



# NEWS

Volume 23.5– November 2011



**Investment in  
Orchid  
Conservation  
by the  
Manitoba  
Orchid Society**



Above: *Platanthera praeclara*

Below: *Cypripedium  
parviflorum* var. *makasin*



Left: *Cypripedium candidum*

## COC Treasurer's Fall 2011 Update

### Financial Update

The COC is expecting to break even this year or to post a small surplus. The projected revenues will be slightly more than anticipated, thanks to the revenues generated at the last COC annual meeting; we forecast revenues of about \$6,450. On the expenditure side, although the actual expenses are in line with the budget, we incurred larger costs for legal services; the expenses should be in the order of \$6,400 - \$6,500. The insurance cost was fully covered by the insurance fees collected from the society members; so no increase will be applicable to 2012.

### Renewal

I take this opportunity to remind all societies that have not yet paid their 2012 fees, to submit these before December 1, 2011. Membership fees remain at \$1.00 per member; insurance fees are unchanged at \$1.50 per member. Please use the form available on the COC website to submit your fees. Cheques must be made to the "Canadian Orchid Congress". All fees should be sent to the following address:

Canadian Orchid Congress  
c/o André Couture  
24 Lorne Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1R 7G7

### COCTravel Grant

Five societies applied for the Travel Grant this year and all five were approved. The Windsor Orchid Society used the grant to rent a bus to go to the SOOS Summerfest. The Essex Orchid Society brought in Peter and Inge Poot and Wayne Hingston to speak to their society. The Saskatchewan Orchid Society used the grant to bring in Dino Baisi from B.C. The Orchid Society of Nova Scotia and the PEI Orchid Society used the grant to fly in Mario Ferrusi of Marsh Hollow Orchids. After speaking in Nova Scotia Mario then rented a car and drove over to PEI to speak to their society.

It is not too early to start thinking about applying for the 2012 Travel Grant. We will start accepting applications in January 2012. Preference will be given to societies who have never received the Travel Grant.

*Gail Schwarz, Education Chair*

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.

## President's Ramblings

2012 is around the corner, time to renew COC membership. We anxiously await your dues for 2012 as well as your insurance renewals. Please remind your treasurers and also send us any changes of officers and their addresses. This is all part of the COC mandate of staying in touch.

We hope you had a wonderful fall show and meeting season, I certainly did. We have just come back from the AOS meetings in San Antonio. Jean Hollebhone has promised to report to you on the progress there. The next AOS meeting is April 26-29 2012 in Wichita, Kansas.

In San Antonio the following changes to Canadian Judging Center personnel were approved: Michel Trembley became accredited, he is part of the Montreal centre, congratulations Michel. As of January 1, 2012, Terry Kennedy will be chair of the Toronto/Montreal centre with Andre Levesque 1st vice chair Montreal, Judy Adams 2nd vice chair Montreal and Doris Jensen 2nd vice chair Toronto. The Richmond, BC center management remains unchanged. In other judging news the Judging Centers are being encouraged to organize outreach judgings at society meetings and other venues in the interest of drumming up more plants and student judges. This may be a programming opportunity for some of you. Get in touch and discuss this with your AOS judging center if this is of interest.

The 2012 COC annual meeting is scheduled for the October 27-28, 2012 weekend at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington, Ontario in conjunction with the RBG Orchid Society Show. Mark your 2012 calendar now and start planning to attend what is sure to be a great show.

Interest in the digitized COC programs continues, especially from the smaller societies. The *Cattleya* species program is now available. We could use more programs! This is a great way to provide small societies with educational materials while at the same time whetting their appetite for more interesting plants. Some of you lucky people are going to the WOC in Singapore. Will one of you provide the rest of us with a scripted pictorial record?

With the new year coming up I wish you all a very happy holiday season.

*Peter Poot.*

# Investment in Orchid Conservation by the Manitoba Orchid Society

Conservation of orchids is a primary mandate of the Manitoba Orchid Society. In keeping with this mandate the Society has demonstrated specific concern for two of the three endangered species of orchids in Manitoba as well as for the tropical orchids of Mexico.

In our province, the Manitoba Orchid Society has initiated and supported research projects in respect to the Western Prairie Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera preclara*) and the Small White Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*).

The **Western Prairie Fringed Orchid** (*Platanthera preclara*) is one of the most spectacular orchids in North America. First discovered in Wyoming during the Lewis & Clark expedition, this evening fragrant, creamy-white flowered orchid is found only in the tall grass prairie regions of the United States and Canada. Once a sea of grass, the Tall Grass prairie, is coveted as farmland and has been reduced to 1% of its original area. With the loss of habitat, the population of *P. preclara* has declined dramatically and has been placed on the endangered species list in both Canada and the US. In Canada, this species is found only in the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve and adjacent farmland of south-eastern Manitoba.

Studies of *P. preclara* have revealed that that this species does not reproduce vegetatively to any extent, and depends primarily on successful pollination and seed production for new plants. In 1998 a preliminary study completed in Manitoba found that only 2.1% of flowering stems produced seed capsules. A further study investigating this unusually low rate of seed capsule production discovered that two uncommon hawk moths, *Sphinx drupiferarum* and *Hyles gallii*, are the sole pollinators of this orchid species in our province.

Wild Cherry  
Sphinx Moth,  
a pollinator of  
*Platanthera  
preclara*  
Photographer:  
Dr. Richard  
Westwood



In 2002 & 2003 the Manitoba Orchid Society (MOS) sponsored Christie Borkowsky, a Post Graduate student

from the University of Manitoba. Her research project studied the feasibility of attracting these particular hawk moths to areas where the Western Prairie Fringed Orchids bloom. The intent of this study was to determine if an economical method of increasing seed capsule production could be incorporated into an ongoing management strategy. In recognition of the concern and provision of initial funds for this study by MOS, other partners including the Manitoba Government and the World Wildlife Fund willingly joined the Society in support of this project. As a result, funding for a two year term was confirmed.

The results of this study determined that the use of black lights as a means of attracting pollinators resulted in almost doubling the successful pollination of the orchid.

In follow-up to this project, the Manitoba Orchid Society sponsored a second Post Graduate student, Christopher Friesen, in 2005. His research was designed to determine what effect alternate nectar sources as well as normal light sources like farm yard lights would have in drawing the sphinx moth pollinators away from the orchid populations. As in the previously supported project, other organizations including the Manitoba Government and the World Wildlife Fund provided additional funding. The findings of this study provided valuable data for use by managers of the Western Prairie Fringed habitat. The findings also provide valuable data for situations where alternate habitat is being considered for introduction of this orchid.

The **Small White Lady's-slipper**, *Cypripedium candidum* has attractive, shining white flowers blooming early in June. Although the plant and flowers of this species are small, once seen – this orchid is never forgotten. The habitat preferred by *C. candidum*, like *P. preclara*, is prime agricultural land. Unlike *P. preclara* however, this species once populated much of southern Manitoba. With the loss of habitat to agriculture, the population of *C. candidum* in Manitoba has become fragmented, existing only where by good fortune the land was spared the plow. To add insult to injury, the agricultural activities have created excellent habitat for both the small yellow and large yellow lady's-slipper in areas where originally only the small white lady's-slipper was found. The yellow lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum*) shares pollinators with *C. candidum* and thus the genetics of the small white lady's-slipper have become seriously contaminated.





*Cypripedium  
parviflorum* var.  
*pubescens*

The Manitoba Orchid Society, concerned that research was overlooking this serious anomaly, approached Dr. Richard Staniforth of the University of Winnipeg with an offer to provide funding for two students. This study was completed as a Directed Studies Research Project. Completed in 2005, their research utilized visual

*Natural hybrid  
between  
C. candidum and  
C. parviflorum*



characteristics of two specific populations of the small white lady's-slippers to determine the extent of cross-breeding between the two species. The populations selected for study were within easy driving distance of Winnipeg and were introduced to the students by a member of the Society. Janice Gallwey and Kelly Hille,

third year botany students at the University of Winnipeg, were provided with resources for a summer research project acceptable as a credit towards their degree. The students enthusiastically established the parameters of their study under the guidance of Dr. Staniforth. The results demonstrated that 31% of flowers examined in one population were hybrids and only 4% of the flowers examined at the other site were hybrids. As a result of this study the students made a number of specific recommendations to assist in the management of these particular populations.

In 2007, in follow-up to the findings of Gallwey and Hille, the Department of Biological Services at the University of Manitoba expressed an interest in furthering this research. The Manitoba Orchid Society agreed to provide generous funding to assist Laura Sawich, a Post Graduate Masters candidate, in a research project entitled "Hybridization and Introgression Between a Rare and a Common Lady's-slipper Orchid". Using DNA analysis techniques, this project was designed to relate DNA to specific physical characteristics of the hybrids and to assess gene flow from *Cypripedium parviflorum* to the endangered *Cypripedium candidum*. The results of this study clearly indicated that certain physical characteristics of both the parents and the hybrid could be related to DNA and determined that 29% of the individuals sampled had mixed ancestry. In conclusion a recommendation was made that further studies be completed to determine if "extinction through genetic assimilation is likely for *Cypripedium candidum*".

In 2011, demonstrating a concern for tropical orchids in addition to the native orchids of Canada, the Manitoba Orchid Society provided a generous donation in support of the National Conservatory of Mexican Orchids. This Conservatory built by the Vallarta Botanical Gardens in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, will house the only collection of Mexican National Orchid in the entire country. In recognition of this financial support, a tile with the emblem of MOS - the Yellow Lady's-slipper - will be displayed at this Conservatory.

*Lorne Heshka, Manitoba OS*

*All photos by Lorne Heshka except for the one of the moth.*

*The Southern Ontario Orchid Society was fortunate enough to be able to engage the very busy Jose Esposito who amongst many other positions is president of Soroa Orchids (<http://www.soroaorchids.com/>) and chairman of the Florida Caribbean AOS Judging Region. He gave us a talk on :*

## Orchid Culture

The first point to remember is that proper watering is the key to success in growing orchids.

A rule of thumb is to water once a week, but the real frequency should be to water just before they dry out. Remember that most orchids grow fairly high up in trees, bathed by breezes. They do not as a rule grow near the ground because it is more humid there and fungi, the number one enemies of orchids flourish in constant high humidity and low air movement.

If you want to water all of your orchids at about the same time you have to adjust the mix and the container you grow them in so that they almost dry out once a week. Different orchids require different light levels and that too will influence how quickly they dry out. So to start with, you will have to do a fair amount of trial and error until you have figured what mix and what type of container to use (raft, clay pot or plastic pot) to use for which orchid to get the desired degree of dryness once a week.

Fertilizing is the next most important skill to acquire. He said that any fertilizer is better than no fertilizer. (This is the same message spread by Bill Thoms, the incredibly successful Bulbophyllum and other genera grower, so it must be true!!!) Jose was very leery of the old wisdom that orchids grown in bark should be fertilized with a high nitrogen fertilizer such as 30-10-10, because bacteria use up a lot of the nitrogen and would not leave anything for the less aggressive orchids. But these bacteria grow in soil not in fresh bark, so until your bark turns to mush (=soil) the bacteria can't grow in it anyway. So the advice is to use 20-20-20. There is a problem with that as well. Michigan State University did exhaustive test with fertilizers and found that relatively high phosphorus (the middle number) contrary to popular wisdom reduces the number of blooms instead of increasing it as promised. They (MSU) devised a fertilizer to use with their well-water and another to use with rain water or distilled water. It contains all the macro and micro-nutrients required by orchids and in the concentration found to be optimal by their

experiments. So unless your water supply is very similar to theirs- not very likely- use rain water and the MSU fertilizer designed for rain water. By now many vendors carry it.

Another caution with fertilizing: orchid roots are very sensitive to chemical burn and any fertilizer is a chemical. Velamen is a sponge-like material that surrounds the sensitive root in the interior. This velamen takes up water and nutrients and transports it into the root. Spraying the roots every day is not enough. The velamen covered roots have to be watered heavily to dissolve and flush out harmful accumulated salts left by previous watering and fertilizing.

The speaker debunked another folk wisdom. He advised us not to water before fertilizing, because after proper watering the roots are soaked and cannot take up any more liquid and any fertilizer you spray on them will mostly end up being wasted not taken up. But do not use full strength fertilizer since it could burn the roots. Dilute it.

You could use a 15-5-10 or 15-5-5 fertilizer and alternate it with magnesium (Epsom salts) and Calcium.

Re-potting into a wrong container or when not needed does more harm than good. Remember that in nature plants stay put and are not adapted to frequent disturbance. Repotting stresses the plant as much as open heart surgery stresses a human.

So when should you repot? when the plant is growing out of the pot or when the potting mix is rotted. This should not happen more often than every 2-3 years.

Remember almost all orchids like good drainage.

If you tend to over-water, then under pot.

When repotting make sure you sterilize all tools and surfaces (use a new piece of newspaper for every orchid repotted). You can use 10% Clorox (=Javex in Canada) or, better yet, a saturated solution of trisodium phosphate in water to sterilize tools. The latter will not rot your tools the way Clorox/Javex will and you can just store the tools in the solution and change it when it starts to change colour. Every batch should last a month, whereas Clorox/Javex has to be changed after a few uses since organic materials denature it and even exposure to air will make the active chlorine evaporate fairly quickly. You can purchase trisodium phosphate in a paint store.

Environmental factors contributing to good culture: Find out what the proper light level, degree of air movement and watering frequency are for your plant. Books, Orchid Wiz and orchid magazines such as the AOS Orchids are good sources. The COC and the AOS web-sites have the basic cultural instructions for the different genera posted on their web-sites.

### **Pests and Diseases:**

Fungi are the number one enemies of orchids.

Next in seriousness are insect enemies.

If you are not sure what is wrong with your orchids, contact your Department of Agriculture.

For self-help the AOS booklet on Orchid Pests and Diseases is very helpful. It can be ordered from the AOS web-site and should be in your orchid society's library. You can also Google the various fungal diseases on the Internet and get pictures up to see what the symptoms are and compare it with your sick plants.

The problem for Canadians is that most remedies suggested by the USA literature are by now outlawed for home use in Canada. Of course with good reason! So many of the remedies used in the past have turned out to harm us just as much as the bugs, it just takes longer for the symptoms to show up.

Home-growers will have to try to eliminate problems with household products and if they fail throw the plant away. The more effective, but dangerous remedies can only be applied by space-suited licensed specialists and they must make sure not to contaminate the environment. Maybe fewer people will now get Parkinson's disease when they age, to name just one of the nasty late-emerging effects.

It is best not to bring nasty hitch-hikers into your growing area in the first place. When buying plants lift leaves to check the under-side of pots for hiding insects or mollusks.

If you use any pesticide use the powdered form rather than the liquid formulation, if there is a choice.

Apply late at night if at all possible.

Regular cooking oil is a great insecticide, since it suffocates the bugs, but you must be very careful WHEN you apply it. At high temperatures it will burn the plants, so apply it very early in the morning or better

yet late in the afternoon. It must be used with an emulsifier or spreader sticker such as soap.

Use a spreader sticker if you use an oil. There are commercial spreader stickers available that are used at low rates such as 2 drops per gallon, but baking soda works too.

So use 2 tablespoons of cooking oil plus 2 tablespoons of baking soda for a gallon of water.

The commercial product "End-All" is based on Canola oil. Peanut oil works too.

Neem oil is recommended as well and can be doubly effective if you use concentrated Safer's soap as your spreader sticker. Baking soda might denature the ingredient in this oil that stops the moulting process of insects - a sort of a natural "Enstar 2". Use at the rate of 2 teaspoons neem plus one teaspoon concentrated Safer's soap in one liter of warm water. Store the neem in the fridge and just warm before use then re-refrigerate the rest. Old neem oil is no more effective than cooking oil.

Use cinnamon powder for fungus infections and bacterial crown rot. Spray crown rot with 3-5% peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) (15% solutions kill the plants too) before applying the cinnamon powder.

Neosporin can be used as well, but don't get it on yourself, because it can cause cataracts.

Rubbing alcohol can be sprayed on a diseased plant part straight and will even do in some mites and baby insects. Spray the underside of leaves! That's where the bugs hide.

Be careful not to use ethyl alcohol such as vodka, because ethyl alcohol is a plant hormone that causes abscission layers to form in leaves. Sensitive plants can become defoliated!

If you have root problems spray with "Subdue". The speaker recommended a preventive spray in both spring and fall of a few drops of Subdue per gallon of water.

Copper based fungicides are very effective, but do not use them on Dendrobiums. Coside is used a lot for roses and citrus trees and works on orchids too.

*Inge Poot - SOOS*



## COC Medal awarded to Orchids in Our Tropics at Orchidfête 2011 (Montréal)

At the recent Orchidfête show hosted by the Eastern Canada Orchid Society, the winner of the COC Medal for the most artistic exhibit was won by Terry and Doug Kennedy, Orchids in Our Tropics. A tasteful selection of interesting, colourful and well bloomed plants were displayed in an all round exhibit staged on a wooden windmill. Terry told us that this unpainted windmill was proving to be a very useful prop. It did not dominate but enhanced a viewer's experience. Amongst the orchids were *Habenaria medusa* and its hybrid, *Pectabernaria* Wow's White Fairies, from a cross with *Pecteilis susannae* which the hybrid greatly resembles. Charming sprays of ivory blooms topped a compact specimen of *Dendrobium* Mini Snowflake (*aberrans* x *johnsoniae*) while floral chains of *Dendrochilum magnum* topped the display. Doug and Terry should be justly proud of their orchid growing skill as well of their accomplished art of orchid exhibition. Congratulations!



*Detail of the mounted COC Medal*



*COC Medal winning exhibit and the proud exhibitor, Terry Kennedy.*



*Habenaria medusa*



*Dendrobium Mini Snowflake  
(photo by Marilyn Light)*





*Pectabeneria* Wow's White Fairies

*All photos by Michael MacConaill except where noted*

## AOS to Close Headquarters

The American Orchid Society, with its headquarters west of Delray Beach, is selling its building and closing the gardens and greenhouse to the public permanently. Longtime supporters of the nationally known, 90-year-old organization say it will be a major loss for the area.

Declining membership and endowments hit by the financial crisis are to blame for the closure, Society President Chris Rehmann said. Going from a robust 30,000 worldwide membership when the building and gardens opened locally 10 years ago to about 11,000 was a real hit for the organization.

The American Orchid Society is moving its headquarters — and its renowned orchid collection — to Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Coral Gables.

On Wednesday, the Coral Gables institution announced that the 90-year-old American Orchid Society is relocating its international headquarters from Delray Beach to Coral Gables.

The society's move, expected to be completed by the end of March, comes with more than 15,000 varieties of orchids that will find new homes in trees and special sections of Fairchild. The most rare orchids and some others will be housed in the new Science Village, which is set to open in a year. The society has been in its current location since 2001.

## A first ribbon for Laura Bonnell

Laura Bonnell (Montréal) is a relative newcomer to growing orchids but she clearly has a green thumb. At the recent Orchidfête show hosted by the Eastern Canada Orchid Society, Laura won her very first orchid show ribbon, a Third, for her *Maxillaria sophronitis* that she acquired in May. Those who grow Maxillarias, will know that this South American cloud forest species is not that easy to grow or flower but Laura seems to have done well in mastering its needs. Her chosen spot is in a southwest-facing basement window where it is both cool, humid, and bright. Keep growing them well Laura!



*Laura Bonnell proudly poses with her orchid in the Eastern Canada Orchid Society exhibit.*



*Maxillaria sophronitis*

*Pictures by Michael MacConaill*



## PEI Orchid Club

The summer of 2011 in P.E.I. started off with plenty of cool rainy weather but sunshine and warmer weather made its appearance in August and September. The P.E.I. Orchid Club was fortunate again to be the recipient of a COC Travel Subsidy. On August 1st, we hosted Mario Ferrusi from Marsh Hollow Orchids on a beautiful warm and sunny evening. Mario travelled over from Nova Scotia to deliver an entertaining presentation entitled "Mario's Orchids from A to Z". His beautiful photos gave us all hopes of expanding our collections to include some of his species and hybrids. Mario brought many plants for sale many of which were purchased by the 25 members in attendance.

We sincerely thank the COC for providing us with a Travel Subsidy for 2011. This money enabled us to bring Mario Ferrusi to our beautiful Island in the summer. We hope that our enthusiasm and hospitality will entice Mario back again one day.

*Andrea Studzinski, P.E.I. Orchid Club*



## The Plant List

The Plant List is a working list of all known plant species. It includes 1,040,426 scientific plant names of species rank. Of these 298,900 are accepted species names. The Plant List contains 620 plant families and 16,167 plant genera.

<http://www.theplantlist.org/>

## Windsor Orchid Society Attends SummerFest 2011

At 7am, on August 7, 2011, ten members of the Windsor Orchid Society (WOS) boarded a bus from Windsor, Ontario bound for the 2011 SummerFest sponsored by the Southern Ontario Orchid Society (SOOS). Upon arriving at the Toronto Botanical Gardens at 11am, they met up with three other members who were already in Toronto to enjoy the afternoon. This is the third annual trek the WOS has made to this event which gives members the chance to meet orchidophiles from other societies, purchase plants and to listen to world-class speakers give presentations on their fields of expertise. This year, Sam Tsui of Orchid Inn, Inc (Chicago) and Andrea Niessen of Orquídeas del Valle (Cali, Colombia) were the scheduled speakers. Sam spoke on growing and hybridizing multiflora paphs and Andrea spoke about the diversity of the genus "Maxillaria".

The members of the WOS would like to thank the Canadian Orchid Congress for making this trip possible through a \$200 Educational Travel Grant provided to the WOS to help cover the travel expenses. Additionally, we are grateful to the SOOS for, once again, sponsoring and supporting this event. Their generosity has allowed others the opportunity to learn from the experts who are at the top of their field. We are grateful and hope that another event will be scheduled for 2012.



## ECOS Welcomed Wayne Hingston and Peter & Inge Poot in 2011

On April 13th the members of the Essex County Orchid Society welcomed Wayne Hingston to their meeting. Wayne's enthusiasm for his love of orchids and willingness to share his knowledge was enjoyed by the members. His presentation on 'Beginners Orchid Growing' spurred much interest as members expressed their desire to having him return at a later date.



In September the members welcomed the President of the COC, Peter Poot and his wife Inge who treated us to an interesting presentation on 'Growing Stanhopeas'.

Following Peter & Inge's detailed presentation on growing Stanhopeas, they were invited and entertained at the home of the President, Barb Morden. After a tour of Barb & Bob Morden's backyard oasis and their orchid growing area, everyone joined in the delicious buffet style meal supplied by the membership. The Poot's were in awe as they toured the yard which reflects true gardeners at heart.

We wish to thank the COC for Wayne, Peter & Inge's visit to Southern Ontario made possible with the COC Travel Grant subsidy. This contribution was very helpful to a new and small club such as ours. Since we were allowed to split the grant between the speakers, our members were winners by having two great presentations instead of one on growing orchids.



Thanks to the COC committee for this wonderful opportunity for our members.

Happy growing, Juliette St. Pierre, COC Rep ECOS

## Orchids of Cauca Valley, Colombia

Two weeks ago, just published the illustrated guide of the orchids Cauca Valley in Colombia. This publication contains 63 of the 71 species in this part of the country and is part of my doctoral thesis. We are selling this 95-page book worth U.S. \$23 plus shipping. We want the Orchids Societies support the conservation of these plants right through the purchase of this book. Future projects will be developed outreach in this regard and we are looking for support in Orchids Societies of Canada as the next few years to develop another project focused on the orchids of the Western Andean Cordillera of Colombia.

Guillermo Alberto Reina-Rodriguez

Biologo- Botánico, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Sede Palmira., Grupo de Investigación en Orquídeas y



Autores: Guillermo A. Reina-Rodriguez + J.Tupac Otero Fotografía: Francisco López-Machado



# COMING EVENTS

## 2011

**Nov 5-6:** Fraser Valley Orchid Society Show & Plant Sale will be held at the George Preston Recreation Centre, 20699 42nd Avenue, Langley, BC  
Contact: [info@fraservalleyorchidsociety.com](mailto:info@fraservalleyorchidsociety.com)  
"<http://www.fraservalleyorchidsociety.ca/>"

**Nov 12:** The Essex County Orchid Society will be holding their second Orchid Show & Sale at Colasanti's Tropical Gardens, 1550 Road 3 E. Ruthven, ON. We will have vendors, Artistic Designs Displays by vendors and members and also an Art component. Ribbon Judging will take place with many special awards to be won. For more information, please email: Juliette St. Pierre at [canadel@cogeco.ca](mailto:canadel@cogeco.ca)  
"<http://www.essexcountyorchidsociety.webs.com/>"

## 2012

**Feb 11-12:** The Southern Ontario Orchid Society Annual Orchid Show at the Toronto Botanical Garden, Edwards Gardens. "<http://www.soos.ca/>"

**March 1-4:** 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>"

**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

**Nov 13-20/2011:** 20th WOC Singapore 2011  
"Where New and Old World Orchids Meet".  
Start planning now. "<http://www.20woc.com.sg/site/>"

**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)

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

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