



## **SOUTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON ORCHID SOCIETY**

**scworchids.org**

**MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2010.....7pm.....Edison Elementary  
School**

---

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** Thanks to Jerry for the excellent program on repotting at February's meeting. His tips were enlightening and the orchid's do survive his cleaning.

We have been invited to visit Orchidaceae on March 20 at 10:00 AM to see their greenhouse and orchids. If you have a topic for Mark to talk on, drop an email to me, Berta Thomas or Betty Wise. It is a fun time and beautiful orchids to view. I hope you can go.

The March program will be on orchid judging.

Our society is planning to set up displays at the Spokane show on March 27 & 28 (Bill Jasen and Paula Ochoa) and at the Sky Nursery in Shoreline on April 10 & 11 (Randy Scheele and Tom Walker). I hope you will have orchid(s) in bloom to show at these events. If you can help, lets us know.

### **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:**

President Tom Walker started the meeting with the roster of upcoming orchid shows:

Oregon Orchid Society – March 6-7, Lloyd Center, Portland

Spokane Orchid Society – March 27-28 South Side Senior Center

Northwest Orchid Society – April 10-11 Sky Nursery, Shoreline WA

Our society will participate in the Spokane show.

On March 20<sup>th</sup> our society will go to Orchidaceae in Walla Walla for a presentation and tour of the greenhouse. More details at the next meeting.

Betty Wise will be emailing each member an updated member contact list. She also reminded us that member dues are due for 2010.

The Tri-Cities Garden show, Feb. 20-21, invited our society to participate again this year. Our members were not able to commit to this event.

Randy Scheele, SCWOS show chair, was not here tonight but relayed information to Tom that we will be providing a repotting service at the show in

May. This information will be put on our society webpage and in future advertisements. Paulette Hummer, show promo chair, has ordered 100 plastic signs that should be here for our next meeting. She brought 250 posters and save-the-date cards advertising the show in May for us to distribute. At next month's meeting we will have the sign-up sheet to volunteer for the show.

Jerry Swett gave a presentation on how to repot and divide orchids.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SAVE THE DATE:**

*March 6 & 7 =- Oregon Orchid Society Show and Sale...Doubletree, The Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon*

*March 26 & 27 - Spokane Orchid Society Show and Sale...Southside Senior Activity Center, 3151 E. 27<sup>th</sup>, Spokane, Washington*

*April 10 & 11 - North West Washington Orchid Society Show and Sale, Sky Nursery, Seattle*

*May 1 & 2 - South Central Washington Orchid Society Show and Sale, The Manor at Canyon Lakes, Kennewick, Washington*

#####

**New members::** As Tom stated in his President's Message, our Society plans to display plants at both the Spokane and Seattle shows. We will let you know when and how we will gather the plants for transport to those shows. So if you have a blooming plant, clean and shine the leaves, mark your plant with your name and phone number (I use my address labels on each pot I send), make sure your plants name tag is accurate, make sure your plant is free of bugs and disease and plan to have it in the display.

#####

**Members blooms.....**



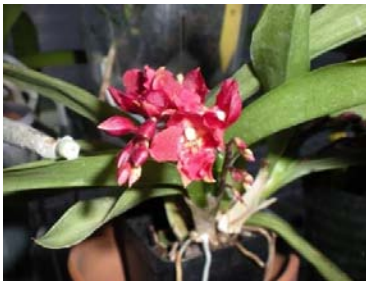
Unknown Paphiopedilum  
*Tom and Rene Moore*



Miltonopsis  
*Tom and Rene Moore*



Psychopsis Mariposa Green Valley  
*Tom and Rene Moore*



Hwra. Lava Burst  
*Betty Wise*



Phrag. Sgt. Eric  
*Betty Wise*



Phrag. Sendenii  
*Betty Wise*



Laelia anceps 'Meadow Gold'  
4 spikes, 20 blooms  
*Betty Wise*



Akutsuka Orchids, Hi.  
*Cindy "Sharer"*  
*(Feb. guest)*



Slc. Sutter Gold  
*Betty Wise*



Den. Christmas Chime 'Azuka'  
*Tom Walker*



Paph. Deception II  
*Tom Walker*



1st bloom EVER!  
*Janis Swoboda*  
*Congratulations!!*

*A review of Jerry Swett's seminar on repotting:*

1. Gather all your tools, newspaper, scissors, sterilized pots, potting mix, torch or alcohol for sterilizing tools between plants, tamper for bark, soaked media, plants, plant clips.
2. Soak plant if roots are stuck to pot or if plant is extremely dry. (I soak using a solutions of KLN, and Physan 20)ed. Clean all roots of old media. Dunk in water if necessary to help remove the media which adheres to the roots.
3. Examine all roots, and cut any dead or decaying roots. Trim existing roots and choose an appropriate pot size to allow for two years growth. Divide plant if necessary.
4. Place preferred substance in bottom of pot to allow for increased air movement and weight. (Cork, Lava rock, stones, packing peanuts (make sure they are not made of corn starch or they will melt when watered).
5. Add some media and place plant in pot in appropriate position. (Phalaneopsis and all monopodial plants in the center of the pot, Catts and other plants that are sympodial grow in the back of the pot allowing room for the new growth toward the front.
6. Tamp down the media being careful not to break the roots.
7. Set aside and let the plant rest for a few weeks. Watch for new root growth.
8. If necessary or appropriate, place pot on a seedling heating mat to encourage new root growth.

*Above all, be sure not to contaminate the next plant you are dividing. Use a clean sheet of newspaper and sterilize all equipment you are using (heat is best, if possible).*

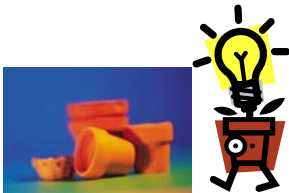
Before repotting, plant should be showing signs of new root growth. This will help the plant to reestablish in its new pot. (This is especially important if you are transferring the plant into a semi-hydroponic media.)

Below is a general list of optimal repotting times for various plants in your collection.

<b>Genera</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Optimal Repotting Times</b>
Brassavola	[B.]	Winter - Spring
Cattleya	[C.]	Spring / Fall
Catasetum	[Ctsm.]	Spring
Cymbidium	[Cym.]	Spring
Dendrobium	[Den.]	Spring
Doritaenopsis	[Dtps.]	Fall - Winter
Epidendrum	[Epi.]	Spring
Encyclia	[Enc.]	Spring
Laelia	[L.]	Spring
Ludisia	[Lds.]	Winter - Spring
Lycaste	[Lyc.]	Spring
Masdevallia	[Masd.]	Spring
Miltonia	[Milt.]	Fall
Miltoniopsis	[Miltmps.]	Fall
Odontoglossom	[Odm.]	Winter- Spring
Oncidium	[Onc.]	Winter - Spring
Paphiopedilum	[Paph.]	Spring
Phalaenopsis	[Phal.]	Spring - Summer
Phragmipedium	[Phrag.]	Spring
Psychopsis	[Psychp.]	Spring
Sophronitis	[Soph.]	Spring
Stanhopea	[Stan.]	Spring / Fall
Vanda	[V.]	Fall



**WATERING TIP:** When watering your plants, make sure the temperature of the water is close to room temperature or warmer. Cold water may shock your plants.



**GETTING READY TO REPOT???** Be sure to sterilize your pots. The Chadwick brothers', orchid experts, suggest you sterilize your clay pots by baking them in a 375 degree oven for 1 hour.

I have been cleaning my plastic pots by washing them thoroughly in warm soapy water, rinsing and then dunking in a 10% bleach/water solution, rinsing and allowing to air dry.

**ATTENTION INDOOR GROWERS:** I was on several Orchid forums recently and several orchid growers were raving about the positive results they have had blooming their plants with **Wonderlite** grow lights. I googled their web site and although these bulbs are a little expensive, they might be an option for indoor growers who can't get enough light to bloom their plants. Check it out...editor

## *Jerry's Jewels*



### **OK, SPRING IS ON THE WAY, WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING?**

We have had some nice spring like days recently. When the temperature gets above 45 and the sun is shining, it tempts me to plan for the months ahead. I always seem to have this long list of chores, only to look back in June and realize that I didn't get all of them done. Where my orchids are concerned I seem to consistently put off the chore of cataloging my plants. This year I will not be deterred. I have purchased a computer program called Cattleya-Log which is designed to keep records of almost everything having to do with a collection. I was working in the greenhouse yesterday and realized that I have plants I know little about. So starting this week, I will be spending a little time each day filling in the blanks, attaching pictures and in general getting to know my collection. It seems each year we obtain plants, put them on the shelves and promptly forget where we got them, what the bloom looks like, the last time it bloomed, etc. So I am determined to be a better grower this year. If I ask you, "Did I get this plant from you?" please don't be offended. I just can't remember! Editor

\*\*\*\*\*The article below was copied from an anonymous posting on the web.....

**My name is Dave and I am an overwaterer.  
I have been growing orchids for about five years. My relationship with  
plants began innocently enough,**

I planted a vegetable garden ten years ago. It was fun and rewarding tending the garden and harvesting the delicious vegetables. Of course, I got very bored during the winter, so I got a few houseplants to get me through until I could start seeds for spring planting. Surprisingly, the houseplants did pretty well for me; I was actually beginning to think I had a "green thumb".

The soil is poor and rocky here so the vegetable garden needed to be watered almost every day unless it rained or was cloudy but I liked that part. It was relaxing to come home from work during the spring and summer, throw on some grubby clothes and drag the hose to the garden to give the vegetables a drink. A lot of the vegetables can't handle stress from lack of water so I felt like I was doing the right thing...our harvests proved it! During the winter I'd fool around with the houseplants...the collection grew rapidly. It was kind of a hassle dragging the plants to the sink to water or fertilize them but it seemed as if they rewarded me by growing beautifully and I felt that I was doing something positive for them. I applied the same techniques to the houseplants that I used in the garden. Oh I didn't water them every day, just maybe three times a week. Then I discovered orchids. I was at the home center getting some fertilizer and I saw a few Phalaenopsis. They weren't very expensive. And unlike the ferns and Philodendrons, they had flowers. So I tried one, and then another. Within a year, two of the south windows had carts filled with orchids and I had been to two nearby orchid shows looking for more. If you're reading this then you probably know the rest of the story. It's fun to go into the greenhouse during the dead of winter to see what's in bud.

Old habits are hard to break. I don't know whether I consider the slow-growing nature of orchids a blessing or a curse. On the one hand, you often have time to correct mistakes. But you may not even notice the mistake until it's too late. I continue treating the orchids, all 500 of them, just like the other house plants and water them on a similar schedule; at least three times a week. Most of them grow okay and look healthy, bloom regularly. But when re-pot time comes around in the spring I'm always shocked at the state of the roots. Indeed, over the years I have prematurely sent dozens of lovely orchids to orchid heaven. Suspecting that it might have something to do with the water, I had my water supply tested for contaminants (there were none) and pH (it was very slightly acid) and began switching to a more open potting mix; from fir bark to tree fern. It helped a little, but not enough. Too many plants were looking too poorly.

Eventually, with the help of my loved ones, I was able to realize that it wasn't the water quality or the potting medium, it was the hose in my hand. I wanted to see the orchids grow bigger and better so I would water them. But with help, I am changing my ways.

