



Manitoba Orchid Society

For the Love of Orchids Newsletter

Next Meeting: 18 September 2011
Conference Room
Canadian Mennonite University,
600 Shaftesbury Blvd.
(SW corner of Shaftesbury Blvd. and Grant Avenue)

Novice Programme
To be announced
Starts at 1:00PM

Regular Programme
“Taxonomy of long-petaled Phrags and
their influence on new Phrag hybrids”
by Robert Quene of Orchids Limited.
Starts at 2:00PM

No selling of plants by members at the September meeting.
Bring Plants for Show & Tell

Goodies will be provided by Sheila Pilgrim, Blaine MacKinnon, Phyllis McCaskill, and
Wendy Chaytor.

Website: <http://www.manitobaorchidsociety.ca>
Executive email: president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca
Newsletter email: newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Submission deadline 22 September 2011 for October 2011 Issue



18 September General Meeting: Long-petaled Phrags by Robert Quene of Orchids Limited. Robert is a plant breeder and geneticist and will be known to some of you as “Dr. Orchid”. He will be bringing plants for sale and so there will be no selling by members at the meeting.

16 October: Annual Auction

For sale

2 high sodium 400 Watt light fixtures @ \$75.00 each
1 P.L. light fixture (4 years used) for \$125.00
A few 2 cubic foot orchid bark bags for \$30.00 each
Call Kimberly at 416-5141.

Hearts & Flowers

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



To Lisa Fehr, Joyce Jaworski, Kyle Lucyk, Ed Maza, Dave & Elaine Moran for bringing flowering plants to the June Show & Tell.

To Dan Dutchin for his donation of potting supplies.



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.

2011/2012 Executive

Elected

President Joyce Jaworski
Past President Dave Moran
1st V.P. Kevin Duerksen
2nd V.P./Show Chair Rob Kato
Treasurer Fraser Cameron
Secretary Phyllis McCaskill

Appointed

Membership Gary Jaworski
Social Eva Slavicek
Public Relations Wendy Chaytor
Special Orders Darlene Stack
AOS/COC Rep Kyle Lucyk
Library Lilianne Foster
Newsletter Robert Parsons
Webmaster Robert Kato



Elaine & Dave Moran on the milestones of their 50th Wedding Anniversary and Dave's final day of duty as MOS president on June 12th, 2011. The MOS is grateful to both of them for all the time they have given to the club.



GROWING RHYNCHOSTYLIS

By Lanny Chow

Rhynchostylis is a genus of three species (*gigantea*, *retusa*, *coelestis*) that originate from South East Asia. The genus belongs to the Vanda alliance orchid and is very popular among growers in and out of the tropics. They are commonly called 'Fox Tail' orchid because their dense inflorescence resembles one. Individual flower size ranges from 1-2.5 cm, but it's their ability to produce multiple spikes with hundreds of flowers and its spicy citric like fragrance that catch orchid grower's eyes. Two of the three species, *Rhy. gigantea* and *retusa* have white to pale pink blooms with various pink blotches. The third species, *Rhy. coelestis*, has a white bloom that is flushed and tipped with dark lavender blue. All species are very slower growers, and have leathery drought resistance leaves and generally more manageable than other member of Vanda family in term of size and ease of culture.

Light: All species require medium to high light; the same amount of light recommended for most Vandas and Ascocendas. Indoors, they can be grown at bright south, southeast or southwest facing windowsill or even under light due to their size. All can take full sun from fall to spring, but may need some light shading with sheer curtain during summer time, especially from 11am to 4pm. Under adequate light the leaf should be in medium green; about the same shade as 'kiwi fruit flesh' with some hint of red pigments.

Potting: Rhynchostylis are best potted in big clay pots with side draining holes or in large cedar baskets fill with large chunks of lava rocks, wine bottle corks or large barks that will last for at least 4-5 years. They can be also mounted because their flower spikes

cascade from the plant. All hate being disturbed once they settle into a particular growing container. Plants are very slow growers and don't produce roots as quickly as other orchids like Cattleya or Cymbidium, so extra attention must be paid not to damage the roots too much when transplanting.

Watering and Feeding: Depending on where you grow them, most require daily watering during spring and summer months. If you grow them inside a greenhouse or window sill with high humidity, they might require less. As for feeding, you can fertilize them the same way you would for most Vandas. I feed mine every second watering during warmer months, and once every 3 weeks with ½ strength during dull winter days. **Temperature:** All species originate in lowland to mid elevations and are intermediate to warm growers. Summer night is around 18-20°C with winter minimum of 14-16 °C is good enough. *Rhy.gigantean* and *retusa* are lowland species and will grow more robust in the warmer conditions. *Rhy.coelestis* came from higher elevation and is more suited to growing in intermediate condition and can take cooler nights for extended periods. **Flowering:** *Rhy.gigantean* and *retusa* blooms from fall to late winter, while *Rhy. coelestis* is a summer to fall bloomer. All species bloom typically once a year, but they do make up by sending out multiple spikes when the plants are big enough. Flower generally last about 2-3 weeks.

Rhy.gigantean. This is the best well known member of the genus and the largest in terms of both plant and flower size. Plant size can reach over a meter tall with large broad leathery leaves, but it is generally a very slow grower and will stay compact for several years. Flower size is up to one inch and come in white with various degrees of pink spots to plum blotches, as well as pure white, red and orange.



Rhy.retusa: The bloom in this species is a little bit over half inch, but it more than make up what it lacks in size by having numerous blooms on a flower spike up to 2 feet long. Bloom color is white to pale rose with minute rose spots. The growth habit is very stubby and compact and rarely exceed over six inches at a time.

Rhy.coelestis: This is the only member in the genus that has an erect flower spike. Both the leaf and plant size resemble a small vanda. The bloom color is also very unique and lacks any spotting. They are white, tipped and blushed with various degree of lavender blue.

Originally published in the March 2011 newsletter of the Foothills Orchid Society.

Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting, May 15, 2011

Recorder: Phyllis McCaskill

1. Call to order:

Dave Moran called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. The minutes from the March, 2011 Executive meeting have been approved and are available from the secretary, Phyllis McCaskill. Suggestion slips are available at all general meetings and all suggestions should be signed by the person submitting for follow-up. Completed suggestion slips may be submitted to any Executive member. Volunteers to bring "goodies" for the June general meeting are Jim Gillespie, Elaine Moran, Blaine MacKinnon and Phyllis McCaskill. Kyle Lucyk introduced guest speaker Gary Meyer from San Francisco, who spoke about Draculas.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Phyllis McCaskill moved to accept the minutes of the last General meeting as published, seconded by Rob Kato, - carried. Minutes of the last general meeting are available from the secretary Phyllis McCaskill.

3. Financial report: - Garnet Ward

Garnet presented the financial report to the end of April. Moved by Garnet to accept this report as presented, seconded by Joyce Jaworski, - carried.

4. Programs: - Kyle Lucyk –

The June program is not confirmed at this time. Members may bring plants to the June meeting to sell. Garnet will do the novice meeting for June. Jason Fischer will be here for the September meeting.

5. Show Chairperson and Website Report: - Rob Kato – No report

6. AOS/COC Representative: - Kevin Duerksen – No report

7. Hospitality: - Eva Slavicek – Absent – No report

8. Library: - Lilianne Foster –

Lilianne made a request for books to be returned.

9. Public Relations: - Position vacant, still looking for someone.

10. Membership: - Gary Jaworski

Gary reports our membership is 135.

11. Newsletter: - Rob Parsons

Rob reports that there will not be much in the June Newsletter as he will be away.

12. Special Orders: - Darlene Stack -

We are still waiting to get orders for bark and lights at \$30.00. If we find lights somewhere for less than \$30.00 then we would get them there.

13. New business:

The show committee has asked members to consider whether or not we should have an A.O.S. judged show every year. We only made a profit of \$3000.00 at the last show and this money is used to bring in speakers. This could also mean different vendors coming in. We will ask again in the fall.

14. Old Business:

There will be elections held at the June meeting. The nominating committee will present a list of members to vote on for several positions, as well as any nominations that may come from the floor.

By-law changes were read and discussed as follows:

II – Family membership – carried

Article I -

1.2 – Termination of membership –

Moved by Brian Johnson to go back to committee for some changes, seconded by Garnet Ward,
- carried.

Article 2 – Meetings – Roberts Rules of Order – carried.

Article 12 – Executive

Moved by Garnet Ward that this article go back to committee, seconded by Fraser Cameron – carried.
Brian Johnson moved that we change the wording “3” days to “1” week, seconded by Jim Gillespie,
Carried.

Privacy Policy – carried.

Article 15 – Dissolution

A new amendment was proposed by Jim Gillespie as follows:

M.O.S. may be dissolved by a 2/3 vote of the eligible members attending a special meeting called for that purpose. After dissolution, funds shall be distributed to Educational, Scientific, or other organizations whose objectives are consistent with the stated “Aims and Objectives” in Article 3 of the Constitution.

Motion by Jim Gillespie that we use this amendment, seconded by Rachelle Ginsberg, -
carried.

Lorne Heshka has some left over show books and catalogues from Carter & Holmes for anyone who wants them. We are able to place orders from Carter & Holmes through the Kennedy’s.

15. Show & tell:

Kyle Lucyk did show and tell on the plants that were brought in.

16. Draw winners:

Jim Gillespie, Lea Paluch, Fraser Cameron, Chris Schnell, Julia Scott, Allan Paluch, Rob Kato, Phyllis McCaskill (2).

18. Adjournment:

The next meeting will be June 12th, 2011. Motion to adjourn by Rob Kato at 4:50 p.m.

Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting June 12th, 2011

Recorder: Phyllis McCaskill

1. Call to order:

Dave Moran called the meeting to order at 2:05 P.M. The minutes from the April Executive meeting are available from the secretary Phyllis McCaskill. Suggestions slips are available at all general meetings. Upon completion, suggestions slips may be handed to any member of the executive. All suggestion slips being submitted should be signed for follow-up purposes.

Volunteers to bring “goodies” to the September General meeting are: Sheila Pilgrim, Blaine MacKinnon, Phyllis McCaskill, and Wendy Chaytor.

Thank you to Dan Dutchin who brought in a variety of plant pots, and bark, etc. to be given to any members who wanted them.

Garnet Ward presented the second half of his talk on growing orchids to those attending the Novice meeting.

Kyle Lucyk gave an interesting presentation titled “Orchids and the Internet”, providing tips on how we as orchid growers can use the internet to advance our hobby.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Because of timing, the minutes from the last meeting were not published in the June newsletter. They will be published in the next newsletter and will be approved along with the June minutes at the September meeting.

3. Financial report: - Garnet Ward

Garnet presented the financial report to the end of May, and moved that we accept this report. The motion was seconded by Joyce Jaworski and was carried. Garnet also presented the final financial report from the show.

4. Programs: - Kyle Lucyk

Jason Fischer will be the guest for the September meeting and he will bring plants to sell. Plants can be “pre-ordered” from Jason by visiting his website. There will be more information available on “pre-ordering” in an e-mail that is to be sent to the membership at large.

5. Show Chairperson Report: - Rob Kato – Absent – no report

6. AOS/COC Representative: - Kevin Duerksen – no report

7. Hospitality: - Eva Slavicek – no report

8. Library: - Lilianne Foster – no report

9. Public Relations: Position vacant

10. Membership: - Gary Jaworski

Gary reports that our membership is now 130.

11. Newsletter: - Rob Parsons

The minutes from the last meeting will be in the next newsletter.

12. Unfinished Business:

The two constitution items that were tabled at the May meeting will be referred to the new incoming Executive for them to act on.

The Executive will be asking the membership in the fall if they want to continue the practice of having A.O.S. judged shows each year or alternate them every two or three years to save the additional expense of bringing in judges.

13. New Business:

M.O.S. Executive elections were conducted by Ed Maza. He asked for nominations from the floor, and there were none. He presented the following slate of executive officers as decided by the nominating committee:

- President -----Joyce Jaworski
- 1st Vice President ----Kevin Duerksen
- 2nd Vice President ---Robert Kato
- Treasurer -----Fraser Cameron
- Secretary -----Phyllis McCaskill

There were no further nominations and the slate of officers was accepted as presented. Denise Fortier, a member that sat on the nominating committee stated that this process was a real “eye-opener” and she thanked everyone who allowed their name to stand. She also asked the membership to please be willing to help when there is a need.

We will be meeting at C.M.U. in the fall.

There will be a short board meeting after the general meeting adjourns to confirm appointed positions on the executive.

14. Special Orders: - Darlene Stack

We will try to make a bark order in the fall.

15. Raffle draw: -

Winners were Eva Kurnicka, Phyllis McCaskill, Caroline Lenover, Irene Landry, Jim Roy, Vi Stetzil, and Sheila Pilgrim.

16. Show & Tell

Rob Parsons did the show and tell on the plants that were brought in.

17. Adjournment:

Rob Parsons made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

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