



# news

**Volume 27.4– September 2015**



## ***A new Show season begins!***

The show season begins anew and we have a new and exciting initiative launching and even more areas being developed. The focus and mission of the COC remains the same - disseminating information, development of education programs for use by member societies and providing resource assistance in developing programs for local meetings and shows.

The challenges to provide all of these things continues to evolve as well as the need to use new delivery methods for the information. Keep it user friendly, up to date, concise, streamlined.....the list goes on. This month marks an exciting new beginning for the COC with the implementation of a major collaboration effort with the AOS in delivering webinars/presentations to our societies in Canada.

No it is not a clone of the AOS webinars but involves an additional complimentary approach that allows all of our societies to augment their speakers' program and give everyone, regardless of location, access to high profile presenters in the form of archived presentations (with voice) via the COC network. This same approach/software will also be used to deliver educational programs, marketing and show publicity and event planning tips by industry experts to society administrators.

We have speakers already lined up to provide new and exciting programs across Canada and we'll launch it with Ben Rostron, VP Native Orchid Conference and AOS Judge, with a presentation on terrestrials for pot or garden culture. None of this, of course, is meant to replace the interactive and live presentations of our favorite speakers but does give societies new options and obvious savings. Internet access is not required to air these presentations, just a laptop as with regular presentations and have it plugged into speakers for the presenters' dialogue. Then sit back and enjoy! These recorded presentations will also have a Q & A for the most popular questions.

Detailed webinar launch particulars, along with instructions on how to receive your archived presentations, will be announced separately so be sure to pass along this news and information to your program coordinators.

Both the AOS and the COC are very very excited about this recent collaboration and we look forward to new developments already being discussed in the area of education.

## ***Incorporation***

To incorporate or not to incorporate that is the question!

Questions from a few societies on the advantages and disadvantages of incorporating their society prompted us to review the process from an orchid society point of view. These are just some tips and links to help get you started.

### **Outline of the basic question from the CRA (Canada Revenue Agency) Handbook**

Some of the reasons to incorporate include:

- To have a formal operating structure

A corporation is a distinct legal entity with the powers of a natural person -- it can sue and be sued in its own name (an unincorporated organization can only sue through its members personally). Unlike an unincorporated organization, a corporation can also enter into contracts.

- To be permanent

A corporation may go on forever, even if membership changes, until the corporation is dissolved.

- To allow members to have limited legal responsibility (liability)

Generally, members of a corporation are not personally responsible for its debts and obligations, unlike members of an unincorporated organization. Directors and officers, however, may be personally responsible in certain circumstances. Refer to the Directors and Officers section of this guide for more information.

- To hold title to land in the corporation's name

A corporation can own property in its own name. Legal title to the property stays with the corporation even if membership changes.

An organization should consult its lawyer to decide whether or not to incorporate.

### **Duties of the corporation**

An organization that incorporates under ONCA must:

Keep records (e.g. a register of members which lists all the members of the corporation)

Hold an annual meeting of members

There may be additional requirements under other statutes such as the Corporations Information Act.

Incorporation also means spending time and resources on activities such as:

- The initial cost of incorporating
- Filing annual corporate tax returns
- Holding annual meetings

Charity Village is an online community focused on Canada's social profit sector. Their guide 'Starting a Not-For-Profit' includes tips on incorporation and has tools to help get your organization off the ground.

<https://charityvillage.com/topics/quickguides/starting-a-nonprofit.aspx>

The Windsor-Essex Nonprofit Support Network has published The Nonprofit Management Manual which includes detailed discussion of key areas for consideration in starting a not-for-profit organization. [http://www.artreachtoronto.ca/toolkits/Resources/Nonprofit%20and%20Charitable%20Status/\(Windsor%20Essex\)%20Non-profit%20Manual.pdf](http://www.artreachtoronto.ca/toolkits/Resources/Nonprofit%20and%20Charitable%20Status/(Windsor%20Essex)%20Non-profit%20Manual.pdf)

### **Incorporation as a non-profit from an orchid society's perspective**

The main advantage is that the corporation assumes liability from legal claims against it, not the members.

Ownership of the name of the society as it is registered. No other society can set up using your name.

### **Disadvantages of incorporation**

You have to file an update every year by a specific date. The form can be difficult to understand but once the template is done you follow it year after year.

How can a society qualify as a registered non-profit under the CRA?

Google your province such as Ontario Guide to Not for Profit corporation.

Most societies have registered as not for profit under Provincial and not Federal agencies.

The preceding article is meant only as a general guideline and does not constitute advice or preference for any agency or decision path - you must refer your

society's detailed information to a professional to get the right approach for your organization.

Many thanks to Jean Hollebhone for her help on this incorporation article.

Marlene

## **Myanmar Royal Orchids**

Hello Canadian Orchid Society,

This is René Post from Sweden, working for Worldview Myanmar Royal Orchids.

We have a special story to tell about conservation efforts going on in Myanmar, being financed by the Norwegian government. One of the highlights is the storing of the seeds of 400 endangered endemic species in Svalbard Global Seed Vault during the next summer, the first time that orchid seeds will be accepted into this seed storage for the future of mankind.

We have beautiful pictures from Myanmar that could be used alongside a piece in your newsletter or magazine as well, if you think this could interest your readers in Canada.

Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi is involved in this project as well, so there is a lot to tell.

More information here:

[http://prezi.com/udfhtev8tni/?utm\\_campaign=share&utm\\_medium=copy](http://prezi.com/udfhtev8tni/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy)

Am looking forward to hear from you!

With kind regards,

René Post

[rene@worldviewimpact.com](mailto:rene@worldviewimpact.com)

Worldview Myanmar Royal Orchids

<https://www.facebook.com/worldviewmyanmar.royalorchid>

### **Sad news**

We extend our condolences to Calvin who lost his mother recently due to cancer.

## 2016 Orchid Calendar

Here's a terrific fundraiser opportunity for your society. You might not have heard that the AOS is not producing calendars any longer. Last year, Judith Higham, AOS photographer put together a calendar for her society to sell and they were a huge hit across the west. Once again, Greg Allikas at AOS has given her the nod to make orchid calendars again this year and is offering them to societies across the country.

Last year, over 500 'Orchids 2015' calendars were sold in Western Canada and the U.S. For the 'Orchids 2016' calendar, AOS photographers sent her their images of awarded orchids to include in this calendar.

### General Information

This calendar project can be a fund-raiser for your orchid society. If your orchid society would like to place an order, please contact her with your name, the name of your orchid society, email address, telephone number, and your mailing address. Orders must be emailed to her no later than 27 September, please. If you have a problem with this date, please let her know immediately.

Any size of order, large or small, from an orchid society is welcome.

She expects delivery from her vendor mid to end of October. Societies will be invoiced in November or December for their order plus the receipted mailing costs from her home to yours.

If your orchid society would like more information on price or a fund raiser etc, please contact her by email

[higham@shaw.ca](mailto:higham@shaw.ca) or telephone 1-604-939-7002. The price will vary by quantity ordered.

### Advertising

It would be helpful if Orchid Societies would forward the pdfs of the 2016 calendar to your members, indicating that your society's deadline to her for orders is 27 September, should your society decide to place an order.

### Calendar Details

- 14 pages (2 covers, 12 months) back cover shows thumbnails of picture months. The image pages (8.5" x 11") of the calendar are glossy, the date pages (8.5" x 11") are matte (better for writing on). Just wipe the glossy pages with a soft dry cloth to remove your fingerprints!

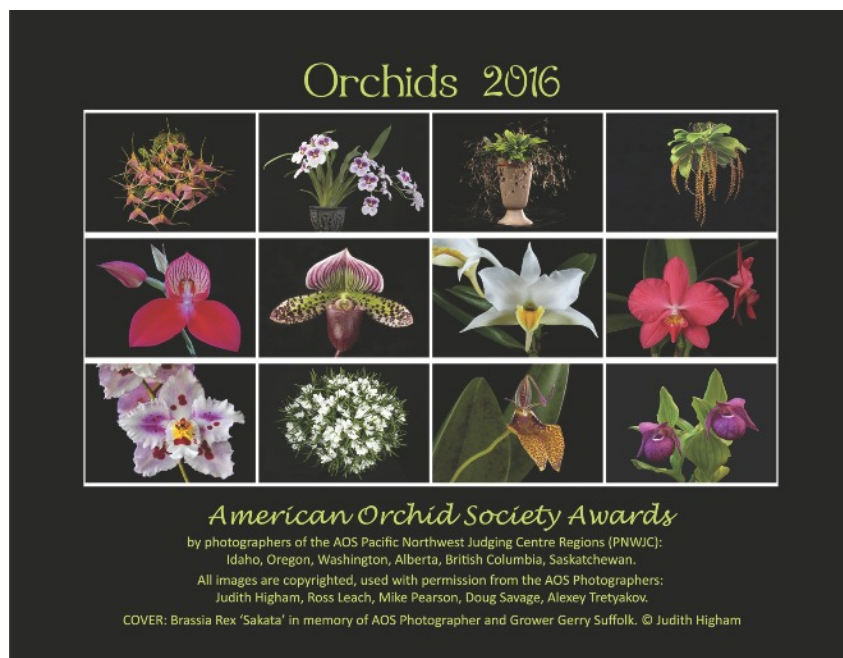
Coil binding, 100 lb paper, 8-1/2" x 11" closed, 11" x 17" open. No text on the picture page.

Calendar Page - on the top left of the calendar page, beside the name of the month, is the name of plant, award details, name of grower (information from the AOS Orchids Plus program), name of photographer.

- major holidays (American and Canadian) identified in small print on appropriate calendar dates, otherwise no text inside the calendar dates.

- 2 month miniature calendar at bottom of calendar page

Time is short on this so be proactive and get this to your executive to make a quick decision.





# *Phragmipedium kovachii* and its hybrids

by Glen Decker, (transcribed by Inge Poot)

Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids gave SOOS this talk on July 5, 2015 with his usual expertise and humour.

He has been growing orchids since he was 14 years old and at the advanced age of 18 owned his first greenhouse! Is it any wonder that he now claims the quality of his orchids is second to none even though he is not the least bit “aged”? If you want to check on his claim of highest quality, go to visit his greenhouses during his open house in June of every year. See his web-site at [www.pipingrockorchids.com](http://www.pipingrockorchids.com) for the date in 2016. In 2015 the event was held on June 5 and was a great success with lots going on, including a lecture by Terry Kowalczyk of Orchids Peculia.



*Phragmipedium kovachii* 'Crystelle' FCC-AOS  
Photo: Greg Allikas, Orchids Plus v. 1.2

It is hard to believe that a slipper orchid with almost 10 inch (25cm) magenta flowers had not been discovered until 2001! One can only assume that the flowers when seen from afar looked nothing like the rest of the slipper orchids and were dismissed as just some common other magenta flower of similar size and colour. And orchids in general do mimic a common flower that rewards its pollinator and grows in the same habitat as the orchid and flowers at the same time as the non-rewarding orchid does. That way the pollinator can be fooled into visiting the orchid. The other mitigating fact is that the *Phrag kovachii* habitat first found was in a remote high altitude area at about

the same altitude as Machu Pichu at 6000 feet. It was only accessible by a treacherous, wet and slippery path that traverses two mountains and often passed cliffs via narrow paths cut into them.



Mature flower on *Phragmipedium kovachii*  
'Legal Alien' AM-AOS, Photo: R. Noel, OW 11.2

Glen had joined a group of people that were going to collect five plants as per a permit granted to Alfredo Manrique, one of two Peruvians allowed to collect a few plants for propagation. Glen was going to help them select the highest quality blooms so that the cultivated seedlings that Mr Manrique would raise for himself and for Glen from these five plants would be better than anything collected from the wild. They also had a specialist along who could find out for them the exact conditions of the habitat so that they could try to mimic that under cultivation. Harold Koopovitz, Karen Muir and another lady were also part of the group. Their guides assured them that the hike would only take about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an hour, so they felt they could dispense with lugging water bottles and food on the steep trail. After the  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour had passed and the 2 guides had twice assured them it would only be another 20 minutes, the ladies were persuaded to turn back and take the only English-speaking guide with them to make sure they would not get lost in this dangerous drug dealer and grower infested area. Woe to anyone stumbling upon a drug growing field by mistake! However it meant the men could now only communicate with their remaining guide with hand and foot signals! After more than four weary hours they finally arrived at the *kovachii* habitat and found that none of the plants had open blooms! They eventually decided that they were going to take the

five biggest plants, because presumably they were the most vigorous and the most likely to survive in spite of mistakes in the culture-learning-curve. However the plants were so big that they could not possibly carry them out with the limited help available on this trip. So they left them to be picked up by a crew of porters later.

The interesting part of this seemingly endless trip, were the many other cool growing plants seen along the path.

When Glen arrived back in the USA he was dismayed to find ads offering *Phrag kovachii* at \$10,000 for 3000 plants - and sure enough another group visiting the site at a later date found it completely razed. The same fate befell two other sites that were found later on in similar spots. But is is any wonder when there is so much poverty in the area? Also smugglers seem able to smuggle anything in and out of anywhere. So sad when the Peruvian government tried so hard to severely restrict export and collecting!

The culturally important things learned from the collection site was that it was covered by grasses and ferns so that **seedlings would have shade until they grew tall enough** to emerge from this cover. Therefore seedlings under cultivation must be protected from the direct sun until they have a six to eight inch (15-20cm) leaf span.

The other fact is the pH of the collection site. The **pH was 8 to 8.5**, that is quite alkaline.

In spite of getting the correct cultural conditions seedlings of this species take eight to ten years to reach maturity.

However, the biggest flowers found in greenhouse grown plants measured 9.5 inches (24cm) across. That is 1.5 inches (4cm) wider than the standard piece of typewriter paper! No wonder so many people are willing to wait 10 years for their first flower!

Flowers will open small, dark magenta and flat and as they age during the 4-6 week lifetime of a bloom on a happy plant, the flowers will continue to grow, get paler and the lower edge of the petals will start to increasingly curl under and become wavy.

The Fischers of Phrag Jason Fischer fame, claim that they have flat *kovachiis* that stay flat. But better be sceptical....

The plants will not flower on a single growth plant, unlike other Phrag and even Paph species. They need to have at least three growths before they - may - bloom. They will be in a gallon pot when they are blooming size.

When a Phrag is happy you can see it by its leaves. When the plants progress to seven leaves per growth they are happy!

In nature Paphs and Phrags grow in the mulch trapped between the substrate, which in the case of *Phragmipedium kovachii* and *Phragmipedium boissierianum*, is rock outcroppings.

*Phragmipedium besseae* grows on nearly vertical cliff faces and that is why it has such long stolon-like rhizomes. These long stolons have to reach something to hang onto on the cliff face, especially since seedlings often end up near the bottom of the cliff and have to grow up it to get into sun and out of reach of browsers.

At Piping Rock they use the same mix for both Phrags and Paphs. Their experiences with different media are recounted below. Glen mentioned that if one is able and willing to adjust ones watering and feeding practices, one can grow anything in anything!

They found that media such as Orchidata bark (pH ~ 4), Aussie Gold and Rockwool really hold lots of water and don't work with their other cultural practices. The medium they use at present consists of:

- 6 parts medium fir bark
- 12 parts seedling grade fir bark
- 3 parts charcoal (slows acidification and the resultant root death)
- 4 parts sponge rock or large Perlite
- **1.5 parts cracked oyster shell** (most chicken grit is crushed oyster shell. This ingredient adds magnesium and keeps acidity down) Glen adds it to all his plants that can be grown in a reasonably dense medium. The shell falls through the medium if the medium is too coarse, e.g. for Cattleyas.

Hydrogrow is like a heavy spongerock.

Growstone looks similar to Hydrogrow but is very alkaline. It also dries out very quickly and is thus suitable for ebb-and-flow growing set-ups that flood the plants twice a day. Glen has successfully tried growing *Phragmipedium kovachii* this way, since it likes alkaline soils. This species can also be grown in

50% new Rockwool + 50% Growstone + a layer of oyster shell.

Pro-Mix works for growing *Phragmipedium pearcei* when mixed with an equal volume of Perlite. It does not work for Paphs and other Phrags under the conditions provided at Piping Rock Orchids.

Coconut chips are too salty for Phrags.

Sphagnum moss is too acidic for *Phrag kovachii*.

Glen adds Dolomitic lime or Oyster shell to all plants.

Once a month he feeds with fish emulsion (high in nitrogen). If plants have damaged or poor root systems he applies the emulsion topically.

Glen waters his Phrags five times per week and when he goes away he lets them sit in some water.

pH is the key: if the medium or water are too acidic *Phrag kovachii* will get brown leaf tips just like other Phrags do with too much salt in the medium or water.

It takes Glen four to five hours to water his greenhouse and he uses 1500 gallons of rainwater water during that time. If he runs out of rain water he has to use his well-water and that becomes a chemistry experiment!

## Hybrids

If waiting ten years for a flower is not your cup of tea, then grow *Phrag kovachii* hybrids. The hybrids show an unusual degree of hybrid vigour probably because *Phragmipedium kovachii* is self-pollinating in the wild (its pollinator probably went extinct long ago) and this must result in a very low rate of variability in the offspring with the resultant lack of vigour. The stresses of the environment will kill all but the strongest seedlings. When you then introduce very high variability by hybridizing, this debilitating factor is gone and you get great vigour. The plants take only 2-3 years to mature and happily make lots of new growths.

A first bloom seedling does not show the full potential of the plant. Also remember that quality is the result of 50% culture and 50% genetics!

*Phragmipedium besseae* has a flattening effect on the flowers of its progeny but the size of the flowers tends to be the geometric mean of the size of the two flowers. (The resulting size is the square root of the

product of the two sizes of the parent plants. It is more complex if only one parent is polyploid)

One of the first hybrids with *Phrag kovachii* was **Phrag Haley Decker** (*kovachii* X St Ouen). Saint Ouen is Hanne Popow X *besseae* and most awarded clones are about 8 cm across. Several crosses matured in 2007 and were registered by Mr Manrique, with Haley Decker being one of them. Some plants of this cross when grown in Hawaii matured in 16 months!

The biggest clone so far is 'Crystelle' but as you can see at 13.4 cm it is far closer to the smaller species in its background. But sibbing some of these plants should get some offspring that have both size, shape and colour.

When *Phrag besseae flava* is used you get interesting pastel colours, but even smaller size yet.



Another cross made at about the same time was **Phrag Alfredo Manrique** (*kovachii* X Walter Schomburg), where Phrag Walter Schomburg is Eric Young X





Andean Fire. With such a complex background, the offspring are quite variable as shown in the two images:



**Phrag Alfredo Manrique**  
Photo: Ed Cott, OW 11.2

**Phrag Suzanne Decker** (*Phrag kovachii* X Cape Sunset) produced many pretty pinks:



**Phrag Suzanne Decker 'Caroline'** AM-AOS, 14.0 X 11.0 cm  
Photo: Tom Kuligowski, Orchids Plus v. 1.2

**Phrag Eumelia Arias** (*kovachii* X *schlimii*), crossing a giant magenta species with a very small, but round mostly pink flowered species gets some round-petalled flowers in rose-pinks to flowers with peach shadings, but some took on the *kovachii* waving and twisting of the petals –sometimes charming!



**Phragmipedium Eumelia Arias 'Halley Suzanne'** AM-AOS, 8.8 X 7.2 cm, Photo: Mike Pearson, Orchids Plus v. 1.2



**Phragmipedium Eumelia Arias 'Rick Day Q'** F'AM-AOS, 8.6 X 7.2 cm, Photo: David Taylor, Orchids Plus v. 1.2



**Phrag Eumelia Arias**, Photo: Lynn O 'Shaughnessy OW 11.2



**Phrag Allison Strohm** was produced using a 4n (double the normal number of chromosomes) Phrag Living Fire and a 2n (normal number of chromosomes) *Phrag kovachii*. The progeny are 3n (triploids –with 3 copies of each chromosome instead of the normal two) and most look like Living Fire on steroids! They are surprisingly large. The clone shown below was 14.4 X 10.8 cm in natural spread.

Triploid Phrags do breed but the progeny have all kinds of teeth on the edges of the flowers as well as other defects and they grow very slowly.



**Phragmipedium Allison Strohm 'Maria Cianci'** HCC-AOS  
Photographer: not named, Orchids Plus v. 1.2

**Phrag Andean Tears** (*wallisii* X *kovachii*) was not very compatible and only one progeny flowered! However the flower measured ten inches (25 cm) vertically!



**Phragmipedium Peruflora's Cirila Alca 'Que Maravillosa'** HCC-AOS  
Photo : James E McCulloch, OW 11.2

Peruflora have been busy bees as well and there are quite a few crosses to their credit.

Phrag Peruflora's Cirila Alca (*kovachii* X *dalessandroi*) produces pleasing rose-pink flowers.

Phrag Peruflora's Angel (*richterii* X *kovachii*) should be similar to Eumelia Arias, since *richterii* is very similar to *schlimii*.

Phrag Peruflora's Saltimbanco (*Phrag. czerwiakowianum* x *Phrag. kovachii*), where *Phrag czerwiakowianum* is at present considered a synonym for *Phrag boissierianum*, produces large pink flowers with charmingly twisted petals. The clone shown was grown by Heinz Ernstberger, a member of SOOS, a man with a very green thumb!



**Phragmipedium Peruflora's Saltimbanco 'Leanne'** AM-AOS,  
12.5 X 14.0 cm, Photo: Jay Norris, Orchids Plus v. 1.2



**Phragmipedium Peruflora's Spirit 'Lady Ann'** CCM-AOS  
Photo: Arthur Pinkers, Orchids Plus, v. 1.2

**Phrag Peruflora's Spirit** (*kovachii* X Eric Young) looks like an enlarged Eric Young, but some clones like the one shown also have wider petals:

**Phrag La Vingtaine**, Memeoria Dick Clements X *kovachii*, produces mostly rose-pink progeny that are much like an enlarged Memoria Dick Clements:



**Phragmipedium La Vingtaine** 'Taylor' AM-AOS  
10.0 X 9.0 cm, Photo: Maurice Marietti, Orchids Plus v. 1.2

**Phrag Incan Treasure**, *kovachii* X *longifolium*, tends to have progeny with pale purple flowers that have droopy, contorted petals....Not much of a treasure!

**Phrag Peter Croezen**, *pearcei* X *kovachii* has lilac flowers with twisted petals.

**Phrag Memoria Emma Decker**, Don Wimber X *kovachii* sounds very promising, but the cross has not been awarded.

Going a generation further probably requires that the parents be tetraploid. This can be a problem. In Phrag Acker's Treasure (Phrag. Waunakee Wonder x *Phrag. warszewiczianum*) with 4n (tetraploid) parents the flowers are usually deformed with teeth on the edges of the petals and some clones even have teeth on the pouch.

Third generation *kovachii* hybrids lose size, but get more substance. A good example is **Phrag Kyle Quintal** a cross of Haley Decker and *besseae*.

The clone shown below shows promise for the future for Phrags that start to approach Paphiopedilums in substance, but will outstrip them in vibrant colours!



**Phragmipedium Kyle Quintal** 'Leroy Barnick QT' HCC-AOS  
8.5 X 7.2 cm, Photo: Nile DUSDIEKER, Orchids Plus v. 1.2

### **Orchids of Reunion Island**

Marilyn Light has prepared the following talk. Contact her if you are interested in the presentation.

Réunion is a small volcanic island located in the South Indian Ocean. About 1/3 of its 150 terrestrial and epiphytic orchids are endemic. Ile Bourbon, as it was once called, is also an important producer of vanilla. Réunion Island is now home to a world class collection of Vanilla species. Many wild orchids and Vanilla species were in flower when we participated in a scientific meeting there in December 2013. This presentation will introduce the wild orchids and Vanilla of Réunion Island.

[mslight@distributel.net](mailto:mslight@distributel.net)

### **COC Membership/Insurance Renewal**

The insurance for Society members is due on Dec. 1, 2015. after which a \$25.00 late fee is charged. This insurance covers all society members at the meetings, shows and any society function. It also covers the visiting public at the Orchid Shows. The form is available on the COC website. Please send it with a cheque to the treasurer, André Couture and a copy to Jerry Bolce and Dianne Gillis. We have had no increase in the premiums for 5 years now.

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

## ***Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail Set to Open This Summer***

If you are an avid hiker, naturalist, or just enjoy discovering new places to visit in Manitoba, you may be interested to know that the Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail is close to completion. The story of the planning, design and construction of this exceptional trail is nothing short of a saga, but at long last the dreams of Carl Smith and his father, elder Lawrence Smith of the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation (BON), are coming to fruition. The trail, located just north of the BON along Highway 59 near Scanterbury, is expected to open this summer.

This wheelchair accessible trail features over one kilometre of cedar boardwalk, using floating dock billets to suspend the walkway over the existing ground, allowing water to pass underneath and minimizing the impact on the sensitive ecosystems below. Numerous rest points with benches are featured along the route, allowing opportunities for interpretation through both signage and personal reflection on the surrounding environment. An octagonal forest plaza awaits at the southern conclusion of the route, providing an opportunity for a picnic lunch or outdoor classroom learning before making your way back to the trailhead. The development also includes a parking lot for up to 24 cars, bus turnaround and parking, and an accessible, non-modern washroom.

In 2007 a group of dedicated volunteers made up representatives from two non-profit organizations, the Manitoba Model Forest (MMF) and Native Orchid Conservation Inc. (NOCI), along with the BON, formed a new organization, Debwendon Inc. (meaning Trust in Ojibway). The partnership now also includes the Eastside Aboriginal Sustainable Tourism Inc. (E.A.S.T. Inc.). The purpose of Debwendon is “to promote and preserve the Brokenhead Wetland Ecological Reserve, raise public awareness of the historic cultural connection between the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation and the Brokenhead Wetland, construct and maintain over the long term a boardwalk and interpretive trail adjacent to the Brokenhead Wetland Ecological Reserve, and raise funds toward those ends.” (Debwendon website) After a few years of false starts the project was finally able to go forward due to the exceptional generosity of the late Eugene Reimer, a long-time naturalist and board member of Native Orchid Conservation. A donation of \$600,000, known as the Eugene Reimer Environment Fund, was

invested in an endowment fund through the Winnipeg Foundation, and will provide funding in perpetuity for the repair and maintenance of the trail. With this stable support, the Province of Manitoba committed \$1 million in funding for the capital cost of the construction of the trail, which was announced in October 2011. The Brokenhead Ecological Reserve was designated in 2005 under the Province of Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative, “a government program dedicated to working together with others to build a network of protected land, freshwater, and marine areas that contains the tremendous biological diversity and unique features found in Manitoba's varied landscapes.”

The Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail is located adjacent to the ecological reserve within a 100 meter-wide buffer that follows the eastern edge of the ecological reserve for about 1.2 km. Riverside Gravel supported the trail development by relinquishing a portion of their quarry lease to accommodate the trail. The trail route was mapped out by members of Debwendon in 2010 and winds through various habitat types found in the area including a gravel moraine, jackpine forest, cedar wetland, and fen. The trail will highlight specific plants such as orchids, pitcher plants and other features such as glacial erratics. A key objective is to maximize the experience for users so they grasp the importance of the ecological balance that needs to be maintained in the wetland.

The special relationship that the BON has with the wetland will also be a focus of the interpretation. Debwendon intends to offer live interpretive programming to be provided by members from the BON during the summer months to share information about the many features along the Trail. The BON has been using the wetland for approximately 300 years and it continues to be considered by the band as a place of great cultural importance and a place for collecting medicinal plants, tea, berries and cedar.

The Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail and Brokenhead Wetland Ecological Reserve will also be a very valuable tool for educating the general public about wetlands. Southern Manitoba has lost approximately 70% of its wetlands since 1900 and public education is critical in order to save the little that remains for future generations.

For more information please visit our website, [www.debwendon.org](http://www.debwendon.org). Information on the official opening will be posted there later this spring.

## ***Report from the American Orchid Society Spring Meeting in Portland, Oregon April 27-May 2, 2015***

The American Orchid Society is important to Canadian Societies as it is the umbrella governing body that sets the dates, rules and conditions and provides the judges for our own orchid shows. The AOS went through a rough period a few years back, selling its headquarters in Delray Beach, Florida and losing many members. It has been a long hard struggle but the AOS has turned misfortune around and the Society is once again financially solvent, growing again and gaining members every month. It is very actively involved in research, conservation, educational and IT projects which will benefit members and the AOS affiliated societies. At the recent spring meeting the mood was upbeat as members can see very positive progress. We'd like to share with you some of the recent achievements that the President Frank Smith mentioned in his opening address to members at the recent spring meeting in Portland:

1. The AOS now has a signed contract with Fairchild Botanical Gardens in Miami Florida which gives the Society secure accommodation for 20 years. The AOS does not have to pay rent, taxes or liability insurance. This is a very good deal for the AOS.
2. On the second floor of the Visitor's Center, the new AOS library is under construction. We have wanted a permanent library for over 40 years and by late July this will become a reality. Ken Roberts and the Library Committee have worked hard on the plan and will be overseeing the transfer of our stored library to the new facility. To help with the move, we will require volunteers late summer to help put the books on the shelves. The library will serve as a major reference library but we are also looking at a mechanism of offering books to members on loan.
3. Scanning project. All back editions of AOS magazines are being scanned. We will have a great search engine on line which will allow access to information back to the beginning of publication, almost 100 years. This will be a great aid for those wanting to research specific genera, etc.
4. We have launched OrchidsPlus, a searchable data base on orchid genera, species and hybrids on line and already have updated it twice. This is a continuing process. We are offering webinars to our members on

a monthly basis and have over 2000 participants from many countries. Webinars are also being used by some societies in their meetings in lieu of a speaker.

5. Under the lead of the Treasurer, every expense the AOS incurs has been looked at with the goal of streamlining and cutting expenses. By the end of 2015, we anticipate that expenditures will be well under budget by approximately 150K.
6. We are working on a brand new website. The website will be rebuilt this year, and will be easier to search. This was approved by the Board and work has already started on it. There will be new features such as an updated membership site, as well as a kids corner with activities to keep children occupied and learning at shows, etc. It will be a great tool for members.
7. We have had positive membership growth since August of last year, the AOS now has 500 more new members than 9 months ago and the positive trend is continuing.
8. The new digital membership is a great success. Over 10% of the membership is now digital.

As you can see the AOS is very busy with new projects and activities which will be available over the next few months to help us as members learn, grow and show our orchids even more successfully.

Mario Ferrusi, SOOS and Jean Hollebhone, OOS

VP and Secretary respectively, AOS

### ***2015 COC Travel Grant for FVOS***

We wish to thank the COC for the \$200.00 travel grant for 2015. We are a very small Society and are very grateful for this help to bring in out of town speakers for our meetings. This year we joined Vancouver and Nanaimo in welcoming Roy Tokunaga from Hawaii in June. Roy had not been to the West coast for about 10 years. His presentation was very informative and well received by our members. They enjoyed being able to get plants from Hawaii at our meeting. The grant helped offset some of the travel expenses. Thank you.

Dianne Gillis (on behalf of the Fraser Valley Orchid Society)



# CANADIAN ORCHID CONGRESS AGM 2015

Saskatchewan Orchid Society

The Saskatoon Orchid Society had the honor of hosting the 28th Annual Canadian Orchid Congress, under the banner, "For the Love of Orchids", in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, on March 27 - 29, 2015.

The AOS judged show was held in conjunction with "Gardenscape", one of the highest rated garden shows in Western Canada.

"For the Love of Orchids", has become a pleasant memory for the planning committee and the many volunteers who devoted countless hours to making this years show a resounding success for the exhibitors, vendors, members of SOS and the public.

Among visitors of note were Abu Salleh, AOS Judge Chair; Calvin Wong, COC President; and Dave Nixon, Orchid Species Preservation Foundation President.

After a busy day of setting up on Thursday, our event officially began Thursday evening with a sale and social, open to vendors and delegates only. Vendors provided in excess of 3000 orchids, cut flowers, and pottery to members and during the weekend to the public in general. After some frenzied pre-show buying, the day ended with a wine and cheese social.

Friday began early when Bob Lucas, Judge Coordinator; Yvette Lyster, Art Coordinator; Pat Randall, Show Photographer; and their team of assistants joined the eleven show judges and their clerks for breakfast. This was followed by ribbon and award judging of some 200 orchids and other exhibit entries. Numerous trophies and ribbon awards were decided during this session before the show was officially opened to the public.

The Awards Banquet and Silent Auction was the highlight of Saturday's activities. Cal Carter was the Master of Ceremonies and welcomed 76 attendees to the banquet, followed by the presentation of awards. The complete list of awards appears in the April issue of the SOS newsletter.

President Calvin Wong presided over the annual meeting of The Canadian Orchid Congress, which was held on Sunday morning. Reports from that meeting appear in the COC newsletter.

Some 23,000 visitors attended "Gardenscape" this year and all of them had the opportunity of a lifetime this year, to attend the, Canadian Orchid Congress Show, in the middle of the Canadian prairies and to see some of the most exquisite and exotic tropical orchids from around the world.

What an opportunity! What a show! What a learning experience! The Planning committee under the very capable leadership of Heather Anderson and her assistant Cheryl Adamson, and the SOS membership with their many volunteers, have had a chance to relax, to recover, to repot their many purchases and to relive the many highlights of that memorable weekend at the end of March, 2015, in Saskatoon! Not only that, but someone has been heard to utter quietly, "Let's do it again soon!"

Respectfully Submitted by:

Eugene Kucey, AOS/COC rep for SOS.

## ***New Orchid Presentation***

Based upon my summer exploratory trip plant hunting in Western China, mainly for orchids, I have now finished my latest show in Power Point featuring the native orchids seen in situ during my three week trip. It is available both as a live presentation wherein I supplement what is on my Power Point or for those on a strict budget, a CD-Rom can be purchased outright.

A quick summary of the program would be, "This show features the native orchids seen in Sichuan Province and the Aba Autonomous Region during June of 2015. This trip was led by well known Chinese resident expert and plant breeder, Holger Perner. Scenery, other wildflowers and some cultural historical sights are also included."

Please add this to my repertoire of orchid and other wildflower programs. If you are new as a representative of your orchid or wildflower group, I have programs on many areas throughout North America, a few in Central and South America, from the Mediterranean Region: Crete, Sicily, from Asia, Borneo.

tom sampliner based in Cleveland Ohio

[tomsam2651@hotmail.com](mailto:tomsam2651@hotmail.com)



# Orchid Show & Sale

American Orchid Society Judged Show

Sponsored by  
The Windsor Orchid Society

Hundreds of Orchids, Photography & Artwork – Orchid lectures, Photography Workshop and repotting demonstrations. A special 'Harvest Lunch' menu available.

**New Location!**  
Columbus Center  
of South Windsor,  
2401 Columbus Dr.  
Windsor, Ontario (off Northwood)

**October 24-25, 2015**

Hours, Saturday 11am – 5pm  
Sunday 11am – 4pm  
(Hand-held Cameras Only)

**ADMISSION**  
Adults \$ 6.00  
Children 12 & under free (with adult)

Special PHOTOGRAPHERS Session (tripods permitted)  
Sunday 9am – 11am

For more information visit us on Facebook or at [www.windsororchidsociety.ca](http://www.windsororchidsociety.ca)



# COOS 30TH ANNIVERSARY ORCHID SHOW & SALE

**SEPTEMBER 26 & 27, 2015**  
SATURDAY 11-5 SUNDAY 9-5

**CAMBRIDGE HESPELER ARENA**  
640 Ellis Road, Cambridge, ON N3C 4K2

For more information, visit [coos.ca](http://coos.ca)

**\$1 OFF Admission \$6**  
One per customer Supervised children 12 and under free

## ORCHIDS 2015

V Scientific Conference on Andean Orchids  
Cali, Colombia. 19-21 November 2015  
Pontificia Universidad Javeriana  
[www.andeanorchidconference.org](http://www.andeanorchidconference.org)



Pescatoría Klabochorum Robt. f. In situ, Valle del Cauca, Colombia  
Fotografía: David Haelteman

**International Orchid Show Caliorquideas 2015**  
Museo Vivo de Orquideas Orquideorama Enrique Pérez  
Arbelaez, Cali 19-22 November 2015

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE COLOMBIA SEDE PALMIRA

ASOCIACIÓN VALLECAUCANA DE ORQUIDEOLOGÍA

Pontificia Universidad JAVERIANA Cali

## COMING EVENTS

2015

**Sept 26-27:** [The Central Ontario Orchid Society](#), is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a show and sale at the Cambridge Hespeler Arena, 640 Ellis Road, Cambridge.

**Oct 16-18:** OSPF second annual Orchid Exhibit to be held at Salisbury Greenhouses on Friday Oct 16 through to Sunday Oct 18. Salisbury is open, Fri: 10:00 – 6:00; Sat: 9:00 – 6:00; Sun: 10:00 – 5:00. The Exhibit is not a conventional Orchid Show in that it is not a judged show but the focus will be on education. There will be displays of orchids from around the world, information displays on the Wagner Natural Area, the OSPF Education in the Schools initiative, a children's investigation area, a speakers section on topics of interest to the general public about orchids, vendors will also be present to sell orchids. Admission is free but donations to the OSPF would be welcome.

**Oct 17-18:** [Eastern Canada Orchid Society](#) at the CEGEP Andre-Larendeau, 1111 Lapierre, Lasalle QC H8N 2J4. Phone 514-684-3904

**October 25-26:** [The Windsor Orchid Society](#) will be holding its 3rd annual, AOS judged, Orchid Show and Sale "Falling for Orchids" at a NEW LOCATION, the Columbus Center of Windsor, 2401 Columbus Dr., Windsor, Ontario. The Show will feature beautiful displays of orchids, artistic entries, educational exhibits and a great selection of vendors. Free presentations and demonstrations will be held on the Sunday of the event including a photographers workshop and exclusive photo session on Sunday morning. For more information refer to our website or contact Ed Cott at laelia@aol.com. "A splendid time is guaranteed for all."

**October 30- Nov 1:** [Fraser Valley Orchid Society](#) Show & Plant Sale will be held at George Preston Arena, 20699 42 Ave. Langley B.C. Email fvosbc@gmail.com for more info.

**Nov 14-15:** [The Essex County Orchid Society](#) will be holding their 6th Orchid Show and Sale at Colasanti's Tropical Gardens, 1550 Road 3 E. Ruthven, ON. The Show will feature Artistic Designs Displays, Art component and vendors. Free talks and demonstrations on orchid related topics. For more information see the website or email Juliette St. Pierre at canadel@cogeco.ca

Get your show dates, with details, to the COC editor.

## 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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