

Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter

February Speaker

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Harold Koopowitz, editor in chief of "The Orchid Digest" and author of the recently published book, "Tropical Slipper Orchids".

Dr. Koopowitz is a professor emeritus of ecology at the University of California at Irvine. He has studied orchids in their native environment, and is very interested in conservation, especially that of endangered plants.

Dr. Koopowitz is an accredited AOS judge, who has been collecting, growing and studying orchids for over 30 years. His involvement has been at many levels as a hobbyist, scientist and commercial grower. He specializes in Paphiopedilums and was a partner in Paphanatics, unLtd. for approximately 20 years

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President's Message

I am pining for spring right now. I am really tired of this cold then snow thing that is happening now. I bet you are as well. Well, at least we have our orchids. I hope yours are growing and blooming well for you. As you know, we are in the middle of show season and we will need as many blooming plants for upcoming shows like the Greater Lansing Orchid Show, the Michigan Orchid Society Palm Sunday Show and our own Festival in April.

Speaking of our Festival, we will require as much help as possible from you all for our show, April 11 - 13, 2008. Show set up and tear-down, hospitality desks, raffle sales, food are some of the areas where we will need your assistance. There will be signup sheets going around the meeting on **SATURDAY** February 16th. Please, if you have some spare time or you are willing to bring food, please place your name and contact information on this sheet.

I will not be at this month's meeting. I have another obligation at this time. However, I know that you will enjoy Harold Koopowitz's presentation. He will be speaking on "Global Climate Change: What It Means for Orchid Conservation".

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President's Message, continued from page 1.

One last thing, I need one more person to serve on the nominating committee. Thank you, Harry Winter and Alex Challis for volunteering. The nominating committee will select the next slate of officers for 2008 - 2009. If you do not have any experience with this, do not worry both of these people will be able to help you. So, if you can, please volunteer. Our elections will occur at our May meeting and the slate of officers must be in our April newsletter. Please contact me if you are willing to volunteer. My contact information appears on the Officer's section of this newsletter (page 5).

Happy Growing! Spring is on the way!!!

Kevin

February Speaker, Continued from page 1.

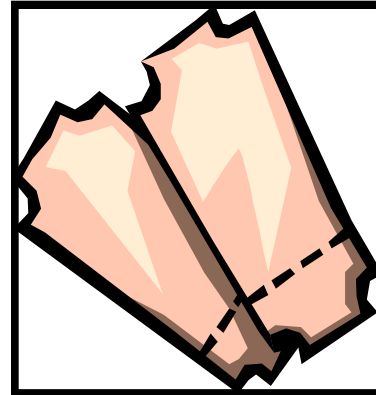
Dr. Koopowitz has described several of the slipper orchid species including *Paphiopedilum emersonii*, *Paph. ooi*, *Paph. tigrinum* and *Paph. vififerum*. He is the author of the Revised Checklist of the Genus *Paphiopedilum*, published by the Orchid Digest. Welcome to Ann Arbor, Dr. Koopowitz!

Hospitality Volunteers



The hospitality volunteers this month are Denise Nash and Ann Puvolowski.

Thank you in advance!



And the Winner Is.....

The Membership drawing was held at the January meeting. The winner of the \$25.00 gift certificate from Taylor Orchids was John Olszewski. Congratulations John!

Volunteers Needed!

The AAOS will be participating in the Greater Lansing Orchid Society orchid show February 23 and 24. Set up for our display will be Friday, Feb. 22, beginning promptly at 1:00. We will be setting up a 50 sq. ft display. Any AAOS member is very welcome to help by loaning plants, driving display items to the show, helping with the set up, or helping with the teardown on Sunday. We usually need two to three cars or vans to take and bring back the items. Please volunteer to help; your help is needed. Set up is particularly fun since the vendors arrive throughout the afternoon and we have first chance at buying gorgeous new plants. Sunday afternoon usually has some great sales on plants. Please volunteer to help. We need you!

Plant table, Jan. 13, 2008

Ten members brought a total of 25 blooming species and hybrids for our January plant table. Congratulations and many thanks to those who brought plants and told us about them. Our plant table is always spectacular. We plan to have pictures accompanying these plant table reports in future newsletters.

<i>Chysis bractescens</i>	O,L	Linda Battison
<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum</i>	L	
Phrag, (Magdalene Rose 'Mother' x <i>bessae</i> v. <i>pante</i>)	L	
Ascocenda Princess Mikasa 'Pink'	G	Laura & Duane Duman
Beallara Diana Dunn 'Newberry'		
Potinara (Bsc) (Slc Memoria Dorothy Worden x <i>B nodosa</i>)		
Slc (Sc) Fire Lighter		
Slc (Sc) (Calypso #1 x (Sl Orpeti x C Penny Kuroda))		
Paphiopedilum (Hellas 'Sunset' x Brunswick 'Antique Red')	W,L,O	Emma Edge
Paphiopedilum Memoria Joe Ozzela		
Vuylstekeara Melissa Brianne 'Shady Lady'		
Epidendrum Pretty Lady	G	Neal & Merideth Foster
<i>Ludisia discolor</i>		
Paphiopedilum (Colorado 'I-89' x <i>liemianum</i> 'Orchid Loft')	W,L,O	Janet Hinshaw
<i>Coelogyne flaccida</i>	W,L,O	Riki Marquis
Cymbidium Strathdon	W,O	
Dialaelia (Caulaelia) Mizoguchi	W,O	
Phaleanopsis hybrid	G	Don & Lee Meyer
<i>Ludisia discolor</i>	W	John Olszewski
Paphiopedilum Trail of Tears (Hellas 'Westonbirt' x Sheila Hanes)		
Paphiopedilum (Hsinying Lajo x Red Shift '#2')		
Paphiopedilum hybrid [spicerianum hybrid?]		
Oncidium Sharry Baby	W	Anne Puvalowski
Blc (Rsc) Memoria Dorothy Bertsch 'Copper Glow'		
Phalaenopsis hybrid	W,O	Abby Skinner

Conditions: G, greenhouse; L, Lights; W, Windowsill; O, outdoors in summer. All plants from a member are under the same conditions, unless shown for each plant.

Genus names in parentheses are new names based on recently-revised nomenclature.

Grand Valley Orchid Society Show

Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids, Feb. 2-3, 2008

Denise Nash, Paige Hartman, Randy Long, Ann Bommarito, and Dottie & Harry Winter with three carloads full of orchids, staging, greenery, tools and small materials, braved 4-6 inches of snow to drive to Grand Rapids to set up a 50 sq. ft. display in the Grand Valley Orchid Society's annual orchid show at Meijer Gardens. Denise planned the exhibit design. Blooming orchids for the display were provided by Denise, Randy, Paige, Ann, Linda Battison, Dee Stowell, and John Olszewski.

The Grand Rapids display was similar to the one at Midland last November, the set-up was relatively fast and easy, and displayed the 43 orchids (plus some new, non-registered ones) accented with greenery from Dottie and Rob Halgren. The exhibit garnered a second place ribbon in class, behind only the big winner in the show. In addition to 17 class ribbon awards, one plant also won a trophy! Ribbon winners were:

Trophy (Best of Class - Miniature)	
Sarcochilus Sherlock (Pinky x hartmannii)	Paige Hartman
First:	
Sarcochilus Sherlock	Paige Hartman
Sarcochilus Sherlock (miniature class)	Paige Hartman
Beallara Peggy Ruth Carpenter 'Morning Joy'	Denise Nash
Paphiopedilum Doctor Jack	Ann Bommarito
Second:	
Phalaenopsis Sogo Fireworks	Randy Long
Brassada Orange Delight	Linda Battison
Paphiopedilum Jewel Song	Denise Nash
<i>Masdevallia tovarensis</i>	Denise Nash
<i>Paphiopedilum victoria-reginae</i>	Dee Stowell
Laeliocattleya Burgundy Delight 'Mem Harriet March'	Ann Bommarito
<i>Ludisia discolor</i>	John Olszewski
Third:	
Phalaenopsis Renaud Lip	Randy Long
Phalaenopsis Taipei Gold 'STM'	Randy Long
Paphiopedilum Satchel's Legend	Denise Nash
<i>Bulbophyllum sulawesii</i>	Paige Hartman
Phalaenopsis Orangeworld 'Joe'	Ann Bommarito
Paphiopedilum Nimit (<i>primulinum</i> x Greyi)	Ann Bommarito

Harry and Dottie stayed all weekend and saw to it that the display was kept in shape and watered. They also did a thorough tour of the Meijer gardens,

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AAOS Calendar

Please note this date!! Saturday!!

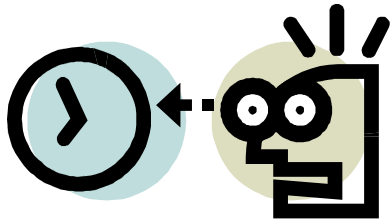
FEB. 16: Harold Koopowitz, "Global Climate Change: What It Means for Orchid Conservation"

MARCH 9: Hermann Pigors, Topic TBA

APRIL 11-13: AAOS Festival

APRIL 27: Special meeting: Beginner's Workshop

MAY 17-18: Great Lakes Judges Seminar



Newsletter Deadline

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

The deadline for the next newsletter submissions are: March 1, 2008.



Volume 16 Issue 2

Ann Arbor Orchid Society 2007-08 Officers

President - Kevin Griffin 248-761-1272, kahless66@yahoo.com

Vice President - Ann Bommarito 734-418-3134, AnnieBomm@comcast.net

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Director - Vivian Lin, 734-741-1984, VHL@umich.edu

Past President - Paige Hartman GEHartman1@msn.com, 734-846-7864

Hospitality - Susan Haddock, 734-662-3222, shaddock@comcast.net

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Newsletter Editor - Denise Nash, 248-349-5482, djnash@comcast.net

Orchid Festival - Ann Bommarito & Kevin Griffin

Orchid Shows - Alex Challis, Paige Hartman

Programs - Paige Hartman, Alex Challis

Publicity - Neal Foster

Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter - 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. at 2:00 p.m., set up at 1:30. 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.

February 2008

Grand Rapids Show report, continued from page 4.

and saw some orchids not seen by most of the orchid show visitors, such as a marvelous specimen of a *Diplocaulobium* species that the gardens volunteers found in their orchid greenhouse only after their display in the show had been set up, so it was put on display in the Victorian greenhouse.

Finally at takedown, Paige & Randy returned, as did John Olszewski his wife Evelyn. Takedown was accomplished in short order, the plants were sorted & packed up, as was the staging material, and we were on our way by 6 pm. Another great orchid show goes onto the books. Next up: the GLOS show at MSU in just a few weeks, Feb. 23-24, with setup Feb. 22. We have another 50 sq. ft display planned. Hope to see you and/or your plants there.

- Harry Winter



The AAOS Festival is just around the corner! Sign up to Volunteer Soon!



2008 Ann Arbor Orchid Festival

April 12-13
University of Michigan
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor

Show Hours
Saturday Noon to 4:30 pm
Sunday 10:30 AM to 4:30 pm
Handicap accessible

Photographers' Hour
Sunday 9 to 10 am

Sales open at 10 am both days

Ann Arbor Orchid Society
AnnArborOS@aol.com
(734) 418-2055

FREE admission to the Orchid Festival, \$5 admission to the MBG Conservatory

**January Presentation:
Alex Challis and The “Good”, the “Bad” and the “Ugly” of the
Orchid World**

Alex began his talk with a list of different pollinators and examples of the orchids they pollinate.

There are orchids that pollinate themselves, such as *holcoglossum amesianum*.

Some orchids are pollinated by hummingbirds, and by ants, flies and beetles, too.

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January Presentation, Continued from page 7.

“The Good” – Bright colors draw hummingbirds to the flowers. Orchids such as *Chochlioda vulcanica*, *Compretia falcata*, *macroplecton*, and *speciosa*, *Dendrobiums lawesii* and *secundum*, *Elleanthus* species, *Sobralia* species, *Epidendrum pfavii* and *pseudepidendrum*, *sophonitis coccinea*, and *Masdevallia* species.

Butterflies also are drawn to bright colors, and they pollinate orchids such as *Disa uniflora*, *Gymnadenia* species and *Orchis* species.

Bees enjoy sweet fragrant orchids such as *Dendrobium crumenatum*, *Anacamptis*, *Laelis purpurata*, *Maxillaria tenuifolia*, *Phal violacea*, *Zygopetalum mackayi*, *Stanhopeas*, *Gongoras*, *Masdevallia gladulosa*, *herrudurae* and *hercules*.

Moths visit night fragrant orchid flowers such as *Brassovola nodosa*, *Brassovola cuculatta*, *Angraecum leonis*, *didieri*, *sesquipedale*, *Aerangis* species, *Neofinetia falcate*. The Hawkmoth pollinates *gymnadenia* orchids!

The “Bad” orchids Alex discussed had strange looking flowers with appendages and/or fuzziness. Gnats pollinate tiny flowered orchids, and “Sun Orchids” are beetle pollinated.

The “bad” orchids might mimic other things to draw pollinators. Alex had pictures showing flowers that had false pollinia, or had appendages that looked like fungus. Some orchids look like the pollinator they wish to attract. *Ophrys* orchids look very much like the insect they wish to attract, even the coloring is similar.

Other “bad” orchids such as *Catasetums* use triggers to throw their pollen onto the insect pollinators. Some orchids trap their pollinators, and the only way out of the trap causes pollination to occur. Trapping orchids include *Pterostylis*, *Porroglossum*, *Cypripedium* and *Coryanthes* species.

The Ugly orchids Alex discussed are those pollinated by flies and beetles. They exude a foul odor to draw their pollinators. Examples of “Ugly” orchids are *Phalaenopsis venosa*, *Dendrobium cootesii*, *Coelogyne* species, *Pleurothallis teres*, *Himantoglossum hircinum*, *Neottia nids-ovis*, *Masdevallia fractiflexa* and *civilis*, *Serapias*, *Cirropetalum rothschildianum*, and many *Bulbophyllum* species, including *beneddijkii*, *fletcherianum*, *phalaenopsis*, *beccari*, *echinolabium*, *arfakianum*, and of course, *foetidum*.

The presentation was accompanied by many outstanding pictures of the orchids discussed, and their pollinators. Many thanks to Alex for a fun presentation!

Orchid Habitat Loss, Preservation, and Restoration I

As orchid growers we mimic the natural habitat of orchids in our greenhouses and windowsills. As we know, the closer to ideal cultural conditions the better our orchids will grow. So it is the same with orchids in their natural habitats. We also know for the most part that orchids are niche growers. They need specific cultural requirements or natural elements to survive. The natural habitat for many orchids has been degrading in the last century and a half at an ever-rapid pace. There are many pressures that have been growing that are taking their toll on the environment. Changes in temperature, humidity, rainfall and weather pattern, all falling under the heading climate change or global warming, slowly degrade habitat but are fast enough so that orchids cannot evolve to the conditions or spread to more favorable areas. Development like road building, agriculture and housing directly destroy orchid habitat. We need to be smarter with the resources that we have.

The Orchid Conservation Coalition has started a new initiative to document and bring stories of orchid habitat loss, preservation and restoration to the orchid growing community and the public. The first seven orchid conservation stories can be seen at:

<http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org/hl/index.html>

It is relatively easy to change and control our growing areas in *ex situ* especially when compared to the elements in a natural orchid habitat. In our growing areas we can change things quickly. In the wild it is harder to reverse damage to orchid's natural habitat and even harder once that habitat has been destroyed and you're trying to reestablish an orchid species. Our growing area does not stop at the edge of our windows or the door of our greenhouse. The earth and its habitats are our collective greenhouse. We are responsible for much of the damage to the cultural conditions of this greenhouse. It is up to us to change and correct the natural habitat the best we can so that orchid species can continue to grow for future generations.

If anyone knows or wants to add habitat loss, preservation or restoration stories to this initiative, please contact the Orchid Conservation Coalition at: information@orchidconservationcoalition.org