

Victoria Orchid Society



Inside this issue:

- 2 *President's Message*
- 2 *Upcoming Events*
- 3 *Christmas Party*
- 4 *Past Events,*
- 5 *Orchid Nutrition for Winter*
- 7 *Minutes of October meeting*
- 8 *Society Information*
- 9 *Opportunities & Classifieds*
- 10 *2012/2013 Membership Form*



Svend Munkholm has once again cultivated a huge, beautiful orchid. Lc C.G. Roebling was members' first choice on the display table at the October general meeting.

*Welcome to new member,
Leslee Hill*

From the Editor

It seems that, in the enthusiasm for the great deals on the donated plants at the October meeting, boxes brought by people with display table plants were used to take home new purchases. Often, even cardboard boxes are hoarded by people who move their plants around a lot. If you got carried away and borrowed any boxes at the last meeting, please bring them back to the November meeting. Thanks.

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. 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

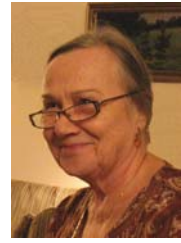
Meetings:
2012
Nov. 27 th
Dec.11 th Xmas party
2013
Jan. 22 nd
Feb. 26 th
Mar. 26 th
Apr. 23 rd
May 28 th
June 25 th

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

President's Message

Wintertime!

It seems to me that our fall and winter are nothing but grey skies, fog and rain. It could become depressing – but we grow orchids and that makes all the difference. Our exotic plants with their unusual flowers reward us year-round with their beauty, many with lovely perfume – well, most of them.



Ingrid Ostrander

And to make us feel even better, we get to go to the Orchid Society Christmas party on the 11th of December, starting at 6:15 p.m. at the Garth Homer Centre.

We will have all the usual things, like happy friends, good food, lovely desserts, festive music, prizes, auctions and a show table with all our orchid treasures showing off – this evening will be a shining light in our dreary West Coast winter – so do come and help – wherever you can.

Most of all: enjoy yourselves!

I wish every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

Upcoming programmes
Nov.- Jonathan Littau
Vandas
Spring 2013
Jan.: Pat van Adrichem
Orchids 101
Feb.: Debb Ward
Preparing Orchids for Show
Mar.: Sam Tsui (Orchid Inn)
Paphiopedilums
Apr.: Poul Hansen So You
Want a Greenhouse!
May: TBA
June: Auction

Ingrid Ostrander

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.

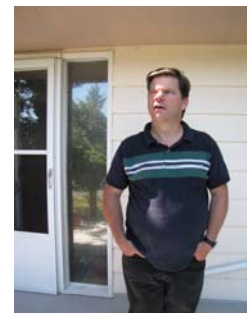
The meeting ends between 9:30 and 10:00 p.m. Joe Chow is Plant Doctor and will help you with orchid issues for 15 minutes before the start of the meeting (7:10-7:25 p.m.).



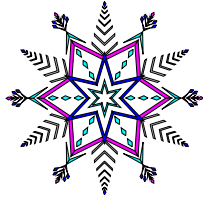
Nov. 27th meeting – Jonathan Littau will speak on Vanda Culture.

Jonathan has grown orchids for many years, first in Jamaica and then in B.C. He is a biologist who has been involved in hybridizing orchids for many years with considerable success. Last year he was awarded two FCC/AOS awards, the top American Orchid Society award for fine orchid blooms.

Although Jonathan grows many different species, his Vandas are always spectacular. As it is a plant that many people find difficult to grow, this session should be especially enlightening.



➤ *One part of Jonathan's greenhouse*



CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday December 11, 2012

6:15 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Garth Homer Centre

I hope everyone can attend our annual Christmas party. It's a fun filled event and a great way to get to know other members of the society.

We will have Christmas music playing in the background and there will be no business done so there won't be any plant sales, nor will the library be open.

The evening will start with a great pot luck, a sign up sheet will be passed at the November meeting. The usual things we need are main courses, salads, and of course lots of desserts. Further information on food preparation and facilities will be available at the November meeting.

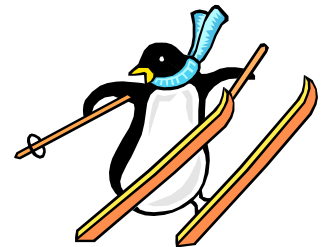


There will be brown bag prize draws so please bring a prize or two.

Unlike the regular meetings the prizes don't have to be orchid related.

They should not be wrapped. There will also be a display table, so bring your plants in bloom.

Last, but definitely not least we will collect non-perishable food for the Mustard Seed Food Bank. Every year there seem to be more and more people who need their services so please be generous.



The Christmas Party is a great evening filled with good food, beautiful orchids and great prizes.

Members are asked to bring some food: main course, appies, salads, or desserts. Jane will be passing around a list at the November meeting to identify items that people will be bringing so that we will end up with a balance. Please bring a plate, cutlery and any beverage that you wish to the party. Tea and coffee will be available.

We have a brown bag raffle, so please bring an item or two. They need not be orchid related but festive is nice (Christmas baking always goes well). Each item is paired with a brown bag so that people can choose which item they wish to win. Raffle tickets are sold by the arm length at the start of the evening.

The evening always flies by too quickly and sometimes it is hard to fit everything in. This year, we have been given permission by Garth Homer to come in to set up for the dinner at 6:00 p.m. We have volunteers for the set up, but it is important that everyone else get there at the right time to facilitate having dinner early enough to complete the evening without rushing.

Here is the hoped for schedule:

6:00 p.m.– set-up people arrive

6:15 –6:30 p.m – members arrive bringing their food contribution, brown bag prize draw items and display table plants.

- Food items will go to the appropriate table. We will have a separate table for appies, desserts can go to Lioba at the coffee counter, and main courses go directly to the main food table.
- Brown bag draw items will go to the Prize Draw table where they will be numbered and matched to a bag of the same number.
- Display table plants will go to Don & Marilyn Mills for set up.

When you have done the above, find seats at the table, buy your tickets, browse the prize draw table to make your choices and relax.

6:45 p.m - We hope to start dinner at about this time.

*Patrick & Peter
present the
display table.*



Past Events

October 23rd, General Meeting, Peter Lin presented an entertaining talk and slide show on miniature Phalaenopsis. Many people were surprised at the range and colour variety in these smaller Phals, and were enthralled by the pictures of Peter's large greenhouses, which he seems to manage single handedly.



In his hybridizing, Peter focuses on fragrant, waxy texture, and colourful flowers. This type of Phalaenopsis also tends to be compact with shorter inflorescences. They are more suitable for indoor, under light, culture and are more practical to ship.

Peter gave some great tips about watering, the area that most people find difficult to judge.



For mini-Phals:

- Goal: Moist but not Soggy Wet
- Fact – packed moss can take 4-5 weeks to dry when watered thoroughly
- Moss is like sponge that holds several times its mass
- Water lightly enough to wet the top layer
- Check for moisture through clear pot
- Slowly increase the amount of water each week

Tips on Watering

Rearrange established plants in 3 groups

Group 1 – ones that do not need to be watered (moss is still moist to touch)

Group 2 – ones that are in active growing (green root tips, new emerging leaves). Fertilize

Group 3 – Ones that are not in active growth. Use plain water



October 18, 19, 20 & 21 - Fraser Valley Orchid Society Show and Sale,
Victoria Orchid Society plants did well again this year at the FVOS show.

Svend Munkholm's *Lc. C.G. Roebling* received the Grand Champion rosette and Best of Class rosettes were achieved by:

Anguola clowesii (Species *Anguola*, *Ida*, *Lycaste*) . . ➤

Exhibitor: Art Macgregor



Mps. phalaenopsis (Species *Miltonia*, *Miltoniopsis*) ➤

Exhibitor: Don Mills



✂ *Phrag. Grande 'Maybrook'* AM/AOS (Hybrid *Phragmipedium* without *Phrag.besseae*) ➤

Exhibitor: Joe Chow



Paph. Maudiae 'The Queen' (Cypripedium Hybrids, *Maudiae* types, albinistic) . . . ➤

Exhibitor: Poul Hansen



Lc. C.G. Roebling (*Laelia* hybrids over 25 cm, predominantly pink, lavender, purple)

Exhibitor: Svend Munkholm

Lc. C.G. Roebling – **Grand Champion**

Exhibitor: Svend Munkholm

Phrag. Silver Eagle – **AOS nomination**

Exhibitor: Joe Chow

<p>Blue – 8 Red – 6 White – 2</p>
--

Ribbons awarded to VicOS plants



VicOS Display

Orchid Nutrition for Winter, *By Susan Jones*

Planning for the optimum health and blooms of your orchids through winter and into spring is as important as their day-to-day care. Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can boost their resistance to damage from pests, disease and winter temperatures in the coming months.

Overall Health

Orchids will fare better in encounters with pests, diseases and temperature extremes if they are in a good state of overall health. A plant suffering from under or over-fertilizing, or stressed from lack of water is much more likely to be injured by any additional strain. Orchids grown under less than ideal conditions are more likely to be a target for infection or infestation. Make an extra effort now to get plants and their greenhouse or growing area in good shape for the shorter, darker days ahead by removing old foliage, weeds and dying flowers. An autumn cleanup can minimize or prevent the pest and disease problems that can crop up in the darker and more crowded conditions that often characterize the winter growing area.

General Nutrition

Light levels and temperatures begin to fall at this time of year, and your orchids' nutritional needs change accordingly. Orchid growers can take the following steps now to help prepare their collection for optimal health through the months ahead. If your orchids will winter outdoors, fertilizing properly can help them resist cold, insect and disease damage, as well as give them two to three additional degrees of cold resistance. This can mean the difference between a dead orchid and an unscathed plant or one that just loses a few leaves.

Use a fertilizer low in nitrogen (which should be nitrate nitrogen, not urea nitrogen) and high in potassium; the numbers on the label should read something like 10-5-20. Watering and fertilizing should be reduced in frequency for the cooler autumn season, and orchids that bloom during the winter and into spring should be given a couple of doses of blossom booster in October and November; bloom

boosters should have a higher middle number, such as 10-50-10. Ideally, this change in fertilizer should start by mid-November and continue through the end of January. This regime will sacrifice plant growth in December and January in favor of plant protection, but it can help keep the plant healthier overall. Some growers recommend using Dyna-Gro Pro-TeKt (0-0-3), a liquid nutritional potassium-silicon supplement for plants. The product is supposed to improve heat and drought tolerance in orchids, as well as boosting their resistance to pests, disease and environmental stress.

Specific Genera

Seasonal nutritional needs differ among various orchid genera, and may diverge still further depending on local climatic conditions in disparate geographic regions. The following guidelines may require modification to accommodate individual growing conditions.

Cattleya: Watering and fertilizing frequency should be reduced, as the plants dry out more slowly in the cooler temperatures and shorter days. Bud sheaths may yellow at this time of year as temperature fluctuations can cause water to condense inside the sheath. Should you notice condensation in the sheath, it should be opened or removed to allow the developing buds adequate air circulation and prevent bud blast caused by rots. Simply slit open the sheath and carefully peel it down toward the pseudobulb, exercising caution so as not to damage the delicate bud primordia within.

Dendrobium: Autumn and winter needs vary according to the species or hybrid parentage in this diverse genus. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* hybrids will benefit from a fertilizer with a low nitrogen formula for optimal flowering. The leaves of *Dendrobium nobile* types and their hybrids begin to yellow and drop at this time of year in preparation for their winter dormancy. Plants should be given plenty of light and good air circulation and kept dry from November through February. Mist occasionally if their canes become overly shriveled.

Paphiopedilum: Generally, these do not require a great deal of fertilizer. This is especially important with the cooler-growing bulldog types to reduce nitrogen levels at this time of year for best flowering. (Bulldog Paphiopedilums have plain green leaves as opposed to the mottled leaf types. One of the best-known bulldog-type hybrids is *Paphiopedilum* Winston Churchill.) Watch for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath or for late-season warm spells, as either can rot the sheath and destroy the developing inflorescence. While Paphiopedilums should not be allowed to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced in the cooler days. Overwatering can cause root rot or Erwinia problems.

Phalaenopsis: Growth slows and inflorescences begin to appear. Reduce watering and fertilizing frequency, and apply a bloom boosting fertilizer. Many growers also recommend applications of epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) to Phalaenopsis at this time of year to prevent yellowing and loss of lower leaves and to enhance blooming. Once buds are evident on the inflorescences, keep temperatures and humidity consistent to prevent bud drop. Phalaenopsis grown in the greenhouse are especially prone to bud blast in February and early March, when the heat is still coming on at night and the greenhouse temperatures rise during the day.

Vanda: Aside from *Neofinetia falcata*, vandaceous orchids generally do not tolerate autumn and winter's cooler temperatures (below 60° F [16° C]) well and need to be carefully protected from chills. Vandaceous orchids still need as much light as possible as the days become shorter and light levels fall. Reduce the frequency of fertilizing and watering to accommodate the slower growth period they are entering. Starting the first week of October, Julie Rosenberg at R.F. Orchids in Homestead, Florida, recommends feeding vandaceous genera a blossom booster fertilizer exclusively, once a week for four to six weeks, at 1 teaspoon per gallon of water (15 ml to 3.8 l), with normal watering between. In November, begin fertilizing every other week, using a balanced 20-20-20 fertilizer at 1 teaspoon per gallon (15 ml to 3.8 l), substituting bloom booster every fourth feeding. Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can mean happier, healthier and more productive plants year round.

Susan Jones was the editor of Awards Quarterly and assistant editor of Orchids. American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33446 *Article taken from AOS.*

Victoria Orchid Society
Minutes of General Meeting October 23, 2012

The meeting of October 23rd was held in the Garth Homer Centre. President Ingrid Ostrander called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and pointed out that we received 65 plants as a donation to the society as well as a large amount of mounting cork and that Peter Lin had some Phals for sale. Ingrid welcomed all members, new and old and asked Peter Lin and Pat van Adrichem to present the show table. Rita was our guest tonight and Leslee Hill joined the society as a new member.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Treasurer's Report: Jane presented the financial reports for the month of September 2012, moved for acceptance, seconded by Joyce Wilson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other Reports:

1. AOS: The Portland show in conjunction with the AOS meeting is on Nov. 13-18, 2012. Ingrid thanked the members of the Victoria OS for supporting the obligatory monthly travel to the Richmond judging – for vehicle cost only.
2. COC: Will be held at the Burlington Show on October 27.
3. Culture meetings/Open houses: Pat van Adrichem will have one after his Taiwan order arrives.
4. Library: Nancy has done the inventory and she noted a book is missing.
5. Culture Meetings/Open House: Thanks to Geoff, Debb, Joe and Art for hosting summer open houses. The workshop at Ingrid's went well with eight members attending. Ingrid asked if anyone would like to host an open house or workshop.
6. Membership: 53 members have signed up so far.
7. Newsletter: Ingrid mentioned we have many old newsletters from other societies for those interested.
8. Plant Orders: Clackamas has one more hurdle to cross before they can ship our order.
9. Plant Sales: We have lots of healthy, high quality plants for sale and the cork is also very high quality from Spain.
10. Prize Draw: The name tag ticket is blue. A sign on the draw table designates the plant to be given.
11. Programs: In November, Jonathan Littau will be talking about Vandas.
12. Shows: Fraser Valley's show is over and thank you to all who contributed. Almost every entry was ribbon quality and several won best in class. Svend won best in show with his Lc. C. G. Roebing.
13. Spring Show: Victoria Hospitals Foundation will look after all the electronic media advertising and Art will promote the show at Visions. We expect to have Paramount Orchids and Ten Shin (Bryan Emery is their new representative) as vendors. We need lots of raffle items and everyone should ask their favourite retailer for a donation. Kathryn, with Kristi's help, will manage our new Facebook.

New Business

- Our Christmas party is December 11th and Kathy Kelly, Geoff Haywood and Marilyn & Don Mills have volunteered to come early to help set up with Diana, Kathryn & Lioba.
- Horticulture Centre has new graduates, nature walks and gardening tips on their website.

Program: Pat van Adrichem introduced tonight's speaker, Peter Lin from Texas. Peter gave a very informative talk about growing miniature Phalaenopsis.

Next Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 27th at Garth Homer Centre.

Adjournment: The President declared the meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully
Submitted, Kathryn Collins

Reminders:

Renew your membership. The form is on back page. Filling it out before the meeting will help speed up the renewal process. Please make sure that your membership gets renewed before the end of the year. The Victoria Orchid Society Member Directory is compiled in January, listing all current members. In January, you must have current membership to receive the newsletter.

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 P & R for the November 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.



Coel pandurata

<p>Officers:</p> <p>President Ingrid Ostrander Vice-president Diana Rowles Secretary Kathryn Collins Treasurer Jane Mason Web Master Blair Humphrey Newsletter Editor Diana Rowles</p>	<p>Directors:</p> <p>Joyce Wilson Catherine Frutiger Coreen Kempling Noreen Taylor Nancy Cole John Taylor Kristi Leon</p>
---	--

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

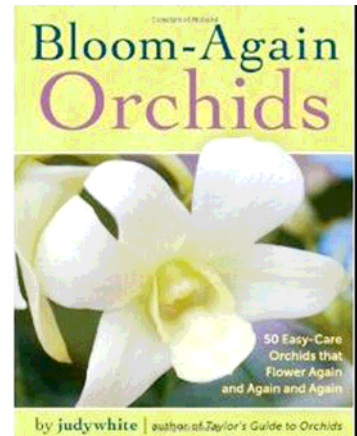


Opportunities

Bloom-Again Orchids:

50 Easy-Care Orchids that Flower Again and Again and Again
This is a great little book that highlights fifty orchids that are easy to care for and will bloom again.

It is on sale at Amazon for \$12.96 Canadian!
Thanks to Foothills Orchid Society newsletter for this tip.



Phrag. Jason Fischer

10% Discount from local stores.

Show membership card before purchase.

***Borden Mercantile
Dig This
Integrity Sales
Urban Oasis***

***Horticultural Services
GardenWorks
Buckerfields***

Classified Advertisements:

B.C. GREENHOUSE BUILDERS LTD.
The Gardener's Choice since 1951

represented by
Russ Davis

572 Peto Place wk: 250-727-0067
Victoria, BC V8Z 2K6 cell: 250-744-6714


email: davisconstruction@shaw.ca

Sales and Service

- Commercial and Hobby Greenhouses
- Pre-fabricated Enclosures
- Cold Frames
- Heating and Ventilating
- Soil Cables
- Automatic Vent openings

KINGFISHER ORCHIDS

**Quality
Orchid
Plants**



Specializing in Phalaenopsis
Custom flasking service now available

Patrick van Adrichem
250.656.3094



Victoria Orchid Society

1199 Tattersall Drive Victoria, B.C. V8P 1Y8

www.victoriaorchidsociety.ca

Membership Form

For 2012 / 2013

Please print clearly

Miltonia Venus

Victoria Orchid Society's Flower Emblem

New Renewal Update

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Occupation or special interest* _____

* optional

Enclosing a cheque for : Family membership @ \$35.00 one (1) year membership in VicOS
Single membership @ \$25.00 one (1) year membership in VicOS

Please order pinned name tags in my/our name @ \$9.00

Please order magnetic name tags in my/our name @ \$11.00

Make cheques payable to Victoria Orchid Society in Canadian funds.

Send to Victoria Orchid Society at 1199 Tattersall Drive, Victoria, B.C. V8P 1Y8

How many years have you been growing Orchids? _____

What are your favourite genera? _____

How many orchid plants are you growing? _____

What are your growing conditions? (check any that apply)

Greenhouse Sq. Footage ; House ; Windowsill ; Lights

Are you a member of the American Orchid Society? Yes No

The yearly **Membership Directory** will be available in January.

Please indicate your preferences so we act accordingly.

Yes! I would like to be listed.

Yes, but without my telephone number.

No! I do not want to be listed.

Yes, please list my email address.

The VicOS newsletter is sent out by email once a month in PDF format and blind copied to recipients.

Revised October, 2012