

ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION!!!

The month of May has brought not only showers, but summer-like weather, thunder storms, winds, hail, and flooding, in addition to the customary May flowers... Just one month ago, however, the threat of snow was still strong enough to keep some members from coming to our April meeting. But during that month, the landscape of Central New York has been transformed by the lush and vivid colors of spring.

*Going Once...*

*Going Twice...*

The Central New York Orchid Society celebrates the month of May by holding its annual Orchid Auction, this Sunday, May 21, at our usual meeting place (St. Augustine's Church in Baldinsville). Here is your opportunity to pick up orchids for your collection at a fraction of retail prices. And it's also the Central New York Orchid Society's largest fund raiser of the year. Tony Paroubek has once again resumed his role of soliciting donations from well-known vendors; requests have gone out to Countryside Orchids, J&L Orchids, Hoosier Orchids, Zuma Canyon Orchids, Woodstream Orchids, and Piping Rock Orchids. The club already has donations from Mountain Orchids, Bloomfield Orchids, and Ellenburger's Orchid Eden, as well as several members. Club members are welcome to put their own plants on the

auction block, as long as they are insect and disease-free; 50% of the final bids for members' plants goes toward the club. A list of plants to be auctioned is given on page 2. Be on time--the auction always takes a while and we want to get started early!

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**SOLD!!!**

Although not all the plants to be auctioned have arrived, a partial list is available, listed by vendor or member:

**From Mountain Orchids**

*Maxillaria sophronitis*  
*Maxillaria pseudoreichenheimiana*  
*Dend. Mountain Magic*  
*Goodyera hispida*  
*Stanhopea tricornis*

**From Bloomfield Orchids**

*Paph. Temptation*  
*Paph. Charles Sladden*  
*Paph. Prime Child*  
*Paph. Melanthus*  
*Paph. Envy Green*  
*Paph. Blanchette x philippinense*

**From Jim Rice Orchids**

*Paph. hirsutisimum*(3)  
*Stenia longifolium* (3)  
*Maxillaria cucculata* (3)  
*Miltonia (cogniauxiae x minasgerais)* (2)

**From Carl Peterson**

*Dendrobium jacobsonii*  
*Promeneia xanthina*  
*Dend. victoria-regina*  
*Dend. dichaeoides (m)*  
*Dend. praesinum (m)*  
*Dend. laweseii (m)*  
*Phal. philippense*  
*Phal. leudemannia*  
*Phal. Golden Amboin x philippense*  
*Phal. Golden Buddha x Roni*

**From Rich Groll**

*Phrag. Grande* (division)  
*Phrag. Schroderae* (division)  
*Masdevallia* divisions

**From Jeff Stuart**

Misc. *Paph.* & *Phrag.* seedlings

*Encyclia lancifolia*  
 Others

**From Iris Cohen**

*C. Jorball Frost*  
 (Summer Stars x *walkeriana*)

**Left over from the Mounted Clinic**

*Lemboglossum maculatum*  
*Encyclia citrina*

**And there are sure to be more!**

**MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2000**

1. **David Ditz** thanked everyone for his/her participation in the Flower & Garden Show as well as the GROS and Southern Tier Shows.
2. **Jeff Stuart** thanked everyone for the orders for the Andy's Orchids club order. The club will pick up the cost of shipping and mounts.
3. Membership lists were distributed.
4. The next club date is 5/21/00 for our **annual auction**. Members can bring their healthy, bug-free plants. There is a 50/50 split with the club/member.
5. The president of the Southern Tier Orchid Society thanks our club and our members for our participation in their show.
6. We welcomed a new member -- **Nancy Powell**.
7. **June meeting** -- no date set as yet.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Weller, CNYOS Secretary

## ***NEXT MONTHLY MEETING: JUNE PICNIC***

The Annual Summer Picnic will be hosted by **Jim & Grace Rice of Homer, NY**, on Sunday, June 4<sup>TH</sup> (*JIM RICE ORCHIDS*, see page 8). Members should bring a dish to pass, something to drink, and a chair to sit in. The greenhouse will be open for members to peruse the orchids and find that special orchid bargain to take home! Prices will be heavily reduced. So let's hope for good weather and round out the CNYOS year with lots of friends, camaraderie, and lots of orchids!



## ***APRIL MEETING: MOUNTED ORCHID CLINIC***

A clinic on how to mount orchids on bark or sticks was the program for the April meeting. Members pre-ordered from a selection of bare-root orchids provided to us by Andy's Orchids of Encinitas, Ca. As for the last mounted orchid clinic (two years ago), Andy sent everything needed for the meeting, including a nice selection of orchids, sticks or bark, and moss, all at very reasonable prices. Members chose from a selection of orchids including *Laelia gouldiana*, *Mex. ghiesbreghtiana*, *Dendrobium speciosum v. pendunculatum*, *Lemboglossum maculatum*, *Encyclia citrina* & *Encyclia mariae*. The meeting went very smoothly, and is well on its way to being one of the more popular CNYOS programs.



## ***CNYOS CALENDAR***

**May 21**            **Annual CNYOS Orchid Auction--PLEASE NOTE DATE!** First auction of the new millennium???

**June 4**            **Annual Close-Out-The-Season Picnic**, to be held at Jim Rice Orchids in Homer, NY. Date and details to be announced.

**...SUMMER--NO REGULAR MEETINGS...**

**July 29-30**        **2000 Summer Orchid Fest** at Parkside Orchid Nursery in Ottsville, PA. Over 15 vendors scheduled to attend. An event featuring orchid sales, good food and summer fun!

**August 26-27**    **New York State Fair**, at the Fairgrounds. For the first time, CNYOS will have a display and booth in the Horticultural Building to inform the public about orchids and our club. This could be a great opportunity to boost membership.



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

The GROS meeting was held on May 8 with a program presented by Marguerite Webb, who discussed "Unusual Miniature Orchids." Her particular interest is *Masdevallias* and *Draculas*. Ms. Webb, who along with Cordelia Head and Lucinda Winn, owns J & L Orchids in Easton, CT, has lectured and written numerous articles on miniature orchids. J & L Orchids was awarded the Gold Medal for their exhibit at the 16<sup>th</sup> World Orchid Congress in Vancouver and was featured in the PBS Nature Program, "Obsession with Orchids," which recently aired. J & L has been among the leaders in the effort to artificially propagate unusual orchid species and is at the forefront of the popular trend of *Masdevallia* hybridizing by creating hybrids such as *Masdevallia* Angel Frost and *Masdevallia* Copper Angel. In 1999, their miniatures were featured in Martha Stewart Living and Better Homes and Garden magazines.

CNYOS Member Jeff Stuart and GROS Member Joe Kunisch were "conscripted" into shared Show Table duty.

Taken with permission from *The Orchid Collection*, Newsletter of the Genesee Region Orchid Society, Vol. 22, No. 8 April 2000, Phil Matt, Newsletter Editor (716) 288-7025.

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

The May meeting of the Southern Tier Orchid Society will be a "repotting" program. All members are encouraged to bring an orchid that needs repotting.

Upcoming events include a pot-luck get-together in June, a trip to the Park Side Orchid Fest (Ottsville, Pa) at the end of July, and the annual orchid auction in September.

**CNYOS TO PARTICIPATE AT THE NEW YORK STATE FAIR**

CNYOS has agreed to put up a display at the New York State Fair this year, on Saturday and Sunday, August 26-27, in the Horticultural Building at the state fairgrounds. This will be an excellent opportunity to showcase the club and attract new members. We will need volunteers to help with the usual tasks; set up and break down, and manning the booth over the weekend. More details will be available in the June Newsletter, and sign-up sheets will be handed out at the upcoming meeting. This is the first time CNYOS has been invited to participate in what might become an annual event for the club. There will be free admission to the Fair and parking for those who participate.

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# APRIL SHOW TABLE

## Cypripedium Alliance

<i>Paph. Conco-bellatulum (concolor x bellatulum)</i>	Coleman
<i>Phrag. caudatum</i>	Stuart
<i>Paph. Dellaina (delenatii x chamberlainianum)</i>	Ditz
<i>Phrag. caudatum</i>	Stuart
<i>Paph. Hell's Chamber (Hellas x chamberlainianum)</i>	Bordoni

## Cattleya Alliance

<i>Cryptochilus sanguineae</i>	Stuart
<i>Slc. Pink Doll (Tangerine Jewel x L. pumila)</i>	Groll
<i>Encyclia bractescens</i>	Coleman
<i>Lc. Mini Purple (C. walkeriana x L. pumila)</i>	Stuart
<i>Mrclm. trinasutum</i>	"
<i>C. skinneri</i>	Haskell
<i>C. maxima</i>	Capella
<i>C. Marie Riopelle (Empress Bells x Douglas Johnston)</i>	"
<i>Lpt. bicolor</i>	"
<i>Lc. Hunabu Princess (C. Cherry Chip x L. sincorana)</i>	"
<i>B. David Sander (cucullata x Rhyncholaelia digbyana)</i>	Ditz
<i>C. Easter Halo x Lc. Memoria Maggie Hood</i>	Myers

## Vandaceous

<i>Phal. unknown</i>	Coyle
<i>Phal. schilleriana</i>	Bordoni
<i>Phal. Taipei Gold (Gladys Read x venosa)</i>	"
<i>Phal. Caitlin (Katherine x Hausermann's Goldcup)</i>	"
<i>Ascda. Summer Delight</i> (V. Josephine Van Brero x <i>Ascda. Elieen [sic] Beauty</i> )	Capella

## Oncidium Alliance

<i>Onc. flexuosum</i>	Capella
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<i>Mtdm. Issaku Nagata (Onc. leucochilum x fuscatum)</i>	"
<i>Mtdm. Pupukea Sunset (Onc. cheiroporum x fuscatum)</i>	Coleman
<i>Trpla. Elizabeth Ann (coccinea x marginata)</i>	Myers
<i>Odm. Nicky Strauss (Theron x nobile)</i>	Lloyd

## Pleurothallid Alliance

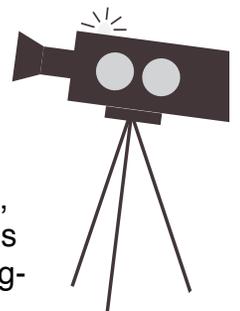
<i>Masd. coccinea</i>	Groll
<i>Masd. hirtzii</i>	"
<i>Masd. decumana</i>	"
<i>Masd. Concorde (coccinea x angulata)</i>	"
<i>Masd. Sunset Jaguar (chaparensis x Copper Angel)</i>	"
<i>Masd. Pixie Leopard (chaparensis x decumana)</i>	"
<i>Lths. maxonii</i>	"
<i>Drac. inequalis</i>	"
<i>Dryadella edwallii</i>	Ditz
<i>Masd. Angel Tang (veitchiana x tonduzii)</i>	Capella

## Dendrobium

<i>Den. Nora Tokunaga (atroviolaceum x rhodostictum)</i>	Coleman
<i>Den. Ise (?) (moniliforme x stricklandianum)</i>	"
<i>Den. victoria-reginae</i>	Stuart
<i>Den. victoria-reginae</i>	Coyle
<i>Den. crepidatum</i>	Capella
<i>Den. jenkinsii (sic)</i>	Haskell
<i>Den. chrysotoxum</i>	"

## Miscellaneous

<i>Jum. densifolia (?)</i>	Capella
<i>Angraecopsis gracillima</i>	Stuart



## TERRY ETTINGER TO AIR ORCHID SEGMENTS ON GARDEN JOURNEYS

Orchids for beginners will be featured in a segment on the Time Warner Cable show *Garden Journeys*, hosted by Terry Ettinger. The first segment, to be aired this Wednesday evening (5/17, and rebroadcast later in the week), will feature orchids that are good for beginners growing them in the home. Your own friendly newsletter editor Jeff Stuart will be appearing--LIVE--to discuss the basics and show off a few orchids grown by club members. This will be the first in a series of several *Garden Journeys* segments on growing orchids as a hobby. Many thanks to Iris Cohen, Dianne Bordoni, Deb Coyle, and Rich Groll for donating some of their orchids for the show. Check your local listings for times and dates. Hopefully we can get more CNYOS members involved in future segments!

## MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS...

### CLUB REMINDERS

**Orchid-Growing Supplies** are now available, including fir bark, sphagnum, sponge rock, charcoal, and 40W fluorescent tubes. Call Rich Groll for details on pricing and availability.

The **CNYOS Club Library** is now located at St. Augustine's church. Make arrangements with Dianne Bordoni if you want to borrow an item from the Library.

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



### *REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE*

May 21	Deb Coyle & Dianne Bordoni
September 10	Tom & Cheryl Lloyd
October 1	Jeff Stuart & Judi Witkin
November 5	Monica Kot & Donna Coleman
January 2001	Gary Stensland & Judi Witkin

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

### *DIRECTIONS TO ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH*

#### ***From the Syracuse Area***

Take **690 West** towards **Baldwinsville**. Get off at the **Jones Rd. Exit**, and take a **Right** onto Jones Rd. Take the next **Left** onto **Peck Rd.**, and stay on Peck for about **1.2 miles**. Peck Rd. changes to **O'Brien Rd.** **The Church will be on the Left.**

#### ***From the Liverpool Area***

Take **John Glenn Blvd.** towards **Baldwinsville**.

Stay on John Glen Blvd until it ends; it will run into **Rt. 48 North**. Take Rt. 48 North to **O'Brien Rd** (about 1.8 miles). **Turn Left onto O'Brien**. **The Church is at the top of the hill on the Right.**

#### ***From the Thruway***

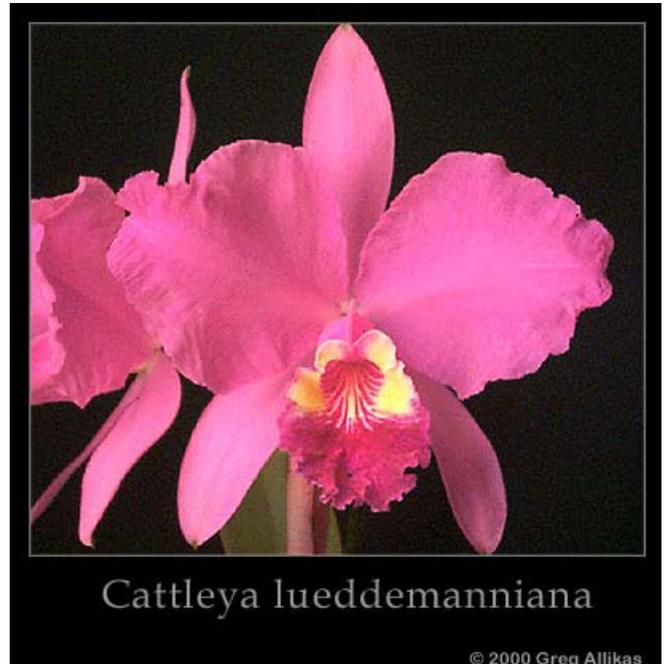
Take **Exit #39**. Go to **690 East** towards **Syracuse, State Fair**. Get off at the **Jones Rd. Exit**. Take a **Right** onto Jones, and then take the next left onto **Peck Rd**. Peck Rd. changes to **O'Brien**--stay on Peck/O'Brien for about **1.2 miles** total. **The Church will be on the Left.**

**& MASDEVALLIA GLANDULOSA**

Two orchids are featured this month in the Spot Light; Club member and Past President Dolores Capella's plant of *C. leuddemmanniana* took a blue ribbon at the GROS show last March. In addition, a *Masdevallia* has never been featured here before. *Masd. glandulosa* blooms this time of year, thus making it an obvious choice.

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**C**ATTLEYA LUEDDEMANNIANA is one of the Venezuelan labiate *Cattleyas*. Prized for its rich pink color and full shape, *C. leuddemmanniana* rivals modern hybrids in beauty. This early spring-flowering species is found in the hot, dry lowlands of Venezuela where it grows on thorny bushes, and occasionally cactus. Flowers are borne 2-4 per inflorescence from the newest growths. Although some growers recommend growing all labiate *Cattleyas* mounted, others report good success growing *leuddemmanniana* in 6-inch or larger clay pots using lava rock. Provide bright light and good air movement. Avoid over-watering during the winter.



**M**asdevallia glandulosa is found at 1200 m in Peru and Ecuador. The interior of the orange-pink flowers is covered with conspicuous purple hairs adding to their interest. As a bonus, these flowers have a sweet fragrance. Grow *Masd. glandulosa* under intermediate to cool temperatures, with fairly low levels of light. Given these conditions, *Masd. glandulosa* is exceptionally easy to grow and bloom. During cool damp periods faded flowers can become moldy which can result in infection of the plant itself. Cutting off faded flowers is the best prevention. This applies to many of these species which produce an abundance of bloom from the base of the plant.

# Jim Rice Orchids of Homer NY Announces a Total Liquidation Sale of its Inventory

All prices heavily reduced!



*JIM RICE, OWNER OF **JIM RICE ORCHIDS**, HAS DECIDED WITH GREAT REGRET THAT AFTER MANY YEARS OF SELLING ORCHIDS IN CENTRAL NEW YORK, IT'S TIME TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF SHUTTING DOWN THE GREENHOUSES.*

JIM RICE "ORCHIDS"  
10 Franklin Street  
HOMER, N. Y. 13077  
(607) - 749-3189

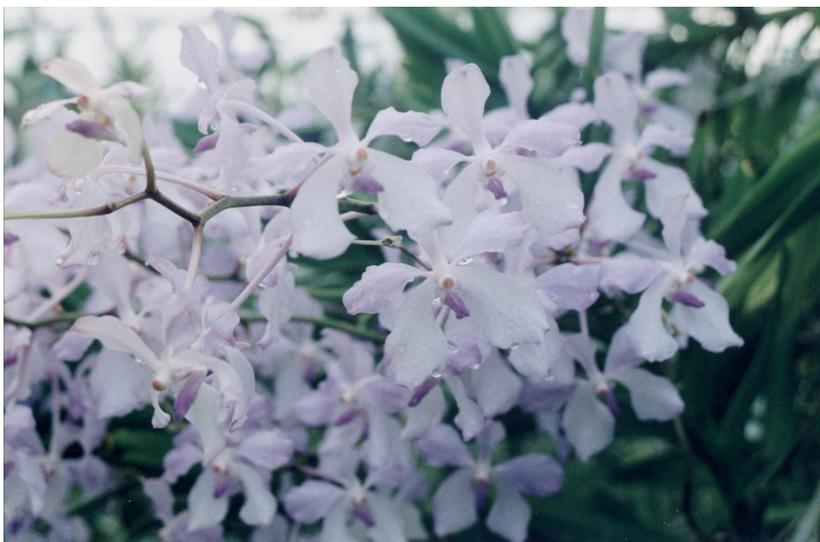


For more than 20 years, Jim Rice Orchids was the sole importer in Central New York of species orchids from all over the world. Many of the plants he brought in continue to grace the collections of hobbyist all over the country, and his greenhouses have produced many awarded plants. Quite ironically, Jim never had an orchid awarded himself; his attitude has always been not to withhold many plants, but to see his customers go home happy. It is this attitude, as well as his strong integrity, that has made Jim one of the most reputable and popular orchid sellers in the state.

## THERE ARE STILL A LARGE NUMBER OF SPECIES AND HYBRIDS AVAILABLE

Jim and his wife Grace are Lifetime members of the Central NY Orchid Society, and will be hosting the CNYOS Summer Picnic on June 4.

Take 81 N/S to Route 281N (Rt. 81, Exit 12). Take a Right onto 281N and proceed through Homer until Franklin St., where there will be a sign for Jim Rice Orchids on the Right. Rices is roughly one block down Franklin on the Left.



**CNYOS Members Do Well at GROS Show**

Many CNYOS members helped with set-up and break-down of the GROS show in Rochester last month. Many awards were given to plants in the display, and the display, itself, took a third place award. **MANY THANKS** to all those members who helped out, both with the display and by donating their blooming orchids. The awards are listed below.



THANKS AGAIN!

**Dianne Bordoni**

- Onc. Maple Hollow 'Ithaca Odyssey'* 1<sup>ST</sup>
- Phal. Rainbow* 1<sup>ST</sup>
- Phal. (Taipei Gold 'Taida' x equestris)* 2<sup>ND</sup>

**Dolores Capella**

- Pptm. Mathina* 1<sup>ST</sup>
- Best *Maxillaria* Alliance Plant in Show
- C. leuddemanniana* 1<sup>ST</sup>
- Mrclm. wendlandii* 1<sup>ST</sup>
- Kgw. Red Lava* 1<sup>ST</sup>
- Mtdm. Issaku Nagata* 2<sup>ND</sup>
- Lc. Hunabu Princess* 2<sup>ND</sup>

**David Ditz**

- Pot. Douglass North* 1<sup>ST</sup>
- Pleurothallis racemiflora* 2<sup>ND</sup>
- Paph. Dellaina* 3<sup>RD</sup>

**Rich Groll**

- Cymbium Showgirl* 3<sup>RD</sup>

**Fernwood Manor Orchids**

- Paph. Magic Mood 'Treasure'* 1<sup>ST</sup>
- Paph. Duguesclin* 2<sup>ND</sup>
- Paph. Spotglen 'Doodle Bug'* 2<sup>ND</sup>
- Phal. Via Southcoast Goldiana* 2<sup>ND</sup>
- Blira. Marfitch 'Howard's Dream'* 2<sup>ND</sup>
- Phal. Carmella's Pixie* 3<sup>RD</sup>

**Jeff Stuart**

- Paphiopedilum Transvaal* 3<sup>RD</sup>
- Paphiopedilum Johanna Burkhardt* 3<sup>RD</sup>
- Phragmipedium Olaf Grus* 3<sup>RD</sup>

- Display (Class A, >25 plants)** 3<sup>RD</sup>

**ORCHID NAMES – A MYSTERY UNRAVELED**

BY CRAIG REAVIS

One of the first things a novice orchid grower will come across is a myriad of strange names on plant labels. These names are often strange looking and sometimes even stranger sounding. Once you understand just a little about the names--where they come from and how they are used, the fear of these names will disappear almost overnight. Pronouncing some of them may take a little practice, but that is also an easy task to overcome.

First of all, orchid names are assigned according to the binomial (two names) system. This is to say that each orchid has two names. This is the same as your own name except it is written as though it were listed in a phone book (i.e., last name, first name). Your name would appear in the phone book as "Smith, John." An orchid's name would appear as *Cattleya Portia*. The first name listed (*Cattleya*) is the genus name and

refers to a very large group of orchids that are closely related (just like members of your family with the same last name). The second name listed, *Portia*, is the species name or hybrid name. This name refers to a very specific grex within the genus (just like your given name). It distinguishes it from all the others in the same genus. Using these names and this binomial system, we can communicate among ourselves and understand to which orchid we are referring.

From time to time we will see additions to the name. These are usually varietal names, which refer to a variety or a sub-group within a species that is uniquely different as a whole from the others, but not so much as to warrant a classification as a separate species. An example would be *Cattleya bicolor* var. *alba*. There may be several varieties within a species, and they are always written with the abbreviation "var." to designate a variety. These varieties are usually recognized by authorities as a valid part of the official name and registered as such.

Another name often seen is a clonal name. This name is not part of the official name of the plant but is a system used to designate the difference between one clone of a cross (grex) and all of the other clones of the same cross. It is a type of nickname. This name is given to a plant by the original owner of the plant if it is ever divided, meristemmed, or given any type of award. Divisions or meristems of the plant will carry the clonal name. An example might be *Cattleya bicolor* 'Big Lip.' You should note that the clonal name appears in single quotes to designate the fact that it is a clonal name. As a summary, a typical name might look like:

*Cattleya* – genus  
*bicolor* – species  
 var. *alba* – variety  
 'Big Lip' – clonal name

It would be written thus: *Cattleya bicolor* var. *alba* 'Big Lip'

The genus name always starts with a capital or is abbreviated with a capital letter. The species name always starts with a small letter (there are a few exceptions to this). If the plant is a hybrid, the hybrid name will start with a capital letter. In this way, you should be able to look at a plant tag and see at a glance if it is a species or a hybrid. An example of this would be:

Species = *Onc. triquetrum* (*Onc.* is the abbreviation for *Oncidium*)  
 Hybrid = *Onc.* Golden Sunset

As mentioned earlier, the genus part of the name is often abbreviated in order to save time and space. Each genus has an official abbreviation and these are easily recognized. For example, *Cattleya* is abbreviated C. Other genera (plural for genus) have similar abbreviations such as *Brassavola* (B.), *Laelia* (L.), and *Sophranitis* (S.). These few examples refer to species or pure strains of hybrids within the genus. In many cases hybrids are produced by using two or more genera such as a *Cattleya* and a *Laelia*. This hybrid would be called a *Laeliocattleya* and is abbreviated as Lc. Many other combinations are possible (using the above mentioned genera) such as Slc., Sc., Sl., etc. After a while, three or more names can become confusing when naming a new hybrid genus (i.e., Slc. =

*Sophranilaeliocattleya*!). A new name is often given to these complex hybrids using the last name of the person who first registers the new genus and then adding the Latin ending "ara" to the name (i.e., Smithara). For example, when you cross a *Brassavola* (B.) to a *Laelia* (L.) and a *Sophranitis* (S.) and a *Cattleya* (C.) you get a hybrid with the four genera in the background. The new name for this genus is Potinara. Note that each of the genera simply has to be in the background of the hybrid--the amounts are irrelevant. Potinara is made by any combination of the four genera: B. X Slc., Bl. X Sc., or Bc. X Sl., etc.

Most complex hybrids fall into a few well-known genera, both simple and complex, and in time you will start to recognize what they are. There are others that are more obscure such as Hasegawaara. These you might want to look up in order to research their background. But the most important thing to remember is that you shouldn't be afraid of the names. The following are just a few examples of genera found in the *Cattleya* alliance:

C. = *Cattleya*  
 B. = *Brassavola*  
 Bro. = *Broughtonia*  
 L. = *Laelia*  
 S. = *Sophranitis*  
 Bc. = *Brassocattleya*  
 Bl. = *Brassolaelia*  
 Blc. = *Brassolaelocattleya*  
 Ctna. = *Cattleytonia* (C. + Bro.)  
 Lc. = *Laeliocattleya*  
 Sl. = *Sophranilaelia*  
 Sc. = *Sophranocattleya*  
 Slc. = *Sophranilaelocattleya*  
 Pot. = *Potinara* (C. + B. + L. + S.)

Along with the name of the plant and its clonal name, there often appears a series of initials (AM/AOS, etc.). These initials are award designations. Some of the most often seen award designations are:

#### QUALITY AWARDS

The following awards are given to the plant, and always remains with that individual clone of the plant.

**HCC:** Highly Commended Certificate (75 to 79 points)

**AM:** Award of Merit (80 to 89 points)  
**FCC:** First Class Certificate (90 to 100 points)

#### OTHER AWARDS:

**JC:** Judges Commendation (given to the plant for some outstanding feature)

**CCM:** Certificate of Cultural Merit (awarded to individual grower for culture)

**CBR:** Certificate of Botanical Recognition (awarded to the plant for rarity, novelty, and educational value)

Other awards are given, but the above are the ones most often seen. For additional information on awards, refer to the American Orchid Society's Handbook on Judging and Exhibition.

#### THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY

The official designation for an American Orchid Society award is XXX/AOS (the X's representing the particular award). Other awarding bodies throughout the world are:

RHS: Royal Horticulture Society – England

HOS: Hawaiian Orchid Society

WOC: World Orchid Conference

When purchasing an orchid, it is always wise to purchase one with a name tag in the plant. These name tags can tell you a lot about the plant. For example:

#### ***C. guttata***

This label is the simplest of all. It is for a species *Cattleya* called *guttata*. We know this because the *C.* stands for *Cattleya* and *guttata* is started with a small "g." So reading the label automatically tells us we are looking at a species *Cattleya* called *guttata*.

#### ***C. guttata* var. *alba***

In this example, we have the same genus and species, but with the added "var. *alba*." This is a particular variety of the same species called "alba" (which refers to the fact that there is a lack of color in the bloom; often white). There may be many clones of this variety of this species.

#### ***C. guttata* var. *alba* 'Snow White' HCC/AOS**

(this is NOT a real awarded plant...example only). This example shows the label of a specific clone of our species. This is *Cattleya guttata* var. *alba*

'Snow White' HCC/AOS. This label gives us the official name, the varietal name, and its clonal name of 'Snow White' given to it because it also carries an AOS award of an HCC.

The previous examples were all for orchid species. Since a large number of hybrids are now available, the labels of these are vital to keep track of just what is what. The same basic facts hold true for hybrids that are used for species.

#### ***C. guttata* X *B. nodosa***

This tag represents the cross of two species of different genera. The way the name is written expresses this fact. The plant that held the seed pod is written first. It appears from the label that the cross has not been named since only the parents are given. But a quick look into the list of registered hybrids tells a little more.

#### **Bc. Nodata (*C. guttata* X *B. nodosa*)**

This hybrid has been registered and is called Bc. Nodata. You will notice that the hybrid name is given first and is written with a capital letter. The names of the parents follow, inside parenthesis. The names of the parents are not always given on the label, but it is sure nice when they are. Another example would be:

#### **Slc. Wendy's Valentine 'June' HCC/AOS**

From this label we can deduce the plant is a hybrid using three genera (Slc.) and it has been registered with the RHS in England. It has a clonal name of 'June' and has been awarded an HCC from the AOS.

Please remember that orchid labels are like your birth certificate. It is not required to produce a pretty bloom, but it is nice to know what the family tree for that plant is. Please do not throw them away because they are ugly. If you don't like the look of the label, just push it down into the pot. A plant without a label is just another orphan orchid without a past or a future. It will only be a pretty bloom among all of the other orchids with names.

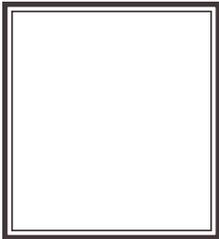
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This is the first in a series of three articles on orchid nomenclature to be printed over the next few issues

Next meetings: This Sunday, May 21st!!!



Annual Orchid Auction!



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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 \$10.00 per individual, or \$12.00 family. Dues should be paid to the CNYOS Treasurer, Elinor Burton.

## THE ORCHID ENTHUSIAST

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**Jeff Stuart, Editor**  
351 Kensington Place  
Syracuse NY 13210-3309  
(315) 471-1404  
e-mail: [jastuart@syr.edu](mailto:jastuart@syr.edu)

