



The Orchid Collection

Genesee Region Orchid Society

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*Beginners Meeting 6:30 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

NEXT MEETING: JAN. 8, 2007



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A compot of about 25 small seedlings, 9 months from flask, and about 3 months from potting up. The plants are from a sibling cross of the species *Paph. wardii* var. *album*, "Winchester" x "Owlesbury." Thanks to Bloomfield Orchids for the photo opportunity.

The New Year is here with the promise of wonderful orchid activities to come - even our Spring show doesn't seem all that far off anymore. We hope you've all had a healthy and happy holiday season, and that 2007 will be filled with blooming orchids and good things for you and your families and friends.

We're starting off the New Year with another one of our fabled "hands-on" meetings. Join your fellow GROS members for a session devoted to potting up orchid seedlings from the community pot stage. Ever wonder exactly how orchid seedlings go from flask to the individual pot? Well, they have to live in community pots ("compots") for a while, first. It might seem a bit daunting to move small seedlings on to their own pots, especially if you've never done it before.

If you've never had the opportunity to grow on orchids from small seedlings, this is the perfect way to learn the right way to proceed. Many orchid growers enjoy growing from compots, as they can see (eventually...) the varied results of a hybridizing attempt - and can have a nice group of plants for a relatively small investment. It's really a lot of fun.

Everyone who comes to the "de-compotting" session will take home a freshly potted seedling courtesy of the GROS.

The Show Table will be in attendance, having hastily debarked in the wee hours from a rather brusquely interrupted vacation stay on the Fast Ferry, so make sure that you remember to bring your flowering plants! We'll see you there!

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"Joe Pots" A Local Orchid Product

Did you know that those neat little two-piece plastic compot containers are known pretty widely as "Joe Pots?" I've always referred to them that way, and somewhere along the line I learned that they were named after their inventor, Joe Kunisch. As you probably know, Joe is the proprietor of Bloomfield Orchids in Pittsford. He's one of our most experienced growers and a long time member of the GROS, selling and exhibiting at our annual Spring shows for many years.

You may not know that Joe didn't name the pots after himself. In fact, the moniker "Joe Pot" comes to us from the late Central New York raconteur and orchidist, Jim Rice. Those of you who made frequent trips to Jim Rice Orchids in that cross-roads of the orchid world, Homer, N.Y., can see how Jim might have dreamed up the name.

These handy compots were conceived by Joe about 15 years ago, when he was a hobbyist grower and had not yet started Bloomfield Orchids. The compots are made by a local plastics manufacturer to Joe's specifications; Joe was the owner of that plastics company, many years ago before he sold it. The injection-molded pot bottoms are made from polyethylene, and the plastic domes are made from polycarbonate. Joe designed and produced the compots when he found the various makeshift ways of growing deflasked seedlings in compots not to be very reliable. For those of us in Rochester, getting "Joe Pots" is pretty simple - just call Joe! They're not especially expensive, and can be cleaned and used over and over again. If you plan on deflasking seedlings, using these pots makes the work go quickly and starts your plants off right.

- Phil Matt



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Growing Phrags

Phragmipedium ("Phrags") is a genus of orchids native to South America and resemble *Paphiopedilums* in flower form and plant habit. Phrags grow naturally in humid, boggy environments in fast draining media. They require medium high light and good air movement. Flowers can last 2 to 2½ weeks before dropping while still fresh. Plants in the *caudatum* alliance tend to open almost simultaneously while other Phrags bloom sequentially and can last in bloom for many months; some even up to a year. In order to meet Phrag growing requirements in greenhouse or home culture, the following methods will encourage your Phrags to be fast-growing and early flowering.

Water & Fertilizer:

Phrags are bog-type plants. Water daily if possible especially in summer. Phrags are very sensitive to water quality so RO, or collected rainwater is best to which a small amount of fertilizer ($\frac{1}{16}$ teaspoon/gallon) is added. MSU fertilizer along with a few drops of Superthrive® can be used. Flush the plants once a week with clear water. We add earth-

worm castings to the surface of the media at a rate of 1T. per 4" pot and refresh every 3 months to provide additional trace elements.

Potting Media:

A good potting mix is one that is fast draining. Our phrag mix contains 6 parts of medium fir bark to one part each of medium charcoal, medium sponge roc, medium lava rock (red) and ½ part tree fern. Some growers have experimented using expanded clay pellets or medium grade Diatomite, or other inert ingredients with good success.

Light and Temperature:

Most Phrags are light lovers. They thrive in conditions similar to *Cattleya* but with slightly less light. *Phrags. besseae, schlimii* and *pearcei* prefer lightly shaded conditions. They can tolerate brief periods of higher temperature but they are more comfortable with winter tem-

perature in the 70's and summer temperature in the lower 80's. Night temperature in the lower 60's is best. Good air movement is a must with fans running 24/7 to keep the foliage dry. Phrag hybrids are much more tolerant of off conditions and will thrive in environments outside of those which the species require.

Phrags in water containers:

Because of their high water requirements Phrags can be grown in hydroponic containers or in saucers of water. Joe Kunisch of Bloomfield Orchids has experimented with a semi-hydroponic method using expanded clay pellets in plastic cups to provide a constant water source. Water is applied directly into the hydroponic media allowing the water-fertilizer solution to drain through holes at the base of the container. Fresh fertilizer/water is applied daily or every other day using very low concentrations of water/fertilizer. He discards water collected in the saucer/ cup weekly to keep the entire system fresh.

Other Tips:

Phrags resist a stale mix. Because they are watered daily the mix will begin to break down in less than a year, if using organic media. Therefore we recommend repotting adult plants every 12 months and seedlings and younger plants every 6 months. Do not mist or water the leaves as Phrags can be prone to rot if water lodges in the lower leaves. A leaf with a light brown soft rot should be removed immediately and the plant dusted with a systemic fungicide. Home remedies such as cinnamon mixed with Elmer's glue can be painted onto the infected area. This remedy was first suggested to us by Dody Ellenberger of Ellenberger's Orchid Eden. When used at the onset of symptoms this has saved many plants over the years!

- Jim Marlow

Kudos to Party Folks

Many thanks to all the people who brought desserts to the December Holiday Party. The edibles were beautiful as well as delicious! My thanks to Jeanne Kaeding and Kim Hober for their help in setting things up at the JCC, for taking down afterwards, and for keeping things going smoothly. Also, thanks to Jeff Snyder for ordering the raffle plants from CalOrchids, and to Bob Wyman, who added some plants of his own to the raffle. A great time was had by all!

- Dwaine Levy

NOVEMBER SHOW TABLE

Please note especially all names and abbreviations in boldface, and correct or complete your records, including parentage and new registrations. Next time you present this plant, kindly include the name and parents.

Cypripedium Alliance

<i>Paph.</i> Dianita × <i>victoria-regina</i>	Murphy
<i>Paph.</i> Wilma Wilson (<i>gratrixianum</i> × <i>fairrieianum</i>)	"
<i>Paph. insigne</i>	"
<i>Paph.</i> Leyburnense (<i>charlesworthii</i> × T. B. Haywood)	"
<i>Paph.</i> Red Gratrix (<i>gratrixianum</i> × Maudiae)	Heerkens

Cattleya Alliance

<i>C.</i> Kenneth Sherouse (Angelwalker × Fred Cole)	Murphy
Blc. Moon glow × <i>C. forbesii</i>	"
<i>C.</i> Arctic Star (Claesiana × Fred Cole)	"
<i>C.</i> Marjorie Hausermann (Henrietta Japhet × Ethel Leder)	"
<i>Lc.</i> George Baldwin (Princess Margaret × <i>C. Enid</i>)	"
<i>Lc.</i> Dorothy Warne (<i>C. Milton</i> Warne × <i>Lc. Jane</i> Warne)	"
<i>C.</i> Mark Jones (Caudebec × Fascelis)	Levy
<i>Blc.</i> Greenwich (<i>Lc. Ann</i> Follis × <i>Blc. Lester</i> McDonald)	Wyman
<i>S. cernua</i>	"
Lc. Sheila Lauterbach (Barbosa Rodrigues × Semaphore)	Wischoff
<i>Blc.</i> Amy Wakasugi (<i>Lc. Bonanza</i> × <i>Blc. Herons</i> Ghyll)	"
<i>S. coccinea</i>	Buggie
<i>Blc.</i> Mari's Glory (<i>Lc. Mari's</i> Song × <i>Bl. Morning</i> Glory)	Hober
<i>Lc.</i> unknown	Espinosa-Barone

Vandaceous

<i>Mkra.</i> Jairak Gold (Sayan × <i>Ascda.</i> Fuchs Gold)	Murphy
<i>V. Diana</i> × Thananchaisand	"
<i>Mkra.</i> Golden Tommy (Sayan × <i>V. Kultana</i> Gold)	"
<i>Ascda.</i> Dong Tarn (Medasand × Elieen Beauty)	Wemett
<i>Dtps.</i> Queen Beer (<i>Phal. pulcherrima</i> × Meteor)	Hawryshkiw
<i>Ascda.</i> Suksamran Sunlight (Jiraprapa × Pralor)	Hober

Oncidium Alliance

<i>Milt.</i> Earl Dunn (Goodale Moir × Minas Gerails)	Murphy
<i>Onc.</i> Rosy Sunset (Pupukea Sunset × <i>ornithorhynchum</i>)	Gillette

Cymbidium

<i>Cym.</i> Peter Pan (<i>ensifolium</i> × Miretta)	Murphy
<i>Cym.</i> Amazing* (<i>ensifolium</i> × <i>erythrostylum</i>)	"
<i>Cym.</i> Sue × Red Beauty†	Wemett
<i>Cym.</i> Pipeta (<i>floribundum</i> × Spartan Queen)	Hober

Dendrobium

<i>Den.</i> Jaq-Hawaii (Neo-Hawaii × Jaquelyn Thomas)	Kaczynski
<i>Den.</i> Blue Violetta (Little Lilac × Udom Blue Angel)	"
<i>Den.</i> Manoa Sunrise (Manoa Ruby × Jaquelyn Concert)	"

Miscellaneous

<i>Masd.</i> Snow Cone (<i>rex</i> × <i>glandulosa</i>)	Espinosa-Barone
<i>Zygotum</i> Louisendorf‡ (<i>Zspm. labiosum</i> × <i>Z. Artur</i> Elle)	"

<i>Max. desvauxiana</i>	Levy
<i>Pna. herrerae</i>	"
<i>Lyc.</i> Shoalhaven (<i>skinneri</i> × Koolena)	Bloomfield
Unknown	Gonzalez
Unknown°	Myers

*This hybrid was registered in 2004 by our good friend John Dunkelberger.

†This is an unregistered hybrid. 'Rudolph's Nose' is a clone name.

‡'Rhein Harlekin' is a clone name.

°Please always include the genus name on your show table slip.

DECEMBER SHOW TABLE**Cypripedium Alliance**

<i>Paph.</i> LSF Prime Peridot (Jolly Green Gem × Green Mystery)	Kaeding
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Cattleya Alliance

<i>Bc.</i> Mount Hood (Déesse × <i>C. Claris</i>)	Kluge
<i>Blc.</i> Fortune × George King	Wyman
<i>Pot.</i> Jimmy Cook (Frank Gilmore × <i>Blc. George</i> King)"	"
Unknown	"

Vandaceous

<i>Neost.</i> Lou Sneary (<i>Neof. falcata</i> × <i>Rhy. coelestis</i>)	Hober
Unknown*	Wischoff
<i>Neost.</i> Lou Sneary	"

Oncidium Alliance

<i>Onc.</i> Lemon Heart (Sum Lai Woh × <i>concolor</i>)	Kaeding
<i>Onc.</i> Twinkle (<i>cheirophorum</i> × <i>ornithorhynchum</i>)	Hober

Cymbidium

<i>Cym.</i> Bob Quick (Golden Elf × Rincon)	Kaeding
<i>Cym. erythrostylum</i>	"

Dendrobium

<i>Den. sulawesiense</i>	Espinosa-Barone
<i>Den.</i> unknown	Gaynor
<i>Den.</i> Kokomo (Ise × Kurenai)	Hober

Miscellaneous

<i>Lyc.</i> Lucianii (<i>lasioglossa</i> × <i>skinneri</i>)	Kaeding
Unknown, 2 plants	Gaynor
<i>Drac. tubeana</i>	Wischoff

*Nothing could be found resembling this name. Please check your records and contact your supplier.

- Iris Cohen

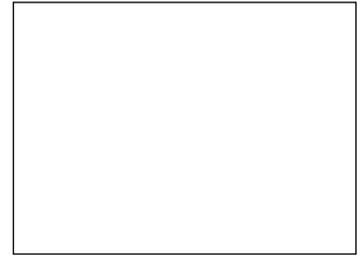
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The Genesee Region Orchid Society (GROS) meets every month from September through May at the Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, NY, on the first Monday following the first Sunday of each month. (Dates sometimes vary due to holidays,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

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GROS Spring Show
March 29 - April 1
2007
save the dates!