

SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY

established in 1965

Summer 2008 NEWS

Volume 43, Issue 7



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Vice-president, Yvonne Schreiber, 905 473-3405 ;Secretary, Sue Loftus 905-839-8281;

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Membership: Annual Dues \$25.00/Calendar Year(January 1- December 31). Membership Secretary, Hess Pommells 416-245-0369, Apt. 503, 370 Dixon Road, Weston, Ontario, M9R 1T2

Web site: www.soos.ca Member of the Canadian Orchid Congress; Affiliated with the Orchid Digest, the American Orchid Society, and the International Phalaenopsis Alliance

Honorary Life Members: Terry Kennedy, Doug Kennedy, Inge Poot, Peter Poot, Joe O'Regan, Diane Ryley

Next Annual Show: February 14 -15, 2009, Get ready!!!

Next Meeting: August 3, SOOS Orchidfest, Toronto Botanical Garden

All Members of Orchid Societies welcome.

AOS Judging 10 am. Bring your plants at 9:30 am for registration. Observe the judging. Hear what the judges think.

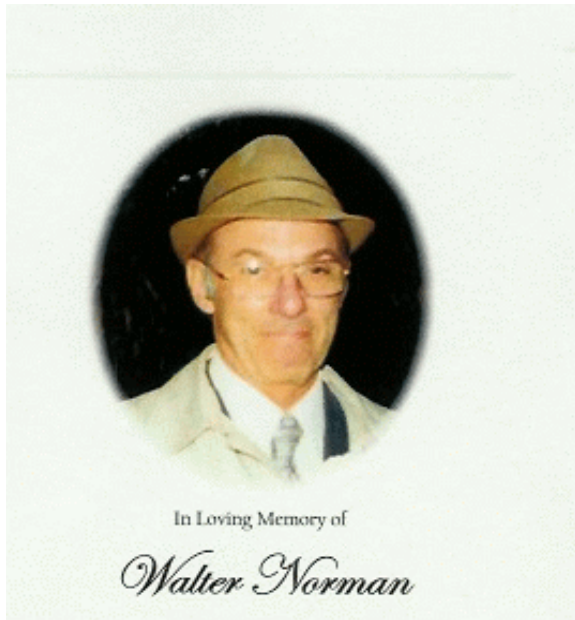
Lunch About 12 noon. Bring a salad or a desert to share, the SOOS barbeque team will provide the hotdogs, hamburgers and drinks.

Speakers 2 pm:

Glen Decker of PipingRock Orchids PipingRock@aol.com . Has CITES now and will be bringing plants.

Glen has done pioneering work hybridizing *Phragmipedium kovachii*.

Kyle Lucyk. Kyle is from Manitoba and has spent time at Ecuagenera in Ecuador, so knows both Andean and native-to-Canada orchids well. He will speak on the Ecuadorian habitats and bring some Ecuagenera plants for sale.



Walter passed away June 24 at the age of 93. He was a founding and honorary life member of SOOS. He served on the SOOS Board for many years as President, editor, secretary, program convenor and show chair. Walter was always generous with his time to anyone interested in orchids. SOOS has made a donation to the Scott Mission in Walter's honour. We will miss him.

SOOS President's Remarks

Hello fellow orchid lovers.

Summertime, and the living is easy unless you are foolish enough to get "road rash" for riding your bicycle idiotically. The silver lining to that incident is that one can sit tranquilly in one's yard, and see the showy lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*) flowers unfolding, and discover that the Grass pink (*Calopogon tuberosus*) is really quite alive. And one's spouse / partner is not apt to hand one the next item from the job jar.

In 2007, we had a drought to last a lifetime. The native orchids that were planted at the Brickworks required irrigation on a regular, at times weekly, basis. This year, with the rains, such special care is not required. And as I key these words, the cumulus clouds are again gathering to fill the rain

barrels and lakes with water, and to nurture our orchid plantings.

The immediate message is a short, and one-worded: Orchidfest! We had an unexpected surprise with one speaker, and an unpleasant one at that. The second speaker at Orchidfest had to pull out. Mario Ferrusi spends a lot of time arranging for what we call the "program": speakers, or demonstrations, workshops for all our meetings. He was able to pull a rabbit out of the hat, and now joining Glen Decker of Piping Rock orchids at Orchidfest will be Kyle Lucyk. Kyle is from Manitoba, so knows both Andean and native-to-Canada orchids well. I am looking forward to August 3, and hope that you are able to be there. The 2 speakers are top notch, and there will be plants for you to purchase. And as members of other orchid societies are welcome, it's an opportunity to renew friendships with people we may seldom see.

As ever, I end these remarks by saying here are my email id: asimina@sympatico.ca and phone number: 416-449-7907. I do look forward to each and every contact (which are, I must tell you, too few in number!).

Welcome New Members

Flora Yeung

? Newcomers' Meetings

Wayne Hingston will once again present his excellent series on the culture of the most popular types of hobby orchids. These sessions are for members who have just started in orchids and will be presented at the Toronto Botanical Garden Board Room on the following **Monday** evenings at 7 pm:

Sept 22, 2008

Oct 20, 2008

Nov 17, 2008

Dec 15, 2008

Jan 12, 2009

For further information call Wayne Hingston at 905-649-2467

Hedda Kafka wants to dispose of the Kafka Lord and Burnham greenhouse. If interested phone 416-266-6691

Schreibers Orchids

Open House

Clearance Sale

Everything must go including the greenhouse
Saturday August 9th and Sunday August 10th
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

** Map and picture of greenhouse at
www.yvonesorchidfancy.com**

John Allison was a member of SOOS for many years. At the present time, he is permanently wheelchair-bound. As a result, he has had to give up his passion for orchids. His plants have been given new homes. Now, he would like to have the remainder of his supplies moved along as well. These include orchid medium, pots, and heating pads. John is at 416-449-9802. If you are interested, please call John. You will find his terms and conditions very favourable.

Coming Events

July

12, Ohio Valley Seminar, Cincinnati, Ohio.

19, Montreal Judging Centre, Jardin Botanique de Montreal.

August

3, SOOS Orchidfest. All Members of Orchid Societies welcome. Plan to attend now.

Speakers:

Glen Decker of PipingRock Orchids

PipingRock@aol.com Has CITES now and will be bringing plants.

Kyle Lucyk on Ecuadorean orchids.

14,15,16, CNE horticulture show orchid competition.

16, Montreal Judging Centre, Jardin Botanique de Montreal.

September

5-7, Mid America Orchid Congress, Mason, Ohio.
6, Toronto Centre Judging, 1 pm, Toronto Botanical

Garden

7, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, noon.
20, Montreal Judging Centre, Jardin Botanique de Montreal.

22, Newcomers' Meeting 7 pm, TBG Boardroom
27,28, COOS show, Cambridge, Ontario.

October

4, Toronto Centre Judging, 1 pm, Toronto Botanical Garden

5, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, noon.
11-12, Niagara Frontier Orchid Show, Buffalo.

17-19, AOS Members meeting, Wilmington, Delaware, Longwood Gardens.

25-26 ECOS Show, Montreal.

November

1, Toronto Centre Judging, 1 pm, Toronto Botanical Garden

2, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, noon.

8, Niagara Region Orchid show, St. Catherines

15, Montreal Judging Centre, Jardin Botanique de Montreal.

AOS Judging Results

Toronto Centre, June 7, 2008

Odontoglossum luteo-purpureum 'Dreaming of Columbia' HCC 78 pts. Mario & Conni Ferrusi

Rodrumnia Seneca Hollow 'Rich Lake' HCC 78 pts. (Tol. Sundown Reef x Rrm. Sycamore Hollow)
Joane Molenock

Rodrumnia Maple Spice 'Sixmile Creek' HCC 78 pts. (Tol. Maple Dancer x Rrm. Spicey Gold)
Joane Molenock

Masdevallia Fandango 'Marsh Hollow's Oz' HCC 77 pts. (M. Copper angel x M. Monarch) Mario & Conni Ferrusi

Tolumnia ? 'Crimson Glory' AM 83 pts. (T. Ursula Hild x T. Redfish Reef) Doug & Terry Kennedy

Toronto Centre, July 5, 2008

Galeandra leptoceras 'Fergus' CCM 82 points, Wendy Hoffman.

Phragmipedium Nitidissimum 'Wilhelmina Laarman' FCC 90 points, Wendy Hoffman.

Lycaste schilleriana 'Doug's Giant' AM 82 points, Doug and Terry Kennedy.

Brassolaeliocattleya Rustic Spots (?) HCC 75 points (Blc. Richard Mueller x C. landata) Cloud's Orchids.

Other judging news. Did you notice that a *Phragmipedium Nitidissimum* brought in by Wendy Hoffman was awarded an FCC of 90 points at the July session of the centre. An FCC is always cause for great excitement, The flowers have to be near perfect in form and presentation for the cross. The even more interesting part of this event was that Wendy had brought the plant not for judging, but to trade, as she had brought the same plant in for judging already last year. Shows you, culture can make a huge difference to a plant from one year to the next. May be you should check to see if you have a plant you should bring to Orchidfest for judging Sunday morning.

The CNE is coming, the CNE is coming.

The annual Horticulture show at the ex will have classes for orchids in its competition May 14 to 16. There are cash prizes involved and Terry Kennedy and Peter Poot intend to put some plants into the exhibition. Plants have to go in on May 14 and remain on exhibition until May 16. If you are interested you can call the CNE for further details. Peter is willing to collect suitable plants from reasonably convenient locations and take them in for you. Terry will bring the plants back, but you will have to make arrangements to get them back. Phone Peter Poot at 905-640-5643 or Terry Kennedy at 905-727-3319

Inge Poot's Programme Notes for June 2008: The highlight of the June meeting was Olaf Gruss's talk on **"First Steps In Hybridizing With Vietnamese Paphiopedilums"**

This talk covered the more recently discovered species from Vietnam and showed the positive and negative results of hybridizing with them. This talk should help us decide which seedlings would be a good bet to buy and which would be downright foolish to spend money on! The first species discussed was:



Paphiopedilum tigrinum (described in 1990)

This is a lovely species with distinctive dark brown margined blotches arranged more or less in three lines on the cream to green dorsal sepal, while the spoon shaped petals have pink tips, wavy margins and two brown outlined lines along their length and the pouch is green with a brown overlay (to pink in

some clones). The species is fairly variable with some all green clones (mistakenly called *P. smaractinum*) found and some clones were found with a cream dorsal and pouch and pink flushed petals, but all other markings being absent.

It seems like a most promising species for hybridizing, but though the hybrids tried so far as a whole are colourful they almost always have poor shape. The lovely blotches tend to disappear, but its narrow shape is fairly dominant.

The cross with *P. bellatulum* is called Woessner Tigerbell and looks like a *P. bellatulum* with dreadful shape.

With *P. concolor* we get a triangular flower that is quite similar to the previous cross, but has slightly flatter shape and glossy deep pink petals.

The cross with *P. sukhakulii* has nice green sepals and a great red-brown pouch, but the petals are just too irregular.

P. dayanum does not work together with this species as the progeny tend to be hang-dog and with poor colour.

P. mastersianum a species used to give gloss and peachy colours to its hybrids does not manage to do either when crossed to *P. tigrinum*.

P. glaucophyllum produces one of the more interesting hybrids with *P. tigrinum*. The flowers have more substance than most of the other hybrids and the flowers are flat with the closest yet

to the lovely *tigrinum* blotches, but the cream petals are very narrow, but outlined in pink and blotched centrally. They contrast well with the green, brown blotched sepals and the pink pouch.

The cross with *P. primulinum* has delicate hues of pink on the petals, yellow on the pouch and green on the dorsal, but is of very skimpy shape.

The cross with *P. victoria-regina* has great blotches on green sepals and pink petals, but the shape is far worse than either parent.

With *P. liemianum*, the lovely flat dorsal of *liemianum* becomes anything but flat, but otherwise it resembles the previous cross, just with a yellowish rather than green dorsal sepal background.

P. henryanum is the exception to the rule. The hybrid is called P. Woessner Tigerhenry The clone shown was small, well shaped, colourful and cute. The sepals and petal bases were green, the petal tips pink, the pouch a rich red-brown and all but the pouch are blotched with a smaller version of the *tigrinum* blotches. To top it off, the petals and pouch are glossy.

The hybrids with *P. philippinense* and with *P. dianthum* are just plain forgettable!!

Not too surprisingly when crossed with the very dominant *P. rothschildianum* we get a hybrid called P. Geoffrey Hands that looks just like P. Susan Booth. The example shown had multifloral stems bearing flowers with almost flat chartreuse sepals heavily lined dark brown, red gracefully twisted and slightly down-swept petals outlined with almost black warts and set off by a shiny red-brown pouch.

P. tigrinum has also been crossed with complex hybrids. The cross with P. Pinocchio had the only saving grace of fairly bold spotting.

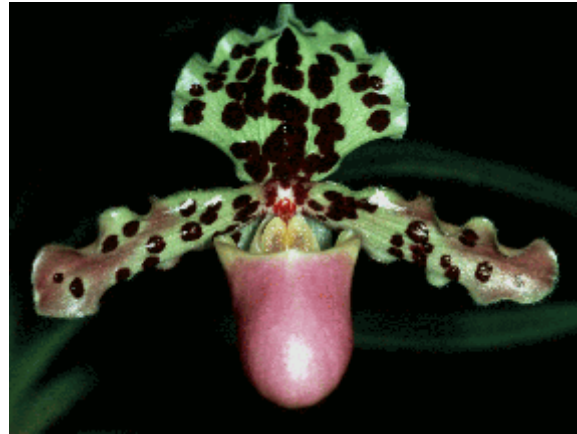
P. Lemfoerde Superkuli crossed with *P. tigrinum* looked like a super-spotted *P. sukhakulii* with pink flushing all over. Not too bad, but nothing to write home about.

P. F.C. Puddle crossed with *P. tigrinum* gave the fullest flower yet, with yellow sepals and pink petals and pouch and with small spots on the dorsal and the petal bases.

P. Bidborough crossed with *P. tigrinum* had nice sepals but terrible petals.

P. Vert XP. *tigrinum* a cross with a vinicolor Paph. has not been registered yet but was represented by

a plant that has not bad shape and just wonderful red colour, gloss and fine spotting.



Paphiopedilum henryanum (described in 1987)

This species is also fairly variable. It has a nice round flat dorsal with bold spots. This dorsal is quite dominant in hybrids. The most common clones are chartreuse with bold red-brown spotting on sepals and petals, pink to red-brown flushing on the petals and a deep pink pouch. The plants tend to be easy to grow and are compact. They are a favourite parent for tea-cup lady-slipper breeding. Some noteworthy horticultural varieties are an alba form with no red pigments, the form *christae* with no spotting and the form *chaoi* with a yellow to chartreuse background for the sepals and petals and fewer and fainter spots.

A most successful hybrid was created with *P. helenae* the tiny species with a yellow dorsal and petals. It is called P. Woessner Ministar. The dorsal of this hybrid can take after either parent in shape, but is usually green with a sharply defined white border. The petals are not great -narrow, a bit twisted and brown. But the dominant pink *henryanum* pouch saves the day. The hybrid grows fast and stays tiny.

The cross with *P. barbigerum*, P.Tyke, is variable, with some clones with brown dorsals and some with chartreuse ones. The latter are far more appealing. The pink pouch is always a plus. This hybrid is small as well.

P. charlesworthii combines well with *P.*

henryanum. The hybrid P. Dolls Kobold is like an improved *P. charlesworthii* with many clones showing the flat wide dorsals of *P. charlesworthii* but with the pink colour enhanced with dark blotch-like lines, the shiny brown *charlesworthii* petals widened and of course the pink *P. henryanum* pouch.

The *P. wardii* cross, P. Alexandra Szlachetko is shaped like a slightly widened *wardii*, but with the *henryanum* colouring. To be expected actually!!

P. sukhakulii crossed with *P. henryanum* gives the cross P. Graham Robertson. It has surprisingly poorly shaped petals. The *henryanum* twisting was increased not flattened by the *sukhakulii*. The pink pouch is the only really appealing point in the coloring.

Crossing *P. henryanum* with *P. hirsutissimum* gives the hybrid P. Frank Zettle. The clone shown had red petals and pouch, but a reflexed cream dorsal. The dorsal and petals were spotted.

The cross of *P. glaucophyllum* with *henryanum*, P. Diane Vickery can in the best clones be like a *henryanum* with fuller form. A good cross to buy!

P. Lawless Jungle Gems, a cross with *P. victoria-mariae* is disappointing!

P. Limidolli is the hybrid with *P. liemianum* and it too is not really exciting, but not bad either. At least the clone shown was flat.

With *P. bellatulum* the story is quite different. Even the best clones of the cross tend to be so-so and our speaker warned us not to trust pictures shown in catalogues!! The clones shown were mostly pink with very fine to slightly bolder spotting and one had wide wavy petals, the other less wide but flat petals but both had a crooked pouch- deformity being the norm for this cross.

P. Woessner Henrycolor, the cross with *P. concolor* was of good pink colour, but with the somewhat drooping form of the *concolor* parent.

P. Candor Good Henry is the cross with *P. godfroyae*. It varies a lot. The two clones shown were not very good. The form can vary in the petals from wide cupped to reflexed, in the pouch from elongated and smooth to lumpy. The colour varied from cream with spots to white with a pink flush and spots on the sepals and petals.

P. Trumpkin the cross with *P. stonei* was represented with a rather nice clone. It was multifloral, had a long deep rose pouch, a flat round

cream dorsal with spots along the veins and arched petals overlaid with brown spots and flushes.

P. Lipstick (*lowii* X *henryanum*) had mostly *lowii* form- only worse and good rose colour on the petals and pouch.

P. Tigerdolli (*haynaldianum* X *henryanum*) was represented by a clone that had good colour but poor form. The bold spotting on the pale chartreuse dorsal was especially nice.

P. Dolliroth the cross with *rothschildianum* seemed to be single flowered but of flat shape and vivid colour. The clone shown had a cream dorsal with heavy black spots in lines, brown petals, pink pouch, copper staminode.

A few interesting crosses with complex hybrids:

P. Trumpkin is *henryanum* X Red Glory (a round red vinicolor) gave a more poorly shaped red with the warts of the Red Glory parent. Not an improvement!

The unregistered cross with P. Magic Gem was rather poor with skinny shape, perhaps somewhat gracefully flared sepals and petals in brown with spots and a pink pouch.

P. Don Giovanni the cross with P. Hellas 'Westonbert' produced great teacup ladyslippers. The flowers shown were fairly full in shape chartreuse dorsals with fine spots, but in one clone muddied by a brown flush, mostly brown, fairly wide petals and a rich pink pouch.

P. Little Orphan Annie the cross with P. Freckles was illustrated by a great clone with full flat form, a wide white dorsal with pink-brown spots, pink petals and pouch and the petal colour set off by a narrow white margin.

The natural hybrid of *P. henryanum* and *P. villosum* is not very exciting, because the dorsal is reflexed and the petals twisted every which way. The colour is better though not an improvement over either parent.

P. X vietenryanum the natural hybrid of *henryanum* with *gratrixianum* reminded me of a muddy *P. insigne*. Not recommended!

P. X asperum the natural hybrid of *P. henryanum* with *P. barbigerum* var. *coccineum* is rather cute because it is so small. The clone shown had narrow horizontally held beige-pink petals and a pink pouch while the dorsal was white with pink

streaks and brown spots.



Paphiopedilum herrmannii (described in 1995)

This is believed to be a variety of *P. barbigerum*. It has a white or green wavy edged dorsal with a central brown area, wavy edged brown petals with a green picotee and a pink pouch with a yellow rim. The whole flower is glossy. A very nice flower, but so far not a good parent.

A cross of *P. tonsum* var. *braemii* with *herrmannii* gave very "blah" progeny - basically beige flowers with brown flushing on sepals and petals.



Paphiopedilum helenae (described in 1996)

This is a diminutive species with a golden yellow dorsal with a white picotee, the petals yellow with brown overlay and long and narrow to fairly wide

and shorter petals (whose brown overlay fades after one week) and a yellow pouch with a light red-brown overlay, a chartreuse staminode with a bright green boss. One clone shown had marvellous gold colour and a light red pouch. An amazing variety of colour variations have been obtained by artificially propagating them in Germany.

The species was illustrated in 1895 on a plate as a variety of *insignis* and was used as such in yellow breeding! It is easy to grow and is used to produce tiny "teacup Paphs". There are now 14 registered hybrids with the species.

P. Woessner Goldsuk (*sukhakulii* X *helenae*) was the first hybrid registered with the species in 1999. The colour is quite consistent with a green dorsal, brown petals and a red-brown pouch, but the shape varies greatly. The dorsal can be flat or reflexed at the bottom margins, the petals can be very narrow as in *helenae* or almost as wide and flat as in *sukhakulii*. The pouch tends to be red-brown lightening towards the bottom. The cross grows well.

P. sangii X *P. helenae* is not the best, since the hang-dog and reflexed shape of *P. hangii* seems to be dominant. The *helenae* just lightened the flower - not what is wanted.

P. Woessner Mariechen (*helenae* X *niveum*) can be muddy or a nice white with pink flush. The dorsal seems to consistently reflex at the base. Some clones have quite wide petals for a *helenae* cross.

P. Woessner Helene (*charlesworthii* X *helenae*) seems to be mostly *helenae*.

P. Woessner Zwerg (*barbigerum* X *helenae*). The clone shown had a strongly reflexed dorsal sepal base. The colour was green with a white margin on the dorsal, a brown flush on the petals and a red-brown flush on the pouch.

P. Woessner Ministar (*helenae* X *henryanum*) as mentioned before is a great cross with tiny plants. The clones shown were quite uniform and had flat oval dorsals, green with a white margin and brown blotches, brown glossy petals with a green picotee and pink glossy pouches.

P. fairrieianum X *P. helenae* was a bit disappointing in that the colours were pale and the usual graceful stance of the petals found in *fairrieianum* crosses was over-ruled by the stiffer *helenae* stance.

P. Woessner Mini Goldi (*helenae* X *primulinum*) looks like a *primulinum* with a pink flushed pouch and slighter stiffer downward pointing *helenae* petals.

P. Woessner Mini-Gold (*helenae* X *armeniicum*). Here the *helenae* reduced the oversized pouch, but caused the petals to reflex badly. The yellow colour of the *armeniicum* acquired a peach tint.

P. Golddollar X *helenae* seems an unremarkable chartreuse with messy petals.

P. Druid Spring X *helenae* - the clone shown was interesting but not arresting. With better shape the very nice colour would have made a great hybrid. The plant shown had a reflexed green dorsal with dark green veins, narrow, reflexed, chartreuse petals with a brown mid-vein and brown dots on the rest and with an off-white pouch.

The striking hybrid of (Orchard Slope X *dayanum*) X *helenae* had glossy flowers with basically a *helenae* shape with a deep brown dorsal and petals and a red pouch. Wow! Now if all clones of this cross are as colourful as the one shown....

P. In-Charm Gold (Emerald Magic X *helenae*) seems a wonderful mini. The clones shown were all very full with gold flowers with various dorsal colours from yellow to green with or without brown to red flushes. The petals were yellow to green with or without a light red flush and the lips were yellow with various amounts of the same red flush.

P. In-Charm Topaz (*helenae* X Pacific Shamrock) looks like a fuller more yellow *helenae*.



Paphiopedilum delicatum is really a form of ***P. helenae*** with a yellow dorsal, but pink petals and a pink pouch. Should be great for hybridizing.



Paphiopedilum barbigerum* var. *coccineum was described as ***Paphiopedilum coccineum***. It is a colour form of *barbigerum* with a white dorsal centrally overlaid red, beige petals centrally

overlaid medium brown, a red pouch and a yellow staminode. Near albino forms exist as well. As discussed before the natural hybrid *X asperum* is with this colour variety and *henryanum*.



Paphiopedilum trantuanhii (may be invalidly described in 2007) looks a lot like *P. henryanum*. The petals are a uniform light brown and the whole flower is cupped. But so far the name is just a trade name and in any case may just be a natural hybrid.



Paphiopedilum tranlienianum (described in 1998). The species has a white dorsal with a brown central vein, reflexed margins near the base. The petals are short light brown to green with strongly undulating lighter margins and the pouch is long and light brown with darker veins. The staminode is yellow with a green boss. An albinistic form with no brown pigment is in cultivation.

P. Vinci (*helenae* X *tranlienianum*) is an uninspiring light brown with a pink tinge and a white reflexed dorsal.

To be continued with ***Paphiopedilum vietnamense*** and ***Paphiopedilum hangianum*** and their hybrids. Photo's from the presentation by Olaf Gruss.

June 2008 Show Table

Class	First	Second	Third
<i>Class 1</i> Cattleya Alliance	Brassolaeliocattleya Wanda's Fire <i>Tenny Chan</i>	Cattleya Irene Holguin 'Sweet Spring' x ? 932/14654 (Pat?)	Encyclia mariae <i>Jaco Uwland</i>
<i>Class 2</i> Paphiopedilum	Paph. Susan Booth <i>Owner?</i>	Cyp. parviflorum var. pubescens <i>Bob Gibbon</i>	Paph. philippinense 'Charlesbourg' x 'Bronstern-Walsh' <i>Henry Glowka</i>
<i>Class 3</i> Phalaenopsis and Vanda Alliance	Sobennikoffia robusta <i>Erika Lorincz</i>	Neofinetia falcata <i>Calvin Wong?</i>	Vanda Johanne Goutier 'Pomegranate' <i>Cathy Tacoma</i>
<i>Class 4</i> Oncidium & related	Brassia wagneri ? <i>Roland Schwahn</i>	Oncidium papilio 'Mendenhall' <i>Henry Glowka</i>	Miltoniopsis Lennart Karl Gottling 'Red' <i>Anita Kho</i>
<i>Class 6</i> Dendrobium	Dendrobium parishii <i>Sue Loftus</i>	Den. Dawn Maree <i>Calvin Wong?</i>	Den. Mao Gold <i>Jaco Uwland</i>
<i>Class 7</i> All Others	Pleurothallis grobyi 'Andrew's First Communion' CCMAOS <i>Erika Lorincz</i>	Disa Wilford Duckitt 'Darling Red' <i>Anita Kho</i>	Cycnoches herrenhusanum <i>Susan Shaw</i>
<i>Class 8</i> Specimen Plants	Phal. Sweet Memory <i>Tenny Chan</i>	Cirrhopetalum Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry' FCC/AOS <i>Joe DiCiommo</i>	
<i>Class 9</i> Baskets or Displays	Summer Basket <i>Synea Tan</i>		

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Pleurothallis grobyi grown by Erika Lorincz to perfection and named to commemorate her grandson's first communion. This small orchid was all covered with beautiful flowers. Erika grows it mounted in her recessed North facing kitchen window where it gets cooled down at night and at the daytime warmed up by cooking fumes. The plant's own diet consists of rotating weekly applications of MSU (one teaspoon per bucket of rain water) and fish emulsion (one tablespoon per bucket of rain water), with an occasional treat of Epsom salt at the rate of 1 tablespoon per bucket. The plant gets watered twice a week, with the second watering being just with rain water. Every spring the orchid gets covered with abundant blooms for several months.