



The Orchid Collection

Vol. 40, No. 7 - March, 2020

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

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 2, 2020

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



Jeanne Kaeding in her greenhouse

Spring is almost here! Get out of your winter hibernation mode and join us in March as our own Jeanne Kaeding presents “Encyclia: My Continuing Education on a Genus I Love.” Jeanne’s interest in hybridizing Encyclias is reflected in her education, experiences and preliminary hybridizing results with this curious genus. (These days, depending on who you talk to, Encyclia includes 147 - or 170 - different species.) Jeanne is past-president of the GROS, an accredited AOS judge, and an active orchid hybridizer and grower. She has been a member of the GROS for many years.

Jeanne has been growing orchids since about 1977 when she bought a \$4.00 Cattleya seedling from a Gurney Seed catalogue. Since then her hobby has expanded into building a greenhouse, making her own hybrids, flasking orchid seed, and becoming a American Orchid Society orchid judge.

Encyclia is, according to the American Orchid Society – and they should know – “a genus of epiphytic orchids, segregated from Epidendrum, described by Hooker in 1828 establishing Encyclia viridiflora as the type species. Since that time, the number of species in this genus, Epidendrum and a number of other genera segregated from Epidendrum at various times, has varied dramatically. In 1997, Higgins established the genus

Prosthechea, moving many former Encyclia species in a further attempt to classify this group. Over time, there will likely be other changes as well. Encyclias are extremely variable and range in size from 2 inch plants up to pseudobulbs the size of softballs with leaves 2 feet or more in length. In spite of this variability, they all share the common feature of a lip that, while not fused to the column, more or less enfolds it. The name Encyclia is derived from the Greek word *enkyklein*, which refers to the lip encircling the column.”

Since Jeanne will not be bringing plants to sell, members are free to bring in their own orchids for sale or trade. It doesn’t look like there is going to be a pre-meeting dinner, but please check the website for last minute scheduling.

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 Meeting Minutes Feb. 36, 2020

President Fran Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm and thanked those who brought snacks.

Fran proposed a donation to the American Orchid Society in memory of long-time member Anna Greene. Jeanne Kaeding proposed \$50.00. Margery Greene seconded. The donation was approved. Jeanne suggested a condolence letter be sent to Barbara Greene. Margery Greene advised she would do what she did with the cover letter for the donation in memory of Joe Kunisch, where a copy was sent to Norma. Similarly, a copy of the cover letter for the donation in Anna's memory will go to Barbara.

Last month's minutes as they appeared in the most recent newsletter were approved.

Austin Miller will assist in next month's beginner's meeting presentation of Paphiopedilums.

Jonathan Jones confirmed that as a non-profit GROS will get free space at Gardenscape.

Treasurer Susan Ackerman reported our bank balance is \$20,151.

Fran asked for someone to sell raffle tickets for this meeting. Natalie Auburn took on the task.

Jonathan Jones gave a show update. Kelly's Korner as a conflict with the New Hampshire show and will not come. Marlow's will bring some potting medium and fertilizer to their sales table. Confirmed vendors are Cloud's, Helen Hersh, Main Street Orchids and Marlow Orchids. J&L had indicated they would come, but have not yet sent in their reservation deposit.

Volunteers are still needed. Diane Bernard would like someone to apprentice to learn the job with a view to taking over the Judges breakfast Friday morning of the show at 7:30. Two helpers are also needed.

Sign-up sheets for repotting demonstrations, set-up and tear-down and judging/clerking were placed on the back table for people to

volunteer. Judging and clerking take place Friday morning.

At the March meeting there will be the sign-up list for show hospitality, and Phil Matt will have the sign-up list for the Member Sales Table.

Fran asked for a show of hands for people to participate in Gardenscape Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday two weeks prior to the GROS show, with set-up Wednesday, March 11th. Over half those present raised their hands. Someone is needed to coordinate the time slots for each day, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Carol Butcher volunteered to help with set-up Wednesday.

Jonathan advised that postcards and emails for our show will start going out. Jonathan and John Kellas will address the postcards. The event is going up on Facebook this week.

Phil Matt has posted show plant registration information on our website. Registration closed Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Plants for the GROS exhibit must be in by noon to 1 p.m. and should be pre-registered. If someone has plants to include and cannot bring them Thursday morning, they should contact Jeanne Kaeding or Fran Murphy to arrange to drop off the plants Tuesday evening at their respective greenhouses.

The Awards Dinner Chairman, Joe Jurenko, will have sheets for names next month.

Phil Matt demonstrated a foldable bag with a logo that he received as a promotional item and suggested perhaps having some made up with the GROS logo as prizes and/or perhaps welcome gifts to new members. However they are \$6 each, which others present felt was steep. [As an aside, these same bags are now in Wegmans with no logo at \$3.99 each.]

Noel Krzesinski spoke about the Dutch Connection at Eastman House, which will open to the public February 14. Plants for the exhibit should be labeled with plant name and lender name, and dropped off at the Eastman Security entrance between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. February 11-13. They should be handed to Dan or whomever he designates at the time you get there. Unlike in past years, Noel will not be there. Plant pick up will be March

2, 2020 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Carol Butcher urged people lending plants to dress them up with nice pots. Noel will bring Eastman House GROS show postcards for visitors to take.

Jonathan Jones then motioned to close the business meeting, and Natalie Auburn seconded. Business meeting closed.

Carol Butcher then introduced Peter Tobias of the Orchid Conservation Alliance, who presented a program about that organization's work. The GROS has been donating to the OCA for the last few years.

After the program, we had the raffle, and Austin Miller and Fran Murphy presented the show table.

- Margery Greene
GROS Secretary

MARCH: The Month of Snow Flowers

Step Into Spring and Enjoy a New Growing Season

SLEET, SNOW, HAIL, FREEZING RAIN and wintry mixes dominate the weather reports this month, making for treacherous travel. We leave our abodes and workplaces each day at our peril, usually only to perform or acquire the bare necessities. Perhaps it was Freudian, or just wishful thinking on his part, but my local news weatherman, obviously tired of delivering bad news all month, floundered a bit while trying to describe today's forecast. The teleprompter may have read "snow flurries and rain showers" but our man instead predicted "snow flowers." I laughed and looked out the window, but the only flowers to be seen were inside on a phalaenopsis. Perhaps he's an orchid grower too, because that is exactly what March brings us each year: A glorious array of orchid flowers.

Coincidentally, even though February is the month where we humans reveal our affection for each other on Valentine's Day with orchids and other flowers, we needn't restrict ourselves and should continue such loving gestures through the year. The gift of an orchid is an unmistakable sign of passion and

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affirmation (unless you're giving one of those stinky bulbophyllums). Even those orchids might be appropriate gifts for your boss, or someone you've divorced.

SOMETHING'S COMING The air is humming, and spring is dangling in the air as the weather starts to change. Crocus and daffodils are opening outside, harbingers of the wonders of spring about to burgeon forth. As the days elongate and the sun rises higher each successive date, the action begins inside. Plants such as catasetums and dendrobiums, left dry most of the winter, are starting to produce new roots, and while it's a bit early still, repotting and renewed watering are imminent. This is true of many other orchids, including cattleyas, cymbidiums and phalaenopsis hybrids that you should prepare for the onslaught of spring repotting that is about to begin. Be ahead of the game and get fresh potting supplies — pots, potting mix, wire products and fertilizer — so you'll be able to attend to plants as they need attention.

PRETTY AND PERKY Even though most orchids are at the starting gates ready to

produce next year's growths, many are still in glorious bloom. Luckily, there are orchid exhibits throughout the spring to show off these beauties. However, once exhibited, you may want to remove those old inflorescences (unless you've made seed capsules on them). Spike production and flowering is energetically hard on plants, and the removal of the inflorescences will divert energy toward the new growths, so important for future flowering and the orchids overall health and longevity. Always use a sterilized blade whenever excising spikes or leaves to prevent the spread of viruses from plant to plant.

SCOUT FOR INTRUDERS With the advent of new growths and senescence of flowers come some unwanted parasites. This is a prime month for aphids to appear on new growths of pleurothallids and old oncidium inflorescences. Mealybugs are sometimes found on the backs of phalaenopsis flowers and the undersides of their leaves, where these insects are less likely to be washed away by the watering hose. Safer Soap or Sunspray Oil applications are usually adequate to quell small infestations of these soft-bodied insects, but be vigilant. These innocuous creatures are insidious and, if allowed to travel from plant to plant,

with their sucking mouthparts are also implicated in the spread of viruses.

TAKING STOCK As plants come out of dormancy, you may want to move them to more accessible spots in your growing area. In the autumn, dormant plants were rightly moved to areas where they'd be less likely to be struck by stray sweeps of the hose. Now, some of those plants, such as habernarias and galeandras, will need to be in the forefront of your collection so they are not forgotten or ignored as they come out of dormancy. This is also a good time to consider which plants performed well in the past year. With so many new species and hybrids available, culling your collection to make room for something new keeps your orchid growing fresh and exciting, plus the donation of plants to an auction table may encourage and inspire a new orchid grower to enter the astounding world of orchids.

- by Thomas Miranda

(As pertinent now, as it was then - Reprinted with permission ORCHIDS VOL. 78, NO.3, MARCH 2009)

Genesee Region Orchid Society Officers 2019-2020

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The Orchid Collection is a publication of the Genesee Region Orchid Society. It is published ten times per year for our members. Annual single membership is \$20.00, annual family membership is \$25.00

Dues should be sent to the GROS at P.O. Box 20606, Rochester, N.Y. 14602.

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February 2020 Show Table

Plant	Genus Synonym (name in horticultural use)	seed parent	pollen parent	grower
Cattleya Alliance				
Cattleya (C.) Circle of Life 'Passion Flower'	Sophrolaeliocattleya (Slc.)	Culminant	coccinea	Natalie Auburn
Cattleya Supersonic 'Striking Lip'	Sophrolaeliocattleya (Slc.)	Little Oliver	purpurata	Fran Murphy
Cattlianthe (Ctt.) Fairyland	Sophrocattleya (Sc.)	Cattlianthe Candy Tuft	Cattleya Beaufort	Claire Cordero
Epicanthe (Ett.) Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall'	Epilaeliocattleya (Eplc.)	Cattlianthe Trick or Treat	Epidendrum magnoliae	Natalie Auburn
Epidendrum (Epi.) marmoratum				Austin Miller
Rhyncattleanthe (Rth.) Momilani Rainbow Waldor	Brassolaeliocattleya (Blc.)	Cattleya Mari's Song	Rhyncattleanthe Orange Nugget	Sue Ackerman
Rhyncattleanthe unnamed cross	Brassolaeliocattleya (Blc.)	Rhyncattleanthe Ka-boom 'SVO'	Rhyncattleanthe Love Sound 'Dogashima' AM/AOS	Diane Bernard
Rhyncholaeliocattleya (Rlc.) Walnita Char 'Big Red'	Potinara (Pot.)	Edisto	Miya's Radiance	Fran Murphy
Cypripedium Alliance				
Paphiopedilum (Paph.) barbatum var. nigratum 'Pygmy'				Diane Bernard
Paphiopedilum godefroyae forma album				Diane Bernard
Cymbidium Alliance				
Cymbidium (Cym.) Banana Split 'Leon's Gift'		erythrostylum	tigrinum	Susan Ackerman
Dendrobium Alliance				
Dendrobium (Den.) trinervium				Austin Miller
Oncidium Alliance				
Oncidopsis (Oip.) Nelly Isler 'Swiss Beauty'	Kunthara (Knt.) or Burrageara (Burr.)	Oncidopsis Stefan Isler	Miltoniopsis (Mps.) Kensington	Joe Jurenko
Vandaceous				
Papilionanda (Pda.) unnamed cross		Papilionanda Mevr. L. Velthuis	Vanda Bitz's Heart-throb	Fran Murphy
Phalaenopsis (Phal.) japonica	Sedirea (Sed.) japonica			Joe Galley
Vanda (V.) miniata	Ascocentrum (Asctm.) miniatum			Diane Bernard
Miscellaneous				
Galeandra baueri				John Kellas
Maxillaria (Max.) sanguinea				Diane Bernard
Platystele (Pls.) aurea	Pleurothallis (Pths.) rubella			Diane Bernard
Notes				
Corrections are in bold. Correct genus abbreviation in parentheses after first appearance. 'RHS' = Royal Horticultural Society (official hybrid registrar)				

- Margery Greene

Member Sales Table

If you are planning to sell plants at the Show on our Member Sales Table, be sure to pick up your paperwork at the March meeting from Phil Matt. If you can't make the meeting, the forms will be available on the website shortly.