



# THE WINDSOR ORCHID SOCIETY

La Société des Orchidophiles de Windsor

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**Congratulations WOS/SOW on your 28th year of service to orchid enthusiasts.**

Visit us on the web at: [www.windsororchidsociety.ca](http://www.windsororchidsociety.ca)

No.7 2012/13

**Next Meeting: Sunday, April 28, 2013 Time: 1:30 p.m.**

**Location: St. Clair College, Room 192A (Horticultural Building), Guests are Welcome**

**Speaker: Rob Halgren of Little Frog Farms, Michigan**

**Topic: New Developments – Growing Under Lights**

**(There will be a selection of Paphiopedilums available for sale by the Society)**

The Windsor Orchid Society continues to meet from September to May (excluding December) on the last Sunday of each month. Occasionally meetings are re-scheduled when we are participating at Orchid Shows that are scheduled for the same weekend as the General meeting or if the regular meeting date falls on a holiday. Watch the Newsletter and website announcements for these changes.

#### Executive Members

Acting Chair	Ed Cott	519-252-7342	laelia@aol.com
Vice-President	Louise Holt	519 252-3781	we.ezer100@hotmail.com
Secretary	Renee Gignac	519-995-2392	rgignac776@hotmail.ca
Assistant Secretary	Tammy Siefker	519-999-5439	sief45@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Betty Levar	519-253-5531	bettylevar@gmail.com
Past-President	Ed Cott	519-252-7342	laelia@aol.com

#### Society Representatives

COC Rep.:	Louise Holt
AOS Rep.:	Ed Cott
MAOC Rep.:	Doris Asher
OD Rep.:	Ed Cott

#### Committee Appointments

Archives:	Eunice Bragg
Budget:	Ed Cott - Betty Levar
Conservation:	Mary Caspers

#### Committee Appointments

Fund-raising:	Mary Caspers - Ed Cott - Tammy Siefker
Hospitality:	Eunice Bragg - Tammy Siefker
Library:	Louise Holt
Membership:	Ed Cott - Betty Levar - Eunice Bragg
Newsletter:	Ed Cott, Louise Holt, Renee Gignac
Photographer:	Hung Le, Ed Cott
Program:	Ed Cott
Publicity:	Vacant
Raffles & Prizes:	George Vegh
Orders / Supplies:	Ed Cott
WebSite:	Eunice Bragg - Ed Cott - Mary Caspers - Louise Holt
Welcoming:	Renee Gignac
Winter Social:	Sue Alexander
Webmaster:	Mark Whelan

**Topic: " New Developments – Growing Under Lights " by Rob Halgren**



Rob has been growing orchids for about 25 years. After returning to Lansing after graduate school, he built a greenhouse and started the orchid business, mainly to feed the orchid addiction and to try and pay the (very substantial) heating bills. The name "Littlefrog Farm" comes not from raising frogs but from a little tree frog he found on the kitchen counter the night his first child was born. Some years later, after thousands of questions about the business name, he decided to look into raising poison dart frogs.

For the last five or so years he has been focused on growing plants that are suitable for terrarium use, so everything is pesticide free and 'frog friendly'. He now raises a lot of small orchids, bromeliads, gesneriads, ferns, and other small tropical foliage plants, in addition to paphiopedilums and phragmipediums of all kinds. Another house later, and he's gone from growing in a large greenhouse to a large, heavily insulated pole barn, entirely under lights. To support his habit of buying the latest LED lighting technology,

we now sell lighting products in addition to plants.

Rob has a PhD. in Cancer Biology and in addition to selling plants, he is an educator. Rob lives with his wife Michelle and their two daughters in Holt, Michigan (near Lansing).



**Special Raffle:** The Society is currently selling tickets for an internal raffle to be drawn at the May meeting. There are two \$50 prizes to be awarded to the winning members. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Please see Mary Caspers or Renee Gignac for tickets.



**A special thank you for contributing food and raffle items at the March meeting:** Thanks so much to everyone who brought in snacks for the refreshment table – including Eunice, Betty, Norma, Kathleen, Renee, Sue and Julia & Rudy. Please remember to sign the sign-in sheets to be recognized for your contributions. Raffle items were contributed by Ed, Eunice and Julia & Rudy.

**Orchid Supplies:** Bark, Physan, sphagnum, pots, fertilizer, totes, etc., are available at the meeting. Special request? See our Special Orders and Supplies Committee Chair – Ed Cott. Supplies can also be ordered through the website.

**Bizarre Bazaar** - This is an important auction and fundraiser for our Society held annually in May and it depends on member contributions of orchid plants or divisions, orchid related items and other desirable objects. Please remember to set aside those items during the year. Your contribution will help assure your Society's continued success at this May event. Funds support costs associated with speaker fees for our visiting presenters.

**Parking:** *Members can park in Lot "L" behind the greenhouse building & walk to the meeting room. (Vehicles enter through the exit gate - it will be open). Although the spaces indicate it is for Handicap Parking, this is not enforced on Sunday.*

## Working with St. Clair College

On Wednesday, April 3, Ed Cott, Deb Boersma and Mark Whelan met with Sandy MacDonald, Horticulture Professor in the Landscape-Horticulture Program at St. Clair College, and a number of students in the program to assist them in repotting a variety of orchids from the College's collection. It was a terrific to see the enthusiasm and eagerness to learn about orchids that was shown by the students. Another session is anticipated in the Fall and we hope that other WOS members will participate.



(R) Deb Boersma works with Jesse and Louise repotting Phalaenopsis, (C) Darryl secures an Oncidium on a ficus branch, (L) Mark Whelan provides direction to Mitch who is repotting a Cymbidium.

## WOS Members visit La Société des orchidophiles de Montréal

WOS/SOW members Ed Cott, Deb Boersma and Renee Gignac travelled to Montreal on the weekend of March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, to enjoy OrchidExpo. Deb and Renee flew to Montreal and Ed drove separately with the understanding that any purchases would come back with him. Well, the Dodge Journey was full to the brim on the return trip (and Ed only purchased a few miniatures).



## Why won't my orchid rebloom ?



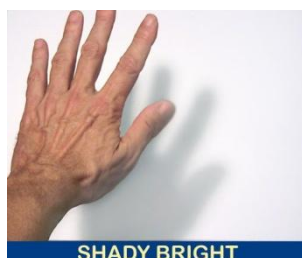
Insufficient light is the most common cause of failure to re-bloom your orchid. Leaf color indicates if the amount of light is adequate. The lush, rich, dark green of most houseplants is not desirable in orchid leaves. A grassy green color (light or medium green with yellowish tones) means the plant is receiving sufficient light to bloom. The orchid on the left shows the correct leaf color and is producing abundant blooms, the plant on the right has dark green leaves and no flowers. Orchid plants need sunlight. Light is used to turn moisture and nutrients into plant growth. A good rule is to give your plants as much light as possible without scorching. While too much light may damage the plants, too little light will prevent flowering or cause weak growth.

Too much sunlight is indicated by scorched spots on the foliage or pseudobulbs where the sun hits directly. Rarely does sunburn discolor an entire plant, only the portion of the green parts that is hit by direct sun for too long a period. Increased light should be given gradually. Burn damage is caused when the plant tissue gets too hot. If a leaf feels hot to your fingers, it may be burning. If you can cool down the leaf temperature with moving air and water, then the light can be brighter without doing any harm.

Morning sun is more beneficial to plants than afternoon sun. Therefore your growing area should be located to get maximum sun and light early in the day. A windowsill chosen for orchids should face east or south.

For more detailed information on the light requirements of specific orchids, you should consult the [AOS cultures sheets](#).

Although there are light meters that can be used to measure the light in your orchid growing areas they can be confusing to use. An easy way to determine the brightness of your growing area is to use a white sheet of paper or white illustration board or foamcore. Hold your hand about 8-10 inches above the white card on a bright day when the sun is shining fully. Use the illustrations below as guides.







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## The March Meeting Plant Table (photos by Ed Cott)



- Best in Show



Cymbidium Hybrid (Eleanor Sfalcin)



Clowesia Rebecca Northern 'Pink Grapefruit'  
(Louise Holt)



Dendrobium aggregatum  
(Louise Holt)

### Another Graduating Class from ElderCollege – “Growing Orchids at Home”.

Ed Cott, Past President of the WOS/SOW recently completed the third term of teaching “Growing Orchids at Home” offered through ElderCollege, a program organized by Canterbury College, affiliated with the University of Windsor. Pictured below (L to R) – Walter, Kathleen and Matt (absent – Marilyn).



## CASH FOR BEST ESSAY

The Mid-America Orchid Congress invites you to enter their essay contest. Write an essay on “Travels with Orchids” -- and win up to \$100.00! The essay should be no more than 500 words in length and submitted no later than October 1st to Doris Asher ([asherdoris@juno.com](mailto:asherdoris@juno.com)) – winners will be announced at the Congress’ Sunday Business Meeting in Dayton, OH, October 20, 2013. You do not need to be present to win. First prize wins \$100.00; second, \$50; third, \$25. All three prize-winning essays will appear in future issues of the Congress’s newsletter, The Mid-American.

For more information or if you have questions, contact Doris Asher via email or by phone (517-332-0004).



## London Orchid Society Invitations

**Note:** The London Orchid Society meetings are held at St. Joseph's Regional Mental Health Care London (The London Psychiatric Hospital), 850 Highbury Avenue, London, Ont. in the amphitheatre. The meetings begin at 2:00 p.m. but the doors are usually open sometime between 1:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. for setup and socializing.



### April 21, 2013, London Orchid Society Meeting, Dr. Doris Jensen (plants available for sale)

*Born in Toronto, Ontario, Doris obtained her BA and MA from the University of Toronto and went on to complete her graduate studies in Parasitology at the University of British Columbia. She later completed her post-doctoral studies at the University of Toronto. After 31 years, including the final 14 years as Dean of Science Studies, Doris retired from McMaster University.*



**Bulb. sibuyanense** (Photo by C.T. Lefaive)

*Doris' interest in orchids began in 1978 when she started by growing cymbidium orchids. In the early 1980's, she added a "lean-to" to her home and that opened the flood gates. When she retired, she added a 16' x 24' greenhouse where she now grows a variety of orchids including an array of Bulbophyllum and Coelogyne species and hybrids.*

*Just prior to retiring, Doris entered the judging program in 1994 and was a student at the Great Lakes Judging Center in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Now fully accredited, Doris is a judge with the Toronto Judging Centre.*

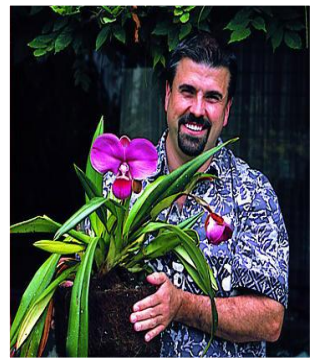
*Doris' travels have taken her to Kuala Lumpur and Zimbabwe and at the World Orchid Conferences in Miami, Vancouver, Dijon, South Africa and most recently in Singapore. She is a member of the Orchid Society of the Royal Botanical Gardens, in which she has held many Executive positions in the past.*

*Doris is currently working on a book that will focus on the subject of one of her favourite orchid genera, Bulbophyllum.*

### May 19, 2013, London Orchid Society Meeting, Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids - New York.

**(Note: Glen will only be bringing plants that have been pre-ordered to the event)**

*Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids, New York will speak to us on How to Grow Great Slipper Orchids. This will include a lot of cultural information as well as how to take care of bugs using nontoxic means. While he plans on bringing orders for sale at this special meeting, it is best to pre-order. Further information about how to pre-order will be announced closer to this meeting. Glen Decker began growing orchids at the age of 15 and holds the degree of Associate in Applied Science in Ornamental Horticulture. He was the previous chair of the American Orchid Society's Publications Committee and has served as a Director of the Orchid Digest Corporation. Glen has won numerous AOS awards, including the Butterworth Prize, Nax Trophy, WW Wilson Award and the Carlyle A. Luer Award. He has appeared in Martha Stewart's Better Living Magazine and on a PBS TV special "Orchid Delirium". He rewrote the Slipper section of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's "The Best Orchids for Indoors" and was the technical editor for the "Orchids for Dummies" book.*



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Your Windsor Orchid Society 2012-2013 Programming Guide! - mark your calendar

Date	Speaker / Event	Topic	Plants for Sale?
Apr 21	<b>Dr. Doris Jensen</b> <i>London Orchid Society</i>	Growing Bulbophyllums Society invitation (see page 5)	Yes
Apr 28	<b>Littlefrog Farms</b> <b>Rob Halgren</b>	New advances for growing orchids under lights	The Society will be selling a selection of Paphiopedilums
May 19	<b>Glen Decker, Piping Rock</b> <i>London Orchid Society</i>	How to grow slipper orchids. Society invitation (see page 5)	Yes (pre-orders only)
May 26	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>	<b>Bizarre Bazaar</b>	Yes

Date  
2013

Show / Event Location and contact Info if available

Sep 28-29: [The Central Ontario Orchid Society](#)  
Oct 26-27: [The Windsor Orchid Society Show](#)

Hespeler Arena, 640 Ellis Road, Cambridge.  
Teutonia Club of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario.

Photos from the Toronto Artistic Orchid Association Show held April 13th & 14th:



WOS Display – Winner of Third Place Ribbon



Best in Show – Dendrobium  
densiflorum 'Wonder' CCM/AOS



Paphiopedilum Liberty Taiwan

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**Membership**

Send your contact information along with payment to:

**The Windsor Orchid Society**, C/O Betty Levar, 1822 Chilver Road, Windsor, Ontario. N8W 2T8

**Annual Dues are \$20.00 single and \$25.00 family/joint membership.**