



The Greater Whorled
Pagonia
Official Flower of the

Newsletter of the
AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY

An affiliate of the American Orchid Society
wa.hutchinson@comcast.net

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June, 2006

June Meeting is at the Gray's

May Meeting at Durfee *By Marc Gray*

I think that meeting went really well. We had about 30 people attend the meeting. We started out with Marc talking a little about what is going to be happening in the next few months. As all people are or should be aware, Marc will not be taking the President term again. He has stated that he feels he has done it for long enough. Other positions needing to be filled are as follows Vice President and 2 board of Directors positions. If anybody in the club has interests in these positions please contact Verda Dale, Roger West, or Bill Hutchinson as they are the nominating committee. Also other positions needing to be filled by the club are as follows Show Chairman presently being held by Marc Gray and Program Chairman as Marc has stated that he feels it time for other to take on responsibilities other than himself in these positions. We also need somebody to coordinate the Plant Sale in September as Nancy Goodman will not be doing it. This is one function that does create some money for the club and, as everybody knows, we always can use money for the club.

A few other things talked about were that we are having the July meeting at Verda Dales instead of the usual Roger West location. Another issue raised is the membership list that was sent out had only the names and addresses and emails on it. It has always been my understanding that the club has provided the telephone numbers also. If you do not want your telephone number on the list that you just state that and it will not be put on the list. We discussed it and the consensus was that the club would provide this info in a new membership list coming out soon. We will be checking to see if all addresses are correct at the Picnic at the Grays. If not at the Picnic let Karen Howat know what needs to be corrected.

Now about the Durfee:

I really thought we were going to get rained out, but it held long enough for the people to get to look outside before it did in fact start. I would like to thank Armand for providing some refreshments and the tent that did become important before we were done with meeting. As anyone that has either attended our meeting or previous ones at the Durfee knows, it is an interesting place to be.

Armand talked about some of the goals that the Durfee is trying to accomplish and some that have already occurred. They will start having the Durfee open to the public on Sunday's 12-4 in mid September as this is something that is new. He has been working in the conservatory on projects that need to be done and hopefully will be done in the near future. He was really happy to have us as guests at the Durfee for the meeting, and hopes that this can happen every year in the future. He stated that what the Durfee needs is the public interest to continue functioning as a Conservatory. Again I would like to thank Armand for the time that he provided for the club to have our monthly meeting at the Durfee this year.



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<, click on AmOrch and go directly an Amherst Orchid Society Web page. Additional information may be found on the Larch Hill pages. It has been completely redesigned, has a few zits but is up and running.

Q. What is a good small orchid that is fragrant and can be grown on an east windowsill?

A. While there are many small orchids for such an exposure, the limitation of a scented orchid shortens the list somewhat. There is, however, an extensive list of orchids in almost every scented grex and species, which will meet your requirements. Any *Cattleya walkeriana* cross will provide small size and fragrance. Many of the crosses such as Lc Love Knot, C Snow-blind, C. Angelwalker and C. Little Angel will also work. A number of *Dendros* will also provide small size and fragrance if you use such cultivars as D. Sweet Dawn, D. Bella Maree and D. Ise Pearl and its crosses. This later plant may grow up to 14" or more but the fragrance it provides may be well worth it. There are also a number of very small species, which are fragrant. J & L catalog has a section listing numerous small scented species. Hope this gives you some point of departure.

Q. What are easy to grow fragrant orchids that are fragrant at night?

A. There are many orchids which are evening fragrant. This is often tied to the pollinators which are active as the evening approaches. Such pollinators are often moths and they respond to white flowers. Many of the *Angraecums* and similar Madagascarian and African orchid fall into this group. We should also include the *Brassovolas* such as *B. nodosa*, *B. cucullata* and *B. perrinii* and the one that has found wide usage in breeding *Rhyncholaelia digbyana* often called 'Lady of the Evening'. I'm not sure you could rate the last one as an easy to grow plant. I've found it to be a shy bloomer and needing high light intensity. Some of the orchids in the first Q & A section may also qualify here.

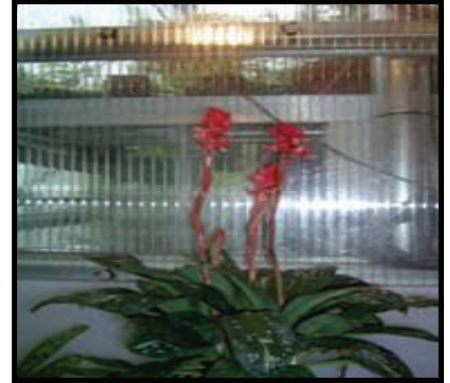
DIRECTIONS TO MARC GRAY'S HOUSE

Take Rt. 91 north to Vermont. Take exit 2 in Brattleboro. At the end of the ramp take a left turn onto Western Ave continue down Western Ave to the 4th street on the left. This is called Cedar St. Just before Cedar St. there is a brick office building on the left. Continue on Cedar St until it ends. Take left turn. This will be Rt 30. Follow Rt 30 for approximately 9 miles. Go past the green iron bridge on the right, and the waterfall on the left, and the covered bridge on the right. Go past the old ski area (Maple Valley). After the ski area look for Williamsville Rd and take a left onto Williamsville Rd. (The sign will say Williamsville, South New-fane). This road is right before a bridge. Follow this road to the end and go over the one lane stone bridge and take a left onto Dover Rd. Go through the small town (Williamsville) and take a right onto Baker Brook Rd., which is right across the street from the post office. Follow Baker Brook Rd. for approximately one mile. Bear left at the fork in the road, which is right after Parish Hill Rd. Always keep the brook to your left. The house will be on your right side up a steep driveway. Look for the Baker Brook Orchids sign hanging on the tree at the base of the driveway. The house is # 260 and is gray with black trim.

PLANT OF THE MONTH

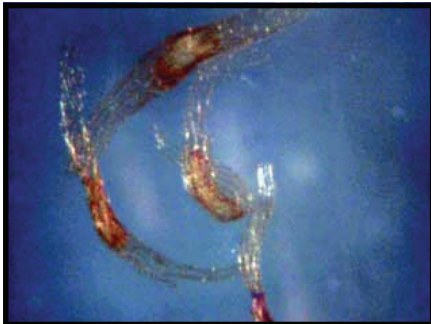
Stenorrhynchos speciosa Christmas Orchid

This terrestrial orchid is easily grown in a Pro-mix or garden compost. Related to our native *Spiranthes* - Lady's Tresses orchid, it grows in fairly low light and keeps the dark green speckled foliage. Keep evenly moist and it should not dry out. A program of weekly weakly fertilizing of a 1:1:1 ratio fertilizer should be used during the year with a change to a 1:2:1 ratio or bloom booster Dyno-Grow or fish emulsion fertilizer should be started about the first of September. It produces spikes of one inch red flowers with a white lip and 50 or more flowers per plant are common. After flowering is complete rest the plant by growing slightly drier and when new shoots begin at the base divide and repot.



SEED HARVESTED AND ANALYZED

Photomicrograph from Trymeyers.com



This species often appears on the show table. In so far as I know they all owe their origin to two compotes which came from Hoosier Orchids. As plants approached maturity I would often bring them to the sale table. Some of these exhibit so much vigor that they have been known to break clay pots if not repotted frequently. Even so the plant with the broken pot went to a show and picked up a ribbon. Seed harvested this spring was sent to Troymeyers.com and eventually seedlings will be available. So go onto the Troymeyers web site and as soon as it is available gloom onto a vial.

Show Table

Bill Hutchinson

Dendrobium Himezakura 'Sanokku'
Encyclia abbreviata 'Quincy'

Dan Ladd

Oncidium equitant
Vanda Mary Motes
Aspassia principissa

David Walker

Neofinetia falcata pink form
Cirr Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'
Phrag Grande

Phal lueddemannia
Dendrobium chameleon
Bulbo lepidum
Aerides multiflora

Bette Grull

Cattleya White Diamond x C. Secret Love
Phal Baldens Kaleidoscope 'Gold Treasure'

Marc Gray

Maxillaria rufescens

Bill Arduser

Hawkinsara Koolau Sunset
'Hawaii'

Steve Steiner

Paph Iona 'Lue Star'
Cymbidium Tiny Tiger
Masd Pacific Gold 'Bart Orange'
Masd vietchiana
L. purpurata
Lycaste aromatica
Bifrenaria tyrianthina

To find the bylaws of the Amherst Orchid Society go to:
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 SECRE-
TARY**
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)



The Greater Whorled
Pagonia

Carol Mentos, Editor
783 Southeast Street
Amherst, MA 01002

NEXT MEETING:

June 18, 2006, potluck at the Gray's House.
Arrival time is anytime after 1pm. The
Gray's will provide hotdogs and hamburgers
and soft drinks.

Note to Members: Submissions for the July,
2006 newsletter must reach the editor by June
27, 2006 to be printed.

Amherst Orchid Society **2006 Upcoming Events**

**June 18, 2006 Amherst Orchid Society Meeting and-
Picnic at the Gray's**

June 23 - July 2, 2006 **J&L ORCHIDS**
ANNUAL SUMMER SALE -
Guest Vendors June 23, 24, 25
9am - 4 pm each day (at greenhouse only)
James Rose of Cal-Orchid
Carri Raven-Riemann of the orchidPhile
Free Lunch First Weekend
Special Bargain Benches
Lots of New Exciting Plants

July 16, 2006 Meeting at Verda Dale's house.

**July 29-30, 2006 Summer Orchid Fest Parkside Or-
chid Nursery, Ottsville, PA**

AMHERST ORCHID SOCIETY **MONTHLY MEETING**

Our monthly meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of each
month except the month of August. Most of the meetings
(except June and July) are held at the Munson Memorial
library in South Amherst at 1046 South East St. next to
the Congregational church. Meetings start at 2 pm with
beginner programs some months at 1:30 pm.