



THE WINDSOR ORCHID SOCIETY

La Société des Orchidophiles de Windsor

**Congratulations WOS/SOW on your 37th year of service to orchid enthusiasts.**

Visit us on the web at: [www.windsororchidsociety.ca](http://www.windsororchidsociety.ca)

No.6 2021/2022

**Next Meeting: Sunday, March 27, 2022 Time: 1:00 p.m.**

**\*\*\*NOTE TIME CHANGE \*\*\***

**Location: Online Zoom meeting**



**Topic: The Elusive Ghost Orchid – Into the Slough!** Learn all about the Ghost orchid and its's natural habitat as Wendy takes us through the Florida sloughs. Greenhouse not required!

**Speaker: Wendy Mazuk**

Wendy Mazuk has been immersed in the orchid world since 2008. Throughout her time at Florida Gulf Coast University, she did many projects on the Ghost Orchid, *Dendrophylax lindenii*, including her senior research projects, which lead to researching the poaching of orchids in the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve. Graduating FGCU with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies. Wendy also helped with camera work and collecting data every summer with park rangers and environmental scientist, so much so that she has a

slough named after her. Wendy was also one of the Directors of Education for her local Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance, in Naples, FL. She has also published articles on the Ghost Orchid. Currently she is working as a Landscaping Manager at a resort in the Bahamas.

The Windsor Orchid Society continues to meet from September to May (excluding December) on the last Sunday of each month. Occasionally meetings are re-scheduled when we are participating at Orchid Shows that are scheduled for the same weekend as the General meeting or if the regular meeting date falls on a holiday. Watch the Newsletter and website announcements for these changes. During the pandemic, meetings are held virtually through Zoom. Contact [windsororchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:windsororchidsociety@gmail.com) to participate if you do not receive an invitation.

**Executive Members**

**President:** Deb Boersma 519 257-8009 [debul8ter@outlook.com](mailto:debul8ter@outlook.com)  
**Vice-President** Ed Cott 519 819-4611 [laelia@aol.com](mailto:laelia@aol.com)  
**Secretary** Michelle Paterson  
519 984-3415 [paulandmichellepaterson@gmail.com](mailto:paulandmichellepaterson@gmail.com)  
**Assistant Secretary** Felicia Nicolaiciuc-Cheng  
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**Treasurer** Kathleen Fekete 519 734-6251 [kandmfekete@gmail.com](mailto:kandmfekete@gmail.com)  
**Past-President** Ed Cott 519 819-4611 [laelia@aol.com](mailto:laelia@aol.com)

**Society Representatives**

**COC Rep.:** Adele Beitler  
**AOS Rep.:** Ed Cott  
**MAOC Rep.:** Doris Asher

**Committee**

**Archives:** Eunice Bragg  
**Budget:** Ed Cott – Kathleen Fekete  
**Conservation:** Open

**Committee Appointments**

**Fund-raising:** Open  
**Hospitality:** Deb Boersma  
  
**Library:** Open  
**ZOOM Administrator:** Adele Beitler  
**Membership:** Ed Cott/Kathleen Fekete  
**Newsletter:** Deb Boersma  
**Photographer:** Open  
**Program:** Ed Cott  
**Publicity:** Deb Boersma  
**Raffles & Prizes:** Matt Fekete  
**Orders / Supplies:** Ed Cott  
**Website:** Ed Cott/Deb Boersma

**Appointments**

**Welcoming:** Renee Gignac  
**Winter Social:** Open  
**Webmaster:** Ed Cott/Deb Boersma

**Orchid Supplies:** Potting mix, Physan, sphagnum, pots, fertilizer, totes, etc., are available for safe delivery/pick up. Special request? Contact our Special Orders and Supplies Committee Chair – Ed Cott ([laelia@aol.com](mailto:laelia@aol.com)). Supplies can also be ordered through the website.



## President's Message

As we move to daylight savings time, the days are getting longer and there is a hint of spring in the air, unless of course it happens to be snowing out, like today. Soon we will enjoy the warmer weather and can move our orchids outside to give them fresh air, light breezes and rain water.

It looks like there is a light at the end of the tunnel as the severity and the threat of Covid is diminishing. Local activities and venues are opening, renewing the hope that we might be able to arrange for some summer field trips and gatherings this summer. It is still unclear what the 'new normal' will be but we are hoping to have the May annual business meeting in person so that we can wrap up the 2021/2022 on a more personal note. However, we will have to see what transpires over the next month.

We have a great speaker lined up for this month. Wendy Mazuk is a young, energetic ghost orchid hunter and she is going to take us on an adventure through the Florida sloughs. She treks through the sloughs not bothered by alligators but..... has a fear of spiders!! This is a very interesting presentation.

## Remembering Hadley Cash



On a sad note, the world has lost a wonderful person and an exceptional *Paphiopedilum* hybridizer with over 500 AOS awards to his credit. The WOS had the pleasure of hosting Hadley Cash as one of our Zoom guest speakers last year, he left this world February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022. How fortunate for us to have had the opportunity to hear him speak about his prized hybrids and his contributions to the orchid community.



## **WOS Elections**



Keep in mind that the May meeting involves the WOS elections. Please submit nominations for positions in writing to Michelle Paterson, Society Secretary and she will create the voting slate. If you are presently in an Executive position please consider allowing your name to stand, if so please let Michelle know. She has not yet heard from all the present executives. Remember that my term as President is over in May and we need some nominations for this position.

Positions: President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Assistant Secretary  
Treasurer.

Non Voting Positions: Library  
Photographer  
Conservation

## **WOS Bizarre Bazaar**



It has been sometime since we have had our bizarre bazaar, our annual frenzied auction of all things orchids and fun. In the event that the May meeting is in person we will continue this tradition. If you have plant divisions, orchid books, or anything else orchid related please consider donating to the auction. It is the perfect time to divide orchids and give them some time to establish before May.



## February Meeting

*Habenaria medusa* 'Cat's Whiskers' AM/AOS 87



Sarah sure made growing habenaria orchids look like a simple task and certainly sparked the interest in this genus for many of us. I particularly liked the medusa species and looked up on the AOS website for awards. Pictured (left) is a stunning and well grown *Habenaria medusa* that was grown by Joel R. Edwards and awarded an Award of Merit (AM) by the AOS. A well grown plant really puts on a spectacular display.

Photo credit: Lois Cinert

## Easter Chocolate Fundraiser



**We did it again**, a big thanks to all of you that supported the Easter Chocolate Fundraiser, we generated \$766.42 in profit. The chocolates should arrive by the end of the month, I will sort and let everyone know the delivery or pick up arrangements. I am sure you will all enjoy the tasty treats and have a wonderful Easter with friends and family!



## Upcoming Events

**Oca** Orchid Conservation Symposium  
ORCHID CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

Highlighting our colleagues most recent efforts in protecting their regional biodiversity.  
**Free, with registration**  
Saturday March 26, 2022 9AM – 1:30PM (PDT)

Speakers:

- Tom Givnish, U of Wisconsin, 'Drivers of Orchid Diversity'
- Lou Jost & Marco Monteros, Fundación EcoMinga, Ecuador
- Marta Kolanowska, La Palma Reserve, Colombia
- Sebastián Vieira, Corporación SalvaMontes, Colombia

REGISTER AT [orchidconservationalliance.org](http://orchidconservationalliance.org)

### Orchid Conservation Symposium

This is a free event. A great opportunity to learn more about orchid conservation and the efforts being made by the OCA.

## Great Lakes Judging Center Educational Seminar

The Great Lakes Judging Center hosts an annual educational symposium featuring a different alliance each year. This year the topic is *Phalaenopsis* and there will be a number of presenters including well known Phal hybridizer Norman Fang. It is free, why not take advantage of this great opportunity. Sit back, relax and enjoy!

**EXPLORING PHALAEENOPSIS**  
A webinar presented by Great Lakes Judging Center

featuring Norman Fang, Norman's Orchids on  
*"New Color Forms of Phalaenopsis Species"*

Other featured speakers & topics to be announced soon

Saturday June 18, 2022 10:00 to 12:00 EDT  
Live AOS Judging in Michigan (location TBD) Sat. 1 PM EDT

Sunday June 19, 2022 12:00 to 3:00 EDT

Watch for details and signup information

Contact [GLJC.JUDGES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GLJC.JUDGES@GMAIL.COM) for details.



**WOS Members Facebook or Email Posts**

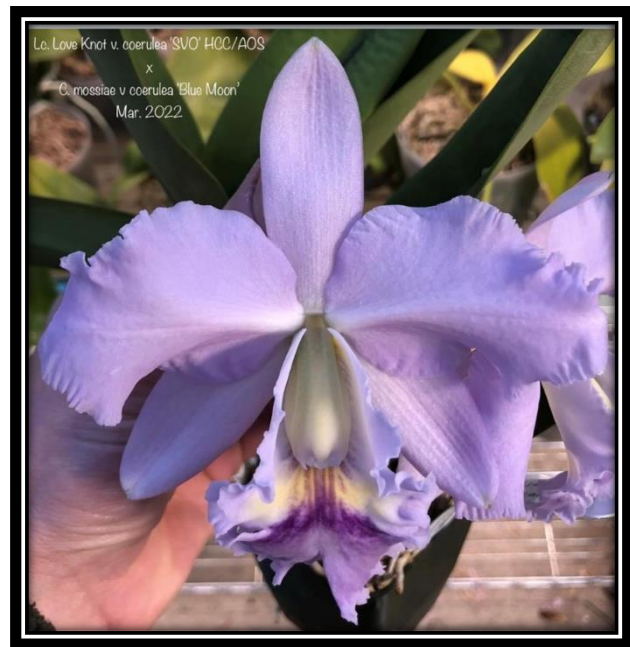


*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Memoria Louise Boersma  
(*Rlc.* My Precious x *Rlc.* Paradise Rose)

Grower: Deb Boersma I registered this plant Feb. 17, 2022 in  
in memory of my mother.



*Phragmipedium* Bel Croute  
(Sorcerer's Apprentice x *caudatum*)  
Grower: Ed Cott



*Lc.* Love Knot v. *coerulea* 'SVO' HCC/AOS  
x *C. mossiae* v. *coerulea* 'Blue Moon'  
Grower: Johnny Pohanka



## **Zoom Meeting Information**

Please check your email for Zoom meeting invites. If you have registered to attend the Zoom WOS online presentation on 'The Elusive Ghost Orchid- Into the Slough' by Wendy Mazuk on Sunday, March 27th, you will receive an email on Thursday, March 24th with a Zoom meeting link. A reminder email will be sent on Saturday, March 26th.



Please do not share this link with anyone as the number of participants is limited and unregistered persons will not be admitted to the meeting.

If you do not find the email with the meeting link in your mailbox, be sure to check the spam/junk folder.

Meeting registration requests can be made by sending a message to [windsororchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:windsororchidsociety@gmail.com) up until 11 am Sunday, February 27th, or until the participant limit is met.

As all participants will be placed in a *waiting room* when joining the meeting and will be admitted one by one. **The time for the meeting is set for 12:30 pm although the actual meeting will start at 1:00 pm.** Kindly plan to join the meeting before the rush. See you then.

## **WOS YouTube Channel**

Meeting links for the recorded meeting programs will be provided in the newsletters. If you miss a meeting, please follow the WOS YouTube link that will be provided to watch the meeting at your leisure.



**November meeting Speaker  Tom Mirenda** <https://youtu.be/LGVwsUpaayw>

**January meeting Speaker Jeannie Kaeding** <https://youtu.be/1C6gSfqY-KY>

**February meeting Speaker Sarah Hurdel** <https://youtu.be/Uk7noCiNiWw>



**Windsor Orchid Society 2021-2022 Programming Guide! - mark your calendar**


Date	Speaker/ Event	Topic/Location	Plants for Sale?
Mar 26	Orchid Conservation Symposium	See details in this newsletter	no
Mar 27	WOS Monthly Meeting	Wendy Mazuk Into the Slough: The Elusive Ghost Orchid	no
Apr 24	WOS Monthly Meeting	Deb Boersma Sobralias The Exotic Ephemeral	no
May 29	WOS Annual Business Meeting	Bizarre Bazaar Auction/Elections Gethsemane Lutheran Church (tentative)	yes
June 18/19	Great Lakes Judging Center Education Seminar	All Things Phalaenopsis Zoom Norman Fang and various speakers	no

**Memberships are LONG PAST DUE for 2021/2022!!**

Send your contact information, including mailing address, phone # and e-mail address) along with payment to:

**The Windsor Orchid Society**, C/O Kathleen Fekete, 1340 Laurier Drive., La Salle, Ontario. N9J1N3 or e-mail her [kandmfekete@gmail.com](mailto:kandmfekete@gmail.com)

**Annual Dues are \$20.00 single and \$25.00 family/joint membership.**

Find this orchid symbol  hidden somewhere in this newsletter and win a **small bag of potting media**. The first person to email Deb at [debul8ter@outlook.com](mailto:debul8ter@outlook.com) with the correct location and page number will win the ticket. Good luck and make sure you read the whole newsletter!!





## Feature Article

Extracted from [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)

### Is There a Fungus Among Us?



Black rot has decimated this tray of cattleya seedlings overnight.

We grow our orchids in an open shadehouse, which means that they get whatever Mother Nature gives them. A wet summer is following what was a wetter-than-usual winter. That in itself was enough to deal with because as you know, orchids generally follow a seasonal growth cycle. Even though most of the ones we all grow are from the tropics, they still prefer a cool, dry winter. They also do best with ample water during the growing season. As you might expect, our wet summer has made plant growth explode. Though the plants are growing tremendously, every morning I go out to check to see if any fungal infections have begun. Our prolonged rain prevents plants from drying out, sometimes for a full week or more. Wet foliage provides a perfect environment for fungus dispersal through splashing water. Based on past experience we have come to expect an outbreak of black rot under these type of wet, humid conditions. *Pythium ultimum* (and/or *Phytophthora cactorum*) is ruthless and can destroy a collection of cattleyas in short order and those plants you do manage to save will be set back for years. Although cattleyas are its favorite host in our collection, it does not discriminate and will infect other genera, especially soft-leaved types such as *Grammatophyllum*, *Stanhopea*, *Oncidium*, etc, Black rot is our biggest nemesis but wet conditions can bring out other nasty fungi too.



Black rot on *Guarianthe bowringiana*.

It should be obvious that healthy plants are less susceptible to fungal infection just as healthy people are less likely to get sick. We have come full circle back to the topic of balance in orchid culture. While we want to grow our orchids as vigorously as possible during the summer, we want to avoid vulnerable soft growth and do whatever we can to prevent rot problems. Soft growth can result from low light levels, too much nitrogen fertilizer without increasing other culture variables and other stress-related causes and is more susceptible to disease. Here are some suggestions for summertime orchid culture.

1. Strive to maintain a balanced culture regime. If you find you are watering plants more often in summer try to gradually provide more light and make sure you fertilize regularly.
2. Provide adequate air movement. The importance of ventilation in orchid culture cannot be overstated. Moving air promotes rapid drying of watered plants. Roots that stay constantly wet will deteriorate more quickly than those that are allowed to dry between waterings. Water standing on leaves provides a place for fungus spores to incubate, especially *Pythium* species. Moving air also helps keep leaf temperatures down. This is especially important in summer.
3. Make sure your growing area is clean and free from debris. Decomposing leaves and other plant material under benches make a perfect breeding ground for fungus and bacteria.
4. Excessive algae growth can keep surrounding areas overly damp and provide a fertile environment for fungi, We spray benches and the wooden structural parts of the shade house with an algicide such as Physan or RD-20 in late spring and at least once again midway through the summer. As long as you don't subscribe to the "more is better" theory and mix strictly to label recommendations, plants can be sprayed as well. Too-strong solutions can burn soft-leaved orchids. Be advised that if you rely on live moss culture for pleurothallids and other pure-water orchids, these chemicals can kill moss.
5. If you are not afraid to use agricultural chemicals\*, prophylactic spraying of plants with a broad-spectrum fungicide (such as Captan 50WP, Dithane M-45, Cleary's 3336, etc.) once or twice a season can provide protection against many fungal problems



Should you be unfortunate enough to experience Black Rot or other fungal problems there are accepted treatment protocols. If a leaf is compromised to the point where it will be lost anyway, it is best to remove it. This is especially true with *Pythium*. Cut the infected part off with sterile shears or a new single-edge razor blade. Cut at least a half-inch into good, unaffected tissue. If you can still see a dark discoloration of tissue such as in the photo at left, cut deeper until you reach healthy, green plant tissue. Using a small amount of one of the fungicides mentioned above, mix with water to make a paste the consistency of heavy cream. Using a disposable cotton swab coat the cut edge of the healthy tissue.

This would also be a good time to consider spraying the affected plant as well as nearby plants with a targeted fungicide to prevent further infection (Aliette WP, Subdue 2E, Truban 30WP). Keep the plant isolated and dry until the infection has abated. If a leaf has only minor fungal spotting it can be left on the plant but should be sprayed top and bottom with an appropriate fungicide. Some hobbyists also like to dust with cinnamon.

**\*When using any agricultural chemical always make sure the product is listed for the plants you intend to use it on. Follow label directions exactly. Wear protective clothing. Do not spray around children or pets. Wash thoroughly after spraying.**

*Greg Allikas*  
*June 2012*