

The Orchid Enthusiast

The Newsletter of the Central New York Orchid Society

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Restrepia aristulifera

Next Meeting: Sunday November 7 Duane Erdman, an orchid grower from Rochester, will speak about Restrepias.

Restrepias. You have seen the colorful diminutive plants on the show table. You may have been curious about how easy it is to grow one. However, you haven't taken the plunge. Time for a change.

First described by Humboldt, Bonpland, & Kunth in 1815. This orchid is a member of the Pleurothallidinae group of Orchids. This genus of small epiphytic or rarely lithophytic orchids is named in honor of Sr. José E. Restrepo, who first investigated the Natural History of the Andes in Colombia. To date there are approximately 50 known species within the genus, and possibly as many variants, as yet unrecognized. Distribution ranges from Southern Mexico to Northern Argentina, where they can be found in the cool moist forests of the high Andes mountain range.

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Dolores Capella is the only one doing snacks for the November meeting. We need another volunteer.

Please pitch in and call Dolores at 315/469-8697 to make arrangements.

Duane Erdmann will take us behind the culture scenes to see just how easy it can be for growers of all setups to add a Restrepia or two to their collections.

He will also share thoughts on the taxonomy and classification efforts to date. Having more than 30 different identified and a dozen more unknowns in his collection, he has had the opportunity to study and photograph them. Duane has also traveled to Ecuador to see them in situ, which adds conviction and depth to his talk. Join us with an open mind and a desire to expand your collection.

Mr. Erdman will not be selling plants. So we will have a raffle table as well as a show table. Any member who wants to sell plants will be free to do so.

Anyone wishing to join the speaker and his wife for lunch, should be at the church before noon, and also inform Charles Ufford.

President's Message

I want to thank each and every volunteer who helped make out 2010 Annual Show a success! The displays were absolutely gorgeous! It takes a lot of man hours to put on a quality show, and everyone's hard work does not go unrecognized. I would like to also thank every person who entered a flowering plant into our show. We cannot have a show without flowering plants! Congratulations to all of the award winners and to the club for best display. I hope to see everyone at our November meeting.

Lori

CNYOS Exhibit **First - Best Orchid Society Exhibit**



CNYOS Ribbon and Award Winners

Entry Name	Parents	Show Award	Exhibitor
Phal. equestris		2,2	Charles Ufford
Ctt.Secret Love	Candy Tuft x C. Mini Purple	2,2	Sue & Jerry Finger
Ctna. Jamaica Red 'Sentinel', HCC/AOS	Bro.sanguinea x Keith Roth	2,1	"
Rth. Burana Beauty	Netrasiri Starbright x C. Netrasiri Beauty	3	"
Milt. Maui Volcano	Woodlands x Pearl Ono	3	"
Max. uncata		1, Best in Class. Best Amat. Orchid Grown Under Lights Award	"

Entry Name	Parents	Show Award	Exhibitor
Angcm. Longiscott	eburneum subsp. superbum X scottianum	1	Donna Coleman
Ascf. Twinkle	Neof. falcate x Asctm.minianum	3,3	“
Mac. petola		2	“
Orchid Picture Puzzle		2	“
Rlc. Hawaiian Passion	C. Wailea x Rlc. Waikiki Gold	1, Best in Class Margery & Fred Ummer Award	Lori Hoffman
Phal equestris ‘Ellenberger’s Peloia’		3	“
Dtps. KV Charmer	Phal. Salu Peoker x Taida Pearl	1	Jan Woodworth
Ascda. Pralor	Meda Arnold x Asctm. minianum	3	Judi Witkin
Onc. Sp		1	“
Necklace		1, Best in Class Best in Artistic Classes	“
Masd. Ruby Throat	Grossbeak x Golden Sun	1, Best in Class, Clifford Rossler Memorial Award, Best Pleurothallid	Iris Cohen
Phal. celebensis		1,3	Eva Galson
Den. Andree Milar	atroviolaceum x convolutum	2	“
Masd. Red Wing ‘Purple Passion’ AM/AOS	infracta x coccinea	3	“
Pls. stenostachya		3	David Ditz

Other Ribbon and Award Winners

GROS – Exhibit second in amateur class

Cym. Chen’s Ruby -1, Best in Class, Best in Cymbidium Alliance,
Two other firsts and a third

JustPat Orchids – Exhibit third

C. maxima – 1, Best Species in Show
Five other firsts, five seconds and five thirds

Jim Marlow – Exhibit second

Paph ‘Marlow Orchids ‘ Hilo Jewel x Hsinying Citron 1, AM/AOS
Phal. fasciata 1, Best in Class, Best Phalanopsis or Dtps.
Den. laevigatum 1, Best in Class, Best in Dendrobium Alliance
Sud. reichenbachii-1, Best in Class, Best in Zygotatum Alliance
Three other firsts, seven seconds, and five thirds

Bloomfield orchids – Exhibit First - Best Commercial Exhibit, Best Exhibit in Show

Bct. Little Marmaid C. walkeriana x Bsn. Maikai 1, best in Class, Best in Cattleya Alliance
Paph. glaucophyllum var. moquetteanum 1, Best in Class, Best in Cypropedium Alliance
Rnya. Snow Fakes Rhtcm. Ladda Gold x Prra. Luke Thai 1, best in Class, Best Vandaceous
Orchid, Best Hybrid in Show
Odcdm. Wildcat ‘Rainbow’ Rustic Bridge x Crowborough 1, Best in Class, Best in Oncidium
Alliance
Cyc. cooperi 1, Best in Class best Miscellaneous Orchid
Four other firsts, seven seconds, one third

Treasurer's Report

Assets as of 9/12/10

Cash & Bank Accounts	
Key Bank	\$ 4,611.63
Cash Account	<u>115.00</u>
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	4,726.63

Summary Report 1/1/10 – 9/12/10

Inflows	3,119.50
Outflows	<u>1,585.37</u>
Net Inflows/Outflows	1,533.13

Net Revenue (included in above figures)

Dickman Farms	137.00
May Auction (correction)	1,049.00
2010 Herb & Gardenfest	22.00

Carol Haskell, Treasurer

Minutes of CNYOS Meeting of 9/12/10

Lori Hoffman opened the meeting at 2:18 PM by welcoming the club members and guests back from summer break:

1. The last meeting before this one was the June 2010 Picnic. We had a mini show meeting at the June meeting. WE also held a plant raffle which made \$14.00. Thanks to Honey Goshorn for hosting this meeting.
2. Today's meeting program will be a repotting clinic by Jim Marlow of Marlow Orchids.
3. Carol Haskell presented the Treasurer's Report. Currently, the club has a balance of \$4726.63 in our account. Our may Auction showed a profit of \$1049. We also earned \$137 at the Dickman Farms VaVaBloom event and \$22 at the Oriskany Herb and Flower Festival. Thanks Kim Boronczyk for helping with this last event.
4. CNYOS 2010 Show – This is the last meeting before the show. Our show dates are October 2 & 3, 2010 (Saturday and Sunday) with setup taking place on Friday, October 1, 2010. David has sent out the show schedule and instructions for show entries by email. He brought hard copies to the meeting fro anyone who did not receive this email. He asked for volunteers for the Information/Sign Up booth and for Display Room Monitors. He also asked for a volunteer to help Nancy Loveland set up and take down the outdoor show signs before and after the show. David also needs a volunteer to provide food for the show breakfast on Saturday morning. Barb Bessette said she would do this. Thanks, Barb! David also asked for volunteers to bring food for the people working on show setup and registration on Friday evening; he would like pizza and snack foods. Finally, David asked for volunteers to bring food for lunch for Saturday and Sunday, so the vendors and show workers. He sent around sign-up sheets during the meeting.
5. Show setup will start at 12N Friday, October 1. David asked that members preregister their flowering plants and mark the plant pot clearly with their name.
6. David reported that all the advertisements have been sent out and asked that members post the show flyer he sent via email.
7. Next Saturday, September 19, is the STOS Plant Auction. The auction starts at approximately 1:30PM and is held at the Vestal Endicott Public Library.

Pat Cotter, Secretary, 9-25-10

OrchidWiz

As you recall, last year OrchidWiz contributed a copy of their Encyclopedia and Journal to CNYOS as a money raiser , and we made \$200.00 on it during the May auction. We have received another copy for this year's auction. OrchidWiz's SWAP (Software for Auction Program) is meant to support and promote orchid societies because they believe the societies are the backbone of the orchid world. They provide a place to learn about orchids, exhibit them, and to have fun while doing so. I'll describe OrchidWiz in more detail in another newsletter.

Orchid Nutrition for Winter

By Susan Jones

Planning for the optimum health and blooms of your orchids through winter and into spring is as important as their day-to-day care. Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can boost their resistance to damage from pests, disease and winter temperatures in the coming months

Overall Health

Orchids will fare better in encounters with pests, diseases and temperature extremes if they are in a good state of overall health. A plant suffering from under or over-fertilizing, or stressed from lack of water is much more likely to be injured by any additional strain.

Orchids grown under less than ideal conditions are more likely to be a target for infection or infestation. Make

an extra effort now to get plants and their greenhouse or growing area in good shape for the shorter, darker days ahead by removing old foliage, weeds and dying flowers. An autumn cleanup can minimize or prevent the pest

and disease problems that can crop up in the darker and more crowded conditions that often characterize the winter growing area.

General Nutrition

Light levels and temperatures begin to fall at this time of year, and your orchids' nutritional needs change accordingly. Orchid growers can take the following steps now to help prepare their collection for optimal health through the months ahead.

If your orchids will winter outdoors, fertilizing properly can help them resist cold, insect and disease damage, as well as give them two to three additional degrees of cold resistance. This can mean the difference between a dead orchid and an unscathed plant or one that just loses a few leaves.

Use a fertilizer low in nitrogen (which should be nitrate nitrogen, not urea nitrogen) and high in potassium; the numbers on the label should read something like 10-5-20. Watering and fertilizing should be reduced in frequency for the cooler autumn season, and orchids that bloom during the winter and into spring should be given a couple of doses of blossom booster in October and November; bloom boosters should have a higher middle number, such as 10-50-10.

Ideally, this change in fertilizer should start by mid-November and continue through the end of January. This regime will sacrifice plant growth in December and January in favor of plant protection, but it can help keep the plant healthier overall.

Some growers recommend using Dyna-Gro Pro-TeKt (0-0-3), a liquid nutritional potassium-silicon supplement for plants. The product is supposed to improve heat and drought tolerance in orchids, as well as boosting their resistance to pests, disease and environmental stress.

Specific Genera

Seasonal nutritional needs differ among various orchid genera, and may diverge still further depending on local climatic conditions in disparate geographic regions. The following guidelines may require modification to accommodate individual growing conditions.

Cattleya

Watering and fertilizing frequency should be reduced, as the plants dry out more slowly in the cooler temperatures and shorter days. Bud sheaths may yellow at this time of year as temperature fluctuations can cause water to condense inside the sheath. Should you notice condensation in the sheath, it should be opened or removed to allow the developing buds adequate air circulation and prevent bud blast caused by rots. Simply slit open the sheath and carefully peel it down toward the pseudobulb, exercising caution so as not to damage the delicate bud primordia within.

Dendrobium

Autumn and winter needs vary according to the species or hybrid parentage in this diverse genus. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* hybrids will benefit from a fertilizer with a low nitrogen formula for optimal flowering.

The leaves of *Dendrobium nobile* types and their hybrids begin to yellow and drop at this time of year in preparation for their winter dormancy. Plants should be given plenty of light and good air circulation and kept dry from November through February. Mist occasionally if their canes become overly shriveled.

Paphiopedilum

Generally, these do not require a great deal of fertilizer. This is especially important with the cooler-growing bulldog types to reduce nitrogen levels at this time of year for best flowering. (Bulldog Paphiopedilums have plain green leaves as opposed to the mottled-leaf types. One of the best-known bulldog-type hybrids is Paphiopedilum Winston Churchill.) Watch for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath or for late-season warm spells, as either can rot the sheath and destroy the developing inflorescence. While Paphiopedilums should not be allowed to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced in the cooler days. Overwatering can cause root rot or Erwinia problems.

Phalaenopsis

Growth slows and inflorescences begin to appear. Reduce watering and fertilizing frequency, and apply a bloom-boosting fertilizer. Many growers also recommend applications of epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) to Phalaenopsis at this time of year to prevent yellowing and loss of lower leaves and to enhance blooming. Once buds are evident on the inflorescences, keep temperatures and humidity consistent to prevent bud drop. Phalaenopsis grown in the greenhouse are especially prone to bud blast in February and early March, when the heat is still coming on at night and the greenhouse temperatures rise during the day.



By providing the right nutrients in the fall, a bounty of blooms will follow for late-winter species such as this *Rhynchostylis gigantea* 'Banjong' AM/AOS.

Vanda

Aside from *Neofinetia falcata*, vandaceous orchids generally do not tolerate autumn and winter's cooler temperatures (below 60° F [16° C]) well and need to be carefully protected from chills. Vandaceous orchids still need as much light as possible as the days become shorter and light levels fall. Reduce the frequency of fertilizing and watering to accommodate the slower growth period they are entering. Starting the first week of October, Julie Rosenberg at R.F. Orchids in Homestead, Florida, recommends feeding vandaceous genera a blossom booster fertilizer exclusively, once a week for four to six weeks, at 1 teaspoon per gallon of water (15 ml to 3.8 l), with normal watering between. In November, begin fertilizing every other week, using a balanced 20-20-20 fertilizer at 1 teaspoon per gallon (15 ml to 3.8 l), substituting bloom booster every fourth feeding.

Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can mean happier, healthier and more productive plants year round.

Susan Jones was the editor of Awards Quarterly and assistant editor of Orchids. American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33446

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The Central NY Orchid Society usually meets at St. Augustine's Church 7333 O'Brien Rd, Baldwinsville on the first Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm.

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***November 10 Issue – Duane Erdman Will Give a Talk on Restrepias
Sunday, November 7, at 2PM at the Church***