

SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY NEWS

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Web site: www.soos.ca ; Member of the Canadian Orchid Congress; Affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest and the International Phalaenopsis Alliance.

Membership: Annual Dues \$30 per calendar year (January 1 to December 31). Surcharge \$15 for newsletter by postal service.

Membership secretary: Marilyn Crompton, #1908-21 Overlea Blvd., Toronto ON M4H 1P2, phone 416-467-0018, renew or join on line at soos.ca/members

Executive: President, Laura Liebgott, 905-883-5290; Vice-President John Spears, 416 -260-0277; Secretary, Sue Loftus 905-839-8281; Treasurer, John Vermeer, 905-823-2516

Other Positions of Responsibility: Program, Mario Ferrusi; Plant Doctor, Doug Kennedy; Meeting Set up, Yvonne Schreiber; Vendor and Sales table coordinator, Diane Ryley; Membership, Marilyn Crompton, and Liz Mc Alpine ; Web Master, Max Wilson; Newsletter, Peter and Inge Poot; Annual Show, Peter Poot; Refreshments, Joe O'Regan. Conservation Committee, Susan Shaw; Show table, Synea Tan .

Honorary Life Members: Terry Kennedy, Doug Kennedy, Inge Poot, Peter Poot, Joe O'Regan, Diane Ryley, Wayne Hingston.

Annual Show: February 14-15, 2015



Pat Vuurman Photo PP

Next Meeting Sunday, March 9 , in the Garden Hall (NOT the Floral Hall) at the Toronto Botanical Garden, Sales 12 noon, Cultural Snapshots with Wayne Hingston at 12.15 pm, Introduction to Orchids and Watering (See the schedule elsewhere in the newsletter).

Program at 1 pm: An Introduction to Phragmipediums and How I Grow Them by Pat Vuurman

Pat and Lynda have been growing orchids for over 25 years with more or less success! Like most growers, plenty of plants have made the ultimate sacrifice in order to help us to learn which orchids will survive and under what growing conditions these orchids will thrive. A number of excursions to the natural habitat of these plants have provided invaluable lessons. Come to the meeting on Sunday March 9th to see a few examples of Phragmipedium flowers, some cultural suggestions based on our observations and experience with Phragmipediums as well as a Phrag. re-potting demonstration. Bring along your Phragmipedium related questions, they are welcome.

2014 Membership on sale at the membership desk, or you can renew at our website www.soos.ca

President's Remarks Welcome Orchid Lovers.

Reminder: Our next meeting will take place **March 9th**, in the Garden Hall. Members will only be able to sell five (5) plants at this meeting. Please make sure you mark your calendars.

Thank you, members whose last names begin with the letters **C** and **D** for the tasty treats at the end of January. The March treats will be brought in by the members whose last names begin with the letters **E, F,** and **G**. Please remember these are to be finger foods.

The SOOS show is over and members can now put up their feet and rest after a very long and tiring weekend. I would like to thank all volunteers who participated in the show. Without you, our show would not have been as successful as it was. The speakers, tour guides, exhibitors, kitchen help and general volunteers were just outstanding. The overall public reaction was most positive reflecting how enjoyable the show was and how well organized we were. Many were impressed with the beauty and variety of plants on display as well as the multitude of choices at the vendors' tables. Also, many commented that the money they paid to enter was well spent. The fact that they did not have to pay for parking was a bonus as this did not happen at some other shows. Congratulations show committee and volunteers on a job well done.

Please remember, Don Wyatt will be building the SOOS display at the RGB show on Friday, February 28th. He will need flowers for this display. Please be generous and provide him with orchids.

Later in March, I will be taking the SOOS display to London, Ontario as well as Montreal. As London's show is the weekend after our meeting, it would be greatly appreciated if you would bring your designated orchids to the meeting. This would give me adequate time to prepare, tag, and register them as well as , plan out the type of display that would best feature our flowers. The London show is March 14th to March 16th.

A week and a half later, I will be looking for more orchids to replace a few of the London show plants that are no longer in flower. These will be displayed at the Montreal Orchid Show (March 28th - March 31st).

We are still looking for someone to set up the SOOS display in Ottawa. The setup day is April 18th (Good Friday) and takedown on April 20th (Easter Sunday). Please contact me for information about this event, if you would like to undertake this. Hotel and gas are paid for by SOOS.

Members' sales table:

The changes dealing with the operation of the

members' sales table seem to be working. After much discussion, the executive would like to make another change. When the money is tallied for the members, there is often a lot of small change required. The plan is to round up or down to the nearest dollar. Thus, if we owe you 50 cents or more, the amount will be rounded **up** to the nearest dollar. If you were to receive 49 cents or less, the amount would be rounded **down** to the nearest dollar. This would help the sales table immensely and save Diane from lugging large amounts of change to our meetings.

Remember the culture snapshot schedule will continue on through to June. **Wayne Hingston** will be presenting these on the stage at 12:15 to 1p.m. (prior to the SOOS meeting). This month, the snapshot will be an "Intro to Orchids and Watering". If there are any new members or returning members who need a refresher, please join us on the stage.

Pat Vuurman is the speaker for this month. His topic will be phragmipediums. The following month, we will be having round table sessions on a variety of topics. Please stay tuned for next month's newsletter to see which round tables will be offered.

On a final note, Kingfisher Orchids in British Columbia has offered to do a group order for our society. We will be putting together an order and Yvonne Schreiber has graciously volunteered to co-ordinate this. If you would like to place an order, please speak to Yvonne. Thank you, Yvonne, for doing this.

Laura Liebgott

Questions or comments? Please contact me at:

lliebgott@rogers.com or

905-883-5290

Welcome New Members

Kyla Fodi

Chabidaye Ramnath,

Kathy Gerry, Gerald Foley,

George Steinke

Revised 2014 schedule for the Cultural Snapshot sessions on stage with Wayne Hingston at 12:15.

Previously, we published March 9th as Insects etc. I will replace it as below:

March 9th Introduction to Orchids and Watering

April 6th Watering and Fertilizers

May 4th Media and Repotting

June 8th Summary and Summering Outdoors

I am hoping that this change better accommodates new members that join at the show.

Coming Events

FEBRUARY

Get The Jump On Spring February 22 @ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
FREE ADMISSION A \$2 donation is appreciated. Visitors who choose to donate will have the opportunity to win great prizes! Join us for TBG's 18th... - See more at: <http://torontobotanicalgarden.ca/enjoy/special-events/#sthash.rq7ENCd7.dpuf>

MARCH

1-2 Royal Botanical Gardens Orchid Society Show
+ Toronto Judging Centre Monthly Judging.
9, **SOOS meeting** Toronto Botanical Garden, sales 12 noon, program 1 pm.
15, Montreal Judging Centre, Monthly Judging at the Jardin botanique de Montreal.
15-16, London OS Show, London, Ontario.
21-23, Manitoba OS Show, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
29-30, Les Orchidophiles de Montreal Show

APRIL

4-6 GROS Show, Rochester, NY - Judging Friday, April 4
5, Toronto Judging Centre Monthly Judging, 1 pm Toronto Botanical Garden.
6. **SOOS meeting** Toronto Botanical Garden, sales 12 noon, program 1 pm.
12 - 13 Québec OS Show, Quebec City
19 -20 Ottawa OS Show+ Montreal Judging Centre monthly judging
26-27 Toronto Artistic Orchid Association Show, Toronto.

30- May 4, AOS Meeting, Bloomington, MN

MAY

3, Toronto Judging Centre, Monthly Judging, 1 pm Toronto Botanical Garden. TJC Monthly Judging, TBG
4, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, sales 12 noon, program 1 pm.

10-11 Saguenay OS show (to be confirmed)
24, Montreal Judging Centre, Monthly Judging at the Jardin botanique de Montreal.

AOS Judging Results

Please note, all of these awards are provisional until published by the American Orchid Society.

Toronto Judging Centre and SOOS Show, February 8, 2014:

Cymbidium Alisomar 'Wilson's Choice' CCM-AOS 86 points, Synea Tan.

Dendrobium Andree Millar, CCM-AOS 85 points, Synea Tan.

Paphiopedilum Alice Doherty, 'Wilson's Choice' HCC-AOS 78 points

Note! The next judging will be held at the Royal Botanical Gardens Annual Show at the Royal Botanical Gardens, in Burlington, Saturday, March 1, after the completion of Show ribbon judging, about 11 am. AOS Judging is a service of the American Orchid Society and is open to all! Bring us your flowering orchids. We need the practice.

Plant of the Month



Michael Hwang with Cattleya percialiana
Photo PP

Michael has owned this plant for about 10 years and is obviously doing a great job of growing it. He grows it in a mix of medium bark and medium charcoal and waters it once a week. He grows it in very bright light on a windowsill and augments the light with a whole spectrum lamp and additional red light. He grows it warm at 25-30C. Congratulations and thank you for sharing with us your healthy, happy plant!

Lost and Found:

A 10" red container was found: Zip-Lock brand, left in the kitchen during the show. If the owner wants it back would he/she please contact Inge Poot at sonja.poot@sympatico.ca

2014 SOOS Show Wrap up.

Your show committee will hold a show wrap up meeting following the March 9 regular SOOS meeting at the TBG. If you have suggestions or are interested in joining the committee please plan to join us. The meeting will be looking at what went right, what might be done differently, and who will do what for the 2015 show scheduled for February 14-15, 2015 at the TBG.

The 2014 Committee did a terrific job with the very active help of the many volunteers that came forward from the SOOS membership. Thank you all of you.

The key jobs were led by:

Alexsi Antanaitis organised and ran the show tours.

Tom Atkinson handled the show invitations to vendors and exhibitors and the show layout.

Marion Curry and Sue Loftus recruited, organised and managed the volunteers for set up, tear down, security, the front desk and the coat and plant check.

Bob Dowzansky and his faithful helpers provided us with a wonderful selection of victuals all weekend long.

Mario Ferrusi and Jay Norris again organised a very efficient judging of the show. (they also put in displays)

Wayne Hingston and Henry So organised and ran the SOOS members sales table among other things.

Terry Kennedy with husband Doug in consultation with **Linda Kafka** led the publicity campaign and also organised the show schedule and the trophies and ribbons in addition to once again putting up a superb display.

Frank Maine organised and set up the Art and Photography entries and designed and managed the Saturday night and Sunday morning photography sessions

Tom Shields produced and ran the orchid talk program.

The SOOS Conservation Committee (Susan Shaw and Henry Glowka) provided the Conservation emphasis with two prominent displays in the front lobby.

Judy Torrie managed and worked the plant and coat check

John Vermeer with the assistance of Liz Mc Alpine watched over the money.

Max Willson ran plant registration and administration and provided SOOS website support.

Don Wyatt produced the SOOS display and made himself generally available wherever help was needed.

Last but not least I thank all of the exhibitors (vendors). Without you there would be no show. I also thank my wife Inge for creating committee minutes out of chaos

and those intrepid volunteers who showed up to help with setup Thursday night and Friday morning.

Peter Poot, 2014 SOOS Show chair.

Greenhouse Aids, by Mario Ferrusi,

Transcribed by Inge Poot

Many people had a really hard time to more or less successfully save their plants during the severe ice-storm that ravaged the Greater Toronto area plus later areas east of there on December 21, 2013. It resulted in extended power outages and before things could be fixed was followed by a severe and prolonged cold spell. With global warming we have to be prepared for more and more frequent extremes in weather. Additionally our infra-structure is aging and due to the recession politicians at all three levels have not had the courage to increase taxes to raise funds for renewals that are becoming more and more urgent.

Kerosene heaters are the only heaters that are OK to use in an enclosed space such as a home.

Another option for small spaces are candles. **8 candles** will heat a small room and by moving your plants there you could save them. You yourself would get more oxygen in an adjacent room under lots of blankets!

In the recent power outage a **propane heater** in the growing area would have blasted the flowers, but saved the plants. This solution cannot be used to heat a house, because the fumes kill not only flowers but people too. Attachments are available for propane tanks (the latter are sold at gas stations and such stores as Canadian Tire) to convert a barbeque tank to a space heater and cooker. These attachments are meant for camping trips and the appropriate stores sell them.

You will have to count on needing 20 lbs of propane per day. Remember: do not use in the house!

Propane heaters are available for about \$150 when on sale. They are useful in a power outage if one needs power for the gas/oil heater. Mario had a gas heater fail because of a water leakage that froze and such a heater saved his plants.

A **Sensaphone** (cost about \$600) will call you anywhere in the world on your cell phone and report such things as smoke, low/high temperature, power outage.

Alarm dialers are available for under \$50 that can dial to a phone anywhere to alert you of such things as that a sump pump has failed.

A more limited use alarm can be put together by just about anyone. It consists of a thermostat set for 10C or 50F, attached to a 6 volt battery, a 12 volt buzzer.

However it is of no use if nobody is at home to hear the buzzer.

Natural gas barbeques could be used to heat a garage or detached greenhouse, but again carbon monoxide, a tasteless, odourless gas could be produced, especially if oxygen levels go down and people would get killed. Do not enter an area heated in this way until it is well aired out after the emergency is over.

Natural gas generators permanently hooked up to gas and installed outside are the best solution if natural gas is available in your area. Mario has a 14 KWH model installed at his home now and it comes on automatically 20 seconds after the power cuts out. His electrician installed a "pony" panel beside his electrical entrance panel and all the essential circuits go through it and then to the main panel. The pony panel is connected to the outside generator and this generator has a rechargeable battery that switches the pony panel to the generator when the power cuts out.

Smaller natural gas generators can be connected to a series of outlets (eg an octopus). The essential circuits or essential heaters and coolers are also wired to or come with plugs and they can be plugged into the generator via extension cords via the outlet(s) for periods of time as needed.

Gasoline generators usually come with an extension cord that essential circuits can be rigged to plug into in turn as for the small natural gas generator. However, they tend to run out of gas frequently and must be allowed to cool down before refilling and the refilling must be done out of doors away from flammable structures.

A **Garrison Back-up Power System** supplies 1800 watts, costs about \$500, or \$250 on sale and supplies power for 4 hours on the coldest days for a 18' X12' X8' greenhouse. Keep the heater plugged into it via its rechargeable battery.

If you use any portable device out of doors make sure it is **chained** to an immovable structure. People with no precautionary measures in place can get quite ruthless.

Lunfus Inc.

we grow phalaenopsis

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Houw Khoe,
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New Zealand Sphagnum Moss

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Ching Hua Orchids, In Charm, Krull Smith, and Sunset Valley. Our website is up and running. If you have any questions please feel free to email us at:

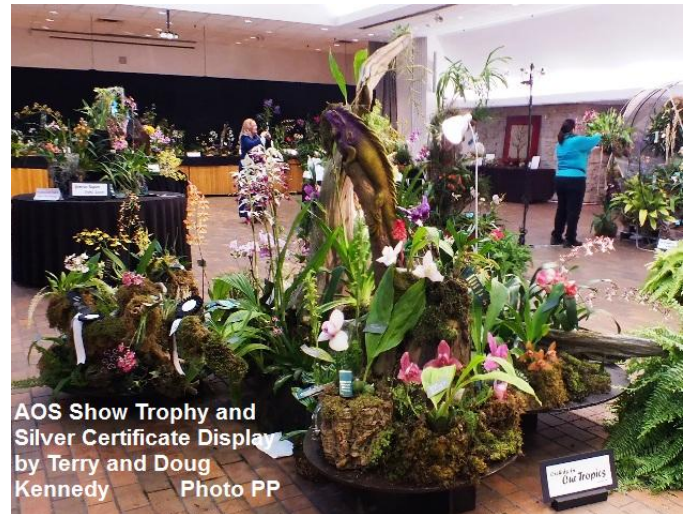
crystalstarorchids@gmail.com or call Eric Lee at (905) 478-8398.



American Orchid Society Awards at the SOOS 2014 Annual Show



Dendrobium Andree Millar CCM-AOS
85 points, Synea Tan





Cymbidium Asilomar 'Wilson's Choice' AM-AOS, CCM-AOS, 86 points, Synea Tan.
Photo PP

January 26 Show Table Ribbons

Class	First	Second	Third
Class 1 Cattleya Alliance	<i>Cattleya percivaliana</i> Michael Hwang Plant of the Month	Rhyncattleanthe (Blc) Young-Min Orange 'Golden Satisfaction RTH Viola Nuggett' Synea Tan	Cattleya (Lc)Mini Purple 'Ocean Blue' Synea Tan
Class 3 Phalaenopsis and Vanda Alliance	Phalaenopsis(Dtps) Yu Pin Polar (Star?) John Vermeer	Phalaenopsis Sogo Vivien Henry Glowka	
Class 4 Oncidium and related	Oncostele (Colm) Wildcat 'Blood Ruby' Synea Tan	Ionopsis utricularioides Synea Tan	
Class 6 Dendrobium	Dendrobium Aussie's Chip Synea Tan		

TROPHIES and AWARDS

Display class 1 (1-10 Amateur)
Genesee Region Orchid Society

Display class 2 (10+ Amateur)
Inge & Peter Poot

Display class 3 (1 -10 plants Open)
Daina, Yvonne & Chris Schreiber

Display class 4 (11-15 plants)
Lunfus Inc.

Display class 5 (16 - 25 plants)
DiCiommo Orchids

Display class 6 (more than 25 plants)
Orchids In Our Tropics

Educational exhibits.
Vanilla by: SOOS Conservation Committee

CANADIAN ORCHID CONGRESS MEDAL:
Most innovative and artistic exhibit of show
Les Orchidophiles de Montreal

Best Pleurothallid Classes 89 – 92
Masdevallia Southern Sun 'Solar Flare'
HCC/AOS
in: Marsh Hollow by: Mario Ferrusi

WALTER NORMAN MEMORIAL TROPHY
for Best Cattleya Classes 15 – 26
Laeliocattleya Meadow Gold (L. anceps x C. aurantiaca) in: Orchid Society of RBG

GARY SCHREIBER MEMORIAL TROPHY
for best Paphiopedilum species Classes 27- 29a
Paphiopedilum gatrixianum in: Les Orchidophiles de Montreal

Best Phragmipedium Classes 40a – 42
Phragmipedium Peruflora's Spirit
(kovachii X Eric Young)
in: Southern Ontario Orchid Society

Best of orchid art Classes 103-105
Cattleyas in Glass
by: Hideh Tabatabaie

WAYNE EYLES MEMORIAL TROPHY
for Best plant in show
Cymbidium Alisomar 'Wilson's Choice'
CCM/AOS, AM/AOS in: Synea Tan

Best Hybrid Paphiopedilum Classes 30 – 37
Paphiopedilum (Laser x Emerald) x sukhakulii
in: Central Ontario Orchid Society

INTERNATIONAL PHALAENOPSIS ALLIANCE TROPHY
Best Phalaenopsis Classes 43 – 57
Phalaenopsis Sogo Yukidan
in: Lunfus Inc.

Best Vandaceous Classes 58 – 69a
Vanda Manuvadee
in: Exotic Orchids Plus
by: Lynne Guimond and Santos Peixe

JOHN KAFKA MEMORIAL TROPHY
for Best Oncidium Classes 70 – 78
Burrageara Living Fire 'Glowing Embers'
HCC/AOS in:
Central Ontario Orchid Society

WEN CHONG MEMORIAL TROPHY
for Best Cymbidium Classes 79 – 81
Cymbidium Alisomar 'Wilson's Choice'
CCM/AOS, AM/AOS in: Synea Tan

Best of genera allied to Cattleya Classes 10 – 14
Laelia anceps var. veitchiana 'Fort Caroline'
HCC/AOS
in: Les Orchidophiles de Montreal

Best Dendrobium Classes 82- 88
Dendrobium Darumanes in: Hamilton Greenhouse
by: Rob & Ruthanne Gardiner

Best Miscellaneous Classes 93 – 99
Phaius tankervilleae
in: Orchids In Our Tropics

WILSON NG TROPHY
for Best specimen plant Class 102
Laelia anceps var. veitchiana 'Fort Carolina'
HCC/AOS
in: Les Orchidophiles de Montreal

Best Photography Classes 106-108
Electric Paph
by: Jay Norris

AOS SHOW TROPHY:
Awarded under the provisions of the judging handbook for the best display in the show.
Orchids In Our Tropics