



THE WINDSOR ORCHID SOCIETY

La Société des Orchidophiles de Windsor

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

Visit us on the web at: www.windsororchidsociety.ca

No.8 2012/13

Next Meeting: Sunday, May 26, 2013 Time: 1:30 p.m.

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

Bizarre Bazaar

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:	Deb Boersma
Raffles & Prizes:	George Vegh
Orders / Supplies:	Ed Cott
WebSite:	Mark Whelan
	Ed Cott
Welcoming:	Renee Gignac
Winter Social:	Sue Alexander
Webmaster:	Mark Whelan



The May meeting of the WOS/SOW is set aside annually as our Annual General Meeting for the membership. This meeting includes a number of activities including:

- Annual election of officers
- Presentation of the year in review
- Presentation of Special Awards
- Annual Auction to raise funds to support guest speaker fees & costs
- Social time

If you have items for inclusion in the auction, please bring them to the meeting. There will be a sales table as well as an auction.



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. Tickets will be drawn at the close of the meeting.



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 & Matt, Debbie, Pam, Lilly & Hung. Please remember to sign the sign-in sheets to be recognized for your contributions. Raffle items were contributed by Kathleen.

Orchid Supplies: Bark, Phyan, 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.

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.*

Canadian Orchid Congress Travel Grant



The WOS/SOW applied, once again this year, for the Education Travel Grant from the Canadian Orchid Congress (COC). We have received notification from the COC that our application was approved. The grant represents a \$200 contribution from the COC toward travel costs expended for educational purposes. As in prior years, the WOS plans on renting a small bus in order to travel to and participate in SummerFest on August 11, 2013. This event is sponsored by the Southern Ontario Orchid Society (SOOS) and the guest speaker this year is James Rose of Cal-Orchid in Santa Barbara, California. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. More details to follow regarding travel, costs and pre-orders. Visit their website at <http://calorchid.com/>.



An Orchid by Any Other Name



There are many great things one might achieve in their lifetime and one of them is to have an orchid hybrid named in your honour. In December, Cattleya Ruth Neily was registered to honour our Society matriarch. The same honour has now been bestowed upon another of our members - Eunice Bragg. Clowesia Eunice Bragg is a hybrid of Cl. Rebecca's Daughter x Cl. Grace Dunn, a cross done by JEM Orchids. Clowesia is a genus in the Catasetinae family. The hybrid was registered in January by Chuck Lefaive and Bernie Butts. Congratulations Eunice!

(Photo courtesy of Cheryl Akey, Florida.)

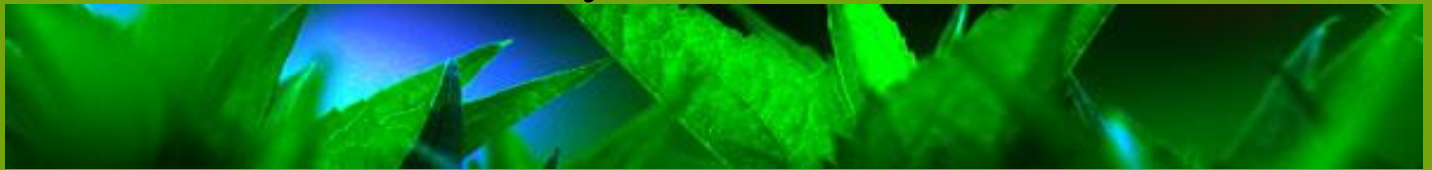


What do I do with my *Catasetums*?

Many of our members have acquired a division of *Catasetum* Marsh Hollow (registered by Mario Ferrusi in 1992), either through our Annual Auction or as a gift from another member. The origin of this seems to be Betty Levar who bought her plant from Mario and subsequently divided it. A recent Newsletter from Sunset Valley Orchids, reprinted here with the permission of Fred Clarke, will help all of us remember some key points about growing this interesting orchid genus.

Sunset Valley Orchids News

April 2013



Hi all you *Catasetinae* growers, spring is officially here and your *Catasetinae* should have started or are getting ready to start new growth.

Here are a few reminders to help with a successful spring:

Catasetinae begin their new growth in early spring. However, watering should wait until the new growth has well developed new roots. This means you should let the new roots grow to an approximate length of 3"-6" before you begin watering. Let me emphasize this point, wait to water until the new roots are 3"-6" long. Generally the new growth will be 5"-8" tall before the roots are equally long.

The waiting to water is not easy, my natural instinct is to begin watering when I see new growth, but I have learned through trial and error that it is better to wait to water than start watering too soon. This waiting to water was also confirmed a few years back when visiting the habitat of *Catasetums* in the spring. All the plants I saw in nature had new roots growing but the rains were not expected to arrive for another month. So lesson learned, wait to water until the new roots are 3"-6" long.

Catasetinae roots deteriorate during dormancy, the new roots will be taking over the job of growing the new pseudobulb so this makes the new roots vital in the plants health. Again reinforcing the message about not watering too early. For those of you in warmer climates the new roots may be sufficiently developed by now. This is the period where the plants are going to start rapidly developing their new pseudobulbs. There is a surprising amount of growth that occurs in the next 3-4 months; often the plants will double their size. Due to this, the plants require constant moisture and regular fertilization. In most cases, irrigation will be need 2 or 3 times a week. A balanced fertilizer at full strength (1 tsp. per gallon) is suitable for this rapid growth.

Light levels at or above those suggested for *Cattleya* will help insure strong good growth and flowering. Soon the time when the fruits of your labor will begin to pay off as the flowering season will be underway in a month or two.

Grow them good! (reprint courtesy of Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids)



The April Meeting Plant Table (photos by Hung Le and Ed Cott)



Best in Show



Paphiopedilum (Paph.) appletonianum, Paph. Henrietta Fujiwara, Phragmipedium Sunspot x kovachii — grown by Ed Cott



Encyclia bractescens (Louise Holt), Brassia arcuigera (Jeannie Gascoigne), Miltassia hybrid (Norma Viol), Oncidesa Jiuhbao Gold (Renee Gignac)



Rodrumnia Orchidom Alameda Beth (Jeannie Gascoigne), Doritaenopsis Hsinying Fortune x Phalaenopsis Lioulin Venus (Eleanor Sfalcin), Cymbidium hybrid (Charlie Bowyer)

Attention Aspiring Writers!! - 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) – 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).



Collector's Item: *Catasetum pileatum* Rchb.f.

Pronunciation: Kat-ah-SEE-tum pee-lee-AH-tum (or pih-lee-AY-tum)



This spectacular *Catasetum* is widespread from the island of Trinidad, throughout the basins of the Negro and Orinoco Rivers in Brazil and Venezuela and into Colombia and Ecuador. The first plants introduced into England were collected in Venezuela and introduced into cultivation by Linden. The species was described by H. G. Reichenbach in 1882 in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*. Until 1921 this species was Venezuela's national flower. The Latin name refers to the adjective *pileatus* or "with a cap", in apparent reference to the hood over the broad lip formed by the carriage of the dorsal sepal and petals.

(left - *Ctsm. pileatum* 'Riopelle', CCM/AOS
Grower: James Riopelle Portland, OR)

Catasetum pileatum is an impressive plant even out of flower. The fusiform (spindle-shaped) pseudobulbs grow about 16cm (about 6 inches) tall and the large leaves can reach 40cm (about 16 inches long) making typical plants nearly 60cm (2 feet) tall. Robust clones can be even bigger. *Catasetums* normally produce flowers of a single sex. The plants themselves are not constrained to one sex or the other as are some plants but any given inflorescence will usually carry flowers that are either male or female with male flowers more prevalent. Male inflorescences can reach 30cm (12 inches) long and carry up to 12 flowers reaching about 13cm (about 5 inches) across. Female inflorescences are typically shorter, fewer-flowered and the fleshy flowers are fewer in number. In some species in the *Catasetum* Alliance, the differences between male and female flowers are so striking that early taxonomists mistook female forms for different species. Inflorescences in this species are produced from near the base of the maturing pseudobulb typically in late summer or fall although plants are capable of flowering about any time. Mature pseudobulbs on well-grown plants may produce several inflorescences at once or spread out over a fairly long period of time.



Ctsm. pileatum 'Imperial', AM/AOS
Grower: Martin J. Nathan, MD
Los Angeles, CA

Catasetum pileatum is a lowland species where it occurs as an epiphyte. The species is adapted to hot, humid rainforest with only a short dry winter season and this is one species that may not go completely dormant for any period of time. Temperatures range from a maximum of 30C (86F) to a minimum of 15C (59F) and humidity is high at night even in the dry season. While actively growing, plants should be given as much water, warmth and humidity they will tolerate without damage to the foliage and ample fertilizer. These plants are heavy feeders and the goal is to produce the largest pseudobulbs as possible by the onset of late summer. After flowering and when leaves fall, the plants should be kept dry with high humidity and warm temperatures until the newly developing growths have roots about an inch long. With *Ctsm. pileatum*, this time interval can be quite short and successful growers provide a winter rest only if the plant's appearance indicates a need for dormancy. Plants are best grown potted. Some successful growers use straight sphagnum moss in clay pots top-dressed with time-release fertilizer (in low-humidity climates plastic pots will retain moisture longer). Others recommend bark or tree-fern based potting mix. Regardless of the mix chosen, it must hold adequate moisture, drain rapidly so excess moisture isn't a problem and aerate the roots.

American Orchid Society (Reprint)

Ron McHatton, August 2009



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

Date	Speaker / Event	Topic	Plants for Sale?
May 26	Annual General Meeting	Bizarre Bazaar	Yes
June 23	Trip to Crystal Star Orchids	The Society will be taking members to visit Eric & Ellen Lee and make purchases from their greenhouses	Yes
TBD	Trip to Marsh Hollow Orchids	The Society will be taking members to visit Mario & Conni Ferrusi and make purchases from their greenhouses	Yes
Aug 4	Bus Trip to Summer Fest (SOOS)	James Rose of Cal-Orchid is the featured speaker	Yes (Pre-orders)

Date Show / Event Location and contact Info if available
 2013

- Sep 28-29: [The Central Ontario Orchid Society](#) Hespeler Arena, 640 Ellis Road, Cambridge.
- Oct 26-27: The Windsor Orchid Society Show Teutonia Club of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario.



Summer Field Trips

As noted in the programming guide above, we have three trips on the agenda for this summer. Please note the dates. We will be contacting the membership to determine who plans on going. If you know now that you would like to go, please contact Eunice Bragg at 519-253-4751 and we'll mark you down. Costs are very reasonable and it is a full day and a LOT of fun.

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.