

Ann Arbor Orchid Society Newsletter

May Speaker Eric Christenson

Dr. Christenson is a research taxonomist with strong interests in the Aeridinae (Sarcantchinae), neotropical floristics, and the conservation of horticultural plants. He authored the definitive monograph of *Phalaenopsis*, published by Timber Press in 2001. He has done field work in both Guyana and French Guiana and authored the orchid treatment in the *Vascular Flora of Central French Guiana* for the New York Botanical Garden. He is also actively working with David Bennett of Lima, Peru, on a modern inventory of Peruvian orchids. To date they have published 800 illustrations as *Icones Orchidacearum Peruvianarum*, including more than 150 new distribution records and describing more than 100 new species from Peru. This includes the world's tallest orchid, *Sobralia altissima*, with stems normally +/- 27 feet tall and an extreme stem which

Continued on page 2.

President's Message

Another festival is done and gone and so is another orchid season. Thank you all for helping with shows, the meetings, and the festivals. I know it has been a lot of work and a lot of fun. I am sad that we had to say 'good-bye' to Walt and Cindy of Green Acres Orchids. They have been a valuable part of our orchid community and hope to see them every now and then at a show.

Our next meeting we will have, once again, Eric Christenson. He gave a great talk last year at this time. I do not expect that this will change this year. He will also be speaking at the judging seminar that weekend. I know that visitors are welcome to the meetings and to observe the judging process. So, if you have time Saturday, come on down to Matthaei. I believe more details will be included in this issue of the newsletter.

This is my last president's message. I have learned quite a bit about myself through the last few years. Now, I am happy to be passing on the torch to someone else. Although you won't be seeing me at many meetings this coming year, Ann and I will still be festival chairs next year.

Happy Growing!

Kevin

In this Issue

May Speaker.....	1
President's Message.....	1
Festival Thank You.....	2
Help Wanted: MBG.....	3
Festival Report	4
Great Lakes Judging Seminar Info.....	6
Festival Photos.....	7

Continued from page 1.

measured over 44 feet tall! His bilingual *Machu Picchu: Orchids* was published in 2003 and forms the basis for further inventories in the region. His current work in Peru can be seen at: www.andesamazon.org. He also authored the orchids for *A Tropical Garden Flora* for the Bishop Museum, Honolulu.

Classically trained, Dr. Christenson has worked in most of the world's significant herbaria and national museums. He is an acknowledged expert in critically important historic specimens that form the basis for applying plant names. His overall research focus is the accurate definition of species, their precise distributions, and the correct application of names, three facets of botany required prior to considering conservation policies. He is honored by the genera *Christensonia* (Vietnam) and *Christensonella* (Brazil) in addition to a number of species such as *Ascocentrum christensonianum* (Vietnam).

A prolific author of more than 400 publications, Dr. Christenson is known for his articles that attempt to bridge the gap between taxonomy and horticulture as well as his in-depth book reviews. He is a strong advocate for orchid conservation, particularly *ex situ* propagation, and actively works with commercial growers to that end.

In addition to botany, Dr. Christenson is an avid gardener. His house in Bradenton, Florida is known for its unusual plants and complete lack of lawn.

A HUGE THANK-YOU

The volunteering for food for the festival was amazing. Never before have we had so many members volunteer who brought food and brought so many items. About 35 people provided food. Almost every member who brought food for one meal, brought more items for other meals. Other than the Sunday lasagnas, I didn't buy a single item for the whole weekend. That is a first.

Vivian Lin's salmon was the favorite item once again. A word to the wise for next year, get in line ½ hr early so you get a serving. It was delicious! Having attended several set-up days and being fed by other societies, I think we do the best job with the greatest variety and quantity of all. The AAOS members are amazing chefs and so generous.

All volunteering was organized through the sign-up sheets or with Hal Tessmann. His help was wonderful. Not a single phone call asking for more help was needed.

I especially want to thank Nancy Bennett for all her help in the kitchen the whole weekend. Judy Lobato did the Saturday early morning duty of breakfast for the judges and clerks and stayed to work the lunch meal. Don Meyer set up the eating area. He and Lee, Jim and Jane Cather and Laura Duman were so helpful with setting out food and cleaning up the kitchen and serving areas.

You all, with the generosity of food, time and help made the food portion of the festival a great success and an easy job for me. ~Paige



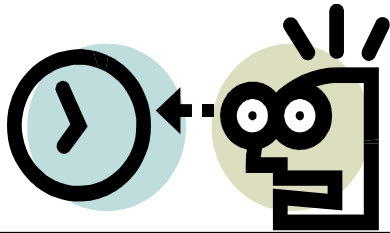
AAOS Calendar

MAY 17-18: Great Lakes Judges Seminar

Summer Picnic - TBA

September 14: TBA

October 12: TBA



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the September newsletter is September 5.

HELP WANTED:

Matthaei Botanical Gardens

I'm looking for some folks to help repot orchids on Wednesday afternoon, May 21, from 3-6 PM. I'm hoping for some volunteers that have some experience but it would be a great opportunity for beginners to pair up with those who know the ropes. Please respond to ccrancer@umich.edu or call me at 734-647-8084 if you're interested in helping us.

I also need some folks to either come in on Fridays from 10 to 1 or an evening or two to repot cymbidiums and stanhopeas.

Thanks in advance,
Connie Crancer

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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

Treasurer - Linda Battison 810-227-0120, lcbattison@comcast.net

Secretary - Robin Johnson 734-482-6416,
robinjo@umich.edu

Director - Alex Challis 734-971-6186, IcePenguin@aol.com

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

Reception Committee - Dottie Winter, 734-761-5859, harwin@umich.edu

Library - Duane Duman, George Parks. duman2@aol.com

Membership - Randy Long, 810-599-0384, Boomerj2@aol.com

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.

May 2008

Ann Arbor Orchid Festival Display April 12-13, 2008

For our own orchid festival, the home team came through with a record number of members placing a record number of plants in our 100 sq. ft. display, with 95 orchids from 23 members. Actually, it was 22 members and the grandson of a member, since 2 plants were from Jack Edge, Emma Edge's 3-year-old grandson, who, we were assured, picked out the plants from the store, and has helped take care of them.

Dottie was again prevailed upon to coordinate the set-up design, and set up a wonderful display with help from the others, and especially from the great collection of plants. We won't try to name all of the helpers, since many of our members were back and forth, pitching in at various places to help set up the show. The display won a second place ribbon, but took the People's Choice Trophy hands down! Plants winning trophies and ribbons were:

Trophy, Best of Class:

Cymbidium Featherhill 'Heritage' AM/AOS Duane & Laura Duman

First:

Cymbidium Featherhill 'Heritage' AM/AOS	Duane & Laura Duman
Ascocenda Suksamran Gold	Duane & Laura Duman
Paphiopedilum Buena Bay	Don & Lee Meyer
Paphiopedilum Deperle	Robin Johnson
<i>Paphiopedilum primulinum</i>	Ann Bommarito
Phalaenopsis Orchid World 'Bonnie Vasquez' AM/AOS	Ann Bommarito
Laeliocattleya (Guarisophlia) Cosmo-Cerrito	Larry Nisson
Cattleytonia (Guaritionia) Why Not 'Roundabout'	Neal Foster
Renanthopsis Newberry Charm 'Sunset Blush' HCC/AOS	Denise Nash
Epicyclia Serena O'Neill	John Olszewski

Second:

Paphiopedilum Cherry cider	Don & Lee Meyer
Phalaenopsis Sogo Rose	Linda Battison
Vuylstekeara (Mem. Mary Kavanaugh x Odoglossum Pesky Nicky)	Ann Bommarito
Paphiopedilum Doctor Jack	Ann Bommarito
Phalaenopsis Sogo Lit-Angel	Larry Nisson
Phalaenopsis unknown	Jack Edge
<i>Sophronitis coccinea v. caragatatasa</i> (class and miniature)	Glenn Lehr

Continued on page 5.

Continued from page 4.

(Sophrolaelia Calypso #1 x [Sl Orpetii x Cattleya Penny Kuroda)

<i>Oncidium sphacelatum</i>	Anne Puvalowski
Epidendrum Joseph Lii	Anne Puvalowski
Phalaenopsis Renaud Red Lip	Anne Puvalowski
Ascocenda Princess Mikassa	Neal Foster
<i>Dendrobium crepidiferum</i>	Neal Foster
<i>Ascocentrum miniatum</i> 'Kai Gold'	Denise Nash
Iwanagarra (Leonara) Apple Blossom	Denise Nash
<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia</i>	Paige Hartman
<i>Paphiopedilum victoria-reginae</i>	Paige Hartman
<i>Bulbophyllum falcatum</i>	Paige Hartman
Beallara Marfitch 'Howard Dream'	Judy Lobato
<i>Leptotes bicolor</i>	John Olszewski
	Riki Marquis

Third:

Epicattleya (Guaricyclia) Kyoguchi 'Fumi'	Robin Johnson
Paphiopedilum (Colorado 'I-89' x liemianum 'Orchid Loft')	Janet Hinshaw
Paphiopedilum unknown	Janet Hinshaw
<i>Paphiopedilum liemianum</i>	Ann Bommarito
Paphiopedilum Hiro Luna	Larry Nisson
Phalaenopsis Sogo Rose	Emma Edge
<i>Dendrobium chrysotoxum</i>	Glenn Lehr
<i>Neofinetia falcata</i> 'Benisuzame' (miniature)	Glenn Lehr
<i>Neofineta falcata</i> 'Kisuzame' (class)	Glenn Lehr
Laeliocattleya (Sophranthe) Rojo	Neal Foster
Tolumnea Orchidom Valentine	Denise Nash
Pescatoria Coronation	Denise Nash
<i>Oncidium ampliatum</i> var. <i>majus</i>	Denise Nash
Cymbidium King Arthur	Denise Nash
Cookara Tropical Snowflake 'H & R'	Sue Gibney

Also contributing plants were Harry & Dottie, Abby Skinner, Christa Jaenecke, Vivian Lin, and Kevin Griffin. Thanks to all who contributed and helped, and apologies if we missed naming anybody.

Harry Winter

Great Lakes Judging Center Seminar
The Genus *Phalaenopsis* - Spring Training Seminar
Great Lakes Judging Center - Matthaei Botanical Gardens
May 17-18, 2008

Saturday:

- 9:00 - Continental Breakfast
- 9:15 - Breeders' Forum - Howard Ginsberg, Moderator - an interactive roundtable discussion open to all interested.
- 11:00 - Plant sales, Plant screening for AOS judging, Break
- 12:30 - AOS Judging begins
- 2:30 (or to follow) - "Overview, The Genus *Phalaenopsis*, Part 1" Eric Christenson
- 3:30 - "The Harlequin Story - Past, Present and Future" Katie Payeur
- 4:00 - Break
- 4:10 - "What Is a Novelty *Phalaenopsis* and How Do You Judge It?? Russ Vernon
- 5:15 - Dinner Set Up (Dinner Cost = \$15)
- 5:45 - Buffet - Caesar Salad * Rosemary Roasted Red Skins * Green Beans Almondine * Baked Mostacioli Marinara * Chicken Picatta * Roast Beef Au Champignon, Fresh Bread * Coffee
- Silent Auction Set Up - Written bids accepted
- 7:00 - "Standard *Phalaenopsis* - Why Should We Award Them? Why Should We Not Award Them?" Howard Ginsberg
- 8:00 - Break
- 8:10 - Dessert Auction
- 8:45 - Dessert Sampling

Sunday:

- 8:30 - Breakfast
- 9:00 - "Why Be Round? - Star- Shaped Phals" Brittany Payuer
- 9:40 - "Overview - The Genus *Phalaenopsis*, Part 2" Eric Christenso
- 10:45 - Break
- 11:00 - "What Makes a Multifloral *Phalaenopsis*?" - Jim Heilig
- 11:40 - Concluding Remarks - Don Garling; Conclusion of silent auction - Conclusion of live auction.

*Plant Sales from Howard Ginsberg (Bedford Orchids), Russ Vernon (New Vision Orchids), and Green Acres Orchids

**The seminar is free, dinner charge = \$15

Festival Photos



The Green Acres Duo, Walt and Cindy Flisnik, are retiring from the orchid business and Kevin Griffin, President of the AAOS presented them with a yummy cake during our fabulous potluck meal on Friday evening. We will miss you as vendors, Walt and Cindy, but hope to still see you at the shows as growers!



Kudos to all who participated in the AAOS Festival! We had a fantastic display, thanks to the design of Dottie Winter, and the plants from so many of us. It looked great and was a very fun weekend.