

**CNYOS ORCHID SHOW: OCTOBER 22-23!**

That's right, CNYOS Members, the show is just over a week away—October 22-23, set-up October 21, Beaver Lake Nature Center—and we're counting on our membership to make it a successful one! This supplemental issue contains all the last minute details you will need, whether you're helping out with the show in some capacity, or bringing plants in for the display.

**F**or the first time in many years, we have a new show location! Beaver Lake Nature Center has enthusiastically agreed to host our show, in what we all hope will be a vast improvement over Shoppingtown Mall. Beaver Lake has proven to be most hospitable and hopeful, even providing a fair amount of advertising for the show.

**T**here remain a number of empty slots for the society information booth, and for display monitors—no specific sign-up sheet was circulated, so please consider stopping in for an hour or two to help keep an eye on things. And take a look at the tables on Page 3 and consider volunteering where needed. Last year, plant registration took too long with plants being submitted even after the display was set up. The display committee would like to avoid that sort of confusion this year by pre-registering as many plants as possible. By now you should have a pretty good idea of which of your orchids will be ready for the show. Those plants will have to be registered, groomed, and brought to Beaver Lake Nature Center in time to go into the display. Details on registration should have been sent to you last week.

**NOVEMBER MEETING: GLEN DECKER OF PIPING ROCK ORCHIDS**

**C**NYOS will welcome back **Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids** for our November meeting. Glen will take us on a tour through parts of Europe to give us a perspective of commercial orchid growers and how they grow. He'll tell us about the flower trade, including the floating flower market in Amsterdam. And along the way there'll be plenty of cultural tips thrown in.

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*OCTOBER MEETING: LUIS MATIENZO*

On Sunday October 9<sup>th</sup>, CNYOS was pleased to welcome Luis Matienzo of the STOS, who gave a presentation on growing orchids in the Northeast. Luis J. Matienzo is an advisory engineer for Endicott Interconnect Technologies, a microelectronics firm in Endicott, NY, and holds degrees in chemical engineering and chemistry. His professional career has been shared by corporate organizations and academic institutions domestically and overseas. Meeting specialists from different parts of the world, through visits to a few orchid habitats and the scientific insights that make orchid growing and collecting a most interesting hobby have expanded his interest in orchids. His enjoyable talk discussed the many challenges associated with growing orchids in our part of the country, where conditions often work against us! In many cases, our personal "orchid habitats" may not resemble those in which the plants were originally found. The talk provided a description of some selected orchid species from different parts of the world. Some personal experiences gathered through the years was offered to beginners and experienced orchid growers. A group of members took Luis and his wife out for dinner before the meeting.

*SEPTEMBER MEETING: GENERAL CULTURE MEETING*

After several failed attempts to line up a speaker for our introductory meeting to the CNYOS 2005-2006 season, Carolyn Pace and Cynthia Busic-Snyder presented a general culture meeting for members to ask questions on growing their orchids. And it turned into a

Advice was offered up by members on how to control pests, watering, repotting, and growing under lights. Several members brought in plants for diagnosis. Plans were also made for the upcoming show.

**New Business:**

1. Iris Cohen proposed Hilda Belman as a CNYOS Life Time Member. The motion was passed.
2. Herb and Flower Show for next year in Oriskany is 6/24/06.
3. Digital projector- purchase of a digital projector was discussed as more of our speakers give their presentations via Powerpoint. The cost ranges from \$800-1000. We voted to pursue purchase of this type projector. A possible arrangement with the Church was discussed.
4. CNYOS Show: Vendors—4 are scheduled to attend, including Mountain Orchids, JustPat, Marlow Orchids, and Bloomfield Orchids. Black Meadow Orchids is unable to attend. Enough judges have agreed to attend as well, including Diane Strack, John & Shirley Dunkelburger, Linda Kennedy, Howard Ginsberg, Ivan Snyder, Jeanne Kaeding, Andre Levesque and Michel Tremblay. The Niagara Frontier Orchid Society will be participating in our Show for the first time in many years. Iris is encouraging people to register their plants early. Rick Braue will give a repotting demonstration for one day of the Show. So if you have a beauty that needs its roots redone, give to Rick (along with potting material). Advertisement has been arranged through a variety of sources including the Orchid magazine, AOS web site, The Post-Standard, Terry Ettinger, and Carol Bradford. We also discussed lodging for our Judges at members' homes. We have received our "Wildcat" disc. Drop off your plants after registering them at Judy Witkin's house, or bring them by 3:30 or 4<sup>PM</sup> to Beaver Lake for set-up.
5. Refreshment list was sent around for people to sign up.
6. October 22 is the Benefit for Monica Kot.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
**Barbara Weller, CNYOS Secretary**

- October 22-23**      **CNYOS Fall Show & Sale! Beaver Lake Nature Center!**
- October 22**        **Benefit for Monica Kot; call Monica for details, 699-3947.**
- November 6**      **Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids speaking on Orchid Propagation in Europe**
- December 4**      **Tentative Date for CNYOS Annual Holiday Party. Details TBA**
- January 8**        **CNYOS Regular Meeting: Details TBA**
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### **Editor's Note**

In March of 1997, I sent out my first newsletter for the Central NY Orchid Society, having taken over the task from Jennifer Wilson. That was over 8 years ago, and more newsletters than I can remember. The first issue of its current form, *The Orchid Enthusiast*, came out in March of 2000, and it has remained essentially unchanged ever since. I find it hard to believe how fast the last 8 years have flown by. This will be my last issue.

The Central New York Orchid Society is a special group of people, and I've enjoyed serving the club in whatever capacity I've been able. In fact, it has been my great pleasure to do so, and I've loved every minute of it! As newsletter editor I've had the opportunity to get to know many of you, and to work with some truly amazing and dedicated CNYOS officers. I have attended several of the other local society meetings over the years, but I believe that CNYOS has a unique and special combination of remarkable orchid growers, truly giving volunteers, and some of the best people I've ever met. We're not too big to become impersonal, but not too small to be ineffective.

As many of you probably know, I have to step down as the CNYOS Newsletter Editor because I am moving on to a new job in a new state. I am soon to be the new Director of the Nanobioelectronics Research Center at the University of Connecticut. My house has sold and I'm looking for a new house in Connecticut to hold me, my dog, and WAY TOO MANY orchids! Looking for a place to meet all those needs is a challenge. I promise an account of my experiences along the way for the new newsletter editor!

I hope that someone in the club will step up and take over the club's newsletter editor responsibilities. It is as much, or as little work as it needs to be—when it comes right down to it, the club needs not more than monthly post cards and an up-dated web page. My first few attempts were very basic, and it was not until several years later that I started to expand & really have fun with the newsletter. And now it is time for someone else to make *THE ORCHID ENTHUSIAST* there own. I have appreciated all of the compliments that each of you has offered me over the years.

Thanks for being such a great group of people, and I look forward to seeing everyone in the future. I will not be a stranger, and CNYOS members will always be welcome at my place in Connecticut. After all, there are some great orchid greenhouses within driving distance of where I'll be living!

*Good growing!*

*Jeff Stuart, CNYOS Newsletter Editor*

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**Please note** especially all names and abbreviations in **boldface**, and correct or **complete** your records, including parentage and new registrations.

### Cypripedium Alliance

*Paph. concolor* Kessler  
*Paph.* Sibyl (*fairrieianum* x *Goultenianum*) Rossler

### Cattleya Alliance

*C.* Bob Betts (*Bow Bells* x *mossiae*) 4 plants Rossler  
*Blc.* (?) Gold Wings (*The Baroness* x *C. Lysander*) “  
*Slc.* Fire Lighter (*Bright Angel* x *Sl. Orpetii*) “  
*Bc.* **Yoyo** (*B. nodosa* x *C. skinneri*) Lowell  
*Bl.* Petite Stars (*Richard Mueller* x *L. rubescens*) Weller  
*Bpl.* Golden Spice (*Bl. Richard Mueller* x *Epi. stamfordianum*) Coleman  
*Bl.* Yellow Bird (*Richard Mueller* x *B. nodosa*) “  
*Lc.* Flirtie x *C. Chocolate Drop* Erickson

### Vandaceous

*Hal. retrocalla* Coleman  
*Neost.* Lou Sneary (*Neof. falcata* x *Rhy. coelestis*) “  
*Phal.* Helen Ng (*Coral Isles* x *violacea* [?]) Kessler  
*Phal. reichenbachiana* Ufford  
*Phal. cornu-cervi* “  
*Phal. bellina* “  
*Phal. equestris* “

### Oncidium Alliance

*Phal. pulchra* “  
*Ascda.* Motes Goldpiece f<sub>2</sub> (*V. Filipino* x *Ascda. Sagarik*) Witkin

*Trpla. turialvae* Weller  
*Sgm.* *aristulifera* Witkin  
*Brs.* unknown Erickson  
*Brsdm.* Longlen (*Brs. longissima* x *Onc. leucochilum*) Capella  
*Brs. longissima* “

### Pleurothallid Alliance

*Ste. argentata* Coleman  
*Masd. floribunda* “  
*Rstp. brachypus* Witkin  
*Sppm. microdactylum* “  
*Masd. discoidea* Capella

### Miscellaneous

*Kohleria* 'Longwood' (Gesneriaceae) Witkin  
*Trichoceros parviflorus* “  
*Chau. heteroclita* “  
*Bulb. macroleum* Coleman  
*Sinningia iarae* (Gesneriaceae) “  
*Aërgs. luteo-alba* Capella  
 Iris Cohen

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on a different plant of *D. kingianum*. The resultant seedlings are NOT hybrids, and are still named *D. kingianum*.

The definition of species orchids as orchids that grow wild in Nature is not strictly correct, because hybrids also grow wild occasionally. These are 'natural' hybrids, that have resulted from cross-pollination of species orchids by 'wayward' insects. These natural hybrids have an X in their names. Examples of natural hybrids among Australian native orchids are *Dendrobium Xrupiosum* (*D. ruppianum* X *D. speciosum*) & *Pterostylis Xingens* (*Ptst. nutans* X *Ptst. falcata*).

When writing the names of species orchids, only the first letter of the genus should have a capital, e.g. *Laelia anceps*. The name should also be italicized, or if that is not possible, it should be underlined. All words in a hybrid name should begin with a capital letter, e.g. *Maclellanara* Pagan Love Song 'Ruby Charles'; only the genus should be italicized or underlined. If everyone did this, we could all tell the difference between species and hybrid orchids.

All species orchids should be entered in the SPECIES ANY GENUS class at monthly meetings and shows. The only exceptions are where there are separate species classes, e.g. Paphiopedilum Species or Australian Native Species.

## CLUB REMINDERS

**Orchid-Growing Supplies** are now available from Kim Boronczyk; potting supplies, mounts, fertilizer, etc. Contact Kim for details on availability, 455-7587.

The **CNYOS Club Library** is now located at St. Augustine's church. Make arrangements with Judi Witkin (422-0869) if you want to borrow an item from the Library.

***DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR BLOOMING ORCHIDS FOR THE MONTHLY SHOW TABLE!!!***



*Phalaenopsis bellina (violacea)*, photograph by Vagisha Sharma, with digital enhancement by J. Stuart.

**CNYOS President Kim Boronczyk** will be vending at our annual orchid show, selling potting supplies (bark mix, coconut husk chips), tree fern (loose and mounts), fertilizer, cork mounts, Diatomite, and Aussie Gold. Other orchid related items will be available as well.

## **STOS NEWS: NEWS FROM THE SOUTHERN TIER ORCHID SOCIETY**

**November 20<sup>th</sup>:** STOS will be welcoming John Sullivan, a well known AOS judge and orchid grower (miniatures!) who will present a tutorial on Orchid Judging Criteria. Several awarded plants will be highlighted in the presentation.

Monthly meetings begin at 2:00<sup>PM</sup> in the Vestal Public Library. For directions, etc. call STOS president Kenneth Lattimore at 570-553-2753 or e-mail him at <klatt@epix.net>.

## **REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE**

*WINTER-SPRING, 2005*

<b>November</b>	<b>Barbara Weller &amp; Dolores Capella</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>John Bradley &amp; Need Volunteer</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>Lu Prokopiw &amp; Need Volunteer</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>Need Volunteers!</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>Margaret Tupper &amp; Pat Cotter</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Carol Haskell &amp; Tammy Pomietlasz</b>

## **GROS NEWS: NEWS FROM THE GENESEE REGION ORCHID SOCIETY**

**October 23:** Annual Fall Auction! Plant preview starts at Noon & Bidding begins at 1:00<sup>PM</sup> sharp!

**November 7:** Regular Meeting.

Taken with permission from *The Orchid Collection*, Newsletter of the Genesee Region Orchid Society, Phil Matt, Newsletter Editor (716) 288-7025.

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## ACACALLIS CYANEA &amp; ANSELLIA AFRICANA

Again I look for inspiration for this column to my own collection, and it just so happens that two wonderful orchids happen to be in bloom this time of year—one New World, one Old World.

*Acacallis cyanea* is a remarkable orchid with uncommon floral coloration. It's unique flowers are about as blue as can be found in the world of orchids. Furthermore, the plant flowers on a relatively small plant. Related to *Zygopetalums* (and often hybridized with them), *Acacallis cyanea* is found from Colombia to Brazil, and is generally found in warmer lowland areas. It is typically considered to be more difficult to grow, and early-collected plants seldom survived more than a few years. Seed-grown plants seem to fare better, but still need intermediate to warm temperatures, good humidity, and lower light levels. It is a wonderful species that deserves to be grown more commonly.



*Ansellia africana* is, as its name implies, from Africa, and in true African spirit boasts leopard-spotted flowers of yellow and brown. In fact, it is often referred to as the Leopard orchid. I grow this species in a large clay pot, with coconut husk chips.

And under my conditions, it thrives with neglect! Far too large to fit under my lights, it is treated like the few *Cattleyas* in my collection; it gets bright sun outside all summer long, and is then brought in and placed in front of my brightest southern-exposure window for the long winter. During its active summer growing season, the plant is almost constantly moist (although it survives hot dry periods well). Flowers are produced once the sturdy canes mature. During the winter, the plant gets no more than about a half dozen thorough waterings for the entire season. The flowers in fall are a nice reward for so little work! My plant currently resides in a 14 inch pot, and as our October speaker, Luis Matienzo, commented, it's still a baby!



This year's show will be held at Beaver Lake Nature Center. Set-up is on OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, starting at 3:00<sup>PM</sup>. There will be at least eight displays, including vendors & four societies—in addition to CNYOS, society displays will be set up by the **Southern Tier Orchid Society** and the **Greater Rochester Orchid Society**. And for the first time in several years, the **Niagara Frontier Orchid Society** will be participating! Some familiar faces will be in the vendor area as well, including Darrin Norton of **Mountain Orchids** (Ludlow, VT), Joe Kunisch of **Bloomfield Orchids** (Pittsford, NY), Jim Marlow of **Marlow's Orchids** (Scottsdale, NY), and Paul Sheetz of **JustPat Orchids** (Philadelphia, PA). CNYOS Members are encouraged to enter personal displays, especially of an educational or artistic nature—those set up in previous years were very well received, both by the judges and the public. Judging will be on Saturday morning starting promptly at 8:30<sup>AM</sup>. *Members who have signed up to be clerks should arrive at Beaver Lake by 8:00<sup>AM</sup>.* A light breakfast will be provided. The following members have volunteered as clerks: John Bradley, Cynthia Busic-Snyder, David Ditz, David Kessler, Jeanne Kurtz, Cheryl Lloyd, Nancy Loveland, Suzanne Osio, Carolyn Pace, Gary Stensland, Jeff Stuart, and Charles Ufford.

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**THE CNYOS DISPLAY: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!**

**W**e need your blooming orchids! Judi Witkin, Kim Boronczyk, Cheryl Lloyd, Dianne Bordoni, & Gary Stensland will be setting up the club display, which should be the centerpiece of the show. So we want it to be impressive! But that won't be possible if we don't have any plants... If you've got something in bloom that is fresh, well-flowered (i.e. the flowers are in good shape), & overall good looking, please either bring it to Beaver Lake during set-up, **no later than 3:30 - 4<sup>PM</sup>**: orchids arriving later than 4:00<sup>PM</sup> will most likely not be allowed in the display. If you cannot make it to set-up, contact **Judi Witkin (422-0896)**, **Dianne Bordoni (446-3836)** or **Dave Ditz (635-8148)** and make arrangements with one of them to get your orchids to the show. **When you bring plants for the display, PLEASE do the following:**

- (1) LABEL EACH POT WITH BOTH YOUR NAME AND THE PLANT NAME;
- (2) REMOVE ALL PLASTIC PLANT LABELS;
- (3) INCLUDE A LIST OF ALL THE PLANTS YOU ARE ENTERING WITH YOUR BOX; &
- (4) PUT YOUR NAME & PHONE NUMBER ON YOUR BOX.

**A**nd we strongly encourage you to pre-register your orchids with **Iris Cohen (IrisCohen@aol.com, (315) 461-9226)** prior to the show. Even if you're not sure whether or not you'll actually enter a particular orchid, pre-register it anyway to save work for the registration team during set-up. Registration is always difficult and time-consuming, so save some work for our volunteers (Iris & Elihu Cohen, Jennifer Wilson, & Kim Boronczyk)! Pre-registration forms and instructions and the Show Schedule, which contains all the necessary information regarding categories and classes, were distributed at the October meeting and sent out by mail. And remember, *please clean up and stake your plants as needed!*

Please look at the schedules below; each shift should have a **minimum of two or three people** (and it never hurts to have more!). There are still a few time slots that need volunteers (desperately!). If you're able to help fill out the schedule, please contact Dave Ditz as soon as possible (635-8148, dditz7733@hotmail.com).

<p><b>GREETERS</b> are needed on <b>Friday afternoon and evening</b>, and will be responsible for helping out our arriving guests (societies and vendors) in whatever capacity they need: unloading, setting up, registration, etc. Visiting vendors &amp; societies greatly appreciate the assistance, especially if they have to hit the road soon after setting up or if they arrive late.</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b>  <b>From 3:00<sup>PM</sup></b> Donna Coleman, Kim Boronczyk,  <b>until as long</b> Bev Costello, Helen Hofer  <b>as you're able.</b> Jeff Stuart &amp; Diane DeTore</p>
	<p><b>Refreshments:</b> Kim Boronczyk, Carolyn Pace,  John Bradley, &amp; Charles Ufford</p>

<p><b>SOCIETY INFORMATION BOOTH:</b> Members who help out at the society booth will interact with the public, answering questions, handing out information on the club, and selling raffle tickets, books, &amp; supplies. Members are also asked to monitor the displays on an occasional basis. In addition, this is where new members will sign up!</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY</b>  <b>12:00-2:00<sup>PM</sup></b> Diane DeTore &amp; Heather Erickson  <b>2:00-4:00<sup>PM</sup></b> Nancy Loveland &amp; Carol Haskell  <b>4:00-6:00<sup>PM</sup></b> Barbara Bessette &amp; <i>One Other Needed</i></p>
	<p><b>SUNDAY</b>  <b>11:00<sup>AM</sup>-1:00<sup>PM</sup></b> David Kessler &amp; <i>One Other Needed</i>  <b>1:00-3:00<sup>PM</sup></b> Dianne Bordoni &amp; Pat Cotter  <b>3:00-6:00<sup>PM</sup></b> Judi Witkin &amp; Donna Coleman</p>

<p><b>SHOW &amp; DISPLAY MONITORS</b> are needed to walk around the show and keep the public from touching the orchids or interfering with the displays in any way. The displays will be filled with some of the best plants the vendors and our guest societies have to offer, and we need to keep them safe. CNYOS has learned from past experience that this is highly appreciated.</p>	<p><b>WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC VOLUNTEERS FOR MONITORS; CNYOS MEMBERS WORKING AT THE SOCIETY BOOTH ARE ASKED TO OCCASIONALLY "PATROLE" THE DISPLAYS AND THE SHOW. HOWEVER, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO MONITOR THE SHOW AND DISPLAYS, PLEASE LET DAVE DITZ KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.</b></p>
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### *Other Volunteers Still Needed...*

...In several areas, including manning the society booth and monitoring the displays. Furthermore, we may need a few people to volunteer their guest rooms for our judges on Friday night.

***Break-down will start at 6:00<sup>PM</sup> on Sunday. All CNYOS members are strongly encouraged to participate.***

Vendors and societies always appreciate help at break-down so they can hit the road earlier. There was no specific sign-up sheet for break-down, but if you can help out, please let Dave Ditz know (635-8148, dditz7733@hotmail.com). The more members we have on hand to help, the faster it will go, and members can remove their own plants from the display.



PLEASE READ CAREFULLY — NO LATE ENTRIES!

**PLEASE REGISTER YOUR PLANTS IN ADVANCE!**

**IF YOU CANNOT MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS, BRING YOUR ORCHIDS TO SET-UP AT BEAVER LAKE NO LATER THAN 4PM ON OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup>**

This will help significantly on Friday at set-up. You can avoid the park fee by saying that your with the orchid society helping with the show. Late registrations will not be accepted for the display. Write up your registrations, with Name (and Parents, if a hybrid) of plant; Entry Class; and Culture Award eligibility. It is your responsibility to fill in the class number correctly (see the show rules sent out separately). It may be disqualified if entered incorrectly. If you have any questions, contact Iris (IrisCohen@aol.com, (315) 461-9226); you even arrange to use fax by calling Staples at 315-455-2820. The following web site may also be helpful: [http://www.rhs.org.uk/science/mn\\_registration\\_orchids.asp](http://www.rhs.org.uk/science/mn_registration_orchids.asp). If your clone (individual plant or cultivar) does NOT have a nationally recognized award, do NOT include clonal name. If your clone DOES have an AOS award, *you must include the clonal name*. It is your responsibility to determine if that clone has been awarded— Iris will be able to help in this regard. If you do not have name of cross *leave top line blank*. Parents belong on next 2 lines. Don't include variety name of a species unless it is really significant, like alba. Don't include clone names of parents as they have no significance for this purpose. If you are registering a plant with a clonal name: If it is a commercial mericlone, or the clone is widely distributed, include the clone name in the registration, whether it is awarded or not. If it is a division which is only known locally, don't include the clone name.

LOCATION	NAME _____ (incl Clonal name & awards)	Plant#	Plant #
	IF HYBRID, THE PARENTS: _____ X _____		
	Class _____ Exhibitor _____	Culture Award? Y N	
LOCATION	NAME _____ (incl Clonal name & awards)	Plant#	Plant #
	IF HYBRID, THE PARENTS: _____ X _____		
	Class _____ Exhibitor _____	Culture Award? Y N	
LOCATION	NAME _____ (incl Clonal name & awards)	Plant#	Plant #
	IF HYBRID, THE PARENTS: _____ X _____		
	Class _____ Exhibitor _____	Culture Award? Y N	
LOCATION	NAME _____ (incl Clonal name & awards)	Plant#	Plant #
	IF HYBRID, THE PARENTS: _____ X _____		
	Class _____ Exhibitor _____	Culture Award? Y N	

## CYMBIDIUM SPECIES—MONTH BY MONTH

by Stephen Early

*Reproduced from the web page of the Orchid Societies Council of Victoria,  
http://www.oscov.asn.au*

**Editor's Note:** This article was written in Australia, and as such the seasons need to be reversed for the Northern Hemisphere! Months need to be shifted by six. This time of year, our Cymbidiums should be outside getting that good chilling needed for spring flowers.

I have often heard cymbidium hybridizers claim that they will soon have cymbidium hybrids that will flower all year round. But this is possible now with a collection of cymbidium species, so where is the big change? All the plants I describe in this article are ones that I grow and that are available in Victoria. Unless stated otherwise, they will grow and flower without heat in Melbourne.

In January and February not many orchids are in flower but several of the thick-leaved cymbidiums are usually in bloom. One is *Cymbidium aloifolium*, the type species for the genus (which means that it was the first cymbidium described). It is appropriate that it should be the first species to flower, together with *Cymbidium finlaysonianum*, *C. bicolor*, *C. atropurpureum* and *C. rectum*. All of these species require heat and we therefore grow them with our cattleyas. Their need for heat is not surprising because they grow in the lowlands of Asia, often in full sunshine.



*Cymbidium hookerianum* 'Drouin' AM/OSCOV



*Cymbidium erythrostylum*

Photo © Greg Allikas, www.orchidworks.com

However, *C. suavissimum*, which can be grown without heat, also flowers at this time. It is closely related to *C. floribundum* but it has upright spikes and produces its flowers about three months later than *C. floribundum*.

In March and April *C. lancifolium* comes into flower. Also known as *C. aspidistrifolium*, it forms a small plant with tapered leaves. Growing in leaf litter on the forest floor, each bulb develops on an ascending rhizome so that the plant is continually raised above the accumulation of leaf litter. Due to the altitude at which this plant grows in nature (up to 2300 m) it will grow cold in Melbourne.

In April and May a number of cymbidium species are in flower. One of my favorites is *C. dayanum*, which grows cold and is often still in bloom in July. It makes a good specimen in a 125 - 150 mm pot and produces a series of spikes over several months. Another species that flowers in April and May is *C. erythraeum*, its smaller plant size and flowers resembling those of *C. iridioides*.

The distinctive bell-shaped flowers of *C. elegans*, a strikingly different species, appear in May & June. *C. erythrostylum* also flowers at this time - it's an outstanding species with white flowers & makes a charming specimen plant. It is an important parent in the breeding of many early-flowering standard cymbidiums.

In July *C. tracyanum* begins to flower and continues to produce its twisted, reflexed and highly scented flowers in light and dark brown shades until August.

Its flowers have about every fault the judges would penalize in a cymbidium hybrid. *C. iridioides* (often known as *C. giganteum*) also flowers at this time. It is sometimes confused with *C. tracyanum*, even though both the plant and its flowers are quite different.

Come August and September and one of the gems of the orchid world, *C. hookerianum*, often known by its synonym, *C. grandiflorum*, comes into flower. It has celery-green foliage and large green flowers.

Unfortunately many plants labeled as *C. hookerianum* are early hybrids but once you have seen the real species then the impostors are easy to pick. *C. insigne* flowers in September. Its flowers vary from pink to white; you can easily recognize its influence in many early standard cymbidium hybrids.

In September and October we see the flowers of *C. sanderae*, often also called *C. parishii*, although this is now thought to be a different species. *C. sanderae* has large spikes of cream - white flowers with heavily marked lips.

From September through to November you can see *C. lowianum* in flower. This is a large plant with long, arching spikes carrying many flowers, which are usually green, although a yellow form has been found. I have purchased many plants and later discarded them because of questionable leaf markings. Finding disease-free plants can be difficult because most plants of this species have been in cultivation for many years.

In October we have *C. floribundum* in flower. Also known as *C. pumilum*, this miniature species has been used to

breed most miniature and intermediate cymbidium hybrids. Because of its small plant and small flowers, it makes an excellent specimen plant. At this time of year *C. devonianum* also flowers. It is also used to produce

miniature- and intermediate-sized hybrids. It has large strap-like leaves and produces small flowers on pendulous spikes. In my experience *C. devonianum* grows best with a little heat in winter.

During November and December the Australian cymbidium species, *C. suave*, *C. madidum* and *C. canaliculatum* begin to flower. Only the first of these three species grows well in Melbourne without winter heat.

As you have seen, a collection of species cymbidiums will provide flowers all year round. With the exception of January and February you can do this with cool-growing plants. All of the species mentioned in this article have been collected in Melbourne by us over the last few years and are not uncommon. I have not mentioned those species that we have as yet to grow or flower successfully.

## Species & Hybrids: What's the Difference?

by Brian Milligan

Reproduced from the web page of the Orchid Societies Council of Victoria,  
<http://www.oscov.asn.au>

To those who know, it's obvious. But not all growers appreciate the difference. Loosely speaking, species orchids are native orchids that grow (or grew) wild somewhere in the world. A hybrid is the result of breeding one orchid with a different orchid, be they species or hybrids. The process is usually referred to as hybridizing or 'crossing'.

As an example, 'crossing' *Cattleya maxima* with another species cattleya, *C. intermedia*, gave the first cattleya hybrid, *C. Dominiana* (in 1859). Intergeneric hybrids are produced by crossing different genera.

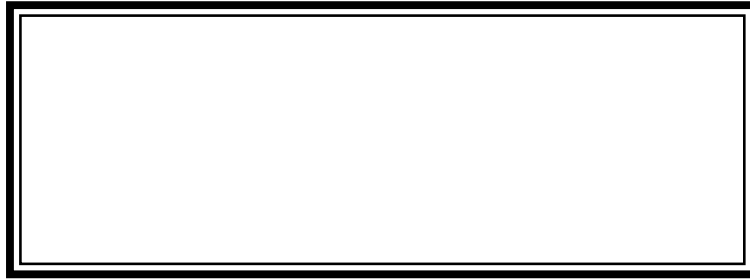
For example, crossing *Laelia anceps* and *Cattleya intermedia* (both species) gave the intergeneric hybrid *Laeliocattleya Intercepts*, abbreviated Lc. *Intercepts*.

Species orchids are often crossed with another of the same species with the expectation of obtaining improved flowers. *Dendrobium kingianum* is a good example. Sometimes one flower is pollinated using pollen from another flower on the same plant (called 'selfing', and often written 'X self'). More common is 'out-crossing', when the pollen is taken from a flower

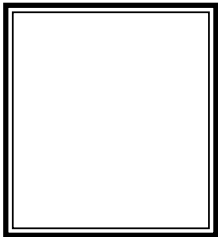


*Cymbidium devonianum* 'Paradisial'  
AM/OSCOV CC/OSCOV

November Speakers: Glen Decker, Piping Rock Orchids  
CNYOS Annual Fall Show & Sale: October 22-23,



October & November Issue



THE CENTRAL NEW YORK ORCHID SOCIETY  
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## Central New York Orchid Society

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The Central New York Orchid Society meets at St. Augustine's Church, 7333 O'Brien Rd, Baldwinsville, at 2:00<sup>PM</sup> on the first Sunday of each month from September through June. Yearly dues are \$15.00 per individual, or \$17.00 family. Dues should be paid to the CNYOS Treasurer, Carol Haskell.

## THE ORCHID ENTHUSIAST

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