



Victoria Orchid Society

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**Jessica Champagne's lovely and unusual
Phalaenopsis tetraspis C1
was voted best plant on the display table at the March
meeting.**



Dracula bella

2019 Meetings:

Spring

April 22nd

May 27th

June 24th

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

Welcome to new members, Jessica Champagne, Brian & Terrie Proctor.

From the Editor

Some sad news from the COC. Tom Shields, member of the Southern Ontario Orchid Society for over 30 years and the COC Conservation Officer since May 2016, passed away on March 20th. Many of you will know Tom from his work in orchid conservation and his articles that have appeared on the COC website. One article "Orchids in Your Backyard" was featured in the April 2018 (Vol 49 issue #4) of this newsletter. Our condolences to his family.

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

The next event on the Societies' calendar is our annual auction. An excellent chance to find a plant or two to expand the collection (does anyone ever try and reduce their collection?). Hopefully you will be able to find something of interest. Most serious collectors I know have a very definite idea of what plants they want; they mostly tend to collect particular groups, particular genera, particular species.



John Taylor

It is interesting to consider what leads someone to a particular group. For myself, I have always been fascinated with *Cattleyas* and I think I can trace how it happened. When I was in high school, I had a small vegetable garden and I used to receive the Dominion Seed House catalogue every winter to make plans. Once, as a special offer, they were selling unnamed hybrid *Cattleyas*. I had had no experience with orchids and knew very little about them; but, this sounded interesting and I ordered a couple. They never bloomed and after a few years, barely clinging to life, they were turned into compost. My parents, remembering that experience, later, as a present gave me plants of *Cattleya aurantiaca* and *Cattleya Bob Betts*, which actually survived and flowered.

A well grown *C. Bob Betts* with some 20 or so flowers (large white corsage type flowers!) is probably the single most beautiful orchid plant that exists. *C. aurantiaca* is nowhere near as showy, but the flowers are an unusual vibrant orange colour. The only proviso with *C. aurantiaca* (now *Guarianthe*) is that it is important to get a good specimen. Some of this species do not open fully and self-pollinate. At this time of year, it is possible to find both *C. Bob Betts* and *C. aurantiaca* in full bloom.

Later in my *Cattleya* education, I had the opportunity to see *Cattleya* species in the wild. In the shadow of Mt. Roraima in southern Venezuela, I was lucky enough to come across both *C. jenmanii* and *C. lawrenceana*. That pretty much clinched my affair with *Cattleyas*.

So, it's personal and subjective. Others may favour *Oncidiums* or *Masdevallias* or even *Phalaenopsis*! Hopefully there will be something for all tastes at our coming auction.

Upcoming Events:

The monthly meeting of the Victoria Orchid Society is held on the fourth Monday 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 at about 10:00 p.m. Often there is a pre-meeting workshop or Question & Answer session from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

There will be no pre-meeting workshop at the April meeting, as the whole time will be taken up by the Auction. There will also be no display table (the plants might be auctioned off by mistake.)

Spring 2019

April 22nd Orchid Auction
May 27th – Sasha Kubicek, Orchid Conservation.
June 24th – Alan Koch
Gold Country Orchids, USA
Species, Habitat and Hybrid Culture

April 22nd Orchid Auction:

Our April meeting will be an orchid auction. It is open to the public and we usually have about 100 orchids on the block. Members may contribute any number of healthy, pest free plants, but must send their forms in to me by April 15th. The form requests the name of the plant and the portion of the sale price that the owner wishes to donate to the Society (minimum \$25%) and a picture, if possible. You can also put a reserve bid on individual orchids, if you wish. These forms and more instructions will be sent out in early April, so starting checking your collection now for extra divisions or plants that do not thrive in your particular growing environment.

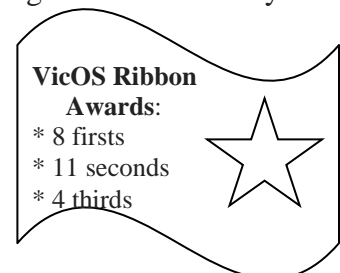
Schedule for April 22nd Auction:

1. If you are submitting plants for auction, please bring plants by 6:15 p.m. You will find a list of your plants and their lot numbers at the information table, as well as an overall list of plants submitted. You may take the list of your own plants. Place the plants on the tables at the placemarkers and leave the area. Lot number will be placed on your pots and the placemarkers, removed.
2. Members coming for the bidding but not bringing plants, may arrive after 6:30p.m. To participate in the auction, you must go to the information table, take a paddle and sign the paddle holders list. Pick up a personal record form to record what plants you bid on and the price you are paying if you win the bid. These instructions are also printed on the back of the paddles.
3. Then you may browse the tables to look over the plants until the auctioneer is ready to begin.
4. After the auction is completed, take your personal record form to the bid checkers table. They will check the record against the official record sheets, recorded during the auction and send you to the cashiers. No payments can be made until your record sheet has been checked. Ideally, take your cheque book and pay by cheque. This makes the payment process much easier than having the cashiers deal with cash. There will be a separate cashier for payment by cheque to speed up the whole procedure. Non-members will be asked to record their name (printed) address and phone number on a standard record sheet.
5. Your paid personal record may then be taken to the sale table and a number of people will find your plants for you. Please do not attempt to pick up your plants during the break unless you have made special arrangements (for a good reason) ahead of time.

Past Events

March 23rd & 24th – Vancouver Orchid Society Show & Sale

VanDusen Botanical Garden Floral Hall,
5251 Oak Street, Vancouver, B.C.



This year's show seemed big because the organizers used the entrance as part of the display area and put registration and judging outside in tents. The number of local vendors was reduced but all the regular international vendors attended including a new one, Joseph Wu Orchids, Taiwan.

Attendance was heaviest on Saturday as the weather was cloudy but cool, plant sales were good. Our club had 37 plants on 2 tables this show. Ribbons awarded VicOS were 8 First, 11 Second, and 4 Third.

Patrick van Adrichem received an AM/AOS of 80 pts. for *Phalaenopsis*. Cindy Li 'Paige', as well as Best in Class. His *Phalaenopsis* Kingfisher's Canary Dragon 'Sea Weeb' was AOS nominated. Best in Class was awarded to:



Brassia Rex 'Tahoma' AM/AOS
Diana Rowles



Phrag. Fritz Schomberg
Joe Chow



Phal. Cindy Li 'Paige'
Patrick van Adrichem

submitted by Don & Marilyn Mills



Photos by Don Mills

March 25th – General Meeting featured John Taylor
Madagascar: the Country and the Orchids

A number of years ago, our president, John Taylor, spent some time in Madagascar, a land of orchids and lemurs. He shared some of the wonderful things that he found in this fascinating country: orchids, lemurs and fabulous scenery.

John has travelled widely both in his work as a scientist and on a search for his lifelong hobby, orchids. His special interest is in *Cattleyas* and he has a wide collection of *Cattleya* species. Shown on the right is his *Cattleya dolorosa*.



Judging news



Abu Saleh

Please note that all awards are considered provisional until paperwork and payment is processed by AOS and published in Orchids Plus.

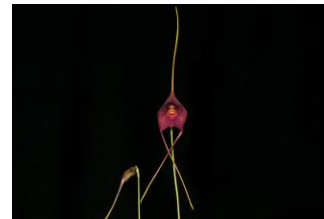
At the AOS Western Canada Judging Center's monthly judging after the Victoria Orchid Society Show judging on March 2, 2019, no AOS awards were granted.

At the AOS Western Canada Judging Center's show judging at the Victoria Orchid Society Show on March 2, 2019, the following AOS awards were granted:

Phalaenopsis Jiaho Panthers 'Anzuelo' CCM/AOS 84pts
(*Phalaenopsis mannii* x *Phalaenopsis pantherine*)
Exhibitor: Pat Van Adrichem | Kingfisher Orchids



Masdevallia Teipels Super Jaguar 'Paramount's Jill & Coreen' HCC/AOS 77pts
(*Masdevallia chaparensis* x *Masdevallia ayabacana*)
Exhibitor: Paramount Orchids



Dendrobium Rainbow Dance 'Hanamizuki' HCC/AOS 78pts
(*Dendrobium Kurenai* x *Dendrobium unicum*)
Exhibitor: Catherine Frutiger

Photographer: Alexey Tretyakov



The AOS Western Canada Judging Center meets every second Saturday of the month at 11:30am, except where noted.

(Chair: Abu Salleh, 604-328-5363, asalleh@telus.net)

Next monthly meeting:

- May 11, 2019 : 11:30am at Sea Island Community Centre, 7140 Miller Road,

The Book Corner: Library Book Reviews by Don Mills

Authors: edited by Alec Pridgeon, foreword by Alastair Morrison.

The Illustrated Encyclopedia of ORCHIDS, Published 1992 by Timber Press.
304 pages, hundreds of photos.



*Zygonisia Roquebrune x
Acacallis cyanea*

This book has a wealth of information for the grower who wants to expand his orchid collection. Orchids from *Acacallis cyanea* to *Zygostates grandiflora* are listed with very good photos and a smidgen of culture information. As a Reference Book you cannot fault this publication. Plant registration people use this book to hopefully categorize those ‘unusual species’ that some of us grow.

Beginner growers will find this book fascinating and helpful in expanding their orchid knowledge. The first 15 pages explain the ‘magic world of orchids’.

What more can I say but enjoy!

Don Mills

Victoria Orchid Society

Minutes of General Meeting, March 25, 2019

The General Meeting of March 25, 2019 was held at the Gordon Head United Church Hall. President John Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Flo Whitehouse and her son, Mike Whitehouse were new members, along with Brian and Terrie Proctor, Sara Lane and Jessica Champagne. Ingrid Ostrander and Poul Hansen presented the Show table.



Den. Hibiki 'Paulwela' AM/AOS

Treasurer's report: Jill Livesey presented her financial report for the month of February, 2019 and reported that she had transferred \$5,000 from the operating account into a Term Deposit as per her motion at the January 2019 General meeting. Jill moved for acceptance, seconded by Ingrid Ostrander.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Secretary's report: Catharine Schlenker moved and Poul Hansen seconded that the minutes from the February General meeting be approved as published in the newsletter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At the March Executive meeting there was a discussion on possible items that our Society could spend some of our money on. Barb was asked to read out the list of some suggestions made at the meeting: to pay some expenses for international speakers or vendors for the Spring Show; to help sponsor a guest speaker for the CVIOS; pay travel expenses for our AOS judges; have a catered summer BBQ or Christmas social; hire a rental bus for a greenhouse tour up the Island; the purchase of our own “square” for credit card use at the Spring show and annual auction. Astrid suggested the list be emailed to the general membership, asking them to email their thoughts and add any further suggestions. All emails to be sent to Barb Davies.

Other Reports:

AOS: John stated the next AOS judging will be at the Orchid Society of Alberta Show, April 5 and the following one will be at Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary on May 11, 2019.

Membership: Kathryn reported there are currently 92 members.

Library: Elsie reported there are new AOS magazines on the cart. Check them out!

Newsletter: Diana has sent out a new password to members for accessing the newsletter and will be sending it out to those new members who have recently joined.

Plant sales: Coreen has plants from Jonathan Littau for sale.

Program: Rod reviewed the programs for the next three months: April 22nd is the Annual Auction, a brief review of the auction was given for new members; May 27th Sasha Kubicek on Orchid Conservation; and June 24th, Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids, USA Species, Habitat and Hybrid Culture.

Spring Show: Barb read her final Show report, acknowledging Melanie's success last year using Social media for advertising bringing in a larger attendance than this year. Our number for the weekend was 830 people, with Sunday's attendance up from previous years, possibly due to our T.V. interviews from CHECK tv. and CTV aired Saturday evening. The final profit is not yet tallied, but Kathryn reports it will be between \$2,800 and \$3,000.

Barb also thanked everyone who volunteered their time over the four days and specifically thanked Poul Hansen, Lioba Samer, Diana Rowles, Kathryn Collins, Toni Dertlieva, Joe Chow, Don and Marilyn Mills, Astrid Firley-Eaton, Pat van Adrichem, Coreen Kempling and Isolde Verbrugger, Steve Newell and Bill Cleugh, Dave Wong, John Taylor and Gord Davies.

Supplies: Catherine asked people to email their requests for orders to her.

Website: Diana reported that it is being updated.

Social Media: More members are joining our Facebook page.

New Business:

Don Mills reported from the VOS Show, 37 plants from our members received awards. Don also reported that there has been a change of the colour of pen used to mark the black tags naming display plants. They will now use a bronze coloured pen instead of silver.

Program:

John Taylor spoke on Madagascar: Country, Flora and Fauna.

Adjournment: The President declared the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Davies

Society Information

Meetings are held at the Gordon Head United Church Hall, 4201 Tyndall Avenue, Victoria, B.C. on the fourth Monday of the month. Members are encouraged to bring their orchids in bloom to display on the show table.

Guest speakers are engaged for these meetings and often, speakers bring plants for sale. There is also a sales table where plants brought in by members may be purchased. There is often a pre-meeting, basic workshop from 6:45 – 7:30 p.m. Plant sales begin at 7:15 p.m. and the meeting runs from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

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

Coffee and tea are available for \$1.00 at the meeting and goodies are provided by members in rotation, based upon the initial letter of their last names. Goodies are requested from those with last names beginning with **O, P, Q & R** for the April 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.

Newsletters will now be posted and archived on a **members' only** page on the new website and members will be issued a password to access it. This will give a little more privacy to people and events that are shown in the newsletter. Members who do not wish even this amount of exposure, please let the newspaper editor know and photos of them will be blurred or omitted.

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 (\$15.00 per fiscal year), \$5.00 per month to non-member businesses (\$40.00 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 195 Maddock Avenue West, Victoria, B.C. V9A 1G5.

Officers:

President	John Taylor
Past President	Ingrid Ostrander
Vice-president	Diana Rowles
Secretary	Barbara Davies
Treasurer	Jill Livesey

Newsletter Editor: Diana Rowles

Web Masters: Diana Rowles/Catharine Schlenker

Proofreader: Joe Chow

Librarian: Elsie Gerdes/Bill Cleugh

Membership: Kathryn Collins

Spring Show Chair: Barb Davies

Programs Chair: Rodney Crutcher

In emergencies, call John Taylor at (250) 479-0146.

Directors:

Lioba Samer
Kathryn Collins
Poul Hansen
Catharine Schlenker
Joyce Wilson
Blair Humphrey



Phragmipedium Joan Montmorency



Epidendrum Joseph Lii 'Kultana'

Reminders & Opportunities

Display table photographs.

We are attempting to revive the practice of taking photos of the all the beautiful plants that people bring to the display table to share. Previously, this was an onerous task that involved people bringing lists of the plants that they have brought and putting them in the order in which they would be photographed. The photographer had to keep track and match the pictures with the names (often hard to read scrawls, as people were in a hurry), and then a helper would move them to the display table. To publish them, the pictures had to be connected to their correct names, and, often after considerable proofing by Joe Chow, placed on the web.

We may have a new photographer who will take photos when she can get to meetings (she lives in Sooke and does not drive). To simplify the process, we are asking people to simply sign a record sheet when they bring any plants for display, then put their plants on the table to the right of the photographer, and move them to the display table after the photos are taken (placed on the photographer's left).

The photos will then be cropped and put into numbered text boxes in a word .docx file which will be sent to the people who have signed the record sheet. Plant owners will email the names of their plants, identified by the number of the box to Diana. This gives some of the responsibility to the plant owners. They must take their own plants to the display table and must email in the information. Only the photos of the identified plant will be published.

We tried this last meeting and so far, less than ¼ of the plants in the document have been identified. If we are to try to reinstate the practice of taking display table photos, we must get a faster and fuller response. There will be no display table in April because of the auction, so be thinking about May.

Upcoming Webinars

How to Grow Habenarias with Jim Heilig

Thursday, April 18th, 2019 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST MEMBERS ONLY
Join Jim Heilig, PhD., AOS Accredited Judge, and a specialist in growing tricky Habenarias. Learn how to be successful in growing these beautiful orchids as Jim discusses how to culture these exotic deciduous terrestrials.

Register now using this link :<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5601506362333121795>



Note: After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the seminar.

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE? The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

ABKHAZI GARDEN SPRING PLANT SALE
SUNDAY April 28
9am to Noon at the Abkhazi Garden –1964 Fairfield Road.
Rain or shine. Cash or cheques only.

Lost some plants over the winter? We've got your replacements.
Come and buy interesting plants, most grown at the Garden. Irises, shade perennials and unique garden gems. Stay for a wander around the garden and buy a refreshment in the Teahouse.

Proceeds of the plant sale to Friends of Abkhazi Garden society for use in Abkhazi garden projects. www.friendsofabkhazi.ca or visit Abkhazi Garden on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

Abkhazi Garden
PLANT SALE
Sunday April 28
1964 Fairfield Road
9 a.m. to noon

Lost some plants over the winter? We've got your replacements! Come and buy interesting plants, most grown at the Garden. Irises, shade perennials and unique garden gems. Stay for a wander around the garden and to buy refreshments in the Teahouse.

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Cash or cheques only.

For more information: www.friendsofabkhazi.ca or visit Abkhazi Garden on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.



Marg Palmer
Friends of Abkhazi Garden Society

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