



THE WINDSOR ORCHID SOCIETY

La Société des Orchidophiles de Windsor

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Congratulations WOS/SOW on your 30th year of service to orchid enthusiasts.

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

No.8 2014/2015

Next Meeting: Sunday, May 31, 2015 Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: St. Clair College, Room 135 (Horticultural Building)

Bizarre Bazaar



The May meeting is the Annual Meeting of the Society. During the meeting we will present our annual awards to some of our members, discuss our accomplishments of the past year and try to raise some operating funds. A variety of orchids will be sold and auctioned at the event. So come prepared to **BUY!** See you soon!!! Note: **NEW LOCATION**, this meeting only

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

President	Deb Boersma	519 730-1728	dboersma@stclaircollege.ca
Vice-President	Louise Holt	519 252-3781	we.ezer100@hotmail.com
Secretary	Renee Gignac	519-995-2392	rgignac776@hotmail.ca
Assistant Secretary	Eunice Bragg	519-253-4751	
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
Hospitality:	Justine Cloutier
Library:	Louise Holt
Membership:	Ed Cott - Betty Levar - Eunice Bragg
Newsletter:	Jackie Hay (jackie.hay@hotmail.com)
Photographer:	Mark Whelan, 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

A special thank you for contributing food and raffle items at the April meeting: Thanks so much to everyone who brought in snacks for the refreshment table and raffle items. Please remember to sign the sheets to be recognized for your contributions. Thanks to Eunice, Mark, Betty, Pam, Jeannie, Shari and C.N.

Orchid Supplies: Potting mix, 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.

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. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE DRIVEWAY ADJACENT TO THE BUILDING**



Executive Position Nominations Open



Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the May meeting.

Preliminaries:

Past president: Deb Boersma (by default)

President: Mark Whelan has been nominated and has accepted

Vice President: Ed Cott has been nominated and has accepted

Secretary: Renee Gignac has agreed to hold this position

Assistant Secretary: Eunice Brag has agreed to hold this position

Treasurer: Betty Levar has agreed to hold this position

COC Rep: Louise Holt has agreed to hold this position

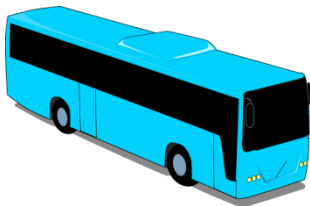
Librarian: Louise Holt has agreed to continue in this role

Fun Summer Field Trips are scheduled!

June 7 - SOOS Toronto Botanical Gardens – Fred Clarke – Australian Dendrobiums

July 5 - SOOS Summerfest Toronto Botanical Gardens – Juan Philippe Posada – Cool growing Colombian Orchids. Pot luck lunch at noon

August 8 – Clouds Orchids and Marsh Hollow Orchids – Pot luck BBQ with Conni & Mario



What type of water do our orchids prefer?

IN NEED OF A RAIN BARREL?

Erie Wildlife Rescue Rain Barrel Fundraising Sale

www.rainbarrel.ca

The rain barrel sale, distribution and pickup is scheduled for Saturday, June 20th, 2015 and will take place from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at 11168 Tecumseh Road East, Windsor, ON N8R 1A8. **Only rain barrels ordered in advance are guaranteed to be available.**

Prices begin at \$55 per barrel. A variety of optional items including flexible downspout pipes, downspout diverters, rain barrel stands, dispensing hose and

additional lengths of overflow hose can also be purchased. Please bring your receipt to the sale event to claim your products.





Phragmipedium synopsis by Pat Vuurman, 26/04/15:

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Clearly Phrags. have opposing habitats - "wet" growers and "dry" growers. With hybrids with diverse parentage one cannot establish with certainty what works best for a particular cultivar. Therefore Pat uses a semi-hydroponic system that allows the plant to make roots either into the water reservoir at the bottom of his pots or not.

Custom made "pots" are made from any useful plastic container by drilling 2 drainage holes about 0.5cm / 1/4" diameter about 3cm / 1" apart about 2cm / 3/4" up from the bottom.

Potting is by:

1. Clay beads ~0.7cm / 3/8" size in the pot up to the holes level
2. Broken Styrofoam for one full layer of minimal thickness
3. Minimal layer of medium of your choice before the next step
4. Work the roots of your freshly unpotted plant** into its new pot Hint: by holding the plant

down a bit below the expected top medium level allows for pulling the plant up some during re-potting to its ideal level and seems to facilitate ultimate stability

5. Add medium, frequently tamping, sharply patting the sides of the pot and banging the pot on the table to facilitate good medium-contact with all the roots and fewer open pockets. Be sure to have the crown of the plant at the surface of the medium when finished

6. If the plant is somewhat wobbly, apply one or more rhizome clips to stabilize

7. Install the plant label with its new repot date

Most Phrags. (like almost all orchids) prefer a slightly acidic root zone. An important exception is Phrag. kovachii that came from a habitat of somewhat basic pH. Periodic application of dolomite chips (chicken grit, etc) is beneficial for most of its offspring and a requirement for the species to thrive.

** be sure to use newly sterilized tools at all times to prevent pest / disease spread.

General growing conditions:

Water – good quality water is essential – more important than most other requirements.

Water often enough to keep roots moist at all times – approximately weekly all year round.

Rain water is best.

Intolerant of built-up salts – causes leaf tip burn.

Flush heavily using clean water – helps leach out excess salts – oxygenates the root zone

Fertilizer – use an orchid formula with trace elements.

Skip fertilizing at least once a month and flush heavily with plain water.

We use MSU formula for rain water – quarter and half the recommended strength. They are not heavy feeders.

Light – medium light levels all year round – similar to or a bit more than Paphiopedilum, less than Cattleya and more than Phalaenopsis.

Temperature – cool to hot depending on species.

Most do well in intermediate temperatures.

Research species for particular requirements - hybrids are more tolerant.

Humidity and **air circulation** – medium high humidity with good air circulation

Reduces excess drying.

Reduces incidence of various rots.

Phragmipedium Mix for semi-hydroponic Potting

1 part fine baked clay bits (Turface * is the trade name I've been told, spelling?)

2 parts medium charcoal

3 parts medium perlite

15 to 20 parts medium coir ** for small to medium sized plants OR

5 parts medium plus 10 to 15 parts large coir ** for larger plants

* Turface is available at hydroponics stores.

** Some coir, claiming "rinsed" on the packaging, still contains copious quantities of salts. Phrags cannot tolerate built up salts. Coir MUST be soaked and rinsed several times (thrice is recommended) using BOILING water to remove excess salts.

*** This recipe is successful in our growing conditions. Please try it on one or two Phrags first before committing an entire collection to a major change.

Plant Table April 2015

Best Species



Jeannie Gascoigne - *Renanthera citrina*

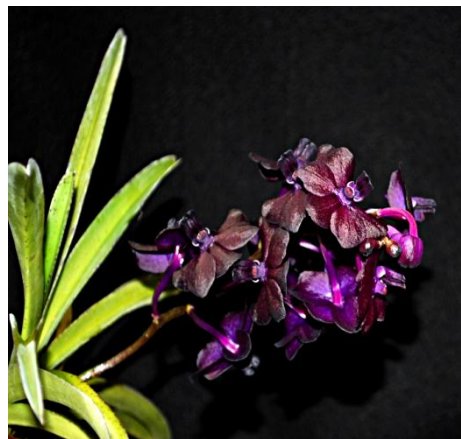
Best Hybrid



Dr. John Dougherty - *Paph. Michael Koopowitz*



Deb Boersma - *Zygo Adelaide Australia*



Deb Boersma - *Vasco Midnight Velvet*



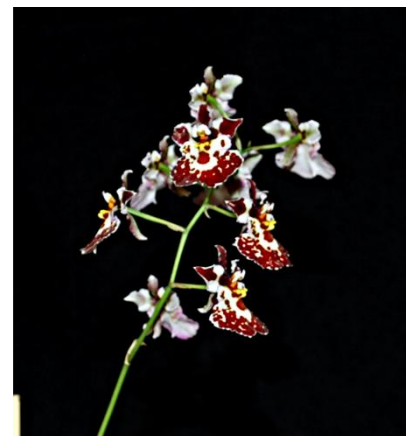
Dr. John Daugherty - *Paph. kolopakingii x philippinense*



Deb Boersma - *Pleurothallis gargantua*



Deb Boersma - *Den. thyrsiflorum*



Mary Welacky - *Tolumnia Rainbow*



April Plant Table cont'd



Eleanor Sfalcin – Den. Oriental Smile Fantasy



Deb Boersma - Mokara Moonlight



Louise Holt – Phrag Court Jester



Louise Holt – Paph. St. Swithin



Mary Welacky – Den. Christy Dawn



C.N. – Brassavola nodosa



C.N. – Restrepia roseola



Many thanks to Pat Vuurman for his Phrag repotting demo at the April meeting



A big thank you to members who have taken books of tickets to sell! We have 600 tickets, so, I still need your assistance. Please email or call me and we can make arrangements to get tickets to you. If you have sold any tickets please bring the money and ticket stubs to me at the May 31st meeting. Important note: if a book of tickets goes to one individual the cost is \$20.00, if there is more than one individual in any one book the cost is \$25.00. Your help and support is appreciated by the WOS!



CASH FOR BEST ESSAY



The Mid-America Orchid Congress invites you to enter their essay contest. Write an essay on “My Most Exciting Orchid-Related Experience” -- and win up to \$100.00! The essay should be no more than 500 words in length and submitted no later than September 1, 2015, to Doris Asher (asherdoris@juno.com) – winners will be announced at the Congress’ Sunday Business Meeting on September 25, 2015, location to be announced. 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).

Windsor Orchid Society 2014-2015 Programming Guide! - mark your calendar

Date	Speaker / Event	Topic	Plants for Sale?
May 31	WOS – Annual General Meeting and Auction	Bizarre Bazaar	Yes
June 7	SOOS Toronto Botanical Gardens	Fred Clarke – Australian Dendrobiums	Yes
July 5	SOOS Summerfest Toronto Botanical Gardens	Juan Phillipe Posada – Cool growing Colombian Orchids Pot Luck Lunch at Noon	Yes
Aug 8	Clouds Orchids & Marsh Hollow Greenhouse	Pot Luck Lunch with Conni & Mario	Yes
Oct 24-25	WOS Show and Sale <u>NEW LOCATION!</u>	Columbus Center 2401 Columbus Dr (off Northwood) Windsor, ON	Yes

Membership

Send your contact information along with payment to:

The Windsor Orchid Society, C/O Betty Levar, 1822 Chilver Road, Windsor, Ontario. N8W 2T8 (or see Betty at the meeting)

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