



Next Meeting: 21 September 2008
Salle Académique, Rm. 1531
St-Boniface College,
196 De La Cathedrale Av.

Novice Programme

To be announced

Starts at 1:00PM

Regular Programme

Orchids of Japan with Jason Fischer of
Orchids Limited

Starts at 2:00PM

Bring Plants for Show & Tell





There will be no selling of plants by members at the September meeting.
Goodies will be provided by Chris Schnell, Eva Slavicek, Donna McCuskee & Rachelle Ginsberg.

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

Executive email: president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Newsletter email: newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Submission deadline 25 September 2008 for October 2008 Issue

Help needed!	<p>We are in need of someone to bring the sound system to the general meetings. Please consider helping out with this important component of our programs.</p>
	<p>A reminder Kyle Lucyk is organizing a pre-order for himself and any club members who desire plants from Ecuagenera. The deadline for orders is (excluding Phrag species) is September 14th. Please send your orders to kylelucyk@gmail.com. Please put ECUAGENERA in the subject line.</p>
	<p>September 21st General Meeting: Jason Fischer will be speaking on Orchids of Japan. He will be bringing plants to sell, as well as the pre-ordered plants.</p> <p>October 19th Annual Auction: Start preparing your plants!</p>
Hearts & Flowers	<p>The MOS extends its sympathies to Ingrid Pokrant on the passing of her mother.</p> <p>If you hear of any good/bad news regarding members or their families, please call Morganne Jerome and let her know.</p>
Benefits of Membership	<p>Manitoba Orchid Society members now receive the following discounts: 15% at Shelmerdine Nurseries, 15% at Schriemer Nurseries, 15% at Village Garden Center & 10% at La Coste Nursery upon presentation of valid membership cards.</p>
	<p>To Arturo Alejandro, Kevin Duerksen, Horst Hack, Marianne Hack, Jerry Lenover, Kyle Lucyk, Ed Maza, Dave & Elaine Moran for bringing flowering plants to the May meeting.</p> <p>To Horst Hack, Marianne Hack, Lorne Heshka, Kyle Lucyk and Darlene Moar for bringing flowering plants to the June meeting.</p>
	<p>The Executive encourages all members to provide feedback, comments, suggestions by filling out a comment sheet available from the Secretary at all General Meetings.</p> <p>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.</p>

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
Public Relations
Special Orders Jim Roy
AOS/COC Rep Kevin Duerksen
Library Lilianne Foster
Newsletter Robert Parsons
Website Robert Kato

Editor's Message:

I hope everyone has enjoyed the summer, that your orchids have performed well, or, if you're like me, that you haven't lost any. If you have lost plants, look on the resumption of our monthly meetings as an opportunity to reduce such losses in future by learning from the great growers in the Manitoba Orchid Society.

As I write this in mid August, we are in need of some people to help fill out our executive. Hospitality, Public Relations and that important position of Show Chair are all in need of your help. I can't imagine our society without its signature show, but it is a possibility as things currently stand.

Our September meeting will feature Jason Fischer of Orchids Limited from Minneapolis, who will be speaking on Japanese Orchids. We have enjoyed visits from Orchids Limited in the past, with Jerry Fischer, but I believe this will be the first time Jason has addressed one of our meetings. He will be bringing plants for sale, so there will be no selling of plants at the September meeting.

October, of course, is one of the most fun meetings, featuring our annual auction. I always wind up buying far more plants than I really have room for, but somehow I do manage to squeeze in a few more. With the possible exception of the show, there is no Manitoba Orchid Society event I look forward to more.

I am confident Kyle Lucyk will be putting together another great year of programs for the club and urge everyone to take advantage of them. This includes an order with Ecuagenera, details on Page 2. Don't forget other things we get to take advantage of: again on Page 2 there is a list of discounts that we enjoy in some of the garden centres in the city.

This issue of the newsletter has, in addition to the minutes of the June meeting, the May meeting minutes, which would normally have been in the June issue. We will thus, be voting on the approval of both at the September meeting. The result is the newsletter is larger than usual because the executive did not want to stint on articles in order to make room for the extra minutes.

Robert Parsons

How I Grow Phalaenopsis Orchids

By Bob Lucas

Editor's Note: This is part of a series of culture articles by SOS members who are known for growing fine plants. Others have focused on *Phragmipedium*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Dendrobium*, *Masdevallia* and *Vanda* orchids, some of which have appeared in previous MOS Newsletters. The comments about Saskatoon water are probably not applicable to those of us on Winnipeg city water.

The first question that must be addressed in an article on the culture of *Phalaenopsis* orchids is, 'Who cares?' When wonderful blooming meristems from Taiwan can be bought for \$20.00 from your local supermarket, and discarded once petals drop, who needs culture tips?

I have three answers that I hope you find compelling. First, there is joy to be had from a well-grown plant, even before it blooms. Second, the anticipation of growing and blooming out a flask of a new hybrid is often more rewarding than the blossoms themselves. Third, if your collection contains only meristems that everyone else has, your ability to mount a varied and entertaining display is severely curtailed.

Light

I grow my seedlings and rejuvenating mature plants under florescent lights. I have 2 three-tiered light stands with 4 48" tubes on each level. The distance between the lights and the tray bottoms are 13, 16 and 18 inches to allow for different sized plants. The lights are on timers set for 14 hours. Light is augmented by east and south windows and on a typical summer day in Saskatchewan the light intensity averages around 900-1000 foot-candles.

I run a ceiling fan 24 hours a day on low, just enough to impart a gentle motion to flower spikes.

Water

I do not use Saskatoon water because I found that with it my plants displayed pitting of the leaves. I attribute this to the hardness of the water. It measures about 210 ppm out of the tap and since I aim for a total ppm of 450, it does not leave much room for fertilizer. In addition I have no idea of the composition of the minerals in the water. Consequently I switched to RO water about eight years ago and I have not experienced any pitting since then.

I water once a week except in July and August when the temperature in my growing room routinely reaches 30-35 degrees C. Then I sometimes augment the routine with additional water.

Potting Medium

My Potting medium is a combination of expanded clay pellets and sphagnum moss. This choice is based on the fact that I grow many plants in my house and I want to minimize any problems associated with decomposition. An added benefit is that I can recycle the pellets after cleaning them. I layer the two, beginning with pellets then moss, the plant, Pellets, moss and Pellets. This sequence ensures that the roots always have air space into which they can grow, thereby minimizing the root rot that can occur in moss alone.

Fertilizer

One might think the nutrients contained in the fertilizer, and their concentration levels are the most important considerations in efficient fertilizing, but that is not the case. The most critical element is the pH measure of the solution, so let me start with this. Before I started growing orchids I gave little thought to how plants take up nutrients. If pressed I probably would have mentioned capillary or osmosis action, but, in truth, my closest analogy would have been, 'like a straw.'

After reading How To Supercharge Your Garden, by G. Reinders and M. Mainly (Mainly publications, Abbotsford, B. C., 1999) I discovered that, "the nutrients, the water, the trace elements, the growing medium, and the gases at the roots have different electrical charges all engaged in a constant battle.... exchanging positive and negative electrical charges, and in this way nutrients are absorbed into the roots to feed the plant,"(p. 66).

Who knew? Anyway, the bottom line is that without the correct pH, the plant will not be able to absorb the nutrients regardless of what you have provided.

Fortunately, most of the important nutrients are taken up optimally with a pH level between 6 and 6.5. However, this reading must be taken from the runoff, as various mediums will differ in their electrical charges. For example, moss, being slightly acidic (positively charged) will bring the pH measure down significantly. Thus, I have to start with a pH reading of 7.5 to end up at the roots with 6-6.5.

I used to complicate my fertilizer routine by alternating among various products. However, for the past four months I have stuck with MSU and I have not noticed any deterioration in my orchids. Here is my mix for 18 litres of RO water:

3 tbsp of MSU (for RO water)

1 tsp Pro-teKt

1/4 Tsp magnesium nitrate

Adjust the pH to 7.5 (about 5ml of pH UP).

The Pro-teKT (Dyna-Grow silicon supplement) is supposed to promote disease resistance and it seems to create a shiny healthy leaf. The magnesium is a bloom enhancer and I use the nitrate form since Horst Bohne maintains that, "you can never have too much nitrogen." This solution measures out around 450-475 ppm depending on how carefully I measure. I fertilize with each watering at a frequency of once a week. If more frequent watering is required in the summer heat, I do it with RO water with a trace amount of fertilizer.

Temperature

I find the best growth rates occur with a daytime temperature between 25-30 degrees C and 18-22 degrees C at night. In the summer heat above 30 degrees C, the plants experience stress and appear to go into a holding mode.

Flower Induction

In nature, flower induction is triggered by the drop in temperature and the increase in light intensity that accompany the end of the monsoon season.

To replicate these conditions, I move plants I think are capable of blooming to a room in the basement. The light is provided by a 400 watt high pressure sodium lamp mounted on a track. The track allows me to expand the growing area to 9x4 feet with one light, thereby economizing on electrical bills. The plants directly under the light receive just over 1000 footcandles and the light is on for fourteen hours a day. An overhead fan runs on medium 24/7.

By adjusting the amount of air conditioning that enters this room, I can ensure that the temperature ranges from a low of 15 degrees C to a high of 22 degrees C, even in the summer. After about six to eight weeks, 90 percent of the plants have spiked. Those that have not are returned to the growing room for additional development.

An added benefit of using this type of temperature control is that I am able to bloom plants year round. This is particularly useful when entering Phals in fall shows. In addition, always having plants in bloom is better for the soul than an explosion of blooms for a few months of the year.

Miscellaneous Hints

I repot when there appear to be more roots above the medium than in it, for then the plant is at a disadvantage in accessing nutrients. I don't hesitate to repot a plant in spike or bloom, as repotting appears to invigorate the plant.

Before repotting, I soak the plant in a weak solution of RO water and a root booster such as Superthrive for 15 minutes.

Violacea, bellina and their primary hybrids seem to do better with less fertilizer so I dilute my solution by half for them (and my paphs), although I fertilize with each watering as with the other orchids.

On the basis of autopsies conducted on orchids that I and friends have killed, nine orchids die from root rot associated with over watering for each one that dies of dehydration. The simple reason for this is that the evidence of dehydration, droopy or limp leaves, is readily apparent before lethal damage occurs. In contrast, root rot is usually irreversible once the plant depicts signs of distress. The medium should be dry before watering, but not excessively so. If you are unsure of whether to water or not, don't.

Don't let your plants bloom for more than four months. I used to be excited if blooming lasted six months or more. However, my joy dissipated when I found the plant more often than not near death's door, and facing a two-year recuperation period.

This article originally appeared in the November 2007 issue of the Saskatchewan Orchid Society Newsletter, Volume 25, #3.

The Lure of Miniatures

By Rebecca Tyson Northen

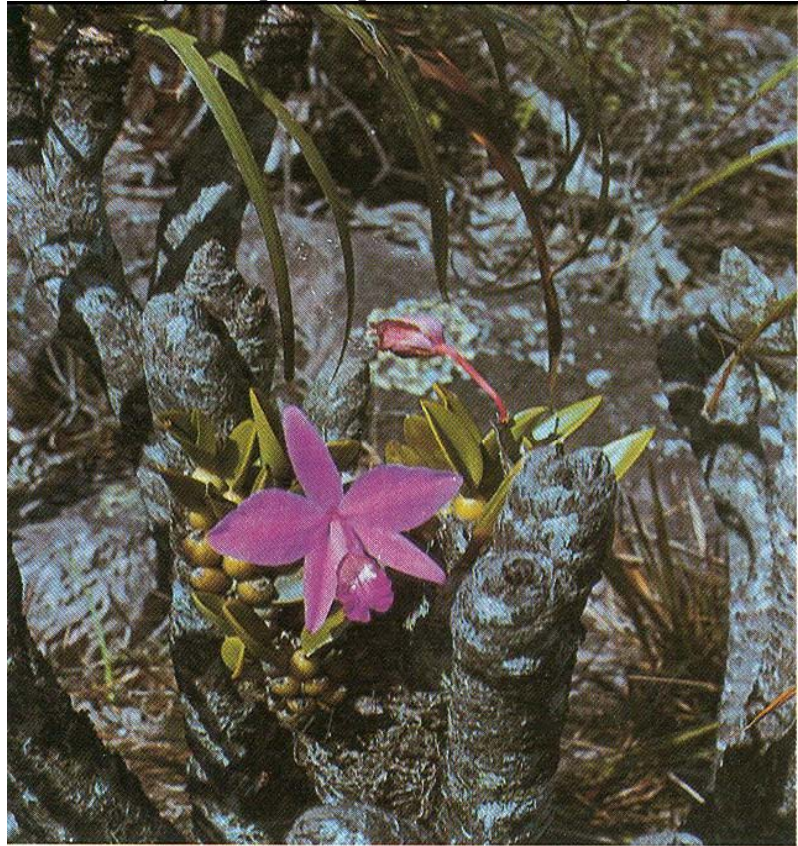
It isn't only that they are small, or that they take up little space, but also that they are so charming that gives miniatures their special appeal. Color, fanciful shapes, floriferousness - miniatures have it all. When visitors look at a tiny flower with a magnifying glass their universal response is: "How can anything so tiny be so perfect?" But not all miniatures need to be viewed through a magnifying glass. Many are showy and some have blooms as large as or larger than those of many big plants. True, there are "plain Janes" among them. Even some of these, e.g., many pleurothallids, make lovely little bouquets with their multitude of flowers.

The definition of a miniature can't be really exact. A plant height of six inches is generally accepted as a limit, but as you know, there are plants no taller than this, e.g., some phalaenopsis, that can't possibly be considered miniature.

On the other hand there are some dainty kinds that are taller, e.g., dichaeas and lockhartias, that I feel deserve to be considered miniatures. The inflorescence is not included in height limit because small plants often have very tall flower stems.

There are both cool growing (50° nights) and intermediate (55-60°F nights); kinds that prefer to be mounted and others that do better in pots; kinds that thrive in bright sun and others that need shade.

Since they are small, or hanging, they require more frequent watering than large plants, and rather high humidity. Plastic pots are suitable. For the smallest or those with fine roots, fine bark, with or without the addition of a little perlite, is a good medium. For those that need more moisture at the roots, New Zealand sphagnum moss is used more and more now. I do not like what is called green moss or tree moss - it is *not* sphagnum and sometimes inhibits root growth. Regular sphagnum, which is a bog moss is alright, although it is a little harder to



***Laelia sincorana* Schltr. Photographed in flower on *Velozia* Bush stumps in nature. Greenhouse cultivation on these stumps, when possible, creates a spectacular result when in flower.**

wet up once it has dried in the pot. Plants with larger roots, such as the rupicolous laelias can use medium grade bark. Rupicolous means rock or cliff dwelling, and in this case refers to the high mountain rocky areas with bright sun.

Dendrobium cuthbertsonii F. Muell., from the cool, misty highlands of New Guinea, has handsome flowers that keep fresh on the plant for nine months.



Mystacidium braybonae Summerh., a tiny beauty of delightful fragrance, is from the Transvaal of Union of South Africa.



Dyakia hendersoniana (Rchb.f.) E. A. Christenson is a sheer beauty with dainty flowers whose comical lip is almost all spur. (Previously called *Ascocentrum hendersonianum*.)



Encyclia vitellina (Lindl.) Dressler is one of Mexico's most beautiful orchids. All the flower parts are decorative, even the orange peduncle and the green-striped orange ovary.

Dendrobium senile Par. & Rehb.f., a Thailand species, is aptly named for its hairy stems and leaves. Its satiny flowers are long lasting.



Ticoglossum krameri (Rehb.f.) R. L. Rodr. ex Halbinger is a bright little Costa Rican with dainty crest and lip markings. "Tico" is a nickname used affectionately in Costa Rica.



Dendrobium lichenastrum (F. Muell.) Kranzl. is always a source of interest and amusement, an unusual Australia native that forms a dense mat of tiny rhizomes and leaves.



Neofinetia falcata (Thunb.) H. H. Hu is a fragrant Japanese species that easily holds its own among other vandaceous orchids.

But how to pick and choose among the many miniatures? There are probably more miniatures than large orchids, and almost every genus has a few. All we can do is present a few to whet the appetite. Unless otherwise noted, these given here require intermediate temperatures.

The huge genus *Dendrobium* has a remarkable number of small species. Among the many that spread into a mat is *D. lichenastrum* from Australia, which soon covers a plaque of bark or tree fern.

The plump little leaves resemble shiny 3/4-inch balloons, as they grow from a spreading rhizome. The yellow cup-shaped 1/4-inch flowers have a saucy deeper yellow tongue-shaped lip that protrudes from the cup, and they bloom all year around. The cool growing *D. linguiforme* is another spreading, matforming plant, whose leaves are flat, furrowed, plump tongues 3/4 inch long. Its mass of feathery white flowers appears in late fall and winter, encouraged by a drop in temperature.

Forming quite a contrast to these is *D. senile* from Thailand, whose pseudobulbs are more like canes, and are covered with white whiskers. Its soft green leaves are also hairy, and they are deciduous. The one-inch satiny yellow flowers have a touch of green in the lip. They appear in the spring when the leaves are nearly gone, and last for three months or more.

Two beautiful nigro-hirsute species are also from Thailand, *D. margaritaceum* and *D. bel/atulum*. The former has slender pseudobulbs three to four inches tall with a few deciduous leaves at the top. Its lovely white flowers are just over an inch long, with a bright yellow keel in the oblong lip and red tinges inside the side lobes. *D. bel/atulum* has shorter, thicker pseudo bulbs and rounder, more spectacular flowers. Its lip is broader than long, turned down at the end, and is pure brilliant yellow on the outer half, bright rosy red on the basal section. This one blooms in late winter while *D. margaritaceum* flowers in the summer.

No mention of miniature Dendrobiums would be complete without *D. cuthbertsonii*, long called *D. sophronites* for its resemblance to that species. The plants are extremely tiny, barely 1/2 inch tall, and have rough papillose leaves. The flowers, several times the height of the plant, come in tones of red, orange, cream, yellow and rose, and completely dwarf the plant. The flowers are funnel shaped, with the open end spreading to a width of an inch or so, revealing the scoop-shaped lip, and last for nine months. Definitely cool growing.

Several species belong to the Laeliinae, the group that includes cattleyas, laelias, epidendrums, etc. Among them are *Cattlega aclandiae*, a small plant with a three-inch fragrant, luridly spotted flower with a beautiful rose lip; *Laelia pumila*, another three-inch flower of deep lavender with an even deeper purple lip; *L. sincorana*, a remarkable xerophytic plant with marble-sized pseudobulbs and very tough, heavy leaves, whose flowers are similar to *L. pumila*. Other rupicolous laelias are *L. milleri*, whose flowering stems are 12 or more inches tall, each bearing eight to ten scarlet flowers, star-shaped, 1-1/2 inches across, that last for several months. This plant grows well in intermediate temperatures, and perhaps a bit better in cool temperatures. We shouldn't leave out the charming *L. flava* with its bright yellow star-shaped flowers, *L. briegei* whose blooms are a softer yellow, and *L. lucasiana* whose blossoms are a soft, rosy lavender with golden yellow lip, but we can't include the many others in this category.



Laelia briegei Blum. This is another spectacular rupicolous *Laelia* species with upright flower scapes bearing three to five flowers all open at the same time. x1.



Laelia milleri Blumenschein. x 1 1/4. (See color article in *Orch. Dig.*, pp. 312-314, 1971.)

Laelia milleri represents the tragic story of what is happening to our tropical forests and the species they shelter. This marvelous plant was discovered in Brazil only twenty years ago and within a few years it had been completely destroyed in nature. A mining operation devastated the area in which it lived. We almost missed ever seeing this one, and it pains us to think of the many others that are being made extinct before we can get to know them. Many encyclias are attractive, among them the brilliant orange *E. vitellina* whose star-shaped two-inch flowers have a green and orange striped ovary. It is definitely cool growing, and its blossoms, which come five or ten at a time on six-inch stems, last several months.

Encyclia mariae, one of the loveliest of orchids, gives graceful flowers whose disproportionately large lip is white, contrasting beautifully with the green sepals and petals. The four or five blossoms weigh down a little the slender stem. Both species flower in spring and summer, but *E. mariae* does not last as long.

Sophronitis coccinea has almost no equal for beauty and brilliance. Its round, flat open, two-inch flowers are red, red-orange, or rose, and last on the plant for two months or more. It has been used to make many red hybrids with *Cattleya*, *Laelia*, *Epidendrum* and *Encyclia*; in fact, it is one of the most useful of species in that way. There are several species of *Sophronitis* - *brevipedunculata*, a smaller, shorter stemmed one, and *wittigiana*, a smaller plant with much larger flowers, pink in color. And there is also *S. cernua*, with rather different habits and much smaller flowers. It is a creeping plant and the half-inch flowers come on short stems in clusters of three or four, orange to yellow, or red-orange in color.

The so-called equitant oncidiums, because of their fan of "folded" leaves, are charmers. Their bright flowers arise from rather tall stems, in clusters of five to ten, and range in color from pink (*O. pulchellum*), to red and white (*O. triquetrum*), to yellow and brown (*O. ibaguense*). These little plants prefer to be kept in a bright area, with high humidity but not too wet at the roots. Some growers succeed with them in pots, others on mounts. Many hybrids have been made, ranging through a spectrum of colors, absolutely charming.

Small angraecoid orchids are lovely with their serene white flowers, sometimes shading into salmon and green. The genus *Mystacidium* has some of the smallest of orchids, such as the tiny *M. braybonae*, whose sprays of little white blossoms last for weeks and weeks. It is one of the south Africans, as is *M. venosum*, another tiny white-flowered one. *Mystacidium capense* is larger, a three inch plant with sprays of one-inch flowers with a long spur. A blooming plant is very decorative, its flowers making a pretty pattern.

From the old world come several vandaceous species of great beauty. One of the prettiest is the Japan "wind orchid," *Neofinetia falcata*, whose perky white blossoms stand up smartly on their straight pedicels, showing off their slender parts and long spurs. They are delightfully fragrant. It grows quickly into a specimen plant, and flowers in spring and fall.

The Australian species *Sarcochilus hartmanii* gives a wealth of white flowers reminiscent of our white dogwood, but very much smaller. The plant branches into a specimen rather easily, in a cool, bright environment. Similar ones are *S. fitzgeraldii* and *falcata*. A much smaller one is *S. ceciliae*, not as easy to grow, but delightful. It has tiny pale pink blossoms that come one or two at a time on short stems over a long period.

One of the most charming is *Ascocentrum hendersonianum* (*Dyakia*) from Borneo. The three inch plant gives two spikes, one on each side, covered with bright rose flowers whose lip is a long, down-hanging tongue that gives it a most impertinent appearance. From Thailand there is a most remarkable little species, *Schoenorchis manipurensis*, only an inch tall when it has acquired as many as six or eight pairs of 1/3-inch leaves. Its flower spike is less than half an inch tall and bears a tight cluster of rich pink 1/4-inch blossoms. Truly a marvelous creation.

With a little searching of lists and visits to nurseries specializing in species you can turn up a wealth of miniatures. There are small oncidiums such as *O. dasystyle* whose round whitish flowers have speckled petals and sepals and a fat black "bee" on the lip; *O. harrisonianum* that gives feathery sprays of yellow and brown blossoms; *O. macropetalum* whose bright yellow flowers have petals larger than the lip; or the tiny mule ear species *O. pumilum* and *morenoi* with dense spikes of minute fleshy flowers.

Many delightful species that have been removed from *Odontoglossum* are available. Among them are some now known as *Lemboglossum* - *L. cervantesii*, the beautiful round white, rarely pink, flowers with concentric circles of brown bars setting off the center of the blossoms, *L. rossii*, with pink, two- to three-inch flowers with spotted sepals, and *L. ehrenbergii*, its near twin that has barred sepals; *Osmoglossums* - such as *O. pulchellum*, the "lily of the valley" orchid that has slender sprays of white, fragrant one-inch blossoms, and its near twins *O. convallarioides* and *O. egertonianum*; and last but not least are the little Costa Ricans now called *Tricoglossum* - *T. krameri*, the beautiful two-inch pink flower with a deeper lip, yellow crest, and two rings where the crest ends on the lip, and the much smaller *T. oerstedii*, seldom seen but a pretty little white one with single 1-1/2-inch blossoms.

If this short survey tempts you to try miniatures, it will have served its purpose, and perhaps led you into a new and exciting venture. But it can do no more than present a sample of the wonders awaiting you in the world of miniatures.

Originally published in Orchid Digest, Jan.-Feb.-Mar., 1988 and taken from the January 2008 issue of the Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society.

Culture Of Epidendrum mirabile

By J. A. Fowlie, MD.

This species is rather easily cultivated in large baskets, preferring hapu or palco chips, tightly packed about the roots. The canes send out abundant roots into this compost and then elongate, dangling finally over the edges of the basket and bearing their blooms of two inch diameter from their apices. They succeed well in the Paphiopedilum house of the Arboretum Orchid Research Collection, where they are close to the cooler and subjected to a steady current of cool, moist air.

In nature, their habitat seems to be the montane cloud forest hardwoods at an elevation of 2,000 to 2,200 meters (about 6,600 to 7,400 feet). Mr. Horich led our party to them in the Cedral Mountains, where the tremendous pendulous canes, vegetatively similar to *Epidendrum*, grew in masses, usually hanging down from horizontal limbs or from the crotches of gigantic old trees. Out of flower, it required Mr. Horich's trained eye to distinguish them from the less showy *Epidendrums*, which grew on the same limbs in great masses. The climate of these regions is extremely cold and drafty, at best. Great masses of damp air, chilled by its ascent up the north face of the Cedral course through these great giants, loaded with epiphytes from a seeding of centuries which has gone on from the forests just below the summit. Early botanists knew this principle very well and called it the "Ceja de la montana," or eyebrow of the mountain - referring to a grove of trees along the summit which would catch the seed produced in the forests below as the air masses moved up through it. Under such closely growing giant trees, the gloom and dampness is further enhanced by the daily cloud cap of precipitated moisture which hovers over it from about 10 A.M. on. A thrilling experience is to peer out of an opening of this forest just in time for the clouds to part and see San Jose, the capital city of Costa Rica, far below - framed in the mists of this strange ecological formation.

Originally published in Orchid Digest, May 1966 and taken from the March 2008 Newsletter of the Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society



As he has done for many years, Ed Maza (on left, flanked by Dave Moran) shares his store of knowledge with the MOS membership at the June 2008 'Show & Tell'. Virtually everyone in the club has enjoyed, and benefited from, Ed's advice & comments at some time or other. The society is indeed fortunate to have had him doing commentary at Show & Tell sessions. Ed leaves some mighty big shoes to fill in this regard. We are doubly lucky to still have access to the wealth of his experience.

Thank you Ed ...

Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting May 25, 2008

Recorder: Morganne Jerome

1. Call to order:

Dave Moran called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm

Dave welcomed all members to the May meeting.

New members Carolin Bund, Lisa Fehr and Jason Fehr were welcomed.

Dave thanked Stig Dalstrom for speaking at the well-attended Novice Meeting on the subject of *Phrag. kovachii* and *bessiae*.

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).

Some hydroponics pots and equipment were available for sale at the meeting. The items were brought in on behalf of Walter Regier's family (Walter is a former long standing member who recently passed away). Large items such as benches and tables for a greenhouse are also available. Contact Dave or Lorne if you are interested.

Program

Lorne introduced Stig Dalstrom from Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.

Stig gave a presentation on the subject of 'Orchid Conservation - Why Should I Care?'

At the conclusion, Dave thanked Stig for his very interesting presentation, and presented him with a MOS pin and a copy of the book 'Orchids of Manitoba' on behalf of the MOS.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Motion to accept minutes as published, proposed by Morganne Jerome, seconded by Robert Kato, carried.

3. Financial report: Garnet Ward

There was no formal report due to computer problems.

Garnet provided a verbal report. The financial report will be available at the next General Meeting (June 8, 2008).

4. Programs: Kyle Lucyk

June: Novice: Swap and Shop

General: Olaf Gruss will be speaking on new Paphiopedilum species from Vietnam and their hybrids.

Note: The June Meeting will be on June 8th, which is the 2nd Sunday.

September: Jason Fischer from Orchids Limited will be speaking on Japanese Orchids. Order deadline for plants will be during the summer (possibly July).

October: Auction

November: TBA

5. Show Chairperson Report: Lorne Heshka

Nothing to report.

6. AOS/COC Representative: Kevin Duerksen

Kevin reported on the COC General Meeting and Show, which he attended in Ottawa as a representative of the MOS.

Copies of the report are available.

Kevin reminded everyone that the COC newsletter can be found online.

7. Hospitality:

Position still vacant

8. Library: Lilianne Foster

Nothing to report.

9. Public Relations:

Position still vacant

10. Membership: Gary Jaworski

147 members signed up so far. 102 active members, 21 active family members, 24 family members.

11. Newsletter: Robert Parsons

Robert was absent. Nothing to report.

12. Website: Robert Kato

Nothing to report.

13. Special Orders: Jim Roy

Jim was absent, Dave Moran provided a report on his behalf.

There has been a delay with the Hausermann order. A recent shipment to Saskatoon was seized due to a problem in the paper work. All Canadian shipments were placed on hold until the paperwork was corrected so that it would not happen again. The estimated new shipping date is June 9th, so the order will likely arrive later than the June General Meeting. Arrangements will be made so those that ordered plants can pick them up once the shipment arrives.

14. Unfinished Business:

Volunteers are still urgently needed to fill some important Executive positions (Hospitality, Public Relations, and Show Chair).

If no understudy is found for the Show Chair position (1 year of training under Lorne, then serving the remainder of the 4 year term) there will be no 2009 MOS Show.

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.

15. Raffle draw:

Winners were: Arturo Alejandro, Ed Maza, Kevin Duerksen, Jack Pierce, Garnet Ward, Lilianne Foster, and Bonnie Davies (x2).

16. Show & Tell:

Ed Maza described the plants, assisted by Dave Moran and Morganne Jerome.

At the conclusion of Show and Tell a member commented that it is very disappointing that so many people leave before Show and Tell. This issue will be discussed at the next Executive Meeting.

17. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn - Horst Hack

Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting June 8, 2008

Recorder: Morganne Jerome

1. Call to order:

Dave Moran called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm

Dave welcomed all members to the June meeting.

Dave thanked all who participated in the Shop and Swap Novice Meeting.

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 September Meeting: Chris Schnell, Eva Slavicek, Donna McCuskee, Rachelle Ginsberg.

Program

Kyle introduced Olaf Gruss from Germany.

Olaf gave a presentation on the subject of 'First Steps in Hybridizing with Vietnamese Paphiopedilums'

At the conclusion, Dave thanked Olaf for his very interesting presentation, and presented him with a MOS pin and a copy of the book 'Orchids of Manitoba' on behalf of the MOS.

Business Meeting

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Motion to accept minutes as published, proposed by Morganne Jerome, seconded by Robert Kato, carried.

3. Financial report: Garnet Ward

Garnet provided financial reports for the months of April and May, as well as a Show Summary. Copies available.

Motion to accept the financial report proposed by Garnet Ward, seconded by Denise Fortier, carried.

4. Programs: Kyle Lucyk

September: Jason Fischer from Orchids Limited will be speaking on Japanese Orchids. Order deadline for plants will be early August. Further information will be posted on the MOS website.

October: Auction

November/January: TBA

5. Hospitality:

Position still vacant (Joan Heshka temporarily serving). Joan thanked everyone who brought items for coffee. Dave Moran thanked Joan for taking care of the Hospitality responsibilities.

6. Library: Lilianne Foster

Remember to return your books in September.

7. Public Relations:

Position still vacant

8. Membership: Gary Jaworski

149 members signed up so far.

9. AOS/COC: Kevin Duerksen

Nothing to report.

10. Special Orders: Jim Roy

Jim was absent, Dave Moran provided a report on his behalf.

The Hausermann order should arrive by the end of the week. Those that ordered plants will be contacted and a pick-up arranged.

11. Newsletter: Robert Parsons

Nothing to report.

12. Web Manager: Robert Kato

Nothing to report.

13. Unfinished Business:

Volunteers are still urgently needed to fill some important Executive positions (Hospitality, Public Relations, and Show Chair), see the President's message in the previous newsletter.

If no understudy is found for the Show Chair position (1 year of training under Lorne, then serving the remainder of the 4 year term) there will be no 2009 MOS Show.

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.

14. Raffle:

Winners were: Eva Slavicek, Garnet Ward, Lorne Heshka, Ed Maza, Pat Roberts, Denise Fortier, Darlene Moar, Chris Schnell.

15. Show and Tell:

Ed Maza described the plants, assisted by Dave Moran and Morganne Jerome.

At the conclusion, Dave thanked Ed for all his years of hard work doing Show and Tell.

16. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn - Colleen Paluch

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