

Victoria Orchid Society



Inside this issue:

- 2 *President's Message*
- 2 *Upcoming Events*
- 3 *June Auction*
- 4 *Past events:*
Workshops & CVIOS show
- 5 *Judging Awards*
- 6 *Special Report:*
Sarcophilus Culture
- 8 *Minutes of the April meeting*
- 9 *Society Information*
- 9 *Upcoming Shows & Opportunities*
- 10 *Classifieds*



Two plants shared the honours for best plant on the April display table.

Cat Frutiger's *C. walkeriana* ▲
semi-alba 'Kenny'



and
Diana Rowles' *Den. Green Lantern* ▲

Meetings:
Spring 2013

May 28th
June 25th
June 23rd – BBQ
Aug 31st – bus trip

Members with last names starting with **O, P, & R** are asked to bring goodies for the May meeting.



Welcome to new member, Marion Oley

From the Editor

Lc. Mini Purple 'Blue Pacific'

Florence Davis' Summer Barbecue will be happening a little earlier this year, on Sunday, June 23rd, so mark it on your calendar now. It is too special to miss. It features a steak or chicken dinner (choose when you buy your tickets) fresh fruit, Pavlova and tea and coffee.

Guests please bring chairs, plates and cutlery and something for the brown bag prize draw. You may also bring your own beverages. Arrive at 5:00 p.m. to eat at 6:00 p.m. Tickets will be on sale at the May meeting for only \$20.00 per person.

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.

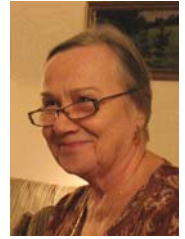
Contributions to the newsletter can be made up to 14 days before the next meeting date by contacting me by phone or email. (250-385-8888 or enviroed@telus.net).

Logo photo D. Rowles

President's Message

Trallah, its May...

It looks like winter is over so that people, plants and especially orchids, can enjoy the welcome warmth and sunshine of summer on the BC Coast. Any orchids that do not need very specific environments, may safely be put outdoors now – harden them off like tomato plants and then watch them go and grow and glow!



Ingrid Ostrander

Our society's orchid year is drawing to a break and this is a gentle reminder to make sure you have returned all the borrowed library items for the summer break and inventory time.

I also need to remind everyone who holds an office to please prepare a brief report of the year's activities, for the Annual General Meeting.

Before this meeting, we shall see many of you at Florence's BBQ, a highlight of our society's social events.

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.).



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

The film is a documentary about the orchid world and includes interviews with many of its best known personalities: Harold Koopowitz, Fred Clarke, Martin Motes, Andy Phillips, and Lance Birk, among others. As the title suggests, the topics range everywhere from orchid hunting, smuggling and a federal prosecution, to rivalry and politics in the orchid world, as well as a look into the 19th World Orchid Conference in Miami. Four different commercial growers, both small and large scale, share their wildly differing viewpoints on breeding and growing orchids.

The film is a fascinating look into the orchid world and, at 70 minutes, will take the same time as a speaker, so all other normal meeting activities will take place.

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 corresponding 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. Make sure that you buy your barbecue tickets at the May meeting.

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 illustrate the blooms of plants not currently in bloom as they are auctioned. You need to indicate what percentage of the money received for your plants you wish to donate to the society. The form and request will be sent out again in mid-May, but the sooner Joe gets the information, the better.

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.

For more info: Contact Joe or Kathy Kelly.

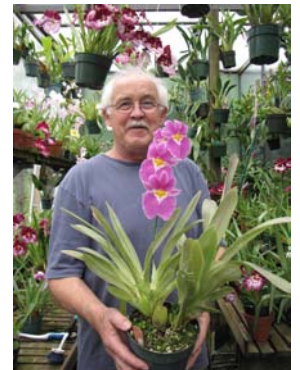


The Annual General Meeting will occur after the auction and the new executive for next year will be elected. New members are invited to put their names up for nomination for directorship. We always need new blood and new ideas. Contact Joe Chow, the nominating chair, if you are interested.

Saturday, August 31st will be date of the bus trip up-island to Paramount Orchids. By then, Chuck and Bryon will have their greenhouse nicely re-established after their move from Calgary. Space on the bus will be limited, so make sure that you purchase your tickets ahead of time. The cost will be \$35/person and Kathryn will be selling tickets at the May meeting, the barbecue and the June meeting. Don't miss your chance to go on this exciting trip.

Past Events

April 23rd Meeting – Poul Hansen gave a very useful presentation on greenhouse controls, comparing the different systems that various members of the Society use to control temperature, humidity and air flow in their greenhouses. We saw photos of the different mechanisms and layouts that can keep orchids happy and healthy, (along with a little TLC of course).



Workshops in April



Three workshops were held in March, one at GardenWorks on March 17th, run by Geoff Haywood and two at Marigold Nursery on Friday 29th and 30th.



Ingrid presided on Good Friday and Jon DeLaurier, on the Saturday. As usual, they were well received, although the holiday weekend did not bring out very many attendees. Ingrid attacked the overgrown roots of a cymbidium with gusto, much to the amusement of the audience.

April 13th & 14th, CVIOS Show

The Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society show featured many beautiful displays.



Justin, Noreen and Cat Frutiger took the VicOS plants down and set up an eye-catching presentation with plants nicely displayed in wicker baskets.



Bryan Emery's display was festooned with ribbons, as usual.



Cat Frutiger's *Phal. KS Orange* took Best of Class for Phalaenopsis hybrids.

Don Mill's *Dendrobium dichaeoides* was awarded the trophy for best Dendrobium.



They included Best Pleurothallis and CHM/AOS *Stelis purpurea*, which was also awarded **RESERVE CHAMPION**



BEST IN SHOW was *Phrag. Sunset Glow*. It was also awarded Best Other in Cypripedium Subtribe, Exhibitor, Shelley Rattink, of CVIOS.



and recent VicOS member, Donna McDonnell captured many ribbons and awards for her display.

Judging Centre news and awards

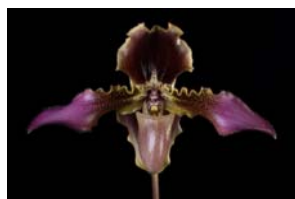
At the AOS Pacific Northwest Judging Center (Richmond)'s judging at the Vancouver Orchid Society's Show on March 23, 2013, the following AOS awards were granted:

Phragmipedium Devil Fire 'Wendy' AM/AOS, 80pts
 (*Phrag. Grande* x *Phrag. warszewiczianum*) ➤
 Exhibitor: Joe Chow



Bulbophyllum coweniorum 'C.R. Orchids' CHM/AOS, 84pts. ➤
 Exhibitor: Dino Baisi
 Note: award is provisional pending species identification

Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum 'Big Show' FCC/AOS, 90pts
 Exhibitor: Cody Cruise. ➤



Phragmipedium Trudy Taylor 'Muir Life' AM/AOS, 80pts. ➤
 (*Phrag. Taras* x *Phrag. caudatum*)
 Exhibitor: Joe Chow

At the AOS judging at the Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society's Show on April 12, 2013, the following AOS awards were granted:

Epidendrum porphyreum 'Paramount's Carrie Fischer' CHM/AOS, 85pts ➤
 Exhibitor: Paramount Orchids
 Note: award is provisional pending species identification



Stelis purpureum 'Pamala Emery' CHM/AOS, 82pts ➤
 Exhibitor: Bryan Emery
 Note: award is provisional pending species identification



Oncidium Pacific Command 'Paramount's Cheryl Morin' HCC/AOS, 76pts ➤
 (*Onc. Sphacetante* x *Onc. Topance*)
 Exhibitor: Paramount Orchids



Paphiopedilum Cam's Cloud 'Paramount's Loki' HCC/AOS, 78pts . ➤
 (*Paph. bellatulum* x *Paph. emersonii*)
 Exhibitor: Paramount Orchids



All photos by Judy Higham

At the AOS Pacific Northwest Judging Center (Richmond)'s monthly judging held in conjunction with the Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society's Show on April 12, 2013, the following AOS awards were granted:

Phalaenopsis Tying Shin Forever Love 'Nancy' HCC/AOS, 78pts . . . ➤
(*Phal.* Sogo Lawrence x *Phal.* Tying Shin Cupid)
Exhibitor: Pat van Adrichem (Kingfisher Orchids)



Phragmipedium Grande 'Maybrook' CCM/AOS, 86pts ➤
(*Phrag. caudatum* x *Phrag. longifolium*)
Exhibitor: Orchid Species Preservation Foundation



Photos by Judy Higham

Special Report

SARCOCHILUS CULTURE (from COC newsletter Nov 2012)
By Phil Spence

Here is some material given to us by Phil Spence from Australia during his Canadian lecture tour this past summer. The tour was generously financed by Gail Schwarz our COC education director from Nova Scotia and the Southern Ontario Orchid Society. Phil talked in Nova Scotia and at SOOS Orchidfest in August. Thank you Gail and Phil for these culture tips.



Sarcochilus hartmannii 'Kyle'
CCM/AOS
Photo from AQ+

Plant new bare-root plants in sphagnum moss and keep shady until new roots form. Then follow instructions below, or use your own well-draining open mix. DON'T LET PLANTS DRY OUT BUT DON'T KEEP THEM TOO WET OR STAND THEM IN WATER.

Mix

- 1/2 part medium bark
- 1/4 part small bark (Wash both well and soak for 24 hours.)
- 1/8 part medium coconut chunks.

Soak separately for 24 hours, then rinse well twice. This helps get rid of excess salt.

- 1/8 part styrofoam (not perlite as it breaks down and leaves a fine sand that roots don't like), grated or broken into 3/8 inch pieces or smaller.
- Add a small amount of medium to small charcoal, dust free.

Also add to mix Osmocote or Feed N' Forget (slow release fertilizer) as follows:

- 1/4 tsp in a 2 1/2 inch pot
- 1/2 tsp in a 4 inch pot
- 1 tsp in a 6 inch pot
- 1 tbs in a 10 inch pot.
-

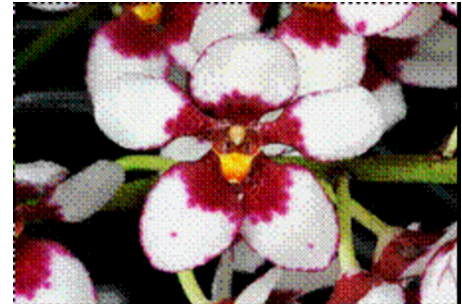
ORCHID SOCIETIES COUNCIL OF VICTORIA (Australia)

<http://www.oscov.asn.au/articles2/cultsarc.htm>

They suggest using "squat" pots and a mix of 2 parts fine bark and 1 part small pebbles.

Light:

Medium to low light similar to mottled leaf Paphs or a bit lower than Phals. Don't put next to a south or west window in the summer. Three weeks after the shortest day of the year increase light to Phal light until buds are advanced but not open. Then reduce light again.



Sarcochilus Charm 'Julie Ann'
AM/AOS Photo from AO

Water:

Don't let mix dry out completely.

Water thoroughly when watering to flush out accumulated salts.

Don't stand plants in water.

Don't let mix become soggy/mushy or broken down.

Rain water is best but will tolerate tap water. Black spots on leaves means they don't like the tap water. If leaves wrinkle, look at the roots. It could mean the mix has gone off, or not enough water or too much water. Most problems with sarcs come from root problems.

Humidity:

Should be around 75% or higher. Sit plants on a tray filled with gravel and water. Water should never touch the bottom of the pot. In a greenhouse, put a pan of water under the Sarcochilus bench.

Fertilizing:

You can spray a dilute fertilizer (1/8 strength) on the foliage (weakly/weekly) if you use slow release fertilizer. If you don't use slow release fertilizer then you can use a slightly stronger solution (1/4 strength) in the pot. If the leaves are yellowish and thin, they need more food. If the leaves are a very dark green then give more light and less fertilizer.



Sarcochilus Burgundy on Ice 'Australia'
AM-AOS Photo from AQ+

If a hybrid has *S. spathulatus*, *S. dilatatus*, *S. ceciliae*, *S. olivaceous* or *Plectorrhiza tridentate* in its background, the foliage might show some red pigmentation.

Tips from David Butler, an excellent Sarcochilus grower in Australia.

He does NOT use a slow release fertilizer. He feels they get too much fertilizer in hot weather. He just uses a dilute liquid fertilizer when plants are growing and stops fertilizing in the winter when they stop growing. He warns not to overwater in hot weather as it cooks the roots. Temperatures from 8-28C, if possible, but will tolerate 2-35C when plants are older provide they get fresh air and humidity. Most Sarcs. die from too much TLC, poorly aerated mix, and overwatering.

Phil Spence says to wash off the dead roots but be careful of new roots. He suggests that a few of the lower leaves should be taken off before potting the plant in sphagnum, putting some moss around the bare stem, until new roots form. He says you will get baby plants on the stem.

You can also lay the old stem on top of the moss and new growths will appear along the stem. Stabilize the stem with a wire bent in the shape of a "U" so the stem doesn't move. When the new plants get big enough, you can cut them off and pot them. Phil says that these make the best specimen plants when they mature as they put out more growths from the base of the plant.

Victoria Orchid Society
Minutes of General Meeting April 23, 2013

The meeting of April 23rd was held in the Garth Homer Centre. President Ingrid Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Ingrid welcomed everyone and our new members Mary Oleg and Philomene Jondreau & Barb Davis as well as our guests Rudy and Mel 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. Jill Livesey and Don Mills then presented the show table.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Treasurer's Report: Jane presented the financial report for the month of March 2013 and moved for acceptance, seconded by Nancy Cole.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other Reports:

1. AOS: Ingrid asked everyone to please send your plants to Richmond for judging.
2. Library CD: Nancy asked that all books be returned by June, latest so she can do the inventory.
3. Membership: We now have 93 members.
4. Plant Orders: The Carmela order arrived and plants and refunds have been handed out.
5. Plant Sales: We do not have very much on the sales table tonight.
6. Prize Draw: Name tag tickets are blue.
7. Programs: Next month Joe will show the DVD we recently received and the June meeting will be our auction and AGM. Ingrid asked everyone to please donate a plant to the auction, perhaps do a division and get it ready now, and please let Joe know what you are bringing. You can donate the plant or keep up to 75% of the sale proceeds. Glen Decker is coming in September and needs billeting - Nancy Cole offered her home.
8. Spring Show: Kathryn announced the profit from the spring show.
9. CVIOS Show: Ingrid handed out the awards to Don Mills for best Dendrobium. and Catherine Frutiger best Phalaenopsis. Thank you to all who helped (Noreen, Catherine, Justin, Diana, Blair, Ingrid and Kathryn).
10. Calgary Show: May 25-26

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.
- Fraser's Thimble farm is holding orchid mania May 1-7th.
- Hort. Centre Plant Sales are April 27-28.
- VHS plant sale is at Garth Homer May 7th from 7-9 p.m.
- Diana sold all the virus kits but ask John Taylor if you need one, as he took all that were left.
- Nominating Committee – new executive members are needed so please see Joe if you are interested.
- Lioba is retiring so we need someone to volunteer to do the coffee/tea service.
- Ingrid asked if anyone would be willing to offer an open greenhouse this summer.

Program: Poul Hansen presented a slide show on green houses with tips on do's and don'ts.

Next Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 28th, 2013 at Garth Homer Centre.

Adjournment: The President declared the meeting adjourned at 9:35 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.

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.

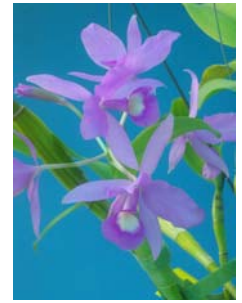
Membership fees are \$25.00 for individuals, \$35.00 for households. The Society membership year runs from September to September, but meetings are not held in July and August. Name tags are available for \$9.00, magnetized tags are \$11.00.

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 O, P, & R for the May 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.



C. skinneri

Officers:		Directors:	
President	Ingrid Ostrander	Joyce Wilson	
Vice-president	Diana Rowles	Catherine Frutiger	
Secretary	Kathryn Collins	Coreen Kempling	
Treasurer	Jane Mason	Noreen Taylor	
Web Master	Blair Humphrey	Nancy Cole	
Newsletter		John Taylor	
Editor	Diana Rowles	Kristi Leon	
Spring Show Chairs Art Macgregor, Kathryn Collins & Noreen Taylor			
In emergencies, call Ingrid Ostrander at (250) 652-0753.			



Paph. Susan Booth

Upcoming Shows:

May 25th & 26th, 2013 Calgary Orchid Show and Sale by the Foothills Orchid Society

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.

***Borden Mercantile
Dig This
Integrity Sales
Buckerfields***

***Urban Oasis
Horticultural Services
GardenWorks***

Finds

There is a special sale item at Lee Valley Tools & Garden: An electric fence to keep out slugs (\$10.00). Check it out! They are a one-time item purchased from a buy-out of another business (only 135 sets). No more will be available.



Classified Advertisements:

Hanna waterproof PH Meter and chemicals used twice –\$50.00 (½ price) obo.
(Responses to Diana, enviroed@telus.net)

Patrick van Adrichem now has a website: www.kingfisherorchids.ca.



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