



Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter

Volume 14 Issue 4

September 2006

President's Message

This may be a surprise that the President's message is coming from the Vice President. Well, I have to announce that Greg Button has resigned as the President of the Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Instead of summarizing his words, I will include them as they were sent to me... "I have just had a major research project funded that will require me to spend a lot of time out of town (New Orleans). Given the restrictions on my time I think it best that I resign as Board President. My schedule is just too demanding and uncertain to accept the responsibility of being on the board. I hope to make as many meetings as I can but my schedule is very uncertain as to when I will be in town. Sorry to bail on you guys but I trust you understand."

As of Greg's resignation, I have accepted the position of President of the Ann Arbor Orchid Society based on what is stated in the by-laws. Ann Bommarito has been chosen Vice President by the board and she has accepted. The board has yet to choose a director, a position now left open when Ann accepted the Vice Presidency. If you are interested, please talk with a board member who will explain the responsibilities of this position.

As members, what should we expect this year? Well, the board has already developed a proposed budget and timeline of events for the year. The budget is reported here in the newsletter. During the last board meeting, we discussed improving the way the board conducts business. Developing a timeline of events was one instituted measure. The other is to finish the work of former President, Barb Larime, to document the role, responsibilities, and tasks of the board positions and committees. The goal is to have completed documents by November of this year. There will be more to come in future President's messages.

I know that many of you have renewed your memberships and answered some of the questions on the renewal form. For about ten minutes or so at the beginning of our meeting I would like you all share what you want to see in the coming year. I think it would be very helpful to have a brief discussion at the meeting so that the board can get a better understanding of the desires of the membership.

I could go on with this message, but I believe that Denise has other content to share with you in this issue of the newsletter. Don't worry; I do have other goals in mind for the society that I will first share with the board and the membership. Stay tuned...

Kevin

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Membership Report

I cannot tell you how many people have renewed as of this message. Dottie Winter has been picking up the mail from the society's post office box. I do know that many of you have renewed, thank you. So, those of you who have submitted their dues to be postmarked by August 31, 2006 will be eligible for the \$25 gift certificate to a local orchid grower. Good Luck to all.

I will have a more definitive membership report in the October newsletter.

Kevin

Ann Arbor Orchid Society 2006-7 Officers

President - Kevin Griffin 248-761-1272,
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EvilAnn929@aol.com
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harwin@umich.edu
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Director - vacant position available
Past President - Paige Hartman 426-2704,
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761-5859, harwin@umich.edu
Library - Duane Duman, George Parks.
duman2@aol.com
Membership - Kevin Griffin
Newsletter Editor - Denise Nash
djnash@comcast.net
Orchid Festival - Ann Bommarito & Kevin
Griffin
Orchid Shows - Dottie Winter, Paige Hartman,
Denise Nash
Programs - Alex Challis, Paige Hartman,
Denise Nash
Publicity - Neil Foster

Newsletter of the Ann Arbor Orchid Society

The AAOS meets monthly from September through May (excluding December) at the University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

The AAOS Newsletter is published 8-9 times throughout the year, and is sent to all AAOS members.

AAOS members and others are invited to submit articles or other information relating to orchids.

The Ann Arbor Orchid Society is a 501(C)(3) educational and scientific organization, affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Mid-America Orchid Congress, and with the Orchid Digest Corporation.

Ann Arbor Orchid Society, Inc
 Treasury Summary and Proposed Budget
 August 23, 2006

Account balances:

	Aug. 31, 2005	Aug. 21, 2006	Proposed 06 - 07 Budget
Checking	\$5,281.96	\$5,234.18	
Cash	<u>362.00</u>	<u>763.00</u>	
Total	\$5653.96	\$5,997.18	

2006 Festival summary:

Income	2,104.00	1,700
Expenses	<u>1,272.73</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Net	831.27	200

Category Description	Actual	Budget '06-'07
INCOME		
Donations & Misc.	46.75	100
Dues	1,995.00	2,100
Festival Income	2,104.00	2,100
Ways & Means	<u>2,115.00</u>	<u>2,200</u>
TOTAL INCOME	6,260.75	6,500
EXPENSES		
Donations	0	250
Administration	260.00	360
Cost of Goods Sold	1,273.45	1,200
Festival	1,272.73	1,700
Member services	837.59	500
Programs	2,147.09	1,800
Shows	<u>126.67</u>	<u>500</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,917.53	6,310
NET CHANGE	\$343.22	\$ 190

~~~Next Meeting~~~

Our next meeting is on Sunday, September 10, at Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Set up is at 1:30 p.m. and our meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. Our speaker will be Alex Challis who is an orchid judge and member of AAOS. He will have plants to sell.

AAOS Calendar of Events 2006-07

SEPT 10: AAOS meeting: Alex Challis—"Harlequin Phalaenopsis—The Butterfly Orchid Shows Its New Wings"

OCT 15: AAOS meeting: TBA

NOV 19: AAOS meeting: Jim Heilig — Phalaenopsis Species

Dec. 10: Holiday Party—Paige's house 1:00-5:00

2007:

JAN 14: AAOS meeting: Members' Talks & Slides about growing areas

Jan. 26-28: Grand Valley Orchid Society show

FEB 11: AAOS meeting: Lynn O'Shaughnessy---Growing Pleurothallids

Feb 23-25: Greater Lansing Orchid Society show

MARCH 16-18: AAOS FESTIVAL

Mar 30-April 1: Michigan Orchid Society show

APRIL 15: AAOS meeting: Ray Barkalow of First Rays Orchids: Semi-Hydroponic Growing

MAY 20: AAOS mtg: Great Lakes Judging Program: Vandas

?? Summer Picnic

SEPT. 9: AAOS meeting: Fred Clarke---Catasetums & Mormodes

OCT 4: AAOS meeting:

NOV. 11: AAOS meeting

What's Flowering?

Cycnodes Wine Delight: Grower - Kevin Griffin



My plant is, thankfully, in bloom this year. Last year, the slugs got to it and I was able to get only a few flowers. I really dislike slugs.

I usually buy plants that are 'lookers' as well as fragrant. This one smells of sweet soap. If you have about ten or more flowers in bloom, you can smell it from a distance. I don't know it could permeate a room with fragrance, since mine is now on my balcony. If you are new to growing orchids or you were wondering about how to grow this one, here is some growing information for you relative to my growing conditions.

Light - I grow this plant about one foot away from a 250W HID lamp from fall to mid-Spring. From this time to early fall, I grow this and most of my other plants on my west-facing, Maple tree-protected, balcony. It does get some direct mid-day sun during this time with no ill effects to the plant.

Medium - My plant is growing semi-hydroponically. The medium is an expanded clay aggregate called Primeagra. The container is actually a large cup with two holes about an inch from the bottom. The medium sits on top of a layer of osmocote, a time release fertilizer.

Water/Humidity - When this plant is actively growing and blooming, I water about every other day. This plant like its relatives Cycnoches, Mormodes, and Catasetum go dormant during the winter and should only be watered enough to keep the pseudobulbs from shriveling. So, I just spray the medium lightly during that time. When the new growth has developed inch-long roots, I start watering it normally again.

My indoor humidity remains around 60% - 80% during the winter. It drops during the early spring when the outdoor humidity is low. So, I have to make sure the humidifier is constantly filled at that time.

Fertilizer - I did mention that there is a layer of Osmocote at the bottom of the pot. So, I don't have to worry about fertilizing. However, when I fertilize my collection, I don't discriminate between what to fertilize and what not to fertilize. So, this plant gets a weak solution of MSU fertilizer (RO formula) along with my other plants. The current new growth is twice the size of the previous growth.

Temperature - The temperatures indoors from late fall to early spring range from 75 F during the day and 55 F at night. Since I grow it outdoors in the summer, I don't pay much attention to the temperature variations.

Repotting- Since I grow in the expanded clay aggregate, I don't have to worry about repotting often. This medium does not break down like organic media. I have had my plant in this container for two years, but it has outgrown its container. I will have to repot it next spring when the new grow starts.

I hope this helps anyone interested in growing this plant.



Ascocentrum miniatum 'Kai Gold': grower Denise Nash

Well, I can't say a lot about culture for this plant. I bought it at Redlands Orchid Festival in May, and it is now flowering for me! The vendor (Orchid Acres, Inc. of Florida) had a lot of them for \$15, and Paige, Barb and I all grabbed one. Only one was in flower at the time, the rest were unflowered mericlones. I attached the 'hook' when I got home and hung it on the south side of the greenhouse, and misted it every other day or so.



I was very surprised when it pushed up 4 spikes!

Naturally, since I grow in a greenhouse, it is subject to the outside climate in summer, and as everyone in Michigan knows, this summer was HOT! So I assume it enjoys high humidity and warm temperatures, in other words, Michigan summers.

I hope that it lives, and flowers again for me next year. If it does I will give a better report on how to grow it!

~Denise

Newsletter Deadlines

If you have an article or submission for the newsletter, please email them to Denise Nash, at djnash@comcast.net.

The deadlines for newsletter submissions is:

September 29, 2006
November 3, 2006
January 1, 2007
January 26, 2007
March 2, 2007
May 2, 2007

Upcoming Board Meetings

If you are interested in the AAOS board meetings, please attend! At this time, they are being held at the Café Espresso on Plymouth Road, just west of Nixon at 7 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). The dates for the meetings are as follows:

September 27, 2006

November 11, 2006

December 10, 2006 (location: Paige's house, before Christmas Party)

January 24, 2007

February 28, 2007

March 28, 2007

May 2, 2007

"I Overlooked an Orchid (While Searching for a Rose)"

by Carl Story / Shirly Lynn / Carl Smith

That blooms so tenderly
To thrill the fairest lady of the land
If placed beside a blushin' rose
The rose could not compare
But how was such as I to understand

I overlooked an orchid
While searching for a rose
The orchid that I overlooked was you
The rose that I was searching for
Has proved to be untrue
The orchid now I find, my dear, was you

The rose has lost its colour
But the orchid is the same
And I'm alone to face these lonely years
I didn't see the orchid
I was looking for a rose
And now I pay the price with bitter tears
I overlooked an orchid
While searching for a rose
The orchid that I overlooked was you
The rose that I was searching for
Has proved to be untrue
The orchid now I find, my dear, was you"

Note from the Editor:

Does anyone have any ideas for the Newsletter? If you do, please email me at: djnash@comcast.net

Some of the ideas I am thinking about are:

~What's Flowering?

Many times we have interesting orchids that flower between show and meeting times. If you email me a digital photo to the address above, including your orchid's growing conditions, I will put it in the newsletter.

~Classified Orchid Ads

If a member of AAOS has an orchid related product for sale, an ad could be placed free of charge in the newsletter.