



The Orchid Collection

Vol. 47, No. 1 - Sept.-Oct. 2026

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

Affiliated Society:
The American Orchid Society
The Orchid Digest

NEXT MEETING: October 5, 2026

Beginners' Meeting 5:30 p.m.

Social "Hour" 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. * Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Louis S. Wolk Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Ave., Rochester, NY

There's definitely a twinge of Fall weather in the air. And although it might seem too soon, our 2026-2027 orchid season is off to a great start with our first in-person meeting already upon us.

We'll welcome Edgar Stehli of Windswept in Time Orchids – a fixture at our annual Spring shows – as he presents "Angraecoids." In the orchid world, we often combine related genera of orchids into a larger grouping, called an Alliance. In the Case of Angraecum, Aerangis, Eurychone, and several other genera, that group is often referred to as the Angraecoid Alliance. Angraecoids are predominantly found in Africa and Madagascar. We will cover some of the distinctions between different species, and will see photos of many of the more commonly grown genera. There will be cultural information as well.



Edgar's interest in orchids began when he was just six or seven years old. He found a plant growing in the roadside ditch near his house in northeast Ohio. When his father got home from work, he dragged him over to see the discovery. He said "Oh! That's an orchid." That first orchid find was a common *Spiranthes* species (most likely *cernua*).

In 1999 he began selling plants to area florists, then through the orchid shows. He and his wife Kim called their new business Windswept in Time Orchids; they now attend close to fifteen shows a year. Their plants and exhibits have won numerous awards, including AMs, FCCs, CCE's, and of course, many AOS show trophies.

The doors open at the JCC at 6:00 p.m., and the meeting will get under way at 6:30 p.m., as usual. Bill Renick will host the Beginners Meeting in the JCC Library at 5:30 p.m. Since Edgar will be selling plants, you might want to arrive early for the best selection. Don't forget to bring in your own flowering plants for the Show Table.

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We'll see you there!

GROS Meeting Minutes for Sept. 8, 2026

22 members viewing by zoom. Guest speaker:
Matthias Seelis - Cattleya Culture

Austin Miller opened the meeting by welcoming us back for the 2026-2027 season. Unfortunately our opening meeting had to be by Zoom. We have had difficulties with our meeting schedule at the JCC. October 5 will be our first meeting in person. Bill Renick will be back to lead the beginners meeting again this year.

The auction will be on October 17, Kim, Bill and Austin are working on it. They are talking about having fewer plants, some non live orchid products and are making some other changes. We need volunteers for helping with the cash table, auctioneer, and a few runners. Austin will get sign up Genius set up for it. Details will be coming soon. We have had a good growing season this summer. With the amount of rain we have received, be on the lookout for fungal issues.

We did not have a quorum present tonight (It requires 20% of the members) so we did not have any formal business. Judy Ekberg will present the budget at the October meeting. We also have 2 bylaw Proposals to be voted on at the October meeting:

Proposal 1 (Judy) To change from Article 7 Section 2 a shift in the financial handover dates from July 1-15 to July 15-31. The purpose is to allow financial records to arrive after the June 30 fiscal year end report.

Proposal 2 (Natalie) Remove from our current bylaws: Article 6- Sales at meetings. Section 5 that says: "Except for members who are the speaker, all members will submit 15% of their sales revenue to the Society except at the annual picnic when the 15% commission is waived for members."

Some other dates to keep in mind:

- Sept. 14- show committee meeting
- Oct. 5 - meeting in person at the JCC
- Nov. 6-8 - Buffalo Niagara Frontier

Orchid Show (set up 6 teardown is the 8th)

- April 8-11 GROS 51st show.

Noel introduced our speaker Matthias Seelis. He gave a wonderful presentation on Cattleya Culture.

- Natalie Auburn



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.

You can also join online at our website:
<https://www.geneseeorchid.org>

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**IT'S
TIME
TO PAY
YOUR
DUES!**

As our first in-person meeting for the 2026-2027 season is at hand, it's a good time to renew your GROS dues for the year. You can hand a check to our Treasurer, Judy Ekberg at the October 5 meeting, mail it in, or pay with your PayPal/credit card - securely - at the meeting or on the website. Why wait? As you probably know, annual dues are just \$20 for individuals, \$25 for families. No inflation there! Do it now so you won't forget! After all, orchids sometimes grow on trees = but orchid club finances generally don't!

Genesee Region Orchid Society Officers 2026-2027

President	Austin Miller	pres@geneseeorchid.org
Executive VP	Jean Marie Mangione	veep@geneseeorchid.org
Program VP	Noel Krzesinski	prog@geneseeorchid.org
Treasurer	Judy Ekberg	treas@geneseeorchid.org
Secretary	Natalie Auburn	sec@geneseeorchid.org
Member-at-Large	Carla Falkson	matlarge@geneseeorchid.org

GROS Committee Chairpersons 2026-2027

AOS & ODC Rep.	Diane Bernard	aosrep@geneseeorchid.org
Auction		
Education	<open>	
Community Outreach	Dave Weiss	
Monroe Cty. Liaison	David Hayes	monroe2@geneseeorchid.org
Newsletter	Phil Matt	webnews@geneseeorchid.org
Nominating	<open>	
Property	(Exec. VP)	
Raffle	<open>	
Show 2026	Kim Hober/Bill Renick	show2026@geneseeorchid.org
Social	<open>	
Sonnenberg Liaison	Fran Murphy	
Webmaster	Phil Matt	webnews@geneseeorchid.org

Proposed Changes to the GROS By-Laws (to be voted on at the October meeting)

Article 7 - Finances

Section 2

The newly appointed Auditing Committee shall receive the Society's financial records for auditing purposes by July 1. The audit is to be completed by July 15, at which time the report shall be presented to the new President, and the new Treasurer will receive the books and a copy of the report.

change to:

The newly appointed Auditing Committee shall receive the Society's financial records for auditing purposes by July 15. The audit is to be completed by July 31, at which time the report shall be presented to the new President, and the new Treasurer will receive the books and a copy of the report.

Article 6 - Sales at Meetings

Section 5

Except for members who are the speaker, all members will submit 15% of their sales revenue to the Society except at the annual picnic when the 15% commission is waived for members.

change to: (remove)

September Meeting with Matthias Seelis

Our new orchid season kicked off on September 8th with a Zoom meeting featuring Matthias Seelis, proprietor of Shogun Hawaii, a/k/a/ cattleyaorchidshawaii.com. He spoke on "Cattleya Culture from Flask to Finished Product"

Matthias was born in Germany and moved to the US in 1996. He resides on the big island of Hawaii - Hilo side, since 2005 on a 6 acre farm close to Kilauea volcano.

The farm produces mainly Cattleya species, hybrids and mini Cattleya but also grows Catasetum Bulbophyllum and Stanhopea in the repertoire. Matthias has been lucky to receive many AOS quality award as well as growers awards on top of five national awards for his plants. Cattleya are for sure his passion especially Cattleya Lueddemanniana.

He gave a Zoom presentation that displayed all stages of Cattleya development, including many large specimen plants.

Matthias also generously gave our members the opportunity to purchase plants from his greenhouses at a 20% discount for any order with a minimum of \$100.



*Matthias Seelis in his greenhouse with a specimen plant of
Cattleya purpurata Schusteriana*