

NROS News

JUNE 2010

Wednesday, June 9th., 2010

Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Holy Rosary Church Hall
35 Queen Street
Thorold

PROGRAMS

John Doherty of Zephyrus Orchids
on
Paphiopedilum sanderianum



EXECUTIVE 2009-2010

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WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.niagaraorchidsociety.org

MAY SHOW TABLE

Class 1 Cattleya Alliance

**** Eplc. Mae Bly	P. Hinman	1 st .
Cattleya skinneri 'Dr. Salas'	K. & F. Wilkinson	2 nd .
Blc. Laura Bush	P. Hinman	3 rd .
Blc. Memoria Vida Lee 'Limelight'	K. & F. Wilkinson	
Epidendrum ibaguense	A. Fortin	
Caulocattleya Chantilly Lace	V. Kolchew	
Bc. Mrs. Jack Leeman	P. Hinman	
Schomburgkia thomsoniana		
X Laelia anceps	S. Dietsch	
Lc. Blazing Treat	S. Dietsch	
Cattleya Summer Spots	N. Vandenberg	
Lc. Chit Chat	N. Vandenberg	
Epidendrum Green Hornet	S. Holierhoek	
Laelia grandis	S. Dietsch	

Class 2 Paphiopedilum

Paphiopedilum Deperle	W. Muste	1 st .
Paphiopedilum Jurgen Roth	P. Hinman	2 nd .
Phrag. lindleyanum x Phrag. Hanne Popow	P. Hinman	3 rd .

Class 3 Phalaenopsis

Phalaenopsis Zuma's Pixie	V. Kolchew	1 st .
Phalaenopsis ???	A. Fortin	2 nd .

Class 4 Oncidium Alliance

Oncidioda Charlesworthii 'Mishima'	A. Fortin	1 st .
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Class 6 Dendrobiums

Dendrobium thyrsoiflorum	A. Roger	1 st .
Dendrobium aduncum	V. Kolchew	2 nd .
Dendrobium Blue Angel	V. Kolchew	3 rd .

Class 7 All Others

Propetalum Mathina	P. Hinman	1 st .
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Class 8 Specimen Plants

Angraecum sesquipedale	S. Holierhoek	1 st .
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*****PLANT OF THE MONTH

The following are the results for the Genesee Region Orchid Show that was held in April.

Display 2nd.

Fred & Kathy Wilkinson

Best Cattleya in Show

Cattleya Golden Girl "Miami" AM/AOS

Slc. Firedance 'Patricia' 2nd.

Nancy Vandenberg

Blc. Wanda's Fire 1st.

Cym. Rising Sun x Musita Dream 2nd.

Cym. Mighty Sunset 'Roxberg Red' 2nd.

Thanks to Simon Holierhoek , Aimee Roger, Fred & Kathy Wilkinson, and Nancy Vandenberg for submitting plants for this show.

Thanks to Nancy Vandenberg for setting up the display and to Claudio Rossi for taking it down. Thanks everyone!

BULLETIN BOARD

Meeting

Our guest speaker at the June meeting will be John Doherty, an AOS accredited judge and owner of Zephyrus Orchids. He will be speaking on Paphiopedilum sanderianum. Zephyrus holds the Guinness Book of Records for their Paphiopedilum sanderianum 'Rapunzel'. Come out and listen to John speak on one of the most interesting species of slipper orchid!

Auction

Well, the auction at the May meeting generated a total of \$516.00 for the Society. Thanks to all our members that participated and donated items

and congratulations to all the lucky bidders that got the items of their choice! A special thanks to Rick Rempel for doing a great job as our auctioneer - again! Thanks, Rick.

SOOS Summerfest 2010

The Southern Ontario Orchid Society (SOOS) is pleased to announce that Fred Clarke, of Sunset Valley orchids (www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com) will be our guest speaker at this year's Summerfest. This annual event is open to all SOOS members, as well as to *bona fide* members of other orchid societies. As this event is held on the August long weekend - Sunday, August 1, 2010 - it is not too early to plan your own calendar

around this event.

Fred will be making 2 presentations:

“Today's Mini and Compact Cattleyas” and
“New Hybrids with *Catasetum* ,
Cycnoches and *Mormodes* ”

As well, he will be bringing orchids for sale. [If you pre-order, there will be a 10% discount](#) (July 19 pre-order deadline).

This event is combined with the monthly AOS judging. Starting at 10:00 am you can witness the deliberations of the judges as they pour over plants brought in for consideration.

At 12:00 we start our famous Pot-Luck feast. SOOS provides burgers and pop. Please bring a dish to share.

This event is free to members of all orchid societies.

Picnic

Just a reminder that the sign-up sheet for the NROS pot-luck picnic on Sunday, July 25th. will be available at the June meeting. Paper plates and plastic cutlery will be provided, but if any member wishes to bring their own place settings, please feel free to do so. Also, please bring your own lawn chairs.

Open House

Clouds Orchids will be holding their June Open House on the week-end of June 19th. and 20th. From 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m

Hospitality

A reminder to Cheryl Maurice and Joanne Madsen that they are signed up to bring the baked goods for coffee to the June meeting. Thanks, Ladies!

For Sale



The above item is for sale by Suzanne Grenke. Her husband passed away last year, and this is one of his “orchid” items that she is offering for sale. The size is 23 3/4" L x 24 3/8" H x 17 3/4" D The price is \$100.00 If interested, please call Suzanne at 905-646-4359.

Special Thank You

The Executive would like to extend a very special thank you to all those members that have volunteered their time to help support many of the Society's numerous projects. Thank you all very much!!

The following article is courtesy of the Canadian Orchid Congress newsletter of May, 1993.

GROWING SPECIMEN PLANTS FOR SHOW

I am sure all of us at one time or another have covetously looked at a plant on our monthly show table or judging show and dreamed or schemed of owning THAT plant! It really is possible with a little time and effort on your part to stand back proudly and say "It's mine!".

When I chose this topic to write on I was amazed at how little (almost nothing) is written on how to achieve specimen plants. And the articles there advise using three plants in the same pot which is totally unacceptable to judges in our area. Most growers I spoke to said ... "Oh I just pot it on....".

To obtain success with specimen plants you must choose a plant that will fit a certain criteria. It should:

- * Be a vigorous grower with multiple growths off each pseudobulb. This is critical if your plant is single flowered.
- * Multiflowered if possible with upright or slightly arching spikes; flowers should be carried well above the foliage.
- * Try to choose a vibrant coloured flower over a dull one.
- * The plant must grow in ALL directions.
- * Small leaved plants have more appeal than large leaved ones.

Once you have decided on the plant you want to grow on, choose the best three to six growths and repot keeping the plant as best you can in a circular shape. Only plant into a pot which will allow one years growth. It is better to pot on every year or two to allow YOU to clean up the plant and shape it as YOU go.

When you have potted on about three or four times (5 to 8 years) you should have a fairly good specimen. The culture of growing the plant is something you will already be familiar with and does not need to be gone into here, other than to advise you not to water your plant for one week before reporting to make it easier to remove the plant from the pot.

One culture tip I will give is to try to have your plant grow from the centre in all directions. For some genera this is not a natural habit. One way to increase the growth is to partially cut through the rhizome between the pseudobulbs taking care not to completely cut through. This will allow you to set the plant in the pot, and being careful not to break the plant apart, to gently form a circle. It will also help the plant by forcing some of the old eyes to grow. Remember, if you break it you will have lost several years of specimen growth as the plant must be in one piece to qualify as a specimen.

Choosing the right plant to grow on does take some careful consideration. It should be from a genera you are successful with and if possible one that flowers that lend themselves to good specimen plants are:

* **Cattleya** - such as *skinneri* and *bowringiana*, and any other multi-flowered species or hybrid. Do keep in mind that these will take a lot of room unless the one you choose is a miniature.

* **Miltonia** - Almost all lend themselves well to specimen culture. You will have to watch to make sure the spikes are carried strongly and cleanly above the foliage.

* **Dendrobium** - Such as *densiflorum*, *aggregatum*, *phalaenopsis* - all very showy and capable of flowering several times from each pseudobulb.

If you were to look at each genera you would find most have something to offer which would be acceptable to grow on as a specimen. If space is a problem look to one of the smaller genera, or the miniatures available in the genera. *Encyclia*, *Coelogyne*, *Laelia* and *Aeranthes* and others all have small plants that would be excellent for specimen culture.

This should give you some idea of starting to grow a specimen and happy growing.

Marjorie Disher, Vancouver Orchid Society