



# news

**Volume 27.5– November 2015**

## The Canadian Orchid Congress

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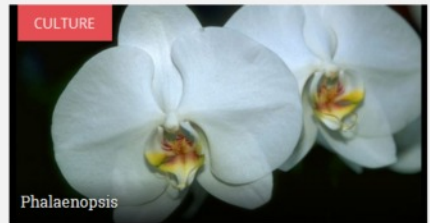
CULTURE



OCTOBER 1, 2015

**Cymbidium**

CULTURE



**Phalaenopsis**



**Miltonia**



**Paphiopedilum**

### CANADIAN ORCHID SOCIETIES WORKING TOGETHER

ARTICLES



SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

#### Canadian Culture Sheets

The COC has produced a set of culture sheets for various genera that reflects the growing conditions found in Canada. Feel free to print these off for yourself or your...

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THE COC



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## From Our VP

Exciting times!

We're starting our fall show year with many changes. Check out our stunning new website that is now mobile and tablet friendly. Many thanks to Jerry for the hours and hours of work that went into making it happen. Dynamite!

And our first practice webinar run seemed effortless thanks to our very experienced moderator, Patrick Boisvert, of the Ottawa Orchid Society. An exciting and necessary step forward for us here in Canada and the software itself has proven to be very very user friendly.

While we may not be cloning the same processes as the AOS in this webinar collaboration, they have been extremely helpful and encouraging us to 'do it our way'. The COC is not new to partnerships with the AOS. Many of our outstanding orchid specialists are part of the AOS organization and our Facebook site, Orchid Journal, and the AOS Facebook site have administrators on both sites sharing and learning new ways to support our hobbyists.

In the near future, we'll be doing another presentation that can be downloaded for your society's monthly meeting (internet not required). Our own, Ben Rostron, will kick off the Canadian series in great fashion. The presentation will be delivered, upon

society request, via electronic means quickly and efficiently and can be stored on your laptop for future use. Even easier than starting a PowerPoint presentation.

Also for your viewing pleasure, we'll eventually be providing links on our website where you can view the presentation on your home computer.

The COC is embarking on a dynamic, fun filled, exciting new path to provide more services and support to our societies and all their volunteers. Please remember too that we are volunteers and need your feedback and support. We are always open to suggestions

We currently have a vacancy on the Board for a Treasurer. Andre Couture, AOS Judge and our long term Treasurer, has decided to step back from the position and we're so very thankful for his support over the years. You'll still find Andre doing a superlative job of securing some of the top speakers for the Eastern Region as well as coordinating with the Western Region. All the best Andre, you'll be missed.

If you or someone you know would be interested in joining our dynamic team please contact me [firstvp@CanadianOrchidCongress.ca](mailto:firstvp@CanadianOrchidCongress.ca). A complete outline of responsibilities can be found at this link <http://canadianorchidcongress.ca/coconst/>.

Marlene



## Certificate of Recognition

Marilyn Light was presented with the Certificate of Recognition by COC Vice President, Marlene Young, at a recent Ottawa Orchid Society meeting.

This prestigious award recognizes Marilyn's outstanding service to the Canadian Orchid Community over the years.

Photo: Lanny Morry, Ottawa Orchid Society

## The Orchid Journal

Orchid Journal will also be changing....

The success of [Orchid Journal](#) continues with our fans numbering over 4,000 and climbing. The majority continue to be North American based. Frankly, we outnumber all of the North American non profit sites for hobbyist engagement which is the key to monitoring your ability to reach your fans.

What does that really mean to the average fan or even vendor? Well, ask Fred Clarke. Fred has graciously given OJ permission to use his photos and contents from his website - with appropriate photo credits of course. He's a great example of someone that embraces new technology and is always there to assist and provide support too. Not too long ago, Fred found himself answering queries at a society meeting in the U.S. from members requesting information on the plant that OJ had recently posted. Yes, over 14,000 people saw that plant in just a couple of days. Unfortunately it seems that Fred had culled that plant from his collection because it was not thriving.....he could have sold hundreds otherwise

While OJ is not a commercial site we do pride ourselves on posting photographer credits and will provide source vendors upon request but it's a small orchid world and just about everyone knows Fred and his photos. That gives you some idea of the power of social media.....after all, our societies are social groups and social media is a natural extension of that.

Now, how will Orchid Journal change you ask? Way back when, before the COC, there was a Canadian magazine called the 'The Orchid Journal' published by Canadian Orchid Society in Winnipeg. (See sidebar: <http://canadianorchidcongress.ca/cocconst/>). We will come full circle over the next several months by bridging the Facebook site more closely with our new website. This will enhance the utility and usefulness of both sites by providing snapshots of activity on our Facebook site with the popular detailed information on our website.

Looking forward to a true melding of the two solitudes.

Happy postings,

Marlene

## The New COC Web Site

As you can see by the front cover, the COC website has a new look.

The tools and protocols for building web pages change over time. From almost the beginning when it was part of the OSNS website I have been doing the support for the website. Over the years new features supported by the browsers have enabled changes to the appearance to keep it looking fresh. And, of course, the content increased and needed regular updates.

The old website was looking dated and didn't support very well the new portable devices such as smart phones and tablets. It needed to be responsive, that is, able to adjust the web page and its images to different screen sizes, and work with either touch screens or a mouse pointer. Also websites today make heavy use of images now that transfer speeds have increased. Certainly a website dealing with orchids should have lots of images.

There are many tools available for building a website, from free to very expensive, from supporting a few, easy pages to building massive commercial sites. Hopefully there was something that didn't require a lot of technical knowledge. After looking at some of the many choices, I decided WordPress would do what we wanted and was no more unfriendly than many of the other choices. It was then necessary to find a WordPress "theme" that provided the right look and feel for the website. After looking at many I found a responsive theme that could be used to build a modern looking web magazine.

At that point it was a case of figuring what can be done and how to do it. WordPress is software that feels like it evolved rather than having been designed. Over several months I proceeded to move the current web page content to WordPress, making many revisions on the way. It was certainly an adventure trying to figure out how to make the magic happen. And a fair amount of frustration.

The website is ready. It is never finished. Hopefully by next year you can renew memberships and pay fees from a web page. [Have a look](#). If you see a problem, send me the link. If you feel you could improve the content, let us know.

Jerry Bolce



## Orchid Species Preservation Foundation has a new FB site

<https://www.facebook.com/ospf91>

## Central Ontario OS has new FB site

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/422607584612681/>

## Membership/Insurance Renewal Reminder

Marlene Young, our pro tem Treasurer needs to hear from you by December 1. The renewal form is at <http://canadianorchidcongress.ca/membership.pdf>

## New presentation

Speaker Name: Lauren Booklin

Contact Information: 289-837-1462 & 416-356-8784

Located in Oakville, Ontario.

Email: [lrbooklin@gmail.com](mailto:lrbooklin@gmail.com)

Presentation Topic: "Orchis" Our Fascination with a plant" Curiosities, History, Art & Culture A visual presentation. (Can be presented in French or English)

Remuneration: Negotiable; travel if more than an hour from Oakville, ON with room and board

Any restrictions (travel times /distance etc): None



Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society  
Show - 01 Oct 2015, Nanaimo BC  
COC Award - Best Individual Display - Bryan Emery  
Photographer - Ed Higham



Central Ontario Orchid Society  
Best in Show, COC and AOS awards



## Central Ontario OS Show AOS Awards



Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi "Calvin" HCC 77pts owned by Crystal Star Orchids



Rlc Green Rattana "Golden Angel" (Rlc Greenwich x Rlc Udomrattana) HCC 77 pts owned by Crystal Star Orchids



Rhynchoides Memoria Suranaree (Rhynchostylis coelestis x Aerides lawrenceiana) AM 82 pts owned by Synea Tan



Phragmipedium Fox Valley Fireball "Dragon's Breath" (Barbara LeAnn x Rosalie Dixler) CCM 85pts owned by Dana and Chris Schreiber

COOS photos by Jerry Bolce

## COMING EVENTS

### 2015

**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](mailto:canadel@cogeco.ca)

### 2016

**February 13-14:** The Southern Ontario Orchid Society. The SOOS Annual Orchid Show at the Toronto Botanical Garden, Edwards Gardens.

**February 13-14:** 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.

**Feb 27 – 28:** Orchid Society of the Royal Botanical Gardens 680 Plains Rd., Burlington

**Mar 26-27:** 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

**April 16-17:** The Ottawa Orchid Society 35th Annual Orchid Show and Sale, RA centre, Riverside Drive, Ottawa. (change of location). Show Chairman: Dave Cooper, e-mail: [david\\_cooper@storm.ca](mailto:david_cooper@storm.ca) 613-256-2853.

**April 9-10:** The Toronto Artistic Orchid Association Show, CICS (Centre for Information and Community Service), 2330 Midland Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, M1S 5G5, (N.W. Of HWY 401/Midland) For show information: [info.aoa@yahoo.ca](mailto:info.aoa@yahoo.ca)

**April 16-17:** The Ottawa Orchid Society 35th Annual Orchid Show and Sale, RA centre, Riverside Drive, Ottawa. (change of location). Show Chairman: Dave Cooper, e-mail: [david\\_cooper@storm.ca](mailto:david_cooper@storm.ca) 613-256-2853.

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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