

# CVIOS NEWSLETTER

## CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY

June 2018

*CVIOS Meetings are held September to June on a Saturday at the Harewood Activity Center, 195 Fourth St, Nanaimo. Doors open at 11:00 with a brief business meeting starting at 12pm. Following is a display of plants brought in by members, a coffee break, prize draw and a featured presentation or demonstration. There is a sales table where orchid supplies and plants brought in by members can be purchased*

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**CVIOS EXECUTIVE 2017/18**

**President & AOS Chair:** Laurie Forbes

**Past President:** Bryan Emery

**Vice President:** Constance Gordon-Webster

**Treasurer:** Darlene Rathwell

**Secretary & Newsletter:** Suzanne Currie

**Membership:** Dora Glover

**Plant Sales Table:** Donna McDonnell

**Library:** Michael DeLeur

**Refreshments:** Sandra Lathrope

**Programs:** Alexey Tretyakov

**Directors At Large:** Sheila Wilson (publicity), Corey Timmins

### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

#### 2018

June 16: Alexey Tretyakov  
"More about Orchid Nutrition"  
and the AGM: This is the last  
Meeting until September

July: Summer Picnic, date to be  
determined June 16

September 22: Roy Tokunaga  
from H&R Orchids

October 20: CVIOS Meeting

November 17: CVIOS Meeting

December 8: Christmas  
Luncheon

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Photo: Chsch parishii, Valerie Melanson, April 2018 show table

### CVIOS UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 16: Alexey Tretyakov, More about Orchid Nutrition and the AGM

July: Summer Picnic, date to be determined

### INFORMATION:

- If you wish to display your orchids at the Nanaimo Art Gallery please bring the number of orchids and their names to the meeting June 16. If possible, CVIOS is hoping to have four one week displays
- If anyone froze their delicious goodies from the plant sale, please bring them to the June meeting
- Due to the Orchid and Garden Market being held in May, there are no May minutes
- April minutes are on page 3 and 2017 AGM minutes are on page 4 and Summer Orchid Growing Tips are on page 5



A few photos from the Orchid and Garden Market in May – A big thank you to all who participated!

## **CVIOS Minutes of the General Meeting - April 21, 2018**

Constance Gordon Webster called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm with 19 members present and visitors Emma Sise and Jesse Birch.

Connie asked for a motion concerning approval of the March 17 minutes. Alexey moved acceptance of the minutes, Sandra 2nd the motion and motion carried.

Darlene presented the financial summary to the end of March and Sean moved acceptance of her report.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Saturday May 26 - ORCHID & PLANT MARKET from (11-3) at 803 Dogwood rd.

- SET-UP Friday pm after 2:00 and Saturday am at 9:00
- There will be a SILENT AUCTION
- Refreshments will be served, so please bring goodies if you can.

Don't forget to tell all your friends and bring your Plants & related items for the Sale & Silent Auction. Sheila will be organizing the marketing and we will have directional road signs in the area.

June 16 Meeting - Our AGM and Alexey's presentation "More on Orchid Nutrition"

Dora introduced Emma and Jesse from the Nanaimo Art Gallery who told us about the planned exhibit called 'the orchids' by artist Arvo Leo who is a member of the Dutch Orchid Society. They would like to include a small display of orchids from our group in the foyer room of the gallery to enhance the exhibit.

Emma and Jesse gave ideas regarding how we might participate and ensured us the orchids would be well taken care of while at the gallery. Members would be welcome to visit and chat with visitors about orchids and our group. They indicated there would be two possible times that we could participate (June 22 - June 29) and/or (July 8 - 15).

Members who would liked to participate and have orchids blooming during either of those periods could let Dora know and she will then make arrangements with the gallery. Donna suggested rather than having to do a display that those who participate should make a small grouping of their orchids in a basket or similar container. This seemed the easiest way to handle this.

SHOWS: Mike was absent at the meeting but said the Vancouver show had gone very well and especially wanted to thank Leslie Milne for being there to help him with the display.

It is official: Our next AOS show will take place FEBRUARY 1,2, & 3, 2019 at Nanaimo North Town Centre. This means that we will not be having a 2018 show.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45pm

## CVIOS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2017

President Laurie Forbes brought the meeting to order at 12pm with 23 members present. The June 2016 AGM meeting minutes were reviewed Bryan Emery moved to accept Shirley McClare seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Treasurers Report**

CVIOS treasurer reviewed income and expenses for the year. Bryan Emery moved to accept, Dora Glover seconded. Motion carried

### **Elections**

All positions are covered and are as follows:

July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018:

Executive: Laurie Forbes - President and AOS Show Chair  
Bryan Emery - Past President  
Constance Gordon Webster - Vice President  
Suzanne Currie - Secretary and Newsletter  
Darlene Rathwell - Treasurer

Directors: Dora Glover - Membership  
Michael deLeur - Library  
Alexey Tretyakov - Programs  
Donna McDonnell - Plant Sales  
Sandra Lathrope - Refreshments  
Directors at Large - Sheila Wilson (Publicity)  
Corey Timmins

Our WebMaster Don Miklick will also serve for another year and Dora Glover will continue as COC and AOS representative.

Volunteers: CVIOS is hopeful members will offer to help executive as needed  
Dora Glover moved acceptance of slate of officers, Connie Gordon-Webster seconded. Motion carried.

Bryan Emery moved to adjourn AGM, seconded by Sheila Wilson. Meeting adjourned 12:14

# Summer Orchid Growing Tips

## Cattleya Alliance Plants

In most areas of the country, higher light and higher temperatures require more fertilizer and water for Cattleyas. If you are in one of the areas with extremely high temperatures cut back on the fertilizer since your plants will be stressed from the heat and will go into a period of very little growth until the temperatures moderate in the fall. Be sure to watch for fungal diseases as well as scale since both proliferate in higher temperatures.



Above: Heat stress is usually a function of/or accompanied by excessive light. Early signs are a bleached, withered appearance of leaves (top) followed by cell collapse (bottom). Additional shade and air movement can help prevent these summer problems.

# Phalaenopsis or Moth Orchids

Phals are one of the warm growing orchids and as such are happiest during our summer months. They should be fertilized every week during these months so that they can achieve maximum growth to support spikes in the fall. Very high temperatures (over 90F) will cause leaf loss. So if possible try to keep your plants in areas where they are not exposed to these high temperatures. Be very careful of water in the crowns of plants to avoid rot and provide good air circulation.

# Paphiopedilums or Slipper Orchids

Paphs generally like a little cooler temperatures than some of the other orchids. Even the so-called "warm growers" will not like temperatures above about 85F. Good air circulation is a must for these plants especially during warmer weather. Make sure that they do not dry out and that high humidity is provided if the plants are in warm areas.

# Watch for fungal infections

Fungus infections are especially prevalent during the hot and humid summer months, especially on thin leafed orchids. If you notice spotting on the leaves of your plants, spray with a good fungicide such as Physan or Consan to keep the problem from getting worse. Be sure to spray both the bottom and the top of leaves for best results. Increase your air circulation around that specific plant if possible since poor air circulation is one of the causes of fungal infections.

# Watch for new growth and stake inflorescences

Stake new inflorescences on most of the summer growing orchids such as Epidendrum, Dendrobium, Brassavola, Oncidiums and Phrags. It is a good idea to put in the stake as soon as you notice the inflorescence so that you can keep track of where it is and stake when the growth has reached about 4 inches. Be careful not to pinch the inflorescence because all the growth and flower development is nourished through the stem.

# Summer sun - how does that affect orchids

Solar radiation is much more intense in the summer and plants that have been happily in full sun all winter may need a little extra protection (shade) when the sun is the strongest or, often during the late afternoon when the temperatures are highest. Orchids are easily sunburned and you should take care when moving plants around, especially if you are moving plants grown inside during the winter to a spot outside for the summer. Sunburn, while not in itself a serious problem is irreversible and will make your plants look ugly. In serious cases the plant can be killed outright and any leaf damage is an invitation to a secondary infection in the damaged area.



Sunburn on a Bifrenaria leaf.

Orchid foliage should be a light yellow-green. The first sign of too much light is often yellow foliage. If left alone, this yellow foliage will eventually turn white and then dark brown and dry as the sunburned area dries out. If the problem is caught before the chlorophyll has been completely destroyed it is often possible to reverse the damage. Once white spots or sunken areas have appeared, the damage is irreversible and the best thing one can do is stop further progression with more shade.

## Capitalizing on the high-growth season

Because of the increased light and temperatures, your plants will benefit from more fertilizer (increased frequency NOT concentration). This is especially true for those varieties that put out new growth during this time. Avoid fertilizers that contain significant amounts of urea. Urea requires soil organisms to convert it to forms useable by orchids and the process liberates significant amounts of acid. If you are growing in a predominantly inorganic media like rock or aliflor, soil organisms aren't prevalent, and these media have poor buffering capacity. If you are growing in fir back media, as the medium ages, it naturally becomes more acidic and less able to buffer the pH shifts caused by metabolism of urea.

Plants will also dry out faster and to avoid root damage, water your plants first before fertilizing. This way the roots will be wet and much less easily damaged by the salts in the fertilizer solution.

If you grow your plants inside during the cooler months, moving them outside for the summer is very often a "shot in the arm" and your plants will respond with renewed vigor. There's something about natural air movement, humidity and rainfall that just can't be duplicated indoors. Just remember, make the transition slowly. Place them under very heavy shade for a few days, then somewhat less shade for a few days and then move them to their summer homes paying careful attention to the color of the foliage. You'll be glad you did.