

# CVIOS NEWSLETTER

## CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

January 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### CVIOS UPCOMING EVENTS:

*January 21: Calvin Wong from Vancouver (founder of Tropical Garden Orchids) his presentation will be: "Judging at the Japan Orchid Grand Prix 2015", the Tokyo Dome Show: the world's largest orchid show, and a private nursery tour in Japan. There will be a limited number of plants for sale from Tropical Garden Orchids.*



*CVIOS best visiting display table, Fraser Valley Show, Photo: Judith Higham*

*February 18: Sasha Kubiicek will be the speaker in February. He will be sharing his travel experiences and orchid discoveries while visiting New Zealand. There will also be a 'Bag Draw' in February.*

*March 18: Poul Hansen: presentation to be announced*

### INFORMATION:

- ❖ *The snow put a bit of a damper on the Christmas potluck. Twelve members attended the potluck. There was a silent auction, a few lovely orchid displays and lots of delicious food.*
- ❖ *Due to our Field trip to Paramount in November & the Christmas potluck, the last CVIOS general meeting was in October. Attached to this newsletter are the October 2016 minutes for your review.*
- ❖ *Snack reminders for January – all those who were going to bring goodies in November please bring to the January meeting*
- ❖ *Check the end of this newsletter for a Jan/Feb orchid checklist*
- ❖ *Victoria Orchid Show & Sale March 3-5, Open to the public March 4 & 5, Our Lady of Fatima Hall, 4635 Elk Lake Drive. For details visit: <http://victoriaorchidsociety.com/shows.html>*
- ❖ *Vancouver Orchid Society Show & Sale, March 24 (SET-UP & Private Function, Ticketed Event) Open to public March 25&26, VanDusen Botanical Garden, Floral Hall, 5251 Oak St, Vancouver, B.C. For details visit: [http://www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca/?page\\_id=530](http://www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca/?page_id=530)*

### CALVIN WONG'S BIO. JANUARY'S SPEAKER

Being the child of an Ikebana Master, Calvin has always been surrounded with flowers and plant materials since a very young age. Having killed his first orchid (a white Phalaenopsis) in lightning speed, Calvin did not accept defeat and started to research on how to successfully grow orchids, little did he know what he got himself into.

Based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, Calvin is the President of the Canadian Orchid Congress; an American Orchid Society (AOS) accredited judge with the Pacific Northwest Judging Centre; past Vice-President of the Vancouver Orchid Society, and founder of Tropical Gardens Orchids ([www.tgorchids.com](http://www.tgorchids.com)). Calvin travelled around North America for various speaking engagements and shows, he also travels extensively around the world to participate and judge orchid shows as well as observing orchids in-situ. Calvin specializes in Vanda (Neofinetia) falcata, a charming Japanese species with a long history of cultivation.

Professionally, Calvin held various leadership positions with the Federal Government of Canada throughout his career; he currently held the position as Director in a Federal department under the Public Safety Portfolio and was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2014.

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*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*

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### **CVIOS EXECUTIVE 2016/17**

**President:** Laurie Forbes

**Past President:** Bryan Emery

**Vice President:** Constance Gordon-Webster

**Treasurer:** Joann Grey

**Secretary & Newsletter:** Suzanne Currie

**Membership:** Dora Glover

**Plant Sales Table:** Donna McDonnell

**Library:** Dusty Smith

**Refreshments:** Sandra Lathrope

**Publicity:** Open

**Programs:** Open

**Directors At Large:** Alexey Tretyakov, Corey Timmins

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

### 2017:

January 21-Calvin Wong

February 18- Sasha Kubiicek  
& Bag Draw

March 4 & 5 Victoria Orchid  
Society Show & Sale  
Location: Our Lady of Fatima  
Hall

March 18-Poul Hansen

April 22

May 27

June 17

September 23

October 21

November 18

December 9

# CVIOS MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

October 22, 2016

Laurie Forbes called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. 22 members present. Welcome three new members, Darlene Rathwell and Lauren Cameron, Joanne Nemeth. Today Pepe Portilla from Ecuagenera is presenting his programs on Situ Orchids of Ecuador and has brought 5 boxes of orchids for sale.

## **Secretary's Report:**

Minutes from September, 2016 meeting approved. Motion to accept Sept. minutes Mike, second Dora. Motion carried

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Joann presented the report for June, July, August and September. Motion to accept Bryan. Second Shirley. Motion carried.

## **Memberships:**

Four new members signed on at show. Membership cards are now available. Member renewals are due by November 30

## **Plant sales:**

The few plants brought by members had already been purchased

## **Refreshments:**

Thank you, Connie, Clementine, Suzanne and Dusty. As we are going to Paramount in November, those scheduled to bring goodies please bring in January. December is a Christmas potluck lunch. Club provides coffee, tea and punch

## **Upcoming Meetings & Programs:**

November 19, 12pm excursion to Paramount Orchids. A map will be sent out with Oct minutes. Suzanne will collect names and numbers of those willing to drive and any carpoolers can contact those members for rides

December 10, Christmas potluck party. If you have orchids to display, please bring them and food for lunch. There will be a silent auction and or a bag draw.

## **CVIOS Show:**

A huge thank you to the volunteers who helped man the show! It was a success. Laurie personally thanked many members for the time committed to attend and help all weekend long. There were 6 orchid displays at the show. Ribbon and AOS awards will be listed in the newsletter.

## **Fraser Valley Show:**

Mike Miller will be on the 5:45 ferry Friday morning with CVIOS orchids. Plant drop off is at Dora and Laurie's – info will be emailed to members by Suzanne. The FVOS show awards and ribbons won by CVIOS members will be listed in the December newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm

## Monthly Checklist for January and February



*Cattleya trianae* 'Mary Fennel' HCC/AOS is a good example of this winter-blooming species

### **Cattleya**

Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions and bloom at their best.

### **Cymbidium**

We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30 F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

### **Lycaste**

The most glorious of all orchids, *Lycaste*, will be moving toward their flowering season. Make sure the palm-like leaves do not interfere with the emerging inflorescences. Tying them loosely together often is helpful. Some growers cut the leaves off at the pseudobulb, but this removes part of the attractiveness of this elegant orchid. Resist picking up the plant to inspect those beautiful buds and then setting it down in all different directions as the flower buds will be forced to re-orient themselves to the light source each time and will not open as nicely as they should. Keep plants a little drier during the shorter days.

## Odontoglossums

Odontoglossums and their intergeneric hybrids offer a great splash of color now. Though once thought of as being difficult to grow and requiring cool temperatures due to the emphasis on odontoglossum breeding, the new intergeneric hybrids made using *Oncidium* and *Brassia*, for example, are just the opposite. These plants are quite content in more intermediate conditions. New growths generally emerge in the spring, later forming beautiful plump pseudobulbs. Look for the flower spikes to emerge from the inner sheath of the pseudobulb. If your plant's pseudobulbs are shriveled, then the plants have been kept too dry or too wet. Inspect the roots to determine which condition prevailed. If the lead pseudobulb is large, plump and green (and back bulbs are shriveled) but no flower spike is evident, the plants may have been kept too dry.

## Paphiopedilum

The standard *Paphiopedilum* insigne-derived hybrids, which are called "bull dogs" and "toads," are at their peak. Unlike most other orchids, they can even be potted while in bud. There really is no wrong time to pot a *paphiopedilum*, and no other orchid responds so favorably to fresh mix and a cleanup. Keep an eye on watering until roots begin to grow.



In the fall *Phalaenopsis* should start initiating flower spikes. Inflorescences should be well developed by mid-January.

## Phalaenopsis

Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of *Phalaenopsis* at orchid shows and sales.

## Zygopetalum

For the most part, the flowering season will have ended for this group, providing the grower a chance to do some repotting. The plants will then have a chance to become well established before the hotter months of summer arrive. Most growers use bark mixes, but some exceptional results have been seen lately using rock-wool blends. You may want to try this mix, but do not change your whole collection over to this new media until you are sure it is right for you. First, experiment with a few plants to see how they respond.

*The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay*

Copied from the American Orchid Society Website: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/january-february-checklist.aspx>