

NROS News

SEPTEMBER 2017

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Holy Rosary Church Hall
35 Queen Street North
Thorold

PROGRAMS

Doug and Terry Kennedy of
Orchids in Our Tropics -
"Oncidium Intergenerics"



EXECUTIVE 2017-2018

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AOS/COC Rep	Rick Rempel	905-734-1588

Visit us on our updated website link:

www.cloudsorchids.com/nros

JUNE SHOW TABLE

Class 1 Cattleya Alliance

*****Lc. Canhamiana. 'Azure Skies'

Bc. Mrs. J Leeman

Cattleya luteola

Cattleya mossiae var. semi alba

Rick Rempel

Phil Hinman

Phil Hinman

Phil Hinman

1st.

2nd.

3rd.

Class 2 Paphiopedilum

Paphiopedilum Taisuco America's Sprite

Paphiopedilum Helvetia

Phragmipedium ????

Phil Hinman

Phil Hinman

Astrid Fortin

1st.

2nd.

3rd.

Class 3 Phalaenopsis

Phalaenopsis Sogo Allen 'Yellow'

Phil Hinman

1st.

Class 9 Vanda Alliance

Neofinetia falcate var. Shojyou

Phil Hinman

1st.

*****PLANT OF THE MONTH

BULLETIN BOARD

Meeting

Welcome back, everyone. Hope you all had a wonderful summer. Our speakers for our September meeting will be Doug and Terry Kennedy of Orchids In Our Tropics. They will be speaking on *Oncidium Intergenerics*. Doug and Terry have been growing and showing orchids for almost 45 years. During all of these years, they have shared the hobby by working with SOOS, COC, AOS, as well as other horticultural groups as volunteers and speakers.

Twenty-three years ago their passion for orchids required them to move to their present home as their collection had outgrown their space. The quality of their plants is evident in the numerous AOS awards and show trophies and their passion for orchids continues to grow.

Thank You

The Executive would like to thank Fred and Kathy Wilkinson for hosting our annual picnic again this year. Everyone that attended had a good time. Thank you to all the members that brought a pot luck dish also. Thanks, everyone for another enjoyable picnic!

COOC Orchid Show

The society will be participating in the COOS show next month (Sept. 23-24) Ted and Charlene have volunteered to set up the display. If any members have plants they would like to donate for the show, Ted and Charlene would like plants at their place by the 21st. Ted's e-mail is

kretzorc@hotmail.com

His address is 4 Green Pointe Drive in Welland.

Library

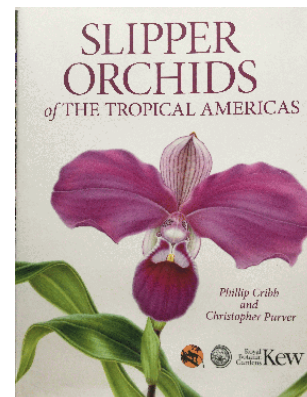
Just a reminder to our membership that we have an extensive library of wonderful orchid books. Please check out the library and see George Streeter if you wish to sign one out.

Notice

The following is a notice from the publishers of Orchid Digest.

Hello Affiliated Society Reps,

Because putting out serious books for the orchid hobbyist appears to have low priority for general publishing houses these days, the Orchid Digest has decided to fill the gap and produce books on our favorite subject. Attached is a review of the first book we have published with a picture of its cover. We would appreciate it if you could put this in your newsletter for your society.



If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to contact me or other members of the Orchid Digest publications board. I would love to hear from you.

Hospitality

A reminder to Nel Dekker and Jean Wacket that they are signed up to bring the sweets for coffee. Thank you, Ladies!!

COOS Orchid Show & Sale

Sept. 23, 2017 @ 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sept. 24, 2017 @ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Cambridge Hespeler Arena

640 Ellis Rd

Cambridge, ON N3C 4K1

Canada

The following is a article that appeared the September 1996 newsletter the the Canadian Orchid Congress.

It's An Orchid

We had been living on Vancouver Island for a few years, lovingly tending our little remnant of original vegetation and admiring all the little 'natives' that began to show up again, after we had cleared the ground of periwinkle, grass, maple-seedlings etc. My husband and I have developed, over the course of a long 'education' in gardening, the philosophy of leaving to grow anything that we don't recognize as undesirable for a particular area.

So it happened that in a very dry place we noticed little green tubes growing up, similar to Lily of the Valley; these tubes grew to about one foot high (30 cm), developed leaves along the stem and from the top axils there came small green and pink flowers. Hm - not much of anything, I thought. Then I looked closer, examining the 2 cm flowers: three green sepal, two green petals, a green column and a maroon, three-lobed lip! It was a very small orchid flower.

Excitedly I showed it to one of our new friends, who had grown up on the island. "Oh yes - that weed! Sure it's an orchid, but it grows all over the place. I even have to pull it out of my driveway!" Well - perhaps he would pull it out, but I would nurture it! I also looked this little foundling up in my books: its name is *Epipactis helleborine*.



The genus *Epipactis* (related to *Cephalanthera*) is not too well organized by the taxonomists, according to one source. There are about twenty-five species of these usually rather tall terrestrial orchids, mostly in Asia and Europe, only two occur in North America.

One species, the somewhat rare *Epipactis gigantea* grows in the Western part of this continent, ranging from Canada to Mexico. It is said to prefer alkaline soil, even growing near hot springs in limestone. It can grow up to four feet tall, often in small colonies, blooming between March to August with 4 cm flowers that have coppery-green sepals, pink or purple petals with darker veins and a lip shaped like a gravy-boat, the spout of which is the orange-coloured mid-lobe, the column is yellow. Because of its moveable lip, its common name is "Chatterbox".

Now we're coming to our little wildling on the concrete-wall, the *Epipactis helleborine* (or *E. latifolia*). This one can be found in the Eastern parts of North America and again in the milder climate of British Columbia, including Vancouver Island and places South. The first mention of it growing in the U.S. was in 1879 and in Canada in 1880. It is an immigrant from Europe and may have been brought along as a remedy against gout. I have not found this species mentioned in my other (German) wildflower books, perhaps it came from Britain. What I did find in those books was another *Epipactis* (*E. atrorubens*), which grows on sandy beaches (in Germany), and smells like pictures of a red *Cephalanthera*, *Epipactis*; they are called "Little Birds of the Forest"



Where ever from, it certainly abundantly just as now find these little garden. The colour, ranging maroon lip-interior

Altogether, this little immigrant is a charming addition to our wild garden and I shall find out if it, too, smells of vanilla, but I won't pull it out!

Epipactis helleborine came has spread out. It seeds itself our friend had observed. I orchids in many places in our blossoms are quite variable in from pale green with a glossy to bronze, rose and maroon.

Ingrid Schmidt-Ostrander

CATASETUM Orchid

Pronounced kat-ah-SEE-tum

These unique and unusual orchids are native to Central and South America from Mexico to Bolivia and Brazil. Plants display multiple waxy blooms on pendulous inflorescences that originate at the base of the plant's pseudobulbs. Flowers have the unique trait of being either male or female and, often, the pollinia are ejected from the male flower onto the pollinator. Plants are deciduous and require a rest period after dropping its leaves.



Healthy Catasetums start with healthy roots:

- Pot in media that will retain moisture to support the roots during the plant's growing season. The media should also allow for good drainage. Coconut husk chips, New Zealand sphagnum or a fine bark mixed with vermiculite chips are all examples of suitable potting media.
- Plants experience a dormancy period in the fall and winter which is signaled by the yellowing and eventual dropping of the leaves. Watering should only be done if the pseudobulbs show signs of withering during this time.
- Repot when the new growth is just beginning in the spring and the newly developing roots are showing. Remember that watering should not commence until the roots are well developed (10 cm. in length).
- Once new roots are established, watering should be constant and sufficient to support the new growth(s). Fertilizing using a high nitrogen formulation (30-10-10) will help support the large leaves and pseudobulbs that develop rapidly.
- During the growing period, after dormancy, daytime temperatures must be raised to 27° - 32°C.
- Once the pseudobulbs have grown, adjust the fertilizer to a blossom booster such as a 10-30-20 in late summer.
- This family of orchids, unlike many, does well when repotted in divisions consisting of 2-3 pseudobulbs.

Healthy leaves produce more and bigger flowers:

- Plants will tolerate high light conditions, levels suggested for cattleyas, during the growth period but be careful not to burn tender new leaves.
- Healthy leaves are large, broad and sturdy and dark green. Spider mites are attracted to the soft leaves and will live and feed on the underside of the leaves. Watch for this and treat with a mild insecticidal soap. Humidity will reduce the risk of mites.
- The dormancy phase will begin in late autumn when the leaves will yellow and drop off. Any fertilizing should stop at this time and watering done at reduced levels (half) by mid-November.
- By January 1st, all watering should stop.
- Catasetums do well in humidity levels of 40-60% and strong air movement provided to reduce the risk of fungal or bacterial problems.
- During the growth period, day temperatures of 27° - 32°C are ideal, dropping to 15°-20°C at night. After the growth period, day temperatures can be reduced to as low as 21°C.

Catasetums usually bloom annually:

- Catasetums will bloom at the end of the growing season, sending out 1-2 pendulous inflorescences from the base of the pseudobulb.
- Blooms may be male or female, rarely with both on the same plant, with the male bloom being the most showy.

Space prevents more detail here. The general "Orchid Culture" sheets in this series, available from your society or on the web at <http://www.canadianorchidcongress.ca/> provide further cultural information. For specific help with your orchids or further information join your local orchid society.

