



Manitoba Orchid Society

For the Love of Orchids Newsletter

Next Meeting: 9 December 2012
Canadian Mennonite University, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd.
(SW corner of Shaftesbury Blvd. and Grant Avenue)
Conference Room

MOS Christmas Party

Starting time is 3:00 P.M.

**Note this the second Sunday in December and starts an
hour later than usual.**

Bring Plants for Show & Tell

There is no selling of plants or supplies at the Christmas Party.



Website: <http://www.manitobaorchidsociety.ca>

Executive email: president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Newsletter email: newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Submission deadline 20 December 2012 for January 2013 Issue



December 9th: Christmas Party Potluck

January 20th: Marilyn Light will give two presentations:

1 pm (30 min.) Insects associated with our wild orchids

2 pm (45 min.) Chinese Orchids: Cypripedium and Cymbidium

This presentation will begin with a visit to the 1st Chinese Cymbidium conference (2007-Beijing. We will also see how lady's-slippers and other Chinese terrestrial orchids grow in nature. Cultural tips and sources of artificially propagated species/hybrids will be discussed.

Mentorship Program

The Manitoba Orchid Society is fortunate to have a number of members with a wealth of orchid knowledge. Four such, Lorne Heshka, Denise Fortier, Neil Dunham and Jim Gillespie have agreed to act as mentors to newer members who have questions on general orchid culture. They will certainly try to answer your orchid culture-related questions. I encourage all to phone or approach them at the monthly meetings with your questions.

Hearts & Flowers

If you hear of any good/bad news regarding members or their families, please call Phyllis McCaskill and let her know.



To Sylvia Cahill, Kevin Duerksen, Horst Hack, Marianne Hack, Kyle Lucyk, Dave & Elaine Moran, Jim Roy & Garnet Ward for bringing flowering plants to the November Show & Tell.

To Joan & Lorne Heshka, Ed Maza and Dave Moran for their donations of raffle items at the November meeting.



The Executive encourages all members to provide feedback, comments, suggestions by filling out a comment sheet available from the Secretary at all General Meetings.

All signed comment sheets should be returned to any member of the Executive. They will be reviewed at the next Executive Meeting and you will be informed of follow-up action taken.

2011/2012 Executive

Elected

- President Harvey Keselman
- Past President Dave Moran
- 1st V.P. Kevin Duerksen
- 2nd V.P./Show Chair Lorne Heshka
- Treasurer Fraser Cameron
- Secretary Phyllis McCaskill

Appointed

- Membership Gary Jaworski
- Social Eva Slavicek
- Public Relations Wendy Chaytor
- Special Orders Darlene Stack
- AOS/COC Rep Kyle Lucyk
- Library Ewa Kurnicka
- Newsletter Robert Parsons
- Webmaster Gary Jaworski

Holding Orchids in Place

An alternative to rhizome clips for keeping plants in their containers

Text and Photographs by Jim Skelly

Sometimes, it just hits you that there's a better way. I had such a moment last week.

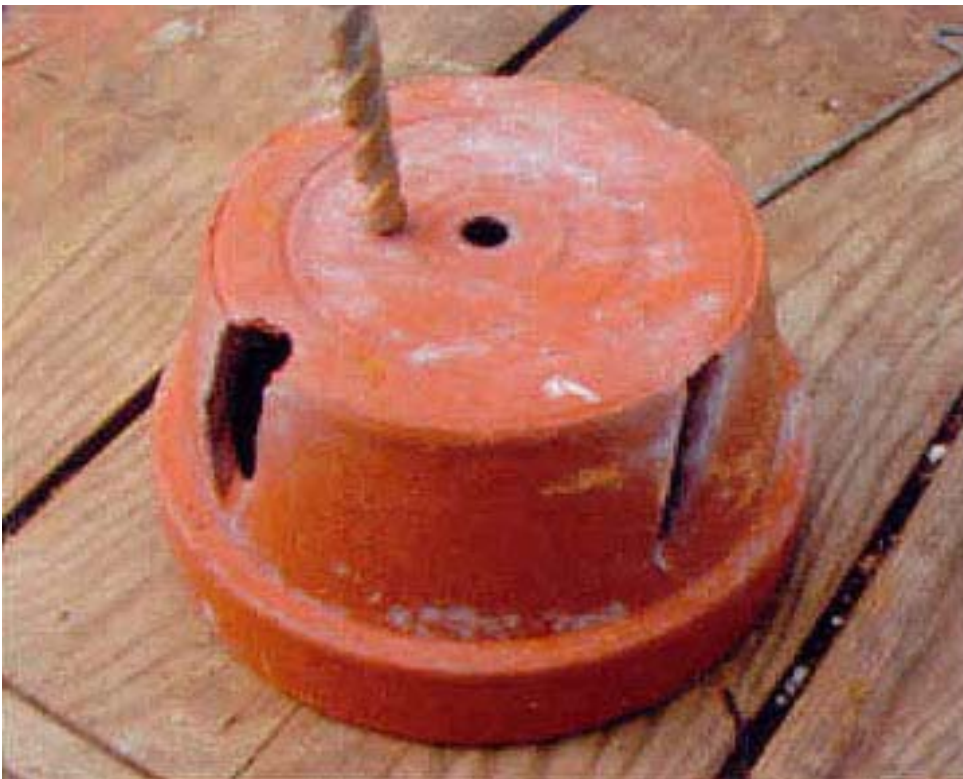
My wife, Joyce, was busy repotting some cattleyas and I was helpfully watching. Suddenly, I realized that if I drilled a second hole in the bottom of the pot, passed a large plastic cable tie up through the two holes, added plastic peanuts and about half the potting mix, then put the plant in and dribbled the rest of the potting mix around the roots, we could pull the ends of the cable tie over the top of the rhizome and tighten them, thus immobilizing the plant in the pot without hammering down the potting medium or forcing the rhizome clip over the rim of the pot.



Above: Anchoring an orchid into its container with a plastic cable tie holds the plant so firmly in place that you can lift the container by the plastic tie and the plant does not come out.

We tried it, using a 3/16-inch masonry bit to drill through the clay pot (an ordinary twist drill will cut a cleaner hole in plastic) and found that it was easy and safe to pick up the plant by the leaves and even give it a little shake, without its coming out of the pot. Furthermore, cable ties (from 8- to 14-inch lengths, depending on the size of the pot and the plant) can be purchased for about eight cents apiece from one of the numerous vendors my search engine found on the Internet under "cable ties." Prices go down to about four cents each if you buy a thousand at a time.

The plastic is easier on the fingers than the clip, and probably easier on the rhizome, too. It will not rust, and it's easily cut with your pruning shears. But I think the main advantage is that you do not have to have murderer's thumbs to push a rhizome clip down onto the pot. Cable ties, both large and small, can be used in myriad other ways around orchids. We use them to attach tags to pots and plants and to make loopy hangers for pots and baskets.



Above: Drill a hole in the bottom of the container with a 3/16-inch masonry drill.



Slip a plastic cable tie through the two holes.



Add styrofoam pieces or other drainage material in the bottom of the container.



Add some potting mix.



Position the plant on the medium and then add more medium.

Jim Skelly is a volunteer at the international Orchid Center, where he works in the library. Reprinted with thanks from AOS ORCHIDS, August 2002 and taken from *the October 2012 Vol 34, #8 issue of the FVOS newsletter.*

Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting November 18, 2012

Recorder: Robert Parsons

1. Call to order:

Harvey Keselman called the meeting to order at 2:01 P.M.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting, as published, by Robert Parsons. Seconded by Dave Moran. Carried

3. Financial report: Fraser Cameron

Fraser gave the financial report, copies were provided, and moved it be accepted. Seconded by Jim Roy. Carried

Fraser informed us the auction took in \$1131 with \$653.50 to the club, \$437.50 to sellers and \$40 for a memorial trophy in Joyce Jaworski's name.

4. Programs: Kevin Duerksen

Kevin presented the COC powerpoint program on "Orchid Pests & Diseases" by Marilyn Light.

December 9th is the Christmas Party potluck.

January 20th will have Marilyn Light doing both the novice (insect associations with wild orchids) and general programs (Chinese Cymbidiums and Cyripediums).

February 17th will be a photography workshop with no novice program.

March is the show.

5. Show Chairperson Report: Lorne Heshka

Recent show committee meeting on November 15th. The show is March 22-24, 2013. The theme, as chosen by MOS membership, is "A Symphony of Orchids". It will be an AOS judged show and will be held in conjunction with the COC annual meeting. One item of concern was it will coincide with "Gardening Saturday" which may create a few challenges and opportunities. Lorne will be meeting with the president and treasurer to go over an agreement with the conservatory.

6. AOS/COC Representative: Kyle Lucyk

The AOS calendars will likely cost 10 to 12 dollars, depending on quantity ordered. All interested should contact Kyle.

7. Hospitality: Eva Slavicek

Thanked all who brought goodies and asked people to sign up for contributions to the potluck on the sheet provided, or to contact her before the next meeting.

8. Library: Ewa Kurnicka

No report.

9. Public Relations: Wendy Chaytor

Has contacted the gardening magazines to get a mention for the show.

10. Membership: Gary Jaworski

Gary indicated we have 92 members.

11. Newsletter: Rob Parsons

No report.

12. Website: Gary Jaworski

No report, but comments and suggestions are welcomed.

13. Special Orders: Darlene Stack

No report.

14. Raffle draw:

Two draws were held. A special draw for a vermicomposting kit contributed by Dave Moran was won by Darlene Stack. The regular draw winners were Jim Roy, Giovanni Frigo, Kyle Lucyk, Marilyn Kraut & Tom Howard.

15. Show & Tell

Kevin Duerksen & Rob Parsons described the show & tell plants.

16. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Rob Parsons at 3:23 P.M.

Note: Minutes of the Executive Meetings are available to be picked up at General Meetings on request from the Secretary.



Phragmipedium X (Strawberry Rush, or something else? A plant many MOS members have in their collections, but may have wrongly identified!)