

August 2006

Upcoming ROA events:

September 10 - Carol Allen, U.S.
Botanical Garden, Washington, D.C.

October 8 - Select Orchid Auction.
An auction of selected orchids,
many in bloom.

November 12 - Glen Decker,
Piping Rock Orchids, Galway, NY.

January 14 - Ken Meier, Orchid
Enterprise, VA.

February 11 - Hal Horowitz,
Richmond, VA.

**All ROA activities and speakers
will emphasize the how-to
and hands-on aspects
of growing orchids.**

Inside this issue:

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ROA Bulletin

Back by Demand: ROA Welcomes Carol Allen

Carol Allen gave us a comprehensive talk on the ins and outs of repotting just a few months ago. By request from many of our members, we have invited Carol back to speak on one of her favorite subjects: "Pests and Diseases of Orchids." As we bring our orchids back inside and face the dryer and dimmer winter months, her talk will enable us to better care for our plants.

Fascinated by the interplay of pest and prey, Carol received specialized education on plant pests and diseases. She is currently a Supervisory Horticulturalist at the United States Botanic Garden (USBG) in Washington D. C. In that position, Carol directs Integrated Pest Management, so she spends a lot of each day outwitting pests and who would be better to teach us! In addition to her work with the USBG, she is a licensed pesticide applicator in the Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. So come loaded with questions on the pests that concern you and how to best control them.

Carol has been involved in many aspects of gardening and horticulture since childhood. She has been an avid orchid hobbyist for over twenty-five years and grows exclusively under artificial lights. She particularly enjoys teaching people about orchids and their care.

Her interest in orchids and in native plants, especially native orchids, led to her coordinating "North American Native Terrestrial Orchids: Propagation and Production," a conference

held at the National Arboretum in 1996. She also managed Arbec Orchids, Inc., a retail orchid store in Laurel, Maryland.



Carol Allen has been described as being a combination of "farm girl, storyteller, (and) outrageous ham in front of an audience." In sum, she knows her stuff and has found an entertaining way to communicate it. This is a program you should not miss.

Member's Mart

Carol will not be bringing plants for sale, so there will be an opportunity for members to sell some of their divisions, keikis, or seedlings before and after the program. Please contact Bill Akin for guidelines prior to the September 10 program if you would like to participate.

Richmond Orchid Alliance Library

Welcome New Members

Ross and Marilyn Duncan
Jennifer Ferguson and
Christopher Wicks
Dick Seltzer
William Fitzhugh

Orchid Spotlight

The Orchid Spotlight will return next month with more members and their orchids.

ROA Birthdays

Delores Richards-Madikiza - Sept. 5
Bill Akin - Sept. 7
Kathy Walker - Sept. 9
Carol Hollenbeck - Sept. 13
Ruby Giragosian - Sept. 24
Rick Santackas - Sept. 25
Sandy Boyden-O'Neil - Sept. 27
Jim Culbert - Sept. 28
Angela Cisneros - Sept. 29

Why You Will Love Bl. Richard Mueller and His Hybrids

They are fast growers with multiple lead growths - specimen plants can be achieved in as little as three years! Blooms are produced on every new mature growth - this is often two to four times per year! They are prolific bloomers - many hybrids will develop multiple spikes with multiple flowers per spike! They are bright and cheerful - most hybrids are in the yellow to orange range, often with adorable spots! Easy to grow - Richard Mueller hybrids are just plain easy to grow.

- Stefanie Wolicki Jarrell

The library of the Richmond Orchid Alliance is a treasure. Kathy Walker has catalogued the contents for convenient reference. A copy of the catalogue is attached to the Newsletter.

From time to time a book or an article from the library will be reviewed in the Newsletter. This month *Orchids and How to Grow Them* by Gloria Jean Sessler is reviewed. This book was donated to the library by John and Wanda Andraiko.

ORCHIDS and How to Grow Them by Gloria Jean Sessler

This is a good book on general orchid culture for the novice and near-novice hobbyist as well as the casual reader. The first chapter is an introduction covering the history of orchids, natural habitats, orchid classification, important species, different mechanisms of natural pollination and tips on selecting orchids.

The next several chapters cover the aspects of orchid culture in some detail: the effects of temperature on the flowering of different species; light requirements and photoperiodism; the need for good ventilation; potting, watering and feeding; and

things to do at different stages in their growth cycles.

The chapter on increasing ones collection states the obvious - by dividing, growing from back bulbs, buying seedlings and mature plants. The appendix does give a list of places to buy orchids and supplies.

The section on orchid problems, pests and diseases parallels the AOS booklet on the same subject. It also gives practical ways to cope with them.

The discussions of warm-growing and cool-growing orchids is general and simplified. It doesn't cover orchids specifically hybridized to be warm or cool tolerant, or exceptional species in warm or cool-growing genera.

An excellent calendar of seasonal activities - a veritable checklist of things to do for various orchids at different times of the year. The book is well-illustrated with many black and white photographs and a number of color photographs of several varieties of orchids.

This is a good book but not as good as *Home Growing Orchids* by Rebecca Northen.

- L.K. (Buddy) Harvie

Summer Showcase

Thanks to Carol Hollenbeck, Bayne Hawkins and Allen Black for providing pictures during our summer hiatus.

I would also like to thank Allen Black for discussing plants that he brought into the August program. It was particularly nice that he was able to tie his discussion in with Stefanie's program with very little prior notice.

- Jim Creech

Membership Directory

Just a reminder, if you have not picked up your membership directory, see Valli at the meeting. New member sheets can be added and will be available when you pick up your name badges.

Special Resource Cart Supplement to Bulletin

BOOK	AUTHOR	DONATED BY
Brooklyn bontanic garden: Orchid, for the home and greenhouse		Barbara Noe
Growing Orchids Guide	American Orchid Society	Barbara Noe
Your First Orchid	American Orchid Society	Barbara Noe
An Orchidist's Lexicon: With a Pronouncing Glossary of Orchid Terms	Oregon Orchid Society	Barbara Noe
The carefree Way to Beautiful Plants "Hydroculture"	Gabriele Vocke	Kathy Walker
In Vitro Culture of Higher Plants	R L M Pierik	Paul Philhour
Time life encyclopedia of Gardening "Orchids"		Paul Philhour
Growing & Displaying Orchids (124 pages, Illustrated/Color)	Wilma Rittershausen, Gill & David Oakey, Neil Sutherland	Bayne Hawkins
Growing Orchids (256 pages Illustrated/Color)	Brian & Wiler Rittershausen	Bayne Hawkins
Orchids (207 pages Illustrated/Color)	Takashi Kijima	Bayne Hawkins
Orchids for Dummies (266 pages Illustrated B/W)	Steven A Frowine(2copies)	Bayne Hawkins
Orchids-Flower of Romance & Mystery (156 Illustrated B/W)	Jack Kramer	Bayne Hawkins
Quality Tream "Cattelyas" (247 pages Illustrated/Color)	Japan Orchid Growers Assoc.	Bayne Hawkins
Ultimate Orchid (160 pages Illustrated/color)	Thomas J. Sheehan	Bayne Hawkins
1982 Handbook on Orchid Culture	American Orchid Society	Paul Philhour
1988 Revised Edition " Handbook on Orchid Culture" 2 copies	American Orchid Society	Paul Philhour
1990 Revised Edition "Handbook on Orchid Pest and Diseases"	American Orchid Society	Paul Philhour
Orchids & How to Grow Them	Gloria Jean Sessler	Wanda and John Andrako
The Orchid Doctor: Remedies, Recipes, Recommendations and Referrals,	Robert M. Hamilton	Wanda and John Andrako
The New Orchid Doctor: Remedies, Recipes, Recommendations and Referrals	Robert M. Hamilton	Wanda and John Andrako

Special Resource Cart Supplement to Bulletin

BOOK	AUTHOR	DONATED BY
All About Growing Orchids	Rick Bond	Wanda and John Andrako
	Japan Orchid Growers Association	Wanda and John Andrako
The Paphiopedilum Grower's Manual	Lance A Birk	Kathy Walker
Orchid Hunting In The Lost World (And Elsewhere in Venezuela)	G. C. K Dunsterville and E. Dunsterville	Kathy Walker
You Can Grow Orchids	Mary Noble	Barbara Noe
Orchids As House Plants	Rebecca Tyson Northern	Barbara Noe
Orchids and Serendipity	Hugo Freed	Barbara Noe
The Slipper Orchids	Catherine Cash	Barbara Noe
Golden Guide: Orchids	Shuttleworth, Zim, Dillon	Buddy Harvie
Culture of Phalaenopsis	Bob Gordon	Bill & Sue Akin
Orchid Seedling Care	Bob Gordon	Bill & Sue Akin
Phalaenopsis Culture: A Worldwide Survey	Bob Gordon	Bill & Sue Akin
Lycaste Species: The Essential Guide	Henry L. Oakeley	Bill & Sue Akin
Orchid Thief	Sue Orlean	Buddy Harvie
Ortho, All about Growing Orchids	Ortho Books	Buddy Harvie
Masdevallias: GEMS OF THE ORCHID WORLD	Mary E. Gerritsen & Ron Parson	Valli LaNeve & Jim Creech
Sanders List of Orchid Species 1961-1970	Sandlers NOT FOR CHECK OUT	Barbara Noe
Sanders List of Orchid Species 1946-1980 Vol 1&2	Sandlers NOT FOR CHECK OUT	Barbara Noe
Sanders List of Orchid Species 1971-1975	Sandlers NOT FOR CHECK OUT	Barbara Noe
Sanders List of Orchid Species 1976-1980	Sandlers NOT FOR CHECK OUT	Barbara Noe
Sanders List of Orchid Species 1981-1985	Sandlers NOT FOR CHECK OUT	Barbara Noe
Sanders List of Orchid Species 1986-1990	Sandlers NOT FOR CHECK OUT	Barbara Noe
Sanders List of Orchid Species 1991-1995	Sandlers NOT FOR CHECK OUT	Barbara Noe
Fragrant Orchids: A Guide To Selecting, Growing, And Enjoying	Steven A Frowine	Kathy Walker
The ABC's of Orchid Parenthood (Orchid Care and Maintenance Workshop designed especially for ROA)	Steven A. Frowine (June 11, 2006 handout)	Barbara Noe

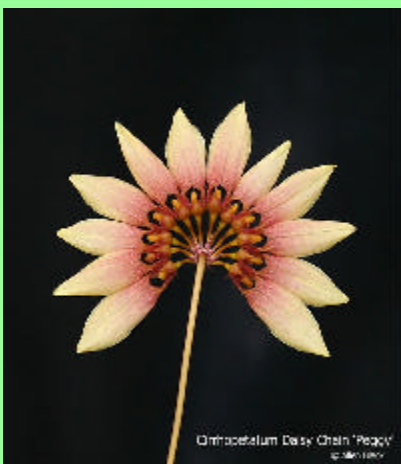
Showcased Orchids



B. subuliflora
Image and grown by Allen Black



Blc. Memoria Vida Lee 'Limelight'
AM/AOS; Image and grown by Carol Hollenbeck



Cirr. Daisy Chain 'Peggy'
Image and grown by Allen Black

Blc. Crystal Lady is one of Allen Black's early registered hybrids. It was registered in 2000 and involves the crossing of *Lc. Pink Crystal* and *Brassavola nodosa*. This flower carries the distinctive shape of the progeny of *B. nodosa*; in Allen's breeding program, *B. nodosa* is probably the most used parent.

Brassavola subuliflora is a Jamaican species. It is a late summer to fall bloomer and the inflorescence carries up to six long-lived flowers that have an evening fragrance of citrus. This plant has more commonly been known as *B. cordata* because the earlier description of the plant by Lindley in 1831 in an obscure publication has only recently been rediscovered.

Blc. Memoria Vida Lee 'Limelight' AM/AOS was registered by Huan Bui in 1986. It is a cross between *Bc. Binosa* and *Lc. Brazilian Treasure*. This hybrid has been awarded four times; this cultivar was awarded both an HCC and an AM in 2003.

Cirrhopetalum Daisy Chain 'Peggy' is a primary cross between *Cirr. makoyanum* and *Cirr. amesianum*. This cross was made by Stewart's Orchids and registered in 1969. Allen reports that this plant can bloom several times throughout the year and can quickly become a specimen-sized plant. The flower seems more influenced by the *amesianum* parent, but the fullness of presentation seems to be from *makoyanum*.

Paph. Delophyllum is a primary cross between *P. delenatii* and *P. glaucophyllum*. The cross was registered in 1940, and can be seen from the picture, can make a dramatic presentation. The flower shows a blending of both parents, though the Parvisepalum influence of



Blc. Crystal Lady
Image and grown by Allen Black

P. delenatii can be clearly be seen in the puffy pouch.

Paph. wardii is a species found in SW China and Northern Burma in deep leaf litter on cliff faces. The plant requires an early winter rest of about a month, then the flower typically emerges in the mid-winter to early spring. This species was first described by Ward in 1920.



Paph. wardii
Grown by the Creeches



Paph. Delophyllum, Image and grown by Carol Hollenbeck



Members Please Note!

If you have moved, changed your telephone number or email address, please email Richmond Orchid Alliance with the change at OrchidAlliance@aol.com or to P.O. Box 8682, Richmond, VA 23226.


We don't want your Bulletin to be delayed or not received at all by you. This is an important part of your membership.

The Richmond Orchid Alliance meets at the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad Street, Richmond, at 2:00 P.M. of the second Sunday of each month from January through November. Yearly dues are \$20.00 per individual, or \$25.00 for a joint membership. Dues should be paid to the ROA Finance Director, Sue Akin, P.O. Box 8682, Richmond, VA 23226.

The Richmond Orchid Alliance is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. We are affiliated with Orchid Digest and a member of the American Orchid Society.

The **ROA Bulletin** is a publication of the Richmond Orchid Alliance and is distributed to the Society's members monthly, prior to all club meetings.

Submissions to the Bulletin should be sent to the editor early enough to arrive by the 15th of the month prior to a meeting. Unless otherwise credited, all images in this publication were by the editor.



Growing Tips by Courtney Hackney (email: Hackneau@Bellsouth.net)

BOOK REVIEW - *The Classic Cattleyas* by A.A. Chadwick and Arthur E. Chadwick, 2006, Timber Press, 251 pp. \$49.95. ISBN 13:978-0-88192-764-1.

In February this year, I got a brief look at A.A. Chadwick and Arthur E. Chadwick's new book, *The Classic Cattleyas*. Before I could get a copy of this book to review, I heard it was sold out. It is available, however, from Timber Press for \$49.95, even if it is sold out at your favorite book store.

Classic Cattleyas is everything I hoped it would be by one of the world's foremost *cattleya* experts, Arthur Chadwick, and his son, who is one of an emerging cadre of new orchid entrepreneurs. For many years, members of the American Orchid Society have enjoyed the senior authors many articles on *Cattleya* species in their monthly magazine "Orchids". At the end of each article, readers were always left waiting for the next installment. Now it is all in one place, free from the confines of a monthly orchid magazine. *The Classic Cattleyas* combines all of what A.A. Chadwick gave us in his many articles in a comprehensive and easy to read form, well illustrated with photos of both the common forms and some examples of the unique varieties that appeared over the years. Readers are introduced to the *Cattleya* species just as they appeared to Western Civilization, that is, in chronological order of their discovery.

The junior author of the book is well known to many throughout the mid-Atlantic as a willing speaker and columnist on orchids and greenhouses. He currently manages Chadwick and Son Orchids in

Powhatan, Virginia. This father and son team combined their perspectives and experience, old and new, into a book that is useful to both expert and novice orchid growers. In fact, there are two books; one for the beginner anxious to grow and flower this amazing group of orchids and another for the advanced hobbyist who wants to understand the complexities of orchid taxonomy and relationships between species. Serious growers will read this book many times as they grow more expert and appreciate both levels of knowledge contained in these 10 chapters.

Those readers that are botanically oriented will appreciate the historical twists and turns that resulted in the current botanical name assigned to each species. More important to some, is the description of each species and its unique characteristics. For those species easily confused with other species, William Rogerson's approach to separating confusing species using growing characteristics along with flower color and size is advanced. Cultural tips on growing some of the more temperamental *cattleya* species makes this a reference book that I keep close at hand. Even hybrid *cattleya* growers that do not grow the species will glean important cultural requirements of some hybrids because they take after *cattleya* species in their backgrounds. Long-time *cattleya* growers will applaud the Chadwick's inclusion of the large-flowered *Laelias* into the *cattleya* group where they belong.

There is an excellent introduction to some of the major lines of *cattleya* hybridizing as well as an excellent

(continued on P. 6 "Growing Tips")



*Calendar of Events
Outside of ROA:*

September 2

National Capital Judging Center, US National Arboretum, Washington, DC. Information: www.geocities.com/nationalcapitaljc

September 9

Virginia Orchid Society Orchid Forum. Richmond, VA. Limited seating available. Registration begins July 1. Information: www.vaorchidsociety.org. Speakers: Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids; and H.P. Norton, Orchidview Orchids.

September 10

Virginia Orchid Society Orchid Forum. Richmond, VA. Speaker: Bill Thomas, FL. Contact: Valerie Thacker, VLThacker@comcast.net.

October 7-9

National Capital Orchid Society Show, Washington, DC. Contact: Jerry Rice (301) 986-0659; email: jmricewas@aol.com.

November 10-11

Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium. Williamsburg, VA. Limited seating available. Information: www.mycommunityis.com/tos/merritt-huntington-symposium.htm Speakers: Hal Horowitz, Richmond, VA, Margueritte Web, J & L Orchids, Andy Easton, former AOS Director of Education, Glen Decker, Piping Rock Orchids.

Orchid Consultants

Wanda Andrako, Buddy Harvie, and Bayne Hawkins are available after every program to consult on any plant with a problem.



Growing Tips (con't from Page 5)

chapter on culture including repotting and diseases. Photos of most of the common diseases and pest-induced problems are included and will be very useful to hobbyists growing *cattleyas* for the first time.

There is a chapter on *cattleyas* in art, which may seem out-of-place in a horticulturally-oriented book, but is not. Much of what we know about many early species and forms of these species comes from paintings and illustrations. Earlier chapters place great emphasis on the difficulty botanists had because of inadequate specimens and illustrations. In our current digital age, it is easy to dismiss the work of past

ROA at State Fair

The Virginia State Fair will again include the Richmond Orchid Alliance. Our role at the Fair is primarily to educate the public about orchids and their growing needs. We will also be selling plants as a means to raise funds for both ROA and the State Fair Educational Foundation. We will be at the fair on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 6-8, 2007. ROA needs you to help in our mission. Shifts are for four hours each beginning at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. each day. Help at our location also means free admission to the fair for the entire day and a chance to see all that goes on there. Call Bill or Sue Akin at 378-0999 to reserve your time for this very worthwhile event.

October's Blooming Plant Auction

Get ready for the blooming plant auction! Mark October 8 in your calendar. The plants can be previewed at noon, with the auction starting promptly at 1:30. Joe Mathias will again be our auctioneer.

and present artists. This chapter makes it clear that an artist's eye can capture far more than any lens, digital or optical.

The Classic Cattleyas is a remarkable contribution to the Orchid World in general and for all of those new and future hobbyists who may have never heard about these remarkable members of the orchid family. While the title may seem like this book is only for *Cattleya* growers, it really tells the story of the discovery of tropical orchids by western civilization. Every orchid hobbyist should have a copy even if they do not grow *cattleyas*.

Thank you from the Refreshment Table

Thanks to all for providing refreshments at the August program. Please let us know when you have brought something, so that you can be appropriately thanked.

Help Spread the Word

We are always looking for contributions to the Bulletin. If you have an idea for "Budding Advice" or "The Orchid Cheap-skate," if you have attended an orchid show, forum or symposium, or if you have recently read an orchid book, please write me at 2ROA@comcast.net or 12308 Hardwick Ct., Glen Allen, VA 23059-5374.

Remember, you are not writing for the New York Times. Just a few paragraphs with highlights and your comments can help increase a fellow member's awareness or interest in a book, a vendor to try, a show or meeting to attend, or just a different way to do something.



Budding Advice - Vandas by Mike Mealy



Ascda. Queen Florist

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www.richmondorchidalliance.com

Vandas and *Ascocendas* are the sun loving relatives of the *Phalaenopsis* - enjoying similar conditions, but requiring a lot more sun. Originating in central Asia where they climb up trees as they grow. The plants are made up of a thick fleshy upright stem with stiff leaves and thick aerial roots. Food and moisture are stored in the leaves and roots. Flowers develop on the stem near the top of the plant, lasting three to six weeks and can flower up to five times a year.

Temperature: A constant warm environment is required, making them an ideal plant for the house. A minimum night temperature of 60 and a daytime temperature between 70 and 90 is ideal. Do not allow the temperature to go below 50 degrees.

Light: These are sun-loving plants requiring good light levels; they will be happy on a sunny windowsill (south exposure is best, but southeast or southwest is fine). You can even grow them in a direct sun as long as they are protected from the scorching sun.

Potting: Growing in pots with medium eliminates the need for daily watering.

Medium: These plants do not like to have their roots disturbed. Use a medium that can last up to five or six years and is coarse enough to allow both drainage and air movement. A good mix includes coconut chips or redwood chips with rock wool (to retain moisture), and charcoal. You can add lava rock, sponge rock or crushed brick.

Water: It is important to take care to water your plants correctly. Do not allow the roots to become waterlogged. Mist exposed roots regularly. Humidity trays are helpful.

Feed: Use a balanced fertilizer at half strength regularly (every second or third watering). An occasional flushing with fresh water to remove any salt buildup is recommended.

Keikis: Sometimes keikis develop on the stem. When a few roots have developed, they can be removed from the stem and potted (some prefer the keiki to flower before removing).

Note: *Ascocendas* and strap-leaf *Vandas* are recommended for windowsill plants (terete and semi-terete *Vandas* require greater amounts of sun).



P.O. Box 8682
Richmond, VA 23226