# SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY

February 2018, Volume 53, Issue 3 Meeting since 1965

Next Meeting Sunday, March 4, Floral Hall of the Toronto Botanical Garden.

- Cultural snapshots 12:15 on the stage. Light and water for your orchids.
- Vendor sales noon to 1pm
- ★ Program at 1 pm: Mr.Spencer Hauck, will speak to us on Pests and Diseases and what you can do to stop them., Spencer is a Horticulturalist by profession, with 13 years of experience in the horticultural industry. His specialties are with Orchids and tropical plants, but he is considered an expert with all forms of ornamental horticulture. He graduated from Humber/Guelph in 2011, and currently works at the Sheridan Nurseries Head office. His current Job has him doing guest speaking at various venues and Horticultural societies.

His presentation will focus on the common insect issues that can affect Orchid hobbyist collections. He will help to identify the insect issues that are causing damage, and introduce the main pesticides that are available on the market for control. He will be available for a little while after the meeting to give advice if you have photos of your plants.

- Member plant table. Bring in your flowering plants for show and tell and points
- Raffle

# President's Remarks President's Remarks

Welcome Orchid Enthusiasts,

Last month I wrote about the unpredictable weather, and that I hoped for better conditions for our Annual Show. Alas, it was not to be as we had 14cm of snow as well as sleet and freezing rain. So, while our attendance was down, I'm extremely proud of the indomitable spirit of our member volunteers, exhibitors, judges, lecturers and vendors who assured that the show went on, and was a success all the same.

A huge "THANK YOU" to Peter Poot, Show Chairman, and the dedicated members of the Show Committee. Over seven months, they have worked tirelessly behinds the scenes dealing with the myriad details of running a large show, deftly dealing with the inevitable unforeseen issues that arise come show weekend, all while making it appear effortless. BRAVO!!

Thank you Cathy Dunn, Don Wyatt and the other volunteers on the SOOS display who helped realize Cathy's vision of the historic 19'th century orchid hunters and their orchid "Treasures" (this year's theme). There were other wonderful theme interpretations, from treasure ships, to treasure chests, and the "world famous" SOOS Show kitchen turned out its own culinary treasures as well.

SOOS will be participating in the following spring shows that are coming up fast, and furious;

Orchid Society of the Royal Botanical Gardens Show in Burlington, Feb. 24-25 where Don Wyatt will be doing the display London Orchid Society Show: Mar. 17-18 – Laura Liebgott will be doing the display Les Orchidophiles de Montreal, Mar.24-25 – Laura Liebgott will be doing the display Toronto Artistic Orchid Association Show Apr. 14-15 – Don Wyatt will be doing the display

### Ottawa Orchid Society Show, Apr. 21-22 -Laura Liebgott will be doing the display

Our show, and the other shows we participate in, would not be nearly as successful without the participation of visiting orchid societies. Please help Don, Laura and the other travelling SOOS ambassadors by allowing your flowering beauties to travel to out of town shows as part of the SOOS exhibits.

Terry Kennedy has been hard at work as our new Program Director arranging for speakers at our meetings. Last month we had an enthralling presentation by Gilberto Arrieche, on the genus Mormodes, which generated a lot of audience interaction.

Our upcoming meetings include;

March 4: Spencer Hauck, Pests and Diseases,

April 1: Patricia Harding (from Oregon), an entertaining and humorous look at "Understanding Taxonomy"

May 6: to be determined June 3: to be determined

July 8: Orchidfest, Robert Fuchs, R.F. Orchids (Florida) <a href="http://rforchids.com/">http://rforchids.com/</a>

September 2, Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids (California),

http://sunsetvalleyorchids.com/

The treats for the March meeting "social break" fall to the members with the last names beginning with **E through to G**. Thank you to the members **C through D** who brought treats for our previous meeting.

Stay warm, and we will see you soon. John Vermeer

John Vermeer, phone 905-823-2516

**Coming Events 2017** 

### **February**

**17**, Monthly Montreal AOS judging, Jardin botanique de Montreal.

24-25, Royal Botanical Gardens Orchid Society Annual Show.

### March

- 3, TJC Monthly AOS Judging at TBG.
- 4, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, sales

12 noon, program 1 pm, Floral Hall

8-11, AOS Member's Meeting, Santa Barbara Orchid Show.

17-18, London Orchid Society Show, London, Ontario

22-25, Manitoba Orchid Society Show, Winnipeg.

23-25, Rochester Orchid Show, NY.

24-25, Orchid Expo, Montreal.

### April

1, TJC Monthly AOS Judging at TBG.

7, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, sales 12 noon, program 1 pm, Floral Hall

7, Quebec City show.

14-15, Toronto Artistic Orchid Society show, Toronto.

21-22, Ottawa Orchid Society Show and Montreal AOS judging.



Plant of the Month

Synea Tan again showed her green thumb by producing a lovely specimen plant of a cross that most other members of SOOS (me included) just managed to flower once then kill....Her Dendrobium SOOS celebrates 50 has grown into a stunning specimen plant with not the slightest sign of a death wish! She grows it in a coarse mix with sphagnum moss on top to

keep up the humidity in the pot and burned lots of holes into the sides of the pot to let the roots breathe. She waters it twice a week with a weak solution of MSU fertilizer or Miracle Grow. The coarse medium and well-ventilated pot assure that the medium dries out quickly after watering. She summers it out doors in the summer on her north facing veranda and winters it in her light set-up by placing it 30cm under four LED tube lights. The grow-room goes to 23 -24 degrees Celsius during the day, but at night she closes the door to the room and since the heaters are turned off in the room, the temperature drops to 14-15 degrees Celsius.

The plant was pulled for AOS judging at the show and received an AM and a CCM, since the flowers were unusually colourful for the cross and of course Synea had flowered it exceptionally well. Congratulations, Synea you are an inspiration to us all! Inge Poot.

#### **AOS Judaina Results** SOOS Show February 10, 2018

Silver certificate display 'Forest Treasures' 88 points Doug & Terry Kennedy

Lepanthes nicosia CHM/AOS 84 points, sp Jay Norris & Max Wison

Paphiopedilum delenatii 'Charlie' sp

AM/AOS 84 points, John Marcotte

Den SOOS Celebrates 50 aberrans x Little Atro

'Synea' AM/AOS 80points, Synea Tan

Dendrobium SOOS celebrates 50 aberrans x Little

Atro 'Synea' CCM/AOS 86points, Synea Tan

Zelemnia Midas Tolumnia Red Bell x Zelankoa

onusta 'Synea' HCC/AOS 79point, Synea Tan

Oncostelopsis Sunkissed 'Butter Cup' HCC/AOS 76points

(Oncidopsis Liing Fire x Oncostele Catatante), Kim

Hober

'Charlie' AM/ Disa Veitchii racemosa x uniflora

AOS 80points, John Marcotte

Disa uniflora 'Charlie' HCC/AOS 76points, sp

John Marcotte

Paphiopedilum Lady Rothschild x anitum 'Black Magic; 'Crystal Star' AM /AOS 84 points, Crystal Star

Orchids

Den Aussie's Chip aberrans x atroviolaceum 'Synea' CCE/AOS 92points, John Marcotte

Paphiopedilum Cocoa Pri Vale x primulinum 'Crystal

Star' HCC/AOS 79points, Crystal Star Orchids

Silver certificate display 'Pirate Treasures' 86 points

Toronto Conservatories, City of Toronto,

Gold Certificate display 'Les Orchidophiles de Montreal' 90points Les Orchidophiles de Montreal.

display 'Les Orchidophiles de Montreal' Show trophy 90 points Les Orchidophiles de Montreal.

The next judging will be held Saturday, February 24 at the Royal Botanical Garden Orchid Society Show at the Royal Botanical Gardens at 8 am. The next regular Toronto Centre judging will take place on Saturday March 3 at the Toronto Botanical Garden at 1 pm. AOS Judging is a service of the American Orchid Society and is open to all! Bring us your flowering orchids

## Ribbons in SOOS Display in **SOOS Show:**

### 1<sup>st</sup> place ribbons

Cymbidium sinense 'Si Gang Shui' Grown by: Jay Norris Potinara Fran Jesel (Slc. Circle of Life 'Mesmerize' AM/AOS x Pot. Lynette and Alan 'Gene's Flare' HCC/AOS) Grown by: John Vermeer

Potinara 'Crimson Triumph' Grown by: Sylvia Raynham

### 2<sup>nd</sup> place ribbons

Encyclia cordigera var. alba Grown by: John Vermeer Cattleya hybrid Grown by: Joe O'Regan Phragmipedium kovachii Grown by: Ingrid Wauro Paphiopedilum (Paphiopedilum Macabre Station 'Burgundy Flare' HCC/AOS x wardii 'New Dimension' AM/AQ/AOS) Grown by: Cathy Dunn Laeliocattleya Llory Ann (Lc. Memoria Robert Strait x Lc. Jungle Flare) Grown by: John Vermeer

Oncidium Twinkle Grown by: Susan Shaw

### 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons

Display Display by: Cathy Dunn Brassocattleya Mrs. Leeman Phalaenopsis Sogo Allen 'Orange' 1 Grown by: Robin MacLaughlin Lycaste Green Apple Grown by: Joe O'Regan

Oncidium ensatum Grown by: Joe O'Regan Ludisia no name Grown by: John Spears

# **Mormodes**, 182 YEARS OF CHAOS, by Gilberto Arrieche, transcribed by Inge Poot

Mormodes atropurpurea



Image from Edward/s Botanical Register, OW X3.3

According to Orchid Wiz, this genus of fascinating orchids belongs into the Epidendroideae subfamilily, where it fits into the Cymbideae tribe and the Catasetinae subtribe. The shape of the pseudobulbs gives away its relationship to the genus Catasetum, but the flowers are quite a bit odder than those of Catasetum! So odd in fact that they caught Gilberto's attention about five years ago and fascinated him so much that by diligent research, he made himself an expert in the genus! Since he already is an expert in the Venezuelan Cattleyas he now has two passions! Gilberto's fascination with orchids started when he was about 9 to 10 years old when his grandmother introduced him to this endlessly variable family of plants. It gave him lots of time to acquire expertise in Cattleyas of his native country and led to a life-long interest in orchids. It eventually led to him becoming an orchid judge in Venezuela and later an accredited AOS judge in his adopted new home country of Canada.

John Lindley set up the genus *Mormodes* in 1836 using *Mormodes atropurpurea* as the type species. The name he chose for the genus reflects the odd structure of the flowers. The name is derived from "Mormo" the companion of Hepeta, a frightful female vampire and "oides" meaning goblin or ghost.

Mormodes differs from Catasetum by the presence of only one pollen trigger at the end of the column rather than the two found in Catasetum. To present the largest receptive surface to the pollinating Euglossine male bee, the column is bent sideways to expose the large stigma, while in the many species the trigger rests in an indentation of the lip called the fovae.

Mormodes seeds germinate with the aid of wood-rotting fungi. Therefore Mormodes die when the rotted branch they germinated on and gained lots of nutrients from falls off the tree. This requires a fast life cycle for the plant to mature and reproduce before it ends up on the ground and dies.

Therefore in nature Mormodes do not have time to become big specimen plants. They only do so occasionally in cultivation when they are placed in a spot other than on a rotting branch.

The type species *Mormodes atropurpurea*, meaning the "dark purple Mormodes" started the chaos for several reasons. The collector, trying to be the only one to know the source lied and said he collected it in the Antilles. This was later corrected to "The Spanish Main" which was not very helpful, because it covered a huge area at that time. So it ended up being reported from everywhere but the real location, every time a purple Mormodes was found in those areas. GCK Dunsterville brought order to this species by re-describing it in his Orchids of Venezuela and giving the correct collection data —establishing that it was native to Venezuela.

Another reason the taxonomy of the genus is so chaotic is that any seed capsule can produce a rainbow of differently coloured progeny — for almost all the species. The reason for this may be because the pollen is hurled at the pollinator with such force that he might be leery of visiting another flower of the same colour, thus assuring cross-pollination.

The pollinators are male Euglossine bees that collect the fragrance of the flowers to perfume themselves and make themselves more attractive to female bees. In their native habitats the flowers are so popular with the bees that they are covered by them as soon as they open!



Image from : Hila Orchid Bee page

The third reason is that the flowers come in different forms. You find the occasional complete flowers, but usually they are the male version with twisted columns and female versions with untwisted columns -

depending on the strength of the plant. To confuse things further the male flowers transforms to yet another type of female flower when the pollinia are removed....

In *Mormodes atropurpurea* the colours shown by the cultivars can be anything except white or blue. The species plus most other Mormodes species are said to be **polychromatic** and we cannot talk about varieties that are based on colour. So after removing all the duplicate names that were coined with alarming abundance we are left with about 90 species. They occur all over tropical South America and according to M. Chase's 2015 paper are closely related to *Catasetum, Clowesia, Cycnoches, Dresslerella* and *Cyanoeorchis.*. The genus can be divided into three sections:

**Section** *Coryodes* occurs in Mexico except for one species.

The plants have **silvery leaves**, flower from a **pseudobulb that is in full growth** and the inflorescences emerge from **basal nodes**. The lip of the flowers has **no depression (fovea)** that the pollen trigger of the male flowers fit into.

M. luxata, M. nagelii, M. pardalinata, M. sanguineoclaustra. M.tuxtlensis, M. uncia, M. williamsii (syn for luxata) (to be continued)



Mormodes luxata,
Illustr. Of Orchidaceous Plants (1857), OW X3.3



Mormodes luxata Photo: Weyman Bussey, OW X3.3



Mormodes aromatica Illustr. Of Orchidaceous Plants (1857), OW X3.3







## **Property for Sale**



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**AOS Show Trophy-Les Orchidophiles de Montreal** 

SOOS 2018 Orchid Show, February 10-11, 2018. The show went on despite the snowy weather and the repairs at the TBG. A special thanks to all participants and especially the Show committee, the SOOS Board and our many volunteers. Congratulations to all ribbon and trophy winners and thank you all for showing your wonderful plants. Show visitor Rachel Hunt won the show raffle plant for giving us her comments.

### Here are the show results:

Best Display 1 -10 plants Open Class 2a Display of 1-10 flowering orchid plants, cut inflorescences or orchids grown for unusual foliage. Display by Jay Norris Ravenvision 1

Best Display 11-15 plants - Amateur Class 3 Display of 11-15 flowering orchid plants, cut inflorescences or orchids grown for unusual foliage. Display by Synea Tan

Best Display 11-15 plants - Open Class 3a Display of 11-15 flowering orchid plants, cut inflorescences or orchids grown for unusual foliage. Display by Jay Norris Ravenvision 2

Best Display 16-25 plants - Amatuer Class 4 Display of 16-25

flowering orchid plants, cut inflorescences or orchids grown for unusual foliage. Display by Inge and Peter Poot

Best Display 16-25 plants - Open Class 4a Display of 16-25 flowering orchid plants, cut inflorescences or orchids grown for unusual foliage. Display Rosanna Li Toronto Artistic Orchid Association

Best Display more than 25 plants – Open Class 5 Display of more than 25 flowering orchid plants or cut inflorescences. Exhibit Forest Treasures Display byTerry and Doug Kennedy Orchids in our Tropics

Best Educational Exhibit Class 6 Educational exhibits, not previously exhibited at a SOOS show. Display by Tara Seucharan Florida's Jewel: The Ghost Orchid

Best Society Display Class 7. Display of ANY number of flowering orchid plants, cut inflorescences or orchids grown for unusual foliage SOCIETY DISPLAY" Display by Mario Mireault Les Orchidophiles de Montreal

- WALTER NORMAN MEMORIAL TROPHY for Best Cattleya Classes 15 26 Coilostylis parkinsoniana Mario Mireault Les Orchidophiles de Montreal
- GARY SCHREIBER MEMORIAL TROPHY for best Paphiopedilum species Classes 28- 29a Paphiopedilum haynaldianum 'Sheila' AM/AOS John Marcotte Orchids Canada
- Best Hybrid Paphiopedilum Classes 30 37 Paphiopedilum Lady Rosthschild 'Sunlight' X anitum 'Black Magic' Eric and Ellen Lee Crystal Star Orchids
- Best Phragmipedium Classes 40 42 Phragmipedium besseae 'Carlisle's Rival' John Marcotte Orchids Canada
- INTERNATIONAL PHALAENOPSIS ALLIANCE TROPHY for best Phalaenopsis Classes 43 53
  Phalaenopsis Ox Yellow Lip 'Ox 1648' AM/AOS Leslie Ee
- JOHN KAFKA MEMORIAL TROPHY for Best Oncidium Classes 70 76 Cyrtochilum macranthum Mario Mireault Les Orchidophiles de Montreal
- WEN CHONG MEMORIAL TROPHY for Best Cymbidium Classes 79 81 Ansellia africana Rob & Ruthanne Gardiner Hamilton Greenhouse
- Best Vandaceaous Classes 58-69 Ascocentrum ampulaceum Terry and Doug Kennedy Orchids in our Tropics
- Best Dendrobium Classes 82- 88 Dendrobium SOOS Celebrates 50 Synea Tan Synea Tan
- MARIO FERRUSI MEMORIAL TROPHY for Best Pleurothallid Classes 89 92 Masdevallia Razzle Dazzle 'Marsh Hollow Sparkler' Rosanna Li Toronto Artistic Orchid Association
- Best Miscellaneous Classes 93 100 Disa uniflora 'Charlie' John Marcotte Orchids Canada
- WILSON NG TROPHY for Best specimen plant Class 101 Dendrobium Aussie Chip (aberrans x atroviolaceum) John Marcotte Orchids Canada
- Best of Orchid Art Classes 104-106 Paph. Markuli Watercolor Kelvin Sue
  Best of Orchid Photography Classes 107-109 Cyclopogon tuberosus Photograph Jay Norris
- MARILYN CROMPTON MEMORIAL TROPHY for Best Plant In Show Paphiopedilum Lady Rothschild 'Sunlight' X anitum 'Black Magic' Eric and Ellen Lee Crystal Star Orchids
- CANADIAN ORCHID CONGRESS MEDAL Awarded to exhibit for the best interpretation of show theme Display by Curtis Evoy City of Toronto Conservatories
- AOS SHOW TROPHY Awarded under the provisions of the judging handbook for the best display in the show. DisplayMario Mireault Les Orchidophiles de Montreal
- AOS Gold Certificate For an exceptional display. Awarded by AOS judges. Display by Mario Mireault Les Orchidophiles de Montreal
- AOS Silver Certificate For an exceptional display. Awarded by AOS judges. Exhibit Forest Treasures

  Terry and Doug Kennedy Orchids in our Tropics
- AOS Silver Certificate For an exceptional display. Awarded by AOS judges. Displayby Curtis Evoy, City of Toronto Conservatories
- Further show results are available at https://www.dropbox.com/s/qpbs53nsn071lxn/Ribbons\_by\_Exhibit.pdf?dl=0

### About SOOS

**Web site**: <u>www.soos.ca</u>; Member of the Canadian Orchid Congress; Affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest and the International Phalaenopsis Alliance.

*Membership:* Annual Dues \$30 per calendar year (January 1 to December 31). Surcharge \$15 for newsletter by postal service Membership secretary: Liz Mc Alpine, 189 Soudan Avenue, Toronto, ON M4S 1V5, phone 416-487-7832, renew or join on line at soos.ca/members.

Executive: President John Vermeer,; 905-823-2516 Vice-President ? Treasurer, Cathy Dunn, Secretary, Sue Loftus 905-839-8281; Past President Laura Liebgott, 905-883-5290

Other Positions of Responsibility: Program, Terry Kennedy; Plant Doctor, Doug Kennedy; Meeting Set up, Yvonne Schreiber; Vendor and Sales table coordinator, Lynda Satchwell; Library, Liz Mc Alpine; Web Master, Max Wilson; Newsletter, Peter and Inge Poot; Annual Show, Peter Poot; Refreshments, Joe O'Regan. Conservation Committee, Tom Shields; Show table, Synea Tan, Cultural snapshots, Alexsi Antanaitis, Directors at large Marion Curry, Jay Norris, Judy Palmer, Sherry Xie, Anne Antanaitis.

Honorary Life Members: Terry Kennedy, Doug Kennedy, Inge Poot, Peter Poot, Joe O'Regan, Diane Ryley, Wayne Hingston.

Annual Show: February 9-10, 2019.

## **January 28 2018 Show Table Ribbons**

Class	First	Second	Third			
Class 1 Cattleya Alliance	Blc. Young-Min Orange 'Golden Satisfaction' Synea Tan					
Class 2 Paphiopedilium		Paph Hellur Joe O'Regan				
Class 3 Phalaenopis and Vanda Alliance	Phal Sogo Popcorn Henry Glowka	Rhyncostylis gigantea Synea Tan Rhrds. Bangkok Sunset SyneaTan				
Class 4 Oncidium and related	Onc Twinkle Sue Loftus					
Class 5 Cymbideae	Cym. Jia Ho's Green Emerald Rosanna Li	Coelogyne Unchained Melody Bea Paterson				
Class 6 Dendrobium	Den. SOOS Celebrates 50 Synea Tan	Den. Nobile Type Sue Loftus Den. Star Dust Henry Glowka	Den. Frosty Dawn 'M' Sue Loftus			
Class 7 All Others	Clowesia Cash? Rebecca Northern Joe O'Regan					
Class 9 Baskets and Displays	Mini Terrarium- Psygmorchis Henry Glowka					

### SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY

Financial Statement for 2017

Revenues		2017		2016		2015		2014
Membership	\$	5,648.37	ş	6,296.84	ş	5,720.02	ş	5,947.27
Members Sales Concession		856.50	ş	591.50	ş	568.00	ş	503.00
Raffle		435.90	ş	593.00	ş	455.95	\$	445.60
Vendor Concessions	\$	1,437.50	ş	1,421.00	\$	1,218.30	\$	1,138.60
Interest	\$	-	\$	452.62	\$	313.62	\$	467.53
Annual December Auction Proceeds	Ş	4,302.05	\$	3,494.00	\$	3,673.50	\$	3,027.00
Conservation	Ş	179.00	\$	568.80	\$		\$	74.00
Donations	Ş	100.00	ş	-	\$	2,000.00	ş	50.00
Annual Show	ş	11,155.10	ş	16,634.73	ş	10,271.05	ş	15,135.78
Total Revenues	5	24,114.42	\$	30,052.49	\$	24,220.44	\$	26,788.78
Expenses		2017		2016		2016		<u>2014</u>
Newsletter	5	1,557.22	5	1,423.71	5	1,612.45	ş	1,591.02
TBG Rent	5	5,298.22	ş	5,605.39	\$	5,639.24	\$	5,422.87
Monthly Programs	5	3,048.24	ş	9,849.33	\$	4,839.47	\$	4,597.85
Membership	Ş	150.00	ş	194.90	ş	75.83	\$	228.41
Raffle	ş	_	ş	-	ş	10.00	ş	53.00
Supplies	5	2.00	5	16.94	5	30.33	\$	24.57
Sympathy Tributes	\$	55.00	\$	400.00	5	77.60	\$	45.20
Library	Ş	1,176.22	5	800.00	5	304.19	\$	45.22
3003 displays at other Shows	Ş	3,081.20	\$	2,581.08	\$	2,761.40	\$	2,386.66
Toronto Judging Center Donation	Ş	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00	5	2,000.00	ş	4,000.00
Donations	Ş	1,450.00	ş	6,356.86	ş	-	\$	15,000.00
Insurance		360.00	\$	345.00	5	409.00	\$	556.00
Canadian Orchid Congress		2:10.00	ş	220.00	\$	206.00	\$	204.00
American Orchid Society		_	\$	210.76	ş	-	\$	96.87
TBG membership	Ş	250.00	\$	250.00	\$	250.00	\$	250.00
Delegate Expenses	\$	750.00	ş	570.84	ş	500.00	ş	1,000.00
Congress auctions	ş	135.00	ş	-	5	260.09	ş	224.43
Conservation Committee		-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	122.83
SOOS Promotion		-	\$	518.67	\$	219.64	\$	58.47
SOOS 50th celebration \$		-	\$	-	ş	1,293.58		
Banking	5	3.09	\$	72.24				
Other	\$	55.19	\$	188.24	\$	0.50	ş	1.90
Total Expenses		19,581.38	\$	31,603.96	\$	20,489.32	ş	35,909.30
Net Profit (Loss)	\$	4,533.04	ş	(1,551.47)	5	3,731.12	ş	(9,120.52)