

The Orchid Enthusiast

The Newsletter of the Central New York Orchid Society

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Page 1 Volume 16: Issue 7 March 2014

Editor's Note:

Contributions to the Orchid Enthusiast by members of the CNYOS are welcome. Articles, pictures, or ideas for discussion subjects should be submitted by the first week of the month before the next meeting to:

egalson756@gmail.com

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It's time to renew your membership!
Individuals \$20
Family \$22
Iris is making a new membership list.
Anyone not paid up will not be on the list.

Send check to:
Carol Haskell, Treas.
102 Wythrop Rd
Syracuse NY 13209

Next Meeting: Sunday March 2, 2 PM, De – Compotting Clinic

What is De-Compotting ?

After new plantlets are removed from flasks, they are planted in communal pots (compots) where usually 10 – 15 plants grow together. When they are big enough, it's time to transfer them to individual pots. It's this transfer that we will be doing. Everyone will go home with one or more new little plants to nurture and watch develop.

We hope to get Jim Marlow as a speaker, and he will bring compots of mini-catts for us to pot up. Pots and medium are left over from last year. All plants and materials must be pre-paid to Carol before plants are picked up. Last year we paid \$1.50 for a number of plants.

Though the price is not yet determined, it should be similar.

We will have a Show Table, as usual.

President's Message

Last meeting before GROS & STOS shows. One seat is available on the SEPOS bus. \$73 per person and if you are on the bus you get a discounted rate for admission to the museum/show. No other discounts are available except for those physically on the bus. Watch for another plant drawing at the March meeting- last month Dolores won a Cymbidium!

Sue Finger

Refreshment Volunteers

March	1. Barbara Weller	2. Monica & Bill Kot
April	1. No refreshments needed. Trip to Rochester for GROS	
May	1. Honey Goshorn	2. ?
June Spring Picnic	Everyone Contributes	
July & August	No Meetings	
September 2014	1. Deb and Jack Hesse	2. ?
October	Show	
November	1. Dolores Capella	2. David Ditz

Minutes of CNYOS Meeting of February 2, 2014

Sue called the meeting to order at 2:05.

Because of a miscommunication, Jim Marlow, our scheduled speaker, was not available, and Krum Sotirov kindly agreed to fill in. He gave a wonderful lecture and slide show on cultural practices necessary for growing different types of orchids successfully. One of his take-away points was, "Find out where your orchids come from and what the climate is there, so you can try to replicate the growing conditions the plants are used to."

We welcomed a new member, Chris Smith.

Honey thanked all for the flowers and sympathy cards.

The bus for SEPOS is full. Though there was one drop-out, there are two extra people wishing to go. (According to the President's Message, there is still one open seat). Admission to the show will be \$10 instead of \$15 for all of us arriving as a group. Everyone going is requested to pay all of the bus trip money in full by the end of February.

On March 9 Sue and Jerry and anyone else who wishes to go will be at the Carol Watson Greenhouse in Lafayette.

GROS will be held at a new venue on April 5th and 6th – Monroe Community College. Set up will be by Jan, Judi, Sue and Jerry. The loan of 12 ferns was requested from Lori Burritt. There will be a sign-up sheet at the March meeting for those needing a ride or having room in their vehicles for a rider both for GROS and STOS.

STOS will be held April 26th and 27th. Jan, Sue and Jerry will do the set-up.

May is our annual auction. Honey is ordering plants for the event.

Our speaker for September has not been finalized. Honey has contacted Fred Clarke, but we may go with the speaker for whom the surrounding clubs have arranged.

Respectfully submitted:

Monica Kot

February Show Table

Please note all names, accent marks, and abbreviations that are in boldface.

Kindly **update your labels** with registered names or parents. Bring the information to the show table next time.

Cypripedium Alliance

<i>Paph. helenae</i> × Jolly Green Gem	Coleman
<i>Phrag. besseae</i>	"
<i>Paph. tranlienicum</i>	Pfromm
<i>Paph. Incabuena</i> (Inca × Yerba Buena)	"
<i>Paph. Magic Mountain</i> (Peter Black × Denehurst)	Ditz
<i>Paph. Black Arrow</i> (Shadow Dancer × Hsinying Vini)	"

Cattleya Alliance

<i>Lc. Angel Love</i> × <i>Gur. skinneri</i>	Coleman
<i>Epi. centropetalum</i>	"
<i>Ett. Volcano Trick</i> (<i>Ctt. Trick or Treat</i> × <i>Epi. stamfordianum</i>)	"
<i>Ctyh. Siam Jade</i> (<i>C. Penny Kuroda</i> × <i>Vienna Woods</i>)	Burritt
<i>Bsn. Maikai</i> (<i>B. nodosa</i> × <i>Gur. bowringiana</i>)	"
<i>Din. polybulbon</i>	"
<i>C. cernua</i>	Witkin
<i>Dmd. stenopetala</i>	Capella
<i>Epi. Unknown</i>	Galson

Oncidium Alliance

<i>Alcra. Marfitch</i> (<i>Brat. Charles M. Fitch</i> × <i>Onc. Fremar</i>)	Hasse
<i>Leomesezia</i> (<i>Lsz.</i>) <i>Lava Burst</i> (<i>Mini-Primi</i> × <i>Rdza. lanceolata</i>)	"
<i>Onc. Opalescent</i> (<i>Nationhood</i> × <i>trilobum</i>)	Burritt

Vandaceous

<i>Phal. celebensis</i>	Coleman
<i>Phal. Liu's Fantasy</i> (<i>Be Glad</i> × <i>Timothy Christopher</i>)	"
<i>Phal. Leopard Prince</i> (<i>Sun Prince</i> × <i>Ho's French Fantasia</i>)	Hasse
<i>Phal. Zuma's Pixie</i> (<i>Carmela's Pixie</i> × <i>equestris</i>)	Burritt

Dendrobium Alliance

<i>Den. Lucky Charms</i> (<i>Peter Shen</i> × <i>Roy Tokunaga</i>)	Woodworth
<i>Den. Aussie's Chip</i> (<i>aberrans</i> × <i>atroviolaceum</i>)	Burritt
<i>Den. auriculatum</i>	Coleman
<i>Den. Mini Snowflake</i> (<i>aberrans</i> × <i>johnsoniae</i>)	"
<i>Den. glomeratum</i>	Witkin
<i>Den. Maiden Charlotte</i> (<i>aberrans</i> × <i>rhodostictum</i>)	Lloyd
<i>Den. Peng Seng</i> (<i>tobaense</i> × <i>cruentum</i>)	Finger
<i>Den. Mini Snowflake</i>	"

Pleurothallids

<i>Pths. pruinosa</i>	Coleman
<i>Stelis tarantula</i>	Witkin
<i>Rstp. muscifera</i>	Weller
<i>Masd. Morning Glory</i> (<i>chaparensis</i> × <i>Marguerite</i>)	Galson

Miscellaneous

<i>Echn. rothschildiana</i>	Burritt
<i>Mxl. variabilis</i>	"
<i>Chnl. pachyphylla</i>	Woodworth
<i>Morm. Mark Mills</i> (<i>Jumbo Bacia</i> × <i>Virgen del Valle</i>)	"
<i>Fdk. After Dark</i> (<i>Mor. Painted Desert</i> × <i>Ctsm. Donna Wise</i>)	Witkin
<i>Bulb. maxillare</i>	Capella
<i>Ddc. exile</i>	"
<i>Ddc. cootesii</i>	"
<i>Cym. Volcano</i> (<i>Spartan Queen</i> × <i>Doris Aurea</i>)	Finger

Iris Cohen

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me, iriscohen@aol.com or 315-461-9226

Events Calendar

March 2	CNYOS Meeting - Compotting Clinic
April 6	Car Pool to Rochester for GROS Show held April 5 th & 6th
April 12	CNYOS Bus trip to Philadelphia for SEPOS Show
April 26-27	STOS
May 4	Club auction
June 1 or later	CNYOS Picnic
July & August	No Meetings
September 8	Fred Clarke or Other Speaker
October 4-5	CNYOS Show and Sale at Beaver Lake (Set-up Oct 3)
November 2	Fred Clark of Sunset Valley Orchids or other speaker

Treasurer's Report

Assets as of 2/1/14	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Key Bank	5,029.81
Cash Account	<u>115.00</u>
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	5,144.81
SEPOS Bus Money	<u>(1,076.00)</u>
Net	4,068.81
Summary Report 1/1/14-2/1/14	
Inflows	1,664.00*
Outflows	<u>230.13</u>
<u>Net Inflows/Outflows</u>	1,433.87 *Auction Sales: \$272.50

Orchids as Food This article was partially abstracted from ionopsis.com, the web site of Krum Sotirov

It has become a tradition in the western world to start an orchid book with the statement that while orchids are the largest plant family, only a couple of them (Vanilla and Orchis) are used as food.



This statement could not be further from the truth. Not only are orchids used as food today, their use is increasing in Africa and scientists are trying to develop their use as agricultural crop.

A quick look on the internet brings up an ad for 50-100 Dendrobium stems for \$66 and describes them as good for cake decorating and The garnish, imparting a crispy, almost endive like flavor.

The widespread Australian orchid, Den. speciosum, is advertised as having tasty stems when roasted.

Tipularia discolor, also known as the crane-fly orchid, is a perennial, terrestrial woodland orchid, the only

species of the genus *Tipularia* found in North America, whose roots are connected to a series of corms which are starchy and potato like.

In the tropics of Asia, roasted tubers of *Gastrodia* are eaten like potatoes.

Vanilla is the most famous orchid for its flavor. It has been used to flavor food and tobacco (in Cuba). Not only was *Vanilla* considered a wonderful flavoring for foods and beverages, but from the 16th to 19th centuries it was considered to be an aphrodisiac and to have therapeutic values, from aiding digestion and preventing headaches to counteracting poisons and bites. The Aztecs called these brown beans "tlixochitl" (tea-so-shill), the Aztec word for "Black Flower", and required the Totonac Indians who produced them to give some of the finest pods to the emperor Montezuma as a tax payment.

Also known for many years is Salep - a flour made from the tubers of the orchid genus *Orchis* (including species *Orchis mascula* and *Orchis militaris*). These tubers contain a nutritious starch-like polysaccharide called glucomannan. Salep flour is consumed in beverages and desserts, especially in places that were formerly part of the Ottoman Empire. Its consumption spread beyond there to England and Germany before the rise of coffee and tea and it was later offered as an alternative beverage in coffee houses. In England, the drink was known as saloop. Popular in the 17th and 18th centuries in England, its preparation required that the salep powder be added to water until thickened whereupon it would be sweetened, then flavored with orange flower or rose water. Substitution of British orchid roots, known as "dogstones", was acceptable in the 18th century for the original Turkish variants. In India, where the tubers of *Eulophia*, *Orchis*, and *Satyrium* may all be used as salep, it is used like sago or arrowroot and is prepared from a large variety of species.

Orchids are used as teas almost everywhere: The fragrant *Jumellea fragrans* forms the basis of the "faham tea" from Mauritius and Isle de Reunion, off the coast of Africa. It was once rather well known in France, popular in the nineteenth century as "Bourbon tea". The tea is delicious, but it did not become very widely accepted and has, for practical purposes, been completely forgotten. The tea was thought to be a sedative. A tincture was also made to apply to the fingertips and improve the sense of touch.

In China many *Dendrobium* species are used to prepare healing teas. *Dendrobium catheratum* canes are boiled for tea to gain strength after sex or illness., while *Dendrobium chrysotoxum* flowers are being dried and consumed as tea for pleasure or good health.

A recent expedition of botanists revealed that over 77 species of orchids are used as food in Africa. In Zambia, Davenport and Bytebier have described an 'orchid rush', whereby the boiled root tubers of terrestrial orchids are used to make a food dish, *Chikanda* or *Kinaka*. The orchids involved are from three genera: *Disa*, *Habenaria* and *Satyrium*. In the southern Africa region (Tanzania, Zambia and Malawi), the tubers of the orchids have for a long time been used as a source of food. The tubers are traded locally within the three countries, where they are used in the preparation of a meatless sauce.

Many orchid blooms are used in salads. The blooms of all orchids are considered safe for consumption, but reports are that they are somewhat bitter and some species may irritate the stomach. So what do orchids taste like? Opinions vary; some say it is somewhat sweet, others say it tastes like tannin or raw chives.

Orchids have a great potential as a food source if methods can be found to propagate them without destroying the native plants that are now being used by native populations.

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The CNYOS Newsletter, is a publication of the Central New York Orchid Society and is distributed to the Society's members ten times per year, prior to all club meetings, events and functions.

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The Central NY Orchid Society usually meets at St. Augustine's Church 7333 O'Brien Rd, Baldwinsville on the first Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm.

The Central New York Orchid Society
Your local AOS and Orchid Digest Affiliate
236 Lockwood Road
Syracuse, NY 13214

**March 2014 Issue – CNYOS Orchid Meeting March 2, 2 PM at the Church
De – Compotting Clinic**