

# Victoria Orchid Society



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*Cattlianthe Red Viking 'Tania's Own' HCC/AOS grown by Svend Munkholm was chosen as best plant on the display table at the November meeting.*

### Meetings:2011

- January 25*
- February 22*
- March 22*
- April 26*
- May 24*
- June 28*

Goodies for the January meeting are requested from those members with last names beginning with I, J, & K



*Mtps Mario van Peebles*

### From the Editor

Welcome to the new year. I hope that you all had a happy season and are now looking forward to floriferous spring with many blooming plants and several exciting local shows, the Vancouver Orchid Society show in February and Victoria Orchid Society in early March. See information later in newsletter for specifics. *Diana Rowles*

### Sad News

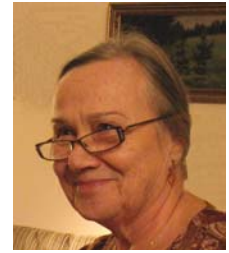
*It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Lynne Cassidy on Saturday, Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. A talented grower, a charming lady and a great traveling companion, her memory will be particularly cherished by the group of VicOS members that she expertly guided around Ecuador last April. It was privilege to know her.*



**Projector techies** - We need several people to assist with setting up the projection for computer presentations. To avoid delays at the start of speaker presentations, we need to be sure that there is someone on hand who knows which buttons to push. We are hoping that if we have a few people in this category there will be no pressure on one person to have to be at every meeting. Art has offered to read the instructions carefully and train people who are prepared to help in this vital role.

*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](mailto:enviroed@telus.net)).*

*Logo photo D.W. Smith*



*Ingrid Ostrander*

**President’s Message**

The holidays are behind us now, but I don’t want to miss this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Happy, Healthy New Year – Gung Hai Fat Choy!

Our Christmas party was a great success with more people joining us than at some meetings. There were again tons of food, lots of prizes and many gifts for the Mustard Seed Bank. Our thanks go to all who helped, especially to the three ladies: Noreen, Lioba and Kathryn.

Cool nights and cool days - when there is sunshine we are happy. When we have thick clouds and dark days – we want to get away to warmer and sunnier places. We don’t want to admit that we live in rainforest country! Yet, this climate is friendly to orchids, if we just give them more light; they are after all, mostly from tropical areas.

So – do your orchids and yourselves a favour: stay home, enjoy the calmer, shorter days of our winter season and put LIGHTS on. There are all kinds of ways to bring light to the orchids (which will also bring us brighter surroundings): There are incandescent bulbs, grow lights, different kinds of tubes and the big guns: metal halide and high-pressure sodium lights. Go to a good hardware store or lamp shop and let the experts help you find light sources that will work for your environment. I am glad that Art, our program chair, has found a speaker for this dark time of the year, our member, Geoff Haywood, who will address this subject, which should help to ‘enlighten’ us.

See you there!

*Ingrid Ostrander*

**Upcoming Shows**

**February 25 to 27, 2011 - Orchid Fair, the Orchid Society of Alberta's** Annual Show and Sale, will take place Friday to Sunday, at Grant MacEwan College 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. This year, we are also proud to host the Canadian Orchid Congress Annual Meeting in conjunction with our show. For more information, e-mail [info@orchidsalberta.com](mailto:info@orchidsalberta.com), or check the OSA website, [www.orchidsalberta.com](http://www.orchidsalberta.com)

|   |
|---|
| <i>Upcoming speakers</i>  |
| <i>January – Geof Haywood<br/>Growing Under Lights –<br/>A New Age.</i> |
| <i>February – Bill Zimmerman<br/>– Paphiopedilum</i>                    |
| <i>March – Dino Baisi,<br/>Orchid Nutrition</i>                         |
| <i>April – Chuck Taylor</i>   |
| <i>May - TBA</i>  |

**February 11-13, 2011 – Orchiflora – Vancouver Orchid Society  
Annual Show & Sale,**

The VOS annual show and sale will be changing venue and scheduling this year. The event will be returning to the VanDusen Gardens, will be a 3 day event (rather than 4), and will take place in February – prime blooming season for many orchids. It is also Valentine weekend. Show schedule:

|                          |                                      |                                      |                              |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Friday, Feb. 11</i>   | <i>08:00 – 15:00: Setup</i>          | <i>15:00 – 18:00: Ribbon Judging</i> | <i>18:30 : Preview Night</i> |
| <i>Saturday, Feb. 12</i> | <i>08:00 : AOS Judging</i>           | <i>09:00 – 19:00: Open to Public</i> |                              |
| <i>Sunday, Feb. 13</i>   | <i>10:00 – 15:00: Open to Public</i> | <i>15:00 : Teardown</i>              |                              |

**Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society Show – April 14-17,2011**  
**Victoria Orchid Society Show – University of Victoria Student Union Building, Mar 4-6, 2011**  
**VicOS Tillicum Mall Show - April 30-May 1, 2011**

## 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 7:30pm. 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 10:00pm.

**January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting - Geoff Haywood** will be speaking on growing orchids under lights. For those of you who have little space to house your precious orchids, this is a presentation not to miss.

About Geoff:

I first got interested in orchids back in 1985 when, as a medical rep, I got to meet Dr. Henk Blouw, who was growing many orchids in those days. He told me about the Victoria Orchid Society and I joined. He also used to loan me some of his flowering orchids to enjoy and then return to him when they had finished flowering. I still have pictures of some of the beautiful Cattleyas he loaned my wife and I. I stayed with the VicOS until 2000 when, with my next wife, I moved to Hawaii. We were members of several orchid societies in Hawaii: namely Kahala, Honolulu and Hawaii Kai. We ended up buying a townhouse in Hawaii Kai and I built a wooden trellis and outdoor bench system to grow orchids in the backyard. We had Vandas and Ascocendas hanging high up under minimal shade cloths and all other plants under 50% shade netting. We “grew” some wonderful orchids - I say “grew” in quotation marks because I didn't really do anything. I had an automatic sprinkling system that watered the orchids and fed them and nature did the rest. We had terrific Dendrobiums, Brassias and Cattleyas but it never got really cool enough at night to get big flowers on the Phals. We had to shock them into flowering by putting ice cubes on their roots in about November.

I came back to Victoria in 2007 and rejoined the Victoria Orchid Society. Living alone in an apartment presents some challenges since the air is fairly dry - but I get around that by growing my orchids under lights in aquaria. This way I can easily maintain 70-80% humidity. Unfortunately it limits the size of plants I can grow.

*Geoff Haywood*

**Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting - Bill Zimmerman**, the AOS Pacific North West Region's chair is a great person, great grower, great judge and will speak about Paphiopedilums with which he has won several AOS awards.

**March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting: Dino Baisi** (CR Orchids) will speak on "Orchid Nutrition".

## Past Events

Our last speaker in November 2010 was Mario Ferrusi, who not only is an accredited AOS judge, but he also has received almost 300 AOS awards (so far) for his plants and for himself.

He presented a slide show “A to Z” of the species that he grows, with beautiful pictures, many showing his awarded plants. He described the cultural conditions required for each group, providing great growing tips for the assembled group.

It was only later that Poul Hansen discovered exactly how many awards Mario had won for his beautiful orchids. Poul and Ingrid kindly gave me some brief notes on what these letters that we see beside plant names actually mean. This is only a very brief explanation. If you want to learn more, please look at the Handbook on AOS judging on the AOS website. Of course there are other judging systems worldwide that also award orchids. Remember, if any plant has any of these award letters on its label, it has been judged to be better than many others – a simple statement that the awarded plants are of reputedly high quality. See the list of Mario’s awards below:

| Title   | Criteria  | Mario      |
|---|---|------------|
| <b>FCC</b> (First class Certificate)              | 90 points +   | <b>1</b>   |
| <b>AM</b> (Award of Merit)                        | 80-89 points  | <b>85</b>  |
| <b>HCC</b> (Highly Commended Certificate)         | 75-79 points  | <b>107</b> |
| <b>CCM</b> Certificate of Cultural Merit)         | awarded to the grower 80-89 points  | <b>57</b>  |
| <b>CCE</b> (Certificate of Cultural Excellence)   | awarded to the grower 90 points +   | <b>11</b>  |
| <b>AD</b> (Award of Distinction)                  | Goes to a worthy new line of breeding   | <b>0</b>   |
| <b>AQ</b> (Award of Quality)                      | 12 or more exceptional quality plants from same seed pod. One or more must have a quality award | <b>4</b>   |
| <b>CHM</b> (Certificate of Horticultural Merit)   | recognition of different but desirable traits in a species or natural hybrid                    | <b>21</b>  |
| <b>CBR</b> (Certificate of Botanical Recognition) | Recognition of a species or natural hybrid (rarity, novelty, and educational value).            | <b>1</b>   |
| <b>JC</b> (Judges' Commendation)                  | anything that doesn't fit under other categories, awarded to exceptional flowers or plants      | <b>1</b>   |

What do all those letters mean when they are attached to the awarded plants?

There are three so-called quality awards (FCC, AM, HCC), two cultural awards (CCM, CCE), two breeder awards (AD, AQ) and two botanical awards (CHM, CBR) plus one (JC) for anything that does not fit under the other criteria. There are also awards for displays and annual awards for most groupings of genera.

The most coveted award is the FCC/AOS, First Class Certificate, which goes to a plant or flower of exceptionally high quality, receiving between 90 - 100 points.

Next comes the AM/AOS, Award of Merit,  
plants or flowers of very high quality, receiving between 80 - 89 points.

Then comes the HCC/AOS, Highly Commended Certificate,  
for plants or flowers of high quality, receiving between 75 – 79 points.

The CCM/AOS, Certificate of Cultural Merit, goes to the grower of a big, healthy plant  
with a very high flower count receiving points from 80 – 89.

The CCE, Certificate of Cultural Excellence, has the same qualifications, but is even bigger  
and better, receiving 90 – 100 points. These two awards are listed with the plant but  
go to the growers in recognition of their skill.

The AD/AOS, Award of Distinction, is awarded to a cross creating a new line of worthwhile breeding;

The AQ/AOS, Award of Quality, is somewhat similar but needs to be superior to earlier crosses of this  
kind and at least one of the required 12 exhibited plants must have received an award of  
quality.

The JC/AOS, Judges' Commendation, is bestowed upon a plant or flower with distinctly different and  
worthwhile features (mostly colour differences) that cannot be judged under the other  
awards.

The CHM/AOS, Certificate of Horticultural Merit is given to recognize worthwhile features in  
a species or natural hybrid.

The CBR/AOS, Certificate of Botanical Merit goes to species or natural hybrids to recognize  
rarity, novelty and educational value.



**Christmas party, December 14, 2010**

*Lovely plants  
on the display  
table*



*A talented  
prize draw  
maestro*



*Satisfied  
customers*



*Lots of goodies*



*Big winners*



*Happy faces  
At the party*

*Well mostly!*

*And lots of great food!*



**Judging Centre news**

I am pleased to report that at the Fraser Valley Orchid Society Show on October 22, 2010, the following AOS awards were granted:

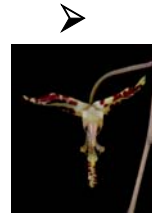
*Paphiopedilum* (Black Currants x Macabre) AM/AOS, 80pts ➤  
\*award is provisional pending hybrid registration  
Exhibitor: Lynne Cassidy



*Paphiopedilum* Imperial Jade 'Carla's Old Faithful' AM/AOS, 80pts ➤  
(*Paphiopedilum primulinum* x *Paphiopedilum stonei*)  
Exhibitor: Carla Bischoff



*Aerides quinquevulnera* 'Bischoff's Grape Wine' AM/AOS, 80pts  
Exhibitor: Carla Bischoff



*Gongora pardina* 'Barbara' AM/AOS, 80pts ➤  
\*award is provisional pending species identification  
Exhibitor: Merv Lutes



*Masdevallia misasii* 'Sea to Sky' AM/AOS, 81pts  
Exhibitor: Koichi Nakatani

At the AOS Pacific Northwest Judging Center (Vancouver)'s monthly meeting on November 13, 2010, the following AOS awards were granted:

*Miltonia* Teresa Mulhollan 'Sophia' AM/AOS, 81pts ➤  
(*Miltonia* Yuko Hatsui x *Miltonia* Hamburg)  
Exhibitor: Poul Hansen



*Cattlianthe* Red Viking 'Tania's Own' HCC/AOS, 78pts ➤  
(*Cattleya* Bonanza 'Texan' HCC/AOS x *Cattlianthe* Chocolate Drop 'Nok')  
\*award is provisional pending hybrid registration  
Exhibitor: Svend Munkholm



*Phragmipedium* Eric Young 'Monica' HCC/AOS, 79pts ➤  
(*Phragmipedium longifolium* x *Phragmipedium besseae* var. *flavum*)  
Exhibitor: Poul Hansen



At the AOS Pacific Northwest Judging Center (Vancouver)'s monthly meeting on December 11, 2010, the following AOS award was granted:

*Miltassia* Minbrach 'Lincoln' AM/AOS, 80pts ➤  
(*Miltonia* Minas Gerais x *Brassia brachiata*)  
Exhibitor: Poul Hansen



**Victoria Orchid Society  
Minutes of General Meeting November 23, 2010**

The meeting of November 23, 2010 was held in the Garth Homer Centre. President Ingrid Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Prior to calling the meeting to order, she reminded everyone that Joe Chow would be taking questions about orchid care. Ingrid welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that they sign the attendance sheet that Barb Judson was passing around. Ingrid announced the meeting would be conducted according to Robert's Rules and she also pointed out the AOS calendars we are selling for \$12.00, Orchid Culture books from the AOS were there and Mario Ferrusi was selling plants.

**Secretary's Report:** MOTION: Noreen Taylor/Nancy Cole moved that the minutes of the October 2010 meeting be approved as published in the newsletter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Treasurer's Report:** Jane Mason presented the financial report for the month of October, 2010 and pointed out the reason for our loss was she was still waiting for the credit card proceeds from the Hillside show, moved for acceptance, seconded by Poul Hansen.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Other Reports:**

1. **Correspondence:** Pat Hendrickson was sent a get well card. Library was closed for this meeting.
2. **Membership:** We now have 67 members.
3. **Christmas Party:** Noreen Taylor announced this year's party will be better than ever. It is again pot luck, so please sign up on the circulating sheet. The draw prizes should be either Christmas, orchid, or food related. There will be door prizes, a silent auction and a live auction.
4. **COC:** They do lots of good things for Canadian orchidists and we should support them however we can. Art Macgregor proposed:

**MOTION:** Victoria Orchid Society should donate \$100.00 for their annual meeting, seconded by Shirley Page.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **Library:** We need to dispose of surplus magazines and duplicate books. Svend Munkholm proposed:

**MOTION:** Surplus magazines and books should be sold and the proceeds donated to the Judges Travel Fund, seconded by Ross Jackson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. **Workshops:** David said there are no workshops lined up until March. Ingrid asked if any member would like to give a Saturday afternoon presentation on how they grow their orchids.
7. **Programs:** Art announced Geoff Haywood would be speaking in January on "Growing Under Lights". He requested members to speak to him if there are any topics they would like presented.
8. **Draw Tickets:** Get your tickets for the prize draw and 50/50.

**New Business:**

1. **Spring Show:** Svend announced we have been approved to hold an AOS show and that we have a full slate of volunteers for the show committee. The theme will be “Orchids – Flowers of Romance and Mystery”. In January and February we will be looking for volunteers to work at the show – it is your show and without you there is no show. Svend showed a sample of the 2011 show poster.

**Report from Executive Meeting:**

1. **Culture Sheets:** Joyce counted all the culture sheets, so we have a current inventory.
2. **Trifolds:** Diana has prepared the new trifolds for the Society.
3. **Webmaster:** We are still looking for someone to look after our webpage.
4. **Projector:** Poul helped set up the projector, but we are still looking for a backup person.
5. **New Members:** Art has volunteered to show new members the growing conditions in various other members’ homes/greenhouses.
6. **Memberships:** Coreen has suggested we offer 2 and 3 year membership packages. We will start doing this effective September 2011.
7. **Executive Meeting:** Ingrid announced the next executive meeting will be held November 30<sup>th</sup> at her home at 7:00 pm.

**Show Table:** Mario Ferrusi and Poul Hansen presented the show table.

**Speaker:** Following the coffee break and prize draws, Mario Ferrusi first addressed his audience with a short update on the AOS, then gave a talk and slide show on orchids he has grown.

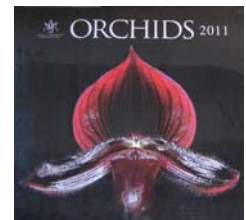
**Next Meeting:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at Garth Homer Centre.

**Adjournment:** The President declared the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted  
*Kathryn Collins*

**Special Deals:**

Beautiful *AOS Orchid Calendars* can be purchased for only \$12.00. There are only seven left. Call Kathryn Collins at (250) 384-9139.



*The AOS booklet "Your First Orchid"*, will be available at the January meeting for \$10.00.

*Urban Oasis Garden Center* offers 10% off to flower club members.

Urban Oasis will be offering great deals on pre-booked bulbs, and perennials this winter. Watch for catalogues to be posted ASAP on our blog and Facebook groups. Plugs and liners are a great way to get those expensive new plants first, and at a fraction of the price.

We will also be launching a spring plant swap, so watch for that online as well.

*Urban Oasis Garden Center*  
4649 West Saanich Rd  
Saanich, BC  
V8Z 3G9  
  
Phone 250 479 6868  
Fax 250 479 6844  
[www.urbanoisgardening.net](http://www.urbanoisgardening.net)

Urban Oasis has started both a group and a page on facebook, check us out there, or on our blog, we will be offering lots of specials and coupons online this season. We will have a coupon for a free plant to be redeemed this Spring as our thanks for joining our Facebook Group and helping us grow.



## 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.



*Masdevallia Copperwing'*

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

Plant sales begin at 7:15 pm and the meeting runs from 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm.

Membership fees are \$20.00 for individuals, \$30.00 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 \$10.00, magnetized tags are \$15.00.

Coffee and tea are available at the meeting and goodies are provided by members in rotation, based upon the initial letter of their last names. Members with last names beginning with I, J, & K are asked to bring goodies to the January meeting.

The Victoria Orchid Society Newsletter is published monthly, around the 15<sup>th</sup> 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. Those with no email access may ask for a mailed copy. (We are trying to cut down our mailing costs.)

Advertising 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).

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                 | ➤ Pat Hendrickson    | Library Committee       | ➤ Darlene Li                      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> vice-president | ➤ Art Macgregor      | Spring Show Chair       | ➤ Svend Munkholm                  |
| Secretary                      | ➤ Kathryn Collins    | Show Assistant          | ➤ Kathryn Collins                 |
| Treasurer                      | ➤ Jane Mason         | Plant Sales             | ➤ Rick Rancourt & Coreen Kempling |
| Past President                 | ➤ Nancy Miklic       | Prize Draw              | ➤ Florence Davis/Dave McElderry   |
| Directors:                     | ➤ Joyce Wilson       | Plant Orders            | ➤ Debb Ward                       |
|                                | ➤ Diana Rowles       | AOS Rep                 | ➤ Jonathan Littau                 |
|                                | ➤ Catherine Frutiger | COC Rep                 | ➤ Ingrid Ostrander                |
|                                | ➤ Dave McElderry     | Culture Classes         | ➤ Dave McElderry                  |
|                                | ➤ Coreen Kempling    | Web Page                | ➤ Blair Humphrey (acting)         |
|                                | ➤ Florence Davis     | Plant Photos            | ➤ Diana Rowles                    |
|                                | ➤ Poul Hansen        | Hillside Show Chair     | ➤ Dave McElderry                  |
|                                | ➤ Don Miklic         | Programs                | ➤ Art Macgregor                   |
|                                | ➤ Svend Munkholm     | Newsletter Editor       | ➤ Diana Rowles                    |
|                                |                      | Newsletter proof reader | ➤ Joe Chow                        |
|                                | Executive Spokesman  | ➤ Ingrid Ostrander      |                                   |
|                                | Christmas Party      | ➤ Noreen Taylor         |                                   |
|                                | 50/50 Draw           | ➤ Catherine Frutiger    |                                   |
|                                | Hospitality          | ➤ Lioba Samer           |                                   |

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

## Opportunities:

### *Tour to North West Flower & Garden Show*

Good Day. I thought the members of your garden club would be interested in our tour to the Northwest Flower & Garden Show, the third largest spring flower show in North America, taking place in Seattle. This four day tour departs February 22 and features two full days at the show.

Here is the link to the detailed itinerary on our web site:

[http://www.wellsgraytours.com/tourFiles/northwest\\_flower\\_garden\\_show~victoria.pdf](http://www.wellsgraytours.com/tourFiles/northwest_flower_garden_show~victoria.pdf)

I can also mail you individual itineraries for your members. If you have 10 or more from your club that participate, we would be happy to extend a further discount.

Please call for further information or to book your trip. Thank you!

### **February 25-27, 2011 - *Along the Silk Road***



2011 Western Winter Study Weekend at the Mary Winspear Centre  
2243 Beacon Avenue Sidney-by-the-Sea, British Columbia  
Hosted by the Vancouver Island Rock & Alpine Garden Society

Registration: Early Bird (before January 28, 2011) - \$135.

After Jan 28/2011 fee is - \$155.

For more information and Registration Form, please visit the website [www.virags.ca/winterstudyweekend.htm](http://www.virags.ca/winterstudyweekend.htm)

#### **Speakers:**

- Stephanie Ferguson: expert rock and crevice gardener from Calgary, Alberta
- Vojtěch Holubec: author of *The Caucasus and its Flowers*, consummate grower of alpinas and seed collector
- John Massey: owner of Ashwood Nurseries, UK ; renowned for his expertise on Asian and European hepaticas
- Hans Roemer: bulb collector and ecologist
- Yvonne Rorison: avid photographer of flowers on all continents
- Bill Terry: Meconopsis expert and author of *Blue Heaven – Encounters with the Blue Poppy*
- Dr. Bobby J. Ward: from Raleigh, North Carolina, author of *The Plant Hunter's Garden*

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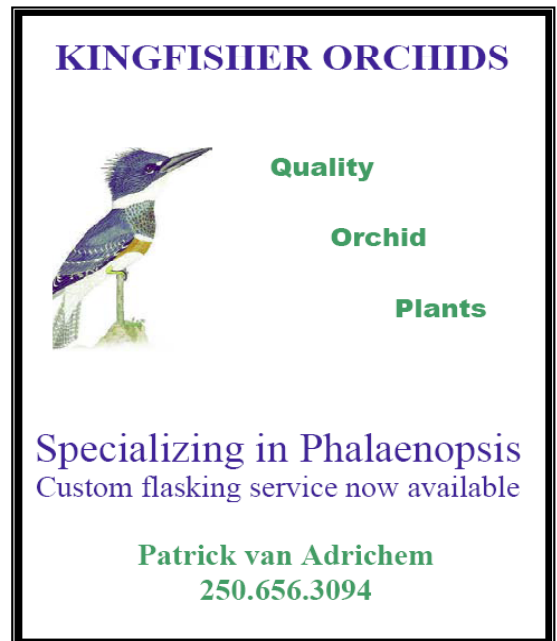
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