

NROS News

APRIL 2018

Wednesday, April 11th., 2018

Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Holy Rosary Church Hall
35 Queen Street North
Thorold

PROGRAMS

“Repotting Cloud’s Way”
by Claudio & Warren
of Cloud’s Orchids



EXECUTIVE 2017-2018

President	Rick Rempel	905-734-1588
Past President	Colin Burns	905-684-9705
Secretary	Isabel Streeter	905-682-7792
Treasurer	Colin Burns	905-684-9705
Newsletter Editor	Lydia Stewart	905-354-4110
Membership	Joanne Madsen	905-685-7478
Librarian	George Streeter	905-682-7792
Publicity	Cheryl Maurice	905-734-1257
Show Table	Phil Hinman	905-899-3606
Hospitality	Barbara Berry	905-227-4307
Program Co-Ordinator	Rick Rempel	905-734-1588
AOS/COC Rep	Rick Rempel	905-734-1588

Visit us on our updated website link:

www.cloudsorchids.com/nros

MARCH SHOW TABLE

Class 1 Cattleya Alliance

***** Rth. Shinfong Little Sun

Potinara Ruby Ace

Cattleya aurantica

Phil Hinman

1st

Phil Hinman

2nd.

Astrid Fortin

3rd.

Class 3 Phalaenopsis

Phalaenopsis ?????

Ted & Charlene Kretz

1st.

Phalaenopsis ?????

Peter Van Loon

2nd.

Phalaenopsis ?????

Astrid Fortin

3rd.

Class 6 Dendrobiums

Dendrobium nobile

Susan Yee

1st.

Dendrobium Crystal Pink

Susan Yee

2nd.

*****PLANT OF THE MONTH

BULLETIN BOARD

Meeting

Our April meeting will feature a repotting demonstration. Claudio & Warren of Cloud's Orchids will be giving the demo. Owning an orchid greenhouse means that both of these gentlemen have been repotting an enormous amount of orchids over the years!! So come out and catch their repotting session. Knowing Claudio & Warren, it will be very knowledgeable and entertaining!!

Raffle Table

We would like to let the membership know that we would appreciate items for the raffle table if they have anything they would like to donate. It doesn't even have to be orchid-related. Thank you.

Clouds Open House

Clouds Orchids Open House will be held on the weekend of April 28th. & 29th., 11 am. to 4 pm. - No Workshop

Library

Just a reminder to our membership that we have an extensive library of wonderful orchid books. We would also like to remind the membership that we have an opening for librarian. We would like to see some new members added to our Executive!! If you are interested, let us know.

Hospitality

A reminder to Sharon Huisman and Susan Yee that they are signed up to bring the sweets to go along with coffee. Thanks, Ladies!!

Fred Clark Presentation

Rick announced that plans to arrange a carpool are going forward for Members who wish to attend Fred Clark's presentation on Monday, June 18th. in Kitchener.

AOS Bulletins

Tom Cunningham has at least 15 years of AOS magazines that he would like to give away for free. They are bound together in one year increments. If you are interested in part or all of them, please call Tom at 289-697-4889.

Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest member, Olga Safonova.
Welcome, Olga!!

NROS Tile

Colin and Kathy were recently in Mexico where they visited the Vallarta Botanical Centre in Puerto Vallarta. If most of our members remember, this is where the NROS tile had been installed. Here are a couple of pictures of the tiles.



The Orchid House

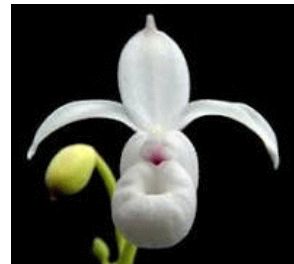
Phragmipedium Culture

Phragmipedium longifolium



Phragmipediums are new world ladyslippers that grow from Mexico through the central and northern parts of South America. They can be found growing on rock outcroppings (*Mexipedium xerophyticum*), in forks of trees (*caudatum*), or volcanic clay (*boisserianum* or *wallisii*). Some plants such as *longifolium*, *ecuadorensis*, *pearcei*, or *klotscheyanum* grow submerged underwater through periods of heavy rainfall.

Mexipedium xerophyticum



The flowering season is heaviest in the spring, but many species can be in bloom for 6-11 months at a time. The flower colors vary from green to mahogany-pink and the brightly fluorescent orange of *phragmipedium besseae* which was only recently discovered in 1981.

WATER

Phrags. like clean water such as rain water, distilled, or reverse osmosis (R.O.) system water. Almost all of the phrags in nature grow slightly on the acid side with pH ranging from 5.5 and lower. Municipal well water usually has limestone added to prevent pipeline corrosion. If the pH of the city water is 7.5 or lower, the following phrags. will do O.K. potted in bark/peat mix: *Phrag. caudatum*, *wallisii*, *lindenii*, *pearcei*, *longifolium*, *ecuadorensis*, *amazonicum* and *Mexipedium xerophyticum*. *Phrag. boisserianum* and *besseae* require clean water to do best. Water should be applied copiously as the plant approaches dryness. Do not let these plants become totally dry at the roots between watering! If in doubt, water. Plants which like somewhat drier conditions at the roots include: *caudatum*, *lindenii*, *wallisii*, and *Mexipedium xerophyticum*.

FERTILIZER

Use a 20-10-20 with municipal water or a Cal-Mag 15-5-15 with rain water, distilled, or R.O. water. Feed more heavily in spring and summer, less in fall and winter. Feed every third watering in summer at full strength and every fourth or fifth during the winter months.

LIGHT

Most phrags will take more light than phalaenopsis or paphiopedilums. However, plants like besseae, pearcei and ecuadorensis will do well in diminished light. Some phrags like caudatum can take light as for cattleyas.

TEMPERATURE

Phrags generally require intermediate temperatures with days in the 70's or 80's (degrees Fahrenheit) and nights in the upper 50's to low 60's. Some phrags like longifolium, sargentianum, pearcei, ecuadorensis and hirtzii will tolerate slightly warmer temperatures. One problem that seems to occur during the summer is a soft, brown bacterial rot that appears at the base of the leaves. When you see this, carefully pull these infected leaves off and treat the plant with a bactericide.

HUMIDITY

Grow in 50% to 70% humidity. Some phrags, like caudatum, can take humidity down to 35% in nature during the dry season, but the roots are always moist and the nighttime humidity is high.

FLOWERING

The flowering seasons are various but the best flowers are produced in the most abundance during the spring months. If the plants are not flowering for you, they either are not big enough to bloom or they are not receiving enough light or the cooler temps at night to initiate blooming.

REPOTTING

Repot every 1 - 2 years in fresh bark. Species best suited to bark mixes include caudatum, wallisii, lindenii, sargentianum and longifolium. Many phrags love a rockwool medium.

Phragmipedium lindenii



**The last page is courtesy of "Pollinia",
newsletter of the Irish Orchid Society.**

NEW ORCHID SPECIES FOUND ONLY ON JAVA ISLAND



The new orchid, *Gastrodia bambu*, is found mostly in West Java and Mount Merapi in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

MALANG • Indonesian botanists have revealed their discovery of a new orchid species endemic to Java island. The species, *Gastrodia bambu*, was discovered by botanist Destario Metusala of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) at the Purwodadi Botanical Gardens in Central Java.

The discovery was revealed in **Phytotaxa**, an international scientific journal, published last month. The publication was written by Mr Destario and Dr Jatna Supriatna, a scientist with the University of Indonesia biological conservation department.

Mr Destario said the species was part of the holomikotropic orchid group, the orchids of which were often called "ghost orchids" due to their life cycle, which takes place in stages almost entirely underground, emerging above ground only when flowering. The name bambu (bamboo), he added, referred to its specific habitat.

"The entire population was found very close to old bamboo clumps, growing in wet soil containing partly decomposed bamboo leaf litter, in the very deep shade cast by the bamboo plant's canopy."

Mr Destario added that the *Gastrodia bambu* was found only on Java Island, mostly in West Java and Mount Merapi in Yogyakarta.

"Besides Mount Merapi, we also discovered the species at Mount Gede-Pangrango in West Java, the home of other species of the ghost orchid family. The species is very resistant to drought, excess light intensity and small changes occurring in the place where it's growing," he said.

The population has declined because of clear-cutting of bamboo clumps for logs and hot clouds intermittently released by Mount Merapi, a highly active volcano.

Local botanists estimate that fewer than 1,000 orchids of the new species exist today.

STRAITSTIMES.COM