



# SPIKE

Newsletter of the Ottawa Orchid Society

## October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Spike dead- line
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 OOS Board Meeting	10	11	12 Orchids Discussion Group 7 p.m.	13	14	15
16 OOS Month- ly Meeting 1:30 p.m.	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### Welcome! Upcoming Activities at a Glance

**October 16, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.:** Dr. Leslie Ee ND introduces us to *Cyrtorchilums*: The Dancing Ladies of the Andes at the Nepean Sportsplex (Room C) and on Zoom.

**November TBA** Orchid Discussion Group

**Sunday, November 13, 2022:** OOS Board Meeting

**Sunday, November 20, 2022:** In-person and virtual OOS meeting at the Nepean Sportsplex (Richmond Room) with Jean Ikeson—all about Australian *Sarcochilids*.



## **Board of Directors**

### **President**

Jan Johns 613-253-1996  
[janet.johns@sympatico.ca](mailto:janet.johns@sympatico.ca)

### **Vice President**

Vacant

### **Secretary**

Pam McLennan 613-710-9336  
[mclennan48@gmail.com](mailto:mclennan48@gmail.com)

### **Treasurer**

Douglas Vye 613-722-6738  
[douglas.vye@sympatico.ca](mailto:douglas.vye@sympatico.ca)

### **Membership**

Jennie McCloskey 613-731-5918  
[jenjm777@gmail.com](mailto:jenjm777@gmail.com)

### **Program Director**

Jean Hollebhone 613-226-2395  
[jean@hollebhone.ca](mailto:jean@hollebhone.ca)

### **AOS Representative**

Joyce Medcalf 613-852-2279  
[jmedcalf@1000island.net](mailto:jmedcalf@1000island.net)

### **COC Representative**

Jan Johns 613-253-1996  
[janet.johns@sympatico.ca](mailto:janet.johns@sympatico.ca)

### **Conservation Representative**

Daniel Brumar  
[DB\\_4321@yahoo.com](mailto:DB_4321@yahoo.com)

### **Newsletter Editor**

Andrea Picher 613-203-7157  
[andreapicher1@gmail.com](mailto:andreapicher1@gmail.com)

### **Mailing Address**

Ottawa Orchid Society  
41 State St.,  
Ottawa, ON K2C 4C5

## **Table of Contents**

Upcoming Activities at a Glance.....	1
Board of Directors.....	2
President's Message .....	3
Program Updates .....	4-5
Upcoming Events.....	6
Orchids Discussion Group.....	6
Montreal Judging Centre.....	7
Looking for Growers and Editor - Dr. Dora Eliza Perez.....	8
To Give Away - Dave Cooper - Plant Stand and Terrarium.....	8
COC Photo Competition.....	9
OOS Show Table for September 2022.....	10-13
Editor's Wrap.....	14

## President's Message



The weather is getting colder – and the leaves are beginning to change. I hope your orchids are inside and ready for their winter growth. Pumpkins and gourds are appearing on doorsteps ready for Thanksgiving and Halloween. I hope your Thanksgiving weekend is filled with family, love and laughter.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our meeting in September. I found the talk by Francisco Miranda to be a wonderful start to the season. The variety of habitats in such a small area of the world is eye-opening. If you have any of the *Cattleya* species he spoke about, the knowledge about their microhabitat is priceless. Many thanks to those who helped out at the meeting, especially those who came early to help set up (Monique Savard and her husband, Eamonn Tuck, Ethan Ackermann, Daniel Brumar) our judges (Jean Hollebone and Joyce Medcalf), photographers (yes...two! Arlene Lang and Eamonn Tuck) and our Membership Chair, Jennie McCloskey.

While the Nepean Sportsplex is not as central as the Tom Brown Arena, the Richmond Room is a good space for us at least until December. We could not book the Richmond Room for October and will use a smaller and slightly less-convenient space, Room C, at the Nepean Sportsplex for that meeting. The November and December meetings will resume in the Richmond Room. We will continue to scout out a more central venue for 2023.

I am delighted to announce that Andrea Picher, who looks after Facebook and Instagram has stepped up to be our new Spike Editor as well. She also assisted with the Online Auction and I know that she will be a great editor. Many thanks to Sabina Gupta who has offered her assistance to our new Editor. One thing we discussed was the need to solicit assistance from other members to make Spike interesting. Did you watch a great Webinar recently? Write a review for Spike. Do you find a particular YouTube channel useful (or not)? Write a review for Spike. Even a synopsis of an article you read recently – or a trip you took that included orchids – these are all ways to share your knowledge and expertise with other members and enriches their experience with the Society.

The Conservation Committee has had its first meeting already. We can look forward to some nature walks in the spring and conservation articles forthcoming in Spike. Many thanks to Daniel Brumar for taking this on. If you are interested in orchids in their natural habitat – especially local orchids, consider joining the Committee and both learning and sharing your expertise in this area.

We are still looking – in particular – for a Webmaster. If you are a developer, have Wordpress skills or lots of experience with websites, please let us know. We need to redesign the website with an up-to-date platform and train a few people to keep it current as necessary. I am sure someone out there has these skills, even a new member – and you don't need to know much about orchids.

I am looking forward to our talk from Dr. Leslie Ee ND. I do not know anything about this species, *Cyrtochilum*. Leslie is an excellent speaker and his many social connections in the orchid world and his wide travel contribute to his expertise. I had the pleasure of working with him on the Canadian Orchid Congress Board of Directors. He is both creative and knowledgeable. I look forward to seeing you at the Nepean Sportsplex Room C – and don't forget to bring your blooming orchids for the Show Table!

*Jan Johns*

## **Display for Dave Cooper – Volunteers and Volunteer Orchids Needed**

The Ottawa Orchid Society will be preparing a display for Dave Cooper's visitation to be held in Almonte between 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturday October 22.

<https://www.legacy.com/ca/obituaries/insideottawavalley/name/david-cooper-obituary?pid=202663350>

If you can help build the display, please let me know [janet.johns@sympatico.ca](mailto:janet.johns@sympatico.ca). We hope to have a couple of hours to do this, but may be limited to 1 hour. You would have to be available to be in Almonte either at 12 noon or 1 p.m.

If you want to contribute your blooming orchids, please watch for an email from [member-ship@ottawaorchidsociety.com](mailto:member-ship@ottawaorchidsociety.com) giving the time and place for drop off. If you attend the visitation, you can pick them up after the event in Almonte, or we will give you a time and place for pick up in Ottawa in the email.

**Please do not bring orchids intended for the display to the visitation.** There will be no time to add them. All orchids must be dropped off at the requested location before the event.

We are grateful to Dave's family for allowing us to honour him in this way.

*Jan Johns*

## **Program Updates 2022 (all talks will be held at 1:30 p.m.)**

### **October 2022 Meeting**



We are pleased to welcome Dr. Leslie Ee ND of the Toronto Judging Centre and current President of the Canadian Orchid Congress who will speak about *Cyrtorchilum*: Dancing Ladies of the Andes via Zoom. Come and learn about the little-known *Oncidium* genus that produces wreaths of flowers that can climb up trees like Christmas lights. The talk includes their culture and their beautiful hybrids.

Born in Borneo, not far from the home of *Paphiopedilum sanderianums*, Leslie was raised around orchids his entire life by his grandmother and mother, both of whom treasured local orchids. They taught Leslie how to grow and flower them at a young age, and he never looked back, currently growing over 500 orchids including several heirloom species. Leslie has travelled the world to attend orchid shows and nurseries (such as Japan, Ecuador, Colombia, US, Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia). He is committed to the sharing of orchid knowledge and conservation efforts of local orchids around the world.

**Meeting Time and Venue:** This will be a **hybrid** meeting. The Zoom meeting invite will be sent separately.

**Time:** Sunday, October 16, 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** Room C, Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Avenue. Entrance #4 (at the rear of the building near the Southeast corner). Take the stairs on the right to the second floor or use the adjacent elevator.

## October Meeting (cont'd)

### Directions to the Sportsplex

#### From the Queensway:

- Exit at Woodroffe South. Continue south on Woodroffe.
- Once you have driven past Hunt Club Road, take the **second** entrance on the left into the Sportsplex.
- Drive to the rear of the building and turn left to the large parking lot.
- Look for **DOOR 4** on the rear of the building. (This is the same entrance we used when the Show was held here many years ago).
- Enter Door 4 and immediately go up the stairs. Room C is off the hall to the left. There is a small elevator to the right of the entrance which can hold 2-3 people and plants at a time. Go to the second floor. Meeting room on exit is straight ahead off the hall.

#### From Woodroffe South:

- Heading north, turn right at the first entrance to the Sportsplex and follow the above instructions to Door 4 and Room C.

### Additional Meeting Notes

If you intend to join us in person, please note the following:

1. Room C is quite a small room. Please be aware of this when making the decision to join us in person.
2. While masks are not mandatory, it is highly encouraged that you wear a mask to protect yourself and those around you.
3. Refreshments will not be served due to Sportsplex rules. Please bring your own drinks and snacks.
4. If you are feeling unwell, please join us online rather than in person. Make sure to register for the online meeting even if you intend to join us in person just in case one of the above occurs.
5. There will be an in-person Show Table only. If you wish to show your orchids, please make sure they are clean, disease and pest free and delivered to the Show Table by 1:10 p.m. at the latest. Fill out the registration form for each plant with the names of the orchid and grower, and place both the plant and the name tag in the correct Alliance. If you need help, please ask. If you have shown the plant before, and its name was corrected for Spike, please use the corrected name. This saves Joyce a lot of time checking them out before publication. It is always wise to quarantine your plants for a few weeks on their return to your home.

## Upcoming Events

### November 2022:

**Location: Richmond Room Nepean Sportsplex** Jean Ikeson of National Education and Training Coordinator for the American Orchid Society will talk about **Australian *Sarcochilids*** at the meeting in person. We have noticed that many members have bought these plants from Fred Clarke, and her talk will provide many hints on growing culture, especially how to coax these, sometimes reluctant, orchids into bloom.

### December 2022:

**Location: Richmond Room Nepean Sportsplex Christmas/Holiday PARTY!** Details in November.

**January 2023: Location: TBA**

### February 2023:

**Location: TBA**

Ron McHatton, Editor of *ORCHIDS* magazine and author of the AOS Greenhouse Chats aired twice monthly by the AOS will be here in person to talk about orchid culture. This will be an interactive session. Here is your opportunity to pick the brain of one of the most knowledgeable orchid experts in the USA who can answer your culture questions. If you enjoyed his talk on Sex Among the Orchids a few years ago, you will enjoy this. He is an entertaining speaker and he knows his orchids.

*Jean Hollebone (Program Chair)*

## Orchids Discussion Group Update



The ODG meetings were a great success over the last season and will continue, with monthly meetings on Zoom (preregistration is required). Our next meeting in November is TBA.

In preparation for the ODG meetings, you may submit your questions or desired discussion topics in advance to Pat Boisvert, ODG Chair at [pat.g.boisvert@gmail.com](mailto:pat.g.boisvert@gmail.com). Jennie McCloskey will email the question/topic list to OOS Members one week before the ODG meeting date once the meeting dates are determined, along with the link for registration.

We hope you will enjoy participating in the ODG. We look forward to seeing many of you at these meetings.

*Pat Boisvert*

## Montréal Judging Centre

The Montréal Judging Centre extends an open invitation to the members of the Ottawa Orchid Society to attend its judging sessions. The Centre meets every month on the third Saturday (except in December when the meeting is held on the second Saturday). The meeting is held at the *Jardin botanique de Montréal* (JBM) (Montréal Botanical Garden) in the main building.

### **Judging meetings**

- The meetings start around 9:30 a.m. but the training session (open to participants) starts around 10 a.m.
- Plant registration is upon arrival or after 11 a.m. (but before 12:30 p.m.).
- Participants must bring their lunch as there is no restaurant on premises.
- Upon entrance at the main building, participants must sign in at the security desk on the sheet for the “Centre de jugement”.
- The meeting room number is on the sign in sheet (usually on the second floor – take elevator on the right past the double doors).

### **Judging**

- Plants are registered; the Registrar will provide the necessary help.
- Participants must have the full name of the plants (plants with no name cannot and will not be judged).
- Participants must bring a clone name to assign to the awarded plants (the clone name is anything the owner chooses; the clone name must be provided at the judging session).
- **NOTE:**
  - ◇ Plants must be clean and without pests;
  - ◇ Inflorescences may be staked;
  - ◇ While **plants are being judged, participants are not allowed to make comments or to intervene**; if there are any questions, these can be answered after judging.



## **Looking for Growers and an Editor - Dr. Dora Elisa Perez**

Dr. Dora Elisa Perez has joined our Society. She is an expert in Honduran orchids. In 2010 she conducted a study and catalogued 53 new varieties of orchids in La Muralla National Park. She has written two volumes of the book: *Native Orchids of Honduras* in both Spanish and English. They can be downloaded from the internet at the following links – amazing pictures and a wealth of information.

[\(PDF\) Orquídeas nativas de Honduras \(researchgate.net\)](#)

[\(PDF\) Orquídeas nativas de Honduras volumen 2. Native orchids of Honduras volume 2 \(researchgate.net\)](#)

Dr. Perez is currently working on a third volume. She is looking for someone interested in orchids to assist her with editing and publishing her third volume. If you can assist, please let her know by email [doraelisa.perez53@gmail.com](mailto:doraelisa.perez53@gmail.com).

She also has brought back some seeds of *Sobralia macrantha* and probably *Sobralia xantholeuca* from Honduras this year. If you are interested in growing them in vitro, please let her know. This is a unique opportunity – please take advantage.

## **To Give Away Dave Cooper – Plant Stand and Terrarium**

Suzie Cooper would be happy to give away the following items:

1. Three shelf plant stand with lights.
2. Terrarium (built according to Pat Boisvert's guidance) with stand and lights.

These are offered freely to anyone willing to come and get them from Almonte – as long as you remember Dave kindly occasionally as you use them for your plants. Please contact Jan Johns to arrange for pick up. [Janet.johns@sympatico.ca](mailto:Janet.johns@sympatico.ca).



There will be several succulent and other plants at the October meeting to be given away from Dave Cooper's collection. You are welcome to take them home and look after them – they have been well-loved and have lived in a shaded greenhouse over the summer.





## **Canadian Orchid Congress Photo Competition**

Deadline is looming: Saturday October 15, 2022

The COC is preparing a calendar from photos of member orchid societies across Canada - and your photos could be in it along with any growing tips or secrets you can share. It would be wonderful if our expert Ottawa Orchid Society photographers, having practiced for virtual orchid tables for the last two years were to submit lots of their stunning photos.

### **Guidelines:**

- You can submit up to 5 images per person to [info@canadianorchidcongress.ca](mailto:info@canadianorchidcongress.ca).
- Please send one image per email, with "COC Calendar" in the subject line.
- Each image must be 300 dpi or higher and be print ready.
- Maximum file size is 10MB.
- Only send images photographed by yourself (where you are the photographer). Please do not submit digitally altered files.
- The image must be of orchids or orchid habitat and can be orchids you have grown or native orchid in situ.
- Please include the name (species and genera) of the orchid in the body of the email.
- By submitting an image for the COC Calendar, you are giving the COC permission to use the image for the calendar.
- Submissions are only open to COC member societies and their individual members (that includes members of the OOS).



## SEPTEMBER 2022 SHOW TABLE RESULTS

ALLIANCE	MEMBER'S NAME	NAME OF PLANT	RIBBON AWARD
<b>Cattleya Alliance</b> Judged by Joyce Medcalf	Monique Savard	<i>Epicyclia</i> Serena O'Neill ( <i>Epicyclia</i> Mabel Kanda x <i>Encyclia cordigera</i> )	1 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Phalaenopsis Alliance</b> Judged by Joyce Medcalf	Maria Martins	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Jiaho Blueberry ( <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Samera x <i>Phalaenopsis equestris</i> )	1 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Dendrobium Alliance</b> Judged by Marilyn Light	Annette Seling	<i>Dendrobium</i> Hibiki ( <i>Dendrobium bracteosum</i> x <i>Dendrobium laevifolium</i> )	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Joyce Medcalf	<i>Dendrobium</i> Aussie's Hi-Lo 'Hill Island' CCM/AOS ( <i>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii</i> x <i>Dendrobium laevifolium</i> )	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Joyce Medcalf	<i>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
	Annette Seling	<i>Dendrobium</i> Victoria Pinky ( <i>Dendrobium victoriae-reginae</i> x <i>Dendrobium laevifolium</i> )	HM
<b>Vanda Alliance</b> Judged by Joyce Medcalf	Julia Parshina	<i>Vanda falcata</i> (Syn. <i>Neofinetia falcata</i> )	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Andrea Picher	<i>Angraecum didieri</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Miniature</b> Judged by Joyce Medcalf	Annette Seling	<i>Bulbophyllum corolliferum</i> 'Purple Leaves' (Formerly <i>Cirrhopetalum curtisii</i> )	1 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Miscellaneous</b> Judged by Jean Hollebhone	Marilyn Light	<i>Sobralia crocea</i> x <i>Sobralia flava</i>	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Joyce Medcalf	<i>Zygopetalum</i> Redvale 'Pretty Ann' ( <i>Zygopetalum</i> Titanic x <i>Zygopetalum</i> Artur Elle)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Best of Show Table</b> Judged by Jean Hollebhone and Joyce Medcalf	<b>Julia Parshina</b>	<i>Vanda falcata</i> (Syn. <i>Neofinetia falcata</i> )	
<b>Member's Choice</b> Judged by Annette Seling	<b>Joyce Medcalf</b>	<i>Zygopetalum</i> Redvale 'Pretty Ann' ( <i>Zygopetalum</i> Titanic x <i>Zygopetalum</i> Artur Elle)	

### Member's Choice Comments

High pseudobulb count, flower spike is in perfect condition and at its peak.  
The leaves are a healthy green with no signs of damage or disease.

**BEST OF SHOW TABLE**

**Julia Parshina with her *Vanda falcata* (Syn. *Neofinetia falcata*)**



Photo by Arlene Lang



Photo by Eamonn Tuck



Photo by Arlene Lang

**MEMBER'S CHOICE**

**Joyce Medcalf's *Zygopetalum* Redvale 'Pretty Ann'  
(*Zygopetalum* Titanic x *Zygopetalum* Artur Elle)**



Photo by Arlene Lang



Photo by Eamonn Tuck

**CATTLEYA ALLIANCE**

1<sup>st</sup>

Photo by Eamonn



**PHALAENOPSIS ALLIANCE**

1<sup>st</sup>

Photo by Arlene Lang



**DENDROBIUM ALLIANCE**

1<sup>st</sup>

Photo by Arlene Lang



2<sup>nd</sup>

Photo by Arlene Lang



3<sup>rd</sup>

Photo by Arlene Lang



HM

Photo by Eamonn Tuck





## VANDA ALLIANCE

1<sup>st</sup>

Photo by Eamonn Tuck



2<sup>nd</sup>

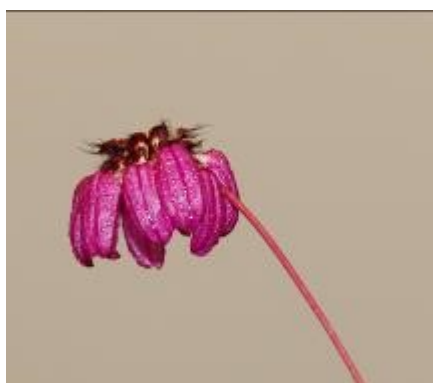
Photo by Eamonn Tuck



## MINIATURE

1<sup>st</sup>

Photos by Eamonn Tuck (left), and Arlene Lang (right)



## MISCELLANEOUS

1<sup>st</sup>

Photo by Arlene Lang



2<sup>nd</sup>

Photo by Eamonn Tuck



## Editor's Wrap



This was my first try putting together Spike and I must say it was quite fun. Thank you so much to Jan for helping me by completing a big part of this edition and for the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the OOS. Also thank you to Sabina Gupta for easing the transition.

While it was fairly easy to incorporate submissions into this edition of Spike, I had some difficulties coming up with a meaningful closing. To ease my way into this new role, let me tell you a bit about my orchid journey. Not only am I a fairly new member of the OOS, I am also a novice orchid grower, but growing things has always been a passion. For example, I have a ten-year old, five feet tall coffee tree, grown from a seed (bean) that I picked while on vacation on Maui, Hawaii. In the past few years it had a few beans that ripened, but for the first time this year the plant is full of beans and if I can manage to ripen them indoors, I may have enough for a cup of homegrown coffee later this fall. All this to say, I love experimenting with plants, which can be really helpful (or not) when growing orchids.

My growing collection consists mostly of *Catasetum* (mostly hybrids) and various *Angraecum* species, but also a few *Dendrobiums*, *Cattleya*, *Oncidium*, some species *Phalaenopsis* and of course some complex hybrid *Phalaenopsis* that I picked up at box stores over the years. Many of my orchids are in an Ikea cabinet that was fitted out with lights, a fan and humidifier and most do quite well in this set up. One of my favourite past times is spending time with my plants, checking their roots and foliage and making sure there are no unwanted hitchhikers. Knowing each orchid, its growth habits and progress is gratifying, but it also makes me sad when I do lose one.

How do you care for your orchids? I would love for you to share some tips that we could share in Spike, Facebook and Instagram for novice growers like me to learn more about how to grow orchids. Your input would be extremely valuable. If interested, please send me an email ([andreapicher1@gmail.com](mailto:andreapicher1@gmail.com)) to share your ideas and perhaps some pictures.

With the pandemic somewhat under control and regular OOS meetings resuming, I am looking forward to meet many of you at OOS meetings in the near future.

Wishing you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving,

*Andrea Picher*