

Orchid Society of Alberta

NEWSLETTER

Volume 32, Number 3

November 2007

Don't forget your wallet!

- November's meeting features our annual Silent Auction, where there will be orchid bargains galore!
- Our 2008 Executive Election also take place in November, so don't miss it!

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Tempus fugit ...

November is upon us already, and so is the snow, and how quickly time is going by. Someone once told me the busier you are the faster time goes, and I have to agree. The two years I have spent as President have flown, and guess what: *elections are here again.*

As always, all positions are open, and if there is anyone wishing to join the Executive please contact me immediately. I know we all are very busy with our work, families, retirement, but if you can spare a few hours a month for the Society we would love to hear from you.

With this being my final President's Message before the new Executive takes over, I want to say thank you to everyone who has helped make our Society a success over the past two years. I have met many wonderful people who have become personal friends, sharing orchids and sharing friendship. This I am very thankful for. This group is like a big wonderful family, and as we all know there are ups and downs in all families -- but

mostly ups, I'm happy to say.

On behalf of the Society I'd like to thank the 2007 Executive for all their expertise, time and work. In life too much is taken for granted and often we forget to give thanks or appreciation. So a grateful thank you to all present and past Executive

members for your contributions, which are the reason why the OSA has remained so active and viable. You all have been great orchid ambassadors.

On a different note, we will have a table at the November meeting for anyone who has not re-

newed their membership to date. This will be your last opportunity to receive the newsletter and all the other benefits that come with being part of the Society. Expired memberships will be removed from the rosters at the end of the month, so don't forget to sign up!

I hope to see you all at the November meeting. Happy Orchid Growing!

— Nadia Koscielnuik, President



Paphiopedilum Usuzuki, grown and photographed by David Whitaker

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER SILENT AUCTION



Keep your eyes peeled for outstanding plants like this *Paphiopedilum Magic Lantern* at our upcoming Silent Auction. This lovely specimen grown and photographed by Tom deBoer.

Our November meeting will feature a major OSA event: our Silent Auction. The auction is our biggest fundraiser to offset operating costs, so it's very important that it be a success.

We will need your help in several ways. First, we ask you to donate all types of items -- orchid related or otherwise -- for us to sell. These can be plants, gift certificates, baked goods, fertilizer, pictures, books, knitting, appliances or whatever you wish. All we ask is that these items be clean and in good working condition.

Second, we need you to buy things! Bring your wallets and indulge yourselves with a few (or more than a few) goodies. There are always great bargains to be had! Third, you are welcome to bring family or friends so they can purchase some great deals as well. And finally, we will need a few strong arms to set up the tables and clear everything away

when we're finished.

Please note that we can only accept cash or cheques, no credit cards. Terry Letendre will once again be emceeding our auction – thank you Terry for donating your time yet again! We will be having our lunch and coffee as usual at this meeting. (What would a meeting be without your good food?) However, we will not be having a show table, raffle or vendors. Please come out and support your Society!

— Nadia Koscielnik

OSA ELECTIONS 2008: ASK NOT WHAT YOUR ORCHID SOCIETY CAN DO FOR YOU ...

Yes, it's election time again, and here's yet another reminder that volunteers are needed to help run the Society. Yes, I know, you've read it all before. But have you really *thought* about it?

Although we are one of Canada's largest and most active orchid societies, the OSA spent 2007 with several Executive positions unoccupied, notably the very important role of Secretary. We also have many long-serving members who have been doing more than their share for a long time, simply because no one else has stepped up to the plate to volunteer. Yes, we know you're busy, but so are we all. If you enjoy attending meetings, please bear in mind that without people to run it, our Society will disappear.

Check out the Executive list on the back page of this Newsletter. Is there any job that appeals to you? Remember, every position is open for election every year. Just step forward and we will be more than happy to add your name to the slate of nominees.

To volunteer for any Executive position, please contact Past-President Terry Letendre at (780) 486-4474, or by e-mail at tletendre@shaw.ca. Too shy to join the Executive? You can still help out in any number of ways. Contact any Executive member (telephone numbers on back page of this Newsletter) if you'd like to make a difference!

COMING EVENTS

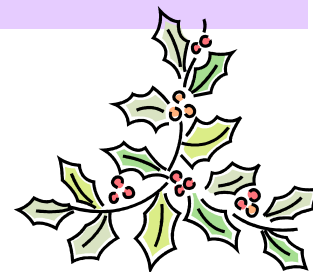
JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS ...

If you frequent the OSA plant sales table, you'll recognize Heinz and Lothar Auschrat, the Society's identical twin orchid growing experts. This year, Heinz and his wife Jadzia and Lothar and his wife Marysia have generously offered to open their homes for our annual OSA Christmas Social.

All OSA members and their guests are invited, so please mark your calendars!

The Auschrat families live side by side, at 10505 and 10507-151 Street (separate houses with a lovely shared backyard and greenhouse). The Social will start at 7 PM on December 8, and as in past years it will be a potluck. Please bring either an appetizer or a dessert, enough to serve 10 to 12 people, plus serving utensils.

It will be an adult gathering, so you are welcome to bring the alcoholic beverage of your choice with your own mix. The society will supply punch, coffee, tea and glasses. The dress code is casual, so come as you like. If you'd like to bring a donation for a door prize, please feel free -- it would be much appreciated. Merry Christmas!



“ORCHIDACIOUS!” — ORCHID SHOW 2008

Another date to not on your calendars! “Orchidacious!”, the OSA's annual orchid show and sale for 2008, will take place February 21 to 24 at Grant MacEwan College South Campus in Edmonton. Setup day is Thursday, February 21, with the show opening to the public on Friday.



Paphiopedilum armeniacum, grown and photographed by Ed Sushynski.

As always, we need lots of help to make the event a success. If you enjoy organizing, get in touch with our Show Chair, Brian Grant, about joining the Show Committee. You can reach Brian by phone at (780) 460-0141, or by e-mail at baam@shaw.ca. We will also be signing up show volunteers at our General meetings in the New Year.

WORLD ORCHID CONGRESS

So, how cold do you think it will be in Edmonton at the end of January? Minus 20? Minus 30? And how many inches of snow ...? You can avoid this unpleasant guessing game by catching the nearest plane to the 19th World Orchid Congress in Miami, Florida. “Orchids: Nature's Masterpiece” takes place January 23 to 27, 2008 at the Sheraton Miami Hotel and Exhibition Centre. It may be a few years before the WOC returns to North America, so don't miss the chance to see the world's best orchid show while you can.

Do remember that if you want to bring plants back from Miami, you need to get your paperwork in order. The dreaded CITES rules are still in force, so know your requirements before you buy. For details on bringing plants into Canada, check out the Canadian Orchid Congress website (www.canadianorchidcongress.ca), which has detailed information on what is needed. The site also has links to CITES regulations.

For more information on the World Orchid Congress, visit www.19WOC.com.

MEETING REPORTS

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING Sunday, November 19, 2006

Minutes adopted - Liz Miller, Karl Strickler

Announcements - Our OSA Christmas party will take place December 8; see newsletter for details.

- Volunteer sign-up sheets for our show are available today, and show posters are ready to pick up.

Elections - Past-President Terry Letendre called three times for nominations from the floor for each position. The following slate was elected by acclamation:

- President - Nadia Koscielnuik
- 1st Vice President - Debra Laschowski
- 2nd Vice President - Paul Klaassen
- Secretary - Rose Cree
- Treasurer - Ron Forster
- Librarians - Mary Wilke, Marilyn Elk, Liz Miller
- COC/AOS Representative - Monica De Wit
- Plant Sales - Heinz Auschrat, Lothar Auschrat
- Social Convenors - Yp de Boer, Eleanor Resler
- Raffle Coordinator - Rosemary Nielsen
- Membership Director - Brian Grant
- Newsletter Editor - Lynne Copeland
- Directors at Large - Marysia Auschrat, Teresa Ewasiuk, David Whitaker
- Executive Meeting of all outgoing and new Executive Tuesday at 7:30 PM at Auschrats' house.

Meeting Adjourned

—Nadia Koscielnuik, Acting Secretary

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING Sunday, October 21, 2007

- **Minutes Adopted:** Bryon Fischer, Niel Berk
- Thanks to Hank Tan for his culture session today.
- Monica De Wit announced that one of Gordon Heaps's own orchid hybrids, Potinara Janet Elizabeth, will be featured on a Canadian stamp.



Paphiopedilum fowliei x hennisianum, grown by Paramount Orchids and photographed by Chuck Morin. Photo copyright Paramount Orchids.

- There was a good turnout from Edmonton at the FOS show in Calgary in September. Several entries by OSA members won trophies and ribbons.
- The Executive has renewed the Society's agreement with St. Mark School for another year, so we will continue to meet here in 2008.
- All OSA memberships were due in September and must be paid by November if you are to remain on our mailing list.
- Next Show Committee meeting is October 23 at Show Chair Brian Grant's house. Show theme for 2008 is "Orchidacious!"
 - OSA's Silent Auction will take place at our November meeting. Please bring your plants and other items to donate. Also note that purchases can only be paid by cash or cheque; no credit cards allowed.
 - The OSA Executive Elections for 2008 will also be held at the November meeting. All positions are open for election. Nominations must be finalized no later than the week before the November meeting. Past-President Terry Letendre is collecting names.
- The Wagner Bog Foundation thanks our Society for its support and brings the happy news that it has won its battle to keep the area as a preserve, out of the hands of developers!
- This year's Christmas party will take place at the Auschrats' house on December 8.
- Members are needed to billet visiting speakers for upcoming meetings, and visiting judges for our upcoming annual show in February 2008.
- OSA members Monica De Wit and Ben Rostron have both applied to become student judges with the American Orchid Society. We wish them luck in this endeavour.
- **Meeting adjourned**

—Lynne Copeland, Acting Secretary

OCTOBER MEETING REPORT

OCTOBER SHOW TABLE WINNERS

Best Cattleya Alliance

BLC Tainan Gold “Canary” — James Lin (2)

Best Dendrobium

Den. Star Sapphire — Dale Thompson (1)

Best Masdevallia Alliance

Masdevallia imposter — Verna Johnston

Best Oncidium/Odontoglossum Alliance

Beallara Marfitch “Howard’s Dream” AM/AOS
Pat Snow Miller (3)

Best Paphiopedilum

Paphiopedilum charlesworthii — Horst Bohne

Best Phalaenopsis

Phalaenopsis NOID (no identification)
Teresa Ewasiuk (5)

Best Phragmipedium

Phrag. Noirmont 4N — Terry Letendre (4)

Best Pleurothallid Alliance

Restrepia elegans var. virolin — Una Thompson

Best Vandaceous Alliance

Ascocenda Yup Sim Wah — Auschrats

Best Miniature

Gastrochilus obliquus — Harry Yannagas (6)

Best Species

Gastrochilus obliquus — Harry Yannagas (6)

Best Other

Cymbidium Strathadon — Sandy Bedford (7)

Best Culture

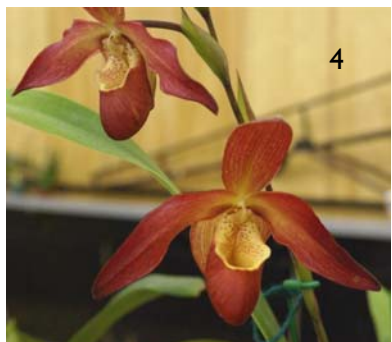
Neostylis Lou Sneary — Auschrats (8)

Best in Show

Neostylis Lou Sneary — Auschrats (8)

Judges: Ernie Gemeinhart and David Whitaker

All photos on this page by David Whitaker



CORRECTION: The Oncidium Tiger Crow “Golden Girl” that won Best Oncidium/Odontoglossum on September’s show table was grown by Darrell Albert.

OCTOBER MEETING REPORT

LUNCH TABLE REPORT

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for again bringing nice sandwiches and good dessert. Our speaker Ernie Gemeinhart was very impressed with the whole of the lunch table.

I would like to say thank you to the following people:

Marlana Wilson, Bryon Fischer, Dave Whitaker, Kay Lee, Esther Reynolds, Una Thompson, Maria Christiansen, Colleen Kohlman, Marilyn Elyk, Betty Hersikorn, Niel Berk, Lorna Barclay, Dawn Pratt, Lilli Johnston, Judith Jones, Suzan Hon, Beverly Derworiz, Verna Johnston, Darrell Albert, Jackie Thibaudau, Hanna Ludescher, Marysia Auschrat,, Alice Yannagas and Sue Miatello, as well as to the person who brought the chocolate loaf and the person who brought the one-cup teabags to last month's meeting. I did not get their names.

—Yp de Boer, Social Convenor



RAFFLE REPORT

A big OSA vote of thanks to the following generous members, who donated items to our October raffle:

Tom de Boer, Chuck Taylor, Liz Miller, Colleen Kohlman, Ian Johnston, Don Hawker, Barry Aronyk, Duncan McLean, Esther Reynolds, Hank Tan and Paramount Orchids.

Please note there will be no raffle at our November meeting, but your donations to our Silent Auction will be very much appreciated!

Left: Brassocattleya Island Charm "OC" JCIAOS, grown and photographed by David and Suzan Hon.

Below right: Doritaenopsis Anna-Larati Soekardi, grown and photographed by David Whitaker.

A MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARIAN

Because the November meeting is dedicated to Society elections and the auction, there will be no library services at the November meeting. Those members who borrowed books in October will get a bonus of two months, as those books are not due until January 20, 2008.

I have been in touch with The American Orchid Society, and our order for 2008 calendars has been shipped. However, I noted in the news that Canada Post has a backlog of parcels from the United States, so there is some doubt that the calendars will be received before our November meeting. I'm keeping my fingers crossed! The calendars will sell for \$10 again this year.

— Mary Wilke, Librarian

...AND FROM THE SHOW TABLE

When displaying plants on the Show Table, please ensure that all entries are clearly identified with the owner's name and the name of the plant. This will help us give proper recognition to the talented winners! It's also a good way to avoid mistakes when collecting plants after the meeting.

Also, please remember that Show Table plants are judged starting at 1:30 PM sharp, so we can get through all the categories by 2 PM. Plants arriving after the 1:30 deadline may be left out due to time constraints. Thanks!

— David Whitaker, Director at Large



FOOTHILLS ORCHID SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

Note: Two OSA members, Monica De Wit and Ben Rostron, have applied to start the seven-year process of becoming American Orchid Society-accredited judges. Our Society is very pleased to have two such candidates, as the untimely death of Ken Girard last year has left our province with no AOS-qualified judges. Following is Monica's report on her experiences at the Foothills Orchid Society show at the end of September.

For those not able to make it down to Calgary for the FOS show ... it is my pleasure to pass on a few tidbits of information. There were 336 plant entries (our show usually has more than 700) with 22 AOS nominations, of which 11 were awarded. This is a record number of awards given at any western Canadian show — and boy, were we busy on judging day!

We started with ribbon judging at 8:30 AM and didn't get finished with the AOS judging until after 5 PM. Most of the judges and Foothills Executive went straight to the awards banquet in their "work" clothes — no time to change into something a little more dressy!

One of these AOS awards was an HCC of 78 points awarded to Terry Letendre's *Bulbophyllum dearii* 'Bailey'. The Orchid Species Preservation Foundation's *Pleurothallis daisonii* was also granted an AM/AOS of 81 pts.

Our OSA display earned Best Visiting Society display and best display of 16-25 plants (with my display receiving third place in this category). Chuck Taylor, Terry Letendre and Mike Gabrielson also presented top notch displays of their own.

Our members' plants did very well in the ribbon judging arena as well. Brian Parker and Laurie Lywak's 20 year old Paph. Lady Isabel, with 10 huge flowers on two stems, earned best windowsill-

grown plant -- wow! Hank Tan won Best Dendrobium for *Den. brymerianum* and best Phalaenopsis for *Dtps. Beauty Sheena*.

Terry also won best Cymbidium for that gorgeous yellow creature whose name escapes my memory at the moment (*That would be Cymbidium Golden Elf "Sunburst" — ed.*). Out of 19 plants entered in our display, there were eight first place ribbons, six second place, and three third place. Many thanks to the Auschrats (X4), Gordon Heaps, Liz Miller, Russ Soukoreff, Eleanor Resler, Brian Parker and Laurie Lywak, Greg Kurulok and Nadia Koscielniuk for enter-

ing their plants. Many thanks also to Nadia for picking up plants before the show and to Marysia and Lothar Auschrat for housing them before and after the show. I hope I haven't missed any of the winners but I have a sneaking suspicion I've forgotten something!

Along with packing, constructing and registering two displays on Friday (the OSA display as well as my own), setting up my sales area (thanks again Carl), I was also given a one-hour

interview by two judges from Oregon and wrote two 45-minute pre-student quizzes. I'm pleased to say that Ben Rostron completed the pre-student evaluations as well. We both hope to hear of favorable results from our efforts at the November AOS meeting in Tacoma, Washington (ie: moving from pre-student to student status)!

I would also like to thank Debra Laschowski and Carl Austin for their valuable help in setting up the Society display, and Chuck Taylor and Carl Austin for helping me with loading everything back up on Sunday to take back to Edmonton.

I sure hope Lynne took some good shots of the show, as I didn't have time! Happy growing ...

— Monica De Wit



Miltassia Charles Marden Fitch "Izumi" (Brassia verrucosa x Miltonia spectabilis), part of the FOS display at the Foothills Orchid Society show in September. Photographed by Lynne Copeland.

Orchid Word Scramble by Laurie Lywak

Unscramble the orchid anatomy terms below. Then use the letters in the grey boxes to solve the clue.

Good Luck!

1. VYRAO

--	--	--	--	--

2. PSEIT

--	--	--	--	--

3. ZMEHORI

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

4. LEPAS

--	--	--	--	--

5. TEALP

--	--	--	--	--

6. LMCNOU

--	--	--	--	--	--

7. KESIP

--	--	--	--	--

8. INLAIOLP

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Clue: Pansy orchid

Matters of Note



- All OSA memberships were due in September, so if you have not renewed your membership, this will be the last Newsletter you will receive. See p.9 for a renewal form.
- We are lucky to have the services of Myron, our very kind custodian, when we meet at St. Mark School. However, Myron did not sign on to clean up our garbage! All members, including vendors, must make sure they leave the gymnasium in the same condition they found it in. If you have empty boxes or other material that is too large for the garbage cans provided, please make sure it leaves with you at the end of the day!
- OSA member Mike Gabrielson gave a presentation on orchid growing to the Strathcona Garden Club on October 11. He was well received, and was able to make Club members aware of our annual orchid show in February 2008. Good job, Mike!
- Please note that the entrance door for our meetings at St. Mark is the WEST door (the schools' front door). The side door on the south side is NOT to be used once the formal meeting has started, as traffic through this door is very disruptive to the proceedings at the front.
- Did you enjoy Ernie Gemeinhart's presentation at our October meeting?

Ernie informs us that all the information in his talk will appear in December in AOS "Orchids" magazine, in an article by Ernie on growing under lights. You can check out this issue when it arrives in the OSA library if you are not an AOS member.

Above left: *Symphoglossum sanguineum*, part of the Foothills Orchid Society display at the 2007 FOS Show.

THE SWAP AND SELL SECTION

Welcome to Swap and Sell, where OSA members can print their orchid-related classifieds free of charge. To place an ad, e-mail OSAnews@xplornet.com, or telephone Lynne Copeland at (403) 227-6515.



FOR SALE

Graded coconut husk, medium and small chunk, 8 cu ft bags \$100 each. Nepenthes for sale, \$10 to \$15 each.

Call Glen at (780) 449-7112

FOR SALE

Orchids by Kimberly has available some Phal. violacea in spike, some budded Catts, Chinese Cymbidiums (formosanum, kanran, ensifolium, lowianum, hookerianum, georgingii) and many other mini and standard Cyms, some in spike. Also, some Paph complex awarded crosses (bulldog type), some in bud.

E-mail Kimberly at bamboobaby@shaw.ca for details and prices.

FOR SALE

Native Orchid Conservation Inc. (NOCI) is a non-profit organization based in Manitoba that raises funds to support Canadian wild orchid conservation projects. They sell a variety of merchandise through their website, including a lovely native orchid photo calendar and a selection of handcrafted ladyslipper pins that would make attractive Christmas gifts.

If you want to do some holiday shopping for a good cause, join the NOCI or just make a donation, log on to the website below. Click on the link to their on-line store to view merchandise and make a purchase.

Website: www.nativeorchid.org

Orchid Society of Alberta Membership Application or Renewal

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

I am a ... (please circle) New Member Renewing Member

Membership Fees:

\$20 single

\$25 family (living at same address)

\$10 senior (65 and older)

PLEASE BRING FORM AND FEES TO NEXT MEETING, OR MAIL TO:

Orchid Society of Alberta, PO Box 33169
15557 Stony Plain Road, Edmonton, Alberta T5P 4V8

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Www.orchidsalberta.
com

The Canadian Orchid
Congress Newsletter is
available to all our
members, on the COC
website:

Www.canadianorchid
congress.ca

Answers to Orchid Word
Scramble on Page 8:

1. Ovary 2. Stipe
3. Rhizome 4. Sepal
5. Petal 6. Column
7. Spike 8. Pollinia
Solution: *Miltonia*

Volume 32, Number 3

November 2007

November Meeting Information

Date

Sunday, November 18, 2007

Location

St. Mark Catholic Junior High School
11625-135 Street, Edmonton

Meeting Program

12:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Plant and Raffle Ticket Sales

None

Display Tables

None

Coffee and Snacks

Served 1 PM to 2 PM

Culture Session

None

Main Events

Executive Elections for 2008
Annual Silent Auction

Orchid Society of Alberta - Executive 2007

- President - Nadia Koscielniuk - 464-4188
- First VP - Open
- Second VP - Paul Klaassen - 467-0079
- Past President - Terry Letendre - 486-4474
- Secretary - Open
- Treasurer - Ron Forster - 468-9390
- Librarians - Mary Wilke (476-2201), Marilyn Elyk (462-1426), Liz Miller (922-2460)
- COC/AOS Representative - Monica De Wit - 470-0910
- Directors at Large- Marysia Auschrat (484-6753), Teresa Ewasiuk (475-2038), Judy Klaassen (467-0079), David Whitaker (473-6392)
- Social Convenors - Yp de Boer (476-7839), Eleanor Resler (467-9458)
- Raffle Coordinator - Open
- Membership Director - Brian Grant - 460-0141
- Newsletter Editor - Lynne Copeland - (403) 227-6515
- Plant Sales Table - Heinz Auschrat (484-4290), Lothar Auschrat (484-6753)

Publishing Information

The OSA Newsletter is published monthly, nine times per year. There is no newsletter in July, August or December.

Deadline for submissions is the last day of the month preceding publication.

Mailing Address: Orchid Society of Alberta, PO Box 33169, 15557 Stony Plain Road, Edmonton, Alberta T5P 4V8.

To arrange for submission of articles, contact the editor, Lynne Copeland, by telephone at (403) 227-6515; by mail at Box 17, Site 8, RR #3, Innisfail, Alberta T4G 1T8; by e-mail at OSAnews@xplornet.com.

Advertising Rates:

Full page - \$50 Half page - \$30 Quarter page - \$20

Less than 1/4 page - \$5 per column inch