



The newsletter of the
NORTHWEST



ORCHID SOCIETY

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Want something printed in the newsletter? E-mail it to nwos_news@nwos.org no later than the 25th of the month.

March 2012

Volume 65, Issue 8

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About the March Meeting

March 12, 2012

6:30 p.m. **Preview Party** / 7:30 p.m. **Auction**

University of Washington

Center for Urban Horticulture

3501 NE 41st Street

Seattle, WA 98105

Annual Orchid Auction

Bring your plants!

Members may bring up to five plants to auction off (NWOS takes a 20% commission) and as many as you wish for a 100% donation to the Society.

If you want to bring more than five plants in the 80/20% category, put them on a separate sheet and they will be auctioned after all the other plants are gone.

You will register when you arrive and get a bidding number to use during the auction. After the auction you will use the same number to pay for your purchases. **WE WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO ACCEPT CASH OR CHECKS.**

Please print the Auction Form attached [HERE](#). Complete both the left and right sides and bring it with you to the meeting, making sure to mark the fund of your choice.

There are five fund choices and you may choose any number of them:



The Library Fund is used to purchase items for the NWOS Library.
The Slipper Fund is used by the U.W. Botany Greenhouse to purchase Species Orchids.
The Zoo Fund is used by the Woodland Park Zoo Greenhouse to purchase Orchids.
The Scholarship Fund is used each year for a college student working on an Orchid related project.
The General Fund covers everything else, from the programs to the everyday working of your society.

This Auction is the only source of funding for the Library, Slipper and Zoo funds. The Scholarship Fund is funded by this Auction and the Raffles held at most meetings. The General Fund is funded by all sources of income including this Auction, Membership Dues, Plant Sales, NWF&G Show exhibit proceeds, etc.

There will also be a wine and cheese preview party that will start at 6:30 pm with the auction starting at 7:30 pm



Display Table:

No display table this month.

Sales Table:

Everything's on sale this month---at the auction!

Raffle:

No Raffle this month.

March 14, 2012 - Show Meeting

We will be having the second show meeting on Wednesday, March 14th at 7 p.m. It will be held at Mike & Donna's home at: 2615 NE 137th St., Seattle, WA 98125. Please attend if you are interested in helping with the show.

March 19, 2012 - Annual Potting Clinic

We will have a potting clinic on March 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the lower Douglas Classroom. Members can have up to three average sized orchids repotted for free. Non-members are invited to pay a fee based on pot size or become a member.

Orchids Needed for Coming Shows

As Second Vice President, it is part of our function to arrange for orchid displays in our own orchid show and shows of neighboring societies. Our next planned display will be in the Mt Baker Orchid Society Show which will be held March 10 and 11 at the Skagit Valley Gardens Nursery, 18923 Peter Johnson Rd. Mt. Vernon. It is always a nice show to attend. There is a café in the greenhouse that serves a great lunch and as an added bonus this year the local Dahlia Society will be selling dahlia tubers the same weekend. We will be collecting orchids on Thursday, March 8 at my house to take to the show on Friday for setup.

The next show will be the Spokane Orchid Society Show and Sale at the Southside Community Center in Spokane on March 31 and April 1. The Spokane show is always outstanding and well-attended and a great excuse to visit the capital city of the inland empire. We will be collecting plants for the Spokane show on Thursday March 29. This year the show closes at 3PM on Sunday which allows for an early start for the drive home.

The last "away" show we plan to attend is the South Central Washington show at Tri Cities May 5-6. More on that later. Please note these dates and check your growing area for plants to send. If you would like to help in any way with any of these shows please contact me.

Most important of all is our own show at Sky Nursery on April 14-15. We will be setting up on Friday from noon. You may pre-register your plants per information on the NWOS website. Please make sure your plants are groomed and staked and in pots which are not tipsy. You should also have your name on each plant and a legible list of the plants you bring. If you are unable to make it to Sky on Friday you may make arrangements for me or another member to bring your plants. We need volunteer help with the show in general and our display so please plan to sign up at the March meeting and if you are a member of the show committee or would like to be more involved there is a show committee meeting at Mike Foster's house at 7PM on Wed. March 14.

George Grantham, 2nd VP
georgegrantham@hotmail.com

NWOS Show and Sale at Sky Nursery - April 14th and 15th, with set up on Friday April 13th.

This will be an American Orchid Society judged show and having your orchids look their very best is important.

One of the best ways to enjoy the benefits of being a NWOS member is to work a shift at one of our shows. It's a great way to make friends with other members, have rewarding talks with more experienced growers and become fully immersed in the world of orchids for several hours.

There are still shifts available for all three days. Look for the sign-up sheets at the March meeting. If you can't make it to the meeting, check out the list below and sign up by contacting Mike Foster: fosterpierce@comcast.net or George Grantham: georgegrantham@hotmail.com.

As we get closer to the show, the NWOS web site will have the plant registration sheets in excel format for your use. You will be able to make a list of your orchids and their class. The list should be saved to a memory stick which Abigail will use for the computer registration. Bring the memory stick when you bring in your blooming orchids on Friday April 13th. Your plants and memory stick can be at Sky as early as Noon but no later than 5 p.m. on Friday.

If you cannot bring your orchids yourself, contact Mike Foster or George Grantham for drop off information.

On Saturday morning we will have ribbon judging along with the AOS judging. There is a separate sign up sheet for those that are interested.

We will have a members sales table for you to sell orchids, the only requirements are that you sign up to work a shift and have a plant in our show exhibit.

The following is a list of shifts with the number of people needed in parenthesis:

Friday, April 13	Noon - 6 p.m.	Set-up (4)
	2 - 6 p.m.	Data entry (2)
	3 - 6 p.m.	Assist vendors with move in (1)
	3 - 6 p.m.	Assist Societies with display (1)
Saturday, April 14	8:30 a.m. - Noon	Ribbon Judging (12 + alts.)
	9 a.m. - Noon	Cashier (2), Bagger (1), Host (2), Floater (1)
	Noon - 3 p.m.	Cashier (2), Bagger (1), Host (2), Floater (1)
	3 - 6 p.m.	Cashier (2), Bagger (1), Host (2), Floater (1)
Sunday, April 15	10 - 1 p.m.	Cashier (2), Bagger (1), Host (2), Floater (1)
	1 - 4 p.m.	Cashier (2), Bagger (1), Host (2), Floater (1)
	4 - 6 p.m.	Take Down. Everyone pick up your plants and help.

Note on the May Meeting Pre-Orders

Our May speaker is offering members a 10% pre-order discount. Sam Tsui can be reached at the Orchid Inn web site: <http://www.orchidinnusa.com/> and his email is: <mailto:samtwui@orchidinnusa.com>.

Sam will waive the speaker's fee if the total pre-orders are \$500.00 or more.

Call for Original Documents

As a volunteer organization, many items and documents get lost as new people take on the duties and projects of others that came before them.

Graphics can become degraded as they're opened, saved and transferred from one program to another. In order to be used on the website, picture files are greatly reduced in size. This makes them fairly useless for other purposes that require higher quality images and documents.

Before they get lost, we'd like to gather up original Artwork and editable files for all of our forms, logos, mastheads, etc. It's o.k. to have several copies of these items in different formats (PDF, JPEG, Word, Excel, etc.) so that others can open them up in whatever programs work on their computer.

So we're asking that if you have any Originals, either physical items or electronic data files, to bring them to the Meeting or send them to Diane Drisch: ddrisch@aol.com. She will assemble several copies so the data can be made available to those that need it.

Report from the Northwest Flower & Garden Show

from Joe Griener, Show Chair

The show was a huge success. The theme of the show was A Floral Symphony: Gardens Take Note. Our display garden was named Symphony Orchidstra. I had a lot of fun working through the planning stages.

Many NWOS members worked very hard collaborating on the ideas and working through the plans and designs. The Volunteer Park Conservatory deserves a big Thank You! for contributing so many resources to this effort.

We're glad to be a part of the Conservatory's Centennial Anniversary Celebration.



I'd also like to mention that Joff Morgan was a tremendous support while I learned the paperwork and other things involved in the planning stages. The orchid society is very lucky to have him as a member. He led the way through the set-up process and made all of the planning materialize into an award winning garden.

There were about 2 dozen gardens at the show, many of which received no recognitions from the judges. Our garden won a Crystal Medal, which is significant in-part because the NWOS garden was the only non-profit / volunteer organized garden. Most of the gardens are created by professional companies. Our orchids looked fantastic and that is only possible when members of the NWOS lend their flowering plants to the effort, so a big Thank You! to all of the members that contributed plants. The Woodland Park Zoo also needs a big Thank You! for bringing down foliage plants that created our jungle atmosphere.

Many NWOS members volunteered to staff the display garden during the show. They represented us well by engaging the public and fulfilling one of the primary missions of the NWOS, which is to educate people about orchids. We also welcome new members who joined the society after meeting us at the show.

Next year, the theme for the show is cinematic, Gardens Go To Hollywood. There are already some really fun ideas circulating. Society members should think on it and collect their ideas for when we start seeking out volunteers for planning the 2013 NWF&G show later this year.

~ Joe

Some addition comments and details from Joff Morgan:

The 2012 NW Flower & Garden Show has come and gone already. Where does the time go? The theme of this year's show was "A Floral Symphony." NWOS members under the astute direction of conductor Joe Griener of Emerald City Orchids and his initially reluctant yet able assistant (me) designed and created a stellar display of orchids with our "Symphony Orchidstra!"

But what made our display even more dramatic was the addition of a 7/8ths scale replica of the Volunteer Park Conservatory entryway with its arching 'peacock' window. This gorgeous piece of engineering was stationed at the front of our display and attracted visitors from all over the Show floor. The replica was made with the efforts of NWOS member and Volunteer Park Gardener Jeanne Schollmeyer, Sr. Carpenter Rod Hammerbeck and the artistic crew at the Seattle Parks and Recreation Carpentry and Paint Shops. A great partnership all around!



Much time and effort went into the making of our display. Cylvia Grantham contributed her talented eye to the artful arrangement of the orchids and foliage. George Grantham hand-lettered the signs attached to each of the orchids on display and provided transport for the collection of moss. Thanks to members Katrina Lindahl and Justin Schroeder of the Woodland Park Zoo for the use, delivery, and retrieval of their 70+ foliage plants. Thanks to Bill Hyde of Marenakos in Preston for the use and transport of the 3 pallets of "Tenino" sandstone blocks and 1 pallet of "Bear Creek" thinstone we used to build our garden. Sawdust Supply provided 19 square yards of dark sawdust mulch used to fill our raised beds. Chris Peterson and Jamie/Dennis Notman made the tuxedos for each of our orchid musicians and conductor. Michael & Sheila Cory wrote the beautiful summaries for each musician. Doug Ewing of the UW Botany Greenhouse graciously allowed us to display 15 specimen orchid species, including the Phaius tankervillea that we used on our Conductor's Podium.



Conductor's podium with visitors behind



closeup of Phaius tankervillea spike

We had a great showing of NWOS volunteers for this display. Not just in the building and take-down phases but also during the Show itself. I want to extend a hearty thanks to each of our volunteers for their help with this Show – before, during, and after. If I left someone out from this list and above, it was not intentional.

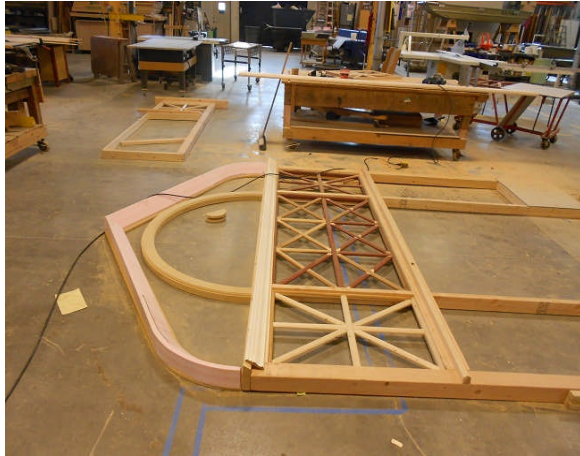
Joe G	Joff M	Jeanne S	Chris P	Jamie N	Dennis N
Mike F	Donna P	Ellen M	Peter M	George G	Cylvia G
Stewart L	Jeanne McK	Allan K	Michelle K	Matthew E	Michael C
Leanna F	Al M	Abigail C	Mike P	Pat G	Dennis G
Don M	Alberto A	Lisa E	Caroline M	Tim C	Ewa C
Diane D	Roxanne R	Deborah B	Joe G's employees		

Extra special thanks are extended to each of our NWOS members who contributed their orchids for use in this display. We could not have performed this “Orchidstra” without you!

The theme for next year's Show is “Gardens Go Hollywood.” So put those thinking caps on and begin drawing out some ideas for how we can best create an orchid display following that theme. We need to submit a written proposal of our idea by late June 2012. And in August, we submit a layout of the display with a 100-word summary of what we intend to show with our garden. This summary or ‘Statement of Intent’ is used by the Garden Judges to determine how well we did.

~ Joff

For those who are interested in the building of this year's garden, here are some pictures and commentary by Joff and Diane. Photos are courtesy Joff Morgan, Michael Cory and Diane Drisch.



Work started back in January at the Seattle Parks & Recreation shop. Here we see the Peacock window Before...



and After



On Feb 2, 'live' moss was collected from George & Cylvia's property outside Monroe. We spent about three hours collecting. Here's George (left) and Joff (right) resting after filling the van. At least it wasn't raining this year.



Cylvia and George after moss collection.



Feb 4, this is what our 18' x 26' space looked like when I arrived at 10 am. We need to build the garden between the two emergency exits. It is 18' between those two doors. The 4' wide area that is occupied by the fire hose cannot be blocked. Our rock pallets have arrived, which was a first this year.



Seattle Parks Dept arrives with the white Conservatory structure.



About 11 am, our NWOS volunteers begin building the back tier, which is made up of the biggest (and heaviest) sandstone blocks. Each block weighs about 80 pounds! (I'll know better next year, I promise.) These large blocks will go 3 levels up or about 24". Black plastic has been taped to the back wall to protect from the wet sawdust soon to follow.



Jeanne S and Cylvia G work on unwrapping the pallet of sandstone that will be used to build the middle tier.



Twelve yards of sawdust were used to fill this back tier. It was then compacted. Maybe a little too much since, in some places, a few of the stones began to bulge outward. Oh the little spot fires that flare up.



Part of the shovel crew taking a rest from completing the back tier.



Allan and Michelle



Cylvia and Joe



Around 1 pm, the middle tier was built to 18 inches tall. The colorful 'Bear Creek' thinstone was used on the middle and back tiers to line the edge. Then at about 2 pm or so, the Parks Dept arrived with Jeanne S of Volunteer Park to begin building the Conservatory replica.



Peter and crew begin building the Conductor's Podium from the smallest of the sandstone blocks. These were heavy too, probably about 30 pounds each. (Next year, I will heft the stone first *before* choosing to build with it.) This tier was built about 3 units high or 12 inches.



It is still Saturday Feb 4. The bamboo and milk crates have arrived. So have the 9 music stands and the laminated summaries of each orchid musician.



View of the Conductor's Podium and the Conservatory replica framing it.



On Feb 5 the 70+ foliage plants from the Zoo arrive and are placed. Actually it was 80+ originally but we couldn't fit them all, so I had to take some back. (What can I say? It's like a kid in a candy store for me whenever I enter a greenhouse.) Some orchids have arrived as well.



The back tier is shown here with each of the musicians decked out in their dapper tuxedos. Each tuxedo is hiding one to two milk crates draped with black cloth. We also used some palm pots and black ceramic pots to hide the orchid pots. It was so much easier (and cleaner) than burying the pots in sawdust. Moss also got installed this day around pots and to cover the dark sawdust.



Opening Day Feb 8 before the doors opened. Such a beautiful display!



View from the Conductor's Podium looking back at our Symphony Orchidstra.



The middle tier with the musician groupings.



another view of the middle tier from the other side



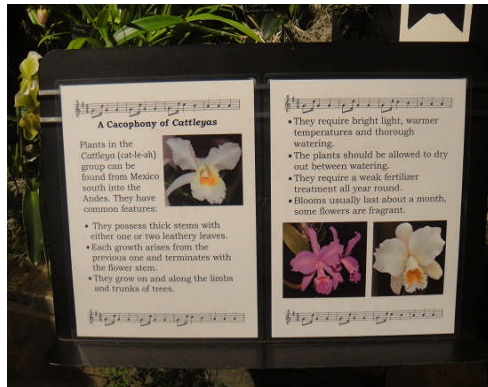
Back view of the middle tier looking towards the red oak roots of Elandan Gardens display.



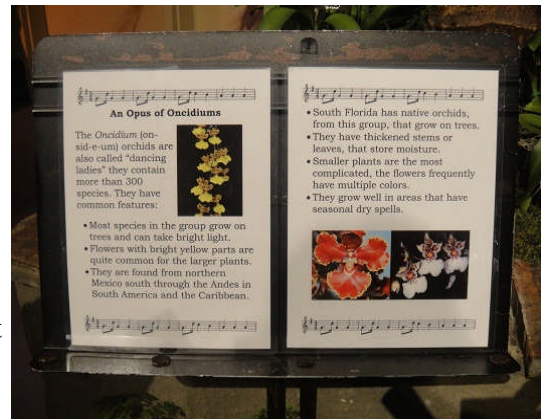
Back tier.



Orchid family groups were exhibited together with a music stand and tuxedo-clad 'musician'



"Sheet Music" gave facts about the different Orchid families



The public sure enjoyed our display. We were often packed with people when the other gardens around us were not. The Conservatory replica really brings our garden into focus. Thank you Jeanne and your crew!



Many people went in for a closer look at this *Dendrochilum wenzellii*





Capturing the beauty of orchids in pictures.



And what would we do without our dedicated NWOS members who welcomed the public while enjoying working a shift at our display!

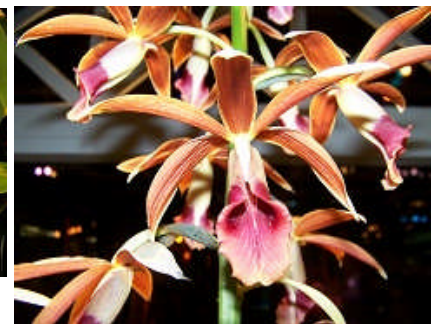
And now here are some of the beautiful Soloists who took part in our Symphony. Thousands of pictures were taken of some of these stars.



Pleione formosana at the base of the Conductor's Podium. Wish we had given this plant better lighting. We'll know better for next year if we have this same location again.



Cattleya skinneri



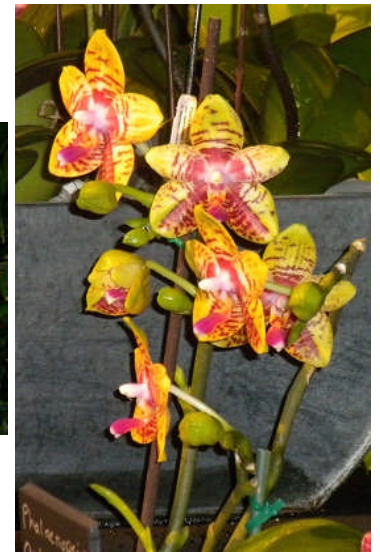
Phaius tankervillea from the UW Botany Greenhouse.



Ellen M's Vanda, grown and flowered in lightbox in her basement. I'd sure like to see this setup.



Another of the UW's specimen plants, *Dendrobium speciosum*.



Phalaenopsis Orchid World 'Joe' AM/AOS. And it was fragrant!



Doritaenopsis I-Hsin. Such a dramatic color.



Many people marvelled at the long petals on these *Phragmipediums*.

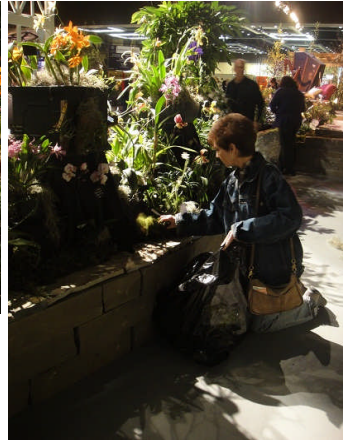


Rhynchostylus gigantea.

And all too soon, it was time to take it all down.



Removing plants, moss and props.



Taking out all those bags and bags of moss we had so carefully placed a few days ago.



Sometimes you have to get right up there to get out the big ones.



Cylvia packs up the small, but important things.



Carefully removing plants and organizing them for pickup by their growers.



The gals stack stone blocks.



The guys stack stone blocks.



And more stone blocks.



Who's idea was it to get all these heavy stone blocks?



Finally, the orchids are gone, the stones are stacked and there's not much left to do.



It's time to go home and rest after a job well done.



It was a lot of work but in the end we leave with our Lovelies and a smile on our face!

Report from the February Meeting

Jamie Notman lead the business meeting. Peter Maunsell talked about the Tickets and Bookmarks. George Grantham talked about upcoming shows.

Abby gave a nice presentation of AOS awarded plants. Awards from the countries of Colombia and Brazil were included because judges from our AOS judging area went to their shows and judged. This added some interesting plants to the presentation.

The plants were organized by family groups. The photos were wonderful. Not only did she show the awarded plants, but she also pointed out the influence that their parents (which were previously shown) had on them.

George Krasle reviewed the plant table.



Ludisa discolor from Allan and Michelle Kaas catches George's eye



Ludisa discolor closeup



Brassavola Little Star, also from Allan and Michelle



George Krasle reviews the plant table



Cymbidium elegans, Diane Drisch



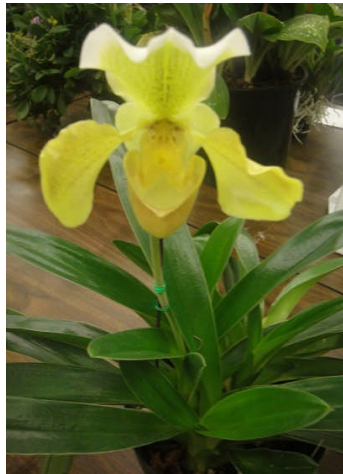
flower closeup of Cym. elegans



Dendrochilum cobbianum,
Dan Kerr



Bulbophyllum species from
Java, Peter Maunsell



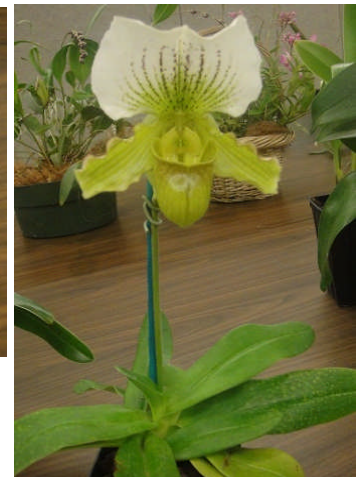
Two Paph. Sunbeam: Al & Michelle's on L / Mike & Donna's on
R



Peter Maunsell's potful of paphs



Paph. appletonianum (above),
from Mike & Donna and
to the right is their



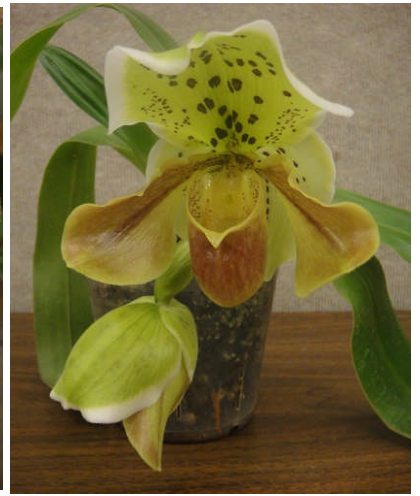
Paph. Fairly Stoned (Stone Lovely 'Butter
Puff' x fairrieianum forma album 'Lime White')



Paph. Captain Cook,
Mike & Donna



Paph. Fanaticum, also from
Mike & Donna



Paph. Agincourt 'San Carlos' x
Paph. Greenvale, Dan Kerr



Pleione formosanum 'Aunt Trudy',
Mike & Donna, a smaller pot of
the one at the NWF&G Show



Scaphosepalum species
from George Krasle



Stenorhynchus speciosus, from
George Krasle was one of the
Stars of the NWF&G Show



close-up of the flower



Pleurothallis restrepioides 'Dragonstone', Dan Kerr



Den. Andree Millar,
Mike & Donna



Den. NOT Cathy Beck,
Dan Kerr



Den. nobile type, George &
Cylvia Grantham



Den. Yellow Song 'Canary',
Diane Drisch



Dendrobium linguiforme,
George Krasle



Epidendrum ellipticum,
Dan Kerr



Bc Nakompathome Silver, BC.
Binosa 'Kirk' AM/AOS x B.
nodosa 'Susan Fuchs' FCC/AOS,
Barb Roberts



Brassocattleya Makai
'Mayumi', Mike Cory



Blc. Love Sound 'Dogashima' x
Slc. Circle of Life 'Heartfelt',
George & Cylvia Grantham



Cattleya percialiana 'Summit'
AM/AOS, Mike Cory



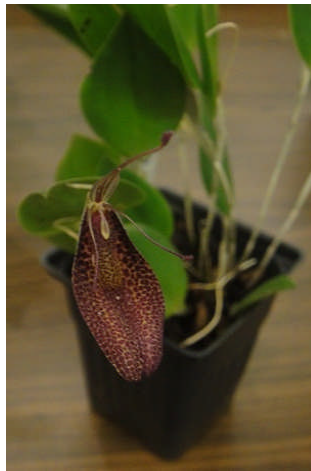
Slc. Hsin Buu Lady 'Y.T.',
George Krasl



Lycaste Always, G&C Grantham



Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet
Fragrance' AM-AOS,
Mike Cory



Restrepia antennifera
'Red', Mike & Donna



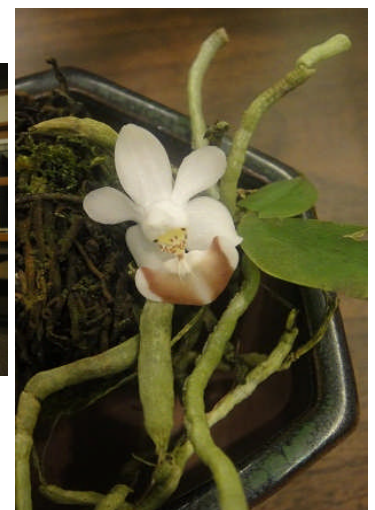
Mediocalcar decorata, George &
Cylvia Grantham



Phal. hybrid, Mary Nichol



Phal hybrid, Mary Nichol



Phal. lobbii, G&C Grantham



members enjoy the plant table during a break



Phalaenopsis Orchid World 'Joe'
AM/AOS, Mike Cory
this was one of the most
photographed flowers at the
NWF&G Show

Schedule of Upcoming Events

March 19, 2012 - Annual Potting Clinic, lower classroom

April 9, 2012 - David Edgley: New trends in Phalaenopsis breeding and culture

April 14-15, 2012 - AOS Orchid Show and Sale at Sky Nursery

May 14, 2012 - Sam Tsui: The Bracky and Parvi Paphiopedilums and their culture

June 11, 2012 - Annual Potluck & Gary Baker Service Award

Reminder for Officers & Board Members

The schedule of meetings for the rest of this fiscal year is: 5/8/12. Meet at 7 p.m. at Mike Cory's house unless notified that it's been moved elsewhere.

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