



# NEWS

Volume 24.1– January 2012

*Cattleya*  
*Angelita Del*  
*Cafetal*  
'Senorita' HCC-  
AOS 79 points  
Alan Salzman



*Epigeneum acuminatum* 'Tropical Gardens Orchids' CHM-  
AOS 81 points, Calvin Wong



*Zootrophion alvaroi* 'Yellow Bird', CCE-AOS 90 points,  
Mario & Conni Ferrusi

## 2012 COCTravel Grant

We will be accepting applications for the 2012 Travel Grant from Jan. 2/12 until March 16/12. The application form and instructions/conditions are on the COC website. We don't need a signature on the application form this year, only a name and contact information, so you can e-mail me your application.

ONLY FIVE SOCIETIES WILL RECEIVE THE GRANT THIS YEAR SO GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN EARLY. PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO SOCIETIES WHO DIDN'T RECEIVE THE GRANT LAST YEAR.

*Gail Schwarz, Education Chair*

## The Orchid Specialist Group

The Orchid Specialist Group, Species Survival Commission, IUCN, has launched a new website. <http://www.iucn.org/orchid>

As Editor of the Orchid Specialist Group newsletter, 'Orchid Conservation News', I am preparing 3 to 4 issues annually. The three issued in 2011 may be found and downloaded from the website (See sidebar - Newsletters). Please feel free to circulate within your respective societies and to pass on the website url to any local conservation groups which may be interested in our work.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2012.  
*Sincerely, Marilyn Light*

## Orchid Wars

ORCHID WARS, by Pamela Kelt, is a Gothic-inspired tale of intrigue and adventure set in 1885, when orchid mania was its peak.

Affluent members of society would bid feverishly for the latest exotic blooms, plucked from the remotest parts of the empire by intrepid, and often ruthless, plant hunters.

Browse the web site to learn more or to download the Kindle version. <http://orchidwars.blogspot.com/>

## President's Rambles

One of the joys of orchid growing is the associated opportunity to travel and enjoy the fruits of fellow orchidist's efforts. A number of you attended the World Orchid Conference in Singapore this past November. I was not able to go this time, but from what I have heard a good time was had by those that went. There was the show, the lectures by experts from many countries, and of course the foreign locale and the opportunity to take side trips. As I requested in my November message, I am looking forward to seeing a pictorial review of the conference from one of you, preferably in a format that we can make available to the member societies.

Sharing is the most important reason for the existence of societies and clubs. The COC is no different. By sharing and discussing your experiences and impressions we all benefit. Some societies have not yet send in their dues and /or insurance renewals for 2012. Please do so and have a great 2012 in good orchid company.

The Montreal orchid society unfortunately did not secure the 2017 WOC. A bid such as this is a major undertaking and often involves repeated bids to secure the prize. Ecuador was the choice of the WOC committee for 2017. 2014 will be in South Africa, a fascinating country. If you have not been, start planning now. We were there the last time they hosted a WOC along with our then children. We toured the country in a rented camper van. Our now grown up kids still talk about their impressions and our adventures.

On another sad note, the Southern Ontario Orchid Society has had to cancel their Toronto, February show for this year. The City has had a contractor reconstructing the venue parking lot and access. As so often happens with projects like this there were delays that extended the completion time to late spring of this year, well beyond our February show dates. By the time we recognized our problem, SOOS was unable to secure a suitable alternate venue in sufficient time to produce the show this year. The moral of this story is be prepared with backup plans. Things can and will happen.

A Happy and Successful 2012 to you all.  
*Peter Poot*

Material in this newsletter or on the [COC website](#) may be reprinted in society newsletters - just make sure you attribute the author and the COC.

# MINIATURE ORCHIDS FOR CANADIAN HOMES

— Gloria Keleher and Betsy Thorsteinson

The phrase 'small is beautiful' has special meaning for the lover of miniature orchids for they have a charm that can quickly become an obsession. An added advantage is that they occupy so little valuable growing space and for the orchid enthusiast whose collection keeps growing in numbers, this is a major consideration. However, miniature orchids have many other interesting features to fascinate the plant lover. Many are beautiful foliage plants. Some have a branching growth habit not found in the larger pseudopodial orchids and can soon cover a slab with a network of leaves and flowers. The exotically spotted, overlapping leaves of *Oncidium limminghei* cling tightly to its mount. *Isabella virginalis* has a chain of tiny bulbs covered with an unusual golden net of fibres that complement the lavender flowers that is unlike any other plant. Many of the *Pleurothallis* group form graceful clusters of leaves with sprays of flowers which, though not showy, are in perfect proportion. *Nageliella purpurea* has silvery-stippled leaves with a purplish overcast which rival any of the popular foliage plants. Its bright magenta flowers are an added bonus.

Roots are an interesting feature of many miniature orchids and unlike terrestrial plants are clearly visible. The roots of *Aerangis curnowiana* are warty; those of *Ornithocephalus iridifolius* are covered with tiny white hairs. *Maxillaria juergensis* has corrugated roots and the young roots of *Pleurothallis tribuloides* are colored bright orange.

In general, miniatures need closer attention than the larger orchid species. Mistakes in culture are not as easily forgiven. A constantly soggy compost can result in quick death, and for this reason, many miniatures are best grown on mounts. This method most closely duplicates their growth in nature and the roots are easily observed. Vigorous roots are a sign of plant health and in miniatures they are usually the first indicators of trouble. Some suitable mounts are tree fern slabs, cork bark, oak branches, driftwood, and redwood bark. Cork bark may be difficult to find but we have been successful with cork wall panels, available from a building supply dealer. For plants that need extra moisture a pad of osmunda or sphagnum can be placed under the roots. Nylon fishing line is effective and inconspicuous for tying. It is important to tie newly mounted plants firmly to their support.

Plants that require high humidity, newly imported plants,

and seedlings are often happier in a terrarium. This can be an aquarium of a convenient size, with a layer of gravel, perlite, or lava rock on the bottom to absorb moisture and thus raise the humidity. It will also lift potted plants out of water that accumulates. Mounted specimens can be hung from the sides of the tank. Driftwood is decorative and supplies additional support. A terrarium can be placed in a growing area under lights or in a special spot on display.

Because mounted miniatures have to be sprayed daily, it is convenient to group them together in one growing area. Hardware cloth or pegboard, set an angle under the fluorescent fixture, forms an effective support for the mounts. If a plant is in serious trouble we have found that placing it in a small pot of fresh sphagnum and enclosing the whole with a plastic bag may save the plant. Sphagnum moss is widespread in Canada, growing wherever black spruce and tamarack are found.



*Promenaea stapeliodes* Photo: Betsy Thorsteinson

The following are some of our favourite small orchids. All have been grown and bloomed by us, either under fluorescent lights or in a window, without benefit of a greenhouse atmosphere. Not all are of equally easy culture. These orchids are tropical plants and there is a critical period of adjustment to environmental conditions which cannot be exactly duplicated in a Canadian home, certainly not here in Central Canada. Even plants obtained from the greenhouses of commercial growers in the semi-tropical areas of the United States must make a considerable adjustment. It is proof of the toughness of orchids in general that so many survive in our artificial growing conditions. We recommend obtaining seed-grown plants of miniature orchids whenever possible,

even in the flask stage. They experience less trauma when adjusting than jungle-collected plants. Besides, you will have the satisfaction of knowing you are not contributing to the extinction of the species in its natural habitat if you experience an occasional failure.

*Aerangis rhodosticta*, from Central Africa, is one of the loveliest of miniature orchids. The plant with its shiny green close-set leaves is attractive even when not in bloom. The inflorescence is somewhat pendulous, the flowers about 2 cm across and in two rows on the same plane. The color is white or ivory with the bright orange-red column forming a beautiful contrast. The flowers last about a month. Our plants are laboratory grown and the largest bloomed in less than a year out of the flask. Pot-grown seedlings have not been as successful as mounted specimens. Cork bark or oak twigs padded with fresh sphagnum seem to be the preferred mounts. Warm temperatures, low light and good humidity are required.

*Amesiella (Angraecum) philippinensis* is another monopodial orchid, native to the Philippines as the name implies. The flower spike produces up to four pure white spurred blossoms with a yellow center, large in relation to the plant. Warm temperatures and bright light are necessary, and a humidity higher than can be achieved in the home. We had some difficulty getting the flowers to open fully until the plant was moved to a terrarium. It is worth the extra effort to provide the necessary environment as it is a lovely orchid.

*Ascocentrum miniatum* is an Asian species, with a dark green fan of leaves, contrasting with the showy, brilliantly colored spikes of closely clustered orange flowers. They are spurred and are centered with a purple-lipped column. This is a plant for a south window as it requires bright light to bloom well. Alternatively it can be placed close to the tubes in a fluorescent light garden and given warm temperatures.

*Barkeria skinneri* is native to Mexico and Guatemala. The rich rose-lavender flowers are up to 4 cm. across and borne in a spike at the apex of the reed-like pseudobulbs. It likes plenty of water, warmth, and light during active growth and a cool dry rest in winter. While this species is somewhat taller than a true miniature, its growth and flowering habit is strictly upright and its bulbs so close together that it can be accommodated in a small pot. It is highly recommended for its ease of culture, brilliant color and long-lasting flowers.

*Cirrhopetalum* and *Bulbophyllum* are two closely allied genera of orchids, often grouped together. The

combination has about 2000 species, growing in the New and Old World, in a wide range of habitats. From this huge complex of plants there are many that are worth growing, including lots of miniatures. *C. ornatissimum*, from India, is a very easy one to grow and bloom, and the flowers are intriguing. They are quite large, about 10 cm, with the lateral sepals drawn out to form a long purple-striped tail. The lip is mobile, rocking with the faintest breeze, and is bright purple. The petals and the dorsal sepal have delicate purple fringes at their tips that give the flower a frivolous aspect. The spikes appear at various times throughout the year, emerging from the base of the 2.5 cm pseudobulbs. The pseudobulbs are spaced along wandering rhizomes and therefore the plant should be mounted. It does well in intermediate conditions, although it could be cooler in winter. *B. guttatum* is larger than *C. ornatissimum*, about 10 cm high, but the pseudobulbs are spaced closer together so the plant has less tendency to sprawl. Its flowers are very pretty, growing in a fan or wheel arrangement and held up on long stems. The sepals and petals are yellow with magenta spotting and the lateral sepals are folded into two short tails. These flowers, coming in the winter, are not long lasting but they are freely produced. This is a very easy plant to grow and flower. It prefers cool conditions, moderate light, and a moist compost of tightly packed osmunda. It can be grown in bark but seems to thrive in osmunda.

*Capanemia uliginosa* is a pretty little plant from Brazil. It has stiff leaves atop tightly packed pseudobulbs, and forms a compact plant standing only 4-6 cm tall. Every spring the bulbs produce dense, long lasting sprays of fragrant white flowers, making a truly delightful show. Its culture is undemanding. Mount it on tree fern with a cushion of moss and give it moist, intermediate to warm growing conditions.



*Dryadella edwardii* Photo: Betsy Thorsteinson

*Dryadella edvallii* is a real gem. It comes from Brazil and is allied to the *masdevallias*, its former name. Its leaves, 4 or 5 cm long, form a tight cluster that is easily accommodated in a thumb pot. The triangular, long lasting flowers appear in profusion in the spring, peeking up from between the leaves and forming a delightful bouquet. The sepals are pale yellow, the top one barred and the bottom two spotted with wine. The tiny lip is wine colored. *Dryadellas* should be grown in a cool shady location, preferably in clay pots full of tightly packed osmunda. They must be kept constantly moist. There are other *dryadellas* that are similar, such as *D. simula* and *D. zebrina*. They are all equally attractive.

One of the charms of *Epigeneium (Dendrobium) nakaharai*, from Formosa, is its free-blooming habit. The plant forms a branching chain of 2-3 cm angled pseudobulbs, each with a 3 cm leathery dark green leaf. It grows quickly and each pseudobulb produces from its apex a large (2.5 cm) waxy yellow flower, with a very shiny reddish brown lip. When that flower fades, another can appear from the same bulb, and that trait combined with the constant branching growth, assures lots of flowers. It is grown best on a tree fern slab in intermediate to cool temperatures and in medium light. This is one of those plants that is rarely troubled by disease and demands no extra attention in culture.



*Epigeneium nakahara* Photo: Betsy Thorsteinson

*Haraella odorata*, from Taiwan, is a choice miniature with monopodial type growth, the dark green leaves only about 4 cm long. It blooms readily, usually in fall, the flowers appearing one or two at a time. They are relatively large, pale yellow, with a long, fringed lip centered with a large purple blotch and looking altogether like some member of the insect world. It can be grown in a small pot, on a tree fern or a padded cork

mount. As it occurs at rather low altitudes, it does best with warm temperatures and high humidity, making it a good subject for terrarium culture.



*Haraella odorata* Photo: J.J. Keleher

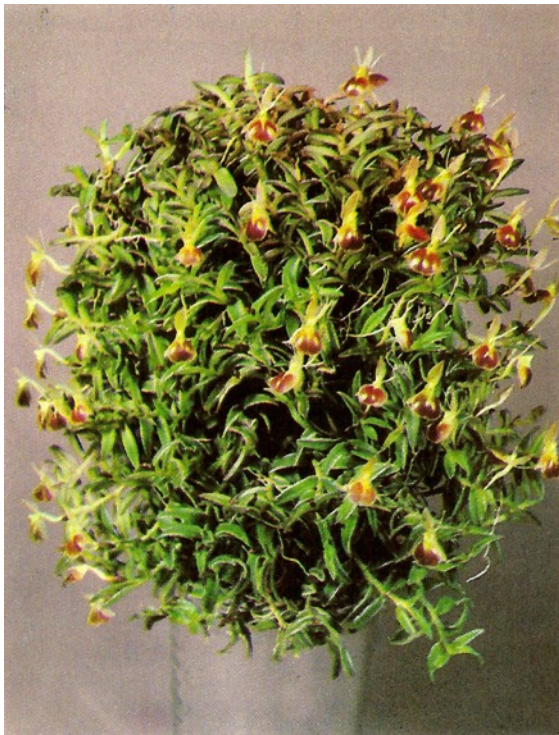
*Ionopsis utricularioides*, from Florida through to Peru, has two or three 7-10 cm long leathery leaves that surround a tiny seed-like pseudobulb. In the spring it produces a long branching flower spike. The flowers are variable in color, ranging from white to lavender, with some striping in the two-lobed lip. Once the flower spike is produced and the first flush of flowers finished, the plant will often bloom again from a node further down the spike. Consequently, it has a long blooming time. It is best grown mounted on tree fern in intermediate to warm temperatures in good light. The tree fern should be allowed to dry between watering.

*Leptotes bicolor*, from Brazil, is a pretty and vigorous little plant with dark green terete leaves. When it flowers, often twice a year, it is very showy, covering itself with white and magenta blossoms. It can be grown in a small pot of osmunda or mounted on tree fern, in a south window or close under fluorescent lights. When actively growing, it needs to be well watered. After flowering and when the roots are inactive less water should be given.

*Masdevallias* are cool-growing plants native to the high mountains of South America. They grow quickly into clumps of fleshy, paddle-shaped leaves and the flower stems are produced from the leaf bases. The flowers are not large but are produced in abundance. They are unusual because the sepals form the showy part, being broad and often tipped with long tails. Many *masdevallias* flower more than once from the same stem, so do not cut the flower stalks until they turn brown. *Masdevallia infracta* is easy to grow, has glossy leaves and the sepals united to form a yellow and purple cup. *M.*

*reichenbachiana* is tubular and a red and yellow combination. It is almost constantly in bloom. A special favorite is *M. towarensis* with several large pure white flowers to a stalk. In addition to cool temperatures, all masdevallias like low light, good humidity and constant moisture. They will do well in a north or east window or near the ends of the fluorescent light tubes.

*Neolehmanna (Epidendrum) porpax* is a miniature that makes a fine specimen plant. Its branching 4-6 cm stems grow quickly and will soon completely cover the mount. The fleshy leaves stay in perfect condition for a long time so that the whole plant is a picture of robust good health. The 2 cm long flowers with their shiny maroon lip appear at the end of each stem and they seem to resemble a swarm of tropical beetles. This plant grows in intermediate temperatures and thrives when grown on a slab of tree fern and hung under fluorescent lights. It should be watered or sprayed once a day as the stems develop many aerial roots.



*Neolehmanna porpax* Photo Betty Thorsteinson

*Oncidium onustum* is first choice in a genus with dozens of delightful small species. The purple-spotted pseudobulbs are topped by a single dark green leaf about 8-10 cm in length. The inflorescence is a branched spray. The flowers are flat and of a pure, bright yellow color, about 2 cm long, with a large lip consisting of a broad mid-lobe and narrow side-lobes. This plant should be grown in bright light and does well mounted on unpadding cork

bark as it needs a drying-off period after watering. *O. calochilum* is another choice species. It is very tiny and the foliage resembles a cluster of pine needles. The relatively large yellow flower has pointed sepals and petals and a beautifully fringed lip. Medium light is sufficient so this plant can be grown under fluorescent lights, mounted on a slab of cork or open tree fern. Do not make the mistake of padding the mount as it does not appreciate constantly wet roots.



*Oncidium limminghei* Photo Betty Thorsteinson

The pretty members of the genus *Ornithocephalus* should be welcome additions to any orchid collection. They all form fans of flattened leaves and as the plants grow, more leaves are added to the center of the fan. New plants also form from the base of the fan and they can be separated off. *O. iridifolius* from Mexico grows about 8-10 cm tall, and has thin pointed leaves. The flower spikes appear in summer from between the leaves and are strung with little white flowers that have the characteristic 'bird headed' column. The fan of leaves, decorated with the long delicate spikes, makes a charming display. *O. cochleariformis* is about the same size but its leaves are wider. Its flowers are slightly larger and fuzzy. This plant quickly forms an attractive clump of fans and puts on quite a show when it flowers in the spring. Both these species do well on tree fern slabs, sprayed daily. They need good moisture but the roots should have aeration. They grow easily in intermediate temperatures and medium light.

*Ornithochilus fuscus* is one miniature that can be grown with *Phalaenopsis*. It is very like a phalaenopsis in growth form, but carries only three or four pointed leaves that are at the most 10 cm long. The flowers, which appear on long branched spikes twice a year, are small (1 cm) but numerous and charmingly eccentric-looking. The red and green striped sepals and petals are folded up and back and held over a spurred lip embroidered with two red fringed pinwheels. *O. fuscus* needs the same treatment as *Phalaenopsis* with perhaps a little more light. When the plant is in spike be careful not to disturb it in any way, as the spikes do seem to be very sensitive when the flower buds are developing.

*Phalaenopsis parishii* var. *lobbii*, only about 8 cm across, is a miniature relative of the much larger species and hybrids so popular in all collections. The flowers, each about 2 cm across, are in a raceme. The sepals and petals are white and the lip is white with brown vertical stripes. They are faintly fragrant. We grow this plant under fluorescent lights, mounted on cork bark, with intermediate temperatures and daily misting. It is deciduous in nature but we have not found this to be the case in cultivation, probably because it is kept more evenly moist.

*Phymatidium delicatulum* is a diminutive little plant, standing only 2-3 cm high. It comes from Brazil. The plant has a tuft of light green grassy leaves, and many fine roots. It blooms in the summer, generously producing spikes of tiny white flowers that are as fragile looking as the name suggests. The plant must be grown in a shaded location and kept constantly moist. Care should be taken with this plant as it is easily rotted. It is a good idea to grow it on a branch padded with a little osmunda. Alternately, to provide good drainage, it could be mounted on a cross-section of tree fern pole.



*Phymatidium delicatulum* Photo: Betsy Thorsteinson

*Physosiphon tubatus*, from Mexico, is as delightful vegetatively as it is in bloom. The plant quickly fills a small pot with graceful arching, paddle-shaped leaves about 15 cm in length. During the summer each leaf produces a spike of many tiny orange flowers. The sepals are partly united so the flowers appear tubular and three-lobed. It is very easy to grow in a cool, humid and shaded environment.

*Promenaea stapelioides* is a fine dwarf-growing relative of the zygopetalums from Brazil. Its shiny squat little pseudobulbs are topped with soft grey-green pointed leaves. The whole plant stands only 5 cm tall. Without fail, every summer this little plant produces an impressive display of long lasting flowers. They are borne on short stems from the base of the pseudo-bulbs and are almost as large as the plant is tall. The wide sepals and petals are yellow and densely banded with purple. The lip is fleshy and a darker purple. This plant is happy in intermediate temperatures and medium light. It likes to be grown in a moist but well-draining compost or mounted on a branch on a pad of osmunda. This plant freely produces new growths, but be careful when watering because they can easily rot.

*Restrepia elegans* is one of four species of this genus that we have flowered and any that you can obtain will be a delight to grow. Most of them are native to Ecuador and Columbia. The flowers of all species are distinctive. They are similar in shape, with large lateral sepals united to form the showy part and delicate filiform dorsal sepal and petals. The lip is usually similarly colored to the lateral sepals and blends so as to be almost unnoticeable. The whole flower looks like some wonderful insect dancing on the end of the stem and flowers appear repeatedly from the same leaf base. Restrepias are unique among orchids in that they propagate from leaf cuttings. One may also find that plantlets form at the base of the leaf blades and these can be removed and potted when roots have developed. Compost should be fine and well-drained and temperatures cool to intermediate with good humidity. They like to be shaded so grow them near the ends of the fluorescent tubes or under the foliage of taller plants.

*Sophronitella violacea*, from Brazil, is a true miniature, the whole plant being less than 10 cm high. The short stems have up to three lovely, star-shaped violet flowers which open widely, almost hiding the foliage. The individual flowers last about two weeks but open somewhat successively so the plant is in bloom for a longer time. It likes an intermediate temperature, a bright humid

atmosphere and a drying-off period between waterings. It can be grown potted or mounted.

*Sophronites rosea*, also from Brazil, is closely related to *Sophronitella*, and considered by some authors to be a form of *Sophronites coccinea*. It is equally beautiful having a rosy-pink flower about 8 cm across which dwarfs the little plant. This species should be grown a little cooler and somewhat shadier than *Sophronitella*. It does best in a small pot with good drainage and is kept moist throughout the year. Some chopped fresh sphagnum mixed with the compost is beneficial.

The genus *Trichoceros* would interest those who enjoy the unusual. There are six species in the genus, all coming from the mountainous regions of South America. They are commonly called 'fly orchids' because each species of *Trichoceros* mimics a different species of tropical fly. The flowers they produce are fascinating, with hairs, shiny spots, and antennae-like projections all designed to imitate a female fly. Fertilization is accomplished by the male fly attempting to 'mate' with the flower. Characteristically, the plants have small pseudobulbs with two or three fleshy leaves. The pseudobulbs are strung along rhizomes that come between the base of the bulb and the leaves. The flowers are held high up from the plant, and open singly over a long period of time. Because they come from the mountains, they need temperatures on the cool side with shady, constantly moist conditions. They grow well under fluorescent lights, or in a terrarium. Because of the long clambering rhizomes, they are best grown on a tree fern pole that is wedged in a pot for stability, or on a 'log' of osmunda made with chicken wire or hardware cloth. These plants are guaranteed to intrigue non-orchid lovers. They occasionally appear in orchid catalogs and any of the six species is rewarding to grow.

This is only a sampling of the countless numbers of miniatures to be discovered. Rebecca Northen has opened a whole new world to the lover of small plants with her recent book *Miniature Orchids*. Several hundred species are described with many of them illustrated, either in black and white or color. It inspires a never-ending search of the catalogs of commercial species specialists for new and unusual orchids to grow. To anyone serious about growing miniatures it is highly recommended reading.

10 Baldry Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba

[reprinted from *The Canadian Orchid Journal*, V7N7  
Fall 1982]

## The Windsor Orchid Society supports ElderCollege

ElderCollege is a educational program offered through Canterbury College, an organization affiliated with the University of Windsor, which offers courses in Windsor, Essex County and West Kent County. ElderCollege provides learning opportunities for older adults (> 55) who wish to enrich their lifestyle through active involvement education and contribute to the social and cultural development of their communities.

As part of the Windsor Orchid Society's mandate to provide education about the culture of orchids, Ed Cott, President of the WOS, is facilitating a course on "Growing Orchids at Home". The course began in October, 2011 and runs through to the beginning of December and covers some orchid history, a discussion on common orchid genera, basic culture and also includes a workshop where participants get their hands dirty while repotting an orchid in dire need. It is anticipated that the course will be offered on a regular basis as the ElderCollege program continues to grow and develop.



Ed Cott, centre, with some course participants proudly display the results of their repotting workshop.

### COC Editor

Were there Executive changes in the new year? Let the COC Editor know - I need phone, address, email for your President, Editor and COC Rep to keep my contact list current.

Do I have your show information or is what I have correct? Please check the COC web site.



## The Essex County Orchid Society Orchid Show & Sale was a 'Blooming Success'

On November 12th, the Essex County Orchid Society held their second show at Colasanti's Tropical Gardens in Ruthven.

Approximately 400 plus visitors and admirers came from across the Windsor and Essex County area, Chatham-Kent, Sarnia, London, St. Thomas, Ridgeway and a bus full from Watford came to view the orchid show as this was the first event of this kind to take place in Essex County. Many visitors couldn't believe their eyes as they perused the beautiful artistically arranged members orchid displays in baskets and containers and also the Society Display with many fragrant Cattleya orchids with one fragrant Cattleya boasting nine blooms grown by Albert St. Pierre. The question of the day; "are these all orchids we see in bloom"? Many were taken aback when told that all the blooms were orchids only.

The sales were brisk in the Vendors area as the visitors snatched up some prized looking orchids to call their own. At times the vendors couldn't keep up with the crowd who in turn asked them about growing conditions. The Society members took turns in answering orchid growing questions and holding lectures and demos at different times during the day. Two visitors brought in their orchid to get first hand growing assistance.

The Art component was a great attraction where visitors admired the Photography, Painting and Drawing/Sketching competition by members. The Society recognized one of their deceased founding members by awarding for the first time the 'Marjorie Bridgwater Memorial Award' in the Arts since she herself had dabbled in painting. This award for 'Best in the Arts' was won by Bonnie Teskey for her Pen & Ink entry where she took first place in the drawing competition. The first place photography award went to Marg Dudley for the single bloom photo and multi-bloom to Jacqueline & Larry Tremblay. The first place winner in the painting class was Barb Morden. Taking first place in the Basket Arrangement was Mary Welacky and first place in the Container Arrangement was won by Eleanor Sfalcin. The 'Best in Show' for the Container or Basket arrangement went to Eleanor Sfalcin who was rewarded by winning the COC Award. The Vendors display competition was won by Mario Ferrusi from Marsh Hollow. The Basket and Container arrangements were judged by AOS Judge, Mario Ferrusi.

The Essex County Orchid Society is very grateful to its members, volunteers, supporters, vendors, visitors and admirers for making this event a fabulous success.



Eleanor Sfalcin winning COC Award for 'Best in Show' in the Basket and Container Arrangements Category.



Bonnie Teskey winning the Marjorie Bridgwater Memorial Award for 'Best in Arts'.

### Your Society

Does your society have something to contribute to the COC Newsletter? What is happening that the other societies would like to hear? Do you have programme ideas to share? How do you get members involved? The Editor would like to hear from you.

# COMING EVENTS

2012

**Feb 11-12:** The Southern Ontario Orchid Society Annual Orchid Show has been **cancelled** for this year. "<http://www.soos.ca/>"

**Feb 24-26:** Orchid Society of Alberta "Orchid Fair", at Grant MacEwan College South Campus, 7319-29 Avenue, Edmonton. The show will feature spectacular orchid displays, orchid vendors from inside and outside Canada, and free seminars on orchid growing and related topics. For more information, e-mail [info@orchidsalberta.com](mailto:info@orchidsalberta.com), or check the OSA website, "<http://www.orchidsalberta.com/>"

**March 2-4:** Victoria Orchid Society Spring Orchid Show. It will be held in the Student Union Building, University of Victoria. Show Chair is Svend Munkholm [redvikingorchids@telus.net](mailto:redvikingorchids@telus.net). "<http://victoriaorchidsociety.ca/>"

**March 17-18:** London Orchid Society - New Location at Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School, 1065 Sunningdale Road East, London. For show information: "<http://los.lon.imag.net/shows.asp>"

**Mar 23-25:** The Vancouver Orchid Society Annual Show will be held at the Van Dusen Botanical Garden, 5251 Oak St., Vancouver BC. Contact: Wayne Riggs Email: [riggskw@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:riggskw@interchange.ubc.ca) "<http://www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca/>"

**March 23-25:** The Manitoba Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory. For more information, please email: [secondvp@manitobaorchidsociety.ca](mailto:secondvp@manitobaorchidsociety.ca) "[http://manitobaorchidsociety.ca/main\\_mos/index.php](http://manitobaorchidsociety.ca/main_mos/index.php)"

**March 24-25:** Les Orchidophiles de Montreal Orchidexpo, College de Maisonneuve, 2700 Bourbonniere St., Montreal, Quebec. For information: Andre Poliquin e-mail: [mor-pol@sympatico.ca](mailto:mor-pol@sympatico.ca) "<http://orchidophiles.qc.ca/>"

**April 13-15:** Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society at Country Club Center, Nanaimo, BC. Contact: Sue Christison, email [orchidlady@telus.net](mailto:orchidlady@telus.net) "<http://www.cvios.com/>"

**Oct 27-28:** Orchid Society of the Royal Botanical Gardens, 680 Plains Rd., Burlington. The OSRGB will be hosting the COC AGM - stay tuned for details. <http://www.osrbg.ca/>

## International Shows

**September 11 – 16, 2012:** 19th Australian Orchid Council Conference & Show 'Wild about Orchids' Burswood Convention Centre, Bolton Ave, Burswood, Perth, Western Australia  
[http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/19th\\_AOC\\_Conference.htm](http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/19th_AOC_Conference.htm)

COC Web Site - <http://www.CanadianOrchidCongress.ca/>

Please email the Editor your show information: date, etc.

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## COCnews

The purpose of COCnews is to inform members of the meetings, policies of the COC, to profile members, and to provide technical information regarding happenings, trends and techniques in orchid cultivation across the country and around the world.

We welcome your suggestions and contributions. Deadline for each issue is one month before the issue dates previously announced.

Recipients of this newsletter are strongly urged to pass a copy on to other members of their society.

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