



# Manitoba Orchid Society

For the Love of Orchids Newsletter

**Next Meeting: 19 February 2012**  
**Canadian Mennonite University, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd.**  
**(SW corner of Shaftesbury Blvd. and Grant Avenue)**  
**General Meeting: 1:30 in Conference Room**

## Experts Q & A Panel

Several long-time members of the MOS will form a panel to answer any and all questions related to orchids and orchid growing. This is intended to be a fun learning experience for all, so bring your plants & questions!

Any plants or plant parts brought in for identification of disease/insect problems MUST be sealed in a clear plastic bag.

**Note there is no novice meeting, and the regular meeting starts a half hour earlier than usual.**

## **Bring Plants for Show & Tell.**

Plant sales by members are encouraged.

Goodies will be provided by Diane Tolgyessy, Elaine Moran, Edith Toews & Jennifer Ridge.

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

Executive email: [president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca](mailto:president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca)

Newsletter email: [newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca](mailto:newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca)

**Submission deadline 23 February 2012 for March 2012 Issue**



February 19: General meeting will consist of a panel of experts who will address your orchid problems, possibly including some hands-on demonstration. There will be no novice meeting and the regular meeting will start at 1:30 P.M.

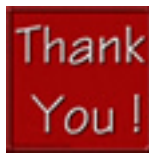
**March 23-25: MOS Show “Orchids Forever”**

**Ever Spring Orchids  
Open House  
Feb 11-12**

Ever Spring Orchids, 2868 Pipeline Road, will hold their annual open house. Always a fun event with refreshments and lot of orchids in bloom. Great to look at in the depths of winter even if you aren't buying!

**Hearts & Flowers**

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



To Neil Dunham, Lorne Heshka, Joyce Jaworski, Kyle Lucyk, and Dave & Elaine Moran for bringing flowering plants to the January Show & Tell.

To Neil Kelly for his donations of two plants for the January raffle.

**Flat Screen TV  
request**

Show Chair Rob Kato is looking for a couple of flat screen TVs for the show. If you can help, contact him at [webmaster@manitobaorchidsociety](mailto:webmaster@manitobaorchidsociety) or 298-8498.

**Show Theme  
Contest!**

The M.O.S. is holding a contest for themes for future shows. More details will be in the March newsletter, but for now, the top three entries will be chosen for themes for the next three years. There will be prizes for the winning entries. Your theme should relate to orchids and be something allowing for creative displays to match the theme. Irene Landry is spearheading the contest, with help from Judy Browne. Entries should be in by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**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

**2012 Manitoba Orchid Society Show & Sale “Orchids Forever ”  
March 23-25**

**Confirmed Show Vendors:**

**Orchids in Our Tropics** - Doug and Terry Kennedy

Gormley ON

Phone/Fax: (905) 727-3319

Web site: <http://www.orchidsinourtropics.com/>

**Mike Gabrielson** - Sherwood Park, A.B.

Phone: (780) 410-1571

e-mail: [mikegab@telus.net](mailto:mikegab@telus.net)

**Ever Spring Orchids** - [Winnipeg, MB](#)

Phone: (204) 338-2340

Web site: <http://www.everspringorchids.ca/>

**Paramount Orchids** - Calgary, Alberta

Phone: (403) 686-7021; Fax: (403) 686-6270

e-mail: [info@paramountorchids.com](mailto:info@paramountorchids.com)

web site: <http://www.paramountorchids.com/>

**Monica de Wit** – Edmonton, Alberta

e-mail: [monicadwt@gmail.com](mailto:monicadwt@gmail.com)

**Chanthorn Orchids** – Vancouver, BC

e-mail: [chanthorn\\_orchid@hotmail.com](mailto:chanthorn_orchid@hotmail.com)

**Windsor Greenhouse** – Windsor, ON

Web site: <http://www.windsorgreenhouse.com/index.html>

**Wild Orchidaceae** – **Winnipeg, MB**

Suite 113-1100 Concordia Ave, East Kildonan, MB R2K 4B8

Phone: 204-663-7753



**Mentorship Program**

The Manitoba Orchid Society is fortunate to have a number of members with a wealth of orchid knowledge. Five members, Lorne Heshka, Denise Fortier, Joyce Jaworski, Neil Dunham and Jim Gillespie have agreed to act as mentors to newer members who have questions on general orchid culture. We are hoping to find one or two more to add to the list. These members have a great deal of orchid knowledge between them, and will certainly try to answer your orchid culture-related questions. I encourage anyone to phone or approach these members at the monthly meetings with your questions.

## The Culture of Jewel Orchids on the Windowsill

By William Cavestro

*William Cavestro has been raising orchids in France for over 25 years, specializing in African and Jewel Orchids. He has published several papers and is a member of a regional orchidist association, Rhone-Alpes Orchidees, in France.*



*Macodes petola, Photo by author*

This article is an attempt to take the mystery out of the culture of Jewel Orchids, but I would stress that they are not to be recommended for the novice. It is necessary to have experimented with the cultivation of various other types before devoting oneself to these wonderful orchids.

The Jewel Orchids are well known for their magnificent foliage which is incomparable to that of any other orchid. In most of the species the leaves are of a velvety texture with an iridescent lustre, more or less dark green. But the greatest attraction is the fine golden, silvery or coppery veins and cross-veins that run through the leaves. When a plant is placed in the sun this reticulation is truly enchanting. The flowers are quite plain. It is advised to discard them for the benefit of the foliage.

I have already published an article in the AOS Bulletin on the culture of these orchids (AOS Bulletin, vol. 43, pp. 793-797). However I should like to return to the subject because that article only concerned the genera *Haemaria* and *Goodyera* which are on the

whole robust plants with fleshy rhizomes. On the other hand species of *Anoectochilus* (*A. regalis*, *reintoard-tii*, *sikkimensis*), *Macodes* (*M. petola*, *pulcberrima*, *sanderiana*) and *Erythrodes* (*E. nobilis*, *pic-ta*) are much more difficult to cultivate.

This is why particular attention must be paid to the compost and watering of these orchids. There are three essential points in growing Jewel Orchids, which are compost, watering and temperature, and vegetative propagation.

### **Compost**

It is necessary to plant these orchids in a well-drained compost. I advise a sphagnum-based mixture with added fern-roots and leaf mould for the least fragile species of *Haemaria* and *Goodyera*. However, this medium is not suitable for *Anoectochilus*, *Macodes* and *Erythrodes* because it is too compact and retains too much moisture. For *Anoectochilus* and *Macodes* I have obtained quite remarkable results using the following mixture:

- 1/3 pine bark
- 1/3 sequoia bark
- 1/3 crushed brick

The sequoia bark is excellent for moisture retention. I use 1 or 2cm (under 1 in.) pieces. The mixture is extremely porous, and avoids rotting of the rhizomes.

I strongly advise against repotting Jewel Orchids annually. Repotting every five years is enough. However, I do carry out a surface dressing once or twice a year with the mixture de-scribed above. In order to encourage the growth of young roots, the rhizomes, which tend to rise, should be held down. For this purpose, small U-shaped metal bridles can be used.

The rhizomes should *never* be covered with compost; they should simply rest on the soil.

### **Watering and temperature**

*Anoectochilus* and *Macodes* should be watered regularly for neither of them can stand up to long periods of drought.

During the period of vegetative growth, from March to October, two or three waterings a week and a daily spray are enough, using rain water only. During the rest period, the number of waterings should be reduced to once or twice a week, depending upon the temperature on the windowsill. For *Anoectochilus*, *Macodes* and *Erythrodes*, the watering should never be interrupted during the winter. Thus a state of semi-vegetation is maintained from November until February, until vegetative growth starts again in the spring.

The average cultivation temperature varies from one species to another. In summer a temperature of 22-25°C (71-77°F) is fine for daytime, and 18-22°C (64-71°F) at night. Certain species (*Anoectochilus sikkimensis* and *roxburghii*) can take lower temperatures (15-20°C (59°- 68°F) during daytime). In winter, most species should be given lower temperatures (18-20°C (64-68°F) in order to encourage rest.

### **Propagation**

I will only discuss here the vegetative multiplication of Jewel Orchids. When and how is this carried out?

The best period is during the summer when the roots have grown. A plant can survive with only two roots. Thus one can select rooted rhizomes even if they have no leaves. Rhizomes should never be cut without roots. On the cut rhizomes new shoots will grow within a month. These will provide so many new plants. Thus quite magnificent pots can be obtained rapidly.

**Lastly, a couple of practical tips.**

Jewel Orchids should be treated monthly with a fungicide to prevent rotting of the rhizomes. During the period of vegetative growth, I use a natural fertilizer, crushed horn, once a month. This fertilizer does not burn the roots.

I hope that this article will be followed by contacts with professional or amateur orchidists who might like to share their experience or exchange orchids.

**References:**

**Cavestro, W.** 1974 The culture of Jewel Orchids, *AOS Bulletin*, Vol. 43, pp.793-797

**Hawkes, A. D.** 1965 *Encyclopaedia of Cultivated Orchids*, Faber and Faber, London and Boston

**Pradhan, G. M.** 1972 *Anoectochilus sikkimensis*, *AOS Bulletin*, Vol. 41, p.684-685

Teuscher, H. 1978 *Erythrodes, Goodyera, Haemaria and Macodes with Anoectobilus*, *AOS Bulletin*, Vol. 47, pp.121-129

**Acknowledgements:**

The author would like to thank Tineke Mulder and Keith Dixon for the translation of this paper.

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A selection of Jewel Orchids from Oak Hill Gardens.

## **Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting January 15, 2012**

*Recorder: Phyllis McCaskill*

### **1. Call to order:**

Joyce Jaworski called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. We had one new member present and one guest.

The minutes of the last executive meeting are available from the secretary Phyllis McCaskill.

Suggestions are always welcome. Please sign suggestion slips for follow-up purposes and hand them to any executive member.

Volunteers for February coffee treats are: Diane Tolgyessy, Elaine Moran, Edith Toews, Jennifer Ridge.

Kevin Duerksen did a presentation from Orchid Digest on Catasetums.

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting:**

Rob Kato moved we accept the minutes of the last general meeting; seconded by Dave Moran; carried.

### **3. Financial report: Fraser Cameron**

Fraser presented the December financial report and moved we accept the report. It was seconded by Ben Landry; carried.

The budget for the Orchid Show was also presented. Fraser moved we accept this report; seconded by Pat Turenne; carried.

### **4. Programs: Kevin Duerksen**

Our February program will feature Questions & Answers to a panel of expert growers. Members may bring in sick plants wrapped in plastic to be looked at by our panel. Our start time is 1:30 p.m. and there will not be a novice session. After this the show committee will give us some show information.

March is the Orchid Show.

The April program is to be announced.

### **5. Show Chairperson Report: Rob Kato**

We will give show information at the February meeting.

### **6. AOS/COC Representative: Kyle Lucyk**

The AOS calendars are in and have been distributed.

### **7. Hospitality: Eva Slavicek**

Thank you for the coffee treats brought in today.

### **8. Library: Lilianne Foster**

Please return any outstanding books. If you have any book requests from the library list, please let Lilianne know.

### **9. Public Relations: Wendy Chaytor**

Absent. No report.

**10. Membership: Gary Jaworski**

We have 112 members.

**11. Newsletter: Rob Parsons**

Ever Spring Orchids will be holding an open house the second weekend in February.

**12. Website: Rob Kato**

No report.

**13. Special Orders: Darlene Stack**

No report.

**14. New Business:**

The Orchid Show handbooks are available for pickup. Kyle Lucyk has agreed to replace Lorne Heshka on the show committee for next year. He will “shadow” Lorne this year. Are there any more volunteers for the mentorship program?

Joyce asked if there were any concerns or suggestions. A suggestion was made to have a competition, with prizes, for themes for future shows so we know what the theme will be earlier. Irene Landry and Judy Browne volunteered to look after this with a March 31 deadline.

Joel Penner would like to photograph orchid flowers removed from the plant for a time-lapse video he is working on. Call him at 772-3545 if you have something to give him and he will come and pick them up.

**15. Show & Tell**

Rob Parsons and Kevin Duerksen did the show and tell.

**16. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn by Dave Moran @ 3:35 p.m.

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



Phragmipedium Memoria Estelle Getty, grown & photographed by Rob Parsons.



**Manitoba Orchid Society**  
**Orchid Show, 2012**  
**“Orchids Forever”**  
**Volunteer Form**

We require volunteers to help with the annual Orchid Show to be held this year at the Assiniboine Conservatory from Thursday, March 22nd through Sunday, March 25th, 2012. We are looking for individuals to help on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the following areas;

- Individual Display    ( )    Contact Lorne Heshka (663-6850) if you wish to enter a plant display.
- Club Display            ( )    Contact Dave & Elaine Moran if you have plants for the Club Display.
- Preliminary Set Up    ( )    Help with the set up on *Thursday March 22nd*, 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.
- Set Up                    ( )    Help with the final set up on *Thursday March 22nd* after 4:00 p.m.
- Registration Desk      ( )    Help with plant registration on *Thursday March 22nd* after 4:00 p.m.
- Judging Clerks        ( )    Help with plant judging on *Friday, March 23rd* after 4:00 p.m.
- Lounge Assistant      ( )    Assist in maintaining the Volunteer Lounge area *Fri - Sun.*
- Food Donation         ( )    Supply food for the Volunteer Lounge area *Fri. - Sun.*
- Host / Hostess         ( )    Security and talking with visitors *Fri. - Sun.*
- Admissions             ( )    Collecting admission charge at the entrance *Fri. - Sun.*
- Cashier                 ( )    Collecting money for plant sales *Fri. - Sun.*
- Plant Wrapping        ( )    Wrapping the purchased plants for transportation *Fri - Sun.*
- Take Down              ( )    Help take the displays down after 5:00 p.m. on *Sunday, March 25th.*

When will you be available?

- Thursday    10 AM( )    4 PM ( )  
Friday        AM( )        PM ( )  
Saturday     AM( )        PM ( )  
Sunday        AM( )        PM ( )

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to Dave Moran by Sunday, March 6th in person, by mail, by phone or by e-mail:

Telephone: 668-5755

E-Mail: [DEMoran@shaw.ca](mailto:DEMoran@shaw.ca)

Address: 66 Highfield Place, East St. Paul, R2E 0G3

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