

VicOS News

The Official Newsletter of the Victoria Orchid Society



Masdevallia Minaret 'Burrard Inlet'
CCM/AOS
Grown by Joe Chow - Recipient of
the Carlyle A. Luer Award
Photo courtesy of Judith Higham

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Leda Bower

Hello all,
Welcome to the beginning of the Fall and Winter season of the Victoria Orchid Society meetings. I would like to offer a short introduction about myself.

I moved from Alberta when I was twenty four and I've been trying to grow any kind of plants since then. I started looking to belong to an Orchid club (because I needed time out from my toddlers) for information and found the Fraser Valley club meeting in a portable in Langley - the rest is pretty predictable. I joined the Vancouver club and started to volunteer for both. I've had collections and had to sell them and life goes like that - houses bought and sold, children grow up and leave. Now, I'm very lucky to have a great growing area and a new collection. Once an orchid lover, always an orchid lover. (Cont next page...)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sept 14: AOS Western Canada Judging Centre monthly meeting and judging at Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary at 11:30

Sept 23: VicOS September General meeting with Guest Speaker Fred Clarke from Sunset Valley Orchids (California)

Oct 26-27: Fraser Valley Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale, George Preston Rec Centre, Langley, BC



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 1)

All the Orchid clubs that I've joined have helped me in definable ways: social, mentorship, and generosity of belonging. Let's look to the year ahead as our objectives in our Constitution define us as a Club. And when that mother of two toddlers walks through our doors to learn something, let's embrace her like Lyn Cassidy, Betty Berthume, and Carl Withner (my first co-members) did. They are the ones who helped instill a love of growing these amazing plants - for me, my therapy.

I'm looking forward to the partnerships formed with the Executive members and the General membership working on plans and projects guiding the Club toward its Objective statements. throughout the coming year. ---- Leda



GENERAL MEETINGS FOR 2019/2020:

September 23

October 28

Novemeber 25

December - Member Christmas Party - to be announced

January 27

February 24

March 23

April 27

May 25

June 22 - AGM

Meetings are held at the Gordon Head United Church Hall at 4201 Tyndall Ave.

Meetings begin at 7:30 and open to VicOS members and guests. Visitors are always welcome.

Newsletter contributions are always encouraged (photos, tips, tricks, information or insights) Please submit to Melanie at melroga@telus.net



An Introduction to **Fred Clarke** VicOS Guest Speaker September 23

“THE SPECIES OF CATASETUM, CYCNOCHES, AND MORMODES”

By Fred Clarke (*from Sunset Valley Orchid Website*)

Catasetum, Cycnoches and Mormodes are three related genera from the Tribe Cymbidieae. Individually, each has been considered an orchid oddity, or “botanical”, of interest mainly to the seriously addicted enthusiast. These plants have a brief deciduous period in winter, when the plants need a definite dry rest period bordering on neglect. These robust orchids are native to lowland tropical forests in Central and South America and are usually grown in warm or intermediate conditions.

Commercially, Catasetum, Cycnoches (or ‘Swan’ orchids) and Mormodes (or ‘Goblin’ orchids) have occupied a small market niche on the edge of a sea of Cymbidiums, Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Dendrobiums, Epidendrums, and so on. This talk will feature a widescreen computer slide show on some of some excellent species of Catasetum, Cycnoches and Mormodes. The presenter will be Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids in Vista, California. Fred Clarke has been growing orchids for 30 years and has been hybridizing for 22 of those years.

With over 24 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery; Sunset Valley Orchids. He is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Although developing Cattleya hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new Bulbophyllum and Paphiopedilum hybrids plus some others to be named if they work out! His pioneering work in Catasetum intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, Fredclarkeara After Dark, which produced “the blackest flower ever witnessed”. This grex has received five FCC’s and three AM’s on the first flowers shown for judging! Fred is an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region. His plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society.

The VicOS is delighted to welcome Fred as he presents "Catasetinae Species and their Cultivation" on Sept 23 at 7:30 at the Gordon Head United Church Hall in Victoria.



Photo Courtesy of Sasha Kubicek

WELCOME TO THE NEWLY ELECTED EXECUTIVE

On June 24th, the Victoria Orchid Society held it's Annual General Meeting. During this meeting, elections were held to vote on the Exective Council for the 2019/2020 year. The following members were elected:

President: Alida Bower

Vice President: Justin Dunning

Treasurer: Andrea Vernon

Secretary: Sarah Lane

Past President: John Taylor

Directors:

Astrid Firley-Eaton, Bill Cleugh,
Catharine Schlenker, Catherine
Frutiger, Debb Ward, Diana Rowles,
Melanie Norris, Sasha Kubicek, Steve
Newell, Toni Dertlieva

Update - We have received notice that Andrea Vernon and Catharine Schlenker have resigned from their executive positions.

We would like to wish Andrea and Catharine all the best and thank them for putting their names forward.

BOOK REVIEW

By Don Mills

Authors: Fred E. Hillerman and Arthur W. Holst
An introduction to the Cultivated Angraecoid Orchids of Madagascar

Published by Timber Press 1986

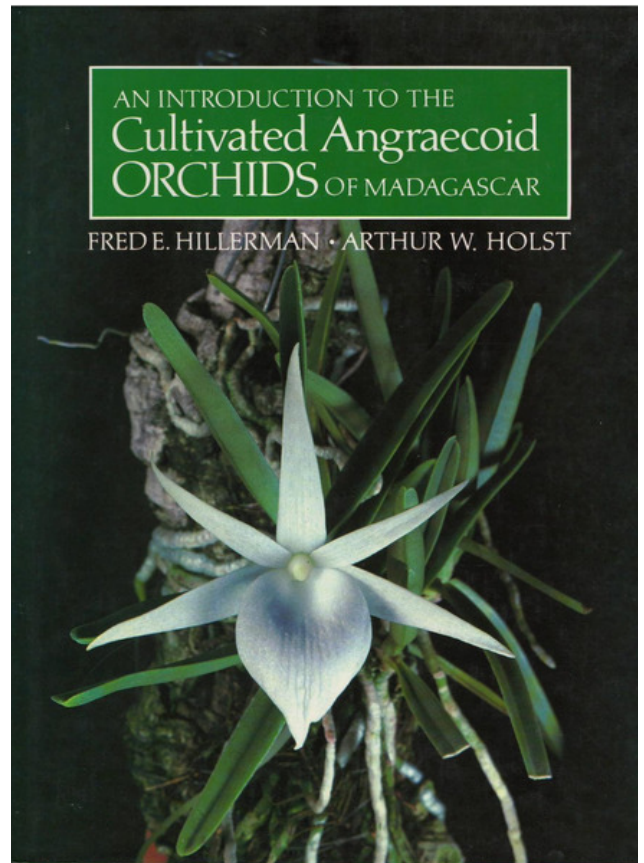
302 pages, numerous line drawings and coloured photos.

The authors have covered the full gamut of suggested culture, hybridization, and classification of the seven genera of the Angraecoid group plus species of other orchid genera found in Madagascar. This was one of the first books to tackle the Angraecoid group two decades prior to the orchids being available to the hobbyist.

Although not claiming to be botanists, the authors have provided the orchid grower with superb descriptions, line drawings, and photos of most species.

This reviewer especially appreciates the Appendices in this book dealing with Angraecoid hybrids, hybridizing technique, glossary, and culture chart.

If you want to try growing this exotic orchid genera then this book is a must read !



AOS JUDGING RESULTS - AUG 10

By Abu Salleh

At the AOS Western Canada Judging Center's monthly judging on August 10, 2019, the following AOS award was granted (please note that all awards are considered provisional until paperwork and payment is processed by AOS and published in Orchids Plus):

Cattleya violacea fma. semi-alba 'Memoria Annie Wong'

HCC/AOS 77pts (20196616)

Exhibitor: Calvin Wong | Tropical Gardens Orchids

Photo courtesy of Judith Higham

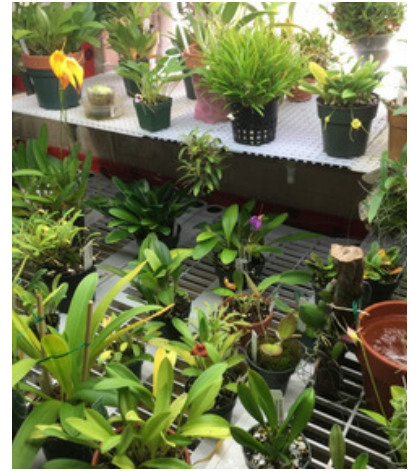
SUMMER GREENHOUSE TOURS - AUGUST 18th

By: Melanie Norris

The Victoria Orchid Society held its annual Member Greenhouse Tour on Sunday August 18, 2019.

We had the pleasure of visiting three very different set-ups, all adapted to each grower's available space. It was amazing to see how a grow area can be modified to provide completely different growing climates within a relatively small room.

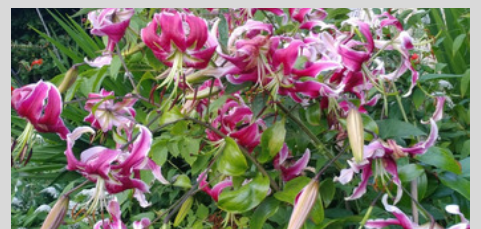
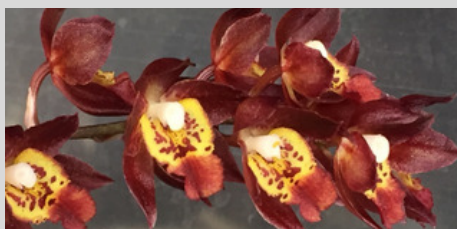
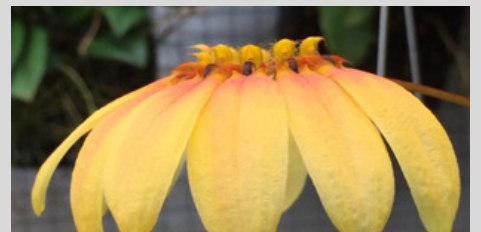
During this tour, we saw how each grower has integrated technology, science, and other tools and tricks that allow them to bloom stunning orchids. It was a very informative and inspiring afternoon for both the novice and experienced visitor.



We would like to extend our gratitude to Poul, Rick, and Bryan for opening your homes, greenhouses and gardens for us to visit. We very much appreciate the time spent to answer questions, as well as providing lovely refreshments.

It was indeed, a most enjoyable afternoon.

Photos courtesy of Leda, Bryan, and Melanie



MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 22 GENERAL MEETING

The meeting of June 24, 2019 was held at the Gordon Head Church Hall. Vice President Diana Rowles, sitting in for President John Taylor, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. She welcomed everyone to the final meeting of the 2018/2019 Victoria Orchid Society year and the end of an era, stating that the current executive is retiring, most after many years of service to the Society. The membership will be electing a new executive in the AGM meeting this evening and Diana wished them the best in the coming year.

Secretary's Report: Ingrid Ostrander moved and Elsie Gerdes seconded that the minutes of the May General meeting be approved as published in the newsletter.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Treasurer's Report: Jill Livesey presented the financial report for the month of May, 2019. Jill moved for acceptance, seconded by Catharine Schlenker.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



The Vice President suspended the meeting at 7:35 for the Annual General Meeting and then resumed it at 8:05 p.m.

Program: Sasha Kubicek introduced the guest speaker, Alan Koch, who spoke on "Species Habitat and Hybrid Culture". The new President, Leda Bower, thanked him for his presentation.

New Business: President Leda Bower spoke on the purchase of a new projector by Joe Chow over the summer.
MOTION: the Society approve the spending for the purchase of a new projector.
Moved by Catharine Schlenker and seconded by Bryan Emery. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sasha Kubicek reported that Alan Koch was not able to bring his 'for sale plants' into the country and had to ship back to California. Sasha proposed that we reimburse his cost.
MOTION: the Society give to Alan Koch for the cost of shipping his plants.
Moved by Sasha Kubicek and seconded by Astrid Firley-Eaton. MOTION CARRIED

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

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Davies

Past Secretary

MINUTES OF THE AGM - JUNE 24, 2019

The meeting for June 24, 2019 was held at the Gordon Head United Church hall. Vice President Diana Rowles, sitting in for President John Taylor, called the meeting to order at 7:35 and it was determined that we had a quorum.

Secretary's Report: MOTION: Ingrid Ostrander moved and Elsie Gerdes seconded that the minutes of the June, 2018 Annual General Meeting be approved and accepted as published. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS:

Reports were prepared by the President, Secretary and the Treasurer and are attached to the minutes. In the absence of John Taylor, Barbara Davies read both the President's and Secretary's reports.

Auditor's Report: Jill Livesey reported that she will arrange for an Auditor's report.

Elections of Officers: Conducted by Joe Chow. The following slate of nominees was presented:

President: Leda Bower
Vice President: Justin Dunning
Secretary: Sarah Lane
Treasurer: Andrea Vernon

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

Joe explained that as there were 11 names up for director positions, he will hand out ballots. The allowable number of directors is 10, you may vote for as few as one or as many as ten. The ballots will be collected and the tally will be done during the display table presentation.

Elections of Directors:

The following slate of nominees was presented for Directors: Chris Bauer, Catharine Schlenker, Steve Newell, Bill Cleugh, Astrid Firley-Eaton, Melanie Norris, Catherine Frutiger, Debb Ward, Antionette Derive, Sasha Kubicek and Diana Rowles.

The AGM was suspended at 7:47 p.m.

The display table was presented by our guest speaker, Alan Koch, with the assistance of Sasha Kubicek. The AGM resumed at 8 p.m., after the tallying of the ballots, Joe announced the election of the following people as directors:

Catharine Schlenker, Steve Newell, Bill Cleugh, Astrid Firley-Eaton, Melanie Norris, Catherine Frutiger, Debb Ward, Antoinette Dertlieve, Sasha Kubicek and Diana Rowles.

Adjournment:

The Vice-President adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectful Submitted,
Barbara Davies
Past Secretary