

NEWSLETTER



Editor's Note: The newsletter is distributed electronically (blind copied so addresses remain private) to all members for whom we have an email address. If you do not receive an emailed newsletter please email info@saskorchids.com to update your contact information.

Future Meeting Dates:

Saturday, Nov 24, 2022	Saturday, Jan 28, 2023
Saturday, Feb 25, 2023	Saturday, Mar 18, 2023
Saturday, Apr 22, 2023	Saturday, May 27, 2023

SOS Executive

President:	Tracey Thue
Vice-President:	Shayne Feltis
Past President:	Bob Lucas
Secretary:	Donna Carlson-O'Keefe
Treasurer:	Cheryl Grummet
Social:	Shirley Keith Lynn Campbell
Plant Orders:	Heather Anderson David Schwinghamer
Resources:	Don Keith Tom Kondra
Librarian:	Deb Huculiak
Newsletter:	Tracey Thue Tobi Fenton
COC/AOS Rep:	Tom Kondra
Speakers:	Heather Anderson
Webmaster:	Calvin Lo
Facebook:	Calvin Lo
Web Address:	www.saskorchids.com
Email:	info@saskorchids.com

facebook: [https://
www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?](https://www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?)
Mail Address: SOS, Box 411, Saskatoon,
SK S7K 3L3

November Meeting - Saturday, Nov 26, 2022

The general meeting will be held in-person at **Cosmo Civic Centre** beginning at 1:30pm.
Potting & mounting demonstrations will be provided by members of the SOS.

Please see page 3 of this newsletter for the link to the Zoom meeting if you are unable to attend in person.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING AGENDA:

Meeting start @ 1:30pm

Announcements

Executive Election

Problem corner

If you bring a sick plant for advice, please put it in a plastic bag to protect other plants at the meeting!

Show & Tell

*Break for Supplies, Library, Visiting,
50:50 ticket sales, calendar sale*

Potting & mounting demonstrations

Members Plant Sale

50:50 Draw

Adjournment

*The meeting will be presented on Zoom for
those unable to attend in person.*

Nominations for SOS Executive 2022-2023

President	Tracey Thue
Vice-President	Shayne Feltis
Past President	Bob Lucas
Secretary	Jenn Burgess
Treasurer	Donna Carlson-O'Keefe
Social	Shirley Keith & Lynn Campbell
Plant Orders	Heather Anderson & David Schwinghamer
Resources	Don Keith & Tom Kondra
Library	Deb Huculiak
Newsletter	Tobi Fenton & Tracey Thue
Speaker Coordinator	Heather Anderson
COC/AOS Rep	Tom Kondra
Webmaster	Calvin Lo

**Elim Church is still unavailable due to flood damage. Until we can return
to Elim Church, we will meet at**

COSMO CIVIC CENTRE

3130 Laurier Drive, Saskatoon

Use the front entrance, ground floor & take the ramp up to the
2nd floor to Classrooms A & B. Lots of parking.

Masking is encouraged.

*Please, if you are experiencing any cold, flu or Covid-19 symptoms (cough, fever,
sore throat), stay home, even if you have tested negative with a rapid test.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022-2023 SOS Membership fees are due now!

Still a great deal at \$25 for single and \$30 for family memberships (Sept '22 - Aug'23).

Pay cash or cheque to Donna at the general meeting, or e-transfer to Cheryl.

cherylgrummett@me.com

Please note: if you haven't renewed your membership by the end of November, you will be removed from the membership list and lose all membership privileges!

SOS EMAIL CONTACTS

- **Plant orders to:**
orders@saskorchids.com
- **General requests or queries to:** info@saskorchids.com

SOS Member Plant Sales Table

This is a great opportunity to add a new variety to your collection! Or to acquire one that you've seen at Show and Tell and coveted. Or, if your collection needs thinning (to make space for new plants, of course), here is your chance.

Bring your orchids to add to the sales table. Include label (i.e. piece of tape) with your name (or initials) and asking price. Ten percent of the price goes to the SOS.

Potting and Mounting Demos on Zoom!

Unable to attend the November meeting in person? We've got you covered!

The three demos will be shown live on the Zoom meeting. Calvin will give a short tutorial on how to move from one demo to the other, that way you can pop in to whichever demo you're interested in, or move from one to another, while they're in progress.

Saturday, November 26, 2022 @ 1:30 PM CST

If you are unable to join the meeting in person, please join on Zoom with this link:

<https://usask-ca.zoom.us/j/96349491326?pwd=elBwL1ITZW1rdUhzd2hZYkRyR2UvQT09>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2023 SOS Orchid Calendar Fundraiser

We have another gorgeous calendar to sell as a fundraiser for the SOS. Photos submitted by SOS members, calendar production by Sara T., printing organized by Kathryn H.

Pre-ordered calendars will be at the November meeting for pickup. **There will be a small number of extras for purchase at the meeting. A perfect Christmas gift for a plant-loving friend!**

Calendars are **\$15 each**. Pay by e-transfer to Cheryl Grummett cherylgrummett@me.com or by cash or cheque to Donna at the November meeting.

Members who are not at the November meeting are asked contact Deb Huculiak to arrange for pickup. Payment by e-transfer to Cheryl.

SOS LIBRARY

**The newest issue of
Orchid Digest is here!**

Featuring articles on *Coelogyne* species.
Take advantage of your society library and check out this internationally renowned magazine!



On The Cover: *Phagnipedium* Seymour 'Red Dancer' x *laevich* 'Full Moon'. Grown by Bob L.

All orchids featured in this calendar were grown and photographed by members of the Saskatchewan Orchid Society.

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 22, 2022, 1:40 PM CST Tracey Thue welcomed everyone, with a warm welcome to Cordelia Head of J&L Orchids, Connecticut.

LOCATION: Cosmo Civic Center, due to water damage at Elim Church. October and November meetings will be held at the Cosmo Civic Center, and hopefully return to Elim Church in January, 2023.

Announcements:

- Jenn Burgess is taking the minutes; Donna Carlson-O'Keefe is accepting memberships; and Marlow Thue is selling 50/50 tickets: 10/\$5, in addition to helping with meeting set-up.
- Cordelia Head's plant sale table will accept card or cash; members' sale table is available after the break. Give Donna your membership number in order to be drawn to choose your pick of plants.
- Membership fees can be e-transferred to Cheryl Grummett: \$25 for individual; \$30 for family.
- There is a sign-up sheet for 2023 SOS calendars that will be available at the November meeting. Or email Deb Huculiak, with whom you can arrange pick-up. They are \$15 each. E-transfer can be made to Cheryl Grummett.
- There are two members joining the meeting by Zoom.
- November announcements: there will be an executive election, and mounting and potting demonstrations at 3 stations (looking for two more volunteers to repot plants).

Presentation:

*Members joining via Zoom heard the presentation but did not see the screen because of photos under copyright.

Miniature Orchids and How to Grow Them, or, Good Things Come in Small Packages

Cordelia began with an overview of general culture, temperature, humidity for growing orchids in the home. Photos illustrated miniature orchids under lights, in cases, on windowsills, in glass terrariums, and use of double potting. She pointed out that the biggest difference with growing miniatures is the size of the pot, so we need to adjust watering. Cordelia keeps her plants drier in the hottest part of summer.

Cordelia then showed colourful photos of various miniature species and their growing conditions. Included were many species of *Dendrobium*, *Bulbophyllum*, *Aerangis*, *Angraecum*, the *Aerides* subtribe, *pleurothallids*, *Laelia*, *Ornithocephalus*, and the *Oncidium* alliance - some of which were available for sale today.

A final tip for growing miniature orchids: hydrogen peroxide (regular pharmacy strength) poured monthly over the growing media to act as a fungicide and also to aerate.

Problem Corner: No problems today.

Show and Tell:

- Yvette Lyster brought a beautiful pink-flowered *Dendrobium Hibiki*, planted in sphagnum moss.
- Bob Lucas showed a *Phragmipedium April Fool*, acquired from Chuck Taylor. Grown in coir fibre and perlite with a 1-inch reservoir of water; also a *Phalaenopsis Tying Shin Blue Jay*, with stunning blue flowers, grown in ProMix HP.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

- Don Keith had three miniatures: *Trisitella hoeijeri* - grown under lights, an easy bloomer with graceful white flowers; a cool-growing *Lepanthes guatemalensis* with small yellow flowers; and *Restrepia cymbula*, with cute boat-shaped flowers.
- Shayne Feltis brought an impressive *Gongora rufescens*, grown under lights without rest, with pendulant flowers smelling of menthol and cinnamon.
- Jenn Burgess had a fragrant *Oncidium Heaven Scent 'Sweet Baby'*; a *Brassolaeliocattleya Orange D'Or x Blc. Love Sound 'Dogashima'*, with yellow flowers; and a *Brassavola Jimminey Cricket 'Superbug' HCC/AOS*, grown under lights.
- Cody Hamilton brought a *Phalaenopsis Blackberry*, acquired from Ching Hua in Calgary; and a striking SVO splash-petal cross of *Sophrholaeliocattleya Angel Eyes x Slc. Tokyo Life 'Strawberry Splash'*, red with a yellow throat.
- Calvin Lo's plants are grown under LED lights: a mounted *Angraecum conchoglossum*, a spider angraecum with coloured petals and an evening fragrance; a long-spurred *Aerangis coriasciae* grown from flask (the first bloom of the seedlings and needing humidity); and *Cyrtorchis chailluana*, with starry white and night fragrant flowers that turn orange before dropping.
- Merle Ward brought a *Rhyncholaelia Village Chief Rose 'Gangshan King'*, with beautiful deep yellow red-frilled petals.
- Tracey Thue had a mounted *Pleurothallis grobyi* (also described as *Specklinia grobyi*), acquired from Hausermann's in 2008, a cool to intermediate grower, happy on a north-facing kitchen windowsill in winter, and on a north-facing wall outdoors in summer and watered with rain water. The plant is covered with a mass of cream-coloured reddish-striped flowers. Tracey also showed an *Epidendrum longirepens*, acquired in 1999 at the World Orchid Congress in Vancouver from J&L. It has grown into an impressive specimen plant, now on cork, placed in a clay pot, and misted every morning.

50/50 Draw: \$65 was raised, with Vicky Wiley winning \$32.50.

Sale Table: Approximately a dozen plants were for sale, including a Paphiopedilum, and various Dendrobium and Cattleya hybrids. Ten of them were sold.

Adjournment: 3:40 pm

SHOW AND TELL

Photographs by Tracey Thue
(unless stated otherwise)



Dendrobium Hibiki

Grown by Yvette Lyster



Phalaenopsis Tying Shin Blue Jay

Grown by Bob Lucas



Phragmipedium April Fool

Grown by Bob Lucas



Trisetella heoijeri

Grown by Don Keith



Restrepia cymbula

Grown by Don Keith



Lepanthes guatemalensis

Grown by Don Keith



Gongora rufescens
Grown by Shayne Feltis



Oncidium Heaven Scent
'Sweet Baby'
Grown by Jenn Burgess



Rhynchovola Jimminey Cricket
'Superbug' HCC/AOS
Grown by Jenn Burgess



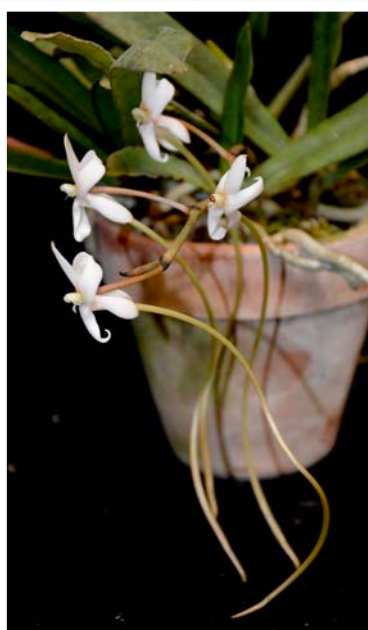
Brassolaeliocattleya Carolina
Orange D'Or x Blc. Love
Sound 'Dogashima'
Grown by Jenn Burgess



Cattleya Angel Eyes 'SVO'
AM/AOS
Grown by Cody Hamilton



Phalaenopsis Blackberry
Grown by Cody Hamilton



Cyrtorchis chailluana
Grown by Calvin Lo

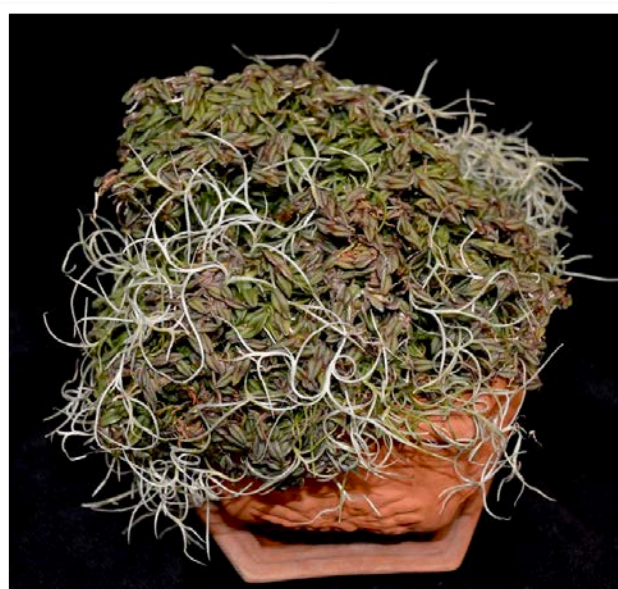


Aerangis coriasciae
Grown by Calvin Lo



Angraecum conchoglossum
Grown by Calvin Lo

Rhyncholaelia Village Chief Rose 'Gangshan King'
Grown by Merle Ward



Epidendrum longirepens (not in flower)
Grown by Tracey Thue



Specklinia grobyi
Grown by Tracey Thue



Cordelia Head, J&L Orchids



***Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Memoria Floyd Irvin Bachrach 'Hsinying'**
(*Cattleya* Horace x *Rlc.* Saint Helena Sound)
Grown and photographed by Robert Wilson

THE ROOT ZONE

The Charming Isabelia

by Tobi Fenton



Isabelia virginalis

Grown by Tracey Thue; photographed by Sara Thue

There is something about miniature orchids that speaks to a deep part of me. Maybe because I spent my early adulthood scrambling around Rocky Mountain meadows, identifying alpine flowers - the tinier, the more exciting the challenge.

The most charming orchid I've ever seen is the miniature Brazilian species, *Isabelia virginalis*. My sister has one in her collection and the first time I saw it I was enchanted. It looks like a tiny grassy nursery of babies, popping up from their woven cradles with arms outstretched. The pink and ivory flowers are lovely - one per pseudobulb - but it is the pseudobulbs that make this plant so strange, so appealing.

The pseudobulbs creep along their branch, each one bearing a single grass-like leaf. The pseudobulbs become covered with an increasingly complex weaving of fibres, which is what creates the illusion of chubby little baskets. According to the American Orchid Society website, the fibre is produced by the decomposing pseudobulb sheath.

There are two other species within the genus *Isabelia*: *Isabelia pulchella*, and *Isabelia violacea*. The latter has until recently been called *Sophranitella violacea* but genetic studies suggest that it should be grouped with *Isabelia*. Both of the sister species have the creeping habit of *Isabelia virginalis*, but not the elaborately webbed pseudobulb sheath. And so, in my mind, they do not have the same charm.

However, I would probably feel differently if I'd grown up scrambling around the coast of eastern Brazil, searching for the minutest orchids on the mountain. Then, perhaps, I would put all three species in the same emotional basket.