



# Victoria Orchid Society



Svend Munkholm's *Paphiopedilum* (*Paph.*) Cowichan Green 'Jenny' HCC/AOS was voted the favourite plant at the November meeting.

## 2018 Meetings:

*Spring*  
**January 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**February 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**April 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**May 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**June 25<sup>th</sup>**

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

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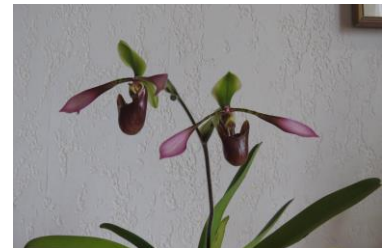


*Epidendrum polybulbon*

*Welcome to new member Rebecca Wilks*

## From the Editor

Happy New Year! I hope that you all have had a great holiday season surrounded by winter blooming orchids. We have some exciting speakers coming to the Society meetings this year (bringing plants to sell) as well as the spring shows, ours and the Vancouver Orchid Society's, both in March. Then, there is our auction in April. There should be lots of opportunities to buy more plants for those who still have room for them.



*Paph. lowii*

[www.victoriaorchidsociety.com](http://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](mailto:enviroed@telus.net)).*

*Logo photo D. Rowles*



John Taylor

## President's Message

Welcome back to another session of the society. It's been a while since our last general meeting. So far we have had a pretty mild winter, especially compared to the harsh conditions currently being experienced in other parts of North America. At this time of the year, when a pervading bleakness takes over, we can't help but develop a special appreciate for the beautiful blooms in our greenhouses, on our windowsills and under our light set-ups.

One of my favourite orchids, *Cattleya percivaliana* 'Summit', always seems to bloom right at Christmas. 'Summit' is awarded, deservedly, with an FCC, and never fails to brighten the gloom with cascades of gorgeous pink and mauve flowers on a big healthy plant (As a single caution, it should be noted that the flowers have a rather odd, and not altogether agreeable odor.).

Plans for our annual spring show are well advanced. Anyone who would like to help with the show would be very welcomed; there is always a great need. It is a complicated business with all the logistical planning, setting things up, running the proceedings, and then taking it all down again. If you would like to get involved, please contact Melanie Norris.

Our first speaker of the New Year is long time member Patrick van Adrichem. As many of you know he is an expert on *Phalaenopsis* and maintains a commercial nursery. He will have numerous lovely hybrids available for sale. *Phalaenopsis* hybrids are probably the most popular of all orchids. They have the distinct advantages of being happy in the conditions of the average home and staying in bloom for months at a time. The flowers are large and attractive.

For those interested in seeing how their own favourites compare in the world, there will be an AOS judging on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Since the recent setting out on our own as the Western Canada Judging Centre, we are now alternating with Vancouver as the site of the monthly judgments and so the next one on the 13th will be at the Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary in Victoria.

John Taylor

## 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 7:00-7:30 p.m.

The pre-meeting workshop for this meeting will be held by Ingrid Ostrander. Questions should be sent to Melanie in the next week. Although questions can be asked at the time, it is best to have some ready to handle. Also, the time is short so please come at 7:00 p.m. sharp to attend this workshop, especially if

### Spring 2018

**January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Pat van Adrichem –**

***The Journey to***

***Growing Better Orchids***

**February 26 – Ingrid Ostrander –**

***Preparing Your Orchid***

***for the Show***

**March 2-4 – Spring Show**

**March 26 – Rotating Stations**

- ***Joe Chow – Repotting Cymbidiums***

- ***Poul Hansen – Repotting Cattleyas and Phalaenopsis***

- ***Don Mills & Rick Rancourt - Mounting Orchids***

**April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Annual Auction**

**May 28 – Alexey Tretyakov –  
*Orchid Nutrition***

**June 25<sup>th</sup> – Alan Koch -  
*Species Habitat and Hybrid Culture***

you are planning to bring a plant for diagnosis or help. If your plant looks really sick and may have pests or virus contamination, please enclose it in a plastic bag to avoid transmission to other plants.

These workshops are really valuable for beginners in particular, so come and join the group.

**January 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting:** Patrick van Adrichem – "The Journey to growing better Orchids"



Patrick has been growing Orchids for nearly 30 years. He and his wife, Cathy, own Kingfisher Orchids, a well-known name in the orchid community. They specialize in mainly warm growing orchids such as Phalaenopsis and Dendrobiums. They always provide beautiful displays at orchid shows and Pat and Cathy have won over 20 American Orchid Society awards for Orchids.

Pat and Cathy have been breeding and cloning orchids for 25 years, and have many of their crosses registered with the RHS in England. They are currently breeding for red, yellow and art shade Phalaenopsis, as well as cloning selected species and hybrid plants.

Pat will be bringing a selection of blooming plants for sale. Members can also access his fall catalogue here <http://www.kingfisherorchids.ca/directory> and pictures and albums here "Kingfisher Orchids" on *Facebook*. He can bring pre-orders to the meeting if there are any.



**Spring Show News:**

Our spring show is fewer than 8 weeks away!! We are looking forward to the event being held at the newly renovated "Our Lady of Fatima Hall" again this year. Many vendors and societies will be returning to share their beautiful displays and offer many unique orchids for sale. This year, we have a few new members on the show committee who, fortunately, have access to a great team of experienced members. We have been laying the groundwork over the past few months and it is now time to extend our requests for your help!

- We will be asking for volunteers to sign up for the event (March 1-4) in key roles for set-up, take down, admissions, security, cashier, packers, registration table, ribbon judging, to name a few. We will begin the sign-up sheets at the January 22 meeting. You may notice some small changes from previous years to streamline our resources.
- As always, trophy sponsors will be needed for the show. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the January meeting for members wishing to sponsor a particular Class at the show.
- Our advertising focus this year is a significant change for our society. We will be focusing much more on social media, namely *Facebook* and *Twitter* to get the word out. Our *Facebook* page is very active and doing well, as well as our *Twitter* account. We will be creating a "Spring Show" *Facebook* event which we hope will be liked and shared by all of our members who have





a *Facebook* account. As well, we would like to promote our vendors and visiting societies who have a lot of wonderful photos on their feeds. The dollar off coupon will be available on *Facebook* and on our website to be screen captured so we can encourage paperless coupons.

- Show posters and tear away coupon pads will be delivered during the first weekend of January to local large nurseries and floral shops by the Norris family. If you would like any posters or coupons to distribute, please email [melroga@telus.net](mailto:melroga@telus.net).
- The gala this year will fit in nicely with our “orchids in nature” theme. Although more details will follow, we would really like to see a great turn-out for the *Preview & Awards* evening where you can enjoy some delicious food and get first options on the vendors’ items. Mark your calendars for the evening of March 2<sup>nd</sup>!
- We are accepting donations for a group basket to include special items such as chocolate, teas, chutneys, wine and other such treats. More information about the Silent Auction will be announced at our January Meeting.

And finally, we need your beautiful orchids to display!! Ingrid will be presenting valuable information during her talk “Preparing your Orchids for a Show” at our February meeting. In the meantime, here is a good reminder about plant preparation from a previous newsletter.

- Staking flower spikes or wobbly plants that lean over, cleaning leaves and checking for insect life. This year’s theme is “Orchids in Nature” so keep this in mind in your preparation.
- Making sure that the plants aren’t turned away from their regular light source. All the flowers on each inflorescence should look in the same direction. The stems may face in different directions, as long as the display is pleasing. Don’t try to repot your plants just for the show – you might damage the flowers.
- Washing pots and leaves thoroughly and removing all dead stems, old flower stalks, baby ferns or other weeds and brown leaves. Put an extra shine on the clean leaves by gently wiping the top part with milk.
- Cleaning the labels, checking that each plant has its correct name, including any award it may have won.
- Attaching a label with your name to the bottom of the pot and putting your name on the transport box. You want your plant back!

Thank you all for your time and energy as you help, once again, make the show a great event!

*Melanie Norris*

## Past Events

**November 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting:** Sasha Kubicek took us on a trip through the orchids of New Zealand. Sasha travels widely to many inaccessible places to find orchids in their natural habitats. He has previously given VicOS members an excellent presentation on his orchid trek through Mexico.

This presentation was equally fascinating. With Sasha’s incredible enthusiasm and knowledge we really felt we were on the trip with him, although few of us would actually be able to follow his serious hiking and climbing feats.



## Judging news:



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

At the AOS Western Canada Judging Center's monthly judging on November 18, 2017, the following AOS awards were granted:

*Paphiopedilum* (Hilo Super Green x Pat Rowland) 'Jenny' HCC/AOS 77pts

\*\* award provisional pending hybrid registration

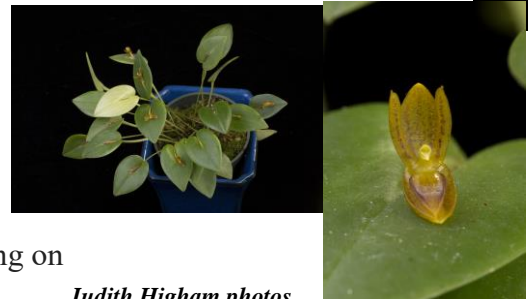
Exhibitor: Svend Munkholm



*Pleurothallis inornata* 'Pepe's Gift' CBR/AOS

\*\* award provisional pending species identification

Exhibitor: Sasha Kubicek



At the AOS Western Canada Judging Center's monthly judging on December 9, 2017, no AOS awards were granted.

*Judith Higham photos*

We had an exciting 2017 of orchid judging activities, the most exciting of which is the starting of Western Canada Judging Center in June. We had an amazing year and a big thank you to all the judges, photographers and judging personnel, and most of all, exhibitors for coming to our monthly judgings and exhibiting in society show displays this year. Because of your contribution, we get to see and experience a great variety of plant material because of all of your support!

Here are some number for 2017:

- 173 plants submitted at monthly judgings
- 63 plants nominated with 22 AOS awards granted
- 1909 plants submitted at show judgings and outreach judgings
- 102 plants nominated with 25 AOS awards granted

We are definitely looking forward to an exciting 2018 with a continuation of your support!

If you are an AOS affiliated society and want to schedule an AOS Outreach Judging as a society monthly meeting program in 2018, please contact me and we will make it happen!

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](tel:604-328-5363), [asalleh@telus.net](mailto:asalleh@telus.net))

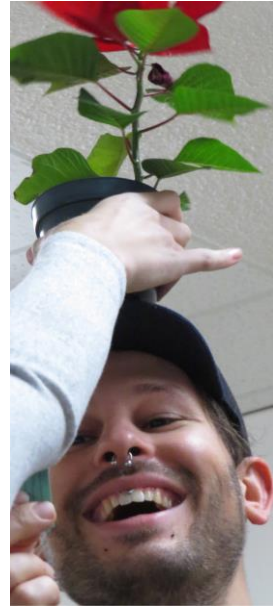
Next two monthly meetings:

- January 13, 2018 : 11:30am at Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary, 3873 Swan Lake Road, Victoria B.C.
- February 10, 2018 : 11:30am at Sea Island Community Centre, 7140 Miller Road, Richmond B.C.

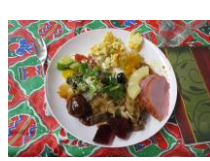


December 11<sup>th</sup>, Christmas party

*Many thanks to our organizer, Astrid, and her helper, Pauline, and especially to Donna who managed the food so efficiently.*



*Many thanks also to our master of ceremonies, Justin Dunning and to our prize draw crew, the Norrises*



*And of course,*

*to all those who helped set up and take down*







*Beautiful centerpieces donated by the Flower Arranger's Guild were admired by all and snapped up in the silent auction.*

**Victoria Orchid Society  
Minutes of General Meeting, November 27, 2017**

The meeting of November 27, 2017 was held at the Gordon Head United Church Hall. President John Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone. There were no guests or new members. Sasha Kubicek presented the show table with Catherine Frutiger assisting.

**Secretary's Report:** MOTION: Poul Hansen moved and Don Mills seconded that the minutes of the October, 2017 meeting be approved as published in the newsletter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Treasurer's Report:** Jill Livesey presented her report and moved for acceptance, seconded by Elsie Gerdes.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Notes:** Barb Davies spoke on a decision made by the executive to have a member wear an “ask me” tag at the general meetings to help answer general questions from either guests or new members about our society, or direct questions about orchids to other knowledgeable members. We hope this will encourage them to continue coming. Astrid Firley-Eaton volunteered this evening. Geoffrey Haywood left behind a ceramic pot after last month’s meeting and would like to find it. Please contact him if you have any information.

**Other Reports:**

**AOS:** John reported that the next judging meeting will be on December 9<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver. Both Poul and John will be going, so if anyone has plants they want to have judged please drop them at either of their places.

**Library:** Ian reminded everyone to please return any library books they have checked out after one month.

**Membership:** Kathryn reported we have 61 members. Last chance to renew your membership tonight.

**Newsletter:** Diana said she has 50 orders for Virus Kits. If you want to order any, let her know now.

**Programs:** Rod reviewed the programs scheduled for next year, starting with Patrick van Adrichem. He may be bringing plants to sell. Ingrid Ostrander will speak on preparing your orchids for the show at the February meeting and we will have rotating workshop stations on repotting and mounting orchids at the March meeting. Astrid asked people to sign the sheet for food dishes for the Christmas Party and reminded everyone to bring their own plates and utensils, as well as a donation for the Mustard Seed Food Bank and a donation for the Brown Bag raffle draw.

**Spring Show:** Melanie showed the poster for the Spring Show and reported that Diana’s grandson has donated his time to make this poster. She asked members to e-mail her with requests for the number of posters they would like to place in the community. Also that would be a good time to ask for Silent Auction donations. She will also deliver to local garden centres and flower shops and will bring them to the Christmas dinner. She asked members also to start collecting interesting natural elements, such as branches, mosses, etc. for use in our display at the show. Anyone who wants to be a vendor at the show, please let her know. She is looking for a volunteer to be the co-ordinator for the art work display.

**Plant Orders:** Sasha spoke about Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids coming to speak in June, 2018. He is not sure if Alan will be taking pre-orders, but look over his website. Also H&R Orchids will be coming in October and they have an amazing catalog online. Both would be some “eye candy” to dream about over the holidays.

**Plant Sales:** Coreen reported that tonight they have lots of nice plants for sale.

**Prize Draws:** there are also many different items to win tonight, buy your tickets at the break.

**Supply Sales:** Catherine reported she has *Orchiata* bark for sale, as well as other supplies.

**Program:** Sasha Kubicek gave a presentation on “The Orchids of New Zealand”. John Taylor thanked him for his informative presentation.

**Next Meeting:** Christmas Pot luck Party, December 11<sup>th</sup>, setup at 5:00 p.m. dinner at 6:45 p.m. at Gordon Head United Church Hall.

**Adjournment:** The President declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40 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. 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. There is often a pre-meeting, basic workshop from 7:00 – 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, & R for 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.

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.



*Dracula pholeodytes*

### **Officers:**

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

**Newsletter Editor:** Diana Rowles

**Web Master:** Blair Humphrey

**Proofreader:** Joe Chow

**Librarian:** Ian Nugent

**Spring Show Chair:** Melanie Norris

**Programs Chairman:** Rodney Crutcher

### **Directors:**

Joyce Wilson  
Catherine Frutiger  
Coreen Kempling  
Rodney Crutcher  
Elsie Gerdes  
Ian Nugent  
Antoanetta Dertlieva  
Melanie Norris  
Astrid Firley-Eaton



*Mps. Sweet Surprise 'Gabrielle' HCC/AOS*

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

## Reminders & Opportunities

### *Future VIC OS International Speakers:*

**2018-2019:** Sept 24 2018 – Roy Tokunaga, H&R Confirmed, October 22 2018 Wenqing Perner (a maybe)

**2019–2020:** Sept 23, 2019 - Fred Clarke - confirmed

***Ecuagenera will be at the Vancouver Orchid Society's Show March 23-25, 2018.*** Plants can be pre-ordered and picked up at the show. Deadline for pre-orders is March 5<sup>th</sup>. Check out their website.

***Members' Treasures:*** Remember that there is a section on the website for pictures of special orchids which have bloomed for members "out of season" for meeting displays. Our plants aren't always at their best when meeting time rolls around. Take a photo when your plant is at its peak display and send it to me with some information about it and it will be placed in the ***Members' Treasures*** on the website.

## Classifieds



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