

# 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 [robert.lucas@usask.ca](mailto:robert.lucas@usask.ca).

## Future Meeting Dates:

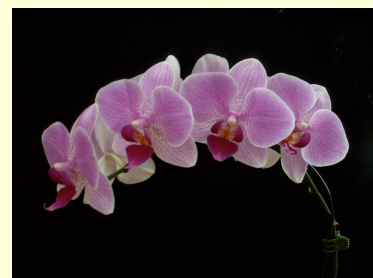
January 27, 2013	February 17, 2013	March 17, 2013
April 28, 2013	May 26, 2013	

## SOS Executive

<b>President:</b>	Cal Carter
<b>Vice-President:</b>	
<b>Past President:</b>	Sherida Gregoire
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jennifer Burgess
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Cheryl Grummett
<b>Social:</b>	Shirley Keith Lori Pozniak
<b>Plant Orders:</b>	Heather Anderson Cheryl Adamson
<b>Resources:</b>	Yvette Lyster Pat Randall
<b>Librarians:</b>	Tracey Thue Jan Dougall
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Bob Lucas
<b>COC/AOS Rep:</b>	
<b>Speakers:</b>	Don Keith
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Jennifer Burgess
<b>Mail Address:</b>	SOS, Box 411 Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3
<b>Web Address:</b>	<a href="http://www.saskorchids.com">www.saskorchids.com</a>

## November Meeting

The November general meeting of the Society will be held on **Nov. 25, 2012** at John Dolan School, commencing at 1:30 p.m. As a follow up to last month's lecture by Ben Rostron, Cal Carter will give a presentation on AOS judging of Phalaenopsis orchids.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The November meeting will feature a powerpoint presentation by Cal Carterr on AOS judging of Phalaenopsis orchids. This talk will build on what we learned from Ben Rostron's presentation last month.

**As we do not have a visiting speaker in November, you are encouraged to bring plants for the sale table.**

Due to other commitments, Al Hartridge has resigned from the Executive, although he has promised to keep growing his wonderful Vandas. Thank you, Al, for your long service to the Society as an Executive member. We will be accepting nominations from Society members for Al's replacement. This is an excellent opportunity for someone who is interested in serving on the Executive, as the position as COC/AOS representative is less demanding of one's time than many other positions. If you are interested in serving, or know someone who is, please contact Cal prior to the meeting. We would like to fill this position at the November meeting.

Garry Posniak, Lori's spouse, has made a \$200.00 donation to the Society on behalf of Great West Distribution to support our educational efforts. The Executive has decided to use a portion of these funds to purchase a series of seven powerpoint presentations from the Orchid Digest on various orchid genera. The remaining funds will be used to purchase books for the library. Thank you, Garry, for your generous donation. We will feature these presentations at future meetings of the Society and

they will become a permanent part of our library collection.

Pat and Yvette have found a low-cost supplier of T-5 HO replacement bulbs with the proper light intensity (54 watt, 6500K for the 4 foot). Therefore, we will not be carrying these bulbs in the Society resource inventory. Talk to Pat or Yvette if you wish more details.

You may not know or have forgotten that the COC and the AOS have produced a number of culture sheets on various orchid genera. We have posted the COC sheets on the Society website [www.saskorchids.com](http://www.saskorchids.com) along with a link to the AOS website

If you did not partake of the incentive to renew your membership for 2012-13 in the Spring, you should do so at the November meeting. The cost is \$25.00 for a single and \$30.00 for a family membership. A new form (available from Cheryl G.) must be completed before purchase.

The November meeting will feature a raffle of plants donated by Safeway. Be sure to purchase your tickets from Tracey or Jan at the Library table, \$1 for one, \$2 for three.

### Meeting Agenda

- Announcements
- Problem Corner
- Show and Tell
- Coffee/Supplies
- Cal Carter Presentation
- Plant Raffle
- Plant Sale
- Adjournment



Phal Bedford Golden Victory

## OCTOBER 28 MINUTES

### Announcements

Cal opened the meeting by extending a welcome to returning members, new members and guests. A special thanks is extended to Lynne Corrigan, Lorna Shaw-Lennox and Bernie and Ruth Zuk for bringing today's treats.

Ben Rostron will give a talk today on AOS judging. He has also donated ten novelty Phals for the SOS sales table.

Raffle tickets for plants donated by Safeway at Circle Park Mall are available at the library table, \$1 for one, \$2 for three.

Membership renewals for 2012-13 are available this month and next month. The cost is \$25.00 for a single and \$30.00 for a family membership..

### Problem corner

1 Should egg shells be rinsed prior to being applied to Paph medium for their nutrient value? Rinsing would remove any remaining egg membrane that could contribute to mold growth, though some report not rinsing. The supply table also stocks crushed oyster shell that is used for the same purpose.

**Show and Tell**

Plants were shown by Cheryl Adamson, Sherida Gregoire, Cody Hamilton, Lori Pozniak, Tracey Thue, Bob Lucas, Jennifer Burgess and Cal Carter.

**Rostron's Presentation**

Ben Rostron of Edmonton presented on AOS judging. It was an informative and engaging description of AOS judge

accreditation, AOS award types, judging processes and criteria. He included photo of awarded plants and illustrated the principles of orchid judging with plants from the SOS show and tell table.

**Plant Raffle**

There were many Phalaenopsis both blooming and past-blooming and two Dendrobiums that were donated by Safeway.

**Plant sale**

There were over two dozen plants on the sale table, including 10 Phalaenopsis donated Ben Rostron, along with Cattleya hybrids.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

**SOS OCTOBER SHOW AND TELL**



Paph Bernice Exhibitor: Lori Posniak



Habenaria rhodocheila Exhibitor: Cheryl Adamson



Phal Brother Lawrence x Amadinal Exhibitor: Bob Lucas

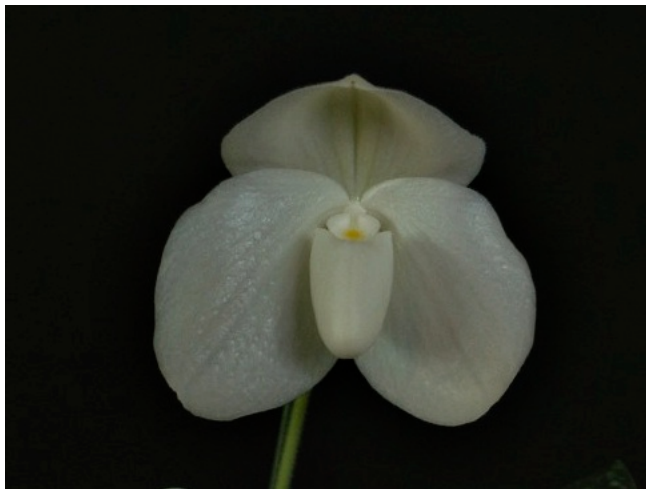


Paph Victoria-Regina Exhibitor: Jenn Burgess





Phrag Grande Exhibitor: Sherida Gregoire



Paph Sabatino x S. Gratrix Exhibitor: Bob Lucas



Paph. Voodoo Magic x Hsinying MacBeth Exhibitor:  
Tracey Thue



Paph Bernice Exhibitor: Cal Carter

## THE BIFOLIATE CATTLEYS BEGINNERS' HANDBOOK - XVIII PART I

**Editor's Note** This article is reprinted from the AOS webpage.

The following article first appeared in the February 1956 (Vol. 25, No. 2, page 159) American Orchid Society BULLETIN as part of a multi-part Beginners' Handbook. It has been edited here to reflect current taxonomic nomenclature and synonymy. At the time of the original publication, the Brazilian laelias and Sophronitis were considered distinct from Cattleya. They have been now reclassified and the Central American bifoliate cattleyas moved to Guarianthe. Those Cattleya species that flower from specially modified reproductive growths (appear to be basal inflorescences) are not, strictly speaking, bifoliate cattleyas but they were included here by the author. The article has been left intact but the Central American species and Prosthechea citrina (Cattleya citrina) have been moved to the end of the article.

In the Beginners' Handbook for March, 1956, we discussed the genus Cattleya and its allies, devoting the balance of the article to one section of the genus, the unifoliate or one-leaved Cattleyas. As we noted in that installment, that group of Cattleyas is predominant in horticultural interest, with species and hybrids of the labiate section constituting the major commercial cut-orchid crop as well as the most popular plant among amateur orchid growers. However, the labiate section is surpassed in number of botanically distinct species by the remaining portion of the genus which is considered, for convenience, as the bifoliate or two-leaved group of Cattleyas.

Except for a half dozen species found in Mexico and Central America, all the bifoliate Cattleyas are natives of Brazil with an extension of range, in the case of several species, into neighboring countries, for orchids do not respect national boundaries but geographical limits. In Brazil, the species have fairly well-defined and restricted limits, the overall distribution being roughly similar to the unifoliate species and to the

Laelias. While a few are found at comparatively low altitudes, and hence require a slightly warmer culture, the majority of species are from the mountain areas and demand the same treatment as the labiate Cattleyas. The interpenetration of ranges has resulted in the formation of a number of natural hybrids, not only between two bifoliate species but also between bifoliate and unifoliate Cattleyas. A few supposed natural hybrids between bifoliate Cattleyas and species of Laelia are also known.

List of species: as is true of most of the horticulturally valuable orchids, the bifoliate Cattleyas constitute a complex, variable and difficult group which defies sharp delineation among the many component species. Due to the large number of imports which gave rise to many errors in identification and a multitude of names, a sound taxonomic treatment of the section cannot be presented with as much authority as desired. Certain important species, such as *Cattleya guttata*, *Cattleya intermedia*, *Cattleya loddigesii* and their varieties are still much confused, particularly in respect to some of their less typical

forms. There is no popular treatment of this group of Cattleyas to be found in literature. Botanically, the most authoritative study is Alfred Cogniaux's work on the orchids in Martins' FLORA BRASILIENSIS, published 1893-1906. Descriptions and text are in Latin, and some of the concepts should be revaluated in the light of more recent knowledge. Nevertheless, this presentation is extremely useful and is the basis, with slight modification, of the following groupings.

I. Lateral lobes of lip small or sometimes absent; column exposed or enveloped by the lateral lobes to a certain degree at the base of the lip.

I.A Midlobe of lip somewhat larger, more or less long and clawed: *Cattleya granulosa*, *C. porphyroglossa*, *C. schofieldiana*, *C. x brasiliensis*, *C. guttata*, *C. x patrocinii*, *C. tigrina*, *C. amethystoglossa*, *C. elongata*, *C. x victoriae-reginae*, *C. schilleriana*, *C. x Whitei*.

II. Lateral lobes of lip large, enveloping the column entirely or for the greater part.

II.A Midlobe of lip somewhat

larger, more or less long and clawed: *Cattleya granulosa*, *C. porphyroglossa*, *C. schofieldiana*, *C. x brasiliensis*, *C. guttata*, *C. x patrocinii*, *C. tigrina*, *C. amethystoglossa*, *C. elongata*, *C. x victoriae-reginae*, *C. schilleriana*, *C. x Whitei*.

II.B. Midlobe of lip small, sessile or subsessile: *Cattleya violacea*, *C. x brymeriana*, *C. loddigesii*, *C. harrisoniana*, *C. intermedia*, *C. forbesii*, *C. x isabella*, *C. dormaniana*.

II.C. Midlobe of lip large, more or less continuous with lateral lobes. - All reclassified in other genera: *Prosthechea citrina*, *Guarianthe aurantiaca*, *Gur. x guatemalensis*, *Gur. skinneri*, *Gur. bowringiana*.

This listing does not completely exhaust the possible number of species nor does it include all the known or suspected natural hybrids. Many published concepts are based on a single collection or on obscure characters, and the minute detail necessary for monographic treatment would be out of place here, even were the required research accomplished, which it is not. These groupings do establish relationships fairly well, however, with the exception of *Prosthechea citrina* which is included with *Guarianthe aurantiaca* and the *Gur. skinneri* alliance only as a matter of convenience.

#### **SPECIES OF BIFOLIATE CATTLEYA**

*Cattleya aclandiae*: Brazil.

Introduced in 1839 by Lady Akland, of Killerton, near Exeter, it was named for her by Dr. Lindley when he first described the species in the *BOTANICAL REGISTER*, in 1840. This is one of the smallest in habit among the *Cattleyas*, the slender, cylindrical, furrowed stems being from three to five inches long, the two leaves each from two to three inches in length. A short peduncle bears one or two flowers from three to four inches across. Petals and sepals are similar, fleshy, yellowish green transversely blotched and spotted with blackish purple. The rather fiddle-shaped lip is three-lobed, the lateral lobes small and curved toward the column, white tinged with rose, the midlobe broadly kidney-shaped, wavy, bright rose-purple veined with deep purple. The exposed column is short, thickened with wing-like margins, a deep amethyst-purple. Found growing near sea level on small isolated trees in the arid lands near the coast of the province of Bahia, over which a sea breeze blows constantly, it is a warm growing species demanding great light. It requires little compost but should be heavily watered during its growing season. Frequently it produces new growths and flowers twice a year, in May and June, its normal season, and again in the fall. Not common in cultivation, it is a delightful dwarf species with bold flowers, but it does have a reputation as being difficult to grow.



*C. aclandiae* 'KG's Spotted Tiger' HCC/AOS; Grower: Kathy Figiel, Photo© Greg Allikas

*Cattleya amethystoglossa*: Brazil.

This species first appeared in the collection of Herr Reichenheim at Berlin and was described in 1856 in *BONPLANDIA* by Reichenbach as *Cattleya guttata* var. *prinzii*, named to honor Herr Prinz who had sent the plant from Brazil. It appeared in England in the collection of Mr. F. Coventry, of Shirley, whose solitary plant went to Mr. Warner in 1860. Figured in Warner's *SELECT ORCHIDACEOUS PLANTS* as *Cattleya amethystoglossa*. It has since been imported in large quantities from its native home in the province of Bahia. The stems are cylindrical, two to three or more feet high, bearing two leaves from four to eight inches long. Flowers are about three to four inches across, fleshy, in an upright cluster containing five to twenty flowers. Petals are similar to sepals but somewhat broader, petals and sepals bright rose spotted with amethyst-purple, especially toward the margins. Lip is three-lobed, the lateral lobes folding over the column,



the middle lobe spreading, notched in the front margin, deep amethyst-purple. An intermediate to warm species, very variable in habit and floral coloring, it flowers anywhere from early spring to midsummer.



*C. amethystoglossa* 'Crownfox III', AM/AOS; Grower: RF Orchids, photo: Greg Allikas

*Cattleya bicolor*: Brazil. Introduced by Messrs. Loddiges in 1836, it was described in the BOTANICAL REGISTER by Lindley in 1836. The slender stems are from eighteen to thirty inches high, jointed and covered with whitish membranaceous sheaths, bearing two leaves about six inches long. The inflorescence is nearly erect, with two to five or more flowers. Flowers range from three to four inches across. The sepals and petals are fleshy, with a distinct midnerve, greenish brown to olive-brown spotted with purple, the petals somewhat wavy, the lateral sepals bowed inward. The lip is wedge-shaped, without side lobes, curved downward with a central longitudinal depression or line, crimson-purple, occasionally margined with white. This species is unique in

lacking the lateral lobes of the lip, a character usually inherited by its hybrid progeny, limiting its value in breeding. Variable in coloring, particularly with respect to the lip, this species is suited to intermediate conditions, blooms during spring and into midsummer, occasionally blooming twice, about March and again in September.



*C. bicolor* 'Tyrone', HCC/AOS; Grower: Charles Fouquette, photo: Loren Batchman

*Cattleya x brasiliensis*: Brazil. An obscure natural hybrid presumed to be *Cattleya bicolor* x *Cattleya harrisoniana*.

*Cattleya x brymeriana*: Brazil. A natural hybrid between *Cattleya violacea* and *Cattleya wallisii* (eldorado), it was introduced by Messrs. Low and Co. and described in the GARDENERS' CHRONICLE for 1883 by Reichenbach who dedicated it to Mr. W. E. Brymer, an ardent amateur orchid grower. Habit intermediate between the two parent species, with medium-sized showy flowers, rosy purple shaded with white, the lip deep purple with an orange-yellow throat. Rarely seen in cultivation, it blooms in summer.

*Cattleya x dolosa*: Brazil. The origin of this species is somewhat obscure, having first appeared in cultivation in 1872 in the collection of Mr. John Day who obtained it as a *Cattleya* or *Laelia* from Minas Gerais. At first considered a variety of *Cattleya walkeriana*, which it resembles closely. Considered by some to be a distinct species, most present-day authorities accept it as a natural hybrid between *Cattleya walkeriana* and *Cattleya harrisoniana*. Of dwarf habit, the pseudobulbs are two to four inches high, stout, bearing one to four large, fleshy flowers about four inches across. Unlike *Cattleya walkeriana*, it flowers from the base of the leaves at the apex of the pseudobulb. The flowers are rose-magenta, the petals broader than the sepals, the lip bilobed with the side lobes overlapping the column for half their length, the midlobe spreading, deep amethyst-purple with a pale yellow disk. Rare in its native habitat, it is not commonly found in cultivation. It blooms in the fall.



*C. x dolosa* 'Michael', AM/AOS; Grower: William Rogerson, photo: Rhonda Peters

*Cattleya dormaniana*: Brazil. This species brings to the forefront the artificial distinction between Brazilian laelias and cattleyas. The distinction is based on the number of pollinia; four for cattleyas and eight for laelias. This species produce two or four extra rudimentary pollinia in addition to the four normally found in plants of this genus. Is this then a Laelia, a Cattleya or an intergeneric natural hybrid? It is today accepted as a Cattleya and the underdeveloped pollinia have some evolutionary significance related to the origin of the species. Regardless of the genus, the 3 inch flowers, produced usually one or two per inflorescence (occasionally up to 4) are dramatic. The species, discovered in 1879, comes from the humid, cloud-shrouded Organ Mountains in Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil. While the thin pseudobulbs do not tolerate dehydration, the species does need a definite period of dormancy. Flowering occurs in the fall. While known for some



*C. dormaniana* 'Renee', AM/AOS; Grower: Robert J. Ferry

130 years, *C. dormaniana* remains relatively rare in contemporary collections. It is a small species that takes up little room and for those able to provide for its requirements, a dramatic addition to anyone's cattleya collection.

*Cattleya elongata*: Brazil. Another rare species not seen in cultivation at the present time, it was described by Barbarossa Rodrigues, a Brazilian botanist, in his *GENERA ET SPECIES ORCHIDEARUM NOVARUM* (1877), one of the first works on the orchids of Brazil. Subsequently introduced into cultivation in England as *Cattleya alexandrae*, it remained a rarity and is little known.

*Cattleya forbesii*: Brazil. Introduced in 1823 by the Horticultural Society of London, through their collector Mr. Forbes, it was described by Lindley in his *COLLECTANEA BOTANICA*, dedicated to its collector. The cylindrical stems are about a foot high, the inflorescence erect and bearing from two to five flowers, each about three to four inches across. The sepals and petals are similar, nearly equal, pale yellow-green to yellow. The lip is three-lobed, the lateral lobes angular and rolled around the column, pale yellow on the outside, bright yellow within; the midlobe is small, rounded with a toothed margin, pale yellow with bright yellow central band, the throat lined and spotted with red-purple. Not as showy as many other species, this *Cattleya* has never been grown in quantity even though it is one of

the first of the genus to appear in cultivation. It is an attractive plant, however, and rather easily grown, so it is found occasionally in the collections of hobbyists whose interests tend toward the less common orchids. It blooms in spring and summer.



*C. forbesii* 'Orquifollajes', AM/AOS; Grower: Francisco Villegas, photo: Greg Allikas

To Be Continued.