



Saginaw Valley Orchid Society



Next meeting September 9, 2017 6:30pm

Speaker: Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids

Plants can be pre-ordered

Thomas Township Public Safety Building

8215 Shields Drive, Saginaw, MI

www.sagvalleyorchids.org

Sue Sanderson, editor

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Officers and Board of Directors

- President Joyce Potoff (2017-2018)
- Past President Tim Hueston
- Vice President Sue Schiewe (2017-2018)
- Treasurer Edith Sommers (2016-2017)
- Secretary Sue Sanderson (2016-2018)
- Program Chair Jack Shumaker
- 2017-2018 Marilyn Whittaker, Bob Schust
- 2015-2017 Rollie Wilson, Jean Rose
- 2016-2018 Helmut Schick, Sally Heinlein

Treasurer's Report

Edith reports our check book balance is \$4,755.00.

President's Report

I hope that you have all had a great summer. Last week we gathered at the Hemlock Community area for a fun picnic. Thanks to Carol Jurek for suggesting and arranging for the

area's use. Our plant auction was a great success thanks to Jack Shumaker for ordering and auctioning the plants, and of course an even bigger thanks to all those that participated in the auction. We made a profit of \$328.00 for the club.

The annual Orchid Show will be held November 25th and 26th. The show committee met in August and planning is well underway, thanks to show chairs Jack Shumaker and Rollie Wilson. Please offer your help for our show. Signup sheets will be at September and November meetings.

The club has received a donation from Janice Knop. While they were in Hawaii celebrating their 50th anniversary, the Knop's purchased a flask of 50 cattleya seedlings. These plants need to be "deflasked" and potted. Thank you to the Knops for the generous donation and learning opportunity.

Just a reminder that our next meeting is Saturday September 9th. I hope to see you there.

September 9, 2017 Meeting



Glen Decker owner of Piping Rock Orchids, N.Y

Glen has been growing orchids for 40yrs. He holds a degree in Applied Science in Ornamental Horticulture. Glen is previous chair of AOS Publications Committee and past director of the Orchid Digest Corporation. Glen has won numerous AOS awards, including the Butterworth Prize, Nax Trophy, WW Wilson Award and the Carlyle A. Luer Award. He has appeared in Martha Stewart's Better Living Magazine and on a PBS special "Orchid Delirium". He also rewrote the slipper section of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's "The Best Orchids for Indoors" and he was the technical editor for the "Orchids for Dummies" book. He also has written many articles on Paphiopediums and Phragmipediums, which have been published worldwide.

Meet and Greet guest speaker

Dinner with Glen Decker Sept.9th at 5:30 at
Beef O' Brady's 4880 Gratiot Rd. Bld. A
Ste # 5-7 Saginaw. **RSVP** Jack.

Upcoming SVOS

October 14, 2017 **All State Meeting** with speakers Francisco Miranda (US/Brazil) on Brazilian Cattleyas and George Hatfield (CA) on AOS today.

Refreshment Volunteers THANKS

Sept. 2017- Skip W. and Eleanor B.
Nov. 2017 – **Volunteers needed.**

Sheet will be passed at meeting for Nov. and 2018 volunteers.

Other Bits: Don't forget **Porter's Orchids grand finale sale** on September 13-14-15 from 10am-5pm

Welcome new members:

Scott Hyslop, Dale & Pamela Garden, Kathy Smith, Teresa Jolin and Sam & Carol Miller

Member Profile Sally Heinlein

I grew up in Frankenmuth on a farm. We always had large vegetable and flower gardens. I was the main one taking care of them. By ten I probably had 3 dozen plants in my bedroom. I started going to college and then stopped after 2 year (got my associate in science), because I decided to get married. I worked at Meijer's in the bakery for a short time, then at Bay Med for 5 yrs. and quit six months after we had our first child.



(Eventually we ended up with 2 daughters and one son. Both daughters are married and I have two grandsons, Jeffrey, who is 6 yrs. old and Luke who was born in mid Aug. 2 ½ months early, but doing great).

My husband and I always have had a large garden and then we saw an ad for a blueberry farm. So my husband decided why don't we do something like that, so I can stay home with our kid (s). So in 1986 we bought 10 acres and in the fall planted 3 acres of raspberries. The following spring we planted one acre of blueberries and ½ acre of asparagus, and had our home built on the land (while we lived in a house trailer there). In June 1990, we had 60mph winds and living on sand it blew for miles. The neighbors sand blew on our land and in so doing, the roundup and other sprays they used, killed off the south half of the raspberries. So then we started strawberries. In our peak of business we had asparagus, strawberries, blueberries, summer raspberries, 2 acres of sweet corn, fall raspberries, and wholesaled over 20 ton of pumpkins. The past couple years, a new bug (spotted wing drosophila) invaded us (been in the U.S. for 10 years on the west coast), due to importing products from other

countries. So my husband decided to end our berry business this fall. Our daughter and son in law decided to keep the strawberries and this past spring we planted 3,000 plants for next year. So now I need to go and look for a job, doesn't sound like any fun to me? We had our business 31 years.

As for my addiction to orchids, it is all my husband's fault. Being engaged, one has to pick out a wedding bouquet. I saw a bouquet of a dozen large, white Phals and that is what I got. I was addicted. Within a year, I had my first white Phal. I never repotted it. It bloomed great for me, until we lived in a house trailer (with no air conditioning) and that summer was 85-95 degree daily and it took a toll on my plant and died.

As you all know that didn't stop me. I found more orchids to buy. Then in 2009 we had a lean-to greenhouse built. Three years ago I crossed some plants for the first time. I first crossed 2 denidrobiums (the plants are now 1-4" high, then I've crossed a couple Phrags.

(they are still in the lab and she thinks they died and no hope for them after 1 ½ yrs.), a couple of cats, and this past spring I crossed my awarded RI. Digbyana (made 5 crosses and only 2 survived and those pods should be ripe to send to a lab in 2-3 months). I now also have a light rack in a room to grow babies. A couple of years ago Marilyn and I took on the task of deflasking some together. What stories we could tell. We have now a much better success rate and think we figured out what works for us. As for how many orchids I have? I can't say, too many to count, especially if you count all the babies and future babies to come. I enjoy growing Phrag. the best, since I can set most of them in a saucer of water and leave them alone until the water is gone. I'm still trying to figure out why a lot of them won't bloom and trying different ideas. I hope to figure it out one day and have hundreds of blooms.



Sally's Red Phrag. Red Sky 'Remembering Alex Challis' got a 85 awarded at Lansing Judging Center in July.