



CVIOS

Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society



Maxillaria tenuifolia
Sheila W.



Iwanaguara Appleblossom.
Laurie F



Bulbophyllum frostii.
Bernie K

President's Message

Are we all looking forward to the light at the end of the very long tunnel? With the vaccinations rolling out, we should be able to have 'real' meetings in the fall - I'm being cautiously optimistic.

The Zoom presentations Suzanne has arranged, both those we have arranged for and those shared by the Vancouver and Victoria societies have been very interesting and worthwhile, I believe. Plus, they're cheaper than having a speaker visit and a nice way to connect with other BC clubs. But alas, no orchids to buy!

This last presentation on mini orchids was a delight to see. Even if you don't grow the particular orchids being discussed, there always seems to be bits of useful knowledge you can pick up. Thank you Suzanne and Bernie for facilitating these.

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming :

- Please check your email for information about upcoming meetings and a possible summer orchid event.
- We hope to resume in person meetings in the fall if guidelines permit!

President's Message - Con't

If anyone out there is wary of Zoom or doesn't know where to start, please ask Suzanne or Bernie for help, all you need is a computer with a camera and a microphone. Our first on-line auction made \$255.00 so it was very worthwhile. Thanks again to Suzanne and her able helper, Laurie. Who knew that Bernie could make those excellent slatted boxes for hanging plants?!

With the hot weather finally here (maybe?) we'll all need to be cautious of sun burn on leaves, but it's also good to get plants outside where they can enjoy their summer too in appropriate sites. Enjoy the weather, get your vaccinations and hopefully we can gather together soon

Sheila Wilson, CVIOS President

Pollution:

Do you have a greenhouse in a polluted area? You may be having problems with bud blast or sepal wilt. A grower in Denver, Colorado found out that having several fine mesh trays of activated charcoal suspended in front of fans in her greenhouse really improved bud quality. After a few weeks the charcoal has to be baked at 400 degrees for 2 hours to drive out the pollutants or replaced periodically. What would your kitchen smell like?!

Cymbidiums:

June to August is a period of rapid growth for cymbidiums. Feed every 10 days with high nitrogen balanced fertilizer, water frequently. They need plenty of light for best flowering. From - Growing Cymbidium Orchids At Home by Lance A. Birk

It's not where you come from – it's where you ended up:

Former CVIOS member Gladys Darroch married, raised 5 children and was widowed very early. She worked in logging camps cooking meals for up to 200 loggers and tackled any other jobs in order to provide for her children. She eventually remarried and moved to Courtenay area. With her children raised and gone from home, she then had time to pursue other interest such as learning to make porcelain dolls and cultivating 300 African violets. About 1984 she discovered orchids and started collecting. Once she won several awards at shows, her passion for orchids led her down the path to more and more orchids. She won many awards over the years and was a valuable member of CVIOS. (From a write up by Les Bihary)

MONTHLY MEETINGS (CURRENTLY VIA ZOOM DUE TO COVID-19)

GENERAL INFORMATION

CVIOS meetings are normally held once per month September to June on Sunday at the North Oyster Community Center, 13467 Cedar Road, 11:30 to 2:30. Typically there is a brief business meeting starting at 12pm. Following is a display of plants brought in by members, a coffee break, prize draw and a featured presentation or demonstration. There is a sales table where orchid supplies and plants brought in by members and or speakers can be purchased. We look forward to in person meetings as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, please check your email for info regarding online meetings.



Dendrobium jenkmsii
Laurie F

Mailing Address:

c/o Bernie Kespe
556 Juniper Drive
Qualicum Beach, BC
V9K 2J2

Email: Sheila Wilson mesheshe@shaw.ca

Newsletter: melroga@telus.net

CVIOS EXECUTIVE 2020/2021

President: Sheila Wilson

Past President: Dora Glover

Vice President: Leslie Milne

Treasurer and AOS Chair: Darlene Rathwell

Secretary: Suzanne Currie

Membership: Bernard Kespe

Plant Sales Table: Judy Russell

Library: Michael DeLeur

Refreshments: Laurie Forbes

Programs: Alexey Tretyakov

Publicity: Valerie Melanson

Newsletter and Website: Melanie Norris

Announcements:

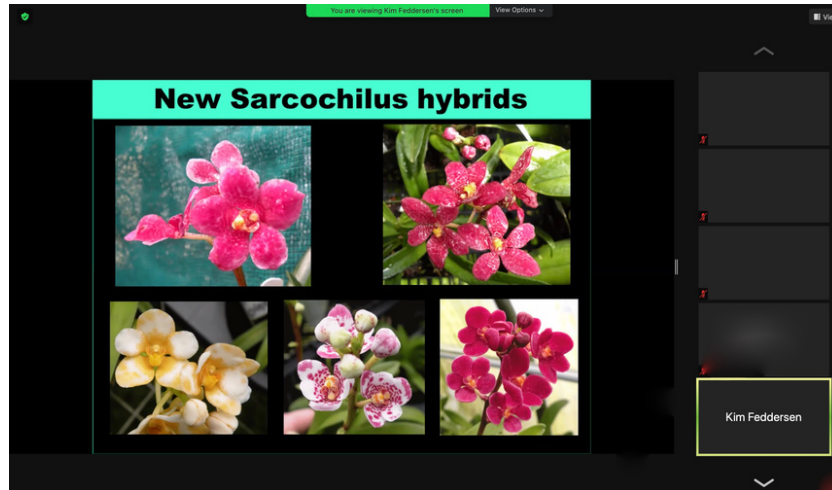
- Thank you to Bernie K. and Suzanne C. for setting up and organizing the Zoom meetings and speakers for April and May. It will be interesting to see if Zoom will remain an option in the future, once in person meetings resume.
- Thank you to the Victoria Orchid Society and Vancouver Orchid Society for inviting us to the April and May Zoom meetings.
- Thank you to Suzanne for organizing the online auction. And thank you to all who donated and purchased items. Despite being held online, it was a fun and successful event!
- Congratulations to Alexey T. for having his beautiful photos published in a recent edition of the AOS magazine. (Regional judging section).
- 'Tis the season to repot! Suzanne is managing the sales of the orchid potting mix and there is a lot of media to choose from:
Below are the prices for CVIOS members:
 1. Moss 150g \$11
 2. Medium size charcoal 3L \$10
 3. Large size perlite 3L \$6
 4. Orchiatea 7L bag \$14 (classic and power sizes available)
 5. Douglas fir bark med. grade size 7L bag \$8



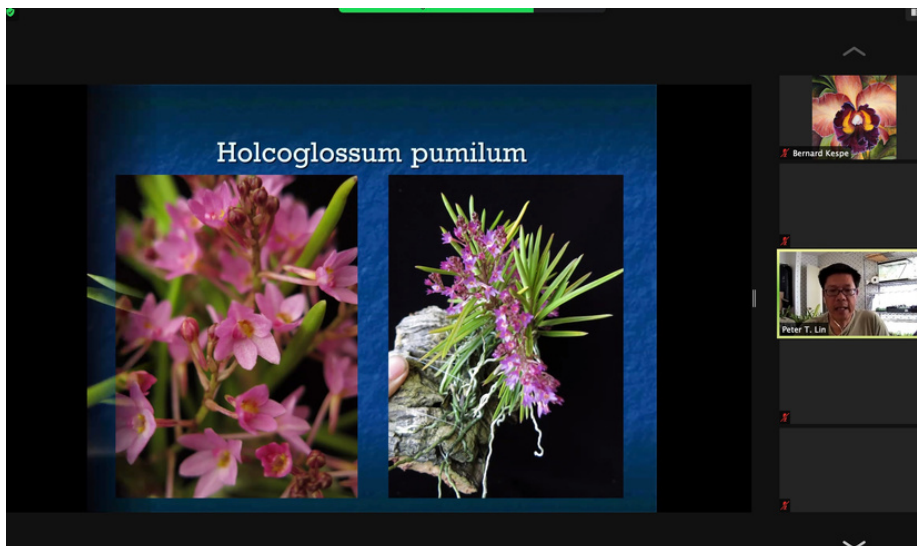
Thank you to Ginny for donating some beautiful handmade orchid pots to our auction
You can find more of Ginny's pots for purchase by emailing her:
ginnyclark5@gmail.com or phone 250-797-0653
instagram or twitter @ginnyclark5

zoom

Our April 22 meeting featured guest speaker Kim Feddersen. The topic was: "Yes, you can grow vandaceous orchids". Kim's many years of experience (being born into an orchid growing family), and his extensive collection allowed for a very informative presentation with many great practical tips about how to grow vandaceous orchids indoors or in a greenhouse.



Peter Lin was the guest speaker for our May 13 Zoom meeting – a very interesting and informative presentation. The topic was "Miniature Orchid Species: Tiny Wonders of the Orchid World Time": Suzanne organized an efficient and very fun online auction after Peter's presentation. There were many items to bid on and all items up for bid were matched with enthusiastic buyers! The auction raised over \$200 for the society so thank you to all who donated and purchased items!



Meeting Minutes April 22, 2021:

This meeting was held on zoom following the presentation by Kim Feddersen: "Yes, you can grow vandaceous orchids." Sheila will check on the quorum needed for the AGM in June. It was discussed that if members order orchids that are delivered to a location in Vancouver, unless someone is going to Vancouver for personal reasons and will cover the travel costs then members who order will pay the travel or shipping costs associated with getting the plants to Nanaimo. CVIOS could also share travel and shipping costs with Victoria when possible. It was decided that this will be discussed and decided on a case-to-case basis.

CVIOS would like to hold an outdoor executive meeting before the AGM in June.

Darlene reviewed CVIOS bank account, expenses and income.

Suzanne will investigate ordering MSU fertilizer for the club and the costs associated.

The meeting hall in Oyster Bay is available to CVIOS as soon as meetings can go forward.



Dendrobium hibiki
Brian I.

Ed's Orchids - Method for Mealy bugs. CVIOS member, Bernie, recently tried out Ed's method for killing mealy bugs. Simply dip your orchid in a bucket of water mixed with a little household bleach. The method is inexpensive, quick, and apparently effective.

Watch the video and decide for yourself. Ed certainly is surrounded by healthy looking orchids!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEHtMOM9v2k>



CVIOS Members' Orchid Gallery



1. *Maxillaria tenuifolia* Sheila W.
2. *Leptotes bicolor* Darlene R.
3. *Paph Nold* Judy R.
4. *Dendrobium* "Rainbow Dance" Brian I.
5. *Dend. officinale* Laurie F.

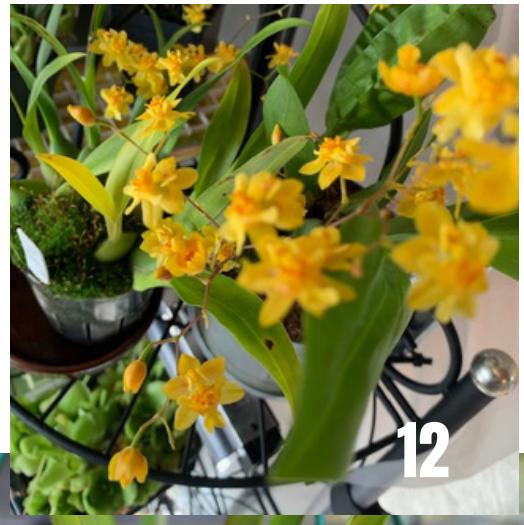
6. *Bulbophyllum frostii* Bernie K.
7. *Dendrobium Nano Chip* Laurie F.
8. *Promenaea Florafest Cheetah* Laurie F.



Members' Orchid Gallery (cont)



- 9. Eplc. Pixie Charm Laurie F.
- 10. Papeopedilum NoID Judy R.
- 11. Den Formidable Susan Alexey T.
- 12. Oncidium twinkle Darlene R.
- 13. Phal Marie's Passion Melanie N.
- 14. Ascocentrum ampulaceum Alexey T.



Members' Orchid Gallery (cont)



- 15. Mini Phal NoID Brian I.
- 16. Mini Phal NoID Brian I.
- 17. Pomatocalpa spicata Alexey T.
- 18. Vanda Colmarie Shirley
- 19. Bulbophyllum Dearei Bernie K.
- 20. Den Lawesii Brian I.



Members' Orchid Gallery (cont)



21. Den Thysiflorum Alexey T

Along the Calypso Trail by Melanie Norris

Every spring, I look forward to visiting the Calypso trail in Mill Hill Park in Langford, BC. The name of the trail is motivation enough for any orchid lover to visit. This year, we visited on April 21, which was about a week or two before the orchids are at their peak. The trail through beautiful fir, Garry Oak and arbutus forests/meadows did not disappoint. We were rewarded with a few orchid sightings but the fields of camas were the real show stopper.



Calypso orchids are masters of deception! With bright colours and a nice smell, they lure insects by looking similar to other nectar-rich flowers. In reality, they have no nectar and pollinators learn not to return. That's one sneaky way to get the pollination job done! (From CRD Twitter feed)

Root Stimulators

by Sue Bottom

Who has not used Rootone powder on cuttings to get their root system started? There are many root stimulators on the market, used to encourage a healthy root system, often to help the plant recover from transplant shock. A healthy root system is essential for the growth and flowering of your orchids. Some effective rooting products contain auxins like indole butyric acid (IBA) and naphthylacetic acid (NAA) in either a synthetic formulation or a natural product like seaweed.

We have been very impressed with the Dip 'n Grow liquid rooting hormone that contains 1.0% IBA and 0.5% NAA dissolved in an isopropyl and ethyl alcohol solution. We and some other orchid growers have been trialing this product, following the lead of John Stanton of Orchid Trail Greenhouses by placing a dilution of it in a spray bottle and spraying the root mass and forward part of the pseudobulbs during the repotting process. This synthetic hormone product can result in an incredible root response, as Keith Davis determined while experimenting with this product on his cattleyas.



Dip 'n Grow is a synthetic rooting compound that John Stanton of Orchid Trail Greenhouses recommends.



2. Exactly one month after Keith Davis sprayed the base of the plant with Dip 'n Grow, picture courtesy of Keith Davis.

You probably know some orchid growers that use seaweed products with some frequency for their growth stimulating properties. Seaweed extracts contain macro- and micro- nutrients, amino acids, vitamins as well as plant hormones albeit in much lower concentrations than in a synthetic root stimulator product. The natural auxins present in seaweed extracts help encourage root growth although there are many other compounds present in these biostimulants that also promote plant growth. There are many seaweed products, from the generally available MaxiCrop to more specialized products like KelpMax offered by Ray Barkalow of First Rays.

Root Stimulators

(cont)

Our speakers are always introducing us to new ideas and tricks that they have discovered for growing their orchids. Daryl Venables of Tezula Plants is a most energetic and informative speaker who talked to us about growing Tolumnias. He recounted a story of receiving a shipment of Tolumnia seedlings that were mostly bereft of roots, so he went online looking at marijuana growing blog sites for some suggestions, and came across Nitrozime. He tried it on his plants and was amazed at the root growth. Another snake oil to try! Europonic Nitrozime made by Hydrodynamics International is a marine algae extract derived from *Ascophyllum nodosum* seaweed that is reported to be eight times more concentrated than typical seaweed extracts.

Some orchid growers add seaweed products either weekly or monthly during the growing season as a general growth stimulator. If you are supplying your plants with the proper light, air, moisture and mineral nutrition, you should not need to give them hormonal products to induce root growth, the exception being the period during and after repotting. In many cases, repotting causes a severe disruption to and loss of the root system so moisture and mineral uptake are compromised until the root system gets reestablished. This is why you are often told to repot your orchids only when you see new roots forming to minimize transplant shock.

Application Rates for Auxin Bearing Root Stimulators			
	Seaweed Extract	Nitrozime	Dip 'n Grow
Recommended Rate on Product Label	1 – 2 tablespoons (tbsp) per gallon	4 – 8 teaspoons (tsp) per gallon	1 part Dip 'n Grow to 5 – 20 parts water
Spray on Roots after the Plant is Prepped for Repotting, Air Dry	1 tbsp in 8 oz spray bottle	1 tbsp in 8 oz spray bottle	2.5 tsp in 8 oz spray bottle
Drench Pots and Baskets as Often as Weekly for 1 month after Repotting, Then Monthly During the Spring and Summer	1 tbsp/gal drench	1 tbsp/gal drench	NA

Root Stimulators

(cont)

We can help our plants get re-established with the selective use of some of the rooting products. Prepare the plant for repotting by removing old tired growths and trimming sick or overlong roots. Plants are only water blasted if necessary to clean them up, otherwise the process proceeds dry. Once the plant is prepped, it is sprayed with one of the root stimulator concentrates and allowed to dry on newspaper or Kraft paper, with its plant tag. Then the plant can be potted. Keep it dry for the first day or three and then start watering. You can drench plants with a more dilute solution of seaweed weekly for the first month or so, and then just water with your normal water/fertilizer combination.

The synthetic root stimulator Dip 'n Grow contains auxins in concentrations several orders of magnitude greater than the seaweed extracts, measured in parts per hundred for the synthetic root stimulators versus parts per million in the seaweed extract. If you are only interested in these types of products to help initiate root growth, the synthetic Dip 'n Grow is probably a more effective solution than seaweed. If you are interested in using seaweed extracts because of its many other biostimulants present in small quantities, you can make up an ultra-concentrated seaweed mixture to spray on roots while repotting. You could make up a solution that is, say, 16 times more concentrated for spraying on the roots by adding 1 tablespoon seaweed into an 8 ounce spray bottle. Then, you could follow up by adding seaweed at the normal application rate weekly for the first month after repotting, and then apply monthly for the rest of the growing season.

The shelf life of auxins present in synthetic products and seaweed is a potential concern. These product should remain active for a year if properly stored, but degrade if stored in warm areas or exposed to sunlight. To be safe, store these products as cool and dry as possible, tightly sealed, and buy only what you think you will use within the next year. Storing them in the refrigerator will maximize their shelf life.

Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society

Membership Form

CVIOS mailing address: 556 Juniper Drive, Qualicum Beach, BC V9K 2J2

Website: www.cvios.org **Membership Contact:** Bernie at: CVIOS.bernie@shaw.ca

Household membership \$30.00 per year (Sept.-Aug.) CASH _____ CHEQUE _____

Name(s) for membership cards(s)

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address (This is needed for society correspondence)

How did you hear about CVIOS _____

How long have you been growing orchids? _____

Where I grow my orchids: (check all applicable)

_____ Window sill

_____ Under lights

_____ Green house

_____ Other _____

I have (circle one) (0 - 10), (11 - 20), (20 - 35), (36 - 50), (50 - 100), (100+) orchid plants.

I hereby give permission to have the following included in the published membership list that will be distributed to members only.

Please check the ones you are willing to make public to the membership.

[] Name

[] Address

[] Phone number

[] email address

Signature: _____ Date _____

Please note if this section is not signed, we cannot list you as a member on the membership list