Phrag. Reruflores Cirilo Alca

Class 70 Phalaenopsis species & former Dor. & allied species.
1st Phal. bellina 'Montclair'

Iris Cohen

Class 46 Paph. hybrids, multiple or successive flowering.
2nd Paphiopedilum (Paph.) Charlene

Class 132 Den. hybrids, phal. & antelope type.
1st Dendrobium (Den.) Baby Pink

Class 136 Miniature Den. alliance species & hybrids any plant or
growth under 6 inches in height or width,
2nd Dendrobium (Den.) Baby Pink

Class 152 Other Pleurothallid species.
2nd Stelis (Ste.) cyripedioides

Diane Bernard

Class 73 Phal. & Dtps. hybrids, white with colored lip.
1st Dtps. Joy Green Bee

Molly Weimer

Class 46 Paph. hybrids, multiple or successive flowering.
3rd Paph. Iantha Stage

Class 101 Miltonia & Miltoniopsis hybrids & intergenerics.
2nd Milt. Unknown



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