

CVIOS NEWSLETTER

CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

March 2019

CVIOS Meeting are held September to June on a Saturday at the Harewood Activity Center, 195 Fourth St, Nanaimo. Doors open at 11:00 with 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 can be purchased

Mailing Address:

PO Box 1061

Nanaimo BC, V9R 5Z2

Website: www.cvios.org

Email: Dora Glover, ragdg@shaw.ca

Newsletter Submissions: suzcur.sc@gmail.com

CVIOS EXECUTIVE 2018/19

President: Dora Glover

Past President: Laurie Forbes

Vice President:

Treasurer: Darlene Rathwell

Secretary & Newsletter: Suzanne Currie

AOS Chair: Darlene Rathwell

Membership: Mike Miller

Plant Sales Table: Donna McDonnell

Library: Michael DeLeur

Refreshments: Sandra Lathrope

Programs: Alexey Tretyakov

Publicity: Sheila Wilson

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

2019

March 23: CVIOS Meeting & Bag Draw. Speaker: Dusty Smith, Orchids 101 - Moving Beyond Grocery Store Phalaenopsis

March 23-24: Vancouver Orchid Society Show & Sale at Van Duesen Botanical Garden, Vancouver

April 13 : CVIOS Plant Sale, 2630 Randle Rd, Nanaimo 10am to 3pm

April 27: CVIOS Meeting

May 25: CVIOS Meeting

June 22: CVIOS Meeting & AGM

Speaker: Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids

CVIOS NEWSLETTER

CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

March 2019



Epi Siam jade 'Avo' grown by Dora Glover
Photo, Alexey Tretyakov

CVIOS UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 23: CVIOS meeting and bag draw. Please bring plants, plant related items, gardening items and/or consumables for the bag draw. The March speaker is Dusty Smith his talk is entitled: Orchids 101, Moving Beyond Grocery Store Phalaenopsis. Dusty's bio is below

April 13: CVIOS Plant Sale, if you are starting seeds or dividing plants please save some for the sale

April 27: CVIOS Meeting

Dusty Smith's Bio

Once upon a time, when he was very small, Dusty saw a cymbidium at a local plant nursery. Thus, was born the fascination with the wondrous Orchidaceae. His first orchid was a pink phalaenopsis that grew and bloomed for a dozen years, begetting a confidence that has been severely shaken, but never lost. He has grown and bloomed hundreds of wonderful orchids and killed many hundreds more. He has imported and sold orchids and loves to see plants he has sold to people years later. Dusty has assembled award winning show displays and his favorite orchids are usually fragrant and starry – shaped (think Brassia)

INFORMATION

- Thank you to Ingrid Ostrander for her excellent talk regarding Phragmipediums
- Vancouver Orchid Show & Sale March 23-24 at Van Duesen Gardens. Visit <http://www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca> for more information. All required forms and flower classes can be found at cvios.org in the main menu under forms.
- A separate email will be sent out to members with plant drop off locations for the Vancouver show.
- A huge thank you to Meanie Norris for her hard work designing and getting our new website up and running! It is a wealth of Orchid information. Please visit www.cvios.org to check it out. There is a great write up and excellent photos about

the Victoria Orchid Show & Sale that took place March 2 & 3. It can be found in the main menu under news (click the 3 lines at the top right side of the page). There is also information and photos regarding the CVIOS Orchid Show & Sale.

- If any members have orchid photos they would like to see on the website, please send them to Melanie at melroga@telus.net. Please include your name and the plants name.
- Minutes are on page 4 & 5
- There is a very informative online article regarding calcium deficiency. The article was written by Sue Bottom and Roy Tokunaga. I was unable to reprint it in the newsletter but here is a link to the article:
<https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/CalciumDeficiencyInCattleyasbySueBottom.pdf>
- Its repotting time for many orchids. On page 6 I have included an AOS article entitled 'Hints on Potting and Potting media'

Photos from the Victoria Orchid Society Show & Sale

Photos courtesy of Alexey Tretyakov



CVIOS Minutes

February 23, 2019

President Dora Glover brought the meeting to order at 12pm with 26 members present. There were 3 new members present

Dora stated Don and Nancy Miklic have resigned from CVIOS. Dora Glover is now president.

Secretary Report:

Suzanne moved to accept the January minutes. Shirley second. Motion passed

Treasures Report:

Darlene reviewed revenue, expenses and the bank account activity. Darlene moved to accept treasures report Sheila second. Motion passed.

Membership:

Mike Miller has taken over memberships from Dora. CVIOS has 38 members with more coming

Plant Sales:

There are a few plants for sale also bark, perlite, charcoal and a bark mix.

CVIOS Show & Sale Report:

Laurie Forbes thanked all the volunteers and stated the show was much easier to manage and run with committee thank you to all the committee members for their hard work.

The silent auction was a huge success and we will do one at next years show.

There were 203 plants in the show

Suzanne suggested creating a poster board checklist for next years show to make it easier for members to enter their plants.

AOS Shows:

Victoria Show:

Bob Iddon will take the plants and display to Victoria. Angie and Alexey will help. Forms for the Victoria show are available here at the meeting. Drop off spot is Laurie Forbes before noon February 28.

Set up begins Friday 9 to 12. Judging starts at 1.

Vancouver Show:

Leslie, Suzanne and possibly Darlene will be transporting plants and display. Leslie and Suzanne's will be the drop off points after 2pm Thursday. Suzanne's drop off will be 9 am to 2pm.

Plant Sale:

April 13 at 2630 Randle Rd. 10 – 3. Set up is Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. There will be refreshments and a silent auction.

Elections:

Since Don's resignation all new positions are ok for 3 months or until an election. Elections will be April 27 for president, vice president, membership and programs. If any members would like to put there names forward, let Suzanne know. Dusty asked to be put forward as vice president.

Laurie is the fundraising chair and proposes a bag draw March 23.

Programs:

March 23, Dusty Smith, Orchids 101- going beyond grocery store Phalaenopsis

No speaker April – Elections

May is open

June Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids. Pre orders will be available. Information will be emailed.

Website:

Suzanne reviewed Melanie Norris's design and plans for the CVIOS website. Suzanne motioned to accept the design and costs associated with the website and for it to go live ASAP. Leslie second. Motion passed.

Discussion regarding online membership form. One person would need to look after this. It was decided to look into this next year.

Winter Market:

Sheila discussed an invitation to the winter market in the Sears building March 30 and 31. Sheila moves that CVIOS attend the market without repotting. Valerie second. Motion passed. A sign up sheet for volunteers is available – 2 members at a time for 2 hour slots.

CVIOS Meeting Site:

The site now used will be taken over by search and rescue July 1. CVIOS needs a new home and Laurie and Dora are working to find one. Discussion regarding different options.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35pm

Hints on Potting and Potting Media

Leo Holguin - originally published February, 1968

The question we hear most often is "When is the best time to repot?" Some people prefer to pot only in the spring, assuming that this is the growing season and therefore the best time to repot. In some cases this is true. When potting cattleyas or allied genera, one must remember that some species have a definite resting period and it is probably better, in most cases, to wait and pot when the growing season starts. However, the majority of cattleyas today are complex hybrids with little or no resting period.

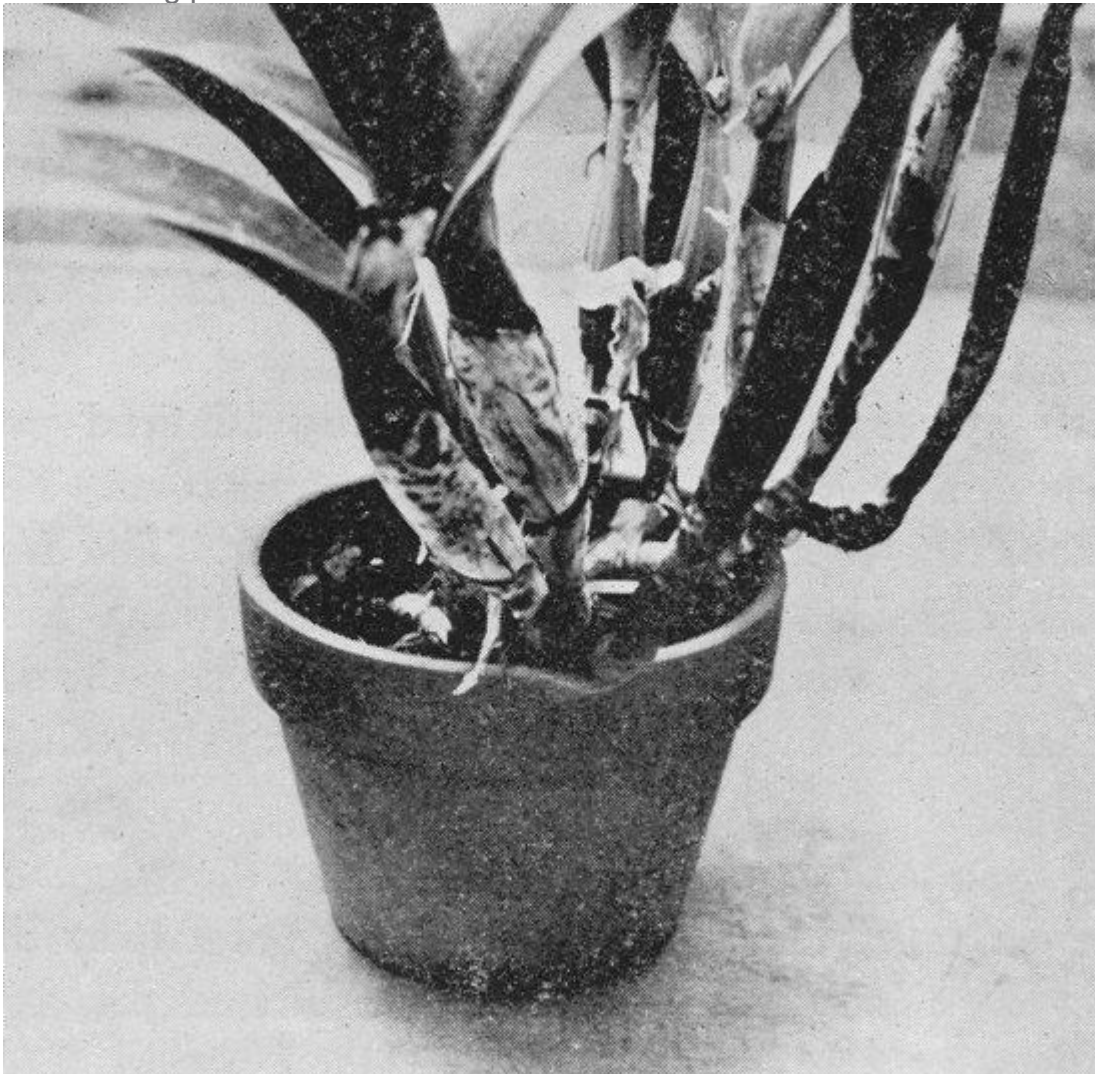


Figure 1: A plant growing over the edge of its pot; obviously in need of repotting.

Repotting is usually done when plants are through blooming and are crowding the inside of the pot, or growing over the edge. The best time is when there are signs of renewed root action, such as

roots commencing to grow from the base of the new growth. Whenever possible, it is best to wait for the new growth to make up and pot just before the new roots start to show at the base of the rhizome. However, if the medium is broken down, or sour, it is best to move the plant into fresh material as long as it is not in bud. If the plant is in bud and in poor condition, it is best to remove buds before repotting.

In some cases, root action will begin before the growth is made up. It is best to pot at this time to save the roots. In any event, potting should not be done just prior to blooming. This will prevent the flowers from developing properly. Allow sufficient space in the pot for two years' growth. Be sure and tamp the material in good and firm. In this manner it will retain moisture for a longer period of time and less watering will be necessary. If the material is too loose, you will have to water more often and you may have to repot before two years.

If one has a very good variety of cattleya and wants to keep it growing with as little setback as possible, I would suggest adding what I call an "annex." Some people call it a "nose bag" or "piggyback". This is especially good if the plant is over the edge of the pot, starting to root and in bud about ready to flower. By use of an annex, you can save roots and flowers, and the plant will grow on with more vigor. Later, when the plant is well rooted in the annex, you can remove it without disturbing the medium and pot on if you wish, or leave it for another season.



Figure 2: An "annex" attached to the pot, allowing the new growth to establish itself therein.

Assuming the plant is in a 6" (15-cm) pot, the idea is to get a 6" (15-cm) pot and try to break it in half (not easy). The best way is to find one that is already cracked on one side. Hold the opposite end along the rim, then hit downward with a potting stick near the crack - and a V-shaped area should be left. Trim this V-shaped area with a pair of pliers to fit against the original pot. Next, take a piece of flexible wire about 24" long, bend together at the center and twist the two wires together about two inches, then bend like a hook, and hook over the rim in back of the pot. Bring under the rim of the pot around the annex and twist the wires together again, then pull up to the rim of the annex and loop over. To tighten, take a piece of wire about three inches long, make a hook at one end, and insert this hook in the rim of the original pot at a point where the two join together.

Then loop around the wire and pull up tight. Do the same on the other side. With a little patience, it will work. If you want to miss all this fun, take a plastic pot, use clippers and cut it to fit.

In regard to potting media, I think that just about every material with any possibilities at all has been tried. Fir bark and redwood bark mixes are very popular (Editor's note: Fir bark and mixes of fir bark are less popular in hot, humid climates because they break down too rapidly – especially when plants are grown outside without protection from natural rainfall) because of the ease in potting with these materials. A mixture of one part redwood bark to three parts of fir bark seems to work very well. This mixture, assuming you use a good grade, and depending on how well it is packed around the roots, has lasted three years (Editor's note: Today's fir bark is of much poorer quality than when this article was first published. As a result, fir bark available today last typically about 18 months to two years at the most). Add ten pounds of dolomite lime to a cubic yard of material, or approximately one pound to a 2.5 cubic bag. Moisten the material before using and you will find that it packs better.

Some growers use straight fir bark as well as straight redwood bark with no additives, and with good results. At one time these materials were inexpensive, but like everything else, the price has gone up. As quality decreases and price increases, other materials will continue to be tried. For adult cattleyas, use medium grade; for seedlings, use the fine grade. For best results when using this material, regular feeding is a must.

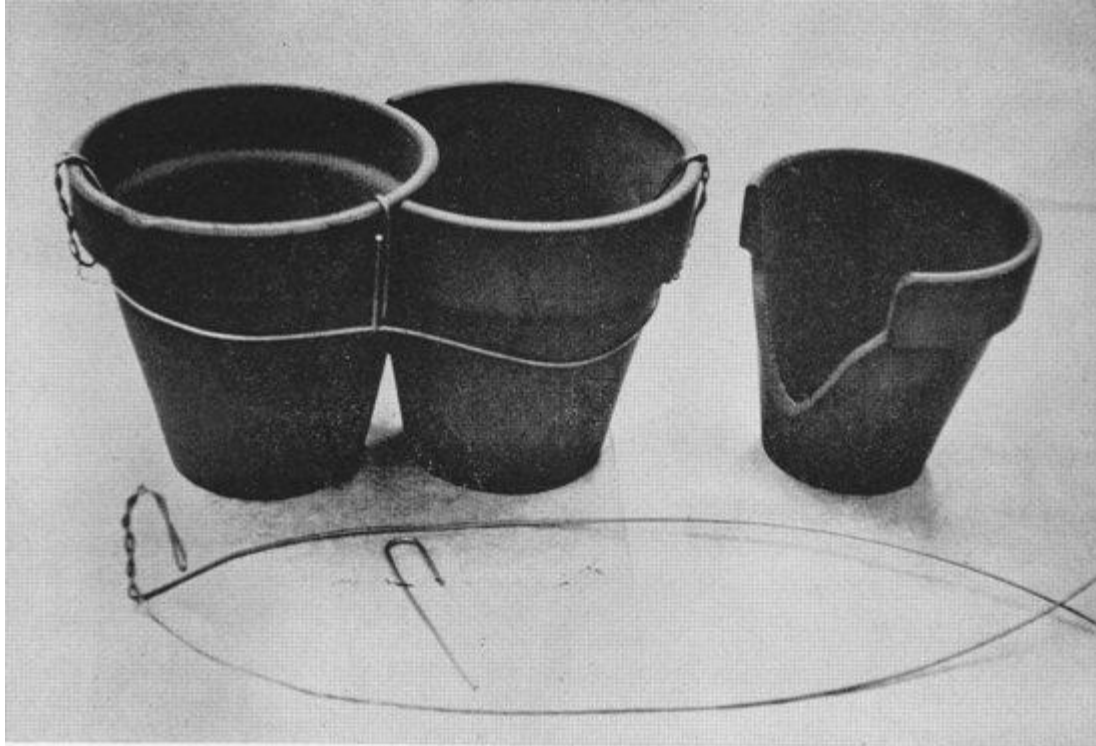


FIGURE 3. Completed "annex" and its necessary parts.

Another mixture that has come into use in the past several years consists basically of 3 parts fir bark, 1 part German peat moss (This is a very different product from domestic or Canadian peat

moss commonly available in garden centers. As it has become more and more difficult to find, other moisture holding products like chopped sphagnum moss and coconut husk chips have been used as replacements), 1 part sponge rock, and 1 part redwood bark and dolomite lime. I do not know the amount of dolomite lime used, but would assume ten pounds per cubic yard is about right. There are some modifications to this mix. Some growers add other ingredients, some less, depending on their area and success in growing in this type of mix. As with straight fir bark, regular fertilizing is recommended.

I hope the above suggestions will be of some help. However, most growers have their own preferences as to potting mixtures, and you will have to learn by experimentation to see which will do the best job of growing for you in your particular area. *2005 Armacost Ave., West Los Angeles, Calif. 90025.*

Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society

Membership Form

Society mailing Address: P.O. Box 1061, Nanaimo, B.C., V9R 5Z2

WEBSITE: www.cvios.org

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

Meetings are held September through June on the Saturday near the middle of the month at the Harewood Activity Centre, 195 Fourth Street, Nanaimo, in the hall on the second floor, doors open at 11:00, with the business meeting starting at 12:00 noon.

Contact: Dora Glover (Membership Chairperson) 250-754-9634

Name(s) for membership card(s)

Mailing Address

Postal Code _____

Phone number _____

Email address (This is needed for society correspondence)

How long have you been growing orchids? _____

Where I grow my orchids- Check All Applicable

_____ Windowsill

_____ Under Lights

_____ Greenhouse

_____ Other _____

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

***** I hereby give permission to have my name address, phone number and email address included in the published membership list that will be distributed to members only

I _____ GIVE _____ DO NOT GIVE permission for publication Signed

_____ Date _____

Please note if

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