



JULY 2017 NEWSLETTER

The Colorado Springs Orchid Society will have its July 2017 meeting on Saturday the 22nd at Fire Station #14, 1875 Dublin Blvd. The fire station is at the intersection of Academy and Dublin behind Yorkshire Veterinary Clinic. From Academy Blvd, turn east onto Dublin, then take the first right. The meeting starts at 10:00 AM with social time and set-up between 9:30 AM and 10:00 AM. See our website for directions and a map.

The club provides plants each month for the raffle and members are encouraged to donate divisions of their plants for the raffle table. Raffle tickets are \$1 each. Bring your blooming orchids for Show & Tell and receive a free raffle ticket.



This month refreshments will be provided by those whose last name begin with the letters G to L.



President's Message

Why do we do it? Why would someone spend a whole year just to see a plant bloom for a few days or a couple weeks at most? Why would an orchid grower spend several years tending to a single plant that might (emphasis might) bloom someday?

There have been numerous instances during our show and tell sessions when a grower will admit to waiting years and years for an orchid plant to bloom for the first time. There have been a few times when the grower sees that first flower and wonders why it isn't better colored. Or why isn't it as large as it seemed to appear in the photos?

Then there is sometimes the deflation resulting from the blasting of the anticipated buds. Why would it sometimes happen that the new growths just stop and turn black?

Why? Why? Why?

Oh well, it is always enjoyable when a flower comes out as expected and has great color and fragrance.

I have been asked which is my favorite flower. My answer is usually the flower that is presently in bloom!

Good Luck and Good Growing,

Roger Stone
President
Colorado Springs Orchid Society

Thank You, Jean, for sharing your notes below:

COS: Outline of Bob Steele's "Fertilizers Basics" talk May 27, 2017
jgarren NOTES

- Watch: PBS "Plants Behaving Badly" first one is on orchids.
- COS now on Facebook

* * *

- RO water and distilled water are about the same
 - The water is more important than the fertilizer
 - Every time, need to know the PH *before* watering/fertilizing
 - Water + fertilizer MUST be between 5.0 – 6.0 for the plants to be OK
 - "PH Up"/"PH Down" chemicals (mix first) are available from garden stores. Adjusts the PH
 - Everything added to your water will change its PH
 - Even city water PH will change every week
 - Organic fertilizers works well with city water
 - Fish emulsion ("outstanding": =/ \leq 1/2 strength)
 - Seaweed extract
 - Fox Farm
 - Fertilome "Grow" has micro/macro nutrients and salt & chlorine have been removed
 - Dynagro good for RO water (you can get a list of how much to use (dilute) for various orchids from Dynagro
- KLN at the end of the month:
 - root stimulator; like vitamins
 - Smells!
 - Keep in the refrigerator
 - Similar products with same composition are fine
- Measuring PH
 - Lab PH meters run \$109 - \$165 & you need an electrode cleaner solution (must be RO water); a sensor replacement costs about \$50
 - Litmus strips work fine & are easily available
 - Pet store (used for fish)
 - Pool supply
 - Walmart. [JEAN NOTE: Walmart's strips didn't measure low enough. I got them from Amazon.com for a few bucks – range: 0 to 14]
- TDS (total dissolved solids)
 - Colorado Springs water: can get report on-line
 - Comes from Pueblo Reservoir: Pueblo Reservoir TDS = 267
 - Bob's RO water: TDS = 2
 - Colorado Springs TDS = maybe 137

- If you want to know, take a sample to Water Works
 - [JEAN NOTE: CSU FT COLLINS ALSO DOES THIS.
<http://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/agriculture/selecting-an-analytical-laboratory-0-520/>]
- Some orchids NEED pure RO water, and don't do well at all with tap water.
 - Roger: Some orchids also need other things – research each one; “one size does *not* fit all”
 - Ron: Cut way back on fertilizing (to ¼ strength 2x month) because fertilizing was *reducing* plant growth.
- For those needing more fertilizing, use a little Nutriccoat on top.
 - The more sun the orchid receives the more fertilizer it needs.
 - Barbara:
 - Alternates different fertilizers
 - Applies less in dark winter, more when sunny and warm (85 degrees)
 - Paphs like a little crushed calcium (oyster shell calcium, available where you get chicken feed)
- Matt: Is growing oncidiums (*Rex's Firefly*) mostly suspended *above* water in a glass containers: only a few roots are in water, the root mass is not. Has had five spikes.
- Insecticide: Safari is a broad spectrum

CSOS 2017 Calendar

July 22 – Open
Refreshments G – L

August 26 – Open
Refreshments M – R

September 23 – Plant Auction
Refreshments S – Z

October 28 – Open
Refreshments A – F

November 18 – Open
Refreshments G – L

December 16 – Open
Refreshments M – R

Colorado Springs Orchid Society

June 2017 Show and Tell Plant List

- Roger Stone Encyclia (E.) nematocaulon E. tampensis (syn. Epidendrum (Epi.) tampense)
Prosthechea (Psh.) (syn. E) prismatocarpa
Epicattleya Hanna Roberts (Epc.) (Cattleya (C.) Penny Kuroda x Epi. stamfordianum)
Paphiopedilum (Paph.) Moon Stone (Deperle x Stone Lovely)
Broughtonia (Bro.) sanguinea ('Star Splash' AM/AOS x var. semi-alba)
Rhyncattleanthe (Rth.) (syn. Pot.) Shinfong Little Sun 'Youngmin Golden Boy' AM/AOS
(Ctt. Golden Girl x Rth. Taida Love Star)
Dendrobium (Den.) unknown Tolumnia (Tolu.) unknown
Laeliocatarthron (Lcr.) Silver Angel 'Pink Lady' (Lc. Angel Love x Lcr. (syn. Dialc.) Silver Toy)
Psh. (syn. Epi.) Green Hornet (cochleata x trulla)
- Bob Steele Coelogyne (Coel.) pandurata Brassavola (B.) cucullata
Miltoniopsis (Mps.) (syn. Milt) Pink Surprise 'Eric' (Ron Hawley x Edwidge Sabourin)
Oncidopsis (Oip.) (syn. Burr.) Nelly Isler 'Swiss Beauty' (Stefan Isler x Mps. Kensington)
Den. laevifolium Oncidium (Onc.) Rex's Luck 'Firefly' HCC/AOS
Vanda (V.) (syn. Ascda.) Kulwadee Fragrance (Gordon Dillon x Guo Chia Long)
Rhynchostele (Rst.) uroskinnei 'Pacifica' (syn. Odontoglossum (Odm.) uro-skinnei)
Paph. parishii Den. suzukii
Rhyncholaeliocattleya (Rlc.) Sparkling Jewel
(C. Jeweler's Art ' ' HCC/AOS x Rlc. Sally Taylor 'Red' AM/AOS)
- Frank Tuxworth V. Pachara Delight (Karulea x Gordon Dillon)
V. (syn. Neof.) 'Viva la Fiesta' x 'Whitetara' ?
V. Robert's Delight 'Big Black' AM/AOS (Kasem's Delight x Madame Rattana)
Psh. (syn. E.) prismatocarpa
- Joe Genova Oncostele (Ons.) Wildcat 'Green Valley' JC/AOS (Rustic Bridge x Onc. Crowborough (1965))
Brassanthe (Bsn.) (Syn. Bc.) Sunny Delight x Bc. Richard Mueller
- Lee Ann Tate Mps. Rouge 'Burgundy Blush' (Edmonds x Hamburg)
Mps. Maui Spring 'Bright Eyes' x Mps. Maui Star 'Golden Ray'
Mps. Red Woodham (Woodlands x Hamburg)
Phragmipedium (Phrag.) Memoria Mariza Rolando (Hanne Popow x kovachii)
- Matt Kurpaski C. Crystelle Smith (Beaufort x loddigesii)
Bc. Maikai 'Louise' AM/AOS (B. nodosa x Gur. bowringiana)
Rlc. (syn. Blc.) Pratum Green 'Boonserm' HCC/AOS (C. Hausermann's Gala x Hausermann's Jade)
- Barbara Pollock Paph. Dollgoldi (rothschildianum x armeniacum)
Paph. Memoria Jim Asher (Judge Pinocchio x henryanum)
- Amal Cooke V. Gordon Dillon 'Blue Star' (Madame Rattana x Bangkok Blue)
V. Princess Mikasa (Royal Sapphire x coerulea)
Phal. King Sooperi (two of them!)
- Kathy LaBree Oncostelopsis (Osp.) Sunkissed 'Buttercup' (Oip. Living Fire x Ons. Catatante)
C. Kiritsubo 'Shasta Rose' (alaorii x nobilior)
Mps. Bert Field (syn. Milt. Bert Fields) (Mulatto Queen x Woodlands)
Paph. Temptation (kolopakingii x philippinense)
- Lois Dauelsberg Rlc. Apricot Sands (Seagulls Apricot x John Passander)
Catasetum (Ctsm.) Armando Betancourt 'Pikes Peak' AM/AOS (tenebrosum x Chuck Taylor)
V. Kultana Principal (Sankamphaeng x Patcharee Delight)