

CVIOS NEWSLETTER

CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

May 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:

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Nanaimo BC, V9R 5Z2

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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

May 25: CVIOS Meeting: *Workshop - Repotting and Mounting Orchids*

June 22: CVIOS Meeting & AGM
June Speaker: Alan Koch from Gold Country Orchids

June 23: CVIOS move to the new meeting location

July 28: CVIOS BBQ

August 11: CVIOS Paramount Orchids Greenhouse visit & orchid shopping!

August 24: Vancouver Orchid Society Summer Sale at Van Duesen Gardens Floral Hall. Free Admission

September 22: CVIOS Meeting
September Speaker: Terry Groszeibl from Forestview Garden Orchids – Growing Phaphiopedilum orchids on windowsills

October 20: CVIOS Meeting
October Speaker: Mitch Nickle – The Oncidium Alliance

November 17: CVIOS Meeting
November Speaker: Margaret Pratt – Growing Dendrobiums

December 8: CVIOS Christmas Lunch

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CVIOS UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 25: CVIOS Meeting, *Workshop on mounting and repotting Orchids*

June 22: CVIOS AGM Meeting, *Speaker: Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids, **What's New in Miniature Cattleyas***

Alan is an internationally known speaker, author, and expert in the cattleya alliance. He will be bringing plants to sell at the meeting

INFORMATION

- May Meeting Workshop: Experienced members will show how to repot or mount a variety of different orchids. They will also share their tips on how to care for a newly re-potted or mounted plant
- Sunday June 23 is moving day! CVIOS is moving to its new location and we can use as many members as possible to make this move quick and successful. More information will be available at the May meeting.
- Beginning September 22, the new meeting place for CVIOS will be the North Oyster Community Hall, 13467 Cedar Rd. Meetings will take place 11:30 to 2:30
- April Minutes, page 3
- Repot Your Plants, By Ray Barkalow page 4

Don't forget to visit the CVIOS website www.cvios.org for updates on events, news and AOS monthly awards.

CVIOS General Meeting Minutes April 27, 2019

Dora called the meeting to order at 12:00. New member Ken McVay introduced himself.

March Minutes: Bob moved that the minutes of March 27 be accepted and Connie 2nd the motion and motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Darlene gave a summary of the expenditures, revenues & bank balance to date. She indicated that the funds raised at our recent plant sale were substantial and in spite of the rainy day the sale was very successful. Darlene moved acceptance of her report and Leslie 2nd the motion.

Dora moved that all outstanding bills be paid and Sheila 2nd the motion and motion carried.

Refreshments: Sandra indicated we need one more person to bring goodies for our May meeting on the 25th as well as people to sign up for our meeting June 22.

THANK YOU Scott & Laura McLeod, Alexey Treyakov and Blanche Elliot for bringing refreshments for our April meeting.

REMINDERS to Darlene Rathwell, Margaret Mann and Sheila Wilson for May.

Programs: Alexey outlined the following upcoming programs: May 25 - Various members will show how to Repot & Mount various types of orchids including miniatures. They will also share culture tips.

June 22- Alan Koch from Gold Country Orchids is coming & will be bringing plants to sale. Alexey will check to see if we are able to pre order plants. Our AGM including election of new Officers will also take place.

July 28 - Picnic at Bryan's home in Victoria. More details to follow.

August - Possible annual trip to Paramount. Dora will get more details re date etc.

September 22 -Terry from Forestview Orchids will be talking about growing paphs on windowsills.

October 20 - Mitch on Oncidium Alliance

November 17 - Margaret Pratt on growing Dendrobiums

December 8 - Christmas Luncheon

Sheila thanked everyone who volunteered to help at our table at the Spring Market. All felt it was worthwhile.

New Business: Laurie & Dora have signed the agreement with the North Oyster & Area Historical Society who are the owners of the North Oyster Community Centre where we will be having our meetings as of September. They have agreed to let us move our things into the storage area near the room we will be using at the end of June. We hope to form a work party for the last week in June in order to make the move. The address of the new facility is 13467 Cedar Road.

Website: There have been many positive comments about our new website, and we are very thankful to Melanie for all the hard she has done. Leslie & Suzanne will be meeting with Melanie soon. Please let Leslie know if you have any suggestions for the website.

One of our longtime members Vickie Gay has a lean to greenhouse that she no longer needs. Contact Margaret at 250-247-8101 for more information.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Repot Your Plants, By Ray Barkalow
originally published in ORCHIDS June 2014

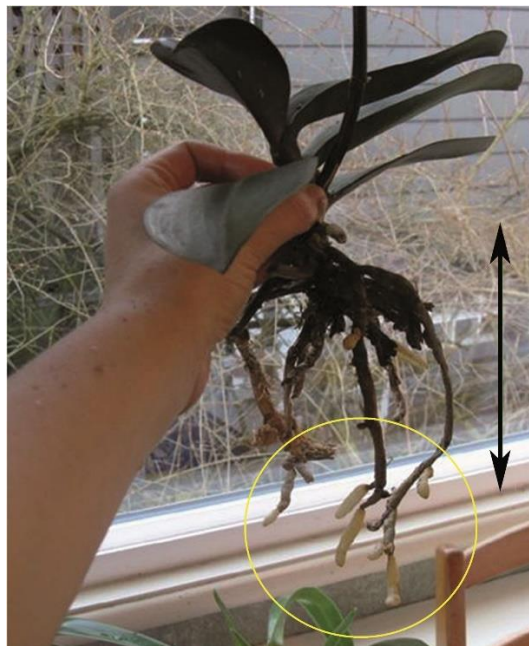
Like my earlier Water Your Orchids article (January 2014), this topic may seem to be awfully basic and pretty obvious, but I believe that if we understand some of the “why” behind the “what” or “how to” information we learn, it puts us way ahead in our efforts to become reliable caregivers to our orchids. The question of “when” to repot is another that arises frequently, and we’ll address that, too. First, a little bit about our favorite plants.

Many of you may have heard that “healthy roots means a healthy orchid” — again pretty obvious, but do you know why that is? Terrestrial plants, with their roots buried in the soil, do the vast majority of their gas exchange processes through openings (stomata) in their leaves. Orchids, on the other hand, have adapted to having far fewer leaf stomata as an apparent evolutionary strategy to minimize water loss. Those that remain are concentrated on the bottom of the leaves, and in some cases, the plants have developed a thick, waxy “cuticle” layer, all of which shifts much of the gas exchange burden to the root system. If we stifle that, we cause stress and even death to the root cells.

Let me add a bit more about those root cells. As roots grow, they “tailor” themselves to the environment into which they are growing so that they can function optimally to support the plant, and once those cells have grown, they cannot change. We can see the implications of that with the following scenario:

A plant is potted up in nice, fresh medium, and gets great care, so it grows big and strong, sending its roots deep into the moist, airy medium. Those roots have “tailored” themselves on a cellular level to function optimally in that particular environment. Time marches on, and that potting medium starts to decompose, breaking down into smaller particles and becoming more and more compact, holding lots of water and starting to restrict air flow to the roots. Plus, minerals from your water and fertilizers, as well as plant waste products have been accumulating in the medium as well. The environment has definitely changed, but the roots have not and cannot.

The black, vertical arrow in the image mark the nice depth to which the roots grew originally, but judging by their color and condition, they are failing in that changed environment. You will note, though, that there are new roots that look entirely different (see the yellow circle) that have grown from the ends of those old roots. Those nice, plump roots have grown with their cells optimized for that environment, even if it is an environment that is bad for the original root system.



One might speculate that the plant will therefore be okay, as it now has well-functioning roots, but unfortunately, while those newly grown root segments may be fine for that environment, the older root system is not, so will continue to deteriorate, ultimately completely separating those new roots from the plant, leading to its demise. That is why, when considering repotting a plant, it is best to do so just as new roots are emerging from the base of the plant, and not when the plant is dormant. Otherwise, root growth will resume only on existing roots. Those new, emergent roots will grow optimized for the environment and support the plant, while the old ones are expected to eventually fade away.

Keep in mind that the greater the difference between the “old” and “new” root zone conditions, the less optimal the old roots will be, so the more critical is the timing. One can avoid such setbacks by using good quality potting media components and repotting frequently, before the medium can significantly decompose and become compressed.

— Ray Barkalow is an engineer and scientist and has been a hobby orchid grower for over 40 years. He has owned and operated First Rays Orchids since 1994, He can be reached at raybark@firstrays.com.

Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society

Membership Form

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

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

Meetings are held September through June on Sundays at the North Oyster Community Center, 13467 Cedar Road, 11:30 to 2:30. Visit www.cvios.org for meeting dates.

Contact: Mike Miller (Membership Chairperson) 250-248-3478

Name(s) for membership card(s)

Mailing Address

Postal Code _____

Phone number _____

Email address (This is needed for society correspondence) please print clearly

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