















Opuntia
monacensis
Gray



Opuntia
monacensis
Gray



Opuntia
monacensis
Gray



Opuntia
monacensis
Gray



Opuntia
monacensis
Gray

DIGEST DOER'S PROFILE

PHIL AND ANN JESUP

H. Phillips (Phil) Jesup
Ann Lauer Jesup

HOME:

Five acres of pine/oak woods on a pile of glacial sand in Bristol, Connecticut. In the middle of a large laurel patch.

AGE:

P: 64 and pleased to be still kicking.

A: Sneaking up on 60 but not yet old enough to consider quitting doing anything neat.

PROFESSION:

P: Retired bank trust and estate administrative officer.

A: Professional volunteer, professional nitpicker.

OFFICES HELD AND MEMBERSHIPS:

P: President Connecticut Orchid Society; Vice President Greater New York Orchid Society; Chairman AOS Northeast Region Judging Center; AOS Trustee; Orchid Digest Corporation.

A: AOS Trustee; Conservation Committee Chair; GNYOS; Connecticut Orchid Society Conservation Committee Chair; Pleurothallid Alliance Director; Maxillaria Tribe; IUCN Species Survival Committee; Orchid Specialist Group; Orchid Digest Corporation.

SPECIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

P: Finding the surface of his desk (only to quickly lose it again); recipient of AOS Gold Medal for service; Greater New York Orchid Society Lifetime Achievement Award.

A: Receipt of the AOS Gold Medal.

PERSONAL GOALS:

P: To become more sensitive to human nuances; to become more sensitive to orchid nuances (i.e., after 46 years of growing to learn how to grow orchids really well—consistently).

A: Leaving things a little better while still enjoying life.

PHILOSOPHY:

P: Mankind must live in harmony with nature by ceasing to dominate and overrun it, most importantly by quickly and drastically slowing reproduction rates worldwide.

A: If it's worth doing, try.

HOBBIES AND SPECIAL INTERESTS:

P: Herpetology, general horticulture, all life (including human), newspaper junkie.

A: Family. Orchids. Dendrobatid frogs. Arabian horses. Longhaired dachshunds. American history, reading, kayaking, photography, older Porsches (356 types), horticulture, all aspects of nature.

FAVORITE MEMORIES:

P: Discovering orchids growing in the wild on Mt. Diablo in Jamaica in 1952 at age 18 (this initiated the obsession), and climbing the same mountain trail with his 34 year old son Ben and good friend Don Richardson, Jr., in 1996.

A: Exploring in the Alps, Andes and Appalachians; wonderful animals.



Don Herman

FAVORITE ORCHID:

P: Neocogniauxia hexaptera (But there are hundreds of runners-up)

A: Oh, come on! Any and/or all.

FAVORITE DRINK:

P: Cold V-8.

A: Unblemished real iced tea, Chateau Petrus Pomerol '61.

FAVORITE FOOD:

P: Ripe papaya eaten by the side of the road on a mountain pass at 2800 meters in Ecuador.

A: Chocolate, shellfish (not together).

LAST BOOK READ (AND STILL READING):

P: Proofreading, with Ann, the draft of the forthcoming "AOS Encyclopedia of Cultivated Orchids," edited by Eric Christenson, by virtue of their being world-class nitpickers.

A: "Katharine Graham—Personal History" and "America Online for Dummies" (simultaneously).

FAVORITE QUOTATION:

P: "I don't know how I ever had time to work." A frequent quotation from yours truly.

A: "Keep 'em long enough, they'll amount to something." By Ann's maternal great-grandmother.

ORCHIDS FOR THE CONNOISSEUR

Stanfieldara Sarah's Psyche — Playing in Your Own Gene Pool

H. PHILLIPS JESUP

FOR ME, the two greatest thrills of my orchid hobby are finding and collecting orchid species in the wild, and watching the buds develop on my own hybrids. With regard to the former, it is extremely important to collect with great care and to be mindful of conservation. Regarding the latter, in



Grazer: H. Phillips Jesup

Photography: Charles Marden Fitch

Stanfieldara Sarah's Psyche
(*Sophrolaelia Psyche* X *Epidendrum Sarah Jesup*)

making your own crosses you are restricted only by the space you have in which to raise the seedlings, and the vagaries of your imagination.

This will be a superficial article on the fun of doing your own hybridizing, and, if practical hints creep in, it is unintentional. Plenty of words have been written about how to wield a toothpick, where to find the stigmatic surface, and what phase of the moon to cross by. I will not discuss flasking either — I am too time-stressed and “chicken” to attempt it myself, so I send the pods to those who are smarter and more dexterous.

On to the fun! Actually, hybridizing is an insidious aspect of an insidious hobby. It gets to the point where one is constantly ogling theoretically genetically-compatible flowers wondering what a melding of characteristics would produce. This is the wrong approach. One should have a goal, or many goals, and work toward achievement — in one's mind or on paper. When you consider the space, time, and effort involved in growing to flowering a batch of baby orchids, impulse



Ann And Phil Jesup, Orchid Experts, In Nature Center Program

Bristol Press Photo by Phyllis Springer

Jesups Orchid Program Set At Nature Center

Mr. and Mrs. H. Phillips Jesup will present a slide show Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Barnes Nature Center, featuring their glamorous hobby, orchids. Both Jesups have been orchid raisers for over twenty years, and the greenhouse at their Fox Den home reflects their expertise.

Hearts and flowers is a phrase that might have been invented especially for the Jesups, Ann and Phil. Married since December, the two orchid hobbyists met at an Eastern Orchid Congress in Hartford. It was only natural that these two naturalists would find that they had a great deal in common.

Phil Jesup is well known as an orchid fancier. He has won numerous prizes and awards in flower shows up and down the Eastern seaboard. Many of his orchids are one-of-a-kind plants. He writes a regular column for "Orchidata", the Greater New York Orchid Society magazine, and is a judge for the American Orchid Society, the "mother club" of all orchid societies.

His attractive wife, Ann, describes herself as a "grower for fun". Previous to moving to Bristol, she rented space for her orchid collection, and had to relegate some to the windowsill. Now her orchids



BRISTOL, CT

Will

will share their fascinating hobby with those at the Barnes Nature Center Monday. The event is open to the public at a nominal charge. Members of the Center will be admitted free.

and years ago parked at St. Hillaire Benham St. Bailey was released written promise to court on Aug. 4. Ann P. Bourbeau winding Brook Rd charged with restricted turn fell accident Wednesday. tion of Mid-azo Road. am G. Kowalsky Drive, living north when Ms. ally passed his car off to another lane. He started to Hospital and used forehead faded neck

16
ton

Epidendrum entry captured the American Orchid Society's prestigious Certificate of Cultural Merit

Six-Class Sweep, AOS Certificate For Jesup Orchids

Mr. and Mrs. H. Phillips Jesup of Bristol, orchid cultivators of international repute, have grown equally adept at garnering awards for their prize collection.

At the 51st annual International Flower Show and Garden Fair in New York, which concluded last week, the Jesups swept first-place honors in the six classes they entered.

Sarah Jesup, the distaff half of the his-and-her team, is delighted with the judges' verdict. She and her husband have never captured first in each class entered "except in the days when we entered only one class," she quips.

The couple collaborated on five of the winning displays, all entries in individual-plant classes. They included three miniatures (orchids) shown in a terrarium; an orchid grown on a branch of lilac attached to a board-base; a group of three orchids; an *Oncidium* hybrid entry; and a cane-type *Epidendrum* entry.

Mrs. Jesup won the sixth first-place award with a display of orchid blooms arranged for effect.

Superseding the couple's delight at the six-class sweep is their exuberance in capturing the American Orchid Society's coveted Certificate of Cultural Merit for the *Epidendrum* entry.

The Certificate — rarely presented at the International Flower Show — was the sole AOS award of any kind made there this year.

It may be paralleled with the Pulitzer Prize (presented for distinction in journalism, music, letters, and public service) in that it is awarded only when a contender merits the honor.

Judging standards for the Certificate are much more stringent than for ordinary competition, because a candidate is judged against the concept of perfection rather than against the other competitors in its class.

The Jesup entry totaled 91 points of a possible 100 — a stunning performance in orchid circles.

In addition to entering their own displays, the Fox Den Road couple contributed plants to the exhibit entered by the Greater New York Orchid Society. Phil Jesup is treasurer of the society, and Sarah is editor of its bimonthly publication, "Orchidata."

The Jesups have won more prizes for their collections in seven years of competition than Sarah can recall at once.

Her husband, trust officer of a local bank, became interested in orchids at 17, when still in high school. Sarah's interest dates from the day of her engagement, when she and Phil made an interesting pact: "I promised to learn all about orchids, and he promised to learn bridge — a promise which he has broken. And I consider that grounds for divorce any time I may want to."

The pair are perennially knee-deep in orchid activities.

Currently Phil is president of the Connecticut Orchid Society. He and Sarah were guest editors, with Dr. Carl L. Withner, of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's "Handbook on Orchids," published last November. Dr. Withner is resident investigator of orchids at the Botanic Garden and professor of biology at Brooklyn College.

Interestingly, the handbook is illustrated partially with several prints by chief Press photographer Peter Maronn and his antecedent, Ted Dully, now a member of the staff of The Boston Globe.

Another event made November a significant month for the Jesups. In a presentation ceremony at Longwood Gardens, Del. — the old du Pont estate — they received the American Orchid Society's Bronze Medal for a display

JT:man

congregations. "Shepherds and pastors used to be fearless prophets," he said. "Today, you have not fearless, but fearful leaders of the church."

The straight talk has made him a sought-after sage.

"When I came here, he was one that immediately extended a hand to me and embraced me and encouraged me," said the Rev. Shelley Best, executive director of the Capital Region Conference of Churches. "He cares about the whole community. He wants to see everyone do their best for the greater good." For seven years, Stelich has operated a weekly soup kitchen. Once a year, the church dedicates Sunday for the Urban League of Greater Hartford. Every Thanksgiving, there is a feast for all. "He's been like a father figure to many here, a mentor," said Stelich's long-time Beverly Perry. "His main focus is it starts at home."

This King, too, has left the building. He's earned a much-needed rest.

Sam Simpson's columns appear in the Wednesday and Saturday. He can be reached at simpson@connecticut.com.



By Ann Crapanski THE HARTFORD COURANT

A PERENNIAL FAVORITE

PHIL JESUP of Bristol, an American Orchid Society judge, examines entries Friday at the Connecticut Orchid Society's Orchid Fiesta at West Hartford's town hall. The event takes place this weekend and will include lectures and tours. Admission is \$5. Children 12 and under get in free.

The Bristol Press

BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT, FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1968

In Golf Tourney
(Picture, Story
In Sports Section)

11



*Phil and Sarah Jesup with part of their orchid collection
in greenhouse adjoining their Fox Den Road home*

Maronn

Photo b

H. PHILLIPS JESUP
183 FOX DEN ROAD
BRISTOL, CT 06010

1/1/94

Sean Kidder,

(Yes, I still know how to write, but not well).

1.) Happy New Year! Hope 1994 is an improvement over 1993, no matter how good the latter was.

2.) Trying to find Cotton on my desk, I uncovered the 1/1/93 issue of the GNV's Newsletter, which I had been saving to copy a portion thereof for you and Randall. Before I lost my home too much, I want to say that I feel I share the award









