

Victoria Orchid Society



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*This lovely *Cypripedium parviflorum*, grown by Coreen Kempling, was chosen as best plant on the display table at the May meeting.*

**Meetings:
Summer
2013**

June 25th
June 23rd – BBQ
Aug 31st – bus trip

Members with last names starting with **S, T, & V** are asked to bring goodies for the June meeting.



Phrag. Inca Fire

From the Editor

The summer bus trip to Paramount Orchids will take place on August 31st. We need 25 people to put it together and are not quite there yet. So, if you are intending to come but haven't got your ticket yet, please purchase it at the barbecue or the June meeting. If you have your ticket, encourage a friend to accompany you. The tickets are \$35/person and if we manage to fill the bus, they could be even less. These bus trips are always a lot of fun and Paramount has amazing greenhouses.

Once again there will be a free prize draw ticket for those people spotting the *Surprise Orchid* (✂ identified by this symbol) in the newsletter. Watch for it, you could be a winner.

Diana Rowles

www.victoriaorchidsociety.com

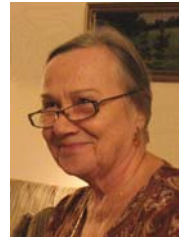
Check out our website for information about the society, upcoming events, plant registration for shows, regulations for bringing orchids into Canada, and what books are in our library and links to interesting sites. The orchids from the display table each meeting are now posted on the web.

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:

June – Midsummer - time for holidays and summer picnics, time for lots of flowers and a serious growing season for our orchids. Now, with the sun high in the sky, our treasures will want to get good care to put out excellent new growth so they can reward us with exotic blossoms during the darker months.



Ingrid Ostrander

June is also the time for the elections of a new executive and I hope you will all come out and help with the voting – no worries – Joe has his slate full, so we don't have to twist people's arms.

There will be another orchid auction at our June meeting. Bring your surplus plants and join the fun. Remember, we are going to have a show table in June, so show us your latest achievements in orchid growing.

Congratulations to Poul Hansen for garnering two more AOS awards at the June AOS judging in Richmond for his Miltoniopsis. Hopefully, Poul will bring his lovely winners so we all can admire them.

I am sure we all look forward to another barbecue at Florence Davies' beautiful garden and hope the weather will be as good as it has always been. This is one of our orchid year highlights – hope to see you there!

Ingrid

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. The plants on the display table are presented by experts, followed by a short 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.). Note that the June meeting will start earlier for the Auction (see note on next page).



June 23rd, Summer Barbecue at Florence Davis, 1876 San Juan Avenue, 5:00 p.m. arrival.

As well as gorgeous food, this event features a brown bag prize draw, similar to the one we have at Christmas. Guests are asked to bring a couple of items for the draw table. These can be orchid related or not, as long as they are nice items. Each item will be numbered and attached to a brown bag. Tickets are sold by the arm's length (\$5.00) and participants put tickets into the bags for the items they would like to win.

June 25th meeting, VicOS Auction

The June meeting will be the scene of the Orchid Auction, and the Annual General Meeting at which next year's executive will be elected. Both of these need your attention. Times will be slightly different for this June meeting: **People should arrive at Garth Homer at 6:30 p.m. to browse the plant tables to identify the plants on which they wish to bid. Those bringing plants for auction should arrive at 6:00 p.m. The auction will start at 7:00 p.m.** After the auction there will be the regular business meeting and election of the directors for the new season, starting in September.

Joe has sent around a form to all members requesting information on plants for the auction. By getting this information well ahead of time, he can find photos (unless you can send photos for your plants) on the web to project during the auction. You need to indicate what percentage of the money received for your plants you wish to donate to the society. Make sure that you have sent your form to Joe.

This is your opportunity to trim your collection, sell off nice divisions or move out a plant that has simply become too large for your space. Of course, at the auction you can purchase a few more that fit your space or growing techniques.



Bryan Emery has agreed to be our auctioneer again this year. He did a fantastic job last year and the auction was a big success: a lot of fun and a good money maker for the Society.

Help to make it as successful this year.



The Annual General Meeting will occur after the auction and the new executive for next year will be elected. New members are invited to put their names up for nomination for directorship. We always need new blood and new ideas. Contact Joe Chow, the nominating chair, if you are interested.

Saturday, August 31st Bus trip to Paramount Orchids in Parksville

Bus tickets will be available at the June meeting and at the barbecue on June 23rd. This will be a really exciting trip and we need a minimum of 25 people to make it viable. Get your tickets now and relax, knowing that you have this treat coming up at the end of the summer.



2006 bus trip up-island

Past Events

The May 28th meeting featured a DVD presentation of *The Judge The Hunter The Thief and the Black Orchid*.

The film, a documentary about the orchid world, was an interesting alternative to live presentations and was well received.

Judging News

At the AOS Pacific Northwest Judging Center (Richmond)'s judging at the Foothills Orchid Society's Show on May 25, 2013, the following AOS awards were granted:

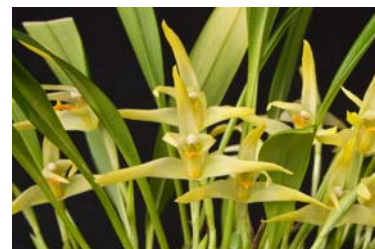
AOS Show Trophy ST/AOS
Exhibitor: Orchid Species Preservation Foundation ➤



Barkeria spectabilis 'Shannon Letendre' CCE/AOS 90pts ➤
Exhibitor: Terry Letendre



Barkeria spectabilis 'Shannon Letendre' AM/AOS 81pts . . . ➤
Exhibitor: Terry Letendre



Maxillaria shephardii 'Sweet Carol Anne' CHM/AOS 85pts ➤
Exhibitor: Darrell Albert
Note: award is provisional pending species identification



Maxillaria shephardii 'Darrell's Dilemma' AM/AOS 84pts . . ➤
Exhibitor: Darrell Albert
Note: award is provisional pending species identification



Cypripedium parviflorum var. *pubescens* forma *planipetalum* 'Bumble Bee'
CHM/AOS 80pts ➤
Exhibitor: Shawn Hillis
Note: award is provisional pending species identification

Odontoglossum praestans 'Doug Bovee' HCC/AOS 76pts . . ➤
Exhibitor: Orchid Species Preservation Foundation



Photographs by Judy Higham

Special Report

ORCHID INTENSIVE CARE

By Ian Johnston
from OSA MAY 2013 newsletter

Everyone has experienced the loss of a favorite orchid, and it always seems to be one that is not easily replaced. We all regret that we did not take some remedial action. Perhaps the method I suggest below will help save that precious plant.

What is needed is a small confined space that can be controlled in temperature, humidity, and rate of evaporation

First, you will need a common white plastic tray that is sold in any gardening store, about 11" x 21" and 2" deep. Also with this tray comes a clear plastic dome that is about 7" tall. For the bottom of the tray I cut a piece of carpet underlay which is about 1/2" thick and is very much like a sponge. The underlay should be soaked with water but not to the point of having water lying on top of the underlay. Now you have a miniature greenhouse that can be controlled for all the growing factors. I must concede that the plants to be placed in it will be limited by the height, which is 7". (The set-up shown at right is in container from Lee Valley and has a top vent – cost about \$15. It seems to be working for me. Diana.)



Can this plant be saved? Even wretched specimens like this one may thrive anew with intensive care



The most important indication of plant failure will be the loss of the roots, for without a good root structure the plant is unable to obtain the necessities of life. The decayed roots or other rotting material should be cut off and the plant given a good wash. A good soak in a damp-off solution of Benlate and water will stop this rotting.

Place the plant into the smallest pot suitable considering the size of the plant. It is important that the plant be underpotted at this point. The potting medium or mix should be clean, washed sphagnum moss that will be packed in the pot around the plant. This mix should not be compressed or packed too tightly, for there must be some air space around the root area.

Very little watering will be needed while the plant is in the "ICU", for the rate of evaporation will be at a minimum. The plastic canopy can be raised slightly if you feel there is just too much humidity therein. One would think that with the high humidity and lack of air circulation the plant would continue to rot; however I believe the use of sphagnum prevents this from happening. The rate of recovery will be fast and is first evidenced by the new root growths. A Paphiopedilum without any roots will produce many new growths in just one month. Backbulbs will produce new growths in the same time.

If you have space in your ICU, leave your plants there as long as you can, but just short of blooming. As an additional measure, hydroponic stores carry products that may help plant recovery. Most of these additives contain Vitamin B1, as well as many other substances which may or may not help the plant. The use of such additives is seen by most orchid growers as helpful, but there is no real proof that they are of benefit. With reserved recommendation, I will say that I have used an additive for years and believe it does promote growth.

When watering, a spray is probably the best method in this unit. Leave the canopy off until the leaves have dried off and there is no water in the crown of the plant; then restore the canopy. This spraying can be done about once a week, or less if you can feel that the sponge underlay is wet and still contains some water. The tray is best placed under fluorescent lights or near another light source; however, don't put it in the direct sunlight or you will have stewed orchids by dinner.

Hopefully this may save some of our plants. I believe it is our responsibility to grow and save those species that are now lost because of habitat destruction in many parts of the world. Good growing!


Ian Johnston is an award-winning orchid grower and a member of the Orchid Society of Alberta.

Miscellany:

On my recent trip to Turkey, I tried to find out more about the Salep orchid, used in an aphrodisiac drink in Turkey. Unfortunately, I saw neither the orchid nor the drink and as our guides were focussed on ruins, they were not able to enlighten me as to the location or appearance of this orchid. Therefore, from Google, I obtained the following:



Photo:
Flora.upolicez, [Portál české flóry](#)

Salep Orchid 
Latin name: *Orchis mascula*
Sanskrit/Indian name:
Salabmisri

General information:

Legend has it that witches administered a drink made from the fresh tubers of Salep Orchid to promote true love and a drink brewed with its withered tubers to cure lovesickness!

In Ayurveda, Salep Orchid has traditionally been used as an aphrodisiac and a nervine tonic.

Therapeutic constituents:

The tubers of Salep Orchid contain bitter principals and a volatile oil, which give the flower its key therapeutic properties.

Key therapeutic benefits:

As an aphrodisiac, Salep Orchid is beneficial in treating male sexual disorders like erectile dysfunction and impotence. It is a nervine tonic that treats stress and mental disorders.

Victoria Orchid Society
Minutes of General Meeting May 28, 2013



Paph. Armeni White

The meeting of May 28th was held in the Garth Homer Centre. President Ingrid Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Ingrid welcomed everyone, including our guest Christina and Lioba's sister and niece, visiting from Germany, to the meeting and reminded everyone to please pay a loonie for their coffee or tea and to mark their favourite plant with the plastic disk. Poul Hansen and Art Macgregor then presented the show table.

Secretary's Report: MOTION: Noreen Taylor/Nancy Cole moved that the minutes of the April 2013 meeting be approved as published in the newsletter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Treasurer's Report: Jane presented the financial report for the month of April 2013 and moved for acceptance, seconded by John Taylor.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other Reports:

1. AOS: Ingrid announced there is a new listing of all the plants sorted into new categories inside the Vanda subfamily and said that she would be happy to forward it to anyone who needs the information.
2. Library: Nancy again asked that all books be returned so she can do the inventory.
3. Membership: We now have 94 members.
4. Plant Sales: There are lots of good plants on the sales table tonight.
5. Prize Draw: Name tag tickets are blue.
6. Programs: Next month is the AGM (we need reports from the executive) and the auction. Please let Joe know what you are bringing.
7. Spring Show: Ingrid asked for a volunteer for Show Chairperson but received no response.
8. Supply Sales: The bark, pots and potting mix are sold to help with the travel expense for our three judges to Richmond each month. Having Richmond as an AOS judging site, allows our members to have regular access to the competition for the prestigious AOS awards.

New Business

- Summer BBQ will be June 23rd at Florence Davis' – bring your own chair, plate, cutlery, etc. Tickets are on sale from Joyce for \$20.00 each.
- The trip to Paramount will be August 31 and tickets are \$35.00 from Kathryn.
- We have open greenhouses with Art August 18, Coreen July 6 and Pat in September. Would anyone else be willing to offer a tour of their greenhouse?

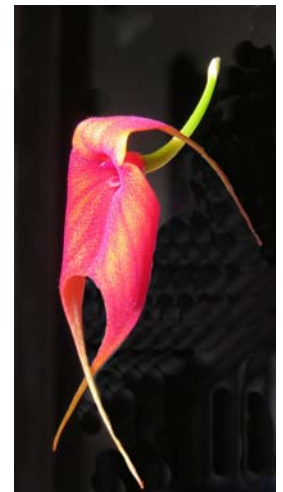
Program: Joe Chow showed our new DVD titled The Judge, The Hunter and The Black Orchid.

Next Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 25th, 2013 at Garth Homer Centre.

Adjournment: The President declared the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathryn Collins

**Victoria Orchid Society
Minutes of Annual General Meeting June 26, 2012**



*Masd. Dragon Fire
Mem. Margaret
Turner HCC/AOS*

The meeting of June 26, 2012 was held at the Garth Homer Centre. President Ingrid Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. We had a quorum with 34 members present.

Secretary's Report: MOTION: JohnTaylor/Diana Rowles moved that the minutes of the June, 2011 Annual General Meeting be approved and accepted as published.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reports: Reports were prepared by the President, Secretary, and Show Chairman and are attached to the minutes. The President's report was read.

Auditor's Report: Jane Mason prepared the financial report for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2012 and the president advised the members that Joyce Wilson had a copy and anyone could read it at their leisure.

Election of Officers: Conducted by Art Macgregor. The following slate of nominees was presented:

President	Ingrid Ostrander
Vice President	Diana Rowles
Secretary	Kathryn Collins
Treasurer	Jane Mason
Directors:	Joyce Wilson, Catherine Frutiger, Coreen Kempling, John Taylor, Nancy Cole, Noreen Taylor, David McElderry, Kristi Leon and Devin Fenwick.

Art called for nominations from the floor three times after announcing the candidates. No further nominations were forthcoming so all were elected by acclamation.

Program Chair: Joe Chow will be our Program Chairperson, but will not be a director.

Adjournment: The president adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathryn Collins
Secretary

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.

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 S, T, & V for the June 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.

Officers:

President	Ingrid Ostrander
Vice-president	Diana Rowles
Secretary	Kathryn Collins
Treasurer	Jane Mason
Web Master	Blair Humphrey
Newsletter Editor	Diana Rowles

Directors:

Joyce Wilson
Catherine Frutiger
Coreen Kempling
Noreen Taylor
Nancy Cole
John Taylor
Kristi Leon

Spring Show Chairs: Art Macgregor, Kathryn Collins & Noreen Taylor

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



Phrag. Nitidissimum
'Golden Toad'

Opportunities

The **Victoria Lily Society and the BC Iris Society** combined show of irises and lilies will be held at a new Victoria location, 4030 Douglas Street (just off the Pat Bay Highway at McKenzie) on July 6th, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Admission is by donation. There will be iris judging in the morning. Unusual and hard to find irises and lilies will be for sale. A wonderful tea with home baking will also be available.

Natural Wonders of Ecuador and the Galapagos January 12 - 29, 2014 -
\$8895/person, all inclusive. There is still time to book this 18 day tour with Merv Lutes (contact him at lutesara@yahoo.ca).



Den. Frosty Dawn

10% Discount from local stores.

Show membership card before purchase.

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