



*The Greater Whorled Pagonia  
Official Flower of the Club*

*Newsletter of the*

# AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY

*An affiliate of the American Orchid Society*

wa.hutchinson@comcast.net

Volume 14 Issue 2

February, 2006

There will NOT be a February meeting due to the show.

Thursday, Feb 23-Show Set Up  
Friday, Feb 24th-Judging  
Sat & Sun, Feb 25 & 26 - The Show

## JANUARY MEETING

*By Nancy Goodman*

Well the day started off very white and snowy. Marc had called a few members to see what the weather was like in other areas. He called me and I did not think it was really that bad. I told him I would call Bill Cullina to see what he thought and I would get back to him, but that even if he did call it off, I expected many to still show up. So I said to just keep it on and hope at least a few people showed up. Bill was used to commuting the same distance every day to work and I expected it not to make a difference for him. Well it was good we did not call it off. I could not reach Bill, even on his cell phone. So I expected him to be there. I left a little early to go and shovel out the walkway. I had not expected it to be done and so wanted it to be ready when members started showing up. I then went to get Verda, since I did not want her to miss Bill's talk. Her regular ride was not coming so she needed a way to get there. I was very happy to see 30 brave souls show up to the meeting and actually the driving was not that bad as long as you went slowly. The beginners program did not happen due to another group being upstairs and it seemed like there was no one there early enough anyway. Maybe we can convince Marge to do it again another month. With less snow next time.

The first order of the meeting was discussion of the show. There were still jobs to be filled and donations to be made. Marc passed around the sign-up sheets and the donation sheet to be filled in. We still need at least 3 people all day long to help at the door watching. There is a list of what is still needed later in the newsletter. I hope we can get more of you to help with this and if you want to volunteer please contact me at wildeyes@rcn.com to sign up. There was some discussion from one of the members, Alex Loss, who works at Big Y, on possibly getting a matching donation for the food from his company. He will be looking into that for the club. If that does not come though we still need food for the show. If you cannot make it to drop off the food, but still want to help, we had a sign up for money donations to just go and buy what is needed. Any help would be appreciated. If we do get the



*(Jan Meeting, Con't)*

matching food, we still need to purchase half of what we need and they will match what is bought. So if you would like to give money please send it before the middle of Feb. with a note for what it is for, to Jane Peirce at the address on the back of the newsletter. The next discussion was on the judging and what to fill in on the forms that will be sent with the newsletter. If you have any questions please contact me. A description of what is needed is also later in this newsletter. If you need a copy of the judging schedule and cannot or do not get email also contact me so I can mail one off to you. We will be sending out the schedule by email by next week so you may all try it before hand and see if it works. We have a form that can be filled in ONLINE and then sent back. This will help a lot in the efficiency of the entering of the plants. Please try and use this form and email it back to me.

We then had a discussion on the curtain rods for the show. One member wondered why we needed more of these. I discussed some of the items to the people there and the members agreed with what was being done. This issue is addressed in the article on the curtain rods in this newsletter and I hope this explains it to all the members.

Next up was Bill Cullina. He had a very interesting talk on native ladyslipper orchids of North America. He talked about his growing and propagating many of the native ladyslippers and his experience with growing medium and propagation techniques of the various orchid species. He had many interesting points on how many of these orchids do not need the fungus to grow and flourish as had always been believed. He showed different pictures on the roots of some of the different orchids and how the typical way of digging up plants will kill native ladyslippers. The root systems of the ladyslippers do not regenerate, so if they are damaged in any way when they are dug up for transplanting or dividing, they will eventually die. This is why many of the wild dug orchids do not survive well after being dug up. The roots on many of these orchids grow out from the crown, not down. So he uses a pitchfork to gently dig them up from the dirt. Which will ensure a better survival of the plants. He also talked about where many of these orchids like to grow and the types of soils that best suit them and that you should try and replicate the soils in some way to help make them happier in your gardens. All in all his talk was very informative and if everyone who missed it would like to sometime in the future, say 2007, to have him back, let Marc know so we can try and get him to come back again for those of you who did not get to enjoy his talk.

The display table was next. There were many great plants to see and some great blooms there. I just hope that there will be that many flowers ready for the show. We need all of you to bring in your orchids for the club display. This is a different time of year for our show and we are not sure what will be ready. So if you have any plants in bloom, please bring them in. The more we have, the better the display will be. Also for all of you new growers or one's who think their plants should not be entered in the judging, just do it. It is fun and there is always a category to fit your plants into. If you have never tried it, do not be shy. It is a good learning experience. We can help you decide where to put the plant if you are unsure. So bring in what you can and we hope to see you all on set-up day and for the show.

### **Directions to Nasami Farm**

#### **Whatley, MA**

This is where the New England Wildflower Society now has their new native plant propagation and plant sale area. They have moved most of the plant propagation operations out to here and the farm is open in the spring and fall on the weekends. Please visit their website for dates and times at [www.newfs.org](http://www.newfs.org)

#### **From Route 2 West**

Take Route 2 west. When Route 2 ends at Route 91, bear left onto Route 91 south. From Route 91 south, take Exit 25 Conway. Turn left at the end of the ramp onto Route 116 south. Pass over Route 91. Turn right at the light onto Route 116/5/10 south. Pass through two more lights. Continue straight on Route 5/10 south when Route 116 turns left at the second light. Then follow local directions below.

#### **From the Mass Pike / Route 91**

Take the Mass Pike west to Springfield.

Exit onto Route 91 north. Follow Route 91 north. Take Exit 24 Deerfield/Conway/Rte 116. Turn left at the top of the ramp onto Route 5/10 south. Then follow local directions below.

#### **Local Directions**

From Route 5/10 south in Deerfield, proceed about 2 miles. Turn right onto Christian Lane toward Whatley Center. At the T-junction, turn right onto North Street. Proceed 1.2 miles to Nasami Farm. The entry is on the right, just before the bridge.

**The NEWFS Nursery Sales Areas at Nasami Farm will reopen for sales of choice native perennials, trees and shrubs in mid-April of 2006.**

## PRE-REGISTRATION OF PLANTS FOR THE 2006 SHOW

We are going to be doing the computer program again this year for the registration of the plants and judging. We will be passing out pre-registration forms at the January meeting and also mailing one out in the January newsletter. I will also be emailing it out for all those who plan on putting plants in the show. This emailed form is a form that can be written on, on the computer, and then emailed back to me. The more people who do this the less typing I will have to do. Please try and email them as much as possible. We need all of you to get this to us **BEFORE** Wednesday at 9 pm the day before set-up day. We would rather have these at least 5 days before the set-up day, which would be better. I cannot stress how important this is. Any plant lists received after 9 pm on Wed. Feb. 22 **WILL NOT BE** entered in judging. The more plant lists we have prior to set-up the better. It will lessen your wait time on that day and I will not have to be working on these till 3 am. Your labels will all be done for you and be ready for you when you arrive and it will just be much easier if **EVERYONE** complies with this request. I do not care if we have to do up 10 extra labels for plants that might not be ready. It is easier to do this prior to set-up than to try and squeeze it all in at the last moment. It will also ensure that you will not have to do up your own labels if you wait till the last minute. We will be too busy inputting the plants in the computer program, so if your list is not in ahead of time you will probably have to do up your own plant labels. So this is a **BIG** incentive to get them to us ahead of time.

We are also going to have the Judging class lists available to those who need it. This can be emailed to you or we will have some copies at the meeting for those who do not have email. Please contact Nancy Goodman at **wild-eyes@rcn.com** if you would like this emailed to you. This will help you to decide which class to put the plants in for judging. If you need help you will have to wait till the set-up day, since it is very hard to tell where the plant belongs without seeing it. Please make sure you read **ALL** the class descriptions that might apply before deciding where to put the plant. We had **MANY** plants last year that were never even judged due to being in the wrong class. If you are new to this please do not hesitate to come and ask for help. That is what we are there for. And for those of you who are new, bring in your plants, even if it is only one or it is small. Any plant will help us fill in our two displays and many people who thought they would never win did just that. So do not be shy and bring in all your blooming plants for Thursday set-up and join in the fun. It is actually a great day and everyone should experience it. We always need help in the morning and there are usually lots to do. The more people we have, especially on set up day the easier it is on everyone.

1. You will get the judging schedule and plant entry form by email or enclosed in your newsletter. Please try and get it back to us by Tuesday before the show (Feb 21). You can fill out the plant entry form electronically online and send it back by email to me (Nancy) at [wildeyes@rcn.com](mailto:wildeyes@rcn.com) or fax it to 413-549-4873. This is my boyfriend Mike's fax so it will be his voice on the answering machine. Please try and use the online form instead of the fax. It makes it much easier. Try and get this in ahead of time. If you are not sure a plant will be ready, put it on anyway and send the form.
2. Fill out this form for all of your plants. One plant per section, which starts with Class #. Please only put one plant in each section, you have room for at least 6 plants or more per sheet, depending on how long the plant name is. You can use more than one sheet for your plants. Please also do not just write them on a piece of paper or use the back of the sheet to save paper use this form. The reason for this is we keep these forms as back-ups. It is much easier to have these forms neat in case we need to redo it. Also if needed, please copy these forms as many times as you need and send in each form to me if you need to fax them. But again please try and use the online form.
3. All you need to fill in on this form is your exhibitor name, address, phone #, plant name and class # it will be entered in.

The exhibit #, exhibitor # and assigned ticket # will be given to you when I get your forms, you do NOT need to fill in these 3 items. So please try and get the forms to us early and that way the labels will be ready for you and you will not have to wait or do them yourself. Just remember that after I get your form I then have to get it to Marc to do up the labels. So we need these by Tuesday night to get them done. Sooner if you can. This way we can have the labels all done up for you when you arrive with your plants. Please also include your email in case I need to contact you.

4. I will not be accepting ANY plant registrations after Wed Feb 22 at 9 pm, unless you have contacted us before hand and made alternate plans. Also we will not accept any after this time if you have a lot of plants. There is no reason to not have a list ahead of time. If plants are not brought, it is very easy to take them off the judging list. Much easier than entering all the plants on the last day.

---

We still need food and drinks donated to have for all the volunteers on Thursday, Sat and Sunday. The set up for the displays will begin at 9 am on Thursday. The drop off time for plants is at 10:30 am. If you are going to be coming to help with early set up you can bring your plants at that time. We need EVERYONE'S plants. We need all that we can get. Bring in anything in bloom. The more plants that we have the better. Even if it only has one bloom, bring it. Anyone who grows in the house or under lights and does not think that their plants live up to the greenhouse grown ones, do not worry. You can enter your plants under the windowsill category and you do not have to compete with the greenhouse growers. Just bring in your plants. If you cannot get your plants there on Thursday try and make arrangements with another member to bring your plants. If so please make up a list of plants with your name also so we can keep track of which plants belong to whom. Also do not forget to mark your pots in case the labels disappear. Put your name somewhere unseen on the pot or in the pot. The names of your plants can be emailed to ahead of time to either Marc Gray at [orchids@together.net](mailto:orchids@together.net) or Nancy Goodman at [wildeyes@rcn.com](mailto:wildeyes@rcn.com) . This way we can have the labels all done up for you when you arrive with your plants.

On Friday I would like all the people who signed up for clerking to arrive early at 9:30- 10:00 am so we can discuss what is expected of us and who will be doing what job. This will also give us time to scope out where the plants are so it will be easier to find during judging.

We do still need people for the door watchers on both days. Please email Marc or Nancy to sign up. It is a lot of fun to do and you do not have to know anything. There are always people around that can help with answers, so do not worry. This is a simple way to help out if you cannot help in any other way. All we ask for is one or two hours of your time.

## RECEPTION TABLE & DOOR WATCHER VOLUNTEERS

Any one who has signed up for either of these jobs, please make sure you arrive at least 10 mins before your shift so you can be shown what is needed and we can all be in place especially before the show opens. If you need to know what you signed up for please contact Nancy Goodman at [wildeyes@rcn.com](mailto:wildeyes@rcn.com) for your times.

## **FOOD DONATIONS**

Any one who has donated food or drinks for the show please try and have it there for Thursday Feb 23 at 10 am. If you cannot make that time you can also bring in some for Sat or Sunday. The food needs to be spread out over the 3 days. Please let Marc Gray know if there are any problems at orchids@together.net

## **CLERKS FOR JUDGING**

For all of you who have signed up for the judging on Friday Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, please try and be there between 9:30 and 10 am. We will be going through what is to happen during the day and if everything is going well we might start the judging a little bit earlier this year. If you cannot make that time please make sure you contact Nancy Goodman at wildeyes@rcn.com so I know when you will be arriving.

## **RAFFLE DONATIONS**

Kim Nyiri has graciously volunteered to run the raffle table this year. If you would like to donate anything for the raffle please contact Kim Nyiri at 413-774-7835 to let her know what you have to donate and to set up a way to get it to the show either on set up day (Thursday) or on Friday. Please have them there before Sat. so we can get them logged in and the table set up before the show. Also if you would like to volunteer to help her out please contact her to see what she needs help with. Thank you.

Here are some suggestions for items to donate:

- Orchid Books/ Stationary
- Orchid Plants
- Orchid Jewelry
- Orchid Dishes
- Orchid plant supplies
- Garden Center Gift Certificates

*Location for Show :*  
***Smith Vo-Ag High School***  
***80 Locust Street - Route 9***  
***Northampton, Ma 01060***

### **Directions: NORTH**

**If you are driving North to Northampton on Rt 91 take exit #19 – go straight**

**thru the intersection onto Damon Rd. Follow that to the next light. Go straight thru the lights onto Bridge Rd. Go up the hill to the light- turn left on Jackson St. At the end of Jackson St. turn right onto Prospect St. Go straight thru the light and Smith Voc. School will be on your left just past the hospital.**

### **Directions: SOUTH**

**If you are driving South on Rt. 91 take exit #20 –bear right at end of ramp and turn right at the onto Bridge Rd. Go up the hill to the next light. Turn left onto Jackson Street. At the end of Jackson St. turn right onto Prospect Street go up to the next light. Go straight thru light and Smith Voc. School is on the left just past the hospital.**

### **Directions: WEST**

**If you are driving West towards Northampton on Rt 9. Go thru Hadley and follow Rt 9 over bridge over the Conn. River. Stay in right hand lane and take a right onto Damon Rd. Follow that to the next light. Go straight thru the lights onto Bridge Rd. Go up the hill to the light. Turn left on Jackson St. At the end of Jackson St. turn right onto Prospect St. Go straight thru the light and Smith Voc. School will be on your left just past the hospital.**

## Feb 2006 show timetable

*Thursday Feb 23, 2006*

9 am- set up for tables and displays- no plants  
 10:30 am- you can start to bring in plants after this time.  
 11 am- donated food needs to be brought in around this time.  
 6:30 pm- Cut off for the plants to be brought in. No plants allowed after this time.

### **Friday Feb 24, 2006**

10 am- all clerks need to be here at this time. If for some reason you cannot make it you **MUST** call Nancy Goodman at 549-4521 or email me at wildeyes@rcn.com .  
 11 am- food for the judges lunch needs to be at the show.  
 12 noon- lunch for the clerks and judges  
 1 pm or around then- judging starts right after lunch.

### **Sat. Feb 25, 2006**

8:45 am- Anyone who is signed up for 9 am task, please get there early so you can get you to your spots and have things explained to you **BEFORE** we open the doors.  
 9 am – show open to the public  
 5 pm- show closes

### **Sun. Feb 26, 2006**

9:45 am- Anyone signed up for a task please get there early so you can get you to your spots and have things explained to you **BEFORE** we open the doors.  
 3:30 PM- Raffle drawing will be done  
 4 pm- show closes. We need as many people as we can for the take down at this time.

If there are any question please contact Marc Gray at orchids@together.net or 802-348-7782.

---

## **DOOR WATCHES STILL NEEDED FOR SHOW**

We still need at least three people for every shift of the door watchers. Here is what we need. Please email Marc Gray with the times you can help out at orchids@together.net

### Saturday Feb 25

9-11am – three people  
 11-1 pm – three people  
 1-3 pm – three people  
 3-4 pm- one person  
 4-5 pm – two people

### Sunday Feb 26

10-12 pm – three people  
 12-2 pm – three people  
 2-4 pm – one person

## Curtain Rods For The Show

There were several members who thought it might be good to try and explain the purchase and use of the curtain rods last year and the future purchase of additional curtain rods for our orchid show.

Lets start with a history of past shows and what was used as far as I know. When I first joined the orchid society the annual orchid show was held at the old Hopkins Academy gym. This was a small and dark place, but I remember being in awe of the flowers and the displays. I remember these big black panels being set up as backdrops to the displays. I do not remember much else about the show since I was still new and just went to enjoy the show. These panels are the same ones that were taken out of retirement 2 years ago to again be used for our shows at Smith Voc. School. These panels had been built for the club by one of our members for use as backdrops to for the display in the show.

Within 2 years of my joining the club, we had to move our show to another venue; since the gym and school had been rented out to another school and they would be using the gym during the times of our shows. So we moved down the road to the Legion Building, also on Rt 9 in Hadley. This was a much larger area and there were more windows, which brightened things up. As far as I can remember we never used these big panels in the legion. I suspect that they would not have worked due to having so many windows and logistically would have been hard to set them up. So we did not have anything to put behind the displays. Each person who was setting up a display was on his or her own to come up with something and several members did so. But most people did not bother since it was hard without building something to actually get anything to work. During the second year at the Legion I started being more involved with the show and the judging. I kept hearing comments from judges and other people visiting, that quality of the show would be much improved by having some type of consistency with the displays if we got similar backdrops for each display.

This was something I kept consistently hearing every year. Not by just a few people, but from the judges and even the people who were setting up the displays from the other clubs. This was a suggestion that I kept hearing, but what to do. Many ideas were thought of, but nothing ever came of them. They all cost too much to do. It was not until we made another move for the venue for our show to Smith Vocational School that this problem became very glaringly apparent. The walls and the many things hanging on the walls here were horrendous as backdrops for the displays, so everyone noticed it. We needed a way to separate the vendors from the show and again the 8 x 4 panels were brought out of retirement. We used them to divide this space and they worked great, but we only had enough of these panels to divide that one area. We did not have enough to put behind the displays to hide the walls. The ugliness and the distracting look of these walls became even more apparent to me after the first night of set up. I had taken pictures and gone home to download them. They looked horrible! The next day even the judges commented on how horrible the walls were. Some even said that they were so distracting to them that they might not consider coming back to the show unless this problem was rectified. Now this can make a difference for the judging of the show. If we do not have judges come to our show we cannot be an AOS accredited show. Now this has been something that has been important to many members and at times can draw good growers who have good displays and sell good plants. So it can really cascade down on the whole quality of the show and the displays.

So I started to try and see what we could do to fix this problem. I thought of building wooden frames for cloth, but the price could really add up and I could not find anyone to actually build them. I thought of a couple of other ideas, but again hit a brick wall on actually getting anyone to help me with it. I thought we could build more panels like what we had and was flatly told no by many of the people involved with the set up of the show. These panels are a real pain to deal with. They did not want to have more of them.

During this time I attended a couple of other plant shows and was noticing what they used for their backdrops. They looked great and looked like they would be great to work with. But we still had the problem of the cost. But how easy they would be to store and actually put up on set-up day. Anyone actually involved in the show and the set-up and tear down will understand why this can make a difference. There are 14 - 8 x 4 panels. These look great and do a good job, but are a real pain to deal with. They are hard to store. They take up a very large space especially when in a small garage. They are hard to transport. They take up the whole back of a truck. So you need to make a separate trip just to get them there and back and if you live far away this is a real hardship. Lastly these are time consuming to put up and take down and taking at least an hour or more to get safely together. Several members had developed and provided their own curtains and it was an obvious improvement. Setting up the curtains for the show that were uniform and required a minimum effort resulted less than half the time it took 6 people to put up the large panels. Now if that is not more efficient. We also ran into the trouble of the person who had been storing and transporting the panels, was unable to continue. And who would blame him. They just

required a great deal of physical labor.

I found out that the NH Orchid Society had also just started using these curtain rods and I inquired with them on where they got them and how they had been working. They really liked them and were in the process of getting more to replace their old curtain set-up. I then came up with a plan. I get matching gift from my place of employment for charitable/ non-profit organization donations. I figured out that I could get the money that was donated to the club matched dollar for dollar and we could carry out the project at no cost to the club. I was excited. We could get our curtain rods when the gift was matched. Since this staging would really make the show look so much better I decided to go out on a limb and purchased them with my own money. With two stipulations, first that everyone involved agreed with this and second that IF the money actually did get matched I would like to be reimbursed for the cost of the curtain rods. If we did not get the matching gift, the club did not have to buy the curtain rods. The only cost to the club would be the purchase of the cloth for the curtains. I just could not afford to do that also, but for a cost of about \$150 we got the curtains rods and curtains. The people involved agreed this was a great thing. The club made out and it ended up costing so little. So in Jan of 2005 the rods were purchased and we used them in our April show. They looked great and there were many comments on how great the show was and how great it looked by many people including the judges. I heard even from the head judge that this was the best show from us and that compared to many shows he has seen, was fabulous, and the curtains made a huge difference. He was very pleased.

Well as of Dec 2005 the money had been matched and I decided that it was such a great thing to actually do it again. The curtain rods we had gotten were less than half of what we will need overall. We still need to get enough to replace the area with the panels and then also to go behind all the displays we have. These curtains and rods are something that no matter where we have our show they can be used. They are versatile. They go from 8-12 feet wide and can be used anywhere and are also easy to store and put up. So I again asked the people involved but requested that this matched money had to be used to again purchase more curtain rods. They agreed. This time though I hope to have enough matched to also not have the club pay for even the cloth. We should be able to buy some of the curtain rods and then the cloth to put on them. Again at no cost to the club.

This is my gift to the club. This is a way we can get things we need at no expense for the club. As always, I have the best interests of the club at heart. These curtains will make our show look spectacular and this is a way we can do it at no cost the club.

## Display Table

### Verda Dale

Warm greenhouse  
*Cochleanthos Amazing*  
*Canczonica x chochlecius*

### Marc Gray

Cool intermediate  
*Pleur. talpinaria 'Dewdrop'*

### Dan Ladd

Intermediate greenhouse  
*Coelog Mem. Louis Forget 'Mystery'*  
*species x mooreana*  
*Den. Super Star 'Dandy' x Den*  
*Kurenai 'Red'*

### Carol Mentos

Windowsill  
*Slc. Fire Lighter (Bright Angel x Sl*  
*Orpetii)*  
*Enclya polybulbons*  
*Den. Super Star 'Dandy' x Den Ku-*

*renai 'Red'*

### Kim Nyiri

*Haraella odorata* (warm, lights)  
*Maxillari variabilis* (intermediate,  
windowsill, lights)

### Susan Spelman

Windowsill  
*Paph. Topperii x rothschilianum*  
*Paph. Lyro. Blackhawk*  
*Paph. Saint Low*

### Steve Steiner

Greenhouse-Intermediate to cool  
*Pleur. Restrepioides*  
*Paph. Atlantiket*  
*Masd. Copper Angel 'Highland' AM/*  
*AOS*  
*Pleur. Truncata*  
*Dend. Katherine Bantes x Sunglow*  
*L. anceps 'Guerrero'*  
*Mediocalcar decoratum*

### Marge Tanguay

Greenhouse-Intermediate  
*Phal. Bill Zauber 'Hampshire'*  
*(William Sander's x Zamberrose)*

*Blc Painter's Brush x Lc Mary Ellen*  
*Carter*

*'Dixie Hummingbird' HCC/AOS*  
*Lc Mari's Song 'CTM-217' HCC/*  
*AOS*

*Blc Herbert William Tickner*  
*'Talisman*

*Cove' (Fleur de Lys x C. Bella*  
*Simpson)*

### Roger West

Windowsill-Intermediate  
*Blc Pamela Hetherington*  
*'Coronation' FCC/Aos*  
*Lc Lanhamiana Nor Courelea 'Azure*  
*Star' AM/AOS*  
*C. Horace 'Maxima' AM/Aos*

This is the first report on a new program, the brainchild of Bill Hutchinson, where a NBS plant is given to a new member, in this case Betty Krull, with the caveat that they write something about the plant and periodically write a report for the newsletter.

## Plant of the Month

By *Betty Krull*

### *Blc Keowee' Newberry (B. Brassavola X L. Laelia X C. cattleya)*

The initials Blc in front of Keowee'Newberry meaning it is derived from three different genera. This combination makes up the initials Blc. And these initials are the abbreviation of its name combining these genera that is Brassolaeliocattlaya.

The name Keowee' has been given as its clonal name and the Brassolaeliocattlaya is the group to which it belongs.

The name Newberry was placed after the Blc Keowee to describe it further as a remake of the original. The person or place that did this remake was Carter and Holmes Orchids, Newberry, South Carolina. The name Newberry was given after the second remake and it is the name of the town where Carter and Holmes is located. The first remake was Keowee' Mendenhall. The name Mendenhall is the name of the street the Carter and Holmes nursery is on. (This name originated from a local doctor named Mendenhall).

The original plant Blc Keowee was bred and registered in 1975 by Earl J. Small orchids of Miami, Florida, then Carter and Holmes nursery then carried it on after Mr. Small passed away. The name Keowee is register in the Royal Horticultural Society Sander's list of Orchid Hybrids, but has not be registered as Keowee' Newberry (it is a remake).

Keowee' Newberry has received twelve awards of quality.

The parent plants of Blc Keowee are Lc. Lorraine Shirai (Pod Parent) and B. nodosa (Seed Parent). After pollination the seed was harvested at 6 months, and could be stored in refrigerator for up to a year, if left alone on the pod plant the pod would burst in about 9 or 10 months. To keep track of the seed and to keep conditions as sterile as possible the seedpod is harvested at an earlier stage.

**GENEAOLOGY** Keowee' Newberry =Keowee + Lc., Lorraine Shirai x B. nodosa

**PARENT PLANTS** Lc. = Laeliocattelya B. = Brassavola (natural genus) Cattleya x Laelia

**GRAND PARENTS** Derna x Luminosa ( parents of Lc. Lorraine Shirai Register 1952) address unknown

**GREAT GRAND PARENTS** to Derna = Nugget x C. dowiana (C. = Cattleya)

Luminosa = C. dowiana (C. = Cattleya) x L. tenebrosa (L.= Laelia)

Small case represents natural genus (original stock, made by God ETC)

The look of the Keowee' Newberry is a 5 petal flower pale yellow with a full lip that appears to have yellow, pink and white background with ¾ of this in a burgundy or reddish color overlay and the other 1/4 with burgundy or reddish spots.

The Keowee Mendenhall was a similar color with out the background coloring in the lip and more reddish burgundy cove ring on the lip.

**ASK BILL**

Questions for "ASK BILL" can be given to me at the monthly meetings. If possible write them out. If you prefer you may call me at 413-253-7036, write me at 52 Jeffrey Lane, Amherst, MA 01002-2532 or reach me via e-mail at >wa.hutchinson@comcast.net<. Answers to written questions may take one or two months to appear. The e-mail questions I nominally will answer within 24 hours or less. Keep in mind that if you are puzzled by a growing problem, etc. someone else is too.

Go to >[www.larchhillorchids.com](http://www.larchhillorchids.com)<, click on AmOrch and go directly an Amherst Orchid Society Web page. Additional information may be found on the Larch Hill pages. Currently not active.

***Q. I bought an orchid and was told by the vendor that it was a species and when I got home I took a closer look at the label which read, "Maxillaria coccinea X Ornithidium coccinia" This can't be a species can it?***

**A.** It took a little digging but it really is a species cross and qualifies as a selected species. The old name for Maxillaria was Ornithidium and either the vendor figured you should know that. He didn't understand how it had been a labeled or had not read the label. This is another case of synonymy and unfortunately many texts do not give the synonymous names.

***Q. What do all those letters attached to some plants signify? (Such as HCC, AM, Etc.).***

**A.** Such letters given at the end of a name are indications that the plant has been awarded. These awards, in the form of certificates, are granted by the American Orchid Society's judges at show tables of the society such as the judging held periodically at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, at regional or international shows. Two medals are awarded: the gold medal of Achievement (GMA) for distinguished work in orchid culture or scientific investigations on orchid and the Silver Medal of Merit (SMM). The ones you are asking about FCC, first class certificate for a plant scoring 90 points or over; AM award of merit for an orchid species that scores at least 80 points; HCC, highly commended certificate for less than 80 but not less than 75 points; JC, judges commendation; AD, award of distinction; AQ, award of quality for a cross exhibited as a group of 12 plants. and CCM, certificate of cultural merit for a plant with an unusually large number of flowers and has scored 80 points or over. Immediately after the above symbols a backslash is printed and immediately after the backslash the initials AOS, RHS AOC, JOS, DOG and so on will be given. The last three letters designate the society that has given the Award. AOS = American orchid Society, RHS = Royal Horticultural Society, AOC = Australian Orchid Society, JOS = Japanese Orchid Society, DOG = Deutsche Orchideen Gesellschaft (German Orchid Society). There are some thirty three societies recognized by the American Orchid Society which can award plants. If for example you read the club newsletter for May 1999 you would find that several club members had plant judged and awarded. For example Roger West entered a Cattleya Catherine Patterson which was given an award of merit AM/AOS which he then had the privilege of naming "Beth" (for his wife).

Similarly a species which has been entered as above if judged and awarded it can be given a name hence Oncidium "Twinkle" or Ruth.

## **AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY LOSES LONG TIME FRIEND**

Margaret Dwyer, 93 of Hadley, Mass. Died Jan. 13, 2006. She and her husband Bill (died several years earlier) were long time members and supporters of the Amherst Orchid Society. As a trustee of the Hopkins Academy in Hadley, she was able to obtain the use of the building for many of the Amherst Orchid Society shows and annual 50/50 sales. In addition, she and her husband made their home spacious assembly hall available for annual receptions for the society. It's always sad to lose old friends but remembrance of their past help and pleasant hours spent with them make it bearable. WAH

To find the bylaws of the Amherst Orchid Society go to: [www.larchhillorchids.com](http://www.larchhillorchids.com) and click on Amherst Orchid Society and then bylaws.

**PRESIDENT**  
Marc Gray  
P.O. Box 73  
Williamsville, VT 05362  
orchids@together.net  
802-348-7782

Steve Reardon  
157 Shea Rd  
West Brookfield, MA 01585

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**MEMBERSHIP**  
Karen Howat  
32 Maple St  
Florence, Ma 01062

**TREASURER**  
Jane Peirce  
64 South Shore Dr  
Orange, MA 01364

**CONSERVATION CHAIR**  
John Varner  
54 Jeffrey Lane  
Amherst, MA 01002

**ASSISTANT TREASURER**  
Lynn Reynolds  
62 East Taylor Hill Rd  
Montague, MA 01351

**AOS REPRESENTATIVE**  
Harold Norman  
7 Maple St  
Monson, MA 01057

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Lynn Vennell  
31 Greenwich Rd  
Amherst, MA 01002

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**  
Leilani Norman  
7 Maple St  
Monson, MA 01057

**LIBRARIAN**  
Robert Simon  
23 Caraville Dr  
Longmeadow, MA 01106

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
Carol Mentos  
783 Southeast St  
Amherst, MA 01002  
Seacrab866@aol.com

**PROGRAM CHAIR**  
Marc Gray  
**SHOW COMMITTEE**  
Marc Gray (Chair)

## **Amherst Orchid Society** **2006 Upcoming Events**

**February 18-19, 2006– N. H. Orchid Society 15th Annual Show & Sale**  
**Sat 9-6, Sun 9-4**  
**Crowne Plaza Hotel**  
**2 Somerset Parkway**  
**Nashua, N.H.**

**February 23-26, 2006– Amherst Orchid Society Annual Show (Schedule inside)**

**Note to Members:** Submissions for the March, 2006 newsletter must reach the editor by March 3, 2006 to be printed. Since the show is held later in the month than the meeting, this will give people less time to submit their submissions.



*The Greater Wooded Pagonia*  
*Official Flower of the Club*

Carol Mentos, Editor  
783 Southeast Street  
Amherst, MA 01002

### **NEXT MEETING:**

**Our annual show will be held at Smith Vocational High School in Northampton from February 23-26. The schedule is inside the newsletter.**