The Orchid Enthusiast

The Newsletter of the Central New York Orchid Society

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest Page 1 Volume 12: Issue 1 January 2010

Editor's Note:

Contributions to the Orchid Enthusiast by members of the CNYOS are welcome. Articles, pictures, or ideas for discussion subjects should be submitted by the first week of the month before the next meeting to:

egalson@twcny.rr.com

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It's time to renew your membership! Individuals \$20 Couples \$22

Send check to: Carol Haskell, Treas. 102 Wynthrop Rd Syracuse NY 13209

Next Meeting: Sunday January 10, 2 PM, Member Silent Auction

*Please note that the meeting date is the second Sunday of January due to the fact that New Year weekend interferes with the first Sunday.

I hope everyone had a



good holiday!!

By this time your orchids should have adjusted to coming inside, and hopefully your cymbidiums and phalaenopsis as well as other winter and spring bloomers are in spike. Perhaps you made some divisions that have now settled in but that are taking up needed bench space, or you've had some plants for years without a sign of bloom. Bring them to the auction, and give another orchid club member a chance to enjoy your favorites, or try their hand at getting your recalcitrant plants to bloom. At the same time you'll help the club to make some money and have a chance to pick up something new at a great price!! You can split the proceeds from the plants you contribute 50/50 with the club, though the club sure could use 100%. There will be a \$5.00 charge for those not binging a plant.

The plants you bring should be bug and disease free. If you're bringing divisions, they should have three pseudobulbs or more. Orchids without pseudobulbs, should consist of a decent clump.

President's Message

Happy New Year!!!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season! We certainly had a good time and lots of wonderful food at our December meeting. There were many gorgeous flowering plants to decorate our show table.

I was asked to share my vision for our group for 2010. Let me start by saying, it is very difficult to follow in Tom's footsteps, as he did an outstanding job as president last year. While I love growing my orchids, I have nowhere near the experience that Tom, or most other members have. I would like to continue to have monthly meetings, educational programs, as well as beautiful show table displays. I have noticed that our meetings are filled with a small number of members; the same members month after month. In 2010, let's set a goal of increasing our membership and/or increasing participation among our current members. Perhaps we can introduce a friend or two to the wonderful world of orchids. What if we were to have a member to member "shout out" to invite inactive

members or past members back to the group? Let's think of what each of us wants to get out of our meetings over the next year, and bring those wants/needs to January's meeting. Hope to see you at January's meeting!

Lori Hoffman

Membership Committee

Right in line with Lori's message, we have established a Membership Committee coordinated by Judi Witkin.

The committee will be meeting at 1:30 before the January meeting to discuss how to attract and welcome new members to our club. We will also plan subjects to be covered in our beginners meetings.

Beginners, and anyone interested are welcome to come, ask questions, or share their ideas. Be there at 1:30.

New Member

We welcome a new member to the club: Tim Delaney from Little Falls. Say "hello" to him if you see him at a meeting.

Special Offer from OrchidWiz, continued

Last month I wrote about a special offer from OrchidWiz, but I was short on details. Here is more information:

OrchidWiz is a complete orchid encyclopedia and database, which ordinarily retails for \$259.

OrchidWiz states that its mission is to promote the study, cultivation and exhibition of orchids, and support the global orchid community. Their **SWAP** (Software for Auction Program) is one way OrchidWiz supports the community. They are offering a free copy of their software to clubs and societies to raffle off at their annual auctions. The club can keep the entire proceeds from the auction. Sounds too good to be true? What do they want in return?

OrchidWiz receives a 1 year membership to the club, including a subscription to the newsletter (e-format preferred).

The club is NOT required to share its roster.

The club will educate its membership about OrchidWiz prior to the auction. This can be done through an article in the newsletter, or simply by sending an e-mail to all members describing OrchidWiz and its inclusion in the auction.

Other Requirements: the software can only be used for raising money for the club. It must be sold to a single person for individual use only. The software is not transferable from one individual to another. The software must be sold at a regular auction or raffle by the club.

What do we have to lose? I suggest we sign up, and auction off the software at our May auction.

Minutes – CNYOS Meeting December 6, 2009

Unfortunately, the secretary's minutes did not arrive in time to be included in this newsletter.

The most important item of business was the election of officers. Lori Hoffman volunteered to be president, and was elected, and Charles Ufford has agreed to stay on for another year as vice-president/program chairman.

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Judi Witkin agreed to chair a new membership committee which will investigate how to retain old members, facilitate getting new members, and make new members feel welcome This group will also be in charge of the beginners meetings held before each meeting.

We discussed finding a venue for the Fall Sow and Sale, which is better located than Beaver Lake, but no conclusion was reached.

December Show Table

Please note all names and abbreviations in boldface. Kindly **update your records** with registered names or parents. Extra large type indicates the hybrid has been looked up before.

| Cypripedium Alliance | : | |
|---|--------------------|--|
| Paph. wardii | Ditz " | |
| Paph. spicerianum | | |
| Paph. wardii | Witkin " | |
| Paph. Lathamianum (spicerianum × villosum)* Paph. ×leeanum, Leeanum (insigne × spicerianum) | " | |
| Phrag. Incan Treasure (kovachii \times longifolium) | Ufford | |
| Paph. fairrieanum | Capella | |
| Paph. Yakushiji (malipoense × wenshanense) | Pfromm | |
| Paph. fairrieanum | "(?) | |
| Cattleya Alliance | | |
| Lc. Angel Heart (Puppy Love \times C. Penny Kuroda) | Finger | |
| B. Little Stars ($nodosa \times subulifolia$) | Cotter | |
| Bc. Donald Prince (S. brevipedunculata \times B. nodosa) [†] | Coleman | |
| Vnra. Golden Spice (Bc . Richard Mueller $\times Epi$. stamfordianum) | " | |
| Epc. René Marqués (Epi. pseudepidendrum \times C. Claesiana) | Ditz | |
| <i>Cattlianthe (Ctt.)</i> Chocolate Flirt (<i>C.</i> Flirtie × <i>Ctt.</i> Chocolate Drop) | " | |
| Rlc. Ching Hua Flame (Rebecca Merkel \times C. Mae Hawkins) | Braue | |
| L. gouldiana | Hoffman | |
| Vandaceous | C 1 | |
| Ascf. Twinkle (Neof. falcata × Asctm. miniatum) | Coleman Hoffman | |
| Phal. equestris 'Ellenberger's Peloria' | Hollman | |
| Oncidium Alliance | | |
| Gdlra. Eurostar (Bllra. Tahoma Glacier \times Onc. schroederianum) | Coleman | |
| Pyp. Butterfly (papilio × sanderae) | " | |
| Mtssa. Dennis Kleinbach (Cartagena × Milt. Goodale Moir) | " | |
| Brsdm. Nittany Gold (Brs. verrucosa \times Mex. ghiesbreghtiana)† Onc. cheirophorum | Finger | |
| Onc. Chetrophorum | Tillger | |
| Pleurothallid Alliance | | |
| Spe. picta | Coleman | |
| Masd. Angel Tang (veitchiana × tonduzii) 2 plants | Hoffman | |
| Masd. Celtic Frost (Angel Frost × glandulosa) | | |
| Rstp. cuprea Masd Memoria John Schwind (June Winn × avauisita) | Witkin Capella | |
| Masd. Memoria John Schwind (June Winn \times exquisita) | Capella | |

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Miscellaneous

×Achimenantha 'Inferno' (Achimenes × Smithiantha) Gesneriaceae Coleman Den. Baby Pink (affine × bigibbum "subv. compactum")‡ "
Coel. speciosa Cotter Psnth. Raspberry Delight (Cnths. discolor × Pes. coronaria) Braue Oberonia recurva Capella

†Unfortunately, the Kew Checklist (Supreme Court of plant taxonomy) continues to recognize the genera *Sophronitis* and *Mexicoa*, while the RHS does not. The naming of hybrids and the naming of species follow two different codes of laws. We happen to be living at a time when plant taxonomy is undergoing a tremendous upheaval. Actually, both these databases are so large and complex that even after changes are accepted, it may take months for them to be implemented online. These discrepancies will eventually be ironed out. ‡This is one of those situations (also found in many other families) where a plant form of considerable horticultural significance has no taxonomic validity.

Iris Cohen

If you have any questions, you can always call 315-461-9226 or e-mail mailto:iriscohen@aol.com?subject=Show Table.

Treasurer's Report

| Assets as of 12/6/09 | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cash Account | 115.00 |
| Key Bank | <u>2,926.16</u> |
| Total | 3,041.16 |
| Summary Report 1/1/09 – 12/6/09 | |
| Inflows | 4,737.09 |
| Outflows | 4,392.01 |
| Net Inflows/Outflows | 345.78 |

Refreshment Volunteers

| December | Holiday Party | Everyone contributes |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| January | 1. Barbara Weller | 2. Lori Hoffman |
| February | 1. Marlene Weibel | 2. Jan Woodworth |
| March | 1. Sue & Jerry Finger | 2. Eva Galson |
| April | 1. Carol Haskell | 2. Tammy Pomietlasz |
| May | 1. David Ditz | 2. Pat Cotter |
| June | Spring Picnic | Everyone Contributes |
| September 2010 | 1. Rick Braue | 2. Dale Corey |
| October | 1. Monica Kot | 2. Donna Coleman |
| November | 1. Dolores Capella | 2. Pat Cotter |
| | | |

^{*}In the early days of plant hybridizing, the breeders, wishing to be scientific, gave their hybrids and cultivars names with Latin endings. This led to confusion between species and hybrids. Since 1959, artificial hybrids and cultivars must be given names in modern languages. Latinized names are not allowed.

Did You Know?



An orchid seed pod can contain tens of thousands- even hundred of thousand of seeds? In nature, when a capsule becomes ripe, thousands of seeds are dispersed through the air. With so many seeds, it would seem that orchids should be found everywhere, but, in order for a seed to germinate, very specific conditions must be met. As a result, the percentage of seeds that actually grow may be very small.

What's the Correct Amount of Light

In last month 's newsletter I included an article on the requirement of orchids for the right amount of light in order to bloom. But how do you determine the correct amount of light without an expensive, and sometimes confusing light meter?

An easy way to determine the brightness of your growing area is to use a white sheet of paper or white foam board. Hold your hand about 8-10 inches above the white material on a bright day when the sun is shining fully, and use the illustrations below as guides



Notice the dark shadow with a hard edge.



Shadow has a soft edge and is somewhat lighter. Approx 35-40% shade





Very soft gray shadows

shadows. Approx. 50-60% shade

You can use the same estimating method under your grow lights.

Boisduval Scale

I've been bothered by this pest for about a year, so I'm writing this article to warn others about it. It's based on information on the AOS website.

Scale is probably the most important insect pest of cultivated orchids in northern climates, and one of the worst scales to contend with is Boisduval scale. This is an armored scale, which in spite of its continental sounding name, is something you don't want on your plants.



Mature female Boisduval scale are rounded and light colored, while aggregations of males are identified by their cottony appearance, which may cause them to be confused with mealybugs, if not examined closely. The immatures, or crawlers, are tiny and yellow to pinkish, and not easily seen without a magnifying glass.

The most common way of acquiring scale is by purchasing an infected plant, (so look at your auction plants carefully).

Scale has three life stages: eggs, crawlers, and adults. Eggs are laid under the females shell and remain there after she dies. They hatch into mobile

crawlers that can move between plants. After finding a suitable place, crawlers settle in to feed. The females form a light yellowish protective scale covering, while the male, whose primary role is to mate and die, forms an armored scale.

Scale management takes a lot of persistence. Treatments must be repeated every 10 to 16 days as new populations hatch. Boisduval loves to infect cattleyas, where the scale hides under pseudobulb sheaths, so it is important to peal off the dry sheaths to get at the critters.

An effective home remedy is isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol). Use 70% alcohol since a stronger solution may injure the plants. Do not use other alcohols such as ethanol or methanol; they will penetrate the plant tissues and cause considerable damage. On hard leaved plants, such as cattleyas, remove scale by dipping a soft toothbrush in alcohol and gently but firmly brushing the scale off. Pay particular attention to the mid rib, other veins and lead edges. The males like to hide at the base of the leaves near the potting medium, where a toothbrush is particularly helpful.

Another method is to spray alcohol with a misting bottle or small pump sprayer. When so applied, a few drops or a short squirt of liquid soap are added to the alcohol. Use caution, as a detergent that is too strong or applied in excess amounts or use of ammonia based chemical cleaner, may damage your plants, particularly buds and flowers. Also, alcohol sprays are not effective against eggs beneath scale covering, for which physical removal is required.

During extreme infestations, scale may develop on roots and rhizomes. In that case the potting medium should be replaced, since it may harbor eggs and crawlers. During repotting, a close inspection, and a gentle spraying of the roots is essential.

Whatever control method is used, remember that one application will not do. Treatment must be repeated every 10 days.

On the extreme side, for a plant showing signs of decline from scale, consider whether the low likelihood of rejuvenating the plant justifies the expense and effort of continued treatments. After all, the destruction of a sick plant can be used to justify the purchase of a new and healthier one.

What's Blooming at the AOS in January

Having the winter blues? Take a trip to Del Ray Beach I sunny Florida (even if only in your imagination) and see these beauties!!



Rhynchostylis gigantea white

Slc. Tutankamen 'Pop' AM/AOS

Lc. Mildred Rives 'Shanta 1' x Lc. Melody Fair

Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite



Odontocidium Wildcat



Cattleya Sierra Blanca 'Mount Whitney'



Blc. Cornerstone



Paph. F.C. Puddle



Calanthe vestita var. rubra- Coeogyne mossiae oculata



Cochleanthes amazonica x Amazing



Gerberara Snow Ballet

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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.

The Central New York Orchid Society Your local AOS and Orchid Digest Affiliate 236 Lockwood Road Syracuse, NY 13214

January 2010 Issue – CNYOS Orchid Meeting January 10,2 PM at the Church
Member Orchid Auction