



NEWS

March 2022, Volume
57, Issue 3
Meeting since 1965

SOOS Virtual Meeting

Sunday, March 6, 2022 1 pm (EST)

program:

The SOOS Virtual Show Table

Entry Rules:

1. Take photos between Sun. Feb. 20th and Wed. Mar. 2nd.
2. Email photos to virtual@soos.ca by midnight of the 2nd.
3. One plant per email including:
~ what you love about your plant, and
~ the name of your orchid.
4. Limit of 10 slides per member; displays allowed.

Followed by

John Varigos

Borneo 2019 and

*The Asian Pacific Orchid
Conference, Kuching*

Click to join from your computer, tablet or
smartphone:

<https://meet.goto.com>

or

Dial in using your phone:

Canada: 1 (647) 497-9373

Access Code:

Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://meet.goto.com/install>

If you have not renewed your membership for 2022 this will be your last newsletter. Please renew now.

President's Remarks Welcome Orchid Enthusiasts,

As *Bugs Bunny* originally exclaimed “let the bells ring out and the banners fly”, as new COVID cases and hospitalizations in Ontario are in decline. The government has moved up its “reopening schedule” and has announced its intentions to lift capacity limits in all indoor public settings and remove proof of vaccination requirements as of March 1. Protective measures such as mask/face covering requirements and active/passive screening of patrons, will continue to be in place. This means that SOOS may soon be able to hold in-person meetings at the Toronto Botanical Gardens (“TBG”) for the first time since March 2020. Hallelujah!!

Once we return to in-person meetings, we will attempt to do “hybrid” meetings where the speakers will do their presentations remotely, but we will display their presentation on the big screen in the meeting hall, and we will make a live video stream of the “in person” meeting available to our members unable to attend the TBG.

Max Wilson, who heads our Tech Committee, has been working feverishly these past months along with Tom Atkinson, our SOOS TBG Liaison, to iron out the details of conducting a “hybrid meeting”, including visits to the TBG hall. Your SOOS Executive met virtually in mid-February and based upon Max and Tom’s recommendation, we have decided to do a “test-run” “hybrid” meeting in March where some of the Executive would be present at the TBG.

Please be patient, as this will be a learning experience for all of us. Hopefully based upon our experience in March, we will be able to do a full “hybrid meeting” in April where the SOOS

membership would be able to attend in-person. Monitor your emails closely for details.

As we contemplate the return to in-person meetings, it is only natural that we look forward to February 2023, when we hope that we will be able to undertake our Annual Show once again. Our Show is a huge undertaking for which planning usually starts over the summer and begins in earnest in the Fall. Please consider joining the Show Committee, or perhaps think of how you might be able to volunteer in another capacity to make this event the successful endeavor that it has been in the past.

With all the uncertainty regarding COVID and government restrictions, our Program Director Terry Kennedy has already lined up several virtual guest speakers through spring 2022.

March 6th John Varigos (Australia), "Borneo 2019 and Asian Pacific Orchid Conference, Kuching, Malaysia"

April 3rd Phil Spence (Australia), "Latouria Dendrobiums"

May 1st Marni Turkel (California), "Show (me) the Plant"

June 5th Bill Thoms (South Carolina), "What's new in Bulbos and how to grow them" [Bulbophyllums; the Incomplete Guide, From A to WHY?](#)

August 7th, Orchidfest at the TBG (details to follow)

Please note that for our March and April meetings, we will begin the meetings with the Virtual Show table, as this will allow our Australian guest speakers a bit more sleep time.

I hope that you are enjoying the Virtual Show Table each month, and I continue to be amazed at the beauty and diversity of blooms submitted by our members. Thank you for sharing your photos. Remember, photo submissions can be sent to virtual@soos.ca. If you missed the Show Table, you can still see it on our [SOOS YouTube channel](#) any time at your leisure.

Many of you have joined and participated with others on the SOOS Facebook Group page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SOOSOrchid/>. Please continue to post photos of your flowers and plants there, and feel free to comment, share your knowledge or ask questions.

I hope that you and your orchids are doing well, and hopefully we will soon be able to meet in person again.

John Vermeer

Conservation Corner for February 15, 2022

The world seems to be a scary place right now. With so much uncertainty out there, it is tempting to stay in bed with the covers over your head. It doesn't help – trust me on this one.

We need to stay informed on what is happening. Particularly with the environment. When the economy is not performing well, or there are other "big picture" issues to top the news, the environment and conservation take a back seat. It is important to stay informed. You have probably heard of MZOs, or Minister's Zoning Orders. These orders can fast track development by bypassing any consultation. Regardless of how you vote, it is important to understand the potential misuse of these orders. The Duffin's Creek Wetland development that was stopped last year, had at its heart an MZO.

For further information, Ontario Nature has an accessible overview on their website:

<https://ontarionature.org/campaigns/mzos/>

Or if a YouTube clip is more your style:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Efxyzqz-WGk>

It's not all doom and gloom. It is important to look for allies, other organizations that share your views or ambitions and celebrate their victories. Whether or not you agree with Ducks Unlimited's preservation of wetlands for hunting purposes or not, they are preserving wetlands, an important orchid habitat. In their recent newsletter, they have several links you may enjoy.

Here is a link to preserved property this year:

https://www.ducks.ca/world-wetlands-day-2022/?utm_source=SFMC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=eDUC_en#wins

If you are up for a winter hike, here is their list of 17 areas to hike in Ontario this winter:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/57f7c532fae0421ba5dd0310e24da605>

And my favourite, STEM stories about eight young women who are making a difference:

https://www.ducks.ca/stories/science/eight-stem-roles-that-are-saving-canadas-wetlands/?utm_source=SFMC&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=eDUC_en

It is important to support other organizations that work for conservation.

We are all part of the solution.

John Alexander.

Inge and Peter Poot's History with Orchids and SOOS continued from last month. We had no show in 1970

Our third show was on April 24 and 25th, 1971 and Peter was appointed as chair. He felt that he needed help!

Walter Norman suggested we visit some Michigan shows to find out how to do it,(without losing members or workers!)

A whole new world opened up!

Below is a photo of a fairly recent Michigan Orchid Society display found on their web-site. See how tidy it is? Green labels –should maybe be darker-, live moss to hide the pots, yellow cymbidium makes a nice strong focal point, good height, subdued grey statue.....The

orchids and nothing else jumps out at you.

For that third show Peter and Inge decided to donate an engraved silver goblet that would go to the

best display. Since we had no trained judges, we decided that the winner would be chosen by popular vote of the visiting public on the Saturday, the first day of the show. It was won by Bob Clarke and his wife's glittering display of Cattleyas whose pots had been concealed by wrapping them in colourful foil paper.

Another member who had put in a display of well-grown White Phalaenopsis arranged in three tiered rows, in evergreen bough festooned planter boxes, felt very strongly that he would have won the cup if we had used competent judges to judge the displays – and he quit the society.....

Lesson learned: choose your judges carefully and maybe have more than a single award!

In December 1971, Inge and Peter decided to start a **Study Group** to learn more about judging, but meet separately in each other's houses.

Mimi SOOS show October 5, 1975:



We were so pleased with our display.....messy beige cloth, bone-dry peat-moss, raft just plunked on a tree stump, messy white labels.....

Inge likes to look at that picture to remind herself



that it takes time to become an expert arranger.

One thing Inge found frustrating was that it was almost impossible



to get AOS judges to critique a display and that way allow her to learn how to do it better. The judges were probably afraid to hurt her feelings. Inge resolved she would **always be ready to as tactfully as possible to critique a display, when asked for such help by an exhibitor** – once she learned how to do it the

slow way herself..

October 16,1977 we had a mini show sponsored by the Study Group and judged by 3 members of the study group.

On October 22, 1978 we had another mini Show chaired by Peter Poot

Travel:

The travel bug did not take long to take hold after experiencing a few external but fairly nearby shows.

We first went to nearby USA shows, then to Mid-American Orchid Congresses and even the odd Eastern Orchid Congress. When possible we took SOOS plants as well as our own and displayed them in hopefully ever more expert displays.

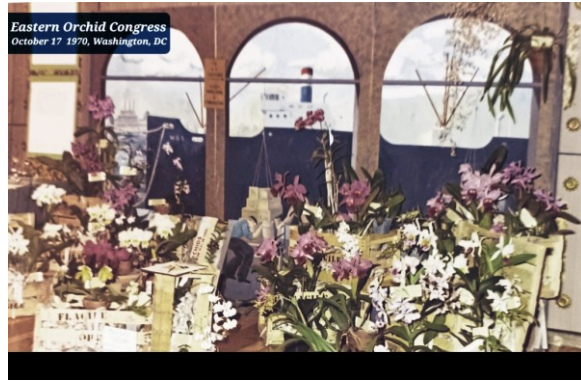
Eventually we visited both Spring and Fall AOS trustees meetings and both yearly Mid-American Orchid Congresses.

Taking on jobs in each of these organizations, kept us coming back.

Eventually we even attended World Orchid Conferences whenever that was feasible.(Columbia, Florida, South Africa, Vancouver, France) In the Florida World Orchid Conference Terry Kennedy was in charge of the display that SOOS entered and her skill earned lots of medals. We helped by bringing along a van-full of orchids.

Ah, those were the days!

**An Example:
Eastern Orchid Congress,
Washington, DC,
17.10.1970:**



Yes that was the one where our VW van broke down in the middle of the night on the way

back somewhere in the USA. We took the bus home the next day and came back for the repaired van.



Displays:

It took a while for Peter and Inge to grasp the idea that an orchid display has to draw the eye to orchids and not to anything else.



We remember the first white, and at a later reiteration, beige, towers display....

A later try, with the towers painted black, worked! Phew!!!!

Milestone SOOS Shows:

Brian Rowe felt that SOOS was not doing enough for conservation.

He took on the chairmanship of a 1980's show and organised everything around the goal to make a profit of \$5000 to be used for Conservation and SOOS education.

He succeeded !

Another first was having an AOS judged show in Toronto on May 12 & 13, 1979.

Peter took on the chairman's job and led us into our first AOS judged show.

We procured a WinOntario Grant for the show and at the end resolved never to do so again because the paperwork was horrendous and had to be put together a second time because the Ontario Government had lost the first copy.

Ellen and Murray Blankstein arranged for this show to be opened by the Lieutenant Governor for Ontario – a nice touch of pomp!

Ellen designed a beautiful stylized purple Cattleya flower to use as an identifying decal for all our publicity. We used it for a few subsequent shows as well. Inge was sad when it was eventually abandoned....

This show brought SOOS to the attention of the North American orchid world and they started urging us to host an AOS Trustees Meeting, a Mid-America Congress or an Eastern Orchid Congress

The **May 1980** show chaired by Peter was done without any government help!!!



Another First for SOOS

occurred in May 1998 when we hosted a combined AOS Trustees Meeting, Mid-America Congress and Eastern Orchid congress, etc, co-chaired by Peter and Inge and assisted by a very capable and enthusiastic crew.

We were each awarded a silver medal by the Eastern Orchid Congress. It was nice to be appreciated.

The participating organisations all shared in the surplus.

Judging:

Peter and Inge were often invited to clerk at the shows we went to and later to act as lay judges.

Ray McCullough encouraged us to apply to be student judges.

We were rejected in 1975 because the AOS was not ready to accept non-USA judges

So we decided to shift the focus of the Study Group to train our own Canadian Judges to mirror the AOS system. We continued to observe USA judging and do group orders of orchid plants and books.



We learned surprisingly much!!!(And most members of that Study Group eventually became AOS orchid judges.)

And that kept us interested.

Bob Turner one of the study group members, was moved for training by his company to Georgia for a while and while there he applied to be a student judge.

He was accepted!

That broke the glass ceiling and when Gerda and Colin Ferrington, two other Study group members applied from Canada they were accepted too.

Peter and Inge, by then were too busy with a second child to apply just yet.

We applied again in 1985 and were accepted and became accredited in 1991.

The learning of new things has not stopped since then!

Moral of the Story:

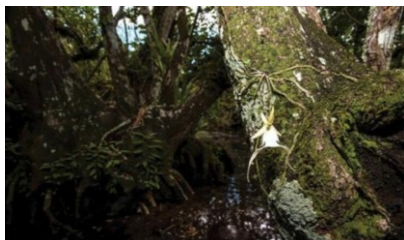
To get the most out of an organization, you have to get involved.

Volunteer for a job!

Ahem, the vice-president's job is open.....

Into the Slough: The Elusive Ghost Orchid, by Wendy Mazuk, loosely transcribed by Inge Poot

Wendy, now residing in the Bahamas, used to live in Florida and it was during that time that she slogged through Florida swamps in an effort to do research on the leaf-less Ghost Orchid, *Dendrophylax lindenii*. Conservation is her "thing" and she is continuing that with Bahamian species now, by growing them in vitro and returning the seedlings into their former environments in the wild. The same is being done by the Atlanta Botanical



Garden with their "Million Orchid Project" for the Ghost Orchid, as well as other species.

However neither she nor The Atlanta Botanical Gardens sell any seedlings to the public. But if you purchase any elsewhere, make sure they were not wild collected by the seller or his supplier.

Leaf-less orchids actually have lots of chlorophyll in their roots and only have two tiny vestigial leaves when they first germinate. Once the first root has grown to about 5cm in length, it can produce enough sugars for the plant so that the leaflets are no longer needed and they shrivel and fall off.

Once mature enough to bloom, most plants bloom only every 5 to 10 years. From all the plants in an environment 10% will bloom per year and of those only 10% will be pollinated and

set a seed pod.



As you can imagine, unless plants are in bloom, they are almost impossible

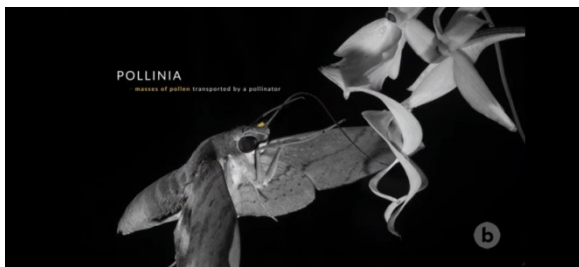
to spot.

They flower in May to August and the flowers only last two and a half to three weeks. When pollination occurs it takes the long seed pod 18 months to mature.



It had always been assumed that the giant sphinx moth must be its pollinator, since it has a

long enough proboscis (tongue) to reach the end of the 4 to 6 inch(10-15cm) long spur where the nectar is found. But Peter Houlihan and his crew filmed the visits by moths of the flowers and found that the proboscis of the giant Sphinx moth (*Coccythus antaeus*) is so long that the moth head does not touch the orchid when it drinks its nectar and therefore does not pollinate it. (See photo of orange marked moth above)



But the **Fig sphinx moth** has a proboscis just the right length and does pollinate



Urban Tropicals
Pond Apple Tree (*annona glabra*)

Visit



the flowers. They found 5 moths that could pollinate the flowers and by now it appears that Carleton Ward and MacStone found that there are 6-8 species that can do the job. A great relief for conservationists, because even if some moths die out, there will be others that can still pollinate the flowers.

Since **poaching** is one of the major reasons for the disappearance of native species, especially in Florida Nature reserves and Parks, trail cams are now put beside rare orchids to record any thefts and hopefully discourage them in the first place.

The worst time for poaching was in 1994 when John Laroche used natives to spot the orchids for him in National Parks and then collected, cloned and sold them. His crimes are vividly described in the audio book "The Orchid Thief" by Susan Orlean, narrated by Jennifer Jay Myers or another version narrated by Anna Fields.

The other major threat to rare species is the increasing frequency of hurricanes that topple the host trees at a greater rate than the seedlings can repopulate new host trees. Other threats are droughts, fire and habitat destruction for human use.

This species occurs in Southern Florida in swampy areas, where the water forms a protective mist when the temperature drops below freezing.

It can also be found in the tropical Cuba and Bahamas where it is found in an entirely different, drier habitat, because occasional frost is not an issue. In the tropics the ghost orchid has 18 host trees, but in Florida it is found only on three species of tree, plus on a vine:

Pond Apples (*Annona glabra*),

Pop Ash tree (*Fraxinus caroliniana*) and

Bald Cypress (*Taxodium disticum*).

Wendy's group also found it on the **Arthritis-vine (*Hippocratea volubilis*).**



National Wildlife Federation

In Florida most *Dendrophyllax lindenii* plants are found attached to the NW, NE and SW sides

of the host tree trunks, while in drier, warmer Cuba they are mostly found on the NW, N, NE side of host tree trunks.



The distinctive mature fruits of the Arthritis-Vine look like giant shiny shamrocks. Photo: Martin A. Roessler



Once they dry, the Arthritis-Vine fruit segments split apart across the midline suture to reveal the winged seeds. Photo: Martin A. Roessler

All of these woody plants had deeply furrowed bark that harbored the fungal endophyte of the genus *Ceratobasidium*. It appears that no other genera can act as a mycorrhizum for the seed germination and

this fungus even seems to help the plant later in life in the procurement of nutrients. Since the fungus can grow happily without the orchid, your transcriber suspects that the orchid parasitizes this fungus.

Wendy and other researchers found the Florida plants South of Highway 80 in the Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Everglades National Park and Corkscrew Swamp.

In Cuba they were studied in the Guanacabibes National Park.



Dendrophylax porrectus

There are two other species of leafless orchids in Florida the **Jingle Bell Orchid** or **Needle root Orchid**



Dendrophylax porrectus seed capsules

(*Dendrophylax porrectus*) and the **Ribbon Orchid** (*Campylocentrum pachyrrhiza*). They are very hard to tell apart unless they are in bloom. The Jingle Bell Orchid has a few small yellow, Dendrobium-like flowers per inflorescence and strong plants can produce several inflorescences which then produce attractive rounded brown seed capsules that look like flowers when they disperse their seeds. It has a wide distribution further south and is found not just in Florida. It can be confused with the Southern Mexican newly described *Dendrophylax megarhizus*, but the

The best way to ID a leaf-less Florida orchid as the **Ghost orchid** is to study the roots carefully. They will bear bumpy white dash-like markings in a row on the top of the roots. (best seen on the above image) These are breathing pores for gas exchange. All the other species have much less distinct pores.



Dendrophylax lindenii flowers can vary quite a bit. Most are borne singly, but exceptional plants can bear two and some even three flowers per inflorescence. The inflorescences are quite long, most being 6-7 inches long (15-18cm) but 12 inch (30cm) stems are occasionally found. These stems hold the

flowers well away from the tree trunk. Since they are snow white, they resemble a frog-shaped ghost!



Once a plant was found in Corkscrew Swamp that flowered every year and once produced 9 flowers! It was dubbed "Super Ghost", but so far it has not repeated this feat....



Campylocentrum pachyrrhiza

latter has a tongue-shaped lip while *Dendrophylax porrectus* has a more sharply pointed lip.

Campylocentrum pachyrrhizum has short, pendent inflorescences with two rows of densely spaced tiny white flowers, reminding one of an epiphytic *Spiranthes*!



The flowers themselves also vary quite a bit in size and the amount of twisting and even orientation of the frog-leg-like appendages of the lip. The largest are as large as the palm of a hand.

The inflorescence takes several weeks to mature.

The home of the plants is hard to access in the summer, because water levels are so high. Our speaker was attaching cigar orchids (*Cyrtopodium punctatum*) to trees in various sloughs when she found two Ghost Orchids in a slough that had not been catalogued before. So the particular slough was named in her honour as "Wendy's Slough"!

When asked where one can buy *Dendrophylax* flasks, our speaker told us that she saw a flask of *Dendrophylax sallei x lindenii* for sale and one can buy the Jamaican Ghost orchid *Dendrophylax funalis*. This species has short rounded segments and the flowers are light green with a white lip.

Southern USA Orchid shows are the best place to look.

To see the Florida Ghost Orchid visit :

Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve. It has a new board walk on the south side which helps viewing.

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Naples Botanic Garden. It has a hardwood hammock with a boardwalk behind the children's garden that allows them to be seen easily. Call them for the best time for viewing this summer flowering species.

Wendy also recommends a T-shirt with the ghost orchid on it sold by Clyde Butcher:

<https://clydebutcher.com>

To mount a ghost orchid on a suitable tree or piece of a tree (Cyprus or cork bark), lay the roots against the bark and then cover them with a thin layer of squeezed out wet sphagnum moss and attach with fishing line. Orient the plant to face NE or SW

Remember to never expose the plant to direct sun, but have a bit of foliage shielding between the plant and the hot summer sun.

Now all you have to do is find a plant that will not eventually land you in jail!!!

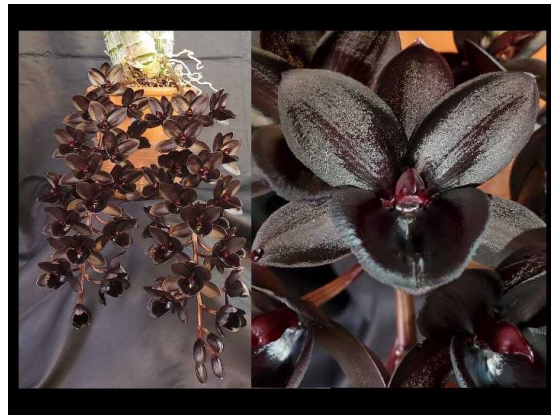
References:

Odd fruits of the Arthritis-vine, Chuck McCartney, Tillandsia, June 2016

<https://insteading.com>blog>ghost> orchid, Emily-Jane Hills Orford October 19, 2020

Peter Houlihan, Ghost orchid pollination manifesto, @nature.research's Scientific Reports, Photo(s) by @macstonephoto.

Plant of the month for February 2022:



Elena Chilova won the Plant of the Month award this month with her lovely Fredclarkeara Desert Davidson. The plant had two pendent sprays of red-

black nicely shaped flowers. She bought the plant from Fred Clarke four years ago and got great instructions how to grow it from him. She found out about SOOS from Fred when he added her plant to the bulk order from SOOS from him.

She gives the plant no water in the winter. When the new growth is 15 to 20cm tall, she starts watering again. She feeds with MSU fertilizer and grows it warm. Well done!

About SOOS Web site: www.soos.ca ; SOOS

Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/298874747302722/>

Member of the Canadian Orchid Congress; Affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest and the International Phalaenopsis Alliance.

Membership: Annual Dues \$30 per calendar year (January 1 to December 31). Surcharge \$15 for

newsletter by postal service Membership secretary: Liz Mc Alpine, renew or join on line at soos.ca/members. 2020 Memberships have been extended to the end of 2021. 2021 new memberships will renew free of charge for 2022. If you have not renewed your membership for 2022 this will be your last newsletter. Please renew now.

Executive: President John Vermeer, Vice-President ? Treasurer and Virtual program committee chair, Cathy Dunn, Secretary, Sue Loftus;

Other Positions of Responsibility: Program, Terry Kennedy; Plant Doctor, Inge Poot; Vendor and Sales table coordinator, Lynda Satchwell; Membership, Liz Mc Alpine; Web Master, Eric Tai Tech Committee chair, Max Wilson; Newsletter, Peter and Inge Poot; Librarian and TBG Liaison, Tom Atkinson: In person Showtable, Synea Tan: Volunteer coordinator, Greg Warner: Annual Show, Vacant; Refreshments, Joe O'Regan. Conservation Committee Co-chairs, John Alexander and Tara Seucharan, Cultural snapshots, Alexsi Antanaitis, Directors at large Marion Curry, Jay Norris, Honorary Life Members: Terry Kennedy, Doug Kennedy, Inge Poot, Peter Poot, Joe O'Regan, Diane Ryley, Wayne Hingston.

We are on facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/298874747302722/>

And www.facebook.com/SOOSOrchid/

on Instagram at [instagram.com/soosorchid/](https://www.instagram.com/soosorchid/)

We are also on Utube at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOAUvZ5A0hk>

Toronto Judging Centre of the American Orchid Society:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/457408221588858/?ref=pages_profile_groups_tab&source_id=304367208791

Toronto Judging Centre. Due to Covid concerns the judges met virtually for education. There was no formal AOS judging in February. There will be AOS judging at the Toronto Botanical Garden on Saturday March 5. Details to be announced.

Other Upcoming events:

April 6-9, AOS Spring Members meeting. www.aos.org

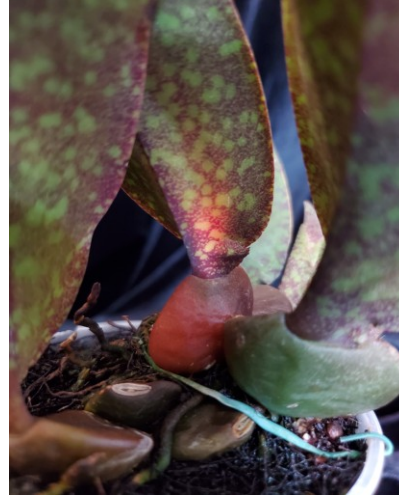
June 11, Orchid Digest Speakers DAY. See orchiddigest.org for info.

Orchid Doctor. Some members asked to have a couple of the points brought up by the orchid doctor presentations of the December 2021 and February 2022 to be repeated in the bulletin and here they are:

My Psychopsis Mendenhall finally spiked at the beginning of the year. This week I noticed that an inner pseudobulb (which is over a year old) has begun to turn red and its leaf yellow. What do I do?

It grows in a south facing window under 1 LED light in tree fern.

- **The reason for the dying of the pseudobulb could be that the plant is really too small to support flowering and is trying to get extra energy by**



sacrificing a pseudobulb. I cannot tell from the picture how large the plant is.

- **If you think this might be the case, don't let the plant flower too long, but remove the**

inflorescence as soon as you can bear to do so.....

- **It could also be that you moved the plant and this pseudobulb and leaf get so little light that the plant is trying to get rid of it to make room for a new growth that will be angled properly.**
- **If you think this might be the case, just let the pseudobulb die completely and then cut it out.**
- **Unfortunately it could also be the first sign of a bacterial or fungal infection.**
- **Gently squeeze the bulb to find out if it is soft. If it is then the chances are good that it is infected.**
- **The remedy then is to cut out the bulb with a sharp knife immediately and sniff the cut surface.**
- **If it has a foul smell, it indicates a bacterial infection.**
- **Pour some 3% hydrogen peroxide over the plant wound, then dust with cinnamon powder or better yet a solution of 75g cinnamon and 250ml 70% isopropyl alcohol, with the cinnamon filtered out after sitting overnight.**
- **Some people recommend first treating bacterial infections with a 10% Javex/Clorox solution and then the 3% hydrogen peroxide.**
- **If it has no smell, but is discoloured, then it most likely is a fungal infection.**
- **Pour 3% hydrogen peroxide solution over the plant wound and then dust with powdered sulphur**



I have a question regarding Dendrobium phalaenopsis Enobi 'Purple Splash'. For the third season already, it gives a lot of spikes, but dries up a significant part of the buds and discards them before flowering. The flower size has decreased significantly compared to previous blooms. Perhaps it is due to the large number of

flowers. The orchid has been tested for cymbidium and odontoglossum viruses and the test showed no disease.

- *What can be said about the reasons for this behavior?*
- Unfortunately there can be many reasons for a plant to abort flower buds.
- One common reason is the presence of ethylene in the air. Ethylene is an abscission inducing plant hormone. Sources of ethylene are: air pollution from combustion of fossil fuels, alcohol used in cooking and evaporating with heat, rotting fruit – especially oranges, ripening fruit such as apples.
- Another common reason for bud drop is ozone in the air caused by sun shining onto polluted air – smog. Keeping the plant indoors during the summer may help. Not all plants are equally sensitive to ozone thus confusing the owner!
- I noticed that some of the inflorescences are a bit stretching towards the light. It could indicate that the light is not adequate. You did whatever triggered the plant to set flower buds, but then it did not get enough light to produce enough food to mature them. After all flowering is the most energy sapping thing a plant ever does.
- The other thing I noticed is that the plant was in a tight over-pot. Perhaps the roots do not get enough oxygen to supply enough energy to the developing inflorescence.
- Take it out of the tight over-pot and put it on a saucer or a substantially bigger over-pot and put

some toothpicks under the pot to allow air to get to the bottom hole.

- Pull the wet plant out of the pot to check the roots. If many of the roots have died for any of the above reasons, the plant will try to save itself by dropping buds.
- We just entered from a fall with yo-yo temperatures (and perhaps with the heating still off in the house) to a winter with maybe more even artificial heat but less humidity.
- The plant may have gotten a chill. Dendrobium phalaenopsis hybrids are warm growers that love high humidity.
- A sudden drop in humidity is another reason why some plants drop buds.

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Please renew now.




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Feb 6, 2022 Show Table Ribbons

Class	First	Second	Third
Class 1 Cattleya Alliance	Rhyncattleanthe Carmen Cortes, Ted & Charlene Kretz	Cattleya Hausermann's Gala 'z1164' AM/AOS, Joe Di Ciommo Enanthleya Magic Wand, John Vermeer Laeliocatanthe Tzeng-Wen Love, John Vermeer Rhyncattleanthe (Rth. Kaboom 'SVO' x C. Angel's Fantasy 'Solar Flare' FCC/AOS), John Vermeer	Cattleya Di Ciommo Rubens, Joe Di Ciommo Cattlianthe Tropical Aurora, Joe Di Ciommo Rhyncattleanthe Di Ciommo Benedetto, Joe Di Ciommo Cattleya (Seagulls 'SVO' x Brazilian Tangerine 'SVO'), John Vermeer Cattleya Fuchsia Doll, John Vermeer Rhyncattleanthe Showcase, John Vermeer Epidendrum Rose Valley 'Caribbean Dream', Synea Tan
Class 2 Paphiopedilum	Paphiopedilum Lathamianum, Silvie Porter	Paphiopedilum Oriental Wolf, David Bryan <i>Phragmipedium kovachii</i> , Greg Warner Phragmipedium China Dragon, Inge & Peter Poot <i>Paphiopedilum leucochilum f. album</i> 'Double Happiness', Leslie Ee Phragmipedium Eric Young, Rhoda Chan	<i>Paphiopedilum tonsum f.</i> <i>alboviride</i> 'CADmium Green' AM/AOS, David Bryan Paphiopedilum Wolf's Folly, David Bryan Paphiopedilum Wossner Black Wings, Greg Warner <i>Paphiopedilum druryi</i> 'Bernice', Leslie Ee Phragmipedium Tara, Rhoda Chan Paphiopedilum Harvest Dream, Synea Tan
Class 3 Phalaenopsis and Vanda Alliance	<i>Angraecum germinyianum</i> , Sandra Micucci	Phalaenopsis GW Green World 'Snake Skin', Inge & Peter Poot <i>Angraecum leonis</i> , Synea Tan <i>Rhynchostylis gigantea</i> 'Wilson's Choice' AM/AOS, Synea Tan	Phalaenopsis ([Ark's Green Angel x Chia E Yenlin] x Sin- Yaun Golden Beauty), Elena Chilova Phalaenopsis GW Green World 'Snake Skin', Elena Chilova Rhynchostylis gigantea h.f. alba, Synea Tan Phalaenopsis Leopard Prince, Synea Tan <i>Aerangis hyaloides</i> , Ted & Charlene Kretz
Class 4 Oncidium and related	Oncidium Hambühren Stern 'Ilia Lin' AM/AOS, Ted & Charlene Kretz	Oncidium Marie Noel 'Velano', Eugene McSweeny	Oncidium Sharry Baby 4N, Synea Tan

			Tolumnia Moriyama Starbright 'Red Star', Yvain McLeggon
Class 5 Cymbideae	Fred Clarke Desert Elena Chilova	Davison,	<p><i>Catasetum pileatum</i> var. <i>imperiale</i> ('Pierre Couret' HCC/AOS x 'SVO Blood Red'), Cathy Dunn</p> <p><i>Cymbidium</i> Snow Ball 'Hatfields' 4N, Synea Tan</p> <p><i>Cymbidium goeringii</i> "Fuji no Yuubae" 日本春蘭「富士の夕映え」, Michael Hwang/ Taras Kowalczyk</p> <p><i>Cymbidium</i> Sunshine Falls 'Butterball', Nick Cox</p> <p><i>Cymbidium ensifolium</i> h.v. Yi Hong Shuang Jiao 羿虹雙嬌, Sandra Micucci</p>
Class 6 Dendrobium	<i>Bulbophyllum gracillimum</i> , Porter	Silvie	<p><i>Dendrobium</i> Hibiki, Sandra Micucci</p> <p><i>Dendrobium kingianum</i> 'Red', Ted & Charlene Kretz</p> <p><i>Dendrobium capituliflorum</i>, Michael Hwang</p> <p><i>Dendrobium</i> Utopia, Sue Loftus</p>
Class 7 All Others	<i>Restrepia</i> Frank Feysa, Medcalf	Joyce	<p><i>Pleurothallis bivalvis</i> 'Hill Island' CHM/AOS, Joyce Medcalf</p> <p><i>Coelogyne</i> (<i>mossiae</i> x <i>huettneriana</i> var. <i>lactea</i>), Ted & Charlene Kretz</p> <p><i>Dracula dalstroemii</i>, Joyce Medcalf</p> <p><i>Phaiocalanthe</i> Liberty Creek, Ted & Charlene Kretz</p>
Class 9 Baskets and Displays	Basket, Yvan Richard		<p>Basketful of <i>Dendrobiums</i>, Sue Loftus</p> <p>Three <i>albovirides</i>, David Bryan</p>