

SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY

NEWS

May 2017, Volume 52, Issue 5 Meeting since 1965

Next Meeting Sunday, May 14, Floral Hall of the Toronto Botanical Garden,

- ★ **Cultural snapshots returns this meeting at noon on the stage.**
- ★ **Member and Vendor sales noon to 1pm**
- ★ **Program at 1 pm** Our ever popular Round Table sessions. **Topics:** Orchid Wiz — Terry Kennedy, Keikis — Synea Tan, Pests, Bugs and Their Removal — Alexsi Antanaitis and Fertilizer Math — Alla Linetski
- ★ **Member plant table review. Show your plants, win points.**
- ★ **Raffle**
- ★ **Don't Forget to renew your membership for 2017**

President's Remarks **Welcome Orchid Lovers.** What unpredictable weather we have had throughout this month. You don't know whether to wear shorts or your winter coats. Hopefully the rain that we are receiving will bring all the May flowers.

On a sad note, SOOS is saddened to announce the passing of Max Wilson's mother the week before Easter. We extend our deepest sympathy to Max and his partner Jay Norris.

We are really getting near the end of our spring shows. By the time you read this message there will be only 1 show left for us to participate in. This show will be at the **TAOA Show April 29 — 30th**. Don Wyatt has put in a request to please bring plants for the show to him on **Friday April 28th after 12 noon**. The closer to noon the better.

The treats for the May meeting fall to the members with the last names begin with **L**. The treats for our April meeting were delicious. Thank you members **H through to K**.

Our culture workshops will begin again, this month. Alexsi will once again be leading the discussions. When you come to the meeting and see Alexsi, please let him know if there is a topic you would like him to cover.

The programs for the next few meetings will be as follows:

May 14th Round Table Topics: Orchid Wiz — Terry Kennedy, Keikis — Synea Tan, Pests, Bugs and Their Removal — Alexsi Antanaitis and Fertilizer Math — Alla Linetski

June 4th Leslie Ee Topic: The Legend of the *Phalaenopsis violacea* var Indigos

August 6th Orchid Fest Speaker: Andrea Niessen

Re: Orchid Fest—We have the list of plants you can order. It is on the website. I believe Andrea will be bringing them. A final date for ordering the plants has not as yet been established but if you want to place an order, it is better to do it sooner rather than later.

This brings me to the Growers Tour. At the last meeting, the general consensus of the members, was to have a growers tour in September. The dates established were September 9th & 10th. If you would like to let members in to explain "how you grow" and show members your growing facilities, please let me know by the end of June so we can make arrangements. If you wish to open your facility for only one day so you can visit other growers, that is perfectly okay and doable. I will need the day, time you want to start and end, and any information that you think might be pertinent. I know that I go on this tour every year and pick up many useful and helpful hints.

One of our lifetime members, Wayne Hingston, is selling many of his orchid books, orchids, and such, trying to fundraise for "programs that work to reduce the effects of poverty". He will be riding from Vancouver to Halifax. For more information on the ride go to the website seatosea.org or look for the ad later in the newsletter. This is definitely a worthy cause.

Happy Orchiding,
 Laura Liebgott
 Questions or comments: Please contact
 me at:
lliebgott@rogers.com or 905 883 5290

ORCHID PLANT and BOOK SALE
 By Wayne Hingston
Saturday May 13, 2017 8 to 11 am
7 HILLING DRIVE, AJAX, L1S 4Z9

ORCHIDS, HOYA, DAYLILIES, BOOKS, POTS
 includes **Small Yellow Ladyslippers**

Charity Fundraiser for seatosea.org

Ribbons received from London

1st Place Ribbons

Cymbidium Asilomar 'Wilson's Choice' AM/AOS Synea Tan
 Rlc Burdekin Wonder 'Lakeland' Alessi Antanaitis
 Phalaenopsis Yu Pin Polar Bear Synea Tan
 Paphiopedilum Winston Churchill 'Indomitable' FCC/AOS Jean Chang
 Rlc. Chian-Tzy Virgin 'Pink Queen' Jocelyn Webber
 Phragmipedium Giganteum Synea Tan
Phalaenopsis aphrodite Synea Tan
 Cattleya Summer Spot 'Carmela' John Vermeer
 Phalaenopsis Ron-E Glamour Alessi Antanaitis

Rosettes

Cymbidium Asilomar 'Wilson's Choice' AM/AOS Synea Tan
 Phalaenopsis Yu Pin Polar Bear Synea Tan

2nd Place Ribbons

Phalaenopsis Wedding Promenade 'Taippi' Inge Poot
 Paphiopedilum Lady Isabel Jean Chang
 Phalaenopsis Cupid Sprint Inge Poot
 Phragmipedium Ackers Starlight 'Charlie Marcotte' Synea Tan
 Phalaenopsis Brother Redland 'Spots' AM/AOS Synea Tan
 Dendrobium SOOS Celebrates 50 Synea Tan
 Dendrobium Roy Tokunaga Synea Tan
 Epidendrum Rose Valley 'Caribbean Dream' Synea Tan
 Angulocaste Olympus 'Sundown' Laura Liebgott
 Paphiopedilum Shin-Yi Weber Lynda Satchwell
 Gomesa Moon Shadow 'Tiger Tail' Inge Poot

Phalaenopsis (mericlone Sogo #F1758) Inge Poot
 Paphiopedilum Fred's Wonder Joe O'Regan
 Lc. Mari (Mari's Song X Bonanza Queen) Lynda Satchwell
 Paphiopedilum Spotglen 'Doodleuy' HCC/AOS X Duncan York 'Stuthald' AM/AOS Jean Chang
 Paphiopedilum Deperle Jocelyn Webber
 Phalaenopsis Sweet Paradise Inge Poot
Rhycostylis gigantea Synea Tan

3rd Place Ribbons

Epidendrum Rose Valley 'Cardinal' Inge Poot
 Phalaenopsis Hybrid 3 Joe O'Regan
 Paphiopedilum (Amber Chrome X George Hye) X Watercolour Artist..... Joe O'Regan
 Vandaenopsis Jiaho's Orange Laura Liebgott
 Phalaenopsis Hybrid 5 Joe O'Regan
 Paphiopedilum Makullii Synea Tan
 Paphiopedilum Via Figueroa 'Star Wars' X Sand Hill 'Ruby' Jean Chang
 Paphiopedilum Hellur Joe O'Regan
 Dendrobium Salaya Brown(?) Synea Tan
 Rhyncattleyanthe California Love John Vermeer
 Paphiopedilum Sheila Hanes 'Green Orb' X Diana Hanes '797' Jean Chang
 Display
 Paphiopedilum Kelly Lerud [*bullenianum (celebenensis)* X *bellatulum*] Jocelyn Webber

Ribbons from Montreal

1st Place Ribbon

Art Paphiopedilum Delaina Kelvin Sue
Rhynchostylis gigantea Synea Tan
Paphiopedilum glaucophyllum X *Victoria-mariae* Lynda Satchwell
 Phragmipedium Giganteum Synea Tan
 Cymbidium Asilomar 'Wilson's Choice' AM/AOS Synea Tan
 Dendrobium Roy Tokunaga X Roy Tokunaga 'Spots' Synea Tan

2nd Place Ribbon

Paphiopedilum Lady Isabel Jean Chang
 Art Masdevallia Bella Donna 'Marsh Hollow' Kelvin Sue
 Cattleya Summer Spot 'Carmela' John Vermeer
 Phragmipedium Ackers Starlight 'Charlie Marcotte' Synea Tan
 Epidendrum Mabel Kanda X *Encyclia cordigera* var *alba* Rosanna Li
 Potinara Stippled Sunset John Vermeer
 Paphiopedilum Makullii Synea Tan
 Dendrobium Mini(?) Salaya (?Brown) Synea Tan
 Exhibit Jocelyn Webber
 Phalaenopsis Yu Pin Fireworks Inge Poot

Phalaenopsis Brother Redland 'Spots' AM/AOS
Synea Tan

3rd Place Ribbon

Dendrobium SOOS Celebrates 50 Synea Tan
Rhynchostylis gigantea Synea Tan
Phalaenopsis Yu Pin Polar Bear Synea Tan
Epidendrum Shin Fong City Marion Currie
Paphiopedilum Spotglen 'Doodlebug' HCC/AOS X
Duncan York 'Stuthald' AM/AOS Jean Chang
Phragmipedium sedenii Jocelyn Webber
Cymbidium ensifolium Jay Norris
Gomesa Moon Shadow 'Tiger Tail' Inge Poot
Paphiopedilum Deperle) Jocelyn Webber
Restrepia condorensis Jay Norris
Paphiopedilum Fred's Wonder Joe O'Regan
Dendrobium moniliforme 'Sankanoh' Rosanna Li
Phalaenopsis Cupid Sprint Inge Poot
Rhynchocattleyantha Aurora's Morning Glory Lynda
Satchwell

Plant of the Month for April, 2017



Synea Tan brought in a charming plant of *Polycycnis aurita*. Her plant had a long spray of curiously formed, delicate, 5-cm, cream flowers with red-brown spots. Synea tries very hard to help people make their orchids survive in cultivation by freely sharing her secrets of success.

Synea re-pots the plant after flowering, not too tightly, once a year in New Zealand sphagnum, keeps it very wet, even leaving a bit of water in the saucer the plant sits in. Never let the plant dry out or it will lose its leaves and probably its life soon after.

She has no air movement in her growing area, but under her conditions it does not seem to matter one whit! She does drill lots of holes into the sides of her pots to increase air to the roots.

She fertilizes twice a week with a mix of 3 teaspoons of fertilizer (usually MSU) in 18 gallons of rain water. She makes sure that she waters with plain water every 2-3 weeks.

She has fluorescent tubes (which she is slowly phasing out in favour of pairs of warm and cool LED tubes) and the plant likes that kind of lighting.

The fly in the ointment: the flowers of *Polycycnis* only last in good condition for about a day, just like its cousins the *Stanhopea*, *Coryanthes* and *Catasetum* species..... Congratulations Synea!

Rosanna Li brought in a lovely *Dendrobium moniliformis* with the most beautifully variegated foliage (white leaves with a green edge) and also decorated with an abundance of white flowers with red centres. So charming and so well grown and flowered! Needless to say, many people need to listen to her advice on how to grow it and then maybe more of these special clones of this species will survive.

She summers it out of doors for 3 months on the north side of her house- that is never in full sun. During the rest of the year she keeps it on the lower level of her greenhouse, on the north side, where it gets about 50% sun. In the summer she waters the plant copiously and fertilizes lightly, that is at half the recommended dose for orchids. She lets it get on the dry side once a week, but mists every two days.

Repotting is done every two years.

She sets her thermostats at 10 degrees Celsius for the nights and 30 degrees Celsius for the days. And the plant loves it! Well done Rosanna - you made a plant thrive that other people kill all too frequently!

Coming Events 2017

April.

29-30, TAOA Show, Toronto, ON.

May

1, TJC Monthly AOS Judging at TBG.

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

20, Monthly Montreal AOS judging, Jardin botanique de Montreal.

17-21, AOS Members meeting, Redlands orchid sale, South Florida.

June

3, TJC Monthly AOS Judging and business meeting at TBG.

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

17, Monthly Montreal AOS judging, Jardin botanique de Montreal

July

8, TJC Monthly AOS Judging at TBG.

15, Monthly Montreal AOS judging, Jardin botanique de Montreal

August 6, **Orchidfest** Floral Hall,
 Toronto Judging centre judging 10 am
 and afternoon talks by Andrea Niessen

19, , Monthly Montreal AOS judging, Jardin botanique de
 Montreal

**November 8-12, 22nd World Orchid
 Conference, Guayaquil, Ecuador**

AOS Judging Results

Toronto Judging Centre, April 1, 2017:

Phalaenopsis Ld's Bear Queen X Phalaenopsis Lioulin
 Venus AQ/AOS, AM/AOS 81 points 2x, HCC/AOS 76
 points 2x, HCC/AOS 79 points, Crystal Star Orchids.

The next judging will be held Saturday, May 6 at the
 Toronto Botanical Gardens at 1 pm. AOS Judging is a
 service of the American Orchid Society and is open to
 all! Bring us your flowering orchids,



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蘭花展 2017 Orchid Show

主辦機構 / Organized by
TORONTO ARTISTIC ORCHID ASSOCIATION
 多倫多蘭藝會
www.taooa.info

開放時間 / Date
 Saturday, April 29 11:00am to 5:00pm
 Sunday, April 30 10:00am to 5:00pm

攝影時間 / Photographers
 Saturday, April 29 3:00pm to 7:00pm
 Sunday, April 30 8:00am to 10:00am

地點 / Address
華語處 CICS
 移民綜合服務中心
 Centre for Immigrant
 & Community Services
 2330 Midland Avenue
 Toronto, Ontario, M1S 5G5

入場費
 Admission Fee \$8 **\$2 off**

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 20815 2nd Concession Road
 East Gwillimbury Ontario L9N 0G9

Ching Hua Orchids, In Charm, Krull Smith, and
 Sunset Valley.

Brassias by Inge Poot

The genus was established in 1813 using *Brassia maculata* (R. Br. in W. T. Aiton) as the type species. It contains about 60 species and about 2/3 of them look like scary spiders! And that is not just according to human perception but also to

wasps whose females capture spiders, render them paralyzed and then cart them to a burrow where they lay an egg into their victim. The spider then gets eaten alive by the wasp larva and can't do a thing about it. Isn't nature merciless? Anyway the spider-like brassias get mistaken by these wasps for spiders. A wasp lands on a Brassia flower grabs the lip,



Brassia maculata—photo: Dr R. Wagner, OW 12.2

stings it and then tries to wrestle its "victim" off the stem to take it to a burrow and in the useless struggle gets a pollinarium stuck on its head. When it gives up the struggle and tries a different flower, pollination occurs. Species of two genera, *Pepsis* and *Campsomeris* are tricked by brassias into pollinating them:

The other 1/3 of the genus used to be in its own genus *Ada*, but recent DNA analysis showed that they are right in the middle of the other brassias and just adapted to hummingbird pollination rather than wasp pollination. These species tend to be brightly coloured in oranges and yellows and have tubular instead of spider-shaped flowers.

The center of distribution of the genus is the Peruvian Andes and they occur in wet forests from sea level to just under 1500m elevation. Most species seem to have a fairly restricted area in which they occur – probably because the wasp species that finds them tasty looking has a restricted range, but *Brassia caudata* is found over the entire range of the genus. I wonder if it is the species from which the others evolved? If this were true it would have been a more fitting candidate for the type species....

Brassias have large elliptic-oblong pseudobulbs topped by one or two leaves and sheathed by two distichous(= arranged alternately in two vertical rows

Pepsis attacking tarantula

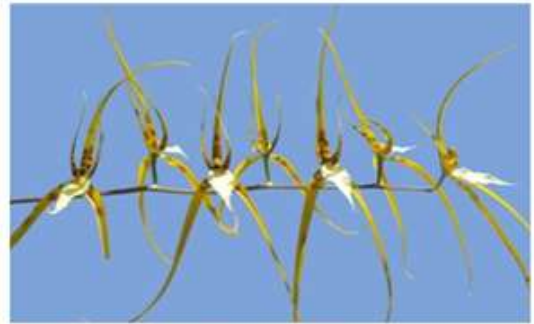


Photo: Jose Portilla, OW 11.2

Brassia caudata

on **opposite** sides of an axis, in this case the pseudobulb), foliaceous(=leaf-like) bracts from the base of which emerge the inflorescences. The inflorescences are unbranched, except for the species *Brassia thyrsoides* and many flowered, in most species. Each flower has a small floral bract at the base of its stem/ovary.

The list of presently accepted species can be found in Orchid Wiz or in Kews list of Monocots:

<http://www.theplantlist.org/1.1/browse/a/orchidaceae/Brassia/>

Where each species is listed with its status as presently accepted or not. One can click on each species to find more information on it.

The genus is in the Cymbidium tribe and the Oncidium sub-tribe and of importance for entering plants in show competitions: in the Oncidium Alliance.

Faults/Useful traits of species for producing pleasing hybrids:

- Most *Brassia* species have flowers that are crowded on the inflorescence
- Some also have short inflorescences with few flowers or flowers that are presented below the foliage.
- Many *Brassia* species also have porrect (=are more or less positioned alongside the column) petals. This can be attractive within the genus, but is not desirable in intergeneric crosses.
- The yellow of *Brassia* can kill colour and often cause hybrids to turn out white.
- ***Brassia thyrsoides*** is the only species with branched inflorescences
- ***Brassia gireourdiana*** and ***Brassia verrucosa*** are the only species where most clones of the species have well-spaced flowers on long peduncles.
- ***Brassia arcuigera*** (*longissima*) and ***aurantica*** (and other former *Adas*) can bring red tones into hybrids.

- Fertilization will most likely take place if an odd numbered flower, counting from the bottom, is used!
- The statement that “In (complex?) intergeneric crosses brassia has to be in both parents for the cross to take” seems confusing at first glance, since it has to be OK for the first intergeneric generation if we are ever going to get intergeneric crosses at all.

- **Reference:** Creating Oncidinae Intergenerics by WW Gooddale Moir and May Moir (Most of the above statements come from their book , but there were a few other sources)

Next I will give an overview of the species that are important for hobby growers and for hybridizing and will show the most important offspring of each of those selected species – in alphabetical order.

Brassia arcuigera Rch.f was called *Brassia longissima* for a long time and I was sure sorry to see that name replaced with an older but somewhat unpronounceable one.....

Found in Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Venezuela in warm to hot climates in dappled light. Keep drier during January to March and wet the rest of the year. Humidity is high all year long. Diurnal (difference between day and night temperatures) range is 6-9 Celsius degrees (11-16 F degrees). (from OW 12.2)

'Santa Barbara' AM/AOS

Photo: Orchids Plus 1.4



Note the great colour of this clone of *Brassia arcuigera*

Brassidium Gilded Urchin

(*Brassia arcuigera* X *Oncidium wentworthianum*)

Crossing the species with Oncidiums, some of them former Odontoglossums, will often put more colour into the progeny:

Photo: Glen Barfield, OW 12.2



Photo: Stephen William Swan, OW 12.2



P. Harding photo

Brassidium Fly Away

(*Brassidium* Gilded Urchin x *Oncidium maculatum*)

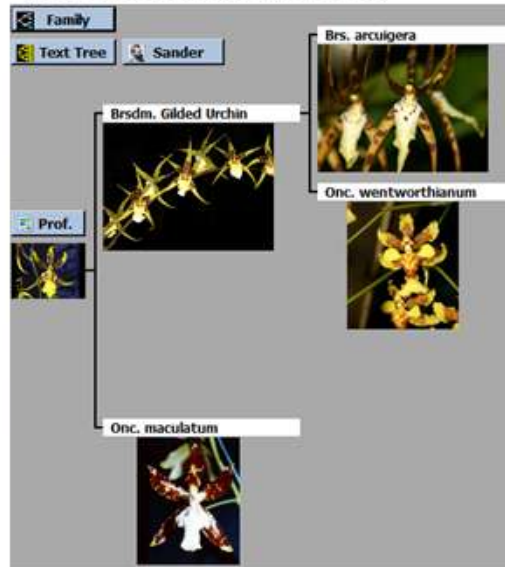
Natural spread: 8.5 cm



Brassidium Fly Away 'Miami' HCC/AOS

Photo: Alex Maximiano, OW 12.2

Generation tree from OW12.2:

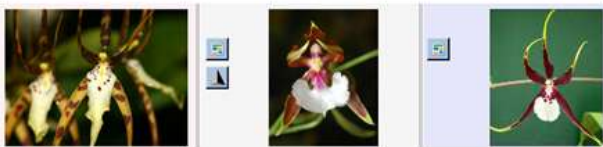


Crosses with Miltonias will usually add lots of colour, sometimes even exotic patterns, but with most species it will reduce flower count and tend to crowd the flowers at the end of the stem. So choosing a Brassia clone with lots of well-separated flowers is crucial.

Brassia arcuigera crosses



Brassia arcuigera X *Oncidium leucochilum* = Brassidium Longlen



Brassia arcuigera X *Oncidium cariniferum* = Brassidium Kenneth Bivin

More *Brassia arcuigera* hybrids

(OW12.2)



Brassia arcuigera X *Miltonia Purple Queen* = Bratonia(Brat) Erachne
(‘Lynn’ CCM/AOS, O+ 1.4) (‘Purple Emperor’, Photo: M Carpenter)



Brat. Erachne X *Miltonia Lanikai* = Brat. Star Fighter

Hybrids with *Brassia arcuigera* in the background

(OW12.2)



Bratonia Erachne X *Miltonia Minas Gerais* = Bratonia Sparkling Burgundy



Bratonia Erachne X *Miltonia Seminole Blood* = Bratonia Royal Robe (‘Jerry’s Pick’ AM-CCM/AOS)

Photo: Jeanne Staser, O+ 1.4

Brassia aurantiaca (Lindl.) M W Chase (2011)

Columbia, Ecuador, Venezuela

Note: Lovely colour, but very crowded, cupped flowers. 24 crosses were made with the plant. The species has 7 CCM awards and only one AM-AOS (no sizes given)



Image: Fitch, OW 12.2

Grow cold to cool, 10C (50F) to 18C (66F) at night all year with days 10C (20F) warmer. Do well near evaporative cooler. Grow in dappled to indirect bright light. (OW 12.2)

An example of one of its hybrids is Brassidium Jersey, formerly:

Adaglossum Jersey 'Elsie Bagby'

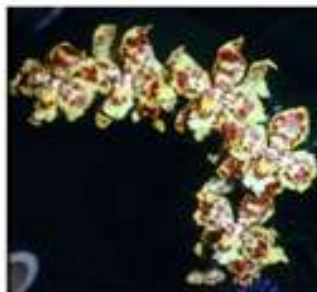
JC/AOS

Ada aurantiaca x Odontoglossum Panise



Exhibitor
Annette Bagby
Photographer
Unknown
Event
Great Lakes Center
Monthly Judging
Toronto, Ontario

March 11, 1995 | Award No: 19950245



Oncidium Panise a complex hybrid of the former Odontoglossum genus. Photo: Merritt Collection, OW 12.2



Image: Fitch, OW 12.2

Other hybrids:

<p>Primary</p> 	<p>Pollen: Onc. wyattianum</p> 	<p>Offspring: Brsdm. Gualaceo</p> 
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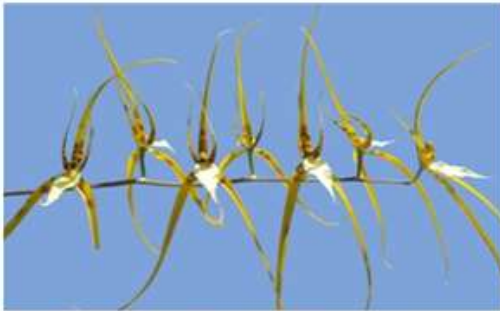


Photo: Jose Portilla, OW 11.2

Brassia caudata

- Winter days 27-29C (80-84F), Nights 17-18C (64-68F)
- Grow wet, but reduce water during winter to a minimum in February to April

Brassia caudata is found over the entire range of distribution of the genus *Brassia*. Not surprisingly it varies quite a lot. The pictures shown feature clones with well-spaced flowers. Not all clones are that useful for further breeding. The horizontal stance of the stem is not desired in hybrids.

- Grow in strong filtered light of 2500-3500 fc
- Strong air movement at all times
- Summer days 32-33C (89-91F), Nights 22-23C (72-73F)



Brassia caudata 'Merriman' CCM/AOS
Photo: J McCulloch, O+ 1.3





To be continued

Show Table Ribbons April 2017

Class	First	Second	Third
Class 1 Cattleya Alliance	Cattlianthe Astraea (Guarianthe skinneri X Cattleya loddigesii) 'DiCiommo' Joe DiCiommo	C. Newberry Luisa's Love John Vermeer	Rhyncholaeliocattleya Stippled Sunset John Vermeer
Class 2 Paphiopedilium	Paphiopedilium Silver Eagle Jocelyn Webber		
Class 3 Phalaenopsis and Vanda Alliance	Phalaenopsis Lioulin Venus X Ld's Bear Queen Eric Lee	Phalaenopsis Mini Mark 'Holm' Bea Patterson	Phalaenopsis Lioulin menu X Bear Queen Eric Lee
Class 4 Oncidium and related	Brassidium Fly Away Joe O'Regan		Tolumnia Jairak Rainbow Joe O'Regan
Class 5 Cymbideae	Cymbidium Bea Patterson		
Class 6 Dendrobium	<i>Dendrobium moniliforme</i> 'Sankanoh' Rosanna Li	<i>Dendrobium pendulum</i> Rosanna Li	<i>Dendrobium moniliforme</i> Kinienoyado' Rosanna Li
Class 7 All Others	<i>Polycynis aurita</i> Plant of the Month Synea Tan		

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, Laura Liebgott, 905-883-5290; Vice-President and Treasurer, John Vermeer, 905-823-2516, ; Secretary, Sue Loftus 905-839-8281;

Other Positions of Responsibility: Program, Ann Antanaitis ; Plant Doctor, Doug Kennedy; Meeting Set up, Yvonne Schreiber; Vendor and Sales table coordinator, Diane Ryley; 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, Alexi Antanaitis, Directors at large Marion Curry, Lynda Satchwell and Kevin Hushagen .

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

Annual Show: February 10-11, 2018.

