

Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter

Miniature Dendrobiums February 14, 2010

Our own Alex Challis will be giving a presentation about Miniature Dendrobiums on Sunday, February 14 at MBG. Alex is a Botany graduate of University of Michigan. He is an orchid judge, and can frequently be found selling orchids with Rob Halgren.

Dendrobium is a large genus of orchids with about 1000 species. The plants are native to many areas of the Eastern Hemisphere: from India, throughout SE Asia and the South Pacific Islands, north to Japan and east to Australia. They can be found from

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Festival Volunteers Needed!

Our 2010 Orchid Festival is only 2 months away. Now is the time to step up and volunteer some of your time. Even an hour will be of great help. We will have sign-up sheets for the following at our next 2 meetings.

AAOS Display

We need all sorts of help with our own display, and of course would love to have your blooming orchids presented. You can bring your orchids ahead of time to Matthaei Thursday evening, April 15 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Auditorium. If you bring your plants on Friday, please get them there by 2 pm.

Clerking

We need clerks to help with ribbon judging. Saturday morning at 8 am until about 11:30 am.

Festival Helpers

The Orchid Festival needs a lot of helpers to have it run smoothly from start to finish. If you have one or two hours to spare over the course of the weekend of our show, please help! People will be needed from mid-morning on Friday through the Sun-

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January Meeting, cont.

hot sea-level environments to cool alpine regions. Plant size ranges from tiny plants to those with very tall cane types. Some are evergreen while others lose their leaves in dry seasons. Flowers come in all colors, some with various markings, may be fragrant, can last from one day to several months, and have unusual shapes and forms.

The talk will focus on the smaller species & hybrids now available. There will be a number of Dendrobium species and hybrids for sale.

Festival Volunteers, continued.

day tear-down of the displays and clean-up.

Food

We will have 3 main meals as well as having food around the whole weekend for vendors and volunteers.

Trophy Sponsors

Our Best of Class and other trophies are from Calypso Art Glass. If you would like you may sponsor or even co-sponsor a trophy for our show. Please pay when you sign up. \$25 for a full sponsor, \$12.50 for co-sponsor.

AAOS Festival

Our 15th annual Orchid Festival will be held at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens April 17 & 18.

Set up is Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. We will have a potluck dinner around 6 p.m. for exhibitors and festival volunteers.

Show hours for exhibits:

Saturday noon to 4:30 pm

Sunday 10 am to 4:30 pm

Plant sales are open from 10 am to 4:30 pm both days.

Orchid displays, educational displays, artwork and arrangements with orchid flowers will be in the auditorium.

Orchid plants for sale will be in room 125 (west end of the building) and in the west lobby.

Demonstrations and talks on popular orchid genera and topics will be held in room 139.



AAOS Calendar



February 14: Alex Challis; Miniature Dendrobiums

March 14: Rob Halgren, Teacup Paphiopedilums

April 16-18, AAOS FESTIVAL

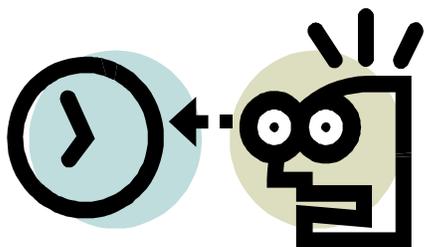
May, 16: Orchid Workshops

June: Judging seminar: Dendrobiums

September 19 - tentative - Ray Barkalow, First Ray's Orchids on Semi-hydroponic Orchid Culture

October 10 - Dawn Schlote - The Weird & The Wonderful

November 21 - Brenda Oviatt, Angraecoid Orchids



Newsletter Deadline

The next Newsletter deadline is March 6, 2010. Please contribute any orchid related articles to Denise Nash at djnash@comcast.net

Ann Arbor Orchid Society 2010 Officers

President - Alex Challis 734-971-6186, IcePenguin@aol.com

Vice President - Vivian Lin, 734-741-1984, VHL@umich.edu

Treasurer - Linda Battison 810-227-0120, lcbattison@comcast.net

Secretary - Robin Johnson 734-482-6416, robinjo@umich.edu

Director - Bob Desoff 734-323-9729 r.desoff@ieee.org

Director - April Pedit, 734-528-1860 apedit@mac.com

Past President - Paige Hartman 734-864-3718 GEHartman1@msn.com

Hospitality Queen: Riki Marquis 248-486-1540 marquisdj@juno.com, and Vivian Lin

Reception Committee - Dottie Winter, 734-761-5859, harwin@umich.edu

Library - Duane Duman, George Parks. duman2@aol.com

Membership - Randy Long, 810-599-0384, Boomerj2@aol.com

Newsletter Editor - Denise Nash, 248-349-5482, djnash@comcast.net

Orchid Festival - ? *We **Need your help!!!!***

Orchid Shows - Alex Challis, Paige Hartman

Programs - Paige Hartman, Alex Challis

Publicity - Neal Foster

Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter - The AAOS meets monthly from September through May (excluding December) at the University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI. at 2:00 p.m., set up at 1:30. The AAOS Newsletter is published 8-9 times throughout the year, and is sent to all AAOS members. AAOS members and others are invited to submit articles or other information relating to orchids. The Ann Arbor Orchid Society is a 501(C)(3) educational and scientific organization, affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Mid-America Orchid Congress, and with the Orchid Digest Corporation.

Orchid Volunteering at Matthaei Botanical Gardens

All members of the AAOS are invited to join the group of their fellow members in doing volunteer work with the orchid collection at MBG. About once a month, from 10 am to about 1pm, volunteers gather in the work corridor at the gardens to work on repotting, cleaning, staking, and otherwise caring for the approximately 500 orchids in the MBG collection. The work is supervised by long-time AAOS member Connie Crancer, who is the horticulturist at MBG in charge of the orchid collection. Several society members have been doing this work for over a year now, but it's not an exclusive club. The next work session is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 13, at 10 am. About half-way through the work session, we usually break for tea and snacks. If you'd like to come and help, please call or e-mail Harry or Dottie Winter (734 761-5859; harwin@umich.edu); if you can't come in February, but would like to receive e-mails about future work session, e-mail Harry to be put on the list.

After February, tentative dates for work sessions this year are: March 13, May 1, May 29, July 3, August 7, September 11, October 16, and November 20. Dates may be changed a week one way or the other; we'll confirm each date via e-mail (if you're on the list), or as much as possible in the newsletter. Hope we'll see more members participating.

Harry Winter

An Orchid I Like

by Denise Nash

While the others are talking about their favorite orchids, I realized that I don't have a favorite. There are many that I love, and several that are favorites, but I can't choose just one.

So I thought I'd write a short piece about one that I just "like". I won't allow myself to love this orchid, since it is a *Potinara*, and like the rest of the *Cattleya* group, it is prone to infestation by boisduval scale. I won't allow myself to "love" a *cattleya* because if I did, and if it did get infested with that evil insect, I would feel I had to keep it and nurse it back to health. Rarely is this a good idea, the compost heap being the best of all solutions to scale.

I grow this plant hanging up in my greenhouse, so the fans will dry it out between waterings, and so it can drip on my head. The temperatures are 66 during the day and 55 at night. The humidity is high, so drying plants out is sometimes a challenge. Hanging them up where the sun is bright and the wind strong is a solution.



Hwa Yuan Gold 'Yung Kang #2'

**Plant Table
January 10, 2010**

Just 17 plants from six members were on our January plant table. Perhaps the cold weather discouraged members from bringing their plants out.

Ascocenda Blue Tahourdin 'Bronze Grape'	G-O	Alex Challis
Cycnodes Taiwan Gold 'Orchis'		
Neostylis Lou sneary 'Bluebird'		
Vandofinetia Blaupunkt		
Vanda [Jimmy Miller x Fuchs Fanfare]	G-O	Duane & Laura
Paphiopedilum Winston Churchill 'Redoubtable'	W-O	Duman
Phragmipedium Memoria Dick Clements	G-O	
<i>Stenorrrhynchos glicensteinii</i>	G-O	Paige Hartman
Paphiopedolum Yosemite Moon	G	
Phalaenopsis Bedford Innocence (Timothy Christopher x Ho's Amglad)	W	Judy Lobato
Degamoara(Bakerara) Flying High x Odontocidium Purbeck Gold	RP	
<i>Cattleya percivaliana</i>	W-O	Riki Marquis
<i>Coelogyne sp.</i>	W-O	
<i>Paphiopedilum delanatii</i>	L-O	
Paphiopedilum Hardi	G	Lee & Don Meyer
Paphiopedilum Jamie Chantry		
Paphiopedilum Puppentanz		

Conditions: G, greenhouse; L, Lights; W, Windowsill; O, outdoors in summer; RP, recent purchase (in spike or flower).

Harry Winter

Grand Valley Orchid Society Show Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids, January 23-24, 2010

We had a good crew to set up our 50-ft² display at the GVOS show at the Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids. Denise Nash & Paige Hartman were in charge of the design and each arrived with staging materials and lots of plants. Robin Johnson also brought plants, Randy Long and Harry & Dottie Winter were also there to help. Dottie and Randy did the artistic arranging, and Harry registered all the plants for judging. The display was similar in design to the one at the SVOS show, but seemed more filled in with blooming plants, and was awarded a second place ribbon! It finished closely behind the GLOS exhibit among the three exhibits in the class. No trophies this time, but almost half of the 39 plants entered for judging received ribbons:

First Place:

Odontocidium Mem. Clarence Ching <i>Bulbophyllum ambrosia</i> Darwinara Charm x <i>Neofinetia falcata</i> <i>Coelogyne cristata</i>	Neal Foster Paige Hartman Paige Hartman Denise Nash
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Second Place:

<i>Cattleya walkeriana</i> Cymbidium Tuffet 'New Horizon' Dendrobium Himezakura 'Fujikko' Dendrobium Red Emporer 'Prince'	Robin Johnson Denise Nash Denise Nash Denise Nash
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Third Place:

Vanda [Jimmy Miller x Fuchs Fanfare] Blc Pamela Hetherington <i>Catasetum fimbriatum</i> 'Jack' Epidendrum Annelie Wans Rhyncholaeliocattleya (Blc) Chia Lin 'New City' Paphiopedilum Oberhausen Diamant <i>Maxillaria cucullata</i> Ascocenda Princess Mikasa Dendrobium Yellow Paney 'March' Phalaenopsis Brother Apollo	Duane & Laura Duman Neal Foster Paige Hartman Paige Hartman Robin Johnson Robin Johnson Robin Johnson Denise Nash Denise Nash Dottie & Harry Winter
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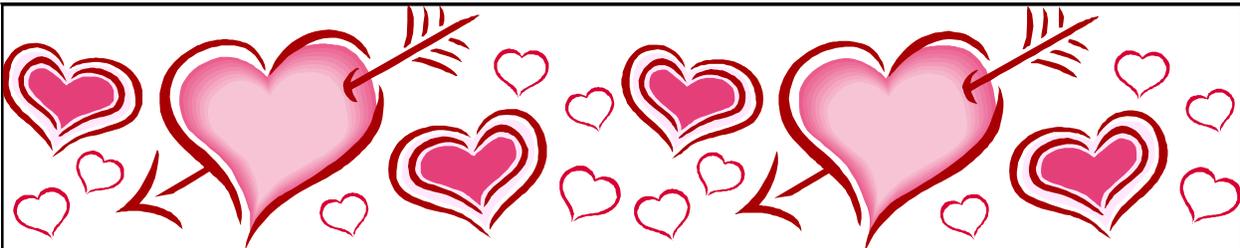
Paige also entered a plant for a friend of hers, Ika Van Dyck-Dobbs. Harry and Dottie again stayed all weekend and kept the display in shape and watered. They also did a thorough tour of the Meijer gardens, and saw some

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orchids not seen by most of the orchid show visitors, such as a huge specimen of *Vanda Rothschildiana* in full bloom, that hangs high in the rafters of the conservatory. The only thing missing was a show in the sculpture gallery, which wasn't to open until the next week.

At takedown time, Paige & her husband George returned, as did Denise. Takedown went quickly, and we were on our way with car-loads of plants and staging shortly after 6 pm. Next up: the GLOS show at MSU Feb. 27-28, with setup Feb. 26. We have another 50 sq. ft display planned.

Hope to see you there - Harry Winter



My Favorite Orchid



Riki Marquis

Phal Sogo Grape is my pick. I purchased it back in February 2004 from English Gardens Nursery. It starts blooming in the beginning of each year and then blooms continuously with successive blooms for about 8 months. It was displayed in our show in 2005 and 2007 and received a second place award each time.

Paige Hartman

Bulbophyllum echinolabium - AKA Big Stinky
Found in Sulawesi and Borneo this is the largest flower in the genus *Bulbophyllum*. The inflorescence grows to 28" long with around 10 successive single unpleasant smelling flowers. This is one of a number of *bulbophyllums* that attract flies for pollination, so smells like carrion. Prefers hot to warm temperatures, good air circulation, high humidity, frequent waterings and can be grown in pots or wooded baskets with a loose open medium.



Cont.



Neal & Meredith Foster

Our favorite is *Cattleya* Marjorie Hausermann 'York' HCC/AOS, a medium-sized white *Cattleya* hybrid with a pale yellow lip and a delightful fragrance. It is a cross between *C. Henrietta Japhet* and *C. Ethel Leder*. When Meredith ordered her bridal bouquet for our wedding here back in December 1980, it arrived with some white Phals and this *Cattleya* orchid in it. But we did not get our first few orchids until 1985; a few years later we showed Hermann Pigors of Oak Hill Nursery a color photo of Meredith's bouquet and asked if he could possibly tell us what the *Cattleya*-type orchid was. He recognized it right away as this hybrid, which he was quite familiar with because he had worked at Hausermann's for a few years prior to starting his own orchid business at Oak Hill. It tends to bloom for us twice a year, in November-December in our cool to intermediate GH and in June-July when it is outside getting morning sun followed by dappled shade the rest of the day. The blooms shown in the photo are not the best - it usually develops three (once four) flowers per inflorescence. The original plant that was awarded in 1966 at the St. Louis, MO monthly judging had six blooms on one inflorescence! I have lost at least two of these plants to Boisduval scale, then a few years ago asked Hermann if he had any left; Hermann's son-in-law Greg Butler later brought one to the Lansing show and simply gave it to me, proving our contention that orchid folks tend to be the nicest people.



Alex Challis *Laelia rubescens* is one of the easiest orchids to bloom - anywhere from fall to early winter. Flowers are mostly pale pink with a darker throat. There are also alba, semi-alba and aurea color forms of this species. The inflorescences are one to three feet long with fragrant flowers clustered at the apex that sometimes close at



night. It is found from Mexico to Panama in seasonally dry, deciduous forests from sealevel to 1700 meters. They grow on tree trunks where they get full sun for hours, along with plenty of air movement to cool then down. Mount on tree fern slabs or grow in baskets under bright light, with lots of water while growing and a dry rest after flowering.

Cont.



Harry and Dottie Winter

Dottie:

My favorite orchid is one that we don't even try to grow at home. It's the one *Psychopsis* remaining in the Matthaei collection, *Psychopsis sanderae*. These modest-sized plants produce dramatic yellow and brown flowers at the end of long wiry spikes, and do it in succession; never cut off a spike when a flower is done, because another bud will soon develop and open (unfortunately, it's happened to plants in the MBG collection). Also, don't be eager to repot them – we've learned the hard way that they really don't like to be disturbed – which is probably why only one is left. The plants are wonderful eye-catchers when in the display, with the large flower bouncing around in the air currents, seemingly suspended in midair. It's not called the butterfly orchid for no reason.



Harry:

My favorite orchid is really any one in our collection that condescends to bloom for us. But I have to pick one out, so I selected, of all things, a Phalaenopsis hybrid, Phalaenopsis Brother Apollo (Ho's vivid Freckles x Brother Mirage). Actually, it's Dottie's plant, but I've had it in my care the last few years; it was a Christmas gift from her father in 2004, the last Christmas he was living. He had ordered an orchid through the local florist for each of his five children. By chance, Dottie got the Brother Apollo, but it was no ordinary Phal – it took us only a few glances to realize what was so different about it; the flowers were fully and perfectly peloric, with three sepals, three perfectly-formed lips, and no petals! It's really very charming, in a weird sort of way. It's bloomed almost every year for us, and always comes out fully peloric, so it's in the genes. We've had it in several displays, and of course usually gets passed over because of that. But last month, it actually received a third place ribbon in class – there may have been only two entries in the class, but it's still a ribbon.

Ann Arbor Orchid Society Membership Form

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone (Home):

Phone (Work):

E-mail:

_____ Individual (\$20)

_____ Senior Individual (\$15)

_____ Household (\$25)

_____ Senior Household (\$20) Senior rates apply for those 70 and over.

New Membership

Renewal

New Address

Beginner

Advanced Grower

Commercial Grower

What is your growing environment?

Greenhouse

Artificial lights

Windowsill

Other _____

Would you like to receive you newsletter via email only? Yes No

Member of the American Orchid Society? Yes No

Member of the Orchid Digest Corporation? Yes No

Please make checks payable to the Ann Arbor Orchid Society. You may bring this application to any meeting, or mail it to: AAOS Membership, P.O. Box 3006, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3006