

Orchiflora

Volume 4, Issue 9

June 2014

Announcements:

Speaker Series:

June 25th, 2014: Bev Hansen, Australian Orchids

Calling all baby orchids! Bev Hansen, our June presenter, was the dedicated culture class person who demonstrated deflasking in June 2013. Bring in your baby orchids from that deflasking to the June meeting, so that progress can be assessed.

September 24th, 2014: Dave Nixon on the Orchid Species Preservation Foundation

October 22nd, 2014: Poul Hansen, On Germinating Orchids (to be confirmed)

November 26th, 2014: Christmas Social

January 28th, 2015: Dino Basai, Topic to be determined

Culture class, held in the Cedar room, VanDusen Gardens from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, all orchid related questions welcome

Update:

At the last culture class, Calvin Wong demonstrated pollination. Margaret Prat would like to say that there are no signs of pregnancy on her plants - this happens in nature too!

September 8th, 2014: Orchid Whiz and how it can help us, presented by Calvin Wong

October 13th, 2014: Grooming, staking and preparing your plants to look their best

November 10th, 2014: Topic to be determined

Paramount Outing:

Vancouver Orchid Society members and the general public are welcome to attend an open house at the Greenhouse of Paramount orchids on Saturday **July 5, from 10 am to 5 pm**. Paramount orchids are situated in Parksville, on Vancouver Island. There will be a sign up sheet at the June meeting, so that we can coordinate carpooling (which can only occur after the June meeting). If you cannot make it to the meeting but would still like to find a travelling companion, send an email to margprat@gmail.com.

August sale:

VOS August Sale will be **August 16 10 am to 4 pm** at the Floral Hall, VanDusen Gardens. Already 10 vendors signed up. Anyone wanting to rent a table, please contact margprat@gmail.com.

Volunteers needed for the August sale - please sign up at the June meeting.

**Monthly General Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month (except July, August & December) at Van Dusen Floral Hall
Doors Open 6:30pm, Meeting starts at 7:30pm**

Inside this issue:

Message From the President	Pg 2
Members' Showcase: Carla Bischoff	Pg 5
Monthly Show Table—28 May 2014	Pg 7
PNWJC—10 May 2014	Pg 9
Orchid Order Opportunities through OSA	Pg 10
May Meeting Minutes	Pg 15
Event Listings	Pg 16

Message From The President:

Dear fellow VOS members,

This is my last letter as President of the VOS. It has been two years that have been gratifying, because there were many dedicated Board members to help out, and we are seeing the fruit of our labours. When I attended the culture class on Monday June 9, I saw many faces eager to learn more about orchids. This is one of the very basic purposes of the VOS: promoting and educating about orchids.

The last 3 culture classes that have been well attended (average of 30 people) confirms that this is a valued service to the membership. The projector has aided each presenter in the task of conveying knowledge to all who attend. I hope future boards will continue to support this unique format of a specific topic with general help to those who have specific questions not related to the chosen topic. Maybe in the future, technology will help us in linking those members who are more geographically distant.

At our last monthly meeting, where Mario Ferrusi was the speaker, we set a new record for attendance: 60 people. We had to add chairs. I hope everyone enjoyed seeing all those beautiful Masdevallias and Draculas. Everyone should know the components of the Mario Ferrusi mix: chopped sphagnum, fine bark, and styrofoam (grated into small pieces). I have revived many a small rooted orchid with this mix, and I encourage you to try this before you have give the last rites to an orchid that loves both moisture and air at its roots.

Just a reminder that we are coming up to our AGM, and there is no such thing as too many members on our Board. Even more importantly, there is an urgent need to see if we cannot assemble our Show committee now. This would be considerably less stressful than scrambling in the last months to fill the spots. And we all know that many hands make light work. Last, but not least, there is the volunteerism associated with setting up an orchid display - I believe that a culture class (or specialized forum) on how to set up a display might make more people willing to give this a try. I do recognize that with most set ups being during the work week, it does require a high level of dedication. And having done this task many times, I acknowledge the fear in transporting other people's orchids, but I have discovered that orchids are more forgiving than I imagined.

Sadly, I will not be at the meeting in June, our AGM. A death in the family has forced me to travel to France for the funeral.

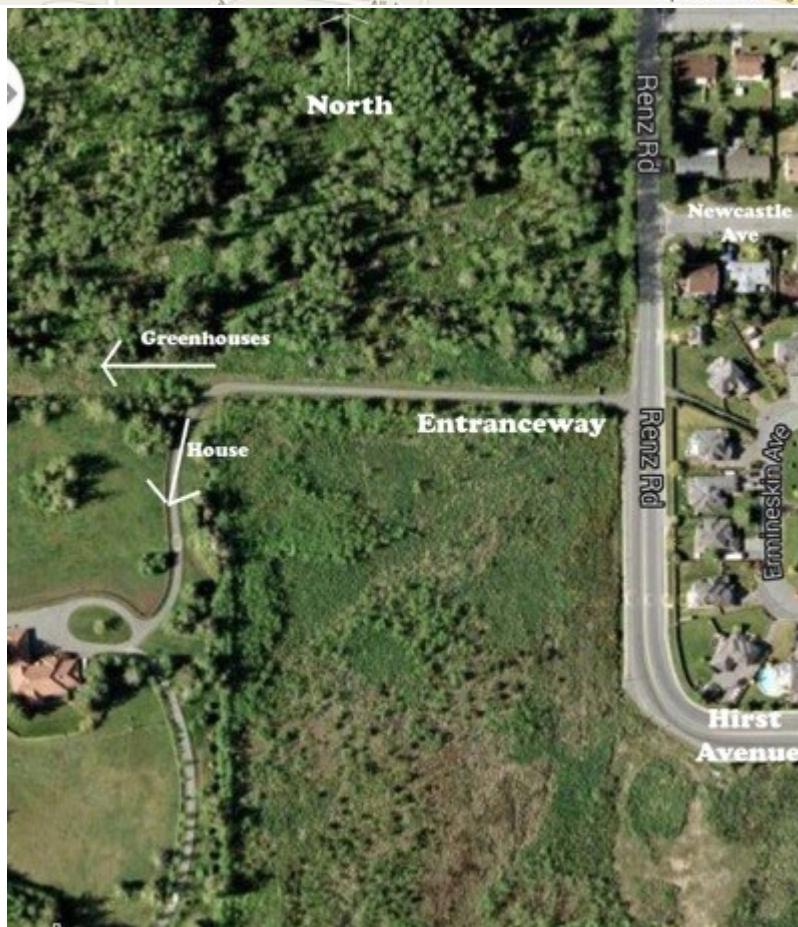
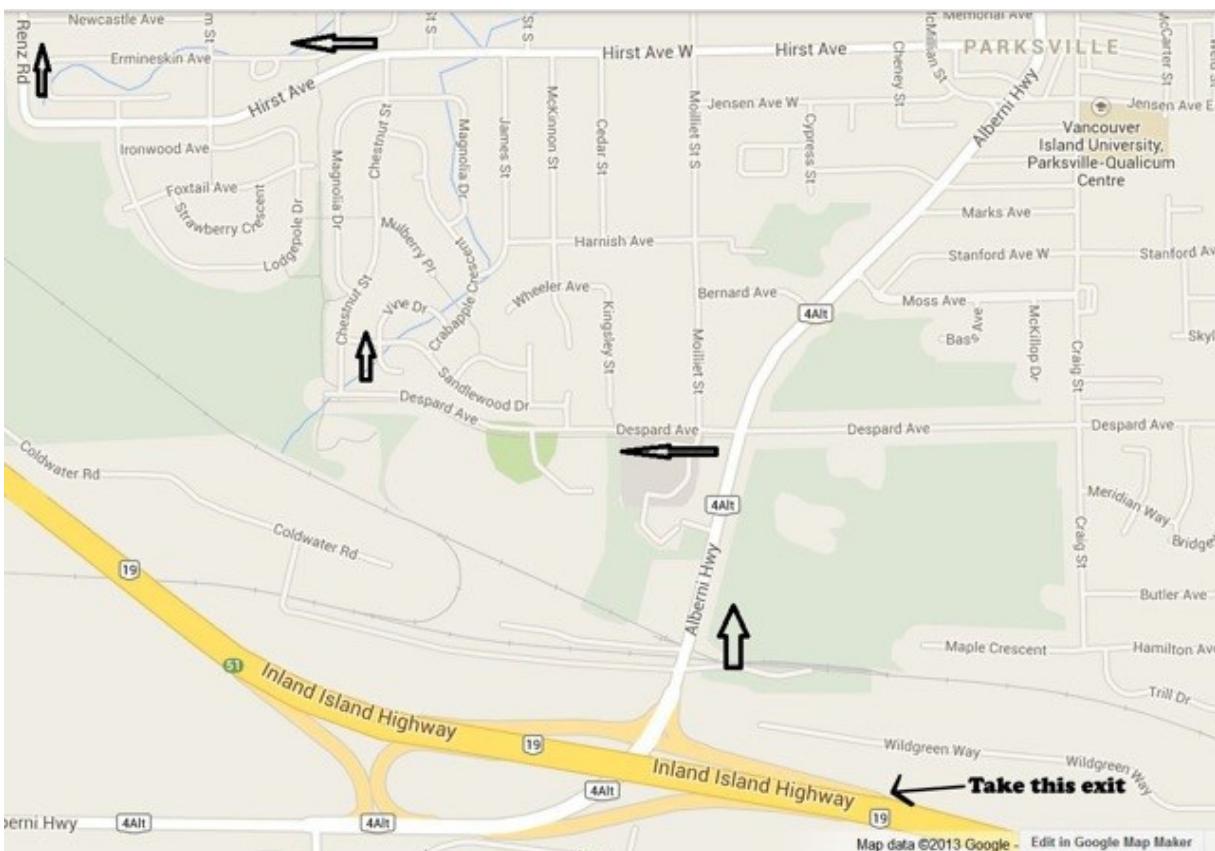
Orchidly yours,

Margaret Prat



Upcoming Parkville Outing—Message from Chuck at Paramount Orchids:

We will be open for your members from 10am until 5 pm on July 5th. I am attaching to this email two maps that will make it easy to find us (Google maps does not accurately show our location).



Executive/Board of Directors

President : Margaret Prat

1st VP: Calvin Wong

2nd VP: Ryan Young

Secretary: Barbara Cable

Treasurer: Eric Nilsen

Past President: Koichi Nakatani

Director 1 : Jennifer Fabre

Director 2 : Keith Willett

Director 3 : Ray Sword

Director 4 : Patrick Milligen

Volunteer/Committees

Bloedel Committee: Radina Jevdevic

Membership Committee: Patrick Milligen

Prize Draws: Margaret Elvidge

Kitchen: Marilyn Lew & Maureen Burke

BCCoGC Rep: Bill & Carla Bischoff

Library: Shohreh Alimoradi

COC/AOS Rep: vacant

Web Master: Terry Poree

Mailing Address:

PO BOX 42025, Marpole PRO,

Vancouver, BC, V6P 6S6

Newsletter: Holly Martin

Please send your contributions to:

neesabelle@hotmail.com

www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca

Calling all overdue Library books!

Calling all library books. Please return all library books before the summer break so that we can have a chance to do a full inventory. And thank you to all those who have already returned your overdue books - much appreciated



Psychilis macconnelliae Sauleda (Mack Key)

Grower: Romi Truninger (St. Croix, US Virgin Islands)

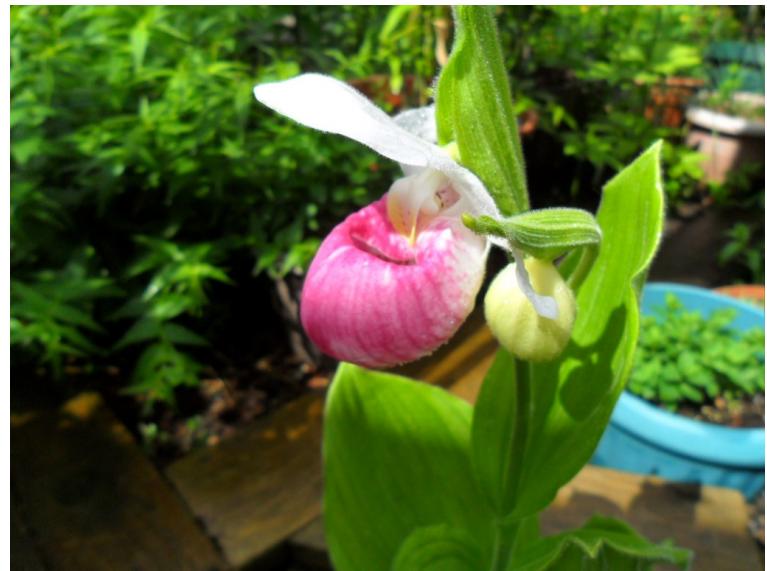
The above photo was submitted by Romi Truninger, a friend of my aunt—Joyce Taivainen. Romi lives in St. Croix in the US Virgin Islands and thought we might like to see her orchid, which is just loaded with beautiful flowers. This plant is often commonly referred to as the Peacock Orchid or Island Peacock Orchid. Another name is the Mack Key. It is native to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. In personal collections, it appears to prefer a growing medium that has a high content of bark. In the wild, it can often be found attached to a local bush called “Torchwood”. The roots wrap themselves around the outside of the torchwood, down near the base of the bush and then the bloom spikes extend up in the air out of the centre of the bush. Some spikes on wild plants have been known to get as long as 5 or 6 feet in the air.

Members' Showcase: Carla Bischoff



Cypripedium reginae

This stunning plant is growing in Carla & Bill Bischoff's garden. Carla took these photos on June 4th, 2014. The plant has been in their garden for about 10 years and this is the first year that it has grown this tall (2 feet!). It has one flower and a bud next to it. Bill informs me that it's original home is in the eastern half of Canada.

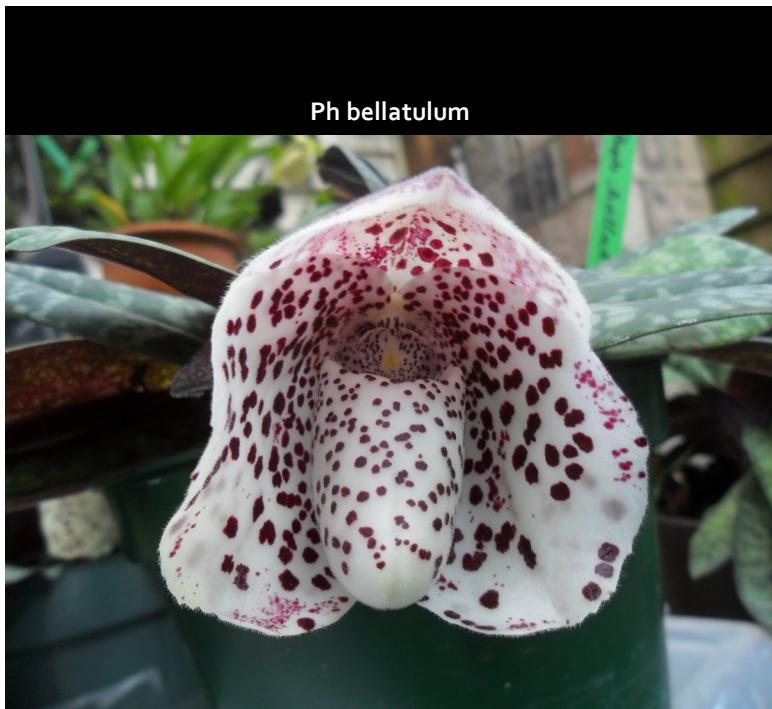


If any member has photos of their plants that they would like to submit for the Members' Showcase in our newsletter, please email them, along with the plant name and any culture details or plant information you would like to share, to Holly Martin at: neesabelle@hotmail.com

Members' Showcase: Carla Bischoff



The photos on this page were taken in Carla's cool greenhouse on June 5th, 2014



Monthly Meeting Show Table

28 May 2014



Cattleya Jewel Box "Sheharazede"
Plant Culture
Exhibitor: Carl Benziger



Promenaea ovatiloba
Unusual species
Exhibitor: Eugene Benziger

Schoenorchis fragrans
Unusual species
Exhibitor: Don Harquail



Milt Martin Orenstein
Flower Quality
Exhibitor: Don Harquail

Higham@shaw.ca

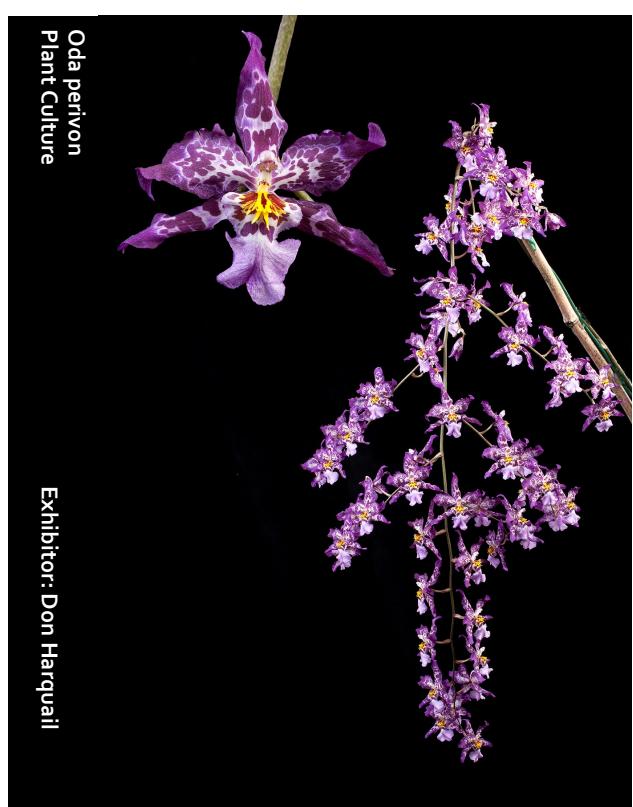
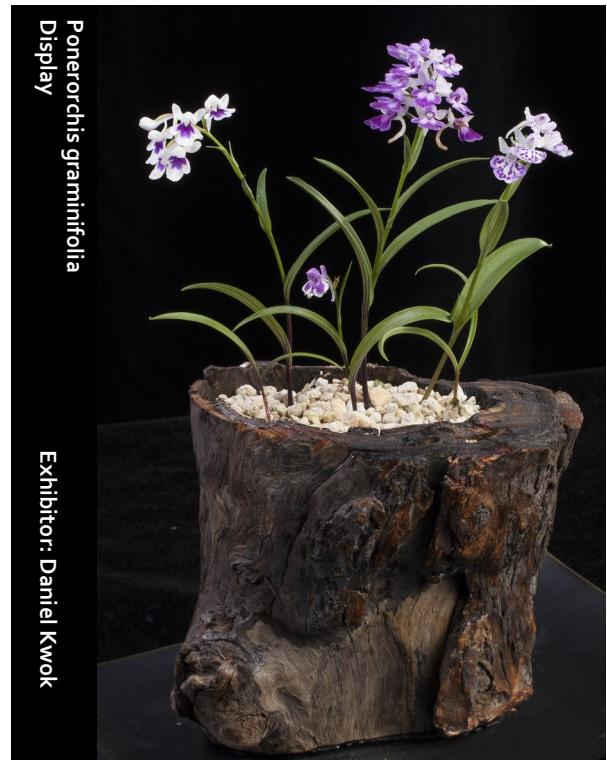
All Photographs by Judith E. Higham

If you would like a picture of your plant, please email
Judy and she will gladly email you the file

Higham@shaw.ca

Monthly Meeting Show Table

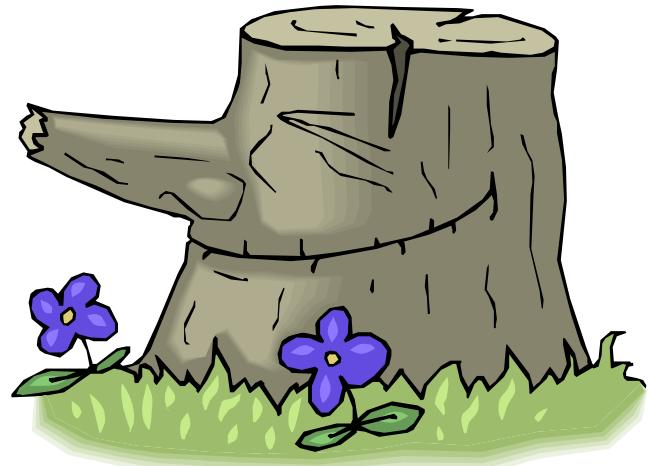
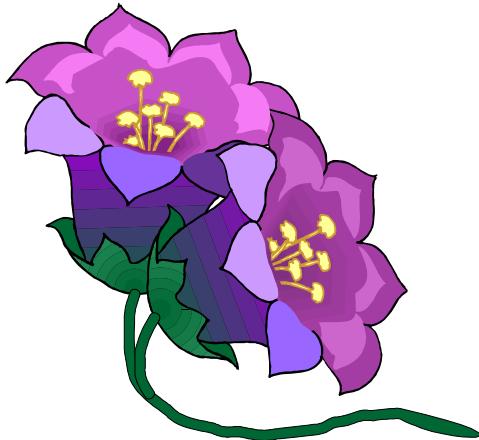
28 May 2014 (cont'd)



AOS PNWJC

Pacific Northwest Judging Center (PNWJC) meets every 2nd Saturday of the month at Sea Island Community Center, 7140 Miller road, Richmond, B.C. at noon. Everyone is welcome to bring in their orchids for consideration by the American Orchid Society Judges. Why attend? This is an opportunity to see more orchids, and many orchids of award quality. The judging center serves the provinces of Western Canada, and orchids are brought in from far and wide. You will learn about how an orchid is evaluated for an award. Small, friendly atmosphere. If you love orchids, this is one more opportunity to indulge.

Please note: There were no awards handed out at the May 10th meeting at the Pacific Northwest Judging Centre.



Every month show off your Orchids at our meeting!

If you would like to volunteer on the monthly judging team,
just ask !

Unique Orchid Order Opportunities through the Orchid Society of Alberta!

The Orchid Society of Alberta (OSA) has started helping the Orchid Species Preservation Foundation (OSPF) with the sale of their surplus plants. The Foundation, which has its greenhouses at the Muttart Conservatory, is dedicated to conserving wild orchid species from around the world. The OSPF collection currently comprises several thousand plants. Space is always at a premium, so to optimize use of resources, surplus plants are sold at orchid shows and other events.

Starting this June, OSA will be helping out with this initiative: they'll be circulating lists of OSPF plants for sale, and helping unite plants and buyers at the OSA General Meetings. If any member of the Vancouver Orchid Society would like an opportunity to buy some of these plants, please contact:

Don Hawker (maldawn@aol.com) or Judy Jones (jkjones@telusplanet.net), or contact the OSPF via e-mail at ospf@orchidspecies.ca

They can provide you with a current list of the plants that are available for purchase.

Carl Austin of the Orchid Society of Alberta (OSA) will be placing an order with their Society to Orchid Zone in California. Orchid Zone are well respected growers and mainly specialize in Paths. and Phrags. One of the OSA members will be visiting Orchid Zone this fall and will be hand picking the order. The price list can be provided to interested VOS members and is listed in US dollars. There will be additional costs for shipping and possible inspections. The orchids will be shipped bare root. If any members are interested or want to consider putting in a group order, the order deadline is July 8th, 2014.



With Summer Vacations and Graduations Just around the Corner...

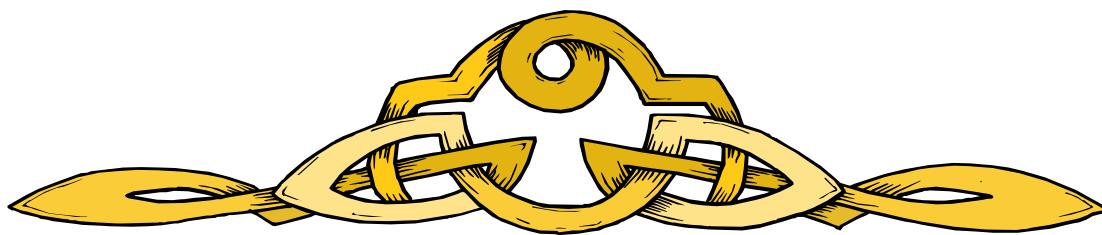
Did You Know?

Leis made of orchid flowers are called 'Okika Leis, and these garlands are ideal gifts of affection, congratulations and respect for both men and women. Orchids come in a wide variety of shapes, shades and sizes, and some exhibit a pleasant fragrance that complements the lei well. These exotic blossoms are a tribute to the tropics, and leis made of these flowers have served as a symbol of happiness, friendship and love throughout the islands of the Pacific for centuries.

The Meaning of Orchids when used in Flower Arrangements:

With an exotic appearance, orchids have come to represent rare and delicate beauty. Those seeking to make a lasting impression with a unique flower have found the orchid to be a perfect choice. As both potted plants and cut flower arrangements, these tropical flowers have an undeniable appeal.

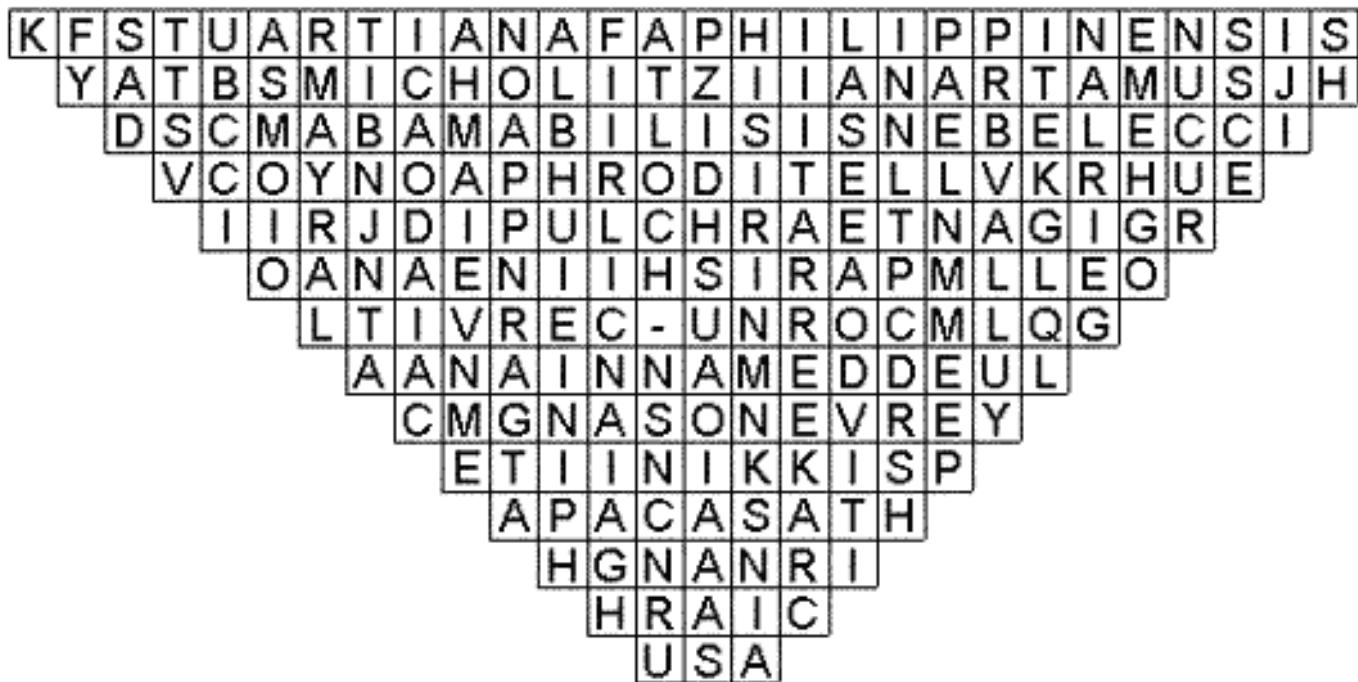
Arguably the most famous orchid, the vanilla orchid, was said to give strength to the Aztec warriors, who drank vanilla mixed with chocolate.



Word Search:

PHALAENOPSIS SPECIES

names may go r. to l., bottom to top, diagonal, or conventional



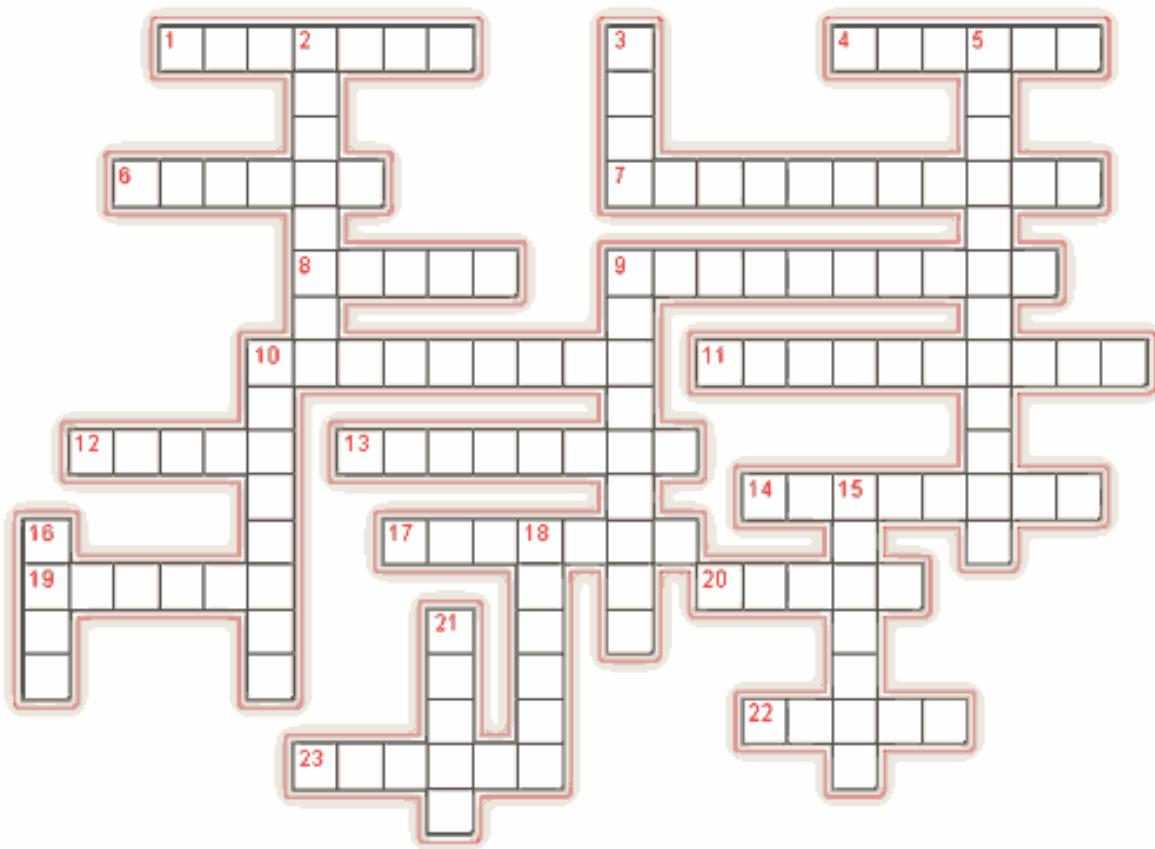
CLUES

Here are fragments of the names you are looking for

am_____is	lued_____na
am_____is	mic_____ii
ap_____e	pa_____ii
celeb_____	philip_____s
co_____iana	pu____a
_____cervi	sa_____ana
equ_____	sc_____ana
fa____ta	st_____ana
gig____ea	su_____ana
hi_____hica	ven____
java____	viol____

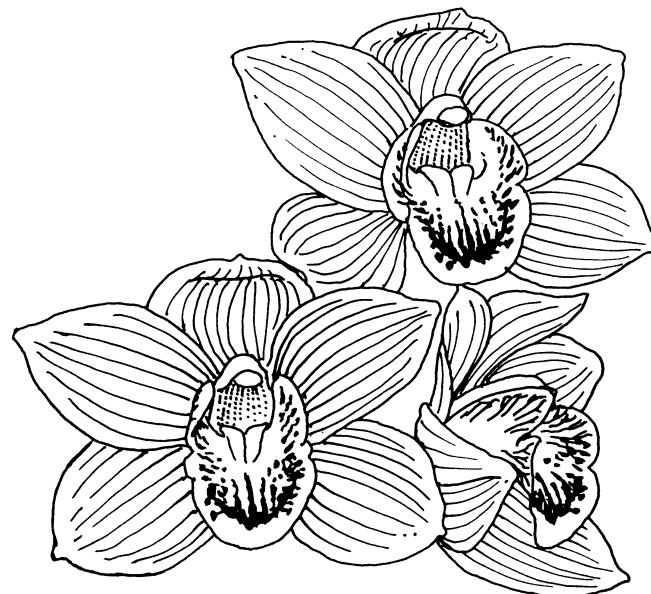
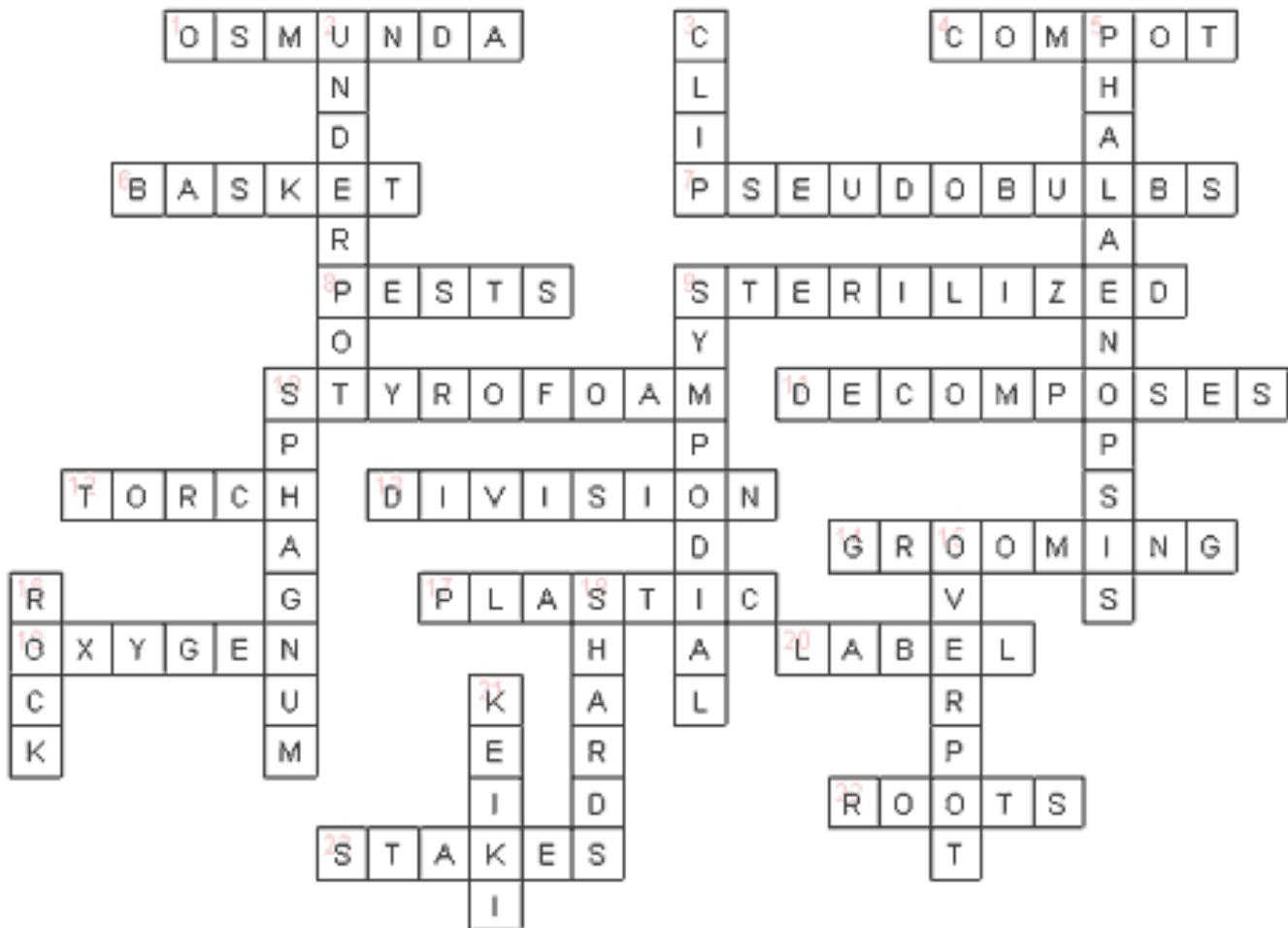
Crossword:

POT 'TIL YOU DROP



ACROSS	DOWN
<p>1. an organic media</p> <p>4. seedlings from flask are usually planted in a - -</p> <p>6. container often used for vandas</p> <p>7. place oldest ones against edge of pot</p> <p>8. mealy bugs, scale, aphids</p> <p>9. all cutting blades must be --</p> <p>10. often used for good drainage</p> <p>11. old organic media does this</p> <p>12. a sterilizing tool</p> <p>13. a technique of propagation</p> <p>14. removing dried sheaths</p> <p>17. orchid pots are usually clay or --</p> <p>19. a lack of this causes root rot</p> <p>20. identifies plant</p> <p>22. the production of new --- is a good time to repot</p> <p>23. they give support to tall plants</p>	<p>2. to use too small a container</p> <p>3. holds rhizome in place</p> <p>5. a monopodial orchid</p> <p>9. Cattleya is this type of orchid</p> <p>10. often used media for Phals</p> <p>15. to use too big a container</p> <p>16. an inorganic potting media</p> <p>18. pieces of broken clay pot</p> <p>21. a plantlet</p>

Here are the Answers for: POT ‘TIL YOU DROP



**VANCOUVER ORCHID SOCIETY
VAN DUSEN FLORAL HALL
MINUTES
May 28, 2014.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm and chaired by Margaret Prat

Margaret welcomed 4 new members and 2 guests.

Treasurer's report	GIC	\$17,334.79
	Chequing	9,909.08
	VanDusen Liability	2,335.00

President's Report

A reminder to wear your name tag and get an extra draw ticket on the raffle. If you do not have a name tag & want one, or have one on order that has not arrived please talk to Keith Willet or Margaret Prat.

Culture Class – May 12 – was another rousing success with approx. 30 people attending.

Culture Class – June 9 – Calvin Wong will teach us about Pollination & Hybridizing. If you have an orchid in bloom that you would like pollinated, bring it along and Calvin will help you.

Upcoming Speaker June 25 - Bev Hansen on Australian Terrestrial Orchids.

This will also be our Annual General Meeting and we remind you that we are still looking for a President for next year.

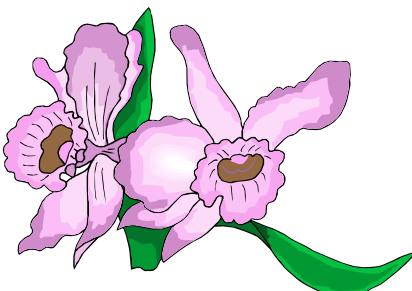
Our appeal for return of outstanding Library Books had an excellent response but there are still books out there that we need back by the June Meeting. Summer is the time we inventory our Library and try to ensure we have the best selection for you, our members.

The date for our trip to Paramount is, July 5. Those interested in going that did not sign up at the meeting please e-mail Margaret Prat as she is arranging the car pooling, etc.

The Summer Orchid Sale will be held August 16 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The posters will be available for the June meeting. Admission is free, there will be a show table & potting demonstrations.

Our popular long time member, Hazel Stewart, has suffered a bad fall and has broken her collarbone. There is a card available for anyone to sign at the front. We miss her & wish her a speedy recovery.

Many thanks to Margaret Edridge and Don Harquail for taking care of the raffle table and to those who donated to the prize draw. Your generosity is much appreciated.



June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Date	Event
June 7—8	Foothills Orchid Society's Annual Show & Sale
June 9	Culture Class—Pollination & Orchid Physiology (lead by Calvin Wong)
June 10	South Okanagan Orchid Society Show
June 14	PNWJC Monthly Judging
June 25	Monthly Meeting—Annual General Meeting (Speaker: Bev Hansen - Australian Orchids) Please Return any overdue Library Books before the summer break!

July 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Date	Event
July 5	Paramount Outing
July 12	PNWJC Monthly Judging

August 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Date	Event
August 9	PNWJC Monthly Judging
August 16	VOS Show & Sale at Van Dusen Gardens

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Date	Event
September 8	Culture Class: Orchid Whiz and how it can help us, presented by Calvin Wong
September 13	PNWJC Monthly Judging
September 24	Meeting—Speaker: Dave Nixon on the Orchid Species Preservation Foundation