



news

Volume 22.2 - March 2010

The Club Program Chair - a person worth celebrating.

There are many reasons to belong to an orchid club. First timers usually join to learn how to grow their newly acquired treasures. The more advanced growers will stay with your club for the fellowship with other growers that allows them to learn from their peers, exchange growing tips, exchange or barter desirable plants, and learn about new sources of plants, materials and equipment.

The first timers want to see culture programs. They need to know how to grow, how to water, how to repot. As they progress from Phalaenopsis to Oncidium hybrids to may be Dendrobiums and Masdevallias, the knowledge needs become more extensive for all members. Good programming must cater to all needs. All along the way careful meeting programming that engages all levels is needed. No program coordinator can satisfy all members all of the time. Time for learning, time for socializing, and time for entertainment must be built into each meeting program. In addition the programming should function as a stimulus to get better results from our efforts and to try new things.

For all of the above reasons the person or persons that set out and organise your club's programs are the most important people in your society and should be treasured, assisted and catered to. Talk to him or her next time you have a chance and let them know how they are doing.

Peter Poot

COC - a Source of Program Material

The COC maintains a small library of orchid programs. Some are 35mm. slide programs that we lend out to member societies. See the COC website for the titles and terms. Some are in digital form on CD and will be copied and mailed out on request for the cost of duplicating, packaging and mailing (about \$5 total on average). And yes, we do fill up the disc with as many programs as will fit. Since my 'discouraged' report to the fall AGM there have been seven (7) requests for programs. Most of these requests followed the last President's message. Thank you all, there appears to be a future for this program.

With the approval of the authors (?) we would like to convert the existing remaining slide programs to digital format. We would also love to receive more programs, or updates and or revisions to the existing ones. One interesting recently added program came from a visit to Ontario by Dr. Henry Oakeley of Lycaste fame. Dr. Oakeley's program is in Powerpoint and discusses Anguloa and Lycaste culture and hybridizing. He also gave the program in Ottawa and he tells me that someone there did a video recording. I don't know if it turned out or not, but if it did it would be worth adding to the COC library. We thank Dr. Oakeley for generously allowing COC use of his program.

Peter Poot

Notice Board

New Orchid Import requirements from the Western USA

There are several large orchid shows in California over the next few months. Your COC president has been working with the CFIA to ensure that import requirements for orchids being brought or shipped back to Canada by hobbyists and commercial vendors are available. If you are planning a trip to California, Washington and/or Oregon in the foreseeable future and intend to bring back orchid plants then reading and following the new directive is a MUST. The French version is in translation and will be posted as soon as available. Please note this covers only the phyto sanitary requirements. The CITES requirements have not changed. The directive is on the COC website under "importing orchids" at <http://www.CanadianOrchidCongress.ca/import4.pdf>

Orchid Cruise

My name is Monica De Wit and am a member of a number of orchid societies and am based near Edmonton, Alberta. Currently, I am working toward accreditation as a judge of the American Orchid Society (ok, I'm a third year student—a ways to go yet!). Most recently, I've been working on a project to combine my love of orchids and ...cruising!

My friend Lisa Stiksmo of Expedia Cruise Ship Centers (Abbotsford) and I have been planning a theme cruise; the specific itinerary we have selected is aboard the Coral Princess departing from Fort Lauderdale on January 14, 2011. The itinerary includes Aruba, Cartagena in Columbia, partial Panama Canal, Limon in Costa Rica and Ocho Rios in Jamaica and includes 10 days of cruising. We are planning orchid excursions in these areas as well. The exciting news is that Dr. Martin Motes and his wife Mary of Motes Orchids Florida have agreed to be our guest speakers on ship and will provide an orchid "short course". More details are to follow. We will be advertising this trip across Canada and elsewhere and your society members are some of the first to find out!

If you have any questions about cruising in general or about this itinerary specifically, please contact Lisa at 1-800-811-1733 (ask for Lisa), her cell at 1-604-309-2232 or via email at lstiksmo@cruiseshipcenters.com.

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.

On the Web

What happens if one combines addresses of locations of interest to orchid growers with a Google map? Have a look at Orchidmap (<http://www.orchidmap.com>), a site where you can go to look up orchid resources in your vicinity. Also lists events with lots of photos. Works for the USA or Canada. Run by OrchidWiz. Pretty cool.

Another website is Orchid Agenda. You can enter your event and see what is happening elsewhere. <http://www.orchidagenda.com/>

Are you interested on a video on repotting or how to grow a particular orchid? Go to Youtube and under search, enter "orchid". Lots of videos. No end of entertaining material with a certain amount of drek. <http://www.youtube.com/>

Wikipedia is where you can find a write-up on just about anything and everything. For material on orchids go to this link and wander down the page. At the bottom are listed all the documents by genera and photos. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orchid>

The Fraser Valley Orchid Society has a new website at <http://www.fraservalleyorchidsociety.com/>

COC Travel Subsidies

At the last COC AGM a travel subsidy policy was approved to support smaller societies in paying for guest speakers. Please see the COC website below for the necessary information and forms.

The deadline for applications is March 15. <http://www.canadianorchidcongress.ca/coctours.html>

Culture Sheets

I currently have a number of people working on the new COC Culture Sheets for the website. I am hoping to receive them all by the summer, have them reviewed by a group of people, and then get them on the website before the end of the year. If anyone would like to help write some of the sheets, or if you have any suggestions about them, please let me know.

Gail Schwarz, Education Chair
rschwarz@hfx.eastlink.ca

From the President

I have just returned from the Royal Botanical Gardens Show in Burlington/Hamilton. It is always a very beautiful show with many wonderfully grown orchids and this year was no exception. As this is now prime blooming period for orchids, there are many shows coming up shortly and we wish you enjoyment and success at each.

Our fees for insurance were collected by January 4 and our memberships were completed in early February. This is a record and we are appreciative of your great cooperation. I want to send a personal thank you to all societies, and especially to society executives who made it happen. Thanks to your cooperation, we were able to purchase our premium with no late fees. Also, our insurance representative, Lynne Cassidy, was able to negotiate a substantially lower rate this year for the same coverage which has reduced costs significantly. This combined with the insurance fee increase has meant that the program is now over 90% recoverable and the approved incremental fee increase in 2013 may not be required. This is a great story. Thank you all and do read the details elsewhere in this newsletter.

As indicated in January, the COC educational travel grant for educational purposes has been posted with a deadline of March 31 for applicants. This year there are enough funds to support up to 10 grants. To date, the education chair has only received three submissions.

Where are the rest of you??? Societies, please apply in time, as the grants are given out on a first come first served basis once the required criteria have been met. Please remember that each request requires documentation for an actual planned event (see the guidelines on the web site).

It is also time to start thinking of nominations for the COC award, to honour those who have contributed nationally to the advancement of orchids in Canada. These will be awarded at the annual COC meeting which will be hosted by the Central Ontario Orchid Society in late September 2010. See the web site for details.

Over the last the month, I have worked with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (the CFIA) re import requirements for orchids of US origin. Those orchidists from western Canada, in particular, planning to go to US shows such as the Santa Barbara Orchid Show in March should be

aware of the new requirements posted on the COC web site for bringing back orchids from California, Washington and Oregon.

When I was at the Agency, I learned that the Houseplant directive (which includes orchids) is still under revision, but because of concerns re border smuggling, particularly of bedding plants, the houseplant exemption may be dropped as early as summer 2010. This is not good news for Canadian orchid hobbyists as the same requirements as for commercial vendors will then be required and it will become even less easy to bring orchids back from the US.

Certainly more delays/issues related to issue of phytosanitary certificates can be anticipated. I have unofficially canvassed orchid growers and some societies and there is interest in retaining this exemption. I will approach the CFIA to request that orchids be separated from houseplants and suggest an orchid-specific directive be developed. We had, in fact, started this work for the Miami World Orchid Congress in 2009 and are continuing it to have requirements clear for Singapore 2011 WOC. I intend to broach the possibility of harmonizing Canadian orchid phyto requirements with the USA (which would NOT mean free trade in orchids but would be a

welcome step towards more reasoned access, based on pest zones within the American continent rather than the current border approach). Unfortunately, it appears it is the squeaky wheel that gets the grease, so when I have the right information and timing, I will be looking for your support both as societies and orchid hobbyists to write the CFIA (with appropriate text) to lobby for these changes.

Next month we will be circulating the proposed changes to the bylaws for comments. Jerry has now received French language culture sheets and will be putting them on the web shortly. We really need someone who would be willing to help set up the French language component of the web site. If anyone could spend a few hours helping us translate that would be a great help. Meanwhile please know that your executive keeps trundling on, always on your behalf.

Jean Hollebhone, COC President



Reminiscences

As I was looking at getting out yet another newsletter I started thinking of how I got here in the first place. It was the early 70s when friends were growing trailing plants in macramé hangers. I am sure a few of my readers will smile, having been there. Because I could always get a cutting of the common stuff I was looking for something a little different and while looking at miniature begonias I spotted orchids. My first was a *Cattleya intermedia alba* bought for \$10 in the summer of 1976. Now that statement probably tells you something about my record keeping.

Now I was on the prowl for anything and anybody dealing with orchids. There was just nothing around. While looking in the University of Waterloo library for anything on orchids, I ran into the AOS Bulletins with a professor's name on them which led me to Richard Manske. He had a greenhouse where he lived in Guelph with mature plants and a lot of seedlings. That was the beginning of a collection of orchids covering my windowsills, then on to fluorescent lights and an addition to the house. I met Sally Mitchelmore, the Orchid Lady, who was my inspiration every time I felt there was no room for yet another plant.

On my orchid addiction forays to visit Sally she started mentioning that there was another orchid collector in Kitchener and they were looking at getting together people interested in starting a local orchid society. I was more than happy to participate so in the spring of 1985 we met under my cherry tree to plan an organizational meeting. Thus the Central Ontario Orchid Society was launched and I started a long run as a newsletter editor among other duties.

Now in those days resources were scarce. One depended on the society library and the expertise of other members and guest speakers. That was the era of bulletin boards systems, (there were big ones in the US like CompuServe and AOL), and low speed modems (the youth today would call them no-speed modems assuming they knew what a modem was). They provided Forums where people could share common interests. All very slow and expensive but it was an opening to a much larger world.

It was in the 1980's that the Internet arrived in my department at the University where I worked. (and no, web pages hadn't been invented yet and hard to believe that I have been using the internet for more than 20 years). Suddenly I had access to Orchid List Digest, a listserve, and rec.gardens.orchids, a UseNet group. The discussions were still email based but the world suddenly included a lot of

people that one only read about in books. And there were electronic libraries just waiting to be discovered. World expertise at one's fingertips.

The arrival of web server and browser software in 1993 really opened up a new world. By April of 1994 I had set up a website "The Orchid House". It had a bunch of pages on orchid material but also pages of links to websites around the world. This orchid portal grew rapidly as new sites kept appearing as the web spread ever wider. The arrival of search engines like Google made an immense difference for finding something and made portal websites less valuable.

So where are we today?

We can buy some varieties of orchids almost as easily as a bottle of pop and cheaply enough to be throw-away plants. Species from the jungle are not readily available, and rightly so. Information on orchids is all over the internet and almost trivial to find. You can communicate with knowledgeable people anywhere on the planet. Color pictures and how-to videos are everywhere with a quick search.

While struggling to find an article for the newsletter the thought occurred to me "do we really need another article on how to grow some plant when that material has been written many times and is all over the place?" Maybe newsletters just need to be personal and local. Emphasize local culture and local successes. Maybe they should show what resources are available on the internet and how to use them. Can you help to get that last person off paper? The newsletters are so much nicer in color. Some newsletters now go directly to the society website as a pdf file, but if they are never printed, do they really need to be in columns and paginated?

And where are societies going? Are they shrinking or growing? They are no longer the most important hub for buying plants and getting culture information. Maybe they should be more one-on-one, more social, less the lecture model. Maybe more hands-on to show how to find and use the information that is available. How welcoming are you to new faces? Do you ever ask why they came?

Over the years I have bought a lot of orchids, killed many, enjoyed a lot of blooms, and hopefully, learned a few things.

-Jerry Bolce

The SOOS Show

AOS Awards presented at the Southern Ontario OS show February 13, 2010

Dtps. Jia Ho Cherry x (lobii x lindenii) HCC 77 – Eric & Ellen Lee

Odcdm. Blackata 'Lynne Guimond' HCC 79 – Exotic Orchids Plus

Sophronitis coccinea 'Marsh Hollow' CCM 81 – Mario & Connie Ferrusi

Masd. Sunrise Candy 'Valentine Candy' HCC 79 - Mario & Connie Ferrusi

Solinidiopsis tigroides 'Meow' CCM 85 - Mario & Connie Ferrusi

Paph. Olympic Emerald 'Wilson 's Choice' AM 84 – Wilson Ng

Marsh Hollow Display Awards

COC Award: Most artistic exhibit

Best of genera allied to Cattleya: *Sophronitis coccinea*

Best Pleurothallid: *Masdevallia Casiope*

Best Miscellaneous: *Ida fimbriata*

AOS Show Trophy: Best display in the show.

Congratulations Mario!



Marsh Hollow display, above, below



Sophronitis coccinea 'Marsh Hollow' CCM 81



COC Insurance Program

I am pleased to announce that we had record cooperation from Societies regarding the timely payment of insurance fees this year. Only one society paid the late fee. Thank you to all Societies for their cooperation.

I was able to negotiate a lower premium for our broad coverage of \$2802.00 which is a saving of \$514 over last year's premium of \$3316.00. As last year, some societies chose to take the added insurance premium for library and other equipment. This premium is charged specifically to each society which requests it. However, I am informed by the agent that this latter rate may not be able to be held next year and we may see a small rise in the additional premium rate.

The new (lower) premium combined with the increase in fees and a modest increase in membership in the COC has meant that the insurance program is now 95% cost recovered and the COC subsidy of insurance is only in the order of 5%. This puts the Congress on a very sound financial basis. The second piece of good news is that it looks as if the additional increase in insurance fees for 2013 that was approved at the AGM in October 2009 may not need to be implemented!!

Lynne Cassidy, Insurance Chair

Crystal Star Import Service

Eric Lee is offering the Crystal Star Service which makes it easy for you to order plants from some of the premier orchid nurseries in the world. You will be able to buy plants from several different vendors in one shipment. Eric is the owner of Plant Exotica aka Crystal Star Orchids. For details and the latest plant listings, see:
<http://www.crystalstarorchids.com/>

International Shows

Aug 25-29/2010: Sixth Australasian Native Orchid Conference and Show. Early Bird registration closes 31st March 2010. More information on the ANOS Website: www.anos.org.au

Nov 14-23/2011: 20th WOC Singapore 2011 "Where New and Old World Orchids Meet". Start planning now. "<http://www.20woc.com.sg/site/>"

North Okanagan Orchid Society/ Vernon, BC

NOOS was started in Nov/02 by local group of 20 enthusiasts who, prior to our Society forming traveled to Kelowna to pursue our hobby. It was formally inaugurated on Dec.11/03 with 26 members attending at the Credit Union Bldg on 32nd Ave. Elsie Gerdes was elected founding President, with Secretary Janet Stoll, and Membership Betty Bellman. We had 26 members in attendance.

Our meetings included presentations by members; guest speakers from Kelowna, Alberta and the Lower Mainland, as well as touring speakers such as Francisco Miranda and Ivan Portillo of Ecuador. Marilyn Light of COC attended October/07. Workshops and Silent auctions are favourite fundraising activities. A yearly display at the May Garden Show is most popular with the public.

Members that are interested in the wild varieties have toured meadows and parks set aside for the preservation of the species.

Derric Gerdes produced a newsletter for monthly meetings from the commencement of our Society until May/09. Hats off to the intrepid editor! This task is being continued by member Valerie Tribes who is COC membership rep as well as a Past-Pres. of NOOS.

Subsequent to Elsie Gerdes as founding Pres, Jim Poole, Barbara Lee, Valerie Tribes and Faithe Prodanuk have served as Presidents with current Pres, Don Miller presiding. Sylvia Arneson took over as Secretary after Janet for a long period of time.

Our meeting venues have changed and we are now permanently ensconced at the Vernon Art Centre.
- *Elsie Gerdes, March/10*



Native Orchid Conference, Edmonton, Alberta, June 12-15, 2010

Native Orchid Conference of NOC Inc. is coming to the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta in 2010. The theme is “Native Orchid Conservation: Making a Difference”. Two days of presentations on a range of topics will be followed by two days visiting orchid sites including the Wagner Natural Area which has 16 species of wild orchids, and the foothills some 200 km west of Edmonton where participants will be based in Edson, Alberta. Amongst the species that might be seen during this conference are yellow lady’s slippers (*Cypripedium parviflorum*), the round-leaf orchis (*Amerorchis rotundifolia*) and the enchanting *Calypso bulbosa* which could be at peak to just beyond peak blooming in the foothill region. Registration, which begins in March, will be limited to the first 100 people. For further information about this exciting opportunity, please contact Ben Rostron Ben.Rostron@Ualberta.ca ; Tel: 780-492-2178 (work) or 780-434-3839 (residence).



The Hider of the North, Calypso bulbosa, can be found blooming in the foothills west of Edmonton in early to mid-June. Look for it nestled in cool, deep moss beneath tall conifers. Photo by Michael MacConaill

Native Orchid Conservation on Prince Edward Island

I have begun a review of native orchid conservation across Canada and started with our smallest province, Prince Edward Island. This is our only province having an orchid, *Cypripedium acaule*, named as its official flower. It was truly exciting to learn about the effort of the Island Nature Trust to secure land for conservation purposes. The PEI Natural Areas Protection Act further serves to protect designated areas from development. It was through the ongoing commitment of the Island Nature Trust together with provincial support that a protected natural area known as the Eagles Landing Tracadie Cross Bog Natural Area was created in 2006.

Seven orchids are considered rare in PEI including the Yellow Lady’s Slipper (*Cyp. parviflorum* var. *pubescens*), the White Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera blephariglottis* var. *blephariglottis*), and the Heart-leaved Twayblade (*Listera* (syn. *Neottia*) *cordata*). The Pink Lady’s-slipper (*Cyp. acaule*) may not be rare but it too warrants conservation as at MacPhail Woods which is located in Orwell, PEI. Protection of this forested natural area supporting several orchids including the Pink Lady’s Slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*) is foremost but there is also a children’s educational program and guided walks. The Macphail Woods Ecological Forestry Project is a member of the Island Sustainable Forest Partnership Cooperative which is managed with the assistance of Natural Resources Canada, the Canadian Forest Service, and the Model Forest Program.

Prince Edward Islanders should be proud of the effort to conserve native orchids and biodiverse habitat in their province.

References:

Day, R. & P.M. Catling 1991. *The rare vascular plants of Prince Edward Island*. Syllogeus No. 67, Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa.

Island Nature Trust – <http://www.islandnaturetrust.ca/>

McPhail’s Woods – <http://www.macphailwoods.org/wildlife/ladyslippers.html>

PEI Provincial Parks – <http://www.tourismpei.com/pei-provincial-parks/>

- Marilyn H. S. Light

COC AGM 2010

The Central Ontario Orchid Society is hosting the COC Annual Meeting this year. We had our first show committee meeting to do some initial planning. For the last few years the judges have enjoyed a fabulous lunch of BBQed spare-ribs and chicken with all the fixings including wine. Our caterer shows up on-site with a large BBQ and goes to work putting everything together. We decided to extend the lunch to the registered delegates. Hopefully you will be joining us in September.

We are also looking into speakers. Maybe you have a favorite that might be able to attend. Let me know.

As details become available they will be added to the COOS website. Have a look at <http://coos.ca>.

webwatch

Canadian Orchid Congress www.canadianorchidcongress.ca

Canada is home to over two dozen local and regional orchid societies, which count among their members some of the most dedicated orchid growers anywhere. Some of these societies are based in locations where the temperature during the winter can dip below -40°, not including wind chill! According to the COC web site, La Fédération Canadienne des Sociétés Orchidophiles is a non-profit association of Canadian orchid societies that represents affiliated societies and their members on Canada-wide issues and promotes the cultivation and conservation of orchids through exhibitions, publications, lectures, seminars and awards for excellence in the development and culture of orchids. The web site includes information about the COC and the services provided to its members and member societies, including slide programs, group insurance, a detailed list of potential guest speakers, and COC awards. There's also a calendar of orchid events within Canada and extensive sections on the history and cultivation of orchids, including a very nice set of links to resources about Canadian native orchids. Conservation is an important focus of the COC, and the site contains a very nice section on orchid conservation, with numerous articles about environmental stewardship, CITES, and a variety of other topics.

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Orchid Digest, Jan., Feb., Mar. 2010

COC Digital Slideshows

The programs below have been added through generous donation. They are in Powerpoint and require a computer and digital projector. For details look on the COC website.

Phalaenopsis culture by R.F. Lucas. This program describes Robert's phalaenopsis culture under lights. It covers all of the essentials in text and pictures. It goes into light intensity, watering, growing media, fertilizing, and temperature. In addition there are sections on deflasking seedlings, hybridizing, and seed sowing.

The 19th World Orchid Conference in Miami by R.F. Lucas. There are 65 Powerpoint format pictures of the major exhibits and trophy winners, and an accompanying text. An excellent program to relive the 2008 WOC for those who were there and a teaser for those who were not to start thinking about Singapore in 2011. In any case this presentation provides an excellent overview of what a major orchid exhibition can offer, including wonderful paphs, phalaenopsis, cattleyas, vandas etc.

Dendrobium speciosum, its varieties and influence on its hybrids by Gail Schwartz. This program explores the different varieties of this Australian Dendrobium including growth habits and cultural differences. It was first presented to the Toronto Judging Centre.

The Stanhopeas by Inge and Peter Poot. A survey of Stanhopea species including culture requirements and origins. The program deals with species identification and presents some hybrids as well as some intergeneric hybrids. Includes a section on cultivation.

Orchids of the Ottawa Region by Henry Steger. A survey of species native to the Ottawa region with habitat as well as closeup photography. An excellent introduction to many of our native orchids.

Hardy Orchids, a slide program, has been converted to Powerpoint. One disk contains an 85 slide of orchids hardy in Canada plus a Word document narrative describing the pictures and the cultural conditions required for the plants.

COC Slide Programs

Huntleyinae by Ingrid Schmidt-Ostrander

Cattleyas - by Ken Girard.

Oncidiums - by Gordon Heaps.

Fragrant Orchids by Marilyn Light.

Hardy Orchids and Their Culture by Bill Bischoff

Phragmipediums by Ingrid Ostrander

Lycastes by Ingrid Ostrander

Orchid Pests and Diseases prepared by Marilyn Light

More information on ordering the slide programs is available on the COC website.

COMING EVENTS

2010

March 20-21: London Orchid Society Orchid Show, at the North London Optimist Community Centre, 1345 Cheapside Street at Highbury, London, Ontario "<http://los.lon.imag.net/>"

March 26-28: The Manitoba Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory.

Contact: secondvp@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

"<http://manitobaorchidsociety.ca/index.php>"

March 27: The Essex County Orchid Society first orchid show in conjunction with St. Clair College's 'Winter Bloom' event in Windsor, Ontario. Contact: Juliette St. Pierre at canadel@cogeco.ca

"<http://www.essexcountyorchidsociety.webs.com/>"

March 27: The Windsor Orchid Society second orchid show in conjunction with the annual 'Winter Blooms' event at St. Clair College in Windsor, Ontario. Contact: Ed Cott at laelia@aol.com.

"<http://www3.sympatico.ca/ecott/index.htm>"

March 27-28: Les Orchidophiles de Montreal Orchidexpo 2010, College de Maisonneuve, 2700 Bourbonniere St., Montreal, Quebec. For information: Andre Poliquin TEL/FAX: (450)653-9590 e-mail: morpol@sympatico.ca "<http://orchidophiles.qc.ca/>"

April 10-11: The Regina Orchid Society show will be held in beautiful Wascana Park, at Wascana Place, 2900 Wascana Drive, Regina, Saskatchewan. Contact Charles Eisbrenner at c.eisbrenner@yahoo.ca.

April 10-11: The Annual Toronto Artistic Orchid Association Show, Chinese Cultural Centre, 5183 Sheppard Ave., East (Markham Road) Phone: 416-292-9293 Email: Louisa Fung louisafung@rogers.com

"<http://www.taoa.ca/>"

April 10-11: Les Orchidophiles de Quebec at the Pavillon Environtron, 2480 Blvd. Hochelaga, Sainte Foy.

"<http://orchidophilesquebec.levillage.org/>"

April 16-18: Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society Location: Country Club Center, Nanaimo, BC. Contact: Sue Christison,

250-246-2447 or email orchidlady@telus.net "<http://www.cvios.com/>"

April 24-25: The Ottawa Orchid Society show at the Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Avenue, Nepean, Ontario. Contact Dave Cooper (613-256-2853; orchidae@allstream.net) or Dave Thomson (613-523-7332; davic@magma.ca) "<http://www.ottawaorchidsociety.com>"

May 8-9: The Vancouver Orchid Society Annual Show will be held at the Richmond Winter Club, 5540 Hollybridge Way, Richmond BC. Contact: Wayne Riggs Email: riggskw@interchange.ubc.ca "<http://www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca/>"

Sunday Aug 1: SOOS Summerfest at the Toronto Botanical Gardens. All Orchidists Welcome "<http://www.soos.ca/>"

Sept 25-26: The Central Ontario Orchid Society, Cambridge Hespeler Arena, 640 Ellis Road, Cambridge.

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COC News

The purpose of COC news 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

**COC Web Site - <http://www.CanadianOrchidCongress.ca/>
This newsletter may be found there.
Please send in your show information: date, location, contact, etc.**