



Manitoba Orchid Society

For the Love of Orchids Newsletter

Next Meeting: 16 November 2008
Salle Académique, Rm. 1531
St-Boniface College,
196 De La Cathedrale Av.

Novice Programme

To be announced

Starts at 1:00PM

Regular Programme

Paphiopedilums by Norito Hasegawa

Starts at 2:00PM

Bring Plants for Show & Tell

There is no selling of plants by members at the November meeting.

Goodies will be provided by Darlene Moar, Wendy Chaytor, Neil Dunham and Pat Roberts.

Website: <http://www.manitobaorchidsociety.ca>

Executive email: president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Newsletter email: newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Submission deadline 18 November 2008 for December 2008 Issue



November 16: Norito Hasegawa will be speaking on Paphiopedilums. Norito will be selling flasks, preorders must be in to Kyle by November 10. Copies of the flask list were made available by Dave Moran, and will be published on the MOS website.

December 14: The annual potluck Xmas party will be held on the second Sunday in December at 3:00 pm. Note this is a week earlier, and an hour later, than our usual monthly general meetings.

Orchid Tour of Ecuador

Kyle Lucyk is organizing/coordinating an orchid tour of Ecuador, surrounding the international orchid show and conference in Ecuador in Early February 2009. More info on the show is available here:

<http://www.quitoorchidexpo2009.org/en.htm>

The tour will be 10 days. For more info on the tour, the cost and an itinerary contact Kyle at

kylelucyk@gmail.com or call him at 284-1195.

Anyone for bark?

Kimberly will bring in bark in 2 cu ft bags if at least 40 bags are ordered. The shipping costs are high. I cannot get the premium bark any longer but I can bring in a bark of a lesser quality but still very good. Price per bag is 35.00 I would like payment in advance of pick-up. Fine and Medium is available. Stock up, as I won't be bringing any more in at all. Email bamboobaby@shaw.ca

Hearts & Flowers

Congratulations to Kyle Lucyk for his awarded plant, *Paph. helenae* 'Lana Marie' HCC 75 pts, at the recent 2008 Foothills Orchid Society Show.

If you hear of any good/bad news regarding members or their families, please call Morganne Jerome and let her know.



To Garnet & Sue Ward, Roberta Verch, Jerry Lenover, Jacques Cahill, Ed Maza, Dave Moran & Rob Parsons for their work on the auction.



The Executive encourages all members to provide feedback, comments, suggestions by filling out a comment sheet available from the Secretary at all General Meetings.

All signed comment sheets should be returned to any member of the Executive. They will be reviewed at the next Executive Meeting and you will be informed of follow-up action taken.

2007/2008 Executive

Elected

President Dave Moran
Past President Joyce Jaworski
1st V.P. Kyle Lucyk
2nd V.P./Show Chair Lorne Heshka
Treasurer Garnet Ward
Secretary Morganne Jerome

Appointed

Membership Gary Jaworski
Social Eva Slavicek
Public Relations
Special Orders Jim Roy
AOS/COC Rep Kevin Duerksen
Library Lilianne Foster
Newsletter Robert Parsons
Webmaster Robert Kato

Assiniboine Park Conservatory Orchid Collection

The Assiniboine Park Conservatory (APC) has concluded there are insufficient staff and/or volunteers to maintain the orchid collection and they are offering the collection to our members who have the time and skills to maintain and care for the plants.

If you are interested in accepting plants, you must be prepared to share divisions of all with the conservatory if and when they request them. This presumably may not be until the new conservatory is completed, but is subject to change.

Lorne Heshka and Dave Moran have spent some time cataloguing the available plants, which number over 200. The list of plants available was distributed at the October meeting and a corrected/updated list is on the website <http://www.manitobaorchidsociety.ca/Conservatory%20collection.xls>. There are quite a number of unknowns. As well there are three or four others whose tags seem to be wrong—these are designated with question marks preceding the name. Many of the unknown *Oncidium*s are either Sharry Baby, including some that are a tricolored clone with some yellow in the flower; or *Odontocidium* (formerly *Colmanara*) Wildcat.

The Chinese Paphs, confiscated a number of years ago, are included in the offering. Members accepting these will be expected to sign a release form stating they will never sell these orchids. (This provision is to prevent anyone from profiting from confiscated plants.) Presumably giving divisions to others is acceptable. One plant listed, Mt. Toro, is not truly a “Chinese” Paph, but is actually a primary hybrid of *Paph stonei* and *Paph philippinense*.

A request in writing or via e-mail must be received by Dave demoran@shaw.ca or Lorne lheshka@mts.net before the November general meeting.

We will be striking a committee for distribution of the plants consisting of 3 general members, plus up to three board members. The method of plant distribution will be announced at a later date.

All members accepting plants need to be aware that insects & diseases are present (some would say rampant) in this orchid collection and definitely should take appropriate action when accepting plants. We are attempting to get the conservatory staff to spray the plants prior to distribution, but precautions would still be prudent.

Basic on Orchid Names (from the American Orchid Society website)

Understanding orchid names enhances the pleasure of this hobby. Initially, it is easy to talk with friends using common names like moth orchids and lady's-slipper orchids. But eventually one needs to come to grips with botanical names. Though perhaps intimidating at first, mastering the simple Latin of scientific names will eliminate the twist from the tongue and enable everyone to talk about orchids with confidence.

For example: *Odontioda* Star Trek 'Harlequin', HCC/AOS, tells four things about this plant:

It is a member of the genus *Odontioda*

It is a hybrid (or grex) named Star Trek

'Harlequin' is its clonal name

And it has received a Highly Commended Certificate (HCC) from the American Orchid Society for its flowers, which scored from 75 to 79 points on a 100-point scale.

Parts of a Name

To elucidate an orchid's name, pick up a catalog or plant label from one of your plants. Most likely, the name will consist of at least two words. The first word is the name of the genus (plural: genera). It is usually printed in italics because, as Latin, it is a foreign language, and begins with a capital letter (*Cattleya*, *Epidendrum*, *Zygopetalum*). Botanists abbreviate generic names with the first letter (such as C. for *Cattleya* and E. for *Epidendrum*), while horticulturists often use short abbreviations, such as Epi. for *Epidendrum* and Phal. for *Phalaenopsis*.

Within each genus there may be dozens, if not hundreds, of variations on a theme. Taxonomists recognize these species by giving them individual names called specific epithets (these usually begin with a lower-case letter and are also in italics). A specific epithet may indicate place of origin (*costaricensis*, from Costa Rica), the person who found the orchid (*besseae*, for Libby Besse), a characteristic of the orchid (*glabra*, for smooth) or honor an individual (*garayi*, for Leslie Garay). Together, the genus name and specific epithet comprise the species name, and often impart a bit of information. Hence *Masdevallia coccinea* is a species with red flowers (*coccinea* means red) and *Paphiopedilum philippinense* was discovered in the Philippines.

Some species may exhibit certain characteristics with additional variation which a taxonomist may recognize by assigning a subspecies, varietal or form name. These begin with a lower-case letter, are in italics and are the third name in sequence. The flowers of *Phragmipedium besseae* are typically red, but a variant with yellow flowers has been named *Phragmipedium besseae* forma (usually abbreviated simply as f.) *flavum*.

The Names of Hybrids

A major attraction of orchids is the diversity of hybrids available to growers. Hybrids have names, too. When a hybrid is made, the breeder, or his or her representative, assigns a grex or group name that applies to all of the hybrid progeny. A grex name begins with a capital letter and is in Roman type. When *Paphiopedilum niveum* was crossed with *Paphiopedilum tonsum*, all progeny were given the name *Paphiopedilum Olivia*. Since this cross was registered in 1898, some plants with exceptionally fine

flowers have been observed and assigned cultivar names to distinguish them. When researching Paph. Olivia in the literature, one might see the cultivar names `Lorelei', HCC/AOS, or `Casa Luna', AM/AOS, following the grex name. Cultivar names may be applied to hybrids (Paph. Olivia `Lorelei', HCC/AOS) as well as species (Paphiopedilum appletonianum `Seascape', HCC/AOS). A cultivar name begins with a capital letter, is in Roman type and set within single quotation marks. When vegetatively propagated -- through divisions, keikis (offshoots) or mericlones -- all derivatives of a cultivar will be genetically identical and possess the same cultivar name. This permits hobbyists to know exactly what to expect from a plant they purchase bearing this name.

Glancing at the clonal names above reveals some extra letters -- such as AM/AOS and HCC/AOS --following the plants' names. These indicate an award, in this case granted by the American Orchid Society (AOS). These awards may be given to both species and hybrids. The letters before the slash are an abbreviation for the award; AM is an Award of Merit, HCC a Highly Commended Certificate. The letters following the slash indicate the association that bestowed the award. Awards are given by several organizations, including the American Orchid Society (AOS), The Royal Horticultural Society, the South Florida Orchid Society and the Honolulu Orchid Society (HOS). An award imparts prestige, and, generally, a higher price.

A thorough discussion of orchid nomenclature is presented in *The Handbook on Orchid Nomenclature and Registration* (4th edition, 1993), prepared by The Handbook Committee of the International Orchid Commission with the cooperation of The Royal Horticultural Society.

Pronunciation

Arguing the correct pronunciation of potato and tomato is nothing compared to some of the heated debates surrounding the proper way to pronounce botanical Latin. Fortunately, many basic orchid names are agreed upon. With a modicum of effort, they become a part of the enthusiastic orchidist's vocabulary. The key to success: talk with fellow orchidists at meetings, shows, nurseries and regional judging sessions. Listen to others. Take the time to practice yourself. Invest in one of several guides that offer invaluable advice for pronouncing names, and, frequently, their meaning too. Some of these are [An Orchidist's Glossary](#), published by the American Orchid Society, and Alex Hawkes' [Encyclopedia of Cultivated Orchids](#).

The AOS thanks James Watson for this essay.

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The Role of Carbon Dioxide in Orchid Growing

Tips from the Dutch Masters

Carbon-Dioxide and Orchids CO₂

Orchids need carbon dioxide (CO₂) to create leaf growth. Many orchids seem to have different ways of taking up carbon dioxide. Normally plants take in CO₂ during daytime, but there are those, which take CO₂ at night to use during daytime.

This latter process has been shown to occur in Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Paphiopedilum *insigne* and possibly other Paphiopedilum hybrids with leathery leaves such as Cymbidium *lowianum*, Vanda, Aranda and Arachnis.

Not only does the leaf take up CO₂, but the roots of Phalaenopsis hybrids, for example, absorb even more carbonite than the leaves. Buds and even green Cymbidium flowers also absorb CO₂. Because the leaves of Cymbidium hybrids are thinner, they take CO₂ during daytime as well as night, tests have shown. For them, the application of CO₂ during daytime is most efficient.

But with Phalaenopsis, CO₂ application during the night is more effective. Soon, we'll be starting a research program to investigate this.

During the development of young/new Cymbidium shoots, much plant tissue is formed. This development mostly takes place in the early Spring. Little ventilation and the use of shade cloth are often used in this period of time. This causes a lower CO₂ level inside the greenhouse than the outside 300 ppm level and results in lesser growth.



A Carbon dioxide system in a paphiopedilum house in Holland.

Application of CO₂ up to 1,000 ppm means a + 50% increase of CO₂ absorption, even with a lower light intensity. But always use a CO₂ meter, to be sure of an exact CO₂ application! The effect of CO₂ on flowers has never been thoroughly investigated. Still, we know that an application of CO₂ results in more intense colors.

During the flowering period use a safe level of CO₂ at 300-400 ppm. Even in late spring and summer a CO₂ level of minimal 300 ppm should be maintained.

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Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting October 19, 2008

Recorder: Morganne Jerome

1. Call to order:

Dave Moran called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm

Dave welcomed all members to the October auction meeting.

New members Danielle and Kelly were welcomed.

Approved Executive Meeting minutes and suggestion slips are available from the Secretary (Morganne Jerome) at all General Meetings (please include your name on the suggestion slip for follow-up purposes, and submit it to any Executive member).

Volunteers to bring refreshments to the November Meeting: Darlene Moar, Wendy Chaytor, Neil Dunham, Pat Roberts.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Motion to accept minutes, as published, proposed by Robert Parsons, seconded by Lorne Heshka, carried.

3. Financial report: Garnet Ward

Garnet provided a brief verbal financial report.

Motion to accept the financial report proposed by Robert Parsons, seconded by Robert Kato, carried.

4. Programs: Kyle Lucyk

Kyle was absent, but sent the following report to Dave Moran:

November: Norito Hasegawa will be speaking on Paphiopedilums.

Norito will be selling flasks, preorders must be in to Kyle by November 10. Copies of the flask list were made available by Dave Moran, and will be published on the MOS website.

December: The annual potluck Xmas party will be held on the second Sunday in December at 3:00 pm.

5. Show Chairperson Report: Lorne Heshka

Debbie Robb and Eva Slavicek will share the responsibility for the MOS Show publicity. Joan Heshka will take charge of the food for the Show.

6. AOS/COC Representative: Kevin Duerksen

Kevin was absent, Robert Parsons reported on his behalf.

If any members would like to purchase a calendar, please contact Kevin.

7. Hospitality: Eva Slavicek

Eva thanked those that brought refreshments to the meeting and urged everyone to think about what they will be bringing to the potluck dinner in December. A sign up sheet for the latter will be available at the next General Meeting.

8. Library: Lilianne Foster

Lilianne was absent. No report.

9. Public Relations:

Position still vacant

10. Membership: Gary Jaworski

98 members signed up so far.

11. Newsletter: Robert Parsons

No report.

12. Website: Robert Kato

No report.

13. Special Orders: Jim Roy

No report.

14. Unfinished Business:

Volunteers are still urgently needed to fill the Public Relations position on the Executive Board.

A volunteer for bringing the PA equipment to each General Meeting is also still urgently required. Please contact Dave or Lorne if you are willing and able to help.

The Conservatory currently has insufficient staff and volunteers to maintain their orchid collection and are offering the full collection to members free of charge provided they are willing to supply the Conservatory with divisions once they are again able to care for them.

Copies of the collection list were made available and will be published on the website.

The confiscated Chinese paphs are available but members wishing to adopt them will have to sign an agreement that they cannot be sold.

Requests for plants (in writing or via email) should be submitted to Dave or Lorne no later than the next General Meeting. A committee will be formed to distribute plants fairly once all requests have been received. Three members of the MOS will be needed for the Committee.

Please remember that plants are known to have some pest problems. Lorne and Dave will try to arrange to have all plants sprayed before distribution.

15. Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment - Kimberly Pronyshyn

Auction followed the business meeting.

Note: Minutes of the Executive Meetings are available to be picked up at General Meetings on request from the Secretary.