



N.E.W. Orchid Review



Vol. 16, No. 2

Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society

February 2009

Calendar of Events

February 16th 2009 - NEWOS Monthly meeting. 7:00 pm at the Green Bay Botanical Garden Visitors center. 2700 Larsen road, Green Bay, WI. *Try to attend, this is the last meeting before the March show.*

February 21-22, 2009 - Batavia Orchid Society Show - Dupage County Fairground, 2015 W. Manchester Rd.,

March 14-15, 2009 - "Orchid Luau"
Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society Annual Spring Show. Holiday Inn Neenah Riverwalk. 123 E. Wisconsin Ave., Neenah, WI. General Admission \$5, children under 12 free. Contact: davidbluma@aol.com

March 21-22, 2009 - Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show -- Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe, IL. Contact: Sandy Fuller, 352 Cheryl Ln., Palatine, IL 60067; (847) 977-5842; sjfuller62@sbcglobe.net

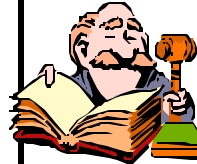
March 27 - 29, 2009 - Spring Mid America Orchid Congress. / Central Ohio Orchid Society Show - Columbus Airport Marriott Hotel, 1375 N. Cassidy Ave., Columbus, Ohio. Contact: Tom Franczak, 6982 Taylor Rd. SW, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068; 614-868-5636; tfranczak@earthlink.net

March 28 -29, 2009 - 34th Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show - Putnam Museum and IMAX@Theatre, 1717 W.12th St., Davenport, Iowa. Contact Dee Haiston, 563-386-3212. eednderf@msn.com

October 10-11, 2009 - Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show.

Dave's Dialogue

Dave Bluma, President



Thanks to everyone who attended the January Meeting / Xmas Party.

The food was great and we had a good discussion about the upcoming show. At our February meeting the signup sheets will be passed around. We will need volunteers in many areas. If you are unable to make it to the meeting please contact Ruth or me if you are interested in helping at the show. We are also looking for award sponsorships again this year and that signup sheet will also be passed around at the meeting.

Dave

Attention...

Your Society Dues are OVERDUE!

Please make checks payable to: NEWOS and send to the treasurer Lorraine Heyden. N5978 Lambie Rd. DePere, WI 54115. She will be at the next meeting if you want to give them in person. (\$20 individual, \$5 ea. addtl. household member.)

Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society meets the third Monday of each month except August, December, and January. Most meetings are held at 7:00 pm at the Green Bay Botanical Garden Visitors Center, 2600 Larsen Road. All meeting times and locations are identified in the newsletter. This newsletter is published January through November.

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Historian.....	Kathy Cole 5170 Sundale ct. Little Suamico, WI 54143 kaceagle@bayland.net	Sunshine.....	Tom Brinkman 933 Hunt Ave. Neenah, WI 54956 (920)729-9404 beimmot@wmconnect.com

Member Ads Section: This section is for members to sell their personal plants or if they are looking for a special orchid to add to their collection. It is free to members and the ads will run for 2 months as space is available on a first come first serve basis. Ads should be submitted to the editor by the first of each month. Business card ads are \$20 per year. Special 1/4 and 1/2 page ads are available for businesses. Pricing upon request.

NEWS MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2009

The annual Christmas Party/January meeting was held at the Golden Corral in Appleton. The meeting was opened by President, David Bluma. Ruth Freye made a motion and Susan Mueller seconded the motion to dispense with the minutes as they were printed in the newsletter. Motion carried. Lorraine Heyden gave the October treasurer's report as we haven't had a meeting since then. At the February meeting she will give the report through the end of the year and an audit will be completed then.

The society received a mailing from Oak Hill Gardens about orchid classes, they will be conducted on 2/7, 3/7, & 5/9 of this year. Anyone wanting more information should contact David Bluma. The Botanical Garden Rental agreement will cost \$228. Leslie Heyden made a motion to accept the agreement and Ruth Freye seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Botanical Garden Fair will be June 5, 6 & 7th of 2009. We have new numbers for our spaces (53 & 54), but it is in the same spot.

At the Board meeting in December, it was discussed what to do in bad weather. We will call members as they did in Nov. In the next newsletter, an updated membership list will be completed.

ORCHID SHOW 2009: The table rental is \$100 each for the first 2 tables and \$50 for the third table. Lee is sending out e-mails, including electronic post cards for the show. Post cards can either be turned in for \$1 off entry or put in for a door prize drawing. This was approved by a show of hands vote. Dave gave an updated report of vendors, speakers and chairman for the show. Sign up lists will be at the next meeting. Charlotte Hofman and her daughter will again be in charge of the hospitality room. So, start thinking of what food/drink you would like to donate. Donations toward the raffle table can be given to Kathy Cole. Decorating ideas and raffle ideas discussed. Awards: Richard Baehnman suggested a bottle of wine. After much discussion and a show of hand vote, Ruth will be checking on fruit wines. Anyone wishing to sponsor awards, let Ruth, David, or Lorraine know. Leslie, Charlotte and Ruth will put the display together with theme to go with our show.

Tiki bar admission table, leis to customer's, island music CD's, and grass table skirting are a few of the ideas discussed. This year there will be an award for the "Best Themed Exhibit," More will be finalized at the February meeting. Please attend with your ideas and let us know how you are able to help out.

Last year's show fee for one of our speakers was misunderstood---Enlightened Orchids gave a refund in form of a \$70 gift certificate.

ELECTIONS: Lorraine Heyden was elected as treasurer and Kathy Cole as your secretary.

Secretary,
Kathy Cole

Editors note:

If you haven't paid your membership dues for 2009 this will be the last newsletter you will receive. The next newsletter will include an updated members list. Please make your payment by the February meeting to keep receiving these newsletters.

Sincerely,
Leslie Heyden
Newsletter Editor



Diseases and Stress Factors

There are very many different types of diseases that affect orchids. Black Rot, Pythium, Virus, Pseudomonas, Botrytis to name but a few. In one page I cannot expect to go into all or even most but I'll only be able to touch on a few of them and maybe point you in the right direction.

In most cases poor growing conditions will increase the likelihood that an orchid will be infected with a fungus or bacterial infection. A greenhouse with a lot of humidity and little if any ventilation or air circulation, is an invitation to fungus and Bacteria. A home that is too dry or without adequate light will invite dry rots to take over, or stress the plants that cannot grow to their potential.

Growing light loving plants in a shady location and vice-verso is an open invitation for stress to progress to disease. First match the plant to the growing environment you have. Then use good growing practices such as not leaving a pot sit in water (except for Phragmipediums which will be gone over later), watering when the plant is dry, but don't wait till the plant shrivels to nothing.

Another is fertilizing. Fertilizer only works when enough light is available for photosynthesis. Too much fertilizer and too little light will kill the roots, rot the mix, and slowly kill the plant over a period of months. Far better to under feed than over feed. For the home grower, a rule of thumb is 1/4 tsp. per 1 gallon of water, and use it every other time you water. The other times use plain water to flush out accumulated salts. In a greenhouse up to 1 t/p/g is great.

If a plant does develop a rot or fungus despite everything you do, you may have to dip or spray it with a fungicide several times before the disease is halted. Pysan is one of the safest fungicides. But remember, keeping dead leaves removed and the area clean is better than spraying. Try to keep the bugs off the plants. Aphids can spread virus and most others can stress the plants so that diseases can get a foothold.

Stress can be mistaken for disease and be treated ineffectively. I'll give you my Phragmipedium experience first. My Phrag. Sedenii started to get small brown pitted spots on the tips of the leaves. The spots were progressing farther down the leaf every day and nothing I did (Fungicide etc.) would stop them. The plant looked like it was doomed, UNTIL...

I started reading about their growing conditions, and what do you know - they are the exception to the rule about not leaving them in a saucer of water. I cut off the ends of the bad leaves and it took about a year or more for the new growths to all come in without any spotting. Keep the saucer full and flush them occasionally. Amazing what you find out by learning the growing habits of Phrags.

A good free guide is the AOS web page on Orchid Culture. Just go to www.aos.org and click on Orchid information. Their culture sheets are listed.

Lorraine Heyden

Join us at the Green Bay Botanical Garden Fair -2700 Larsen rd. Green Bay. June 5th, 6th, and 7th 2009. We will have a club and member sale table #53 & 54. There will be knowledgeable people there to answer your questions. Contact Dave Bluma for more information.

The Lycaste Orchid

Lyc. (Gr.: Lycaste, a Greek nymph) Dedicated to the beautiful daughter of Priam, last king of Troy.

This genus produces large, showy triangular flowers that are waxy and long-lasting. The plants are distinctive for their roundish bulbs and broad, plicate (pleated) leaves. Two cultural groups are generally recognized -- the evergreen skinneri type, that flowers from leafy pseudobulbs, and the deciduous aromatica type, that flowers from leafless pseudobulbs. Culture for the hybrid genus Angulocaste (*Lycaste* x *Anguloa*) follows the culture for the *Lycaste* parent.

Lycaste habitat extends from Mexico to Bolivia. Many are enchantingly fragrant. Though most are medium to large plants with very large flowers there are at least two small species. Since they grow in mid to high elevations and are at times even subjected to nighttime frosts, they were considered low light growing plants. We now know that to get the kind of flowering seen here *Lycastes* require high light and intermediate moist conditions. To varying degrees they all lose their leaves before flowering. *Anguloas* are closely allied to *Lycaste* and contribute their tulip look and broad sepals to the stunning *Angulocastes*.

General

Successful flowering is dependent on growing a large plump pseudobulb. *Lycastes* are clear in showing their appreciation of good culture. Where conditions are not fully appropriate, pseudobulb growth will be restricted, but where everything is fully to their liking, large plump pseudobulbs will be quickly produced.

Spotting of the thin plicate leaves often indicates overhead watering has been wrongly used, often associated with a lack of air movement. Severe spotting can also indicate root damage. If these signs appear, quickly consider the main elements of your culture, and take the necessary corrective action your study indicates is appropriate. Most species lose their leaves over the winter, so any unsightly foliage can often be removed once the pseudobulbs are made up.

With the hybrids, the applicable culture will usually be the average for the species involved, weighted in terms of the proportion of each species in the hybrid. If this is unsuccessful, especially in a hybrid containing species from diverse habitats, experimentation will be necessary, with the conditions for each species tried until success is obtained. Once established, most are readily adaptable to glasshouse culture. With all culture, try and ensure maximum root growth. If a strong healthy root system is maintained, generally the rest of the plant will prosper. For *Lycaste* culture go to www.aos.org click on Orchid information then go to Culture Sheets.

Lycaste skinneri



Lycaste Deppei



Lycaste dowiana



Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society

Newsletter Editor
N5978 Lambie Road
De Pere, WI 54115



The Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society (NEWOS) was formed in 1987. We seek to promote interest in the conservation of orchids, the world's largest flowering plant family. We choose to do this by community involvement in conservation of native and tropical orchids through:

- (1) educational programs to increase awareness by (a) lectures and (b) demonstrations on plant culture, propagation, and preservation,
- (2) book donations to regional libraries,
- (3) creation, development, and participation in the regional botanical native gardens, and
- (4) native plant rescues and relocation (due to the destruction of native habitats).

Membership is open to anyone interested in orchids and payment of dues at \$20 for an individual member-ship. Additional members residing in the same household may join the society for a \$5 per person fee.

Monthly meetings feature visits to members' homes, pre-sentations by speakers, member discussions, an annual fall orchid plant auction, members' show and tell, and much more. An annual AOS judged spring show is sponsored, and we participate in other society shows throughout the year. We participate in the Green Bay Botanical Garden Fair each year, and we are involved with the planting of native orchids on site at the Botanical Garden.

The Society is affiliated with the American Orchid Society (<http://www.orchidweb.org>), the Mid America Orchid Congress (<http://www.midamericanorchids.org>), and the Orchid Digest (<http://www.orchiddigest.org>).

The NEWOS website can be found at <http://www.newisos.org>.

