



Orchidata

The President's Message

November & December 2014

Well, here we are in November, and although many of us are in denial, it's probably not too early to start thinking about the festive season. For the benefit of new members and as a reminder to others, I thought I might explain a bit about what happens at our December meeting.

First of all, instead of a speaker, we ask Pat Vuurman to don his auctioneer's hat and raise a little money for our Society. Of course, unless members bring things to be sold, there will be nothing for him to do, so we ask you to bring in orchids and orchid-related items to be auctioned, as well as a fat wallet to allow you to bid for new acquisitions. Last year we ran a silent auction as well as a live auction; it proved to be popular and we will probably do it again. We don't have a Show Table at the December meeting. Pat likes to say that any plants that are brought for the Show Table will be sold at auction instead. ☺

After the auction, it's all about socializing. Socializing and food, that is. Bring in some samples of your home-baking or whatever else strikes your fancy and we will enjoy it together. (Nothing that needs to be heated or cooked, however, as we have no kitchen facilities.) Friends and relatives are welcome to join us too; the more the merrier.

The money that is raised at the auction is used to support the other activities of the Society. One of the important activities is the mounting of displays for outside Shows. Since my last message to you, the Society has exhibited at the Central Ontario Orchid Society (COOS) and in Windsor. Watch for results in Orchidata and on our brand new website!

And speaking of Shows, our own Show follows quickly (more quickly than you would think!) on the heels of the Christmas season. We hope that everyone in the Society will volunteer in some way or another to ensure that this event is the best ever. Right now, we could use a

volunteer to help with the advance planning in respect of the Art portion of the Show. If you are interested, contact me or Lynda Vuurman.

Some of the other ways you might help are by clerking for a team of judges or acting as a ribbon judge yourself, taking a shift at the Society Sales Table, acting as a Security Guard, staffing the Membership/Information Desk, playing Doctor (plant doctor, that is), helping to set up the Society's display (and taking it down afterward), or helping with the dinner on Saturday evening—to summarize, there is a job for every interest and every skillset. It's not too soon to start thinking about what you would like to do, and you can sign up at the December meeting.

Hope you will be there to enjoy the festivities. Happy holidays to all!

Wendy



Photo by Ben Boers

Monthly Meeting Schedule OSRBG

Date	Locations
November 16, 2014	Room 5
December 21, 2014	Room 5
January 18, 2015	Room 5
February 22, 2015	Room 5
February 28 & March 1, 2015	Annual Show Date
March 29, 2015	The Annex
April 19, 2015	Room 5
May 24, 2015	Room 5
June 14, 2015	Room 5
July 2015	President's Picnic
August 16, 2015	Room 5
September 20, 2015	Room 5
October 18, 2015	Room 5
November 15, 2015	Room 5
December 13, 2015	Room 5

Upcoming Events

November 17, 2014 – OSRBG General Meeting, Room 5. Plant sales commence at 1:00 pm & Meeting to begins at 2:00 pm. **Programme:** Jean Ikeson, Sarcophilus – The Genus

December 21, 2014 – OSRBG General Meeting, Room 5. Plant sales commence at 1:00 pm & Meeting to begins at 2:00 pm. **Programme:** Christmas Auction

January 18, 2015 – OSRBG General Meeting, Room 5. Plant sales commence at 1:00 pm & Meeting to begins at 2:00 pm. **Programme:** AOS Judging

February 14 & 15, 2014 – Southern Ontario Orchid Society Annual Show, Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario

February 22, 2015 – OSRBG General Meeting, Room 5. Plant sales commence at 1:00 pm & Meeting to begins at 2:00 pm. **Programme:** Pat Vuurman

February 28 & March 1, 2015 – OSRBG Annual Show. Setup for show is on Friday, February 27, 2015.

March 29, 2015 – OSRBG General Meeting, The Annex. Plant sales commence at 1:00 pm & Meeting to begins at 2:00 pm. **Programme:** Repotting Session

April 11 & 12, 2015 – Toronto Artistic Orchid Society Annual Show Centre for Information and Community Service (CICS), 2330 Midland Road, Scarborough, Ontario

April 19, 2015 – OSRBG General Meeting, Room 5. Plant sales commence at 1:00 pm & Meeting to begins at 2:00 pm. **Programme:** Russ Vernon, New Vision Orchids, Indiana, Odontoglossum

Show Results

Windsor Show Results



We took 23 plants to the Windsor Orchid Society show. We won 21 ribbons on the plants plus a 1st. for display.

Sherry an Peter Decyk had a great day as follows:

Coelogyne rochussenii won best of show, best in class and best specimen

1st Dendrobium Andree Millar

1st Xylobium variegatum

1st. Lc. Angel Heart 'Ann' X Lc. Puppy Love 'Kuroda'

1st Bulb. Rothschildianum also best in class

1st Cat. Bowringiana [High Blue x Blue Smoke HCC/AOS

Lynda and Pat Vuurman

3rd Howeara Chiam Tzy Lovely 'Red Bug'

2nd Phrag. Peruflora's Saltimbanco [this plant was also pulled for AOS judging but not awarded at this time]

3rd Phrag. wallisii

2nd. Cymbidium sinese

3rd Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi

Wendy Header-Moen

2nd Beallara Eurostar [this plant was also pulled for AOS judging and not awarded at this time]

Cindy and Ben Boers

2nd Paph. Pulsar X [Cyperspace x charlesworthii]

1st Galeandra liptoceras

3rd Paph Recovery

3rd Pot. Free Spirit x LC Golden Tangerine

1st. Dtps. Surf Song 'mor'

1st. Phalenopsis [no name] Also Cindy got best in class for no name plants.

RBG

1st Bc. Deese Charles

2nd Bc. Deese Charles [specimen plant]

1st for Society display 15 to 25 plants.

Thanks to Wendy, Pat & Lynda, Sherry & Peter for supplying plants for the display. Also Pat & Lynda for helping with setup and take down.

Ben Boers



Above Photos by Ben Boers

COOS Orchid Show Results

as reported by Pat Vuurman

The Fall show season began with the COOS show in Cambridge at the Hespeler Arena complex on the last weekend of September. As usual the set-up and plant registration happened on Friday afternoon ably accomplished by Cindy and Ben Boers. Ribbon judging occurred on Saturday morning and the OSRBG display earned a 3rd place ribbon amongst stiff competition. Other ribbon winners are listed below. Tear-down on Sunday afternoon went expeditiously with many hands' assistance from Cindy, Ben, Lorna Mantle, Wendy Header-Moan, Jocelyn Webber, Lynda and PatVuurman. Thank you Cindy, Lorna, Wendy, Jocelyn, Greta Culley,

Linda Will and Ben for allowing your flowering orchids to be part of our display.

The next orchid show on the Fall tour will be held in Windsor the weekend of October 25th / 26th. Please consider allowing your orchids to be part of the society display. Groomed flowering orchids should be staked for their journey and can be left in the foyer of the greenhouse at the RBG until the evening of Thursday the 23rd. They will be collected by the set-up crew early Friday morning for the trip to Windsor. Please don't forget to include two lists of your plants' names and your name so we can be sure that yours will be returned to you. A sticky label on the pot with your name on it is also helpful. Thanks.

COOS ribbon winners:

1st for Paphiopedilum species, 3rd for Specimen Plant and Best Paphiopedilum: Linda Will for Paphiopedilum henryanum

1st for Brassia allied hybrid: Wendy Hearder-Moan for Beallara Eurostar

2nd for Lycaste species: Linda Will for Lycaste candida

2nd for Pleurothallis allied species: Lorna Mantle for Restrepia guttulata

2nd for Paphiopedilum hybrids: Cindy & Ben Boers for Paphiopedilum (Pulsar x Cyberspace) x charlesworthii

2nd for Ascocentrum allied hybrid: Cindy & Ben Boers for Rumrillara Sugar Baby

3rd for pink Phalaenopsis hybrids: Greta Culley for Phalaenopsis hybrid

3rd for Vandas: Jocelyn Webber for Vanda Manuvadee

3rd for Brassia allied hybrid: Cindy & Ben Boers for Miltassia Dark Star 'Orchidworks'

3rd for Masdevallia hybrids: Wendy Hearder-Moan for Masdevallia Malcolm Adams

3rd for Displays of orchids in bloom.

Labels & Faded Label Recovery

Keeping your orchids properly and legibly labeled is an important part of orchid growing. Selecting the proper label stock and writing instrument are key.

One of the most durable labels available is thin piece of aluminum metal into which the plant name has been embossed. Such labels are commercially available, and can be written on with an ordinary pencil or ball-point pen. Some have recommended cutting soda- or beer cans into strips for that purpose, but the edges are very sharp, and the aesthetics are not the best.

Wooden labels are also available, and they hold pencil or permanent marker ink quite well, but your plants' roots will grip them quite nicely, they are a good substrate for growing algae, and they will rot, especially the end submerged in the medium.

Most of us rely on plastic label stock. The preferred materials are polystyrene and vinyl (polyvinyl chloride, or PVC), as they are waterproof, long-lasting, and can be easily separated from roots. Most labels come with a shiny side and a somewhat rougher side. Use the rougher side to make your writing more durable.

Your choice of writing instrument is also very important. An ordinary permanent marker just doesn't cut it, as the ink will fade with exposure to sunlight.

Graphite pencils are a good choice, as they are cheap and easy to get, the writing is waterproof and fade-proof, but may be smeared relatively easily.

Pilot used to make a "photographic marker" that could be found at good photo supply stores and probably special-ordered from your local office supply store. They had a fine point, and the black ink is very stable and fade-proof. Unfortunately, they were on the expensive side, near a couple bucks each. I recently (June 2012) contacted Pilot to see if they could supply them, and they pointed me to a new "art pen", the "Pilot ultra fine point permanent type NO XYLENE SCA-UF", and they seem to be a reasonable replacement, lasting about two years in direct sun outdoors.



Pilot SCA-UF Pen

Sanford's Sharpie Markers are an old standard, but are prone to fading. They recently came out with an "industrial" version, and the Extra Fine Point pens are a pretty good alternative. An "Ultra Fine" version would be better, but the ink does appear to be extremely stable.

The photo below is a label that was been sitting on one of my greenhouse benches for approximately 20 months, where it was exposed to water, fertilizer, insecticides, hydrogen peroxide and chlorine bleach disinfectants, and of course, the sun. The date was written in pencil, the others are self explanatory.



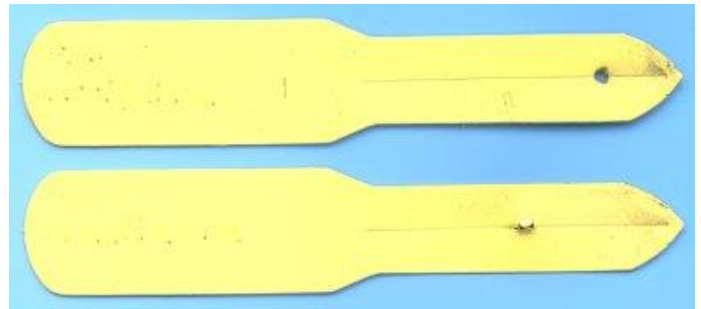
Other alternatives appear to work quite well, too: if you have a lot of labels to make up, and can get your label stock in sheets or rolls, both laser printers and ink jet printers can be used. The laser-printed labels appear to be pretty durable as-is, but the ink jet labels will have to be coated with an acrylic spray after they dry, to protect them from water.

Label printers such as the Brother P-touch are another excellent choice, with the black-on-white and black-on-clear laminated tapes being the best in terms of stability.

Recovery of Faded Labels

Now then, what do you do if your label has faded to the point of being unreadable? Don't despair, as – unless it's totally blank – you can use your computer hardware and software to help recover the "lost image." The example below utilized an HP scanner and Paint Shop Pro software.

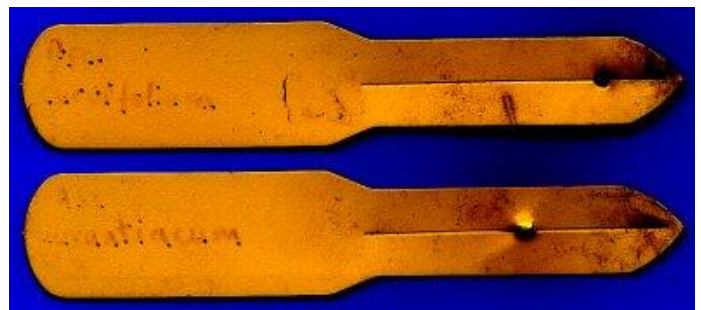
The image below is a couple of labels from plants I recently acquired. I know they were both ascocentrums, but what species?



The HP scanning software allows some manipulation of the output type, so I changed it from true color to grayscale, and adjusted the highlight/midtone/shadow settings to give the following image, which allowed me to identify my plants as *Ascocentrum curvifolium* and *Ascocentrum aurantiacum*!



If your scanner does not offer such controls, or if you're working with a shot from a digital camera, similar image manipulation can be done with image editing software. In this image, I used Paint Shop Pro to increase the "shadow" value from zero to 80%:



A photo taken with a digital camera can often be manipulated similarly.

I have also gotten a suggestion that an ordinary blacklight can work on some plastic labels. If the plastic formulator added "brighteners" to the plastic, they will fluoresce, but will be masked by the ink residue, darkening the writing.

Membership

Just a Reminder: Memberships were due June 1, 2014.

You can renew your membership at the next monthly meeting, or by mailing your cheque to:

Jacqueline Goddard
2037 Coral Crescent
Burlington, ON L7P 3K4
e-mail: krackerjac@hotmail.com

Membership Fee: \$20.00

Receive a \$5.00 discount if you would like to receive the Orchidata newsletter via e-mail.

Greenhouse Volunteers Needed

As you may know, the Orchid Society maintains the collection of orchids in the RBG greenhouse. This is a significant commitment which cannot be carried out without the help of volunteers.

Currently a group of volunteers meets on Thursday mornings from 9:30 to noon, more or less, and another group meets on Sunday mornings from about 10 until 12:30. This schedule is dictated by watering requirements. Volunteers are currently being sought for both these teams. "On the job" training is provided if needed.

In addition to watering, volunteers look after repotting the orchids, cleaning any plants that are being attacked by pests, removing dead leaves, sterilizing pots and other equipment, preparing plants for display and many other small but important tasks.

Volunteers are not required to attend every week, but some commitment to the collection should be demonstrated. If you are able to devote some time to helping us maintain the orchids, please contact Pat Vuurman (pvuurman@hotmail.com) regarding the Thursday group, or Denise MacLeod (pmacleod5@cogeco.ca) if you can volunteer on Sundays.

Flasking Group

Anyone interested in flasking please give Ben Boers, Pat Vuurman or Bob Gibbon a call for details

2014 – 2015 Executive & Contacts

President	Wendy Hearder- Moan	905-335-4055
Past President.....	Lynda Vuurman	905-527-4951
Vice-President	Vacant	
Treasurer.....	Gavin Clark	905-274-4888
Secretary	Jacqui Arrindell	905-528-1060
Membership.....	Jacque Goddard	905-635-6342
Newsletter.....	Drew Goddard	905-635-6342
Publicity.....	Nancy Freckleton	905-628-4198
Native Orchids.....	Scott Belton	416-22-6091
Show Chair	Ben Boers	905-701-8102
Sales & Raffle.....	Penelope Petrie	905-383-3558
Programming	Lauren Booklin	289-837-1462
COC Rep	Peter Decyk	905-632-1985
AOS/Mid-American Rep.....	Peter Decyk	905-632-1985
Hospitality	Frank Cox	905-334-2598
Librarian	Penny Lipsik	519-449-2321
Flasking	Bob Gibbon	905-387-1993
Orchid Collection	Olga Jokutaitis	905-544-9894
Orchid Collection	Pat Vuurman	905-527-4951
RBG Liaison.....	Ben Boers	905-701-8102

Honorary Lifetime Member

Dr. James Brasch

Membership and Address Changes

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e-mail: krackerjac@hotmail.com

Orchidata

Deadline for the January / February

Newsletter is January 3, 2015

Please note that Orchidata news and orchid society newsletters should be sent to:

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2037 Coral Crescent
Burlington, ON L7P 3K4 905-635-6342
e-mail: andyjjj@gmail.com
