



The ORCHID CHAT

Treasure Valley Orchid Society

February 2022

Hello TVOS members and friends!

If you couldn't be at the January 19 meeting, you missed a good discussion of plant pests and how to keep them under control. Look at the General Meeting minutes that follow this newsletter for a few of the suggestions.

Here are some excellent additional sources of information:

Of course, you have to figure out what type of pest it is before you can control it. The website 'Gardening Knowhow' has an excellent rundown of common pests, with photos to help with identification:

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/orchids/managing-orchid-pests.htm>

And the American Orchid Society has a comprehensive list of home remedies to consider:

<https://www.aos.org/orchids/orchid-pests-diseases/home-remedies.aspx>

For orchid lovers, the hardest thing to hear is that sometimes, it's better to get rid of a plant than risk infecting the others.

For the February 16 meeting, we'll share highlights of the AOS "Orchid Culture Day," a series of presentations (coming up in late January) about growing Vandaceous and Angraecoid orchids. And we'll have sign-up sheets available for the TVOS Show & Sale in April. Please make it a point to volunteer – we'll need 'all hands on deck' to make this a successful event!

On the current birthday list, we have no February birthdays. Did we miss yours? If so, please let us know so we can add your name to the list! Email Chris Thomas (christomasco@gmail.com) or Terry McMorrow (bacpker@gmail.com).

Minutes of the January 19 meeting are on the next two pages. Thanks for supporting the Treasure Valley Orchid Society. Keep 'em blooming!

Newsletter orchid graphic courtesy of:

<https://poweredtemplate.com/brochure-templates/nature/letterheads/03033/0/index.html>

TREASURE VALLEY ORCHID SOCIETY, INC.

Boise, ID

General Meeting Minutes –Jan. 19, 2022

The business meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Watts at 7:35 pm. We apologize to those members joining us on ZOOM that it took longer to let you in to the meeting. The problem has been fixed. Thank you for joining us.

We were happy to have a new member join TVOS.

Everyone had a chance to review the December meeting minutes. Ralph Higer moved to accept the minutes. Tammy Dana seconded. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

Treasurer Rocky Redford presented the Treasurer's report. Tammy motioned to approve the report as presented; Gregg Mattson seconded. The motion passed on a voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS: The Orchid Show and Sale will be held April 22 and 23, with set-up on April 21. Our window to cancel with the Hilton Garden Inn is now 2 weeks due to the COVID issues. We are optimistic that we can go forward with the show and sale this year, as COVID seems to be getting less problematic.

Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be brought to the February meeting. We welcome and encourage all who can to take part.

Business meeting was adjourned.

MONTHLY MEETING TOPIC: Members presented a variety of ideas for doing battle with orchid pests. The main types of pests we see in this area are aphids, mealybugs, scale, and spider mites. Fruit flies can be an annoyance also.

Some of the possibilities for pest control brought up by club members include: Red wine, which apparently fruit flies like just as well as the sticky traps. "Captain Jack's Bug Killer" is good for spider mites. Some folks spray Neem oil...isopropyl alcohol...and Safer, a brand of insecticidal soap.

One recommendation is to make a spray of 1 part Isopropyl alcohol, 1 part 'Formula 409' or 'Fantastic' household cleaner, and 2 parts water.

Carolyn mentioned using "Tanglefoot" on a straw stuck into a pot. It is a nontoxic, super-sticky insect barrier, and care must be taken not to get it in your hair or on pets. She and Rocky both use "mosquito beaters" in their greenhouses to help with the pesky little fungus gnats.

SHOW & TELL TABLE: There was a lovely selection of orchids on our Member's Orchid Show Table. First, second and third places all were tied!

First Place: Terry's Oncidium Volcano Queen with 4 blooming inflorescences
Tammy's Paphiopedalum Norito Hasegawa

Second Place: Rocky and Sharon's Rhynchostylis gigantea
Donna's Zygopetalum Jumpin Jack

Third Place: Donna's Brassavola Little Stars
Tammy's Masdevallia Sunny Delight

RAFFLE PRIZES included a tabletop grow light, two Phalaenopsis, two Oncidiums, a Dendrobium loddigesii, and a Potinera Memorium Frank Fordyce. Congrats to the winners – and to the club members who donated these items!

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Dana

Carolyn Watts, Club President

(filling in for Club Secretary)