



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

No.1 2021/2022

Next Meeting: Sunday, October 24, 2021 Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Online Zoom meeting



Topic: Large Flowered Cattleya Species (recorded AOS webinar). Cattleya orchids are often referred to as 'The Queen of Orchids', they are large, often fragrant and come in a diverse range of colours. They were used years ago in the corsage industry and still marvel orchid enthusiasts to this day.

Speaker: Arthur Chadwick founded Chadwick and Son Orchids in 1989 with his father, who had been growing orchids since 1943. His father recently passed and Arthur continues the family tradition of growing and hybridizing some of the most stunning Cattleya hybrids. He has the distinction of naming hybrids after the wives of the last five U.S. Presidents and personally presenting flowers to the First Ladies. Chadwick operates eleven greenhouses in rural Powhatan County and a retail store in Richmond, Virginia.

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 to participate if you do not receive an invitation.

Executive Members

President: Deb Boersma 519 257-8009 debul8ter@outlook.com
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Past-President Ed Cott 519 257-8009 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: Mary Caspers

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). Supplies can also be ordered through the website.



President's Message

It seems that every summer goes by faster than the previous one, temperatures are dropping, leaves are changing colour and fall season is here. This would normally be a busy month for members, everyone scrambling to organize details for the WOS annual show at the end of October but, once again COVID has hijacked our plans. Some activities are getting back to the 'new normal', the Toronto Judging Center has resumed orchid judging sessions. Although members won't be able to show off their orchids in the annual show display there are other opportunities available. If you have a spectacular plant, consider sending it for TJC for AOS award judging, post a photo on the WOS Facebook page or email a photo to me to include in this newsletter. It is always fascinating to see the accomplishments of our members.

On a sad note, Julia Solar, a long-time member of the WOS recently passed away. She was a very active member of the society and contributed to the society in many ways. Fred Clarke had given Bernie Butts permission to register the cross (Dragon's Teeth 'SVO' AM/AOS x *frimbriatum* v. *morrenianum* 'SVO') in honour of Julia and her husband Rudi. He decided to register the plant as *Catasetum* J and R Solar 'Rudi'. This is a wonderful tribute to a great couple.



Ctsm. J and R Solar 'Rudi'

Photo credit: Bernie Butts



Julia and Rudi pictured with their new *Catasetum* J and R Solar. October 24, 2014.

Photo credit: Bernie Butts



Christmas Chocolate Fundraiser



The WOS has once again has engaged in a Purdys Chocolate fundraiser. There is a great selection of chocolates, Christmas gift tins, gift wrapped chocolate boxes, mixed chocolate and roasted nut, fruit jellies and of course the favorites hedgehogs and sweet Georgia browns. Help support the society and purchase of few items as Christmas or hostess gifts or indulge yourself with some fine chocolates. Even though the WOS is not currently holding in-person meetings there still are on-going expenses. The funds from this venture will help secure Zoom guest speakers, cover insurance, storage among other ongoing expenses. Please consider supporting this fundraiser. Thanks!

Click on the link below, you will be asked to enter an email address and set up an account. This is required so that I can track the orders and sort as required. Once on the site click on the 'Shop Online' button on the top of the page. If you select 'Use Online Form' you will see only the order form, if you select 'Use Marketplace' you will see all the pictures of the items along with prices.

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/1154082-86236>



September Meeting

Terry Kennedy presented an entertaining and educational program about orchids. Do you know what the largest or the smallest orchid is or the variety of shapes and mimicry in the world of orchids? Well, she answered all these questions and entertained us with many examples of orchid mimicry. If you missed the presentation, make sure you check it out using the link provided in this Newsletter.



Photo credits: Nicholas Gomaz Rios

Photo credits: Byron K Rinke 



WOS Members Facebook Posts



Chysis limminghei

Grower: Felicia Cheng



Phal. Meidaland Nice Spot 'Miro'
Grower: Johnny Pohanka



Phrag. Cardinale
Grower: Jeannie Gascoigne



Zoom Meeting Information

Please check your email for Zoom meeting invites. If you have registered to attend the Zoom WOS online recorded presentation on 'Larger Flowered Cattleya Species by Arthur Chadwick' on Sunday, October 24th, you will receive an email on Thursday, October 21st with a Zoom meeting link. A reminder email will be sent on Saturday, October 23rd.



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 up until 11 am Sunday, October 24th, 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 1 pm although the actual meeting will start at 1:30 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.



September meeting Speaker Terry Kennedy

https://youtu.be/_6XB0t9A_mE



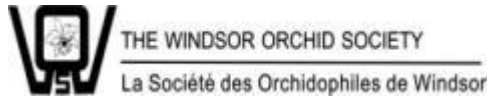
London Orchid Society Online Auction

Are you in need of just a few more plants? Our friends in the London Orchid Society are having an online Facebook fundraiser, starting October 17th at 6 pm and will run until October 24th at 6 pm. Lots of beautiful plants, grow equipment and books. For more details refer to the LOS Facebook page.



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

Date	Speaker/ Event	Topic/Location	Plants for Sale?
Oct 24	WOS Monthly Meeting	TBA / ZOOM	No
Oct 17-24	LOS Facebook Online Auction	Facebook LOS website	Yes
Nov 28	WOS Monthly Meeting	TBA / ZOOM	No




Memberships are NOW 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

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 with the correct location and page number will win the ticket. Good luck and make sure you read the whole newsletter!!

Feature Article

JUDGES VIEWPOINT by Dave Miller, Great Lakes Judging Center

Picking the Right Orchid

I am sure this discussion is one that a lot of you have been waiting to hear. Selecting the right orchid is not always an easy thing to do even if you are accomplished grower or buyer. Most everyone is enamored with a beautiful flower and usually you have to barge your way to the front counter in order to get the best flower. The thing about flowers is they appeal to different people differently. If you see one you like, you should buy it because you are the one who will anxiously await the coming of the next blooming. I have plants in my collection because of quirky color combinations or because I simply like orange flowers! It does not matter if others like them or not.

Which Plant? What's not to like about this UFO orchid flower? Looks pretty alien, doesn't it? Or how about the stunning combination on this Miltassia with hollow spots on a stunning purple background?



Orchids like these may be talking to YOU directly. Buy them then find out how to grow them; it is part of the challenge of our hobby.

Other than these show-stoppers and others like

them, buying orchids is a more selective process.

Hopefully, the plant you decide to acquire will present you with many years of flowers. For that to happen, you will need to look beyond the pretty flower.

With very few exceptions, I buy my plants based on the quality of the plant. Are the leaves strong? Does the plant wobble in the pot? Does it have more than one growth? Are the leaves clean without blemishes? Which

plant on the table is larger and has more growths than the other ones like it? If there are pseudobulbs present, are they nice and plump?

Lots of questions and let's dig into them. Strongly supported, firm leaves are usually an indicator of a quality plant that has a strong root system and has been getting the amount of light the plant likes. This kind of strength will reward in the future with better production. The same goes for wobbly plants. You should be looking at plants which are firmly rooted in the pot. Good roots are the heart of every good orchid. I will sometimes buy a smaller plant because the root system is so much stronger than the other choices. Sacrifice the present for the future.

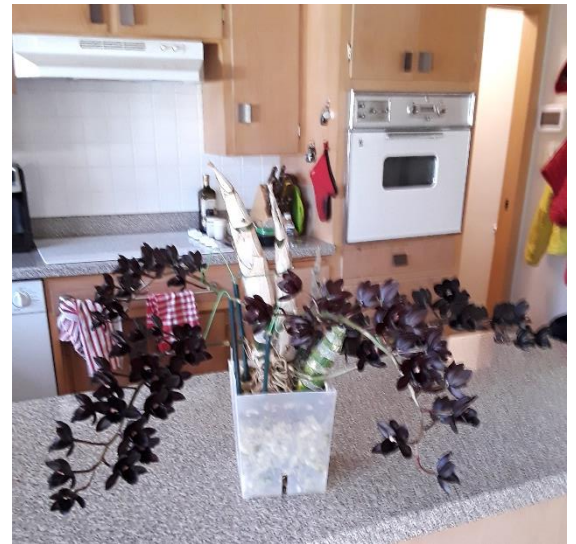
Well, easier said than done. Sometimes you just need to buy the pretty flower for immediate satisfaction. GO FOR IT without remorse.





In the beginning when I was building my collection (do we ever stop building), I would buy lots of little plants so I would expand my orchid diversity. What I have found is that we end up with a bunch of immature orchids that take years to give us a little show. These days I am trying to buy fewer plants but more mature, hence more expensive, plants but the upside to that is actually more immediate performance. More mature plants give you better performance and more flower production. Follow this tip and you will find yourself on

the show table before you know it. On the left is a small Fredclareara bought in 2014 and on the right is the same plant after five years and after several divisions. Which would you put on the show table? Sometimes it is best served to spend more and buy the larger plant.



One more thing about this topic. As you gain experience and success with growing orchids you will develop your culture skills and then consider populating your collection with more immature plants, seedlings, and even flasks but don't forget they are much more demanding to grow than mature plants and divisions.

Evaluating Flowers On to the part you wanted to know anyhow. With a couple pointers you will be able to seek out the really good flowers. A little botany first. Orchid flowers are zygomorphic. Duh, maybe too much botany. What zygomorphic means is they are bilaterally symmetrical? Another duh. It means the left half of the flower folds over perfectly over the right half. Okay, there it is. When you are looking at orchid flowers, left and right half need to match. There are a few exceptions to the rule but that topic is way too complex for us now. On the right is a pretty Bletilla orchid flower and you can clearly see it follows this guideline of left half, right half. The more perfect the match, the better the flower.



Bletilla striata alba

Look for nice flat flowers where the edges are not rolled over or look like the dog sat on them. Again, some orchids don't display in such an orderly fashion but again this is simply a general rule. Do not be afraid to ask for help.

Another guideline is color consistency. Find the flower that has color and patterns when the flower tissue is solidly colored throughout the flower. Not a solid color flower but the color is the same density (saturation) where it is supposed to be that color. This Gilded Tower shows all the aspects for color and pattern. The solid colors are rich. The patterns are clearly separated by a crisp margin from each other.



Also, see how the dorsal sepal and petals are balanced and somewhat erect. Good form which is why I still have this plant in my collection. Well, two things, good form and it is still alive after many years. Hah.



Finally, let's visit the Gilded Tower again but look at the plant. Many orchids we buy are known for their multifloral inflorescences (flower spikes). Look at all the flowers on those spikes. We want to see uniform spacing between the flowers, prefer enough distance between them to see each flower, and the flowers match each other in color AND form. Some of that comes from culture but at the sales table we must use what we see and hope we can maintain that good culture. Don't be afraid to ask the seller about culture. Most orchid sellers love to help you learn to grow your plants. If not, put your other society members to work.

In the end, my motto is "If you walk past an orchid on the sales table and it turned your head, then immediately turn around and buy it".

Contact Dave at dcmjpsmil@aol.com or call or text to 330-307-7189.

Consider Joining the American Orchid Society - [Membership Benefits](#)



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.