

Victoria Orchid Society



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Phrag. Andean Fire



◀ Don Mills' magnificent *Den. spectabile* shared the choice of best plant on display at the January meeting with Joe Chow's elegant *Phrag. Hanne Popow* ▲

**Meetings:
2012 Spring**

- February 28
- March 27
- April 24
- May 22
- June 26

Welcome to new member Marilyn Simpson!

From the Editor

The Victoria Orchid Spring Show is fast approaching. I would encourage all recent members who may not been involved in a show to volunteer to help at the show. It is a great way to get to meet other members and to pick up tips on orchids culture. If you would like to find out more about the "show jobs" or ask any questions about volunteering, you will find me at the back table during coffee break at the February meeting with handouts on the various positions.

No goodies are required for February meeting as the providers for the January meeting were particularly generous.

Diana Rowles

Sad news!

We have been notified by Dennis Withner that his father, Dr. Carl Withner has passed away. Carl was a much revered orchid judge, author, breeder, and teacher. All who knew him were enriched by Carl's generous spirit.

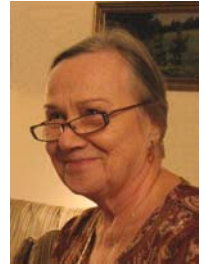


Blc. Morning Glory
'Remar' HCC/AOS

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).



Ingrid Ostrander

President's Message

Spring is just around the corner!

So is our show, and the renewed flowering of our special plants – the orchids.

I hope you will have lots of flowers to bring to the Victoria display at our show. But some other things are also bound to wake up: the bugs! We must be very observant to nip the pests early on, before they will spread.

If you have experienced slugs and/or snails in your growing area before, spread snail bait lightly once and then again in two weeks. You can also use oranges or apples cut in half and place cut-side-down on the bench – slugs love to eat the fruit and will hide underneath for easy catching.



Another feared enemy are the scale insects.

A Florida grower recommends a spray made of 3 tablespoonsful of vegetable oil whipped with one gallon of warm water, kept in constant agitation while applied with a sprayer. Two weeks later, spray a solution of soap made with 4 tablespoonsful of soap – not detergent! in one gallon of warm water. If you see clusters of scale, use this solution to scrub them off with an old toothbrush. Keep an eye out for ants, which may be carrying scale insects to build plantations of them in your orchids. Circulating air can also carry scale.

Spring 2012

Feb.28 – Poul Hansen From Seed Pod to Composite pot
Mar. 27 – Calvin Wong of Tropical Orchid Gardens, Neofinetia falcata
April 24 th – Bryan Emery, Pleurothallis
May 22 nd – Joe Chow, Backyard orchids
June 26 th - Auction

And then there are
mealybugs and
spider mites



Thrips have a shorter life cycle, so you would have to repeat these treatments every week against these. Enough of these remedies – as long as our orchids are happy – we are happy!

Please, do come to the show to bring plants, to help – sign up for little spaces of time as a volunteer, help with the judging on Friday morning and

ALL OF YOU – COME OUT FOR THE ORCHID GALA ON FRIDAY EVENING.

See you there.

Ingrid Ostrander

Reminders:

The photographing of the display table plants is starting to work more smoothly now. Donna Stuart has kindly agreed to help facilitate the process. So, those people bringing plants are asked to do the following:

- 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.

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 a short (as possible) business meeting, the presentation of the plants on the display table, a coffee break with a prize draw of plants and orchid related material and then, 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.).



February 28th – A Keep-it-Simple Approach to Growing Orchids from Seed

Poul Hansen will do a presentation on growing orchids in flasks from seed. Poul has been “flasking” for many years now and has grown some exceptional hybrids. His plants are frequently awarded at shows.

Awarded seedlings that resulted from my own flasking:



Mps. vexillaria 'Poul's Super Oscuro' AM/AOS

In the late '70's John Davis (from North Van.) sent me pollen of an exquisite *Mps. vexillaria* that arrived in a blinding snowstorm. That pollen was placed on a very nice *Mps. phalaenopsis* I happened to have in bloom. I gave a community pot of this cross to Marie Riopelle in Portland. This is a remake of *Mps. Venus* from 1917. The plants were distributed among growers in that area and, to my amazement, managed to get seven AOS quality awards. *Mps. Venus* 'On The Half Shell' AM/AOS made it all the way to Maui and has since been used in breeding over there (by Ivan Komoda).

Wally Thomas sent me pollen of a very fine *Odm. Quisto* and I crossed it to my Mtssa. Olmec. It was registered as *Dgmra. Inge Bihary* because she was the first person to flower a seedling. One of my plants was awarded an AM/AOS and I gave it a clonal name 'Hansen'.

Poul Hansen

March 27th - Calvin Wong – will speak on *Neofinetia falcata*.

Neofinetia falcata is known by so many names, including the Wind Orchid and the Samurai Orchid, all denote its special status as an orchid of wealth and nobility. Its compact size, long history, mystique, fragrance and the variety of leaf forms, variegation and flower colours created a real craze to orchid growers around the world.

Calvin Wong, AOS Probationary Judge, and owner of Tropical Gardens Orchids ([HYPERLINK "http://www.tgorchids.com" www.tgorchids.com](http://www.tgorchids.com)), has been successfully growing this species under various conditions, and he is one of the very few non-Japanese native members of the Japan *Neofinetia falcata* Society. He will give us an overview of this delightful species; and also share his tips and tricks on growing them well.

Members will be able to order plants from his website through Debb and pay for them when picking them up at the March meeting.

March 2, 3 & 4, Victoria Orchid Society Spring Show

We are very optimistic about the upcoming show. We have more vendors than usual, including Norito Hasegawa from L.A. (Paphanatics). We will be selling (on consignment) plants from Ecuagenera, GoldenGate Orchids (from San Francisco), and locally, we are very lucky to have pleiones donated by Linda Dowling (Happy Valley Lavender Farm).



*VicOS display
at the 2009 spring show*

Once again, we will have ForestView Orchids from the mainland. Our local growers, the backbone of our sales area, as usual will be very much in evidence. There will be an opportunity for members of VicOS to sell nicely grown divisions of their plants or plants which have grown too large for their space. These will be on the VicOS sale table and members who have such plants to sell will be expected to take a stint at the sales table.

We are getting great support from advertisers and vendors who are donating gift certificates, plants, tickets (eg. Butterfly Gardens). Prior to the show we are going to have fun on Friday night with a "gala" evening which I promise will be entertaining – followed, of course, by a chance to buy plants before the show opens on Saturday.

You're going to enjoy the whole weekend and at the same time help a very worthy charity - the Victoria Hospitals Foundation.

Come, bring friends.

*Art Macgregor
Show Chair*

Past Events

January 24 meeting - Marilyn Light spoke on Chinese Cymbidiums

Marilyn presented historical information on these interesting orchids as well as species information and culture tips.

She explained that the chimney pots (tall and narrow) in which we frequently find Chinese Cymbidium are used because they are most conducive to keeping the roots cool (below 25C). In the wild, they grow out of harsh rocks, usually facing east. Ideally, they should be potted in a loose mixture of fired clay pellets, moss and perlite. They should be watered from the top and fed with a high nitrogen, low phosphate fertilizer every two weeks.



Marilyn Light

Marilyn also talked about the many Cypripedium that grow in China and showed delightful pictures of many of them growing in the wild. It was a most interesting and informative talk.

On February 11th Henk Oudt held a session at his green house, *Winter Greenhouse Knowledge*.

Henk has many innovative systems in his large greenhouse and enthusiastically shares his knowledge with visitors.



▲ Henk & Sasha examine polycarbonate siding.

Henk's unique ▲ hanging systems suspend his plants securely and decoratively.



◀ Sensor systems, humidity controls and heating trays deal with air circulation, and the special needs of different plants, producing Masdevallia, ▶ Cymbidiums and Cattleya hybrids which all seemed to be in bud or in flower.



Abu Salleh

Judging Centre news

At the AOS Pacific Northwest Judging (Richmond)Center's monthly meeting on January 14, 2012 no AOS awards were granted.

On February 11th, several plants were awarded, including **John Taylor's *Catasetum moorei*** 'Munjeet' which has been given a provisional CBR/AOS *

* Photos of the awarded plants will be seen in the March newsletter when they arrive from Abu.

Victoria Orchid Society
Minutes of General Meeting January 24, 2012

The meeting of January 24th was held in the Garth Homer Centre. President Ingrid Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Ingrid welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that they sign the attendance sheet, wished everyone Kung Hei Fat Choy and reminded us tomorrow is Robbie Burns Day. Our guests this evening were Kathy and Theresa and Marilyn Simpson joined us as a new member. Ingrid then announced the passing of Dr. Henk Blouw, our president in 1984-1986, and Dr. Art Macgregor shared a few memories of his times with Henk including the fact he and Henk put together the first VicOS AOS judged show.



Phrag. Grande

Secretary's Report: MOTION: Poul Hansen/Noreen Taylor moved that the minutes of the November, 2011 meeting be approved as published in the newsletter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Treasurer's Report: Jane Mason presented the financial report for the months of November and December, 2011, moved for acceptance, seconded by John Taylor.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other Reports:

1. Memberships: Joyce reported we now have 72 members.
2. Newsletter: We were reminded that Marigold Nurseries does not offer us discounts.
3. Website: Everything about our show is now on our website.
4. Library: The old pamphlets are free and our old locks are for sale for \$2.00 each on the sales table.
5. Programs: Calvin is our March 27th speaker and we need a billet for him on that Tuesday night. The June program will be a special auction. Please start grooming the plants you intend to donate – we do not want inferior items or discards, just as you would not want to bid on a poorly grown plant, don't offer one for others to bid on.
6. Plant Sales: Check Calvin Wong's web site tgorchids.com and place your order with Debb or Joe.
7. Upcoming Shows: We have the Edmonton, Victoria, Winnipeg, Vancouver and Nanaimo shows coming up. Poul explained how inflorescences should be staked as soon as they appear otherwise you may end up with flowers upside down, etc. We are appealing to members to volunteer their van to transport our display to other shows.
8. Spring Show: Art asked for everyone to help out at the show. Our participation helps to make the show a success. He proposed, for the Friday night reception, wine and hors d'oeuvres. UVic will charge \$150 for bar service so we need to sell tickets.

MOTION: Geoff Haywood proposed we sell tickets for \$10 per person to attend the Friday night reception, seconded by Nancy Cole.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The sign up sheets were passed around and Art appealed for help at admissions, security and cashiers/packers. And Ingrid asked everyone to come out Friday morning for ribbon judging.

New Business

- Repot your orchids as soon as new roots appear.
- Henk has offered to open his greenhouse Feb. 11th after 1:00 p.m.
- Any plants brought to the meeting by 6:30 p.m. will be photographed.
- Horticulture Centre of the Pacific is rebuilding after their fire and looking for donations.
- For the February meeting, please bring goodies if your last name begins with S, T, V or W.
(See change on page 1 of this newsletter.)

Show Table: Marilyn Light and Geoff Haywood presented the show table.

Speaker: Following the coffee break and prize draws, Marilyn Light gave a talk and slide show on Chinese Cymbidiums.

Next Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 28th at Garth Homer Centre.

Adjournment: The President declared the meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Kathryn Collins

Opportunities:

The following books will available from the library at meetings – by donation

B-041a	Handbook for Pesticide Applicators & Dispensers,	BC Ministry Environment	1 copy
B-122a	An Orchidist's Lexicon	Oregon O.S.	
B-27a	Beautiful Orchids	McKenzie-Black, P.	1 copy
B-189	Little Book of Orchids		1 copy
B-088a	Orchid Culture in Silva-Bark	Johnstone, E.	2 copies
B-002a	Orchids	Abbeyville Library of Art	1 copy
B-404	Paphiopedilum Primary Hybrids	Radell	1 copy
B-001	The AOS Celebrates its Diamond Jubilee	AOS	1 copy
B-251	Orchid 16th World Orchid Congress		2 copies
B-037a	Orchids for the Home & Greenhouse	Brooklyn Bot. Garden	1 copy
B-287a	Your First Orchids & How to Grow Them	AOS	1 copy
B-117a	Miniature Orchids	Tyson-Northen, R.	1 copy
B-037c	Orchids for the Home & Greenhouse	Brooklyn Bot. Garden	2 copies
B-019	An Illustrated Treasure of Orchids	Anderson F.	1 copy
	Sanders List of Orchid Hybrids - 13 volumes		all available

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 10:00 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. No goodies are required for the February meeting as the January contributors were especially generous.

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, Darlene Li, 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	Hillside 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.

Upcoming Shows:

Feb 24th – 26th, 2012 - *Orchid Fair, the Orchid Society of Alberta's Annual Show and Sale*, will take place Friday to Sunday, February 24 to 26, 2012 at Grant MacEwan University South Campus, 7319-29 Avenue, Edmonton. The show will feature spectacular orchid displays, orchid vendors from Canada, the United States and Asia, and free seminars on orchid growing and related topics. For more information e-mail info@orchidsalberta.com or follow the link on the VicOS website to the OSA website.

March 2nd – 4th, 2012
Victoria Orchid Society Spring Show & Sale, will be held in the Student Union Building at University of Victoria.

March 23, 24, & 25, 2012,
VOS Show at the Van Dusen Botanical Gardens
5251 Oak Street, Vancouver, B.C.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Sunday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m

March 25(Fri) - 27(Sun) 2012,
Manitoba Orchid Society Show & Sale, "Orchid Celebration"
Assiniboine Park Conservatory 15 Conservatory Drive
Winnipeg, MB R3P 2N5
204 927-6000.
http://manitobaorchidsociety.ca/main_mos/index.php

April 13-15, 2012
Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society at Country Club Center,
Nanaimo, BC.
Contact: Sue Christison, email orchidlady@telus.net
<http://www.cvios.com/>

September 11 – 16, 2012 @ Perth, Western Australia:
Wild About Orchids, Burswood Convention Centre, Bolton Ave.,
Burswood, Perth, Western Australia.
www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/19_AOC_Conference.htm
(no space after AOC)



Victoria Orchid Society
Show & Sale
Sat. March 3rd & Sun. 4th, 2012
Student Union Building, University of Victoria

Supporting a healthy community

SATURDAY: 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY: 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

VICTORIA HOSPITALS
FOUNDATION
Giving makes us all better

A donation will go to the Victoria Hospital Foundation from show profits

Don't forget to get more posters and dollar-off coupons at the February meeting if you have run out. We need to get the message out!

Discounts:

Getting your plant collections organized for shows may involve the need for re-potting materials, fancy pots, or “special” orchids to add to your collection. Take advantage of the 10% discount 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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