

## **THE OTTAWA ORCHID SOCIETY**

The Ottawa Orchid Society (OOS) was founded in 1978 to promote and assist in every way the knowledge, appreciation, culture, study, development, improvement and conservation of orchids. Members come from all walks of life. Over the years, many have become expert growers and constitute a rich resource, sharing their knowledge and experience.

The Ottawa Orchid Society is affiliated with the Canadian Orchid Congress (COC) and with the American Orchid Society (AOS). Through these affiliations, the Society is able to obtain accredited AOS judges for the annual show in Ottawa and world-class speakers for regular meetings.

A Board of Directors manages the affairs of the Society with elections held every two years.

Additional information may be found on the Society web site.

### **MEETINGS**

We meet the second Sunday of every month, excepting June, July and August, from 1:30 p.m. to about 4:00 p.m., at the Tom Brown Arena, 141 Bayview Ave. Ottawa. Guests are always welcome.

A highlight of each meeting is the Show Table where members bring flowering plants for display and judging. These Show Tables have developed over the years into mini-shows in their own right. Plants are judged in each orchid family class and ribbons are awarded. This is a good opportunity to share knowledge related to specific orchids and their growing conditions.

Programs are varied. Each meeting includes a presentation, which can include lectures, demonstrations and hands-on workshops. Occasionally, international orchid specialists are invited speakers, with plants for sale from their greenhouses. Refreshments are available and a raffle of donated orchid-related material is an added feature at meetings.

A wide selection of orchid plants and grower supplies is available for purchase at monthly meetings. Both members who are vendors and hobbyist members are welcome to participate.



### **ANNUAL SHOW**

Our annual orchid show is the major event of the year. Each spring, members, visiting societies and participating vendors present magnificent displays of their prized orchid plants for viewing by the general public and for judging by accredited AOS judges. Orchid-related artwork, photography, and handicrafts are included, as well as cut flower arrangements. There are educational exhibits as well as guided tours. The large number of vendors that attend the annual show sell a wide variety of superior quality plants as well as everything needed for successful orchid growing. Many members enjoy the rewarding experience of working on the organizing of this well-known annual show.

We also participate in shows held by other societies with volunteer members traveling to these shows and preparing OOS displays.

## **NEWSLETTER**

SPIKE, the monthly Society newsletter, is distributed to all members and to affiliated societies across Canada. This provides monthly communication on Society activities and a wide variety of orchid-related topics. Information is included on bulk purchases, national and international orders, and on significant orchid society activities outside of Ottawa.

## **LIBRARY**

The Society maintains an extensive library of orchid publications and videos that are made available on loan for members' use. A complete listing of titles is available through our website.

## **BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP**

The OOS offers a stimulating and friendly environment for those who are fascinated by the world of orchids. Members derive special satisfaction from sharing their experiences and working together to improve not only their orchid collections, but also their knowledge and appreciation of these wonderful plants. We are fortunate in Ottawa to have a rich source of experienced and knowledgeable individuals who are available to provide advice and guidance.

## **HOW DO I BECOME A MEMBER?**

Membership dues (\$20.00 per year, Sep 1 to Aug 31) are payable at the membership table at any meeting. Alternatively, the attached application form may be completed and mailed along with a cheque payable to the Ottawa Orchid Society to the address shown on the reverse.



# OTTAWA ORCHID SOCIETY

## SOCIETY CONTACT

Ottawa Orchid Society  
P.O. Box 38038  
1430 Prince of Wales Dr  
Ottawa ON K2C 1N0

[www.ottawaorchidsociety.com](http://www.ottawaorchidsociety.com)

## ORCHIDS

Orchids are the most spectacular, beautiful and intriguing of all flowers. Some 30,000 species are known from all continents excepting Antarctica. More than forty species have been identified in the National Capital Region. Protection of their wild environment is of vital importance. The Society and individual members are actively involved in conservation activities.

Hobbyists are primarily interested in showy tropical orchids including Cattleya, Cymbidium, Oncidium, Paphiopedilum and Phalaenopsis. There are thousands of hybrids, with new ones being produced annually. Many of these hybrids combine the best features of their parents, allowing growers to produce larger, more perfect flowers in a wide range of colours. Hybrids are often easier to grow than species and will thrive in a variety of growing conditions. Plants are readily available and reasonably priced. They may be raised on a windowsill, under artificial lights, in a solarium or a greenhouse.

In past years, orchid growing was often difficult and frustrating. Due to cost and the required expertise, it was restricted to only a few. Today, there are orchids for everyone, to suit their budget and growing conditions.



## OTTAWA ORCHID SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

LAST NAME	-----	FIRST NAME	-----
(2nd person LAST NAME)	-----	(2nd person FIRST NAME)	-----
ADDRESS	-----	CITY	-----
PROVINCE	-----	POSTAL CODE	-----
HOME PHONE ( )	-----	OFFICE PHONE ( )	-----
FAX ( )	-----	E-MAIL	-----

Dues: \$20.00 per year (Sep 1 – Aug 31) in cash or cheque payable to "Ottawa Orchid Society"