

Victoria Orchid Society



Rick Rancourt's glorious Dendrobium stardust 'Firebird' was chosen by members as the best plant on the display table at the March meeting.

**Meetings:
Spring 2012**

April 24
May 22
June 26

Members with last names starting with A & B are asked to bring goodies for the April meeting.

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*Mps. Mrs. Anneli Loeb
x endresii*

Welcome to new member, Andrew Rickman!

From the Editor

Word has reached the President's ears that some people are not reading their newsletter – unbelievable, I know, but we are going to check that out! Starting with this newsletter, there will be a *Surprise Orchid* (✂ identified by this symbol) somewhere in the newsletter. Anyone who writes the name of this orchid on a piece of paper and delivers it to the prize draw table before the draw will get a free ticket for the prize draw that evening.

Diana Rowles

www.victoriaorchidsociety.com

Check out our website for information about the society, upcoming events, plant registration for shows, regulations for bringing orchids into Canada, and what books are in our library. The orchids from the display table each meeting are now posted on the web. Previous newsletters can also be accessed from the website.

Contributions to the newsletter can be made up to 14 days before the next meeting date by contacting me by phone or email. (250-385-8888 or enviroed@telus.net).

Logo photo D. Rowles

President's Message

Now that all our spring shows are over and many of us have garnered awards, ribbons and rosettes for our orchid flowers, we should take a little time to reflect on orchid shows:

Why are we holding shows?

The main reason is, of course, because we want to show off our beautiful flowers. We want to share this beauty with others – maybe they will also catch the orchid bug! Yes, we want to attract new members to join in and make our orchid society more interesting, more vibrant and more useful to the general public.

Remember, our mandate is to “help with the preservation of orchid plants”. To preserve plants, they need to be taken care of – not only in captivity but also in the wild. We must learn and pass on this knowledge to protect orchids and their habitat in the ever-shrinking wildernesses.

Of course, we also should take good care of our home-growing orchids – we have to learn and pass on the knowledge on how to grow healthier and better orchids. That is why we have orchid societies, and lectures, and websites and even – still – books. Well, some of us still read books.

So, briefly, please, help our society to be supportive of wild and cultivated orchids, in the ground and in pots, grown by experts and novices – we need each and every one of you to help out wherever you can to spread our love of orchids. And if you all do this right, then – at times when the world is still, you will hear the orchids singing – even along the show table, at the meeting.

See you there.

Ingrid Ostrander

Reminders:

The photographing of the display table plants is working more smoothly now. We hope that you enjoy seeing your plants on the Society website. The process is made much easier as people bringing plants are now adhering to the steps outlined below:

- Make out a list of all your plants' names with the your name at the top.
- Place the list on the photography table with your plants on the left hand side of the table.
- Collect the plants from the right hand side of the table after the photographs have been taken and put them on the display table.

Joe Chow assists with the editing process by correcting spelling and plant names for publishing.

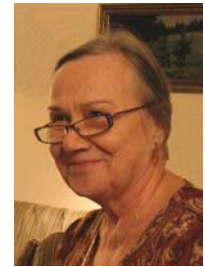
Thank you.

Diana & Donna

Upcoming Events:

The monthly meeting of the Victoria Orchid Society is held on the fourth Tuesday of every month except July, August and December, starting at 7:30 p.m. This meeting consists of the presentation of the plants on the display table, a short (as possible) business meeting, a coffee break with a prize draw of plants and orchid related material and a featured presentation.

The meeting ends between 9:30 and 10:00 p.m. Joe Chow is Plant Doctor and will help you with orchid issues for 15 minutes before the start of the meeting (7:10-7:25 p.m.).



Ingrid Ostrander

Spring 2012

*April 24th – Bryan Emery,
Pleurothallis*

*May 22nd – Joe Chow,
Backyard orchids*

June 26th – Auction

*July 7th – Barbecue at
Florence Davis' home*

April 24, Meeting – Bryan Emery will speak on the Pleurothallis Alliance

You may wish to check out the following URLs in preparation for his talk. COC site URL and a (www.canadianorchidcongress.ca/cculture/index.html) and link to the Pleurothallis Alliance (<http://www.pleurothallids.com>)



◀ Bryan, but not a Pleurothallis

July 7th, Florence's fantastic barbecue

Tickets will be available at the April meeting. They are \$20/person and one may choose steak or chicken. The meal also includes fresh rolls, great salads and desserts, most notably Florence's Pavlova. Mark the date on your calendar.



Past Events

March 27th meeting- Calvin Wong spoke on *Neofinetia falcata*.

Calvin gave a very interesting talk and slide presentation on *Neofinetia falcata*. The slides included pictures of fabulous ways that many Japanese growers choose to display their plants. Here are some growing tips that Calvin shared:



Calvin & Noreen discuss the display table

1. *Neofinetia falcata* enjoy low humidity and constant air movement.
2. During growth period (spring and fall), provide ample water, but let the roots dry out in between watering.
3. During winter, the plants will respond to lower temperatures and slow down, hence they require less water. It is okay to let the medium go bone dry before watering again.
4. During winter, the leaves may gradually fold inward. This is a sign that the plants are resting and conserving water. The leaves will return to their normal state once the weather warms up and the plants enter into their growth period.
5. Variegation and tiger patterns will become more pronounced when exposed to high light. When red tints show, the plant is receiving the maximum level of light it can take.

March 31st - Workshop at Gardenworks

The workshop at GardenWorks was attended by fourteen people. Geoff Haywood gave an overview of basic orchid growth requirements and then moved to specifics of *Phalaenopsis*, *Dendrobium* and *Paphiopedilum* orchids. Diana and Joyce chipped in comments and circulated paper. I think that the participants found it useful, at least most of them said so as they left. Some seemed interested in coming to a Society meeting as guests.





Abu Salleh

Judging Centre news

Judging results from the Orchid Society of Alberta Show on February 24, 2012:

- *Scaphosepalum merinoi* ‘Reta’ CCM/AOS 85pts ➤
Exhibitor: Darrell Albert



- *Dendrobium peguanum* ‘Dasha’ CCM/AOS 87pts ➤
Exhibitor: Alexey Tretyakov

- *Epidendrum centropetalum* ‘Paramount’s Nordby’s’ CCE/AOS 90pts . ➤
Exhibitor: Paramount Orchids



- *Phalaenopsis* Torie Rose ‘Emily’ HCC/AOS 76pts
(*Phal.* Hausermann’s Adam x *Phal.* Hausermann’s Passion)
Exhibitor: Dr. Paul Paludet

- *Epidendrum echinatum* ‘Leslie’ CHM/AOS 84pts. ➤
Note: award is provisional pending species identification
Exhibitor: Darrell Albert



- *Paphiopedilum* Magic Water ‘Jason’ AM/AOS 80pts
(*Paph.* Voodoo Magic x *Paph.* Watercolor Artist) ➤
Exhibitor: Darrell Albert

- *Paphiopedilum* Hung Sheng Pulsar ‘Betty’s Surprise’ HCC/AOS 77pts ➤
(*Paph.* Pulsar x *Paph.* Red Pepper)
Exhibitor: Betty Hersikorn



- *Paphiopedilum* Angela ‘Ellen’ AM/AOS 80pts. ➤
(*Paph.* *niveum* x *Paph.* *fairrieianum*)
Exhibitor: Crystal Star Orchids

- *Phragmipedium* Trudy Taylor ‘Terrific Trud’ AM/AOS 80pts . . ➤
Exhibitor: Chuck Taylor



Photographer:
Alexey Tretyakov

At the Victoria Orchid Society Show judging on March 2, 2012, the following AOS awards were granted:

- *Bulbophyllum refractum* ‘Phillip and Alistait’ HCC/AOS 79pts ➤
Exhibitor: Bryan Emery



- *Lycaste Spectabilis* ‘Azeez’ HCC/AOS 75pts
(*Lycaste aromatica* x *Lycaste skinneri*)
Exhibitor: Poul Hansen ➤



- *Lycaste Spectabilis* ‘Azeez’ CCM/AOS 84pts
(*Lycaste aromatica* x *Lycaste skinneri*)
Exhibitor: Poul Hansen

- *Phalaenopsis* John Ewing ‘KFO’ CCM/AOS 83pts ➤
(*Phal. George Vasquez* x *Phal. venosa*)
Exhibitor: Pat van Adrichem (Kingfisher Orchids)
- AOS Show Trophy
Exhibitor: Pat van Adrichem (Kingfisher Orchids)



Photographer: Judith Higham

At the monthly judging on March 10, 2012, the following AOS award was granted:

- *Mormodes punctata* CHM/AOS 81pts ➤
(Award is provisional pending species identification)
Exhibitor: Calvin Wong / Tropical Gardens Orchids



At the Vancouver Orchid Society show judging on March 24, 2012, the following AOS awards were granted:

- *Phragmipedium* Wossner Supergrande ‘Memoria Kumsue’ AM/AOS 84pts
(*Phrag. warscewiczianum* x *Phrag. longifolium*)
Exhibitor: Joe Chow
- *Phragmipedium* Wossner Supergrande ‘Memoria Kumsue’
CCM/AOS 83pts
(*Phrag. warscewiczianum* x *Phrag. longifolium*)
Exhibitor: Joe Chow



Photographer: Judith Higham

Phalaenopsis

Fans of Phals: How to look after those “Big Box-Store” moth orchids

(Reprinted from Kingston Orchid Society newsletter, February 2012 issue of a presentation by Anne Mansey)



Phal Brother Spring Dancer
‘Little Angel’

Phals need very warm daytime temperatures, bright light, but no direct sun. Ann recommended a balanced fertilizer such as a weak solution of 20-20-20 every other watering, and cautioned against over fertilizing.

But the first thing to do when you get a new Phal home is repot it. Store-bought Phals are potted for shipping, not growing in the home. Although the medium you choose depends on the conditions you can provide, a good mix is medium bark (covered in boiling water and soaked for 24 hrs.), chopped coconut husk (rinsed 3-4 times to get rid of salt), large Perlite, & damp chopped sphagnum, in a ratio of 1-2-1-1.

Repotting 1/2-” to 1” pot size up encourages bloom. “They just seem to perk up afterwards,” said Ann, who repots “whenever a plant seems tired.” In order to bloom, a 10°F drop in temperature at night is

also needed. "Watering is the biggest challenge," said Ann. "The medium should be damp, but not wet, or the roots will rot. Poke your finger into the medium . If it feels damp, put it off for a day or two."

Because store-bought plants frequently carry pests, quarantine orchids for a month after bringing them home. To kill pests when they appear, Ann uses Trounce, 25 ml in a quart of water with 1 cup alcohol. Dip a Q-tip in the mixture and touch scale with it every ten days until it fails to reappear. Mealy bugs can be swabbed with rubbing alcohol. Keeping the leaves clean and humidity up helps prevent spider mites.

Once a spike has formed, do not reorient the plant in relation to the light source. If you remove it for watering, be sure you replace it in the exact original position. This precaution avoids corkscrewing the spike. "What you want," says Ann, "is a long, graceful arch." Stake the spikes as they get taller.

After bloom, particularly with store-bought Phals, which are already exhausted, Ann recommends cutting the spike completely OFF at the end of May.

Follow these tips, and you can enjoy even your inexpensive moth orchids for many years.

HOWEVER:

Beware Taiwan Yellows Web: article of interest Sun, Jan 15, 2012

Subject: re Query re Phalaenopsis

Hello Oliver,

What you are describing sounds a lot to me like a Taiwanese disease called Taiwan Yellows. The Taiwanese have been using high levels of Antibiotics for years on these plants in their giant production houses to control Pseudomonas bacteria. They have used these antibiotics so much that they have created a super strain of the bacteria which although latent when they ship their plants to foreign countries usually erupts on infected plants in a month or two after shipping. Often the cool temperatures in countered in shipping in containers by sea and the cooler environs of finishing greenhouses in say North America and Europe often portend the onset of the bacterial infection.

We have had many customers come in with these mass produced plants from some of the big box stores wanting us to diagnose the problem. We simply don't allow those plants in our retail area anymore due to the virulent nature of this bacteria. My own personal experience goes back to the world orchid conference in Miami in January of 2008. I went there to look for plants to add to my breeding stock and had purchased ten *Phal. Bellina coerulea* from a Taiwanese vendor. I brought them back to Minnesota, potted them up and put them on the bench to grow and flower out in the coming summer. After about two or three weeks I lost one of the plants and then another, every week or two until I started noticing that in the same area radiating in an outward circle more and more of my plants were becoming infected.

This went on until early summer and the circle of death was enlarging as time went on. I had thrown out over \$50,000 worth of plants and not just Phalaenopsis but other species as well. I tried using every fungicide and bactericide I could find including Physan 20, Phyton 27, Cleary's but could not stop the spread. I had to get the University of Minnesota involved and they looked at the cell tissue and found that there was the highest concentration of the bacteria in a cell that they had ever seen. Their suggestion was to destroy every plant in the greenhouse and then to bleach all the greenhouse surfaces including walls, benches, floors and glazing! After collecting orchids for 30 years I could not imagine destroying plants that could simply not be replaced. I just happened to read in a greenhouse



trade magazine about a new product that was made of dimethyl Ammonium chloride laced with urea that would go inside the plant tissues and kill bacteria, fungal and even virus from within yet still preserve the nucleus of the cell. I was ready to try anything so I called the company that made it and they sent me some samples to try.

After one application the disease was halted. I applied the product two more times two weeks apart and managed to clean the bacteria right out of the plant. Yellow leaves, slowly over a period of two or three months regained their green look and what amazed me more was the cleaning of certain orchid viruses right out of stud phalaenopsis that I knew had virus but kept anyway for historical purposes.

One of the symptoms of Taiwanese Yellow can be a yellow watery filled leaf. The disease spreads through water and can swim across benches and up walls as well as across the floor. I know of folks in Canada and the US who have lost their whole collection to this disease. Some were commercial growers and others were hobbyists. Not all Taiwanese plants or growers have this problem but I do believe that since some countries like the USA or other European countries started allowing Taiwanese Phalaenopsis to be imported with the sphagnum moss and pots they were originally growing in, the problem has become worse. Bare root plants didn't seem to be as much as a problem.

I have also personally seen Dendrobium weevils hiding in the sphagnum moss and then climb up the flower stems to chew on the flowers. US growers were asked by the U.S.D.A. for comments and opinions about allowing plants from Taiwan into the US with the potting mix (moss) still on the roots and in pots. US growers all voiced their opposition to this idea but we were brushed aside as what this was really about was a reciprocal trade deal made during the Clinton era. The Hawaiian growers tried to sue the government but they made a mistake and sued them in Washington D.C. where things have a habit of being tilted in the Government's favor. It would have been better to sue in Hawaii. The Hawaiians then decided to impose a ban on plants arriving in Hawaii in moss and in pots but the USDA forced their hand and told them they couldn't impose a State rule over a Federal rule regarding national Agricultural commerce. I would suggest that any serious hobbyist or commercial grower either isolate new plants for a time and treat them to prevent a tragic loss of beloved stock that is sometimes irreplaceable.



Phal Kirifuri Paper Moon

Taken from unverified source for a popular Orchid Forum.

Victoria Orchid Society Minutes of General Meeting March 27, 2012

The meeting of March 27th was held in the Garth Homer Centre. President Ingrid Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. Ingrid welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that they sign the attendance sheet. Andrew Rickman joined the Society as a new member.

Tonight we started with the show table, with Calvin Wong commenting and Noreen Taylor assisting.

Secretary's Report: MOTION: Shirley Page/Noreen Taylor moved that the minutes of the February 2012 meeting be approved as published in the newsletter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Treasurer's Report: Ingrid presented the financial report for the month of February 2012 in Jane's absence, Poul Hansen moved for acceptance, seconded by Nancy Cole.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other Reports:

1. **Memberships:** Joyce reported we now have 85 members.
2. **AOS Richmond Judging:** The April judging will be held on Friday, April 13th in Nanaimo during the CVIOS. show.
3. **Website:** Blair is working on loading the show pictures, once he blurs faces.
4. **COC:** Their newsletter, which we can read on their website, has two of Ingrid's articles published.
5. **Library:** Nancy will send out a reminder in May to return all books by the June meeting.
6. **Programs:** Joe Chow will speak in May on backyard orchids and in April Bryan Emery will give us a talk on Pleurothallis in April. In June we will have an auction starting at 7:00 and members are requested to bring their groomed orchid plants for donation. The donor will decide what percentage the Society gets and Joe will prepare photos of the donated plants if he is given a list by the end of May.
7. **Vancouver Show:** Nancy and Kathryn did our set up and Marilyn and Don brought it back home, all in Lioba's van (Thank you Lioba!) Their show was well attended and only two AOS awards were given, both to Joe Chow's *Phrag. Wossner Supergrande 'Memoria Kumsue'* AM-CCM/AOS. Best in show trophies went to: Diana Rowles for First Bloom Seedling, Don Mills for *Dendrobium*, Poul Hansen for *Miltonia* and Joe Chow for *Phragmipedium*. Pat van Adrichem's *Phalaenopsis* Yellow Tiger had an AOS nomination. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you all who contributed!
8. **Upcoming Shows:** Nanaimo – Art Macgregor will transport the plants and Kristi Leon will help with the set up. Catherine and Ingrid will attend the BCOC meeting and Ingrid and Diana will bring the plants home. Drop off sites will be Debb Ward's and Ingrid's Wednesday, April 11th up to 7:00 PM. Ingrid also announced that there are orchid shows in Kennewick, WA in May and Calgary, AB in June.
9. **Spring Show:** Art reported on the overwhelming success of the Spring Show and thanked all the volunteers for their help and in particular Kathryn Collins for all her assistance. He told of the cooperation of the media wishing to help because of our partnership with the Victoria Hospitals Foundations and said VHF would be getting close to \$1,200.00 donation from us.
10. **Workshops:** David has arranged post show workshops at Gardenworks March 31, Cannor April 14 and Marigold April 28th. Geoff Haywood, Joyce Wilson and Diana Rowles will work at Gardenworks and Nancy Cole, Joyce Wilson and Dave McElderry with work at Cannor.

New Business

- Goodies for April should be brought by members with last names beginning with A and B.
- Does anyone have an *Onc. sphacelatum* for sale – Debb Ward might and will check.
- After taking a vote, it was decided that coffee and tea only, will be served at the beginning of the meeting then again at the break with goodies.
- It was also agreed that the presentation of the show table at the beginning of the meeting was a pleasant change.

Speaker: Following the coffee break and prize draws, Calvin Wong gave a talk and slide show on *Neofinetia falcata*, the wind orchid.

Next Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 24th at Garth Homer Centre.

Adjournment: The President declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathryn Collins

Society Information

General meetings are held at the Garth Homer Centre, 813 Darwin Ave., Victoria B.C., on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Members are encouraged to bring in their orchids in bloom to display on the show table. They will be photographed and posted on our website.



Den. nobile 'Star Sapphire'

Guest speakers are engaged for these meetings and often speakers bring plants for sale. There is also a sale table where plants brought in by members may be purchased.

Plant sales begin at 7:15 p.m. and the meeting runs from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Membership fees are \$25.00 for individuals, \$35.00 for households. The Society membership year runs from September to September, but meetings are not held in July and August. Name tags are available for \$9.00, magnetized tags are \$11.00.

Coffee and tea are available for \$1.00 at the meeting and goodies are provided by members in rotation, based upon the initial letter of their last names. Goodies are requested from those with last names beginning with A & B for the April meeting.

The Victoria Orchid Society Newsletter is published monthly, around the 15th of each month, excepting December, July and August. Newsletters will be sent by email to members with email access. Email addresses will be blind copied. Upon request, copies of the newsletter may be picked up at meetings for those not wishing to print off their copy at home.

Advertising, in the newsletter, is free of charge to members in good standing: \$2.00 per business card size ad per month to a member owned business (\$20.00 per fiscal year), \$5.00 per month to non-member businesses (\$50.00 per fiscal year). Businesses may also advertise on the Victoria Orchid Society web site *Classifieds* page for the same costs.

The Society's mailing Address is 1199 Tattersall Drive, Victoria, B.C. V8P 1Y8.

Who Does What?

President	➤ Ingrid Ostrander	Membership Chair	➤ Joyce Wilson
Vice-president	➤ Diana Rowles	Library Committee	➤ Nancy Cole, Tim Hayes
Secretary	➤ Kathryn Collins	Spring Show Chair	➤ Art Macgregor
Treasurer	➤ Jane Mason	Plant Sales	➤ Rick Rancourt & Coreen Kempling
Past President	➤ Nancy Miklic	Prize Draw	➤ Florence Davis/Heather Ord
Directors:	➤ Joyce Wilson	Plant Orders	➤ Debb Ward
	➤ Catherine Frutiger	AOS Rep	➤ Jonathan Littau
	➤ Coreen Kempling	COC Rep	➤ Ingrid Ostrander
	➤ Florence Davis	Culture Classes	➤ Dave McElderry
	➤ Nancy Cole	Web Page	➤ Blair Humphrey
	➤ Jonathan Littau	Plant Photos	➤ Diana Rowles, Donna Stuart
	➤ John Taylor	Fall Show Chair	➤ Dave McElderry
	➤ Dave McElderry	Programs	➤ Joe Chow
		Newsletter Editor	➤ Diana Rowles
		Newsletter proof reader	➤ Joe Chow
		Executive Spokesman	➤ Ingrid Ostrander
		Potting material sales	➤ Catherine Frutiger
		50/50 Draw	➤ Catherine Frutiger
		Hospitality	➤ Lioba Samer
		Promotion Rep	➤ John Taylor

In emergencies, call Ingrid Ostrander at (250) 652-0753.

Opportunities

Used aquarium for sale. \$50 or best offer.

- 50 US gallons or 42 Imperial gallons
- size: W=18" H=18" L=36"

Great for use as a terrarium. See Joe at meeting

Discounts:

At the following places, a 10% discount is given to Victoria Orchid Society Members on the purchase of regularly priced items by these various establishments. You will have to show your current VicOS membership card to receive the discount at most places.

- **Borden Mercantile** – 3960 Borden Ave., Saanich
- **Dig This** – 128-560 Johnson St., 1990 Oak Bay Ave., 480-777 Royal Oak Dr.
- **GardenWorks** – 4290 Blenkinsop Rd., 1916 Oak Bay Ave.
- **Integrity Sales** – 2180 Keating Crossroad, Saanich
- **Buckerfields**, 1070 Keating Crossroad, Saanich
- **Urban Oasis Horticultural Services**, 4649 W. Saanich Rd., Saanich



Bc. Daffodil

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