

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:

Jan 22, 2017	Feb 26, 2017	Mar 19, 2017
Apr 23, 2017	May 28, 2017	Sept 2017

SOS Executive

President:	Bob Lucas
Vice-President:	Sherida Gregoire
Past President:	Cal Carter
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Librarians:	Debbie Huculiak Don Keith
Newsletter:	Tracey Thue
COC/AOS Rep:	Tom Kondra
Speakers:	Heather Anderson
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www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?](https://www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?)

November Meeting

The general meeting of the Society will be held on Sunday, Nov 20, 2016 at John Dolan School, commencing at 1:30 p.m.

The Presentation portion of our meeting will be an informal Panel Discussion on favourite internet sources of orchid information and orchid forums.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presentation - Orchid Forums and other Internet Information Sources

A panel discussion will take place this month, with Don Keith, Pat Randall, and Tracey Thue leading the discussion. Calvin Lo is unable to attend the meeting, but has provided an informative summary of how to participate in a forum and a description of his favourite orchid forums. The panel will share this at the meeting, and mention other forums to look for. Members in attendance are welcome to share sites that they've discovered.

Newsletters November is the cutoff for receiving newsletters if you haven't yet renewed your membership for the 2016-2017 season!

Plant sale Members are encouraged to bring plants to sell to other members attending the meeting.

Meeting Agenda:

Announcements
Problem Corner
Show and Tell
Coffee/
Supplies/Library
Presentation
Plant Sale
Plant Raffle
Adjournment

Fundraiser for the 2023 World Orchid Congress (WOC)

A 2023 WOC Bid Committee was formed earlier this year. The Committee's goal is to bring the World Orchid Congress to Edmonton and for it to be as inclusive as possible to all Canadian orchid societies and to ensure that any lasting legacy of the conference is shared across the Canadian orchid community.

Charlotte Cummings has given us a number of her handmade glazed clay orchid pots that we'll be selling at SOS meetings with the proceeds going toward the 2023 WOC Bid Committee. Knowing Charlotte we think

she would appreciate the fact that the sale of her pots will be supporting the 2023 bid to bring the WOC to Canada.

Cheryl Adamson and Heather Anderson



Plant raffle There will be plants for the raffle, donated by Saskatoon Co-op. Tickets can be purchased at the library table, 1 ticket for \$1 or 3 for \$2. Thanks to Sherida for making this possible!

Trisetella hoeijeri

Purchased from Ecuagenera in 2015, potted in sphagnum and growing in a humid tank with temperatures between 15-18C. A small fan in the tank provides air movement. Every second day it's sprayed with rain water; fertilized monthly. Sara & Tracey Thue.

Tribute to Charlotte Cummings

Charlotte was known to a number of SOS members for her pottery, painting and printmaking, sold under the name of One Twisted Sister Artwork. Charlotte was always looking for ideas to make the ultimate orchid pot or mount for orchids. Her pots had many creative and innovative designs. Charlotte was also an avid orchid grower and was President of the Foothills Orchid Society for 2 years. She passed away in Calgary on Nov 2, 2016. Charlotte was devoted to young people through her art and drama teaching career at Strathmore High School. She was an active member of her community, involved with the Strathmore Theatre Players, the Lions Club and planning for the Strathmore 2015 Alberta 55 Plus Summer Games. Charlotte was an accomplished artist, sculptor, and potter as well as gardener, and animal lover. She had an outgoing personality, a great smile and was a real 'character'.

We first got to know Charlotte on our 2010 trip to Ecuador. After the trip Charlotte visited Saskatoon a number of times and sold her pottery at the 2015 COC.

She'll be missed by all who knew her.

Heather Adamson

OCTOBER 23 MEETING MINUTES

Recorded by Donna Carlson-O'Keefe

Announcements

Bob Lucas welcomed members and guests to the meeting. There was one new member in attendance who received a warm applause in welcome.

Memberships are on sale, \$25 for an individual, \$30 for a family membership; this year's tags are pale orange.

Plants donated by the Saskatoon Co-op will be raffled today. Tickets can be purchased at the Library table, 1 for \$1 or 3 for \$2.

Today's presentation is a Canadian Orchid Congress (COC) webinar, "*What Does Blue Mean in the World of Phalaenopsis?*"

Next month's presentation will be a panel discussion on internet sources of information about orchid culture. Members who would like to participate should talk to Heather during the break.

There are plants on the plant sale table. Those wishing to purchase plants should put their numbers in at the front desk. When a number is drawn, that member can choose one plant; after each person has had a chance to select a plant, anyone can go back and purchase more.

Members were reminded that one of their membership privileges is a 10% discount on orchid-related supplies at Early's.

Treats volunteers for future meetings should sign up with Shirley. Today treats were provided by Calvin Lo, Maxine Tasky, Gwen Erickson and Lynn Campbell.

Problem Corner

A member has several *Phalaenopsis* and *Paphiopedilum* plants with leaves that are dimpling and then turning brown. Should she treat them with cinnamon/alcohol spray? It was suggested that this sounded like damage from

spider mites or thrips, and she should try Neem oil and horticultural oil spray, repeating in 2 weeks. The spray should not be allowed to remain in the crown of the plant. Another member suggested that if Paphs are turning brown it may be due to rust, in which case the plant should be sprayed with cinnamon/alcohol weekly. One member indicated that cinnamon/alcohol can stain the leaves, and some Paphs seem to be sensitive to the alcohol due to the chilling as it evaporates from the leaves.

Show and Tell

Fifteen plants were shown by Cheryl Adamson, Cody Hamilton, Colleen Hobday, Merle Ward, Sherida Gregoire, Heather Anderson, Tracey Thue and Bob Lucas.

Break

Presentation: David Lafarge presented "*What Does Blue Mean in the World of Phalaenopsis? - Fifty Shades of Blue*", a webinar produced by the COC. Lovely photography supported his tale of the search for true blue in nature, and efforts achieved to date in breeding for blue *Phalaenopsis*.

There was a brief discussion at the end of the webinar for feedback and some members had difficulty hearing the sound. The next time a similar format is used for presentation there will be better sound set up.

Plant Raffle There were thirteen plants donated by the Saskatoon Co-op; all were claimed by those purchasing raffle tickets.

Plant Sale

There was a great selection of plants provided by members for sale, of a wide variety of genera. All but three went to new homes. One plant that was rehomed included the lovely *Masdevallia Bella Donna*



pictured here, which was purchased in bud and is now in full bloom - thank you Don!

Adjournment Approx. 3:30 pm.

SOS OCTOBER SHOW & TELL TABLE

Photos by Tracey Thue, edited by Sara Thue



Vanda Leopardi yellow
Grower: Sherida Gregoire



Cynodes (Cycd.) Wine Delight
(*Cynoches* (Cyc.) *lehmannii* x *Mormodes* (Morm.) *sinuata*)
Grower: Colleen Hobday



Dendrobium Oriental Smile
'Fantasy'
Grower: Merle Ward



Cattleya Chocolate Blue
Grower: Cheryl Adamson



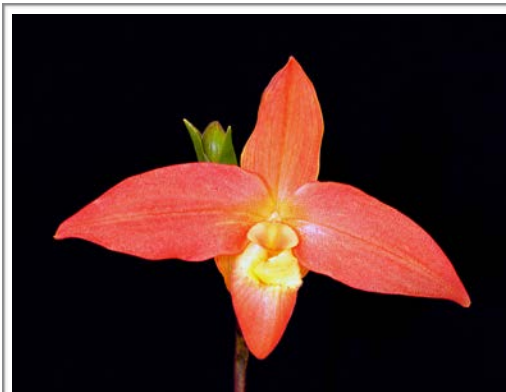
Dendrobium Hibiki
(*Dend.* *bracteosum* x *Dend.* *laevifolium*)
Grower: Heather Anderson



Paphiopedilum *henryanum*
'Bear' SM/TPS x 'Bear-6'
Grower: Tracey Thue



Paphiopedilum Wossner China Moon
(*Paph hangianum* x *armeriacum*)
Grower: Bob Lucas



Phragmipedium Don Wimber 4N
Grower: Tracey Thue



Oncidium Twinkle 'Red Fantasy'
Grower: Cheryl Adamson



Paphiopedilum Toni Semple
(*haynaldianum* 'SV07' x *lowii* 'SVO' AM/AOS)
Grower: Cheryl Adamson



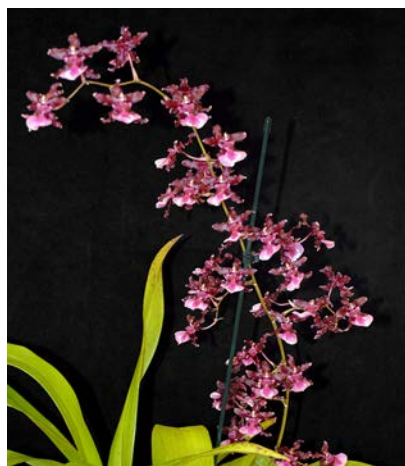
Paphiopedilum Frank Smith
Grower: Bob Lucas



Oncidium Twinkle (yellow & red)
Grower: Cody Hamilton



Dendrobium *cuthbertsonii*
Grower: Sara Thue



Oncidium Heaven Scent 'Sweet Baby'
Grower: Colleen Hobday



Rhyncholaeliocattleya Ports of Paradise
'Green Ching Hua' AM/AOS
Grower: Cheryl Adamson

AOS Pacific Northwest Judging Centre-Richmond's Outreach Judging
at Foothills Orchid Society Oct 22, 2016
Photography by Doug Savage



***Paphiopedilum x aspersum* 'BB8'** CHM/AOS 82pts
Exhibitor: David Truong
(award provisional pending species identification)



***Cattleya maxima* 'Barbara's Big Catt'**
HCC/AOS 77pts
Exhibitor: Barbara Podmore



What's in Bloom at the Muttart? October 2016

Orchid Species Preservation Foundation

Compiled by Dave Nixon, photographs by Doug Bovee/Dave Nixon

*Information sourced from Orchidwiz, Charles Baker, Orchid Photographic Encyclopedia,
The Plant List, Wikipedia*

Cattleya [C.] labiata

This species is found in Venezuela and NE Brazil. It was originally described from a plant said to have originated in the Organ Mountains, just north of Rio de Janeiro. It has never again been found in that area, and it is quite probable that the habitat location given to Dr. Lindley was erroneous or deliberately misleading.

Plants are found in mountain forests at 500-1000m (1650-3300ft) in three different habitats, including a seasonal tropical rainforest zone near the coast, a tropical deciduous forest zone, which is further inland, and a thorn bush scrub zone that is very far inland.

The plants normally grow in bright conditions near the tops of old trees where they are found on the vertical trunks or the semi-vertical branches.

This plant is grown in our hot greenhouse with a western exposure.



Brassia [Brs.] glumacea (syn. Ada glumacea)

There are 68 species of *Brassia* throughout tropical America at altitudes below 1500m. They are commonly called 'The Spider Orchid' because of the flowers' unique shape. This genus is pollinated by female wasps (*Pepsis* and *Campsomeris*) that sting at the column attempting to pull it away to consume it, constantly stinging at the lip and in their struggle pick up the pollinia on their head. They rove to another flower where the pollinia is stripped from their head by the bottom of the column where it enters the stigma. This genus has been expanded recently by the absorption of species previously classified in the *Ada* genus.

Brassia glumacea is found from Venezuela, Colombia to Ecuador as a medium sized, cold to warm growing epiphyte at elevations of 1100-1800m. This plant is grown in our intermediate greenhouse with a western exposure.

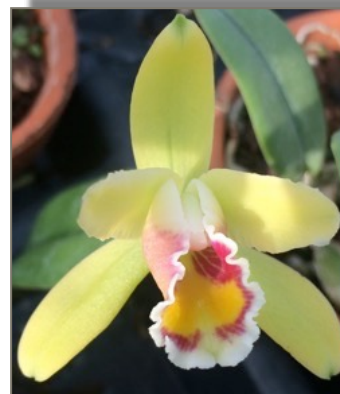


Cattleya* [C.] *luteola

Commonly known as 'the Pale Yellow Cattleya', this dwarf sized species is found in Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia, in lowland tropical rainforests at elevations between 100-1200m.

The species needs a distinct winter rest but while growing needs ample water, high light and fertilizer. It grows best on a cork mount to accommodate the rambling rhizome.

This plant was purchased by the OSPF from Miranda Orchids in 2013 and it is growing in our hot greenhouse with a western exposure.



***Cyrtochilum* [Cyr.] *macranthum* (syn. *Oncidium macranthum*)**

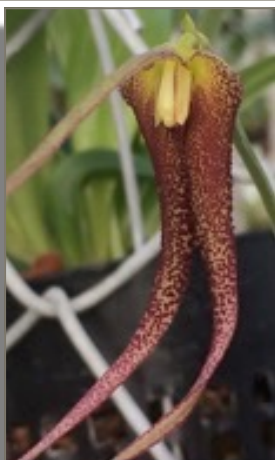
The 187 *Cyrtochilum* species were segregated from *Oncidium* on the basis of elongated rhizomes with well-spaced pseudobulbs. The flowers have clawed, wavy sepals and an erect column connected to the base of the lip. All *Cyrtochilum* are found at 1500-3000m of the Andes Mountains in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. The plants should be grown cool to cold and always kept moist.

This species' common name is 'The Large Flowered *Cyrtochilum*' as its flowers can reach more than 4" and are the largest of the genus. The plant is grown on the west side of the intermediate house.

Masdevallia* [Masd.] *antonii

Named after Anton Sijm, a modern day Dutch orchid hunter who co-discovered this species in northern Peru at elevations of 2200m.

This plant was purchased by the OSPF from Peruflora in 2015 and was awarded an AM/AOS with a score of 81 points at the Orchid Judging Outreach Program in the fall of 2015. It is grown in our cold greenhouse with an eastern exposure.



Masdevallia* [Masd.] *don-quijote

This rare epiphytic species is endemic to the primary forests of the southeast region of Ecuador. Its name refers to the flowers' forward facing, long, lance-like dorsal sepal, and the lateral sepals resembling the bowed legs of a horseman carrying a lance that brings to mind the fictional character.

The plant is grown in our intermediate greenhouse with an eastern exposure.



Masdevallia* [Masd.] *oreas

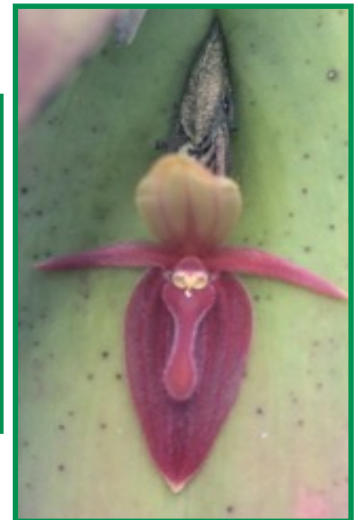
This miniature, cold-growing epiphytic species can be found in central Bolivia in a remote cloud forest at about 2200m. It is known as the 'Mountain Masdevallia'.

This plant is grown in the intermediate house with an eastern exposure.

Pleurothallis* [Pths.] *ascera

This species is found in Costa Rica, Panama and Colombia at elevations of 1800m as a small-sized, cool-growing epiphyte. It is commonly known as 'The Fur-Lined Shoe Pleurothallis' because of the pubescent shoe-like lip.

This plant is grown in our intermediate house with an eastern exposure.



Pleurothallis* [Pths.] *lynniana

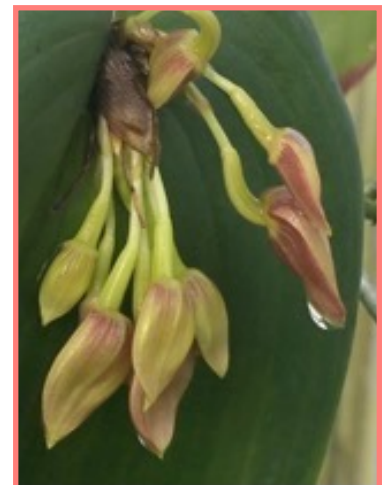
This species is found in Morona-Santiago as a small sized epiphyte and is named after Lynn O'Shaughnessy, present day Pleurothallid enthusiast and keeper of the website of The Pleurothallid Alliance.

The plant is grown in our intermediate greenhouse with an eastern exposure.

Pleurothallis* [Pths.] *marthae

Named after Martha Posada de Robledo, a Colombian cultivator of species. It is found in Colombia as a large sized, cold-growing epiphyte with elongated, stout, erect stems carrying a single thick, broadly ovoid leaf that blooms in the spring and summer. The flowers arise from the base of the leaf for a nice display of large, showy, gaping rose coloured flowers.

The plant is grown in our intermediate greenhouse with an eastern exposure.



Orchids In the Mail by Tracey Thue

Dear Reader and Fellow Orchid Enthusiast,

The Orchid Species Preservation Foundation (OSPF) recently sent out a request for postage stamps depicting orchids, with plans to create a display for orchid shows. Was it serendipity that my husband had just received a stamp collection from a colleague, collected by his late father? One cool, damp Sunday September morning, freshly-steeped pot of tea to hand, my daughter and I sat down and delved into the collection looking for orchid stamps. What a fascinating activity! We discovered stamps from around the world, modern stamps and ones issued decades ago; many posted during the second World War. Some stamps were still attached to envelopes, with names, addresses, dates, and even messages of love and hope. I can understand how people become stamp collectors, and in many ways it is sad that communication by hand-written letter sent by post is disappearing, and with it the production of these delightful and often beautiful bits of adhesive paper!

Katherine and I found six different orchid stamps and I photographed them before packaging them up and posting them on to Edmonton to start a new life with the OSPF. Three stamps were from Malaysia, depicting *Rhynchostylis retusa*, *Spathoglottis plicata* and *Arachnis flos-aeris*, issued in 1965 as part of a flower and bird set. We had an elegant stamp depicting *Disperis fanniniae*, issued by South Africa in recognition of that country hosting the 10th World Orchid Conference in 1981. We also found many of the same Canadian stamp depicting *Cypripedium passerinum* (you may know it as sparrow's egg, Franklin's, northern, or small white lady's slipper). This stamp was designed by a Toronto artist, Heather J. Cooper and issued in 1977 as part of a Wildflowers of Canada series. Perhaps you've seen *C. passerinum* on one of your tramps through the forest, as it grows in almost all of our Canadian provinces, with the exception of the maritime provinces, and its range extends farther north than any other *Cypripedium*, up into the tundra of all three northern territories. Wouldn't it be marvellous to see this plant

in person, flowering amongst the twinflower and dogwood on a long June summer solstice day?



My favourite was a large stamp issued by Guyana, depicting a painting of a slipper orchid labelled CYPRIPEDIUM TAUTZIANUM Plate No. 65 (Series I). What is the story of this stamp, this plant, the painter, the country of issue? I began investigating online to try to answer these questions and what follows here is what I was able to discover and would love to share with you.

You probably knew already, but I had to look it up to remind myself that Guyana is a relatively small South American country, tucked between Venezuela, Brazil, Suriname and the North Atlantic Ocean. It has one of the largest rainforests in South America with a tropical climate moderated by northeast trade winds along the coast. There are two rainy seasons, the first from May to mid-August, the second from mid-November to mid-January.¹ Epiphytic orchids found in Guyana's rainforest canopies include *Epidendrum*, *Gongora*, *Catasetum*, *Rodriquezia secunda*,

Ionopsis puniculatus, *Oncidium iridifolium*.² A species of *Sobralia* was discovered in 1992 in the Pakaraima Mountains and only recently described as a distinct species, named *Sobralia pakaraimense*.³ There are now eight species of *Sobralia* known to grow in Guyana. As for the subfamily Cypridioideae, there appear to be no species in the genus *Paphiopedilum* (if you know of any I'd love to hear from you!), and only *Phragmipedium lindleyanum* representing the *Phragmipedium* genus, growing along streams and waterfalls in Guyana.⁴



The genus *Cypripedium* was first described by Linnaeus in 1753, encompassing all slipper orchids until 1886 when the genus *Paphiopedilum* was established by Pfitzer. You may remember my interest in taxonomy and I've discovered an excellent publication on the taxonomy of the subfamily Cypridioideae by Braem, Chiron & Ohlund, 2014.⁵

Cypripedium (now *Paphiopedilum*) *Tautzianum* was registered with the Royal Horticultural Society in 1886 by James Veitch, seed parent *Paphiopedilum barbatum* x pollen parent *Paphiopedilum niveum*.⁶ A wonderful historical document is available online⁷ that includes this beautifully-written entry (isn't it marvellous that we have access to documents written more than a century ago?):

CYPRIPEDIUM X TAUTZIANUM, Rchb.f.

Rchb. in Gard. Chron. 1876, vol. v. p. 795; Veitch's Man. Orch. Pl. pt. iv. p. 98; Dict. Ic. des Orchidees, *Cypripedium* hybr. pl. 38.

“Raised from *Cypripedium niveum* and *C. barbatum*, and dedicated to the late F. G. Tautz, Esq., of Studly House, Hammersmith, S.W., at that time possessor of one of the best collections of *Cypripedes* in the country, and a most ardent orchidist.”

The lovely ***Paphiopedilum niveum*** (at right, photographed by fellow orchid hobbyist Bob Lucas, 2011) is found at the very northern tip of Malaysia and western Thailand, including the Langkawi Islands. It grows at sea level to 200m in elevation, in cracks in limestone rock shaded from direct sun with temperatures averaging 25-28C. The species was first described by Reichenbach in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, 29(40): 1038 (1869).⁸

The dramatic ***Paphiopedilum barbatum*** (pictured below left, photographed by Sara Thue, 2010) is found in Malaysia on well-drained slopes in leaf litter and mosses under moderate shade at elevations of 200 - 1300m, with



an even temperature of 22-24C. The species was first described by Blume in *Catalogus*, 98 (1823).⁸

So what lead this *Paphiopedilum* primary hybrid to be depicted on a postage stamp from Guyana? My search produced some interesting information.

The stamp was issued by Guyana in 1986 as part of a Reichenbachia Orchid Series issued to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the publication of Frederick Sander's *Reichenbachia*. In 1886, Frederick Sander commissioned Henry George Moon, an English landscape and



botanical painter, to paint 192 watercolor plates of orchids with descriptions by Reichenbach. These monthly publications became known as the *Reichenbachia* and are "the richest reference sources on orchids ever produced."⁹ Interestingly, as I carried out my bit of research I discovered an article by Robert Fuchs titled "Orchids Through the Artists' Eyes" in this month's AOS *Orchids Magazine*. Check it out!

The Reichenbachia Orchid Series was produced and issued from July 9, 1985 to March 1, 1989. There were 35 issue sets produced in total and the stamp found in our collection was part of the 5th set (pictured at right) printed in 1986-7 with a watermark.¹⁰



What a lovely, world-wide adventure these stamps have taken me on, without leaving my dining room. I've also discovered a number of publications I'll be reading more closely, so I'll close here and wish you the very best,

Your friend in orchids,

Tracey Thue

References:

- 1 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guyana>
- 2 <http://www.st-stanislaus-gy.com/History/Botanical-Wonders-of-Guyana.pdf>
- 3 Baranow & Szlachetko, 2013. *Annales Botanici Fennici* 50(5): 347-350.
- 4 <http://slipperorchids.info/phragdatasheets/lindleyanum/index.html>
- 5 Braem, Chiron & Ohlund, 2014. *Paphiopedilum* 2nd edition. Moorland eBooks
- 6 The International Orchid Register, Royal Horticultural Society <http://apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/orchidregister.asp>
- 7 James Herbert Veitch, 1906. *Hortus Veitchii: A History of the Rise and Progress of the Nurseries of the Nurseries of Messrs James Veitch and Sons*; Cambridge University Press, digitally printed version 2011
- 8 <http://www.slipperorchids.info/paphdatasheets/index.html>
- 9 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heinrich_Gustav_Reichenbach
- 10 goloweststamps.com/reference/formatprinters/Guyana/guyanastamps.htm

World Orchid Conference November 8-12, 2017 Guayaquil, Ecuador

4 days of conference, scientific presentations

Many tours within the city and day trips out of the city during conference week

Pre- and Post-Conference Tours led by Ecuagenera

Go to the website <http://www.woc22.com> for more information, registration and hotel rates!



Dave Nixon, President of the Orchid Species

Preservation Foundation is asking for an email reply from anyone interested in participating in a 12-day post-conference tour guided by Ecuagenera, proposed for November 12 - 23, 2017. If you are interested, please contact Dave Nixon dnixon@shaw.ca

Go to the website listed above for more information about the conference, dates and costs. A copy of the draft itinerary, which is slightly different from that on the website will be available at the SOS November meeting.