



# news

**Volume 27.2– March 2015**



Japan Grand Prix International Orchid Festival at the Tokyo Dome, Tokyo - entrance filled with Cymbidium flowers

## COC Website History

The earliest COC web pages date back to 1997 as part of the Orchid Society of Nova Scotia website managed by Steve Saunders. When I took it over in at the end of 1999 (not long after I took over the newsletter) it [looked like this](#), thanks to the web archive for the history capture.

Since then the COC website content has expanded a lot and gone through many design iterations as the web markup language went from HTML1 to HTML5. Today the website is hand coded in HTML4 which makes it easy to make a single change like updating show information but tough to make across the board changes. Wholesale redesign is a huge project as I count 86 main pages (not counting pdfs) plus 62 of Ingrid's essays.

One goal has been to make it "responsive", that is, make the pages display properly no matter the size of the display, whether phone, tablet, tv or desktop. You want the menu to always fit on the display, the submenus should linger for a finger touch on touch screens, the text should flow and images should scale to fit.

Another goal is to look ahead to the time when someone, maybe with less technical ability, will take over the website. Having been told that Wordpress is the way to go, I setup Wordpress thanks to our service provider. I also spent a lot of time figuring out how it all works (still ongoing) and chose and installed a template.

For the last while I have been gradually moving pages over to Wordpress (I may be retired but I do try to have a life!). I have been working blind in terms of style and what people find important on the website. Have a look. It is far from finished. The link will change. Let me know what you think or tell me what can be done better in Wordpress. (Don't tell me I should have used Joomla!).

Keep using [the current site](#).

[Website in progress.](#)

[Ingrid's Essays.](#)

## Phalaenopsis - A Complete Guide

Marlene Young, our COC VP, adapted the book (below) for North America. In other words, revised a lot of stuff, every paragraph required revisions, verified that all items could be sourced here, reviewed judging criteria and ploidy references. She also included the COC references.

The ebook is free from Apple iBooks. You can also download the PDF file of the book with this link :

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/58wso1uny7bhbc4/PhalsBook.pdf?dl=0>

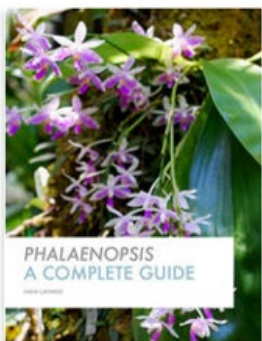
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## Phalaenopsis

[View More by This Author](#)

David Lafarge

This book is available for download with iBooks on your Mac or iPad, and with iTunes on your computer. Multi-touch books can be read with iBooks on your Mac or iPad. Books with interactive features may work best on an iPad. iBooks on your Mac requires OS X 10.9 or later.



[View in iBooks](#)

### Description

This book deals about all aspects of the genus Phalaenopsis. Ecology, Biology, Taxonomy, Systematics, Cultivation, Judging...

The genus Phalaenopsis is the most widespread pot plant today, but many aspects remain unknown. This book aims to give new informations.



## President's Message

I am writing this message on the flight from Tokyo to Hong Kong, having just finished participating the 25th Anniversary of the Japan Grand Prix International Orchid Festival in Tokyo Dome. After one full day of intense judging, 4 days of salivating their gigantic 15 feet displays, and countless hours of walking around the show's 100+ vendor booths, it had given me renewed appreciation to the notion of an 'Orchid Show', it also makes me wonder what the COC can do to help our members societies across Canada. I have included some pictures from the show, mind you, it barely does the show justice. This year's show Grand Champion, Dendrobium smillieae 'Spirit of Zama' was in fact judged from the team I belonged to on the first screening round. This 5 feet tall plant was superbly grown and flowered, it also received a Silver Medal from the Japanese Orchid Growers' Association (JOGA).

As the Annual General Meeting (AGM) is fast approaching, I look forward to the rich conversations the COC executive team will be having with our members. In addition to the wonderful educational series the Saskatchewan Orchid Society put together, Marlene Young, our First VP, and myself will be doing a session focused on Marketing, with the aim to support member societies to increase their show attendance and memberships. If you have not registered for the AGM, I strongly encouraged you to do so by visiting: [http://www.saskorchids.com/coc-2015/coc2015\\_delegate\\_registrati.pdf](http://www.saskorchids.com/coc-2015/coc2015_delegate_registrati.pdf)

Our Members' Needs Assessment Survey had received some responses, however the numbers are not as great as I had hope, certainly not high enough for the executive team to deliberate and establish COC's priorities moving forward. As a service organization, we must remain relevant to the needs of our members. It is also concerning that the Newsletter may not have reached all the COC members on a timely manner, or not at all even. A lot of work is put into each Issue, and I would say the articles and information in our newsletters is of high quality (almost all materials in our Newsletter are original material, and we do not reproduce from other sources.) thanks to our dedicated Newsletter Editor, Jerry Bolce.

As the Spring show season is coming upon us, there is no doubt societies are busy organizing their own shows, or busy drafting ideas and plans to set up

displays as visiting societies for shows that are put together by other societies. The Orchid community in Canada is a very tightly knitted community, and a lot can be achieved in numbers. It is time to start to plan and action as a community, and I truly hope that the COC plays a pivotal role in this regard.

As the majority of the country is still thawing from the recent cold fronts and snow, i would like to think ( and certainly hope) that Spring is just around the corner. I very much look forward meeting and speaking to some of you during the Spring show seasons.

Happy Growing!

Calvin Wong

[President@canadianorchidcongress.ca](mailto:President@canadianorchidcongress.ca)

## **SOOS Orchidfest Engagement 2016**

The Southern Ontario Orchid Society has engaged Mr. Holger Perner breeder of Chinese Paphiopedilums in China to speak at SOOS Orchidfest on Sunday, August 7, 2016. This may present an opportunity for your society to piggy back on to this visit (and possibly share in the cost) for a presentation to your members before or after the SOOS date depending on the availability of Mr. Perner of course. If you are interested you should contact Mr. Perner as soon as possible. See also <http://hengduanbiotech.com/index.asp>

Peter Poot.

## **Insurance**

Through the COC insurance program we have insured 1850 society members this year. This coverage is good for meetings, outings and shows. also insured are 6000 attendees at the shows across Canada. Thank you to all the societies and clubs who participated this year.

Dianne Gillis - [djgillis@shaw.ca](mailto:djgillis@shaw.ca)

## **2015 COC Travel Grant**

We will be accepting applications for the 2015 Travel Grant from January 1/15 to June 1/15. Preference will be given to societies who didn't receive the grant in 2014. The instructions and application form are on the COC website and you can e-mail the application to me. No signature is required.

Gail Schwarz [rschwarz@eastlink.ca](mailto:rschwarz@eastlink.ca)





This year's grand champion:  
*Dendrobium smilliae* 'Spirit of Zama'





Above:

Third place winner; *Cymbidium tracyanum*

Right:

Reserve champion ( runner up)  
*Masdevallia ignea* 'Winter Flame'

All Tokyo show photos from Calvin





## News from the Orchid Journal

Orchid Journal has been dealing with extra terrestrials! As promised, our mini series had ET phoning home! or better yet, Fraser's Thimble Farms out in beautiful British Columbia.

We ran a mini series on growing terrestrials. Yes, orchids for your garden including species and some gorgeous hybrids. OJ is not really given to promoting vendors per say but a big THANK YOU to Richard at Thimble Farms for allowing the use of their website photos and they even supplied OJ with a recipe for terrestrial mix.



*Cyripedium Philip hybrid is a zone 4, photo courtesy Fraser's Thimble Farms*

The series included many orchids native to Canada as well as AOS awarded photos of both species and hybrids highlighting the beautiful *Cyripediums*. Most people don't realize that these beauties also adapt to pot culture if you don't live in an appropriate zone. So, start looking to expand your collection to the great outdoors this summer or even this fall for next year's garden.

Hoping to see more of these plants in orchids shows too. Can't remember the last time I've seen these outside of a Judging Center so give it a try especially if you're running out of space in the house for your orchids.



*Cyripedium parviflorum var. pubescens 'Bumble Bee' CHM/AOS is a zone 5, photo courtesy Mike Pearson, Foothills Orchid Society Show/AOS Orchids Plus*

Another tip of the hat to the University of Alberta's Organization of Botany students for sharing some of our terrestrial beauties on their Facebook site.

A reminder to say hello at the COC's AGM in Saskatoon at the end of March, I'll be there.

Happy postings, Marlene

## Notes from the Peanut Gallery

When was the last time you really visited [our website](#)? Can't remember? Or you just look to see when the next show is coming up?

We've changed! Yes, a lots been happening with your website and even more is slated for the future! Surprising new developments and upgrades designed to give you more of what you need and want!

Mobile friendly with updates for show publicity including the marketing logic behind the 'to do lists' as well as links to sites that review the DIY of show displays.

Down the road, we're investigating webinars, updates on pests and diseases and many more items for our societies.

### *Cattleya walkeriana*

Blooms from December to March from the base of the newest pseudobulb.

ONE leaf per pseudobulb.

Side lobes of lip rolled back to completely reveal the column.

Darker midlobe of lip with creamy yellow patch at base of column.

Overpowering sweet fragrance.

### *Cattleya granulosa*

Blooms May or June from a green or dried sheath shortly after the leaves of the new growth harden off.

Robust plants with 2 or 3 leaves that can produce fifteen or more flowers.

Flowers can be taller than wide.

Flowers can be immaculate green or olive green, or have red-maroon spots.

The apex of the midlobe is kidney shaped and the upper surface is covered with granular protrusions that give the species its name.

### *Cattleya nobilior*

Blooms in March or April from the base of the newest pseudobulb.

TWO leaves per pseudobulb.

Side lobes fold over to conceal part or all of the column.

Lip same color or slightly darker than petals with cream-yellow, veined reniform or rhomboidal patch at center of the lip mid lobe.

### *Cattleya schofieldiana*

Blooms July to September from a dried sheath from previous season's growth.

Slender, delicate plants that bear two leaves and produce 3-6 flowers.

Petals and sepals not always on same plane giving a twisted appearance. Petals have deeply undulate margins and are narrower at base.

Flowers are olive-green to tan and always have spots.

The apex of the midlobe is kidney-shaped and the upper surface is covered with long hair-like asperities.

### *Cattleya loddigesii*

Blooms December to March from a dried sheath on a growth matured the previous season.

There are six shallow keels that begin at the base of the midlobe and extend just beyond the column.

Sepals and petals have slight to heavy spotting on the backs and sometimes the front.

### *Cattleya guttata*

Blooms August-September from a dried sheath.

Lateral sepals are falcate giving bow-legged appearance. Petal margins more or less undulate.

Lip three-lobed; midlobe reniform, side lobes clasp column tightly concealing it from view except from front.

Plants very tall and graceful, often with three leaves per pseudobulb.

### *Cattleya harrisoniana*

Blooms May -June from a green sheath shortly after the growth matures.

Six or seven deeply corrugated ridges that run from the base of the column to beyond the tip of the column. They are of very thick substance.

Distal margin of lip side lobes rolled back.

Lateral sepals often bow-legged.

Sepals and petals do not show any spotting on the back or front.

### *Cattleya tigrina*

Blooms May or June from a green sheath shortly after growth matures.

Lateral sepals are broader than *C. guttata*.

Petals usually broader at tips and may be reflexed; margins may be undulate.

Lip three-lobed; midlobe broadly reniform, side lobes do not clasp column. Column visible viewing lip in profile. Broad sinuses.

Plants tall but more robust than *C. guttata*.

Two leaves per pseudobulb.

Strong spicy fragrance like bubblegum.

*Handout on bifoliate cattleyas from Greg Alikas*

**Vancouver Orchid Society  
2015 Show & Sale**

Location:  
VanDusen Gardens  
Floral Hall  
5251 Oak street  
Vancouver, B.C.



Show Dates:  
Saturday March 28  
9 am to 5 pm  
Sunday March 29  
10 am to 4 pm

Admission:  
\$7 adults  
\$6 seniors and  
students

Preview Party:  
Friday March 27  
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm  
See our website for  
details!

www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca  
\$1 off coupon available at website

Show Sponsor:  
**GARDENWORKS™**

**Victoria Orchid Society's  
Orchid Show & Sale**

March 14th & 15th, 2015  
SATURDAY: 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.  
SUNDAY: 11:30 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

Adults: \$7.00  
Students & Seniors: \$6.00  
Children under 12 free with adult  
lots of free, easy parking

*High on Orchids*

Our Lady of Fatima Hall  
4635 Elk Lake Road, Victoria, BC  
Across from the Commonwealth Pool

Sharing the Proceeds  
**children's  
HEALTH FOUNDATION  
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www.victoriaorchidsociety.com

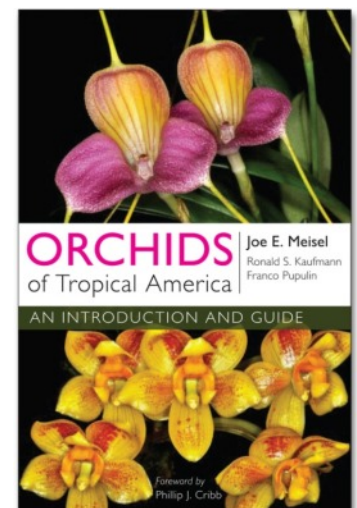


*Orchids of Tropical America: An Introduction and Guide*  
By Joe E. Meisel, Ronald S. Kaufmann, Franco Pupulin  
Foreword by Phillip J. Cribb  
Comstock Publishing Associates  
Hardcover, \$75., Paperback 29.95

The Cornell University Press, a non-profit publisher of academic literature, is proud to announce the recent publication of its first book dedicated exclusively to orchids. It is a comprehensive reference to the wonderful flowers, with something for both beginner enthusiasts and veteran orchid fans.

This new book seamlessly weaves botanical and biological information, a morphological classification guide, and geographical data with engaging stories and discussion about the social and historical significance of orchids. By including both aspects in the book, the authors aimed to create a volume which is useful as a field guide, but can also be read and enjoyed cover to cover. This amazing, over 250 page work is complete with its index, travel advice for vacationing orchid lovers, and, of course, beautiful photographs of hundreds of orchid species. Cornell University Press has offered a discount code allowing members of orchid societies to purchase the book online, if the society publishes this information in their newsletters and on their websites. We have put this information on our website and are currently checking with Cornell to see if a bulk shipping could further cut costs. Information on this will be available at the January meeting.

You can also learn more about the book and the authors by visiting the book's own website at <http://www.orchidsoftropicalamerica.com/> or on the Cornell University Press website at <http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/book/?GCOI=80140100781180>.





*The 28. Annual COC will be Hosted by the  
Saskatchewan Orchid Society  
in Saskatoon March 27 - 29, 2015*

Plans are progressing well for **The Canadian Orchid Congress Show "For the Love of Orchids."** As mentioned previously this will be an AOS judged show to be held in conjunction with Gardenscape which is the number one rated garden show in Western Canada.

The Committee planning the event are pleased with the plans to date and are particularly happy about the number of sponsors who have come on board and the number of delegates that took advantage of the 'Early Bird' special. Although this special has expired you can still **register as a Delegate for \$100.** up until March 24<sup>th</sup>. Additional **Banquet tickets (\$40./each)** can also be purchased until March 24<sup>th</sup>. There are now **Eleven vendors** registered for the show. There will be between **15 – 20 Displays of Orchids.** Check the SOS website ([www.saskorchids.com](http://www.saskorchids.com)) for the Schedule of Speakers, the List of Vendors, the Show Schedule, the Schedule of Classes, Trophy and Awards Information. Vendor and Delegate Registration Forms and Art Work information is also on that site as well as information on Accommodation, Plant Registration and additional Banquet/Silent Auction tickets.

The **COC Annual Meeting** will be held at Prairieland Park in Hall A on Sunday morning, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m.- noon. We are expecting to have a great show attended by both orchid experts, new enthusiasts and the general public.

If you have any questions please contact one of the following:

**Show Co-Chairs:**

Cheryl Adamson: [orchidcrazy.cheryl@gmail.com](mailto:orchidcrazy.cheryl@gmail.com)

Telephone (306) 477-0807 (evenings and weekends).

Heather Anderson: [heather.2015coc@gmail.com](mailto:heather.2015coc@gmail.com) ,

Telephone (306) 343 -1310, Fax. (306) 244-0275.



**For the Love of  
Orchids**

28th Annual Canadian Orchid Congress Show

proudly hosted by  
**The Saskatchewan Orchid Society**

**March 27 to 29, 2015**

during  
**Gardenscape 2015**

at  
**Prairieland Park  
503 Ruth Street West  
Saskatoon, Sask.**

More information at: [www.saskorchids.com](http://www.saskorchids.com)  
[www.gardenscapeshow.ca](http://www.gardenscapeshow.ca)

## COMING EVENTS

2015

**March 14-15:** [Victoria Orchid Society](#) Spring Orchid Show. It will be held at Our Lady of Fatima Hall, 4635 Elk Lake Drive, across the road from the Commonwealth Pool.

**March 20-22:** [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)

**March 21-22:** [London Orchid Society](#). Location is Saint Andre Bessette Catholic School, 2727 Tokala Trail, London Ontario, N6G 0L8.

**March 27-29:** [The Saskatchewan Orchid Society](#) will be hosting the COC Show "For the Love of Orchids" in conjunction with Gardenscape at Pairieland Park, 503 Ruth Street West, Saskatoon, SK. For more information email Heather Anderson at [heather.2015COC@gmail.com](mailto:heather.2015COC@gmail.com)

**Mar 28-29:** [The Vancouver Orchid Society](#) Annual Show will be held at the Van Dusen Botanical Garden, 5251 Oak St., Vancouver BC. Contact person: Margaret Prat, email: [margaretprat@shaw.ca](mailto:margaretprat@shaw.ca), phone 604 261 8474

**March 28-29:** [Les Orchidophiles de Montreal](#) Orchidexpo College de Maisonneuve, 2700 Bourbonniere St., Montreal, Quebec. For information: Andre Poliquin TEL/FAX: (450)653-9590 e-mail: [mor-pol@sympatico.ca](mailto:mor-pol@sympatico.ca)

**April 11-12:** [The Toronto Artistic Orchid Association](#) Show, CICS (Centre for Information and Community Service), 2330 Midland Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, M1S 5G5, (N.W. Off HWY 401/Midland) For show information: [info.taoa@yahoo.ca](mailto:info.taoa@yahoo.ca)

**April 11-12:** [Les Orchidophiles de Quebec](#) at the Pavillon Environtron, Université Laval, 2480 Blvd. Hochelaga, Sainte Foy.

**April 18-19:** [The Ottawa Orchid Society](#) 34th Annual Orchid Show and Sale, Nepean Sportplex, 1701 Woodroffe Ave., Ontario. Show Chairman: Dave Cooper, e-mail: [david\\_cooper@storm.ca](mailto:david_cooper@storm.ca) 613-256-2853.

**June 5 - 6:** [Bruce Peninsula Orchid Festival](#). Celebrate the diversity and beauty of wild blooming native orchids and wildflowers in their unique natural habitat on the Bruce Peninsula. Naturalist guided hikes, car caravans, photography workshops, celebratory wine & cheese reception and speaker presentations cap this festival, headquartered at Parks Canada Visitor Centre. The events schedule and registration online at

## Officers of the Canadian Orchid Congress

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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 urged to pass a copy on to other members of their society.

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