

NEWSLETTER



Editor's Note: The newsletter will be distributed electronically to all members for whom we have an email address. If you wish to switch from paper to electronic delivery, please notify me at thues@sasktel.net.

Future Meeting Dates:

April 26, 2015 May 24, 2015 September 27, 2015
October 25, 2015 November 22, 2015

SOS Executive

President:	Bob Lucas
Vice-President:	Sherida Gregoire
Past President:	Cal Carter
Secretary:	Donna Carlson-O'Keefe
Treasurer:	Cheryl Grummett
Social:	Shirley Keith Lori Pozniak
Plant Orders:	Heather Anderson Cheryl Adamson
Resources:	Yvette Lyster Pat Randall
Librarians:	Jan Dougall Debbie Huculiak
Newsletter:	Tracey Thue
COC/AOS Rep:	Eugene Kucey
Speakers:	Don Keith
Webmaster:	Bob Lucas

Mail Address: SOS, Box 411
Saskatoon, SK
S7K 3L3

Web Address: www.saskorchids.com

April Meeting

The April general meeting of the Society will be held on

April 26, 2015 at John Dolan School, commencing at 1:30 p.m.

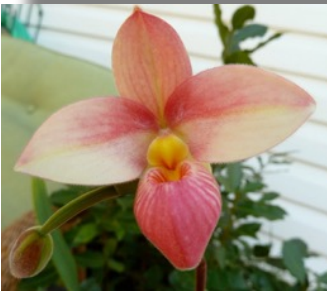
The meeting will feature the 4th annual silent auction in support of the SOS.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to all the volunteers who were involved with our orchid show at Gardenscape. You did a great job and it was appreciated.
Shirley Keith, Volunteer Coordinator

Our 4th Annual Silent Auction will take place during the April meeting, in support of the SOS. Members are asked to bring orchids and orchid-related items (loosely defined) for the auction. Members have the right to specify the percentage of the sale price to be donated to the SOS, either 50 or 100 percent. Bid sheets will be provided for each item. The auction



Phragmipedium Hanne Popow
Grown & Photographed by Tracey Thue

is open to all including non-members, so if you know of someone who might be interested in purchasing plants, please invite them to the meeting!

Plant sale The silent auction will replace the monthly plant sale.

Plant raffle There will be no plant raffle this month.

Executive Elections will occur at the April meeting. All current members of the executive have agreed to let their names stand. If you would like to serve or wish to nominate someone, contact Bob or Sherida before the meeting.

Membership Renewals for 2015-2016 (September - May) will be on sale at the April meeting. As an incentive for early registration, offered at the April and May meetings, members will be eligible for a \$5 gift certificate which can be redeemed at the SOS resource table until the January 2016 meeting, or a near blooming size Oncidium Twinkles 'Pink Profusion' from Forestview Gardens. There are a limited number of plants available so they will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Show & Tell If you have a flowering orchid, please bring it to the meeting and tell us about it. If you are shy about standing in front of the group to speak, bring a few notes on how you grow and flower it and Bob or Sherida will be happy to present the plant for you.

Meeting Agenda:

Annual Silent Auction
Announcements
Problem Corner
Show and Tell
Coffee/Supplies/Library
SOS Executive Election
Wilma Nykiforuk Memorial Award
Show & Tell Draw
Adjournment

The **4th Annual Wilma Nykiforuk Memorial Award** will be presented at the April meeting. The 'Best Plant' on the Show Table this month will be selected by Sarah Nykiforuk and Don Keith. Owner of

the chosen plant will receive an orchid in bloom.

The **Annual Show & Tell Draw** will occur at the April meeting. This draw usually occurs during the May meeting, but since the award plant is currently blooming the executive felt it should be awarded now. Names of members who have brought plants over the past year will be placed into the draw, once for every month they brought plants.

There will be a **plant draw for contributors to the coffee break** snacks this year. You must be in attendance to receive the flowering

GARDENSCAPE VOLUNTEER & DELGATE NAME TAGS & LANYARDS!

If you haven't already done so, please return these at the April meeting.

plant.

OrchidWiz Cal will have his computer with OrchidWiz at this month's meeting. If you purchased plants recently and you're not sure how best to grow them, consult with Cal and OrchidWiz!

The **Orchid Society of Alberta's annual show** is taking place in Edmonton April 17-19, 2015. Bob Lucas is taking a display for our society and Don Keith will be bringing it home Sunday night.

The Regina Orchid Show will be held May 2 & 3, 2015. Heather Anderson is taking a display for our society. If you have any plants in flower, drop them off at Heather's Friday, May 1 between 5-7pm. Address: 3254 Calder Terrace.

MARCH 22 MINUTES

Announcements

Bob welcomed everyone to the meeting. A number of announcements were made regarding last minute planning for the COC show at Gardenscape.

Heather Anderson provided an update on the COC show.

Problem Corner

No problems were presented.

Show and Tell

Eight flowering plants were shown by Heather Anderson, Cheryl Adamson, Tracey Thue, Cal Carter and Lynn Campbell. Cheryl encouraged people to bring plants for the SOS display even if they weren't the best. Bob pointed out that no-name plants could still be judged for ribbons, but would not be considered for AOS judging.

Break

Thank you to Yvette Saxinger, Irene Stroshein, Ellen Ross, Dave Robinson and Obthavy Phonsavath for providing snacks.

Presentation

There was no presentation at the March meeting because of the upcoming COC Show the following weekend. Kathryn Hiller was available to assist people in registering plants to be entered in the SOS display.

Plant Raffle

There were approximately thirty Phalaenopsis plants donated by Saskatoon Co-op. A donation is made annually to the Nature Conservancy of Saskatchewan with a portion of the money made from this raffle.

Plant Sale

There were almost thirty plants from a wide variety of genera available for sale to members; approximately half of these were sold.

Adjournment

Approximately 2:30 pm. The SOS executive met afterwards for COC show planning.

SOS MARCH SHOW AND TELL TABLE

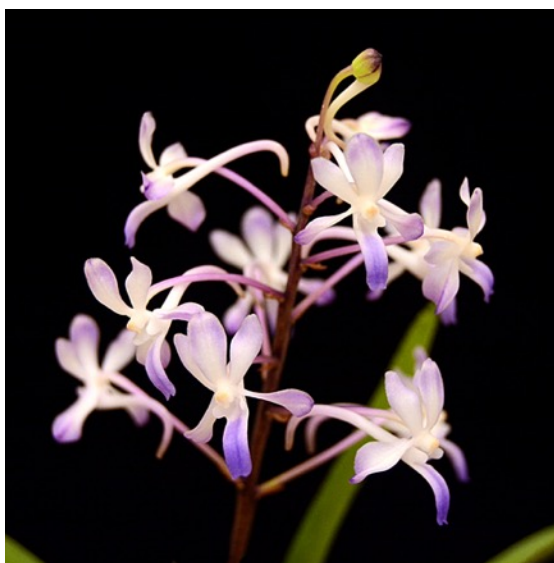
PHOTOS BY SARA THUE



Rhyncattleanthe Shinfong Little Sun
'Young-Min Golden Boy'
Exhibitor: Cheryl Adamson



Cattlianthe Mine Gold 'Corona' AM/AOS
Exhibitor: Tracey Thue



Neostylis Lou Sneary
(*Neofinetia falcata* 'Kokakuden' x
Rhynchostylis coelestis 'Ching
Hua Blue')
Exhibitor: Cal Carter

Phalaenopsis Baldan's Kaleidoscope
'Golden Treasure' AM/AOS
Exhibitor: Lynn Campbell



Cattleya
Exhibitor: Heather Anderson

Paphiopedilum gratixianum
Exhibitor: Tracey Thue



For the Love of Orchids
Canadian Orchid Congress Show 2015
FINAL WORDS

Submitted by Heather Anderson, COC Show Co-Chair

The Canadian Orchid Congress has been deemed a success. Accolades have been received from numerous visitors to the show including Abu Salleh, AOS Chair; Calvin Wong, COC President, and Dave Nixon, Orchid Species Preservation Foundation President, just to name a few. The event commenced with a fun night of socializing and shopping at the Thursday night Wine and Cheese. Bob Lucas, Judge Coordinator and Yvette Lyster, Art Coordinator and the 11 judges and clerks were up early Friday morning for breakfast and ribbon and awards judging. They were joined by the ribbon judges, Pat Randall, Photographer and her assistants Sherida Gregoire and Art Randall; and Jan Dougall, Art Clerk. Over 200 orchids in the various displays were registered and judged for the numerous Trophies and Awards. This year Gardenscape was attended by over 23,000 and it is hoped that the majority of the attendees took the opportunity to visit the orchid displays and vendors in Hall A. A total of 10 educational sessions and 2 potting demonstrations were held with 3 of these presentations on the Speaker's Theatre. 44 Delegates registered for the weekend activities. The Awards Banquet and Silent Auction, with Cal Carter as Master of Ceremonies, was attended by 76. We were pleased to have Faith and Roger Prodanuk and Pam Mann in attendance – they had been instrumental in the planning and hosting of the 2002 COC. 10 vendors

had an excess of 3000 orchids, cut flowers and pottery for sale. There were a few tense moments when Ecuagenera got delayed in Ecuador and in the US, finally arriving at 8:00 pm on the 27th.

Without the numerous volunteers this show could not have been such a success – thank you. Also thank you to the Planning Committee comprised of the Cheryl Adamson, Co-Chair, Delegate and Floor Plan Coordinator; Cheryl Grummett, Treasurer; Sherida Gregoire, Awards Coordinator; Yvette Lyster and Jan Dougall, (Assistant) Art Coordinators; Bob Lucas, Judge Coordinator and Plant Register; Pat Randall, Photographer; Katherine Hiller, Plant Register; Jan Dougall, Poster and Program Designer; Don Keith, Speaker and Transportation Coordinator; Shirley Keith, Volunteer Coordinator; Eugene Kucey, COC Representative. You all did an amazing job. I coordinated the Food and Vendors.

Finally, thank you to the generosity of the following Sponsors:

Sarah Nykiforuk
Mary Orchard
Orchard Transport
Saskatoon School of Horticulture
Great West Distributors
Remenda Farms Ltd.
Bob Lucas
London Drugs, Lawson Heights
Prairieland Park
Dougall Photography

For the Love of Orchids
Canadian Orchid Congress Show 2015

TROPHIES AND AWARDS
Compiled by Bob Lucas, COC Show Judges Coordinator

Display Trophies

Trophy Name	Awarded for....	Winner
1 to 5 Plants Display Trophy	Best Display of 1 - 5 plants	Forestview Gardens
6 - 15 Plants Display Trophy	Best Display of 6 - 15 plants	Terry's Orchids
16 - 25 Plants Display Trophy	Best Display of 16 - 25 plants	Orchid Society of Alberta
26 + Plants Display Trophy	Best Display of 26 + plants	Saskatchewan Orchid Society

Special Display Trophies

Trophy Name	Awarded for....	Winner
Saskatchewan Orchid Society Trophy	Most outstanding exhibit	Orchid Species Preservation Foundation Display
American Orchid Society Trophy	Best display by a visiting society or an individual from another society	Orchid Species Preservation Foundation Display
Canadian Orchid Congress Show Award Trophy	Most diverse display of orchid flowers and orchid plants	Saskatchewan Orchid Society Display
Orchid Species Preservation Foundation Trophy	Best display of species orchids (diversity & quality)	Terry's Orchids Display
Orchid Digest Trophy	Best educational exhibit	Calvin Wong Educational Display

Special Plant Trophies

Trophy Name	Awarded for....	Winner
Canadian Orchid Congress President's Trophy	Show Grand Champion	<i>Jumellea</i> [Jum.] <i>arachnantha</i> Orchid Species Preservation Foundation
Trophy In Memory of Wilma Nykiforuk	Show Reserve Grand Champion	<i>Bulbophyllum</i> [Bulb.] <i>falcatum</i> Orchid Species Preservation Foundation

Special Class Trophies

Class Number	Trophy Name	Awarded to Best in Show for....	Winner
20	Ruthanne Hanbidge Trophy	Grower's own hybrid orchid	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Purple Love Robert Lucas, SOS
21	Saskatoon School of Horticulture Trophy	Greenhouse grown orchid	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hamana Spice Gordon Heaps, Heaps
22	Trophy In Memory of Wilma Nykiforuk	Artificial light grown orchid	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Dominicanum 'Bob Mac' Robert Lucas, SOS
23	Mary Orchard Trophy	Windowsill grown orchid	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> rothschildianum 'Song Thrush' x 'Blackbird' Heather Anderson, SOS
25	Saskatoon School of Horticulture Trophy	Overall orchid specimen in the show by a non-commercial grower	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Robinianum Gordon Heaps, Heaps
26	Trophy In Memory of Wilma Nykiforuk	Miniature under 6 inches (excluding the inflorescence)	<i>Dryadella</i> <i>simula</i> Tracey Thue, SOS
27	Orchid Species Preservation Foundation Trophy	Orchid species in the show	<i>Oncidium</i> <i>sphacelatum</i> 'Marianne' AM/AOS Gordon Heaps, Heaps
28	Remenda Farms Trophy	Mounted orchid in the show	<i>Dryadella</i> <i>simula</i> Tracey Thue, SOS

Best of Class Trophies

Trophy Name	Awarded to Best in Show for....	Winner
In Memory of Wilma Nykiforuk Trophy	Best <i>Paphiopedilum</i>	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Dollgoldi Tom and Yp Dboer, OSA
Great West Distributors Trophy	Best <i>Cattleya</i> Alliance	<i>Cattleya</i> Caribbean 'Orange Bowl' Phyllis Campbell, ROS
Saskatchewan Orchid Society President's Trophy	Best <i>Phalaenopsis</i>	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Tying Shin Golden Queen Robert Lucas, SOS
Remenda Farms Trophy	Best <i>Dendrobium</i>	<i>Dendrobium</i> [Den.] <i>jonesii</i> Orchid Species Preservation Foundation
Dougall Photography Trophy	Best Other Alliance	<i>Bulbophyllum</i> [Bulb.] <i>falcatum</i> Orchid Species Preservation Foundation
London Drugs - Lawson Heights Trophy	Best Vandaceous Alliance, excluding <i>Phalaenopsis</i>	<i>Jumellea</i> [Jum.] <i>arachnantha</i> Orchid Species Preservation Foundation
Prairieland Park Trophy	Best <i>Pleurothallid</i> & <i>Masdevallia</i> Alliance	<i>Scaphosepalum</i> [Sppm.] <i>verrucosum</i> Orchid Species Preservation Foundation
Great West Distributors Trophy	Best <i>Oncidium</i> Alliance	<i>Oncidium</i> <i>sphacelatum</i> 'Marianne' AM/AOS Gordon Heaps, Heaps
Great West Distributors Trophy	Best <i>Phragmipedium</i>	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Grande x <i>Phragmipedium</i> Demetria Tracey Thue, SOS
Orchard Transport Trophy	Best Photographic Image	1st Place: Jan Dougall - Cascade of pink <i>Cattleya</i> type orchids 2nd Place: Pat Randall - 'Freckles' 3rd Place: Grant Dougall - <i>Phalaenopsis</i>
Orchard Transport Trophy	Best Artistic Image in any medium other than photography	1st Place: Leslie Stadnichuk - Two pink orchids & leaves on green background, Acrylic 2nd Place: Crystal Dyck - Mendel Art Gallery orchid, Acrylic 3rd Place: Sharon Hartridge - Two <i>Phragmipediums</i> , Pastel on suede board
Mary Orchard Trophy	Best Other Artworks	1st Place: Berna Ostapovitch - Orchids & Sashiko 2nd Place: Lana Husulak - Wooden orchid tea tray, Stained glass 3rd Place: Lana Husulak - Patio stone, Stained mosaic glass on cement
In Memory of Wilma Nykiforuk Trophy	Best Orchids in Use	No competition
Great West Distributors Trophy	An outstanding plant/flower deserving of recognition, awarded at the judges' discretion	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Grande x <i>Phragmipedium</i> Demetria Tracey Thue, SOS

A PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF ORCHID SHOW JUDGING AT THE COC SHOW

BY TRACEY THUE

At the Canadian Orchid Congress Show, hosted by the Saskatchewan Orchid Society, two plants and one display were granted awards by the American Orchid Society (AOS) judging team. Before



this COC show, I didn't really have a good appreciation of what this meant. That has changed. The following is an account of my experience Friday morning and the flurry of activity that followed.

I've never won an award from the American Orchid Society! The timing of having a good plant in flower AND having access to an AOS-judged show to get the plant judged is tricky when you live in Saskatoon! There are and have been some very skilled people in our orchid society over the years, growing and flowering incredible plants that have

never been awarded simply because of our locale. People living in cities with a judging center (Richmond and Toronto in Canada) can take their plants in to be judged on a monthly basis, it doesn't have to be associated with a show.

AOS judging is based on a points system awarded to the plant and or flowers. With the computer world now it seems the judges' job is a bit easier since they can refer to databases on line to discover the size and quality descriptions of the plant being considered. In the past they had stacks of books and publications for reference! To earn an award the plant being judged has to surpass previously awarded plants of the same species or parentage (in the case of hybrids). There are cultural awards, where you look at the overall quality of the plant, cleanliness, health, etc, and there are awards where the flower itself is

assessed, with little or no attention paid to the rest of the plant. The points are allocated according to plant traits to a total of 100. A Highly Commended Certificate (HCC) is earned with 75-79 points, 80-89 points an Award of Merit (AM) and 90-100 points earns a First Class Certificate (FCC). The cultural awards are Certificate of Cultural Merit (CCM) 80-89 points, and Certificate of Cultural Excellence (CCE) greater than 90 points. These are awarded to the exhibitor of the plants and stays with that person. The HCC, AM and FCC awards stay with the plant, and any divisions of that plant are given the award designation also even if the plants change owners.



My daughter and I had volunteered to help with the ribbon judging that took place Friday morning before the show opened to the public. This was a first for me and it was a lot of fun! Ribbon judging is separate from the AOS award judging, with classes designated by the show organizers usually according to the group, or alliance to which the plant belongs (i.e. Cattleya Alliance, Cyripedium Alliance). Depending on the show there could be a team of ribbon judges separate from the team of AOS judges, but at our show the AOS judging team judged plants for ribbon and show awards, and then for AOS awards. We had seven AOS-accredited judges at our show but we worked in five teams with a judge as leader and the clerks and helpers filling the team. Each team was given a different set of categories to judge. I worked with AOS judge Peter Poot from Ontario (his wife Inge is also an AOS judge, she led another team).



Peter judged the Cyripedium Alliance, including all Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium plants entered in this category. I had expected to merely fetch and carry plants and paper, but it turned out the judges are all very generous and included us in their assessments, asking for our opinion. There were a couple of times when we were considering a group of plants with one of mine amongst them - I was quick to let Peter know which was mine and he of course had the final say for ribbon assignment. My Phragmipedium Grande x Demetria was being judged against a big green Phrag Grande from Regina that had 4 flowers and was a gorgeous plant. I would have awarded it over mine based on flower count, but Peter said that's only part of it, mine had bigger flowers, better color on the pouch, etc.... The Grande got a second place ribbon. There was another green Phrag hybrid in our Saskatoon display, Phrag Dominianum, 'Bob Mac' HCC/AOS that was positioned right next to mine, also very fine with exquisite markings in the pouch and it got the third place ribbon.

When judging of these categories was finished the teams were assigned the special trophy classes to judge. Peter and I awarded ribbons to the top 3 plants grown under lights, which was difficult since we were comparing vastly different plants, for example lovely Phalaenopsis hybrids and miniature Dracula species! The winner was that beautiful Phrag sitting next to mine in our Saskatoon display. We also judged the displays for each size category: displays of 1-5 plants, 6-15 plants, 16-25 plants and over 25 plants. That was interesting too, discussing pros and cons of each and hearing Peter's experienced opinion (he took mine into account too and deferred to my opinion for one category!). Peter is an experienced AOS judge and it was encouraging to hear his praises of our display!



Once the ribbon judging was done, the AOS judges started labelling plants to be taken out of their displays and brought to the judging room for consideration of AOS awards. As helpers we joined one of two teams of judges; my daughter and I were together with another SOS member and we learned a lot about the process! I won't describe it in detail as this would take pages. Suffice to say we looked at 3 plants, 2 of which were found to be not worthy of an award. But one, from the Regina display Paphiopedilum Deperle, was granted an HCC with 76 points. The judges let the three of us fill out our own score card, which was interesting (and challenging)!

My Phrag Grande 'Vista' 4N x Demetria 'Mem Don Walklet' HCC/AOS was pulled for consideration!! I saw it sitting on the side table and wondered what I would do if it was brought to our table for judging! I was happy that it was examined by the other team (or I would have had to sit there and not say a word!) and they deliberated, checked the computer databases, measured, debated, took it out to the



AOS Judging Team examining Paphiopedilum Deperle

front door area to see the color under natural light, etc, etc, etc. Before they had made a decision I had to leave to set up for my repotting workshop!! When I came back I was told it had been awarded an AM with 80 points!!!

The next step was to find the person who made the cross, because it had never been



AOS Judging Team examining Phragmipedium Grande x Demetria

named. Abu Salleh, Chair of the AOS judging team told me that if that person didn't want to name it, I could give the cross a name as well as naming my clone! So what do I name it? And who bred it?

I emailed Chuck Taylor in Edmonton, from whom I purchased the plant in 2010 at the Orchid Society of Alberta show. He didn't breed it and couldn't remember where he purchased the plant, but suggested I try Sam Tsui at Orchid Inn. I emailed Sam, who was generous enough to reply from Hong Kong, saying he'd check his records on his return home the following week.

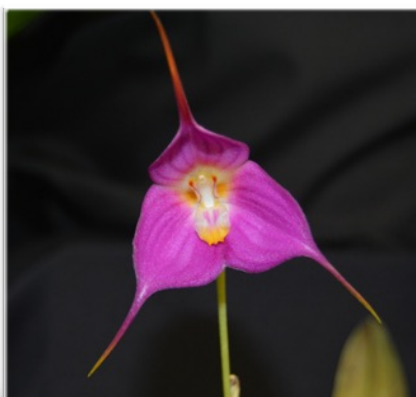
Meanwhile I was doing some online research, looking at Phrag breeders' websites that listed either of the parents for my plant (luckily both were named clones). Both plants were used in crosses made by Fred Clarke at Sunset Valley Orchids, but he replied to my email in the negative, echoing Chuck's words that Sam Tsui was my best source. OK, one more try: Chuck Acker had flasks listed on his website using Phrag Demetria 'Mem Don Walklet' HCC/AOS as a parent. One more email and Chuck Acker replied to say that he did indeed make the cross and he generously gave his permission for me to register the name!

Okay, back to the business of naming the cross, and my newly-awarded plant! I thought of naming it after my daughters, but I've always preferred plant hybrid names that are somehow descriptive of their color or form. I examined the flowers with new eyes, and started thinking of something that referred to its big dorsal petal, and bottom synsepal (bottom petal behind the pouch). Abu Salleh told me those are outstanding features on this flower, especially the synsepal; its size and pattern and how it frames the pouch so well. I imagined a sailing ship of old, sails stretched to the max by a brisk spring wind. Some possibilities sprang to mind: Phrag Cool Sails, Phrag Prairie Sails, Phrag Golden Sails, Phrag Full Sail (I like that one best), and a clonal name 'North Wind' (referring to Saskatoon being north of 60) or 'Prairie Wind' (Saskatoon being at the northern edge of the Prairie Ecozone - I guess I'm an ecologist at heart). After a night of debate and feedback from members of my family, I settled on Phragmipedium Full Sail 'Prairie Wind' AM/AOS.



Official AOS Award Photograph by Pat Randall





Abu Salleh kindly sent me the information and web address to register the hybrid name with the Royal Horticultural Society, which was done quickly and easily (credit cards and the world wide web make life so much simpler, and faster!). Also provided by Abu were digital copies of two official award photographs of my plant. The COC Show Photographer was Pat Randall, a very skilled photographer and member of our Society and one of the hardest working people in the judging room Friday morning! At this writing I have paid for the AOS award (again online with a credit card through the AOS website), and Abu has submitted the data for the three AOS awards given at our show to AOS for processing. Yes! there were two other awards granted that Friday - the HCC to *Paphiopedilum Deperle*, and an AOS Show Trophy, designation ST/AOS of 81 points awarded to the Orchid Species Preservation Foundation. I don't know if these two awards brought as much excitement to their exhibitors, but I for one enjoyed the experience immensely and will read

through the AOS awards bulletins with a whole new perspective in future!



Our Society is on Facebook! Sara Thue has developed a facebook page for the SOS. More show photos will be uploaded here. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?ref=profile>

AWARDS BANQUET PHOTOS

Pat Randall, COC Show Photographer took many pictures during the Awards Banquet. Enjoy!

