

NEWSLETTER



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SOS Executive

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Vice-President:	Vacant
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
Librarians:	Deb Huculiak
Newsletter:	Tracey Thue Tobi Fenton
COC/AOS Rep:	Tom Kondra
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www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?](https://www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?)
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SK S7K 3L3

**The general meeting will be held in-person at Elim Church, and by Zoom
Saturday, May 14 @ 1:30 pm CST**

Our guest speaker will be T.J. Hartung, Vallarta Botanical Gardens, Mexico.
Please see page 2 of this newsletter for the link to the Zoom meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SOS HAS RETURNED TO IN-PERSON MEETINGS!

ELIM CHURCH
419 Slimmon Road,
Saskatoon

Use Entrance B, left hallway,
Classrooms 7 & 8
Lots of parking, easy access.

*Masks and Covid-19 vaccinations
required. If you are experiencing any
symptoms (cough, fever, sore throat),
please stay home, even if you have
tested negative with a rapid test.*

SOS Membership Early Renewal Incentive!

Renew your SOS membership
in April or May and receive
a \$5 voucher for the
Resources table!

Who remembers how our meetings run?!

Sign in at the entrance and pick up your
name tag. Visitors please put your name
on a visitor's sticker.

We won't be serving treats or coffee this
month, since we are still requiring masks
to be worn to protect each other from
Covid-19. Please be mindful of each
other!

Secretary Position is OPEN!

We need someone to step forward and fill
the position of Secretary for the SOS. Cheryl
Grummett has been willing to continue in
this role but really wants to retire! Please
speak with any member of the executive if
you are interested.

Saturday, May 14, 2022 @ 1:30 PM CST

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

<https://usask-ca.zoom.us/j/94837775843?pwd=OG11WGd4U3JvZ09yUVl6L1grMW5FZz09>

Upcoming Speakers:

May 14, 2022 - T.J. Hartung from Vallarta Botanical Gardens, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

Sept 2022 - Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids, California, USA

Oct 2022 - Cordelia Head, J&L Orchids, Connecticut, USA

SOS EMAIL CONTACTS

Plant orders go to: orders@saskorchids.com

General requests or queries to:

info@saskorchids.com



Pleurothallis leptotifolia 'GC'

Sara Thue

MEETING AGENDA:

Meeting Start @ 1:30pm

Announcements

Problem corner

Bring any sick plants in a plastic bag please to prevent spreading!

Show & Tell

Please bring your flowering orchids, put them on the Show & Tell Table, and share with the membership how you grow and flower them. Photos will be featured in the September newsletter.

Break for Supplies, Library, Visiting Presentation

Members' Plant Sale

Members bring orchids or orchid-related items to sell to other members; 10% of sale price goes to the SOS. Please mark the plant pots with asking price and your initials.

Adjournment

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

GUEST SPEAKER:

T.J. Hartung is a retired computer systems specialist and systems analyst. He designed computers and wrote computer software to manage hotels. His love for orchids began when he lived in southern California and started growing Cymbidiums in his yard. For quite a few years, every secretary in the company where he worked received, anonymously, a Cymbidium blossom on Valentine's Day.

Since retiring to Mexico, T.J. has been rescuing orchids from downed trees and broken limbs before they are eaten by animals or washed down the streams and rivers into the sea. Much of what he knows about orchids he has learned in the laboratory of the great outdoors. The rest comes from online research and numerous books on the subject.

T.J. is on the board of directors of the Vallarta Botanical Garden and the International Friendship Club. In recent years he has given talks to orchid societies in the US, Canada, England, and Scotland.

APRIL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 23, 2022, 1:30 PM CST

LOCATION: Elim Church. There was also a Zoom link for people who wished to attend online. There were about 20 people in attendance in person, and 4 by Zoom.

Announcements

- The meeting was chaired by Calvin Lo, who welcomed members and guests. President Tracey Thue was not able to be there. The four virtual members introduced themselves. There was one new member in attendance.
- Since it is three years since we last met in person, Calvin explained the usual procedure of our meetings: guest speaker, Show and Tell table, Problem Corner. If bringing plants for Problem Corner, please quarantine any plants you are bringing, to avoid contaminating other plants.
- Members of the executive in attendance introduced themselves. We still need a Vice-President, an Assistant Speaker Coordinator, and a Secretary, so anyone interested in joining the executive should reach out to anyone on the executive.
- The general email address for the society is info@saskorchids.com
- The society will hold its annual silent auction today. The bid sheets indicate that either 50% or 100% of the proceeds to to the SOS. Bidding starts at \$1 and will increase in increments of \$1. The auction will be stopped one table at a time; this will be announced a few minutes in advance. Each person will be given his/her own pen. Bags are available. Payment can be by cash, cheque, or e-transfer.
- Memberships can be renewed today for the 2022-23 season. As a bonus for renewing membership in April or May, members will receive a voucher for \$5 credit at the resources table. A single membership is \$25; a family membership is \$30.

Guest Speakers (Heather Anderson)

The Saskatchewan Orchid Society, Orchid Society of Alberta (Edmonton), and Foothills Orchid Society (Calgary) usually take turns coordinating speakers. Next month's speaker (coordinated by Heather) will be T.J. Hartung, board member of the Vallarta Botanical Gardens in Puerto Vallarta. He is planning to drive from Winnipeg to Saskatoon to Edmonton to Calgary. The meeting date has been changed to May 14, to accommodate the Victoria Day long weekend.

In September, 2022, the guest speaker will be Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids, California. In October, 2022, the speaker will be Cordelia Head of J&L Orchids, Connecticut, speaking about miniature orchids.

We need billets for our visiting speakers. Heather will billet T.J. Hartung, but billets are required for the other speakers.

Shirley Keith talked about what is involved with billeting speakers. You provide accommodation for the night and make them breakfast. She and Don have had very good experiences: the visitors share their knowledge and usually become friends. They are generally happy to be in a home environment. Shirley has a sign-up sheet so anyone interested in billeting a speaker, or with questions about billeting, should contact her.

Plant Orders (Heather Anderson)

The Ten Shin order is to be shipped from Taiwan in the next few days. The Ecuagenera order will be available on April 26 or 27. Heather will send emails to the people who ordered plants when she knows when they can be picked up.

Show and Tell

Pat Randall photographed the plants for the newsletter.

Moyca Stoffel showed a *Phalaenopsis* with a "Siamese twin" flower. It grows in a location that has no natural light.

Lynn Campbell showed a *Phalaenopsis* Wild Cat, which she ordered for only \$5. It is potted in moss and she grows it in a window. Unfortunately, it has a terminal flower spike: the flower spike is growing out of the crown, rather than the base. Therefore, it has no growing point and, since phalaenopsis are monopodial, it will not grow any more unless it produces a keiki.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Heather Anderson showed:

- *Phalaenopsis* Smith-Norton Fusion, which she received as a membership bonus a few years ago. This is a cross that was made and registered by Bob Lucas.
- *Phalaenopsis* Sogo Vivien, which has variegated foliage and blooms every year.
- *Phragmipedium* Eumelia Arias, which has pink flowers. It blooms regularly, and has been blooming for about 2 weeks.

All three of Heather's plants are grown under lights and, when they bloom, she places them in an east window on a saucer of water. Her growing medium is Perlite, diatomite, and coir, with moss on top. She uses RO water and fertilizes weekly with a very weak solution of fertilizer. The temperature ranges from about 72F during the day down to the 60s at night, with relative humidity about 60%.

Pat Randall showed:

- *Cattleya* Walkerinter (*C. walkeriana* x *intermedia*). This plant was producing guttation water, otherwise known as "happy sap," indicating that the plant was happy with its growing conditions.
- *Cattleya* Cariad's Mini-Quinee 'Angel's Kiss', another *C. walkeriana* x *intermedia* cross. The flowers are purple-y with a splash on the tips of the petals.
- *Cattleya* Aussie Sunset 'Cosmic Fire'. It has a heart-shaped yellow splash on its orange petals. It is a stubborn bloomer, blooming every second year on old growth.
- *Cattleya* Tropical Pointer 'Cheetah', a compact plant which she got from Cloud's Orchids. She got it as a tiny seedling in 2012, and it took a while to grow but blooms every year for her now.

Pat grows all her cattleyas in medium bark. She waters them really well when they are dry. She grows them under lights in her attached greenhouse. The temperature is 60-65F in winter but smoking hot in the summer, so she uses fans.

Tom Kondra showed a *Neofinetia falcata*, a tiny plant with white flowers that have magenta spurs. These types of plants are highly prized by the Japanese. He grows it quite cool, but it has a beautiful fragrance when the room is warm. When you see red colour on the roots, you will get a flower soon after. Tom grows it on a ball of sphagnum moss. He waters it every second day, putting the water on the moss not on the plant.



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Calvin Lo showed:

- *Dendrobium tobaense* x *draconis*, which he got from Paramount Orchids. It was an unregistered primary cross. He couldn't find out who made it, so he registered it himself as *Dendrobium* Tesseract. It is one of the Nigrohirsute (black-haired) group in Section Dendrobium.
- *Dendrobium infundibulum* x *formosa*, also a member of the black-haired group, which he got from Ecuagenera. Both of the parents like a bit of a cool winter rest.
- *Dendrobium tobaense*, his favourite. It has tessellated green petals and shows incredible structure on the lip. It grows on the east shore of Lake Toba in Malaysia, and likes consistent watering.
- *Cattleya forbesii*, which is resilient and fragrant. It has a tubular lip but inside it has dramatic red striping.
- *Angraecum arachnites* (spider-like), which has a long nectary and evening fragrance. He got it as a flask from Marni Turkel, and he grows it in a terrarium under artificial lights, watering it daily.
- *Encyclia bractescens*, which he got from Ching Hua. It is a fast grower and produces little garlic-like pseudobulbs. He grows it in a terrarium, closer to the lights and a bit dryer than his angraecums.

Problem Corner

Q. One of the members is looking for general advice on putting plants outside for summer. She once had an Oncidium that she put outside, but it did not do well when she brought it back in.

Ans. A lot of Cattleyas do well outside if you find a sunny spot out of the wind. Catts are a high-light plant. Softer-leaved plants might not do so well; they are susceptible to spider mites. However, Yvette Lyster says she has put Oncidiums outside and they spike every time. Cymbidiums also do well; they can take a lot of cold, down to almost zero. Apparently, some people have success with Oncidiums; some don't. Tracey Thue puts out about 90% of her plants. Her husband has built a structure on the side of the house for hanging mounted plants, and she has a large tiered rack, which is covered with shade cloth, for potted plants. She hoses them down. When she brings them inside in the fall, she treats each plant with an insecticidal dip. It's a big undertaking but worth it.

Presentation

There was no presentation this month. Instead there was the annual fundraising silent auction. Calvin thanked the virtual members for joining the meeting, and then closed the Zoom link.

Adjournment

The formal part of the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:55 p.m. The silent auction carried on for another half hour or so.



ORCHID MARKET

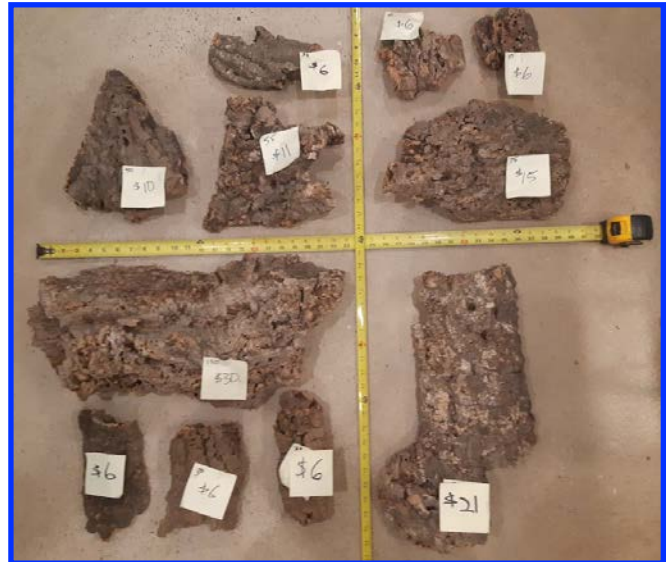
Visit Don and Tom at the Resources table!

They will have these and more supplies for
your orchid growing needs.

Note: Clear pots will be available until
inventory is used up. They will not be
stocked in future as they are readily
available at garden centres.

Please pay with exact cash, by cheque made out to the
SOS, or pay Don by e-transfer.

Email Don at donkeith@sasktel.net



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
Fir Bark	3L bag fine or medium (please specify)	\$6.00
Orchiata Pine Bark	3L bag fine, medium or med-coarse (specify)	\$6.00
Orchiata Pine Bark	40L bag, fine, medium or med-coarse (specify)	\$52.00
Perlite	4L bag medium/coarse	\$4.00
GrowStones	3L bag, 1/4 - 3/8" or 1/2 - 3/4"	\$6.00
Sphagnum moss, N.Z.	8L compacted 12L compressed	\$12.00 N/A
Grodan Grow Cubes	3L bag, 0.4" cubes 7L bag 0.4" cubes	\$5.00 \$10.00
MSU fertilizer	1 cup 13-3-15 for tap or RO water	\$5.00
Oyster shells	1 cup bag	\$0.25
Marphyl Soil Enhancer	500 ml bottle	\$11.00

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
Cork slabs	Various shapes, sizes (see photo above)	\$6 - \$32.00
Inflorescence clips	Small, brown or green	10 for \$1.00
Rhizome clips	Small Med/Large	\$1.00 \$1.25
Clear Pots	2 1/4 x 2 1/4 square	\$0.50
	2 1/2 x 2 1/2 round	\$0.50
	2 3/4 x 2 3/4 round	\$0.75
	4 x 4	\$1.25
	4 1/2 x 4 1/2 slotted	\$1.50
Net Pots	3"	\$1.25
	3.5"	\$1.25
	5"	\$1.50
	6"	\$1.75

PLANTS FOR SALE BY MEMBERS

For sale by Jialin Liu
jl489@mail.usask.ca

Stanhopea reichenbachiana
Imported this April. Grown in a yogurt cup, approx. one metre tall. **\$25**



***Cymbidium Hibrido* (VxI30 Lovely Moon 'Save Me')**
Imported this April. Grown in a 7" pot. Approx. one metre tall. **\$35**



Maxillaria cucullata
5" pot. Previously flowered. Proceeds go toward SOS as this was a gift from the OPS. **\$30**



Gongora grossa
Grown in a 5" pot. One foot tall including the pot. Proceeds go to the SOS as this was a gift from the POS. **\$25**



For sale by David Schwinghamer
dms-2019@protonmail.com

Cattleya maxima
Beautiful pink flowers. Bloom size with 25 growths in a 6" pot. **\$15**



Cattleya Euphrasia
Beautiful purple flowers. Bloom size with 5 growths in a 5" pot. Recently imported from Ecuagenera. **\$21**



Rhyncholaeliocattleya Lustrous Jade
I am selling this plant on behalf of the Plant Order Committee, with proceeds going to the SOS. This beautiful compact Rlc. was an extra from Ten Shin. It has 8 beautiful growths and excellent roots. **\$25**



SHOW AND TELL

Orchids Shown at the April General Meeting
All photos by Pat Randall



Phalaenopsis Smith-Norton Fusion
Grown by Heather Anderson



Phalaenopsis Sogo Vivien
Grown by Heather Anderson



Phragmipedium Emelia Arias
Grown by Heather Anderson



Dendrobium Formidable
Grown by Calvin Lo



Dendrobium tobaense
Grown by Calvin Lo



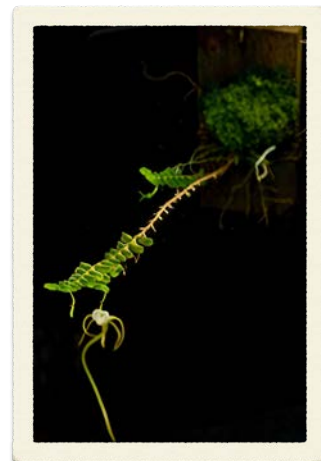
Cattleya forbesii
Grown by Calvin Lo



Dendrobium Tesseract
Grown by Calvin Lo



Encylia bractescens
Grown by Calvin Lo



Angraecum arachnites
Grown by Calvin Lo



Neofinetia falcata 'Shutenno'
Grown by Tom Kondra



Phalaenopsis Lioulin Wild Cat
Grown by Lynn Campbell



Phalaenopsis NOID
Grown by Moyca Stoffe



Cattlianthe Aussie Sunset
'Cosmic Fire' AD/AOC
Grown by Pat Randall



Cattleya Cariad's Mini Quinee
'Angel's Kiss'
Grown by Pat Randall



Cattleya Walkerinter var. coerulea
Grown by Pat Randall



Phragmipedium popowii

Grown by Bob Lucas

Photo by Sara Thue

The forest cast a shadow so deep the young Eocene stars were blocked,
the black night complete.
Then it materialized, swiftly, shockingly,
its ruffled wings and wide, aching throats glowing golden like mini suns erupting from the ground.

It was a great mythological creature - a time being from the dawn of mammals.
Was it tickled by a shrew's toes as she peered into the murk for insects and beyond
into a distant primate future?
Did it quiver in recognition, premonition?

Or was it focused on the silent soil-building fungal matrix at its roots,
busy with the long, long work ahead?

Poem by Tobi Fenton