

SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY

established in 1965

Summer 2008 NEWS

Volume 43, Issue 8



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

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

Next Annual Show: February 14 -15, 2009, Get ready!!!

Next Meeting: September 7, Toronto Botanical Garden, Sales at 12 noon, Program at 1 pm.

Russ Vernon of New Vision Orchids in Yorktown, Indiana, will speak on "Odont Culture and a Visit to the Eric Young Orchid Foundation". He will be bringing plants for sale. The types of orchids, including flasks, can be viewed at the SOOS website:

<http://www.soos.ca/> - we apologize for this single means of communication but limited space in this bulletin precludes the possibility of printing the lists. Pre-orders are welcomed, and there is more on how to do that at the SOOS website.

EXTRA EXTRA

Andrea Niessen of Orqideas del Valle of Cali, Columbia will be our guest speaker at the Nov. 2/08 meeting. They have a great range of orchid species the full range cool to warm. The plants we saw on our recent visit to both their locations were superbly grown. I was even enthralled by the many warm species especially Stanhopeas and Gongoras. A link to their web page is available on the SOOS web page.

SOOS President's Remarks

Hello fellow orchid lovers.

This summer, for me the wettest in living memory, is one to be endured. The record precipitation means that there are benefits: water levels in lakes are higher, the orchids we planted at The Brickworks require no irrigation, the Buttonbush shrub (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) in our garden, which last year almost perished from aridity, is thriving again, and of course all our lawns are green. There are also drawbacks: incessant grass cutting, washed-out picnics, mosquitoes galore, and the *Cymbidium* which I have outside is close to drowning.

Orchidfest, also known as Summerfest, has come and gone. We were fortunate to have 2 compelling people with us, Glen Decker and Kyle Lucyk. Their talks on August 3 were a delight to the eye, and the growing advice - which is always part of a superb presentation - is a value-add to any such event. Both Glen and Kyle had plants for sale, and some dandies too. Another feature of Orchidfest is that we have the AOS judging team assembled, and any of us are free to sit and watch how this business unfolds. There was a goodly set of fine orchids being judged this time; and my skin was a greenish hue (but not from envy, I assure you!).

I met with the TBG staff on August 8 to go over with them our experiences at Orchidfest. There was a tight schedule to be followed at this event, and I am very proud of how we in SOOS conducted ourselves to meet that schedule. Alas, the catering team associated with the wedding reception which was to follow our meeting was, to put it mildly, not as professional as one would have expected. The TBG has apologized to us in writing, and has made a generous financial settlement. They would like to meet with us and other horticultural groups in late summer or early autumn to see what can be done to ensure that all events in future run smoothly; this is an initiative which I applaud and in which I will participate actively on SOOS' behalf.

At The Brickworks, I met 2 of the city employees who work at the site. They were anxious not only to see where the native orchids were planted, but also to help out. I showed them around the site,

so that they now know where to look for our plantings. Not all have been successful. The 5 Grass pinks from 2007 are gone - drowned. The 3 we planted in 2008 may be growing; unless you see such an orchid in flower it is nigh unto impossible to spot it; it is tiny. The Yellow lady's-slippers are healthier. 3 of the 5 from 2007 made it, while 2 seem dead. 4 of the 5 from this year's planting were found. The city wants this work to succeed as much as we do. It is a work-in-progress, and will have to continue for several more years before we draw any conclusions.

The fall season is upon us. If you are relatively new to orchids, or even want to brush up on your orchid knowledge, I cannot recommend the beginner's series run by Wayne Hingston too highly. He makes it fun, and gives us klutzes hope that even we can aspire to greatness. The show season resumes, and SOOS will be at the 3 major ones before Christmas. If you have orchids that we can use for our displays, or if you will attend one of the shows and can help out with the SOOS display, would you let one of the directors know, please? This is a recurring message and one which you may find tiresome; but success of our Valentine's Day show rests, in part, on our relationship with the shows which our brother and sister orchid societies hold: "scratch my back and I'll scratch yours" never goes out of style.

As ever, I end these remarks by saying here are my email id: asimina@sympatico.ca and phone number: 416-449-7907...hope to hear from you.

Welcome New Members

Lynda Summerville
David Chojnacki

? Newcomers' Meetings

Wayne Hingston will once again present his excellent series on the culture of the most popular types of hobby orchids. These sessions are for members who have just started in orchids and will be presented at the Toronto Botanical Garden Board Room on the following **Monday** evenings at 7 pm:

Sept 22, 2008
Oct 20, 2008
Nov 17, 2008
Dec 15, 2008

Jan 12, 2009

For further information call Wayne Hingston at 905-649-2467

SHOW COMMITTEE for Feb. 2009

The Show committee, chaired by Wayne Hingston, is requesting members to examine their ability to volunteer for various sub-committees. This request is to help plan the show and does NOT necessarily mean that you have to participate at the show. I am asking each volunteer to attend 4 or fewer meetings (one per month maximum) and assist a small group to organize one part of the show. For those that have done these tasks in the past, please confirm your willingness to do them again. Please consider volunteering for one of the following groups:

Security: Crowd control, Managing the entrance, Managing money and coupons

Exhibit Area: Layout, Staging, Set-up and Clean-up

Sales Area: Layout, Assigning Spots, Set-up, Clean-up

Public Programming: Talks, Tours, Membership

Hospitality

Publicity

Plant Registration: Recording plants and numbers for the Judging Process

Awards: Ribbons, Trophies

Please contact Wayne Hingston at 905-649-2467, w2hingston@yahoo.ca or at the September 7 meeting.

Manfred Hubert, the husband of long time member Laura Grant has passed away after an extended illness. We will miss Manfred's quiet presence.

Coming Events

September

5-7, Mid America Orchid Congress, Mason, Ohio.

6, Toronto Centre Judging, 1 pm, Toronto Botanical Garden

7, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, noon.

20, Montreal Judging Centre, Jardin Botanique de Montreal.

22, Newcomers' Meeting 7 pm, TBG Boardroom

27,28, COOS show, Cambridge, Ontario.

October

4, Toronto Centre Judging, 1 pm, Toronto Botanical Garden

5, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, noon.

11-12, Niagara Frontier Orchid Show, Buffalo.

17-19, AOS Members meeting, Wilmington, Delaware, Longwood Gardens.

25-26 ECOS Show, Montreal.

November

1, Toronto Centre Judging, 1 pm, Toronto Botanical Garden

2, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, noon.

8, Niagara Region Orchid show, St. Catherines

15, Montreal Judging Centre, Jardin Botanique de Montreal.

December

6, Toronto Centre Judging, 1 pm, Toronto Botanical Garden

7, SOOS meeting, Toronto Botanical Garden, noon

AOS Judging Results

Toronto Centre, August 3, 2008

Scuticaria hadwenii 'Mem. Bear Steele' CHM-AOS 83 points, Cloud's Orchids.

Stanhopea platyceras 'Sweet and Spotty' AM-AOS 85 points, Doug and Terry Kennedy.

Encyclia alata 'Ed Hantz' HCC-AOS 78 points, Jeanne Kaeding.

CNE Garden Show competition

Several SOOS members exhibited in this show with great results. Their participation was very much appreciated by the show management.

Inge Poot's Programme Notes for June 2008 continued

The highlight of the June meeting was Olaf Gruss's talk on "First Steps In Hybridizing With Vietnamese *Paphiopedilums*". This is the conclusion of Inge's notes on that presentation.



Paphiopedilum vietnamense (described in 1999) is a lovely relative of *P. delenatii*. It has the same basic full shape but with more intense colour. The white pink flushed sepals and petals are contrasted by an intensely rose-red rounded pouch. The staminode has a green flush in the centre. Some clones are almost as red as the lip in the petals and the petal stance varies from downward to almost horizontal. Alba forms have been found. There are now about 20 hybrids registered with this species. The species gives large size to its progeny. Line breeding for darker colour is going on and the future should bring some stunning clones to the judging tables. However selfings grow very slowly. The species will produce flowers of poorer shape and paler colours if the temperatures are too high.

P. Ho Chi Minh (delenatii X vietnamense) is perhaps the most famous cross to date. The best clones are very large, very full with a deep rose colour and a lovely contrasting staminode in white with a red and green central flush. Flowers last two weeks in hot weather, but 4 to 6 weeks if the plants are kept cool.

P. Woessner Vietnam Beauty (bellatulum X vietnamense) The first plant to bloom had big, floppy, white flowers with dark pink speckles. Later on a clone flowered that had the bellatulum smooth full shape, was white with pink flushing in

the petals and brown-pink speckles and had an apricot dorsal.

P. Alfred Tetzlaff (godfroyae var leucochilum X vietnamense) has full triangular flowers in white with pink speckles and a pink flush on the petals and lip.

P. Eddy Wets (wenshanense X vietnamense) is similar to the above cross, but the flowers are bit less full, but the spotting is larger and more intense in colour.

P. Sakura Pink (concolor X vietnamense) seems to show little of the concolor parent. The flowers are white with pink flushed petal tips and an intensely pink lip. The staminode is yellow with a white edge.

P. fairrieanum X vietnamense has not been registered yet but the flowers are white with pink flushing along the wavy edges. The flushing is much more intense on the lip. The flowers petals can vary from droopy to gracefully arching. The flowers seen were shown as hybrids of *delenatii* to avoid legal hassles!

P. In-Charm Delophyllum (glaucophyllum X vietnamense) The clone shown had a fairly full triangular shape, dark rose petals and lip and white sepals that were heavily flushed with green centrally and surrounded by peach streaking. Very striking!

P. Woessner Vietnam Wings (glaucophyllum var. moquetteanum X vietnamense) might be a cross to avoid. The sepal colour was a bit muddy and the pink petals were badly reflexed.

P. primulinum X vietnamense is a pale cream hybrid with badly reflexed and not very wide petals. The charm of both parents is lost in this cross.

In the cross of *P. armeniacum X vietnamense*, *P. Woessner Vietnam Gold*, the two species can kill each other pink and yellow colours and the result is a white flowers with hints of green. Some clones are pale yellow and one clone was a lovely soft yellow with great shape and two red stripes on the staminode adding contrast.

P. Woessner Vietnam Love (micranthum X vietnamense) usually looks like a paler *P. Magic Lantern*.

Exceptional clones can be almost as dark, but will be much larger.

P. Woessner Butterfly (malipoense X vietnamense) Showed lots of deformities. On the whole the flowers varied a lot, with some looking like a pale, floppy *malipoense*, others were less floppy and had some addition of pink colour to the flowers-usually in the form of washed out reticulation.

P. Woessner Vietnam Moon (emersonii X vietnamense) produces huge flowers, some with poor shape. Most were white with varying amounts of pink reticulation, the colour being darker on the pouch, especially near the pouch rim. The dorsal is often twisted.

P. Woessner Vietnam Belle (*conco-bellatulum X vietnamense*) The clone shown had full triangular shape with a bent forward dorsal. The sepals and petals were white with red-brown speckling that was finer and denser near the margins.

P. In-Charm Jewel (Gratrix X *vietnamense*) was illustrated with a lovely flat full triangular flower, huge for the size of the plant in white with heavy rose-red reticulation in all but the basal portions of the segments. The lip was almost solid rose-red and the staminode was yellow centrally.

P. Pinocchio X *vietnamense* was illustrated with a plant with green, brown and yellow segments that had Pinocchio shape and colour but were a bit floppier than those of the parent!

P. Woessner Pinky (*vietnamense X Vanguard*) was an example of an unsuccessful mating of *vietnamense* with a multifloral. The colour is an attractive combination of white overlaid and striped with pink-brown, but the poor petal shape ruins the total effect completely.

P. Franz Fuchs (Transvaal X *vietnamense*) is worse than either parent. One clone had a lovely flat white, green and brown dorsal, but the rest was messy in colour and shape.

P. Benedikt (St Swithin X *vietnamense*) is the best of the multifloral crosses with one clone having wide, long curled petals and an upright dorsal. The colour was rose brown for the dorsal and petals and this was contrasted by the cream lip and the dark brown staminode. Another two clones had the same attractive colour scheme, but one had terribly messy shape and another very rigidly down curved reflexed petals and messy blotches added to the pouch colour!

P. Winston Churchill X *vietnamense* was illustrated by an attractive flower with full, flat, triangular shape and with deep pink dorsal and petals and a cream-pink pouch.

P. Woessner Vietnam Star (*rothschildianum X vietnamense*) does not seem to be multifloral. The flowers are stunning though. They have a widened roth. shape, but the colours are more intense and more pink than in *rothschildianum*, but with the pouch lightening to white near the rim.

Paphiopedilum hangianum (described in 1999) can be very lovely. This species is fragrant. The best clones are huge, round with full fairly horizontally-held petals. The flowers tend to be chartreuse, sometimes cream, or even peach, but most have red flushing near the base of the petals



and on the staminode. However, many clones have an indentation in the middle of the upper petal margins and some may be floppy. One clone was shown with a petal width of seven inches! An alba clone has been found as well.

The plants are collected in huge numbers and offered bare root by the tens of thousands for sale in Vietnam. Any unsold plants are used as pig food! CITES seems counter-productive for this species!!!

Artificially propagated hybrids take 2.5 to 3 years to reach blooming size, while the species plants take 6 to 7 years to mature.

Hybrids with this species were first registered in 2004, but by the time this programme was presented they numbered 31!

P. Woessner Giant (*conco-bellatulanum X hangianum*) is easy to grow and produces giant flowers. Many clones produce nicely shaped flowers, but I found the irregular reticulation of brown on chartreuse somewhat messy and uneven. One clone shown had big fenestration between the dorsal and the petals.

P. Chu-Yi Yuki (*niveum X hangianum*) is a lovely cross with most clones having full, flat triangular flowers in white to chartreuse, speckled and flushed pink to red-brown-usually heaviest near the centre of the flower as in the *hangianum* parent.

P. Woessner's Favorite (*godfroyae X hangianum*) produces nice to lovely yellow flowers with red reticulation, the latter heaviest near the centre. The segments tend to be full and petals may be held horizontally or be somewhat drooping in stance.

P. Chou-Yi Wench (*wenshayense X hangianum*) produces flowers with triangular to round form. The segments are full, the petals rounded and the dorsal with a pointy tip. The entire flower tends to be overlaid with red-brown reticulation and the reticulation is heaviest on the petals.

P. Woessner Masterhang (*mastersianum X*

hangianum). The flowers are not as full as the previous few crosses, but they are glossy, cream to chartreuse with an overlay of either red-brown flushing or dots, darker or denser near the base of the segments.

P. In-Charm Harmony (*primulinum* X *hangianum*). A good clone shown was very flat with horizontally held petals. The dorsal was green, the fairly wide petals yellow with basal red flushing and the pouch was cream. A less attractive clone had droopy, narrow petals, a green dorsal and muddy yellow petals and pouch.

P. In-Charm Handel (*delenatii* X *hangianum*) flowers can be flat or anything but!!! The segments parts tend to be full and form triangular flowers in cream to white with pink flushing and a red-marked staminode.

P. Woessner China Moon (*armeniacum* X *hangianum*) has yellow flowers that vary from full and triangular to open around the dorsal. The staminode usually has contrasting red markings.



P. Liberty Taiwan (*macranthum* X *hangianum*). The clone shown was like a softer coloured macranthum with a smaller pink pouch that does not remind one of a toilet bowl!

P. In-Charm Handel (*malipoense* X *hangianum*) The best clones can be nice full flowers with green dorsals and yellow petals and pouches with the petals marked with red. However some can have poor shape because of this downward bend in the middle of the petals.

P. Woessner's Wolke (*emersonii* X *hangianum*) can vary from chartreuse to cream sepals and white to pink petals with or without pink flushing or reticulations. The lip can be deep pink to cream to yellow. The staminode seems to be marked

with red or black and is usually flushed yellow. A lovely cross!

P. In-Charm Grehang (*hangianum* X Greyi) has full flowers in cream with pink to red-brown reticulation intensifying near the centre of the flower. The staminode is marked with a darker shade of the overlay colour.

P. S. Gratrix X *hangianum* - the clone shown had triangular shape with a big fenestration around the dorsal sepal. The flower was pale yellow with light red reticulation.

P. Woessner Gemihang (Gemini X *hangianum*) was illustrated with a yellow flower, not quite flat, with red streaking near the base of the segments and an overly long narrow pouch.

P. Pinocchio X *hangianum* was illustrated with an all yellow clone with horizontally held narrow petals. The sepals were veined green and the petal bases speckled in red.

P. In-Charm Hangbird (Susan Booth X *hangianum*) showed a lovely yellow flower veined in red -similar to Dollgoldi. Other clones showed red flushing as well and in some the petals were quite twisted in an unattractive way,

P. Palace Harmonie (St. Swithin X *hangianum*) showed a chartreuse to pink flowers with red veining or flushing, whose fairly wide petals tried to twist- not always attractively! The pouches varied from pink to cream.

P. Alexej (*rothschildianum* X *hangianum*) seems to be a horrible cross with deformed pouches being the norm. The background colour also tends to be beige, lessening the contrast with the red veining or flushing.

P. Annie Fuchs (*vietnamense* X *hangianum*) produces at its best a pretty though not quite flat full flower in white with green and brown flushing on the sepals and red and yellow flushing on the petals and with red on the lip. Two other clones shown had insipid colour and very wavy form.

Now a couple of crosses with complex hybrids:

P. In-Charm White X *hangianum* seems to produce full white flowers with a few red markings at the segment bases.

P. Sheerline X *hangianum* shows a pure cream flower with the bottom of the wide petals reflexed.

The talk concluded with pictures of a new as yet unnamed miniature species with the centre of the dorsal sepal and the entire petals and pouch almost black in colour. This is contrasted with a very large green ventral sepal and a wide white border around the dorsal sepal. A wonderful addition to the gene pool for teacup ladyslippers!

A cautionary note: Since Paphs and Phrags cannot be mericloned, to get a good one for a reasonable price you need to get a seedling from a cross that has a higher than normal rate of good progeny. Usually a cross will yield one in a hundred (to in a thousand) of award quality plants, no more!

Summerfest 2008

What a beautiful day, great food and wonderful speakers. I would like to thank everyone who helped! Especially Tom Atkinson for keeping everyone on track.

Our Summerfest Committee because of unforeseen circumstances fell apart, so Tom and I and a few other key people on the executive made sure that everything was taken care of. We do need three people to step up and man this committee if we are to continue Summerfest. I can certainly get the speakers, but the rest of the planning needs to be looked after. If you would like to volunteer please let Tom Atkinson or myself know.

Once again, thanks to everyone. Mario Ferrusi.

Inge Poot's Programme Notes for Summerfest 2008:

Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids gave us a most interesting talk about *Phragmipedium*



kovachii and its environment. A shot of the craggy mountains around Machu Pichu gave us an idea

of the type of terrain the plant is found in. It rains all the time and in the dry season it just rains only part of the day instead of all day! The reason that the plant remained unknown for so long is that it blooms during the rainy season and during that time of year the streams in the mountains are impassable. In case you thought to take a helicopter: it is too windy to make that a safe option, especially in this craggy terrain. The elevation that the *Phrag. kovachii* is found at is also the home of *Maxillaria sanderiana*. The Maxillaria grows on the side of tree trunks. The night temperature can at times get right to frost, but the plant does not need it that cold.

Most Phragmipediums grow on open cliff sides. Since rain comes and goes all the time, they are not truly in full sun. The running water keeps the roots cool, even if the day gets hot. To simulate this, collect rain water and store it at 10C (50F) and use this for watering.

The plants share their habitat with grasses and ferns and therefore seedlings will be in very low light of about 400 to 500 foot-candles, while they are small. As the seedlings grow they get taller and therefore get more and more light.

So far only one colour form has been found, but there is a rumour around that someone has:

1. an alba clone,
2. a clone with spots on the petals,
3. A clone with half white, half purple petals.

Characteristically, the plants have cinnamon hairs covering their somewhat woody stems and the flower buds.

Flowers are 6.5 to 7 inches (16.5 to 18cm) in natural spread with the biggest so far measuring 9.5 inches (24cm) across. The flowers have good proportions, but change shape and grow for the first week after opening. For the first 2-3 days the flowers are small, dark and flat. By day 5 they are bigger (about 6.5 inches or 16.5cm), less dark and still flat.

On day 7 they are lighter and full of waves.

The flowers lose colour on the back centre of the flowers as they age, but curiously this fading happens in the front of the flower in its hybrids!

Once the plants are mature, they tend to flower twice per year and grow quite fast.

Also with *Phrag. kovachii*, its hybrids tend to show far more variation in shape and colour than hybrids with other species do.

A nice trait of this species and its hybrids is its growth habit. The plants tend to clump not climb like *P. besseae*.

The biggest problem with this species is that it imparts rolled petals to its hybrids. This trait seems to be overcome by crossing it with *Phrag. besseae*. So when buying hybrids, make sure they contain *Phrag. bessiae*.

Also, to get red hybrids, they have to contain *Phrag sargentianum*.

Phrag. kovachii hybrids have longer lasting flowers, because the flowers stay on the plant until they wilt, not like other hybrids that fall off while still perfect.

They will last two to three weeks vs the one week to 10 days of other *Phrag* hybrids.

Even though *Phrag kovachii* is diploid there has not been any problem breeding with it so far.

Some examples shown were:

Phrag. Haley Decker (*kovachii* X Saint Ouen)- the flower shown reminded me of a Phrag. Jason Fischer on steroids! The 4 inch, 10cm flower was red with a hint of rose and the very full petals were held horizontally (- somewhat too stiffly for my taste, but I bought one anyway!).

Phrag Fritz Schomburg (*kovachii* X besseae 4n) was very nice.

Phrag Suzanne Decker (*kovachii* X Cape Sunset) had the pleasing shape of a P. Don Wimber, with slightly downward pointing wide petals, but in rosy pink with a red pouch. The clone shown had a central white area. This is a uniform cross and flowers tend to be about 6 inches (15cm) across.

Phrag. Alison Strong (*kovachii* X Living Fire 4n) is like a bigger but rosier Living Fire.

Phrag. Alfredo Manrique (*kovachii* X Walter Schomburg) was my favourite! The flowers of two clones were shown, both were red, but one had more pointed slightly downward pointing petals and a central white halo. The other clone had more rounded petal tips.

Phrag. wallisii* X *kovachii results in a *Phrag. Schroederi* type flower- a pretty rose colour.

CULTURE

Potting medium:

The plants do best at a pH of 7.9 to 8.7

The run-off from plants in their native habitat is pH 7. PH seems to affect seedlings most of all. Piping Rock moved theirs out of sphagnum into a bark mix with excellent results. They added calcium chips or pelletized dolomitic lime to the mix to keep it neutral. The size of the bark chips is determined by the watering frequency. Smaller bark pieces for less frequent watering, medium bark for more frequent watering.

Note that if the roots grow around the pot or grow out of the pot, then the plant hates the medium and you have to change something.

Repot Paphiopedilums every year, Phragmipedium species every two years and

Phrag. hybrids every three years.

Pot them hard so that there is no root damaging wobbling.

The best time to repot is late spring to early summer, but anytime is OK if the former does not fit your schedule.

Seedlings must be grown in low light.

Plants will make new growth before the first growth is mature, resulting in large plants quickly.

Piping Rock's mix for Phrags is:

1 part perlite or sponge rock

½ part chicken grit or oyster shell (Ca plus Mg)

some bonemeal

1 part charcoal

2 parts medium bark or 4 parts fine bark

When Glen Decker repots Cattleyas and Cymbidiums and Phrags he cuts off all dead roots and shortens the live ones to 4 inches or 10cm.

Light:

Seedlings, low light.

Mature plants Cattleya light.

Watering:

In summer water seedlings at least every second day and never allow to get bone dry.

Adult plants can be watered every day.

Fertilizer:

A good regimen is to fertilize weakly every time you water. Glen Decker fertilizes irregularly depending on the amount of sunshine. Under lights you should fertilize regularly.

In the greenhouse when the weather is cold and dreary fertilize every 6 to 8 weeks.

Vary the fertilizer you use. He uses epsom salts, nitrate, Super Thrive etc.

Note that rainwater tends to be pH 6.5 to 6.4. When you add fertilizer the pH may fall to 3.9 and this means you have to buffer it, since this is too acid.

Our second speaker was **Kyle Lucyk**. His topic was “**Ecuador through my eyes**”

Kyle is associated with Ecuagenera from Ecuador. Ecuador is located on the west coast of South America and shares borders with Colombia to the north and Peru to the south.

The mission of Ecuagenera and its owner Mario Tortilla is to support a school in their town with the profits of the business.

The greenhouse is located in southern Ecuador between the towns of Cuenca and Guslaquiza.

The greenhouse shown was an enormously long screened- in tubular shade house running along the unpaved road going through the cluster of buildings

that comprise the business and the school.

The night temperatures in the greenhouse are about 10 C, while the days get very hot.

They do a lot of seeding , with 90% of their plants being species. They have about 1500 species in cultivation and are hoping to get a good percentage of the remaining 500 species also found in Ecuador into cultivation as well.

The interior of the greenhouse looks very efficient and clean and is divided into many sections. The sections are supplied with metal benches and horizontal and vertical metal screens for pots and hanging plants. Shade cloth is suspended under the covering screens over more shade loving plants such as *Draculas*.

A modern lab for seed sowing is part of the structure as well as a huge facility filled with seed bottles.

Another large section is devoted to community flats.

When the plants reach maturity they look wonderful with a whole block of one species such as the red, yellow-tailed *Masdevallia cardiantha* blooming at the same time.

Another lovely species shown was *Masdevallia pinoccio* with chartreuse short-tailed flowers that have a broad light red band close to the edge of the lateral sepals and deep red column, lip and petals.

They don't have names for all their beautiful finds, but the following plants were named:

Oersterdella mediae has narrow green sepals and petals with red-brown spots and a white, basally tubular lip with a yellow keel and a red apical flush -a colourful dainty flower.

Pleurothallis medinae flowers successively with chartreuse dainty flowers that have a orange flush on the narrow petals and the wider lip that changes to black-red near the apices.

Scaphosepalum medinae, an intermediate to warm grower sends out short horizontal inflorescences bearing a few deep red-brown upside down flowers with wide curled over lateral sepals and a yellow column tip.

Masdevallia medinae, needs intermediate to cool temperatures to produce its full yellow flowers that are shaded with red hairs. Drama is added with a red lip and a red column upper surface.

Close to the border with Peru, south of Loja is

another habitat for plants needing a different growing environment.

Some of the plants growing there were:

Cattleya maxima comes in two forms. The coastal form has tall pseudobulbs bearing several large light pink flowers. The inland form has short pseudobulbs and fewer, smaller, darker pink flowers. Both forms have a floppy shape, but look great in the lower branches of isolated trees found in the mostly scrubby growth found in their habitat. The native population appreciates them too and plant them on ledges of their house walls.

Altensteinia fimbriata is a tiny plant that produces an upright long spike of charming tiny crowded chartreuse flowers, each with a bonnet-like dorsal that has a white frilled margin and the "face in the bonnet" consisting of a frilled margin around the column tip and a black "nose". The bow of the bonnet is the rolled white and pink flushed lip.

Sobralia virginialis is very common in that area and in places covers whole hillsides. As the name suggests it has large snow-white cattleya-like flowers that have yellow and orange shadings in the lip and a pale salmon column. They are produced in succession, with each flower lasting only for a day.

A third climatic area is in central Ecuador.

Epidendrum secundum covers whole hillsides there. It has pink flowers arranged in a ball atop the tall stems. Alba forms are occasionally seen.

Prosthechea vespa is found in the same habitat and sports chartreuse upside-down flowers arranged in a fairly dense inflorescence atop the stems. The most colourful forms have deep red-brown spots on the sepals and petals and a red flush on the lip tip.

Phragmipedium lindenii grows in the wetter spots of the same area. It has three ribbon-like red-brown petals and no pouch. The chartreuse shorter and wider sepals set off the petals nicely.

The town of Zamora sits on the edge of a steep sided gorge cut into the soil by a river. In places where a waterfall falls into the river and sprays the area with mist we find a white *Habenaria* species and a *Lepanthes* that has beige, yellow and hot pink flowers produced on the undersides of red-flushed leaves. A tree crotch might hold a dainty white flowering *Maxillaria. tip* whose lips have an orange tip. A *Stelis* species with long narrow yellow sepals can be found growing on bare shrubs.

Cracks in rocky hillsides are the home of *Phragmipedium wallisii*. It carries up to 5 yellow flowers per inflorescence whose long pink-tinted ribbon-like petals touch the ground. (to be continued)

SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2007

	EXPENSES	
	2007	2006
2007 Show	7313.82	8997.74
Other shows	1397.00	1949.56
Bulletin	5007.32	4583.04
Rent	3948.60	2646.80
Show rent & security	5299.47	4842.29
Program including Orchidfest	7138.06	5184.70
Provincial sales tax	707.52	5308.82
Insurance	279.00	243.00
Membership badges	270.75	307.69
Canadian Orchid Congress	279.00	243.00
Orchid Digest Award	62.70	0.00
Orchid Digest donation	545.70	0.00
Library	1521.89	1247.03
Administration	226.85	244.73
Bank charges	68.00	66.00
Web maintenance	152.51	0.00
Picnic	75.77	72.96
Conservation comm. +10000.00 Wetlands donation	10200.00	58.43
Raffle	5.94	0.00
Hospitality	453.14	270.86
Get a jump on spring donation	0.00	25.00
Projector	0.00	1956.15
Canada Blooms booth	639.78	608.00
Delegates expenses	504.04	456.81
Show table award	100.00	0.00
C.C.C. meeting rental	0.00	176.55
Donation to World Orchid Conference	0.00	577.20
Toronto Botanical Gardens donation	0.00	140.00
Sympathy tributes	335.76	0.00
Judging center donation	500.00	500.00
Bank error	0.02	0.00
2008 Show	1815.76	645.24
Auction donations	0.00	177.11
	Total expenses	48846.20
	48846.20	39528.71
	INCOME	
Show	24823.86	31274.55
Membership	5858.00	6972.00
Vendors sales concessions	3426.12	3800.56
Members concessions	739.70	1253.00
Raffle	728.00	727.00
Interest + 03c Bank error	2387.48	1050.31
Hospitality donations	409.00	340.00
S.O.O.S. pins	3.00	6.00
Bulletin ads	0.00	60.00
PST	593.96	500.44
Book sales	60.00	93.50
Donation	55.00	50.00
2008 show income	3000.00	5254.22
Memb. badges fees	154.00	189.00
	Total Income	42238.12
	42238.12	51570.58
	Less expenses	48846.20
	48846.20	39528.71
	Loss	-6608.08
	12041.87	58125.33
	2006 balance	68167.20
	68167.20	68167.20
	2007 balance	61559.12
	61559.12	68167.20
Auditors	<i>[Signature]</i>	Treasurer <i>[Signature]</i>