

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 (blind copy so your email address remains private), please notify me at thues@sasktel.net.

Future Meeting Dates:

Saturday, May 25, 2019	Saturday, Sep 28, 2019
Saturday, Oct 26, 2019	Saturday, Nov 23, 2019

SOS Executive

President:	Bob Lucas
Vice-President:	Sherida Gregoire
Past President:	Sherida Gregoire
Secretary:	Donna Carlson-O'Keefe
Treasurer:	Cheryl Grummett
Social:	Shirley Keith Lynn Campbell
Plant Orders:	Heather Anderson Cheryl Adamson
Resources:	Don Keith Tom Kondra
Librarians:	Deb Huculiak Kathryn Hiller
Newsletter:	Tracey Thue
COC/AOS Rep:	Tom Kondra
Speakers:	Heather Anderson
Webmaster:	Calvin Lo
Facebook:	Sara Thue
Mail Address:	SOS, Box 411 Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3
Web Address:	www.saskorchids.com
facebook:	https:// www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?

April Meeting - Saturday, Apr 27, 2019

The general meeting will be held at
LUTHERCARE VILLAGE AT STONEBRIDGE,
beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Our Annual Silent Auction will be held throughout the meeting, along with
Elections for the SOS Executive.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting Agenda:

Silent Auction
Announcements
Problem Corner
Show and Tell

BREAK:

Treats/Supplies/Library
SOS Executive Election
Awards Draws
Plant Raffle
Adjournment

SOS GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019 @ 1:30PM

LUTHERCARE VILLAGE AT STONEBRIDGE

8TH ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION SOS FUNDRAISER

BRING ORCHIDS AND ORCHID-RELATED ITEMS TO ADD TO THE AUCTION. PICK UP BID SHEETS FROM CHERYL. THIS IS OUR MAIN FUNDRAISING EVENT OF THE YEAR AND IT'S OPEN TO ALL, INCLUDING NON-MEMBERS, SO INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

MEMBERS BRINGING ITEMS CAN SPECIFY THE PERCENTAGE OF THE SALE PRICE TO BE DONATED TO THE SOS, EITHER 50% OR 100% OF THE SALE GOING TO THE SOCIETY.

Annual Award Draws

The 8th Annual Wilma Nykiforuk Memorial Award

On behalf of Sarah Nykiforuk, Wilma's sister, Bob will ask a member to select their favourite plant on this month's Show & Tell table and the owner of the chosen plant will receive an orchid.

The Annual Show & Tell Draw

Names of members who brought plants to the meetings for Show & Tell during the last year will be placed into the draw, once for every month they brought plants. The winner of the draw must be at the April meeting and will receive an orchid.

The Treats Volunteer Draw

In recognition of those generously volunteering to bring treats to our general meetings, your name will be entered into the draw for every month you brought treats. The winner of the draw must be at the April meeting and will receive an orchid.

Nominations for SOS Executive 2019-20

President	Tracey Thue
Vice-President	Vacant
Past President	Bob Lucas
Secretary	Donna Carlson-O'Keefe
Treasurer	Cheryl Grummett
Social	Shirley Keith & Lynn Campbell
Plant Orders	Heather Anderson & Cheryl Adamson
Resources	Don Keith & Tom Kondra
Library	Deb Huculiak & Kathryn Hiller
Newsletter	Tracey Thue & Sara Thue
Speakers	Heather Anderson
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Webmaster	Calvin Lo
Facebook Page	Sara Thue

Visiting Speaker for May 2019

Jean Allen-Ikeson is an accredited American Orchid Society judge in the Toronto Judging Centre. She is the author of the Supplement to Orchids magazine on Sarcochilus and its hybrids, in addition to numerous articles in Orchids on species, hybrids, culture and judging. Jean is Chair of the Editorial Board of the AOS and National Training Coordinator for the AOS judging program. She lives north of Hamilton, Ontario and grows a variety of species and hybrids in a large lean-to greenhouse.

Jean will be speaking to us about white Cattleyas. She is also taking plant pre-orders; watch the SOS website for the pre-order list, coming soon!

SOS Membership Early Renewal Incentive!

Renew your SOS Membership at the April or May meeting and receive a \$5 voucher for the Resources table, or, while supplies last, a seedling Phalaenopsis bred by Bob Lucas!



More photos of the SOS Display @ Gardenscape.
Thanks to Kathryn Hiller & Deb Huculiak for the wonderful display!

MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Recorded by Donna Carlson-O'Keefe

Announcements

SOS President Bob Lucas welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

Memberships for 2018-19 are still on sale.

There are plants available on the member sale table. Access is by lottery, so leave your membership number at the front table if you are interested.

There are three *Phals* provided by Save-On Foods for the plant raffle this month. Tickets are available at the library, one ticket for \$1, or three for \$2.

Today's presentation is a PowerPoint presentation, "*Masdevallias and Draculas: The Species, Hybrids, and Their Culture*", produced by Sandra Svoboda, Editor-in-Chief of Orchid Digest.

The next four items are all in the March newsletter.

Gardenscape is March 29-31. Deb and Kathryn are organizing our display; please tell them if you have plants to bring so they can plan. Plants should be groomed and staked, and labelled with the owner's name. The SOS space is in the north part of Hall D/E, and plants can be dropped off there on Thursday between 4 - 6pm. Plants can be picked up again between 5 - 5:30pm on Sunday, March 31. If you can't pick them up in person, make arrangements for someone else to do so. The volunteer signup sheet is being circulated. Volunteers get free passes to Gardenscape; see Bob at the break to get your pass.

We will be entering a display in the Orchid Society of Alberta Show in Edmonton April 7 - 9. It is an American Orchid Society judged show. If you want your plant to be judged, provide Bob with the name and parentage by Monday, Apr 1 so he can pre-register. Again, groom and stake the plants, and label them with your name. They can be dropped off at Bob's, 519 Mendel Terrace on Wed, Apr 3 between 6 - 8pm. Only plants taken to Edmonton by Bob will be entered in the display. Pre-orders or display plants can be picked up at Cheryl Adamson's on Mon, Apr 8 between 4 - 6pm. Email Cheryl if these arrangements don't work for you. Payment for pre-ordered plants must be exact change or a cheque made out to the SOS.

Cheryl Adamson and Heather Anderson will be purchasing plants

at the OSA Show for a garage sale. The sale will be at Heather's, 3254 Calder Terrace, on Tues, Apr 9 from 7 - 8pm.

The April meeting will include the silent auction and elections. If you are interested in serving on the executive, see or email Bob, or speak to any member of the executive. The silent auction will go on throughout the meeting. People contributing orchid-related items for the auction can specify that they will split the proceeds 50:50 with the SO, or designate 100% of the proceeds to go to the SOS. This is our primary fundraiser for the year.

Treats today were brought by Ruth Zuk, Linda King, Marge Kowalchuk, Jack Smith, and Lori Pozniak.

We need more sign-ups for treats for our April meeting.



SOS Display - Gardenscape 2019



FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

We will start selling 2019-20 memberships at the April meeting. As an incentive for early renewal, members renewing in April or May will have the choice of a \$5 voucher to the SOS Resources, or a seedling of a new *Phalaenopsis* cross that Bob has made.

Resources

A shipment of Orchata bark from New Zealand has been delayed.

Library

The librarians have pulled three magazines specific to today's topic. The light meter and pH meter have been returned and are available to check out.

Problem corner

No problems reported.

Show and Tell

Sixteen plants were shown by Tracey Thue, Tom Kondra, Calvin Lo, Sherida Gregoire, and Bob Lucas.

Break

Presentation

Bob presented the slides from Orchid Digest on "Masdevallias and Draculas: The Species, Hybrids and Their Culture", produced by Sandra Svoboda.

Masdevallias

Named for Jose Masdeval, a physician and botanist in the court of Charles III of Spain. They were first collected in 1779 in Peru and Chile, and were first made available to the public in 1794. Many of the early plants died as it was thought at the time that all orchids required high temperatures and high humidity.

In the 1830s, Joseph Paxton, gardener to the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth, proposed a change in orchid culture. He recommended separate houses or parts of houses for orchids from different climates, a lower temperature, addition of fresh air, maintenance of humidity, and better drainage.

Before 1975, only about 100 species of *Masdevallias* were known. However, with new regions being explored, more species were discovered until now, more than 400 are known.

Flower shape, colour, and odor have a singular purpose, to attract pollinators. Principal pollinators are flies, although some may be pollinated by hummingbirds or moths. As an interesting example, *Masdevallia caesia* smells like cat urine to attract flies.

Masdevallias are found in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Brazil, Surinam, and Paraguay.

In order to grow *Masdevallias*, you should consider the conditions in which they grow naturally:

- Elevation
- Rainfall amounts and distribution
- Temperature extremes
- Air circulation
- Where it grows (rocks, trees, soil)
- Whether it is partial to full sun or shade

Most *Masdevallias* are cool-growing and found at high elevations in mountainous cloud forests where they get high humidity. However, some prefer in warmer lowland areas.



***Masdevallia
rex***

Grown by
Don Keith
Photo by
Sara Thue



FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Culture Requirements of *Masdevallias*:

- Temperatures:

Growing Conditions	Daytime Temperatures	Nighttime Temperatures
Cold	10 - 16C (50-60F)	4 - 7C (40-45F)
Cool	10 - 17C (50-63F)	7 - 12C (45-53F)
Intermediate	13 - 20C (55-68F)	10 - 13C (50-56F)
Warm	20 - 27C (68-80F)	16 - 18C (60-65F)

Cool- to Cold-Growing *Masdevallias*:

Examples are *Masdevallia amabilis*, *Masdevallia deformis*, *Masdevallia uniflora*, *Masdevallia coccinea*, *Masdevallia davisii*, *Masdevallia veitchiana*, *Masdevallia ignea*.

In the coastal side of California's Bay Area, cool- to cold-growing *Masdevallias* can be grown outside for most, if not all, of the year, and in lath houses or other exterior growing areas. In warmer or drier areas, evaporative coolers, fogging or misting equipment, and other humidifying systems are needed to meet cultural requirements. In areas with cold winters but warmer summers, provisions for maintaining appropriate temperatures will have to be made year-round.

Plants rapidly perish in hot weather, direct sun, or dry conditions. Signs of heat stress include leaf drop and abortion of new growths and flowers. During times of heat stress, roots should be kept drier (the roots can quickly rot if a wet medium is combined with high temperatures). Humidity should be elevated, air movement increased, and light levels reduced. Plants should be misted.

Cool- to Intermediate-growing *Masdevallias*: Some examples are *Masdevallia mendozae*, *Masdevallia*

sanctae-inesiae, *Masdevallia triangulari*, *Masdevallia infracta*.

Intermediate-growing *Masdevallias*:

Some examples are *Masdevallia towarensis*, *Masdevallia constricta*, *Masdevallia strobilii*.

Warm-growing *Masdevallias*:

Examples are *Masdevallia tonduzii*, *Masdevallia demissa*, *Masdevallia martiniana*, *Masdevallia vieirana*. These species do not do well under intermediate conditions.

The presentation included slides of the species listed above and some of their hybrids, where they are found and the growing conditions they prefer.

- Light:

Most grow in shady areas. Plants with thinner, softer leaves prefer shade, while those with thicker, heavier leaves require more light. Light for all species should be diffused. Providing more shade will help plants survive heat stress. Stressed plants may drop all their leaves, sometimes within one day. They may recover if given more shade, plenty of air circulation, and higher humidity.



Masdevallia lilacina

Grown & photographed by Sara Thue



FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

- Humidity:

They require high humidity, ideally at least 70%, and plenty of air circulation. They don't have much water storage capacity so a moist atmosphere is required to prevent dehydration. The potting medium should be kept moist, but not soggy.

- Air Movement:

Good air circulation is a requirement. However, fans should never blow directly on the plants. An oscillating fan works well for an indoor-growing area. In a greenhouse, fans well above or below growing benches work well.

- Water:

Masdevallias require good quality water. They don't like to be completely dry around their roots, and they shouldn't have a dry period. You can judge how dry the medium is by heavy it is. Freshly

potted plants will dry out faster than plants that have been in their medium for a while.

- Fertilizer:

Masdevallias are light feeders. They generally do well with $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ strength fertilizer (20-10-10 or 20-20-20) once or twice a month. Some growers suggest that plants grown in sphagnum should be fertilized less frequently (once a month). Frequency of feeding should be reduced in winter.

- Repotting:

They don't seem to mind being repotted any time of year, and they should be repotted whenever they are showing signs of stress. The pot size should be chosen for the size of the root system, not the plant. They don't like being over-potted; they will lose their roots if the pot is too large.



Masdevallia gigas

Grown & photographed by Sara Thue

Potting Media	Comments
Sphagnum moss	Holds water, may break down rapidly; requires yearly repotting
1 part fir bark, 1 part sphagnum moss	May last up to 2 years; good quality fir bark necessary
3 parts fir bark, 1 part #3 perlite	Dries out more quickly in heat spells; adding chopped sphagnum improves water retention. Lasts up to 2 years
6 parts fir bark, 1 part #3 perlite, 1 part shredded tree fern fibre, 3/4 part sphagnum moss	May be more useful in areas of high heat and humidity; addition of charcoal may be beneficial
Mounted on cork slab or tree fern fibre	Requires daily watering, or several times a day and high humidity



FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Draculas:

The name means “little dragon”. They often have a hinged lip.

The presentation included many slides of *Dracula* species, their locations and natural growing conditions. Many of them exhibited interesting “faces”.

Culture Requirements of *Draculas*:

- Temperature:

In general they like cool- to intermediate-growing temperatures, although they will tolerate higher temperatures if night temperatures drop to the 50s or 60s. The origin of plants will give a hint as to what growing conditions they prefer. Higher elevation plants tend to thrive in a cooler temperature environment than lower elevation plants. In general, a temperature range of 50 – 70°F (10 – 21°C) is good for *Draculas*. Avoid temperatures above 80°F (27°C) for a sustained period of time. If higher temperatures cannot be avoided, make sure to give the plants a nighttime temperature that is 10° lower, to give them a break.

- Humidity:

Humidity is one of the most important factors in growing *Draculas*. Consistent humidity above 60% is required for successful growing of *Draculas*. Most of the larger-flowering species need 80% humidity to grow and flower. In fact, a range of 80 - 90% humidity is ideal.

- Light Levels:

Many growers hang *Draculas* below benches. They will tolerate brighter light if they are kept cool and humid.

- Water:

Draculas require high-quality pure water: RO, deionized or rain water. They don't require watering every day, but the growing medium should not be allowed to dry out completely.

- Fertilizer:

Draculas benefit from regular application of low-strength fertilizer with every watering. Some expert growers recommend 17-5-24 fertilizers at a rate of ¼ teaspoon per gallon. Water liberally to flush out salts from the fertilizer.

- Repotting:

Draculas are usually grown in hanging baskets. They should be potted in a material that provides moisture and air to the roots. Sphagnum moss is good, but don't pack it too tightly or air space will be lost. They can also be potted in fir bark, or mounted. They can be repotted annually at any time, even during blooming.



Dracula chestertonii

Grown & photographed
by Sara Thue

Dracula vampira

Grown by Don Keith
Photo by Sara Thue



Plant Raffle Three *Phalaenopsis* plants were donated by Save-On Foods. All were claimed.

Plant Sale There were six plants for sale on the members plant sale table.

Meeting Adjournment Approximately 3:05pm



MARCH SHOW & TELL TABLE

Photos by Sara Thue



Phalaenopsis Kuntratti Rarashati
'Copper State' HCC/AOS
Grown by Bob Lucas



Epicattleya Magic Wand
Grower: Tracey Thue



Restrepia brachypus
Grower: Tom Kondra



Paphiopedilum Hetty Letendre
'Miss Magoo' AM/AOS
Grower: Sherida Gregoire



Leptotes bicolor
Grower: Calvin Lo



Masdevallia xanthina
Grower: Tom Kondra



Cattleya White Island
(*C. walkeriana* x *C. jongheana*)
Grower: Sherida Gregoire



Jumellea densifoliata
Grower: Calvin Lo

MARCH SHOW & TELL TABLE

Photos by Sara Thue



Phalaenopsis ('Carmela Brite Lites' x
Brother Fancy 'Lung Ching' AM/AOS)
Bred & Grown by: Bob Lucas



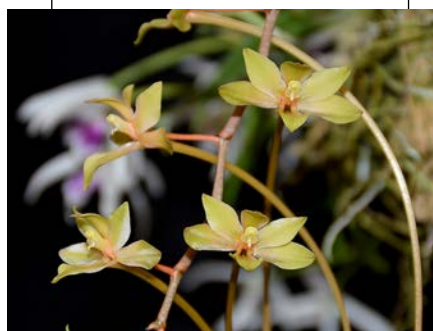
Restrepia antennifera
'Lynniana'

Grower: Tom Kondra

Porroglossum dreisei



Aerangis mooreana
Grower: Calvin Lo



Pleurothallis medinae
Grower: Tom Kondra



Angraecum arachnitis
Grower: Calvin Lo

Dendrobium Hibiki
Grower: Tracey Thue



**AOS Western Canada Judging Centre - Vancouver Orchid Society Show
Judging Results, Mar 23, 2019**

Photography by Judith Higham

Please note that AOS award photographs are only permitted to be used for AOS and affiliated societies purposes and programs. All awards are considered provisional until paperwork and payment is processed by AOS and published in Orchid Plus.



***Pleione formosana* 'Meetings at CVIOS'**

CCM/AOS 87pts

Exhibitor: Alexey Tretyakov



***Phalaenopsis* Cindy Li 'Paige' AM/AOS 80pts**

(*Phal gigantea* 'Paul van' x *Phal Marie's Delight* 'Patrick')

Exhibitor: Pat Van Adrichem | Kingfisher Orchids



***Paphiopedilum* Franz Glanz 'Tak Fai'**

HCC/AOS 77pts

(*Paph. armeniacum* x *Paph. emersonii*)

Exhibitor: Calvin Wong | Tropical Gardens Orchids



OSA Orchid Fair 2019

The SOS entered a display in the show Apr 5-7. Thank you to the members who delivered their blooming orchids to Bob's house Wednesday night, to Bob Lucas for driving the plants and materials to St. Albert and setting up the display, with help from Sherida Gregoire and Lori Posniak! Thank you also to Heather and Cheryl, who picked up the pre-ordered plants from vendors attending the show, and also packed up the display at the end of the show and drove it all home Sunday night.



Cattleya mossiae
AOS Award nomination
Grown by Pat Randall



Phragmipedium Ruby Slippers Awarded an
AM/AOS 82pts
Grown by Bob Lucas



SOS Display
16 plants, 14 ribbons
awarded



OSA Show Grand Champion
Epidendrum stamfordianum 'Too Cool'
Darryl Albert, OSA



Gongora staphephorus
Reserve Grand Champion
Terry Letendre, OSA

Cattleya harpophylla 'Orange Obsession'
Best Cattleya Alliance in Show & Best
Overall Orchid Specimen in Show
Darryl Albert, OSA



Dendrobium pulchellum
Best Windowsill Grown
Orchid in Show
Foothills Orchid Society



Check out the OSA facebook photo album for more photos and show results!

A Look Ahead to Future SOS Meetings

May 2019 - Jean Allen-Ikeson, Dundas, ON
Sep 2019 - Francisco Miranda, Miranda Orchids
Oct 2019 - Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids
Feb 2020 - Terry Groszeibl, Forestview Orchids
May 2020 - Sergio Garcia, Olompali Orchid
Sep 2020 - Sam Tsui, Orchid Inn
Oct 2020 - Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids