



OREGON ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

February 15, 2011, 7:00 pm

Rain Water Harvesting Speaker, Vern Nelson

Why waste the rain??

We all know that orchids love fresh and clean water. Often there is no better source of clean and clear water than the rain. As you know, we surely have enough of the stuff here.

Many of us have toyed with the idea of collecting rain water. But it soon can be more than just sticking a bucket out to catch the rain.

This month, we will have Vern Nelson speak to us on the basics of rain water collection. While Vern will not specifically talk about orchids, he will be able to give us valuable insight to using this precious resource.



Vern Nelson is an avid gardener. He is a special columnist for the *Oregonian*, writing the column The Hungry Gardener. Vern has also traveled giving talks to garden clubs and community organizations regarding various gardening topics. In fact, many of his talks are sold out. Vern is known to have an infectious enthusiasm for all things plants and is also a funny and witty speaker.

Come and enjoy this lively talk about how you can get rain water for cheap and make your wallet and your plants happy.



We will start with a demonstration with Dick Van Ingen on how to mount orchids and follow up to our discussion on orchid problems and techniques from the last meeting.

The Oregon Orchid Society meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm
The Multnomah Arts Center: 7688 SW Capitol Highway, Portland.

President's Message Greg Nielsen

Hello to everyone. We all had a good time at our last meeting and I hope every one learned something from the meeting program, though not everything was presented in time before the meeting ended. I think it went very well. This month we will finish the rest of each part of what we missed. I hope that everyone can attend this February meeting to see and learn something more about Orchid Culture that works for our experienced growers in our membership. The Oregon Orchid Society was able to do a display at the first Orchid Show of the year at the Mary's Peak Orchid Society Show at Garland Nursery in Albany. It is a small show and sale but quite a few people came out for the sale and lots of plants were sold and, even though the sun really never came out for long, the sales went very well for all the venders. I would like to thank Judy and Brad Barrick for bringing in their plants as the three of us went down on Friday night to set up the display for the Society. I have a friend in Salem who let me bring three very nice blooming orchids for the display because at this time most of the orchids are still in bud as spring is coming early this year. Chris and Michael brought their plants in later on Saturday to add to the display. I hope all the other members will help with all the show displays we will be doing for the other Society shows the Oregon Orchid Society will be at this year. It can be a lot of fun to do this with the other Societies to support there show as they will do at our show coming up at the end of April the 30 and the first of May. Please remember that the refreshments at our meetings can be brought by anyone who would like to. Please feel free to do so, we all enjoy our time to visit and share the food and drink as we talk about our orchids and our adventures in the Orchid World. The Society brings the coffee and hot water for tea. This should make the evening comfortable for everyone. I also want to remind anyone who has a sick or buggy plant to bring it to the meeting so it can be checked out and we can discuss the problems. It would be good to bring it in a plastic bag for safety from the other plants for display. It is not an embarrassment to show up with a plant in trouble because of disease or insect damage. So bring what you have? See you there at the meeting.

REPOTTING WORKSHOP AT AL'S GARDEN CENTER

The Oregon Orchid Society has been asked to participate in a workshop at Al's Garden Centers about repotting orchids. We will need volunteers to assist people in repotting their orchids. This will be a great event to help promote our show. The information is below, and if you want to assist please register with Michael or Lori. Also, if you are still new at repotting yourself you can always register to take the class as well.

Orchid Repotting Workshop or Watch

Saturday, March 19th 2011

Al's Woodburn: 10am, 1220 N. Pacific Hwy

Al's Sherwood: 1pm, 16920 SW Roy Rogers

Info: You can register to be in the workshop and actually repot one of your orchids you brought from home, or you can register to watch. If you'd like to repot, please bring your pruners and gloves.

Deadline: Registration is required by March 7th

Cost: \$5.00, which includes 1 bag of orchid bark. Orchid pots will be available for purchase. Registering to watch is free.

Vice President's Message
Chris Howard

Recently, the water at my Portland residence went from being its typical 20ppm (parts-per-million) of particulates to a whopping 120ppm. The reason is presumably the run-off from the heavy rains in the mountains. Portland's water comes from Bull Run Reservoir. That's up near Mount Hood, but none of the water actually comes from Mount Hood. The heavy storms we saw in Zigzag and over Lolo Pass put lots of silt into the creeks and rivers. Presumably this is why Portland's water has spiked in particulates as we are one of the few places in the country that does not filter our municipal water. While much of the Portland area can boast of pure water most of the time, we are also switched over to the reservoirs in the late fall which increase the particulates dramatically. Outside Portland, many people are on well water or rely on aquifers that have a varying amount of particulate. With orchids, particulates, especially when they are salts, can negatively affect the plants and when we fertilize it's very important to know the amount of salts already present in the water. Orchids absorb whatever they can get when being watered. In the wild, this is very pure water (rainwater, actually). When our water has a high concentration of salts (whether in the water itself or with the addition of fertilizer), the orchids can't use all that they absorb and they store this extra "junk" in the tips of their leaves. If your orchids have ever had brown/black leaf tips without any explanation, you might consider the water you're giving them. This month, our speaker is Vern Nelson, an editorial writer for the Oregonian. Vern specializes in garden topics and will be presenting to us a demonstration on collecting rainwater for your orchids and other plants. I was recently at the Mary's Peak Orchid Society's show and sale (which was fantastic - pictures are on our Facebook page) and overheard Patricia Harding cautioning a new orchid grower against using chlorinated water and it reminded me that this upcoming talk should be very useful. I sincerely hope you can make it. Also, regarding our meetings, I hope you all feel comfortable with bringing your questions about orchids to the meeting. None of us know everything, but we all know something - so we should consider our society an "orchid growing team". If you have struggling plants, bring them to the meeting (if they're possibly diseased, please do this in a closed bag). If you have questions about repotting, bring your questions. Any other questions? Bring them! Our last meeting was kind of modeled after that theme, but that should happen at any meeting. And finally, we'd love to see your blooming orchids! Please don't be shy about showing them off at our meetings.

REMINDER TIME TO PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES

Yearly OOS Dues: \$24.00 per household

You can pay Rhonda Wrobel at the meetings or on the website.

You can also send in a check to:

**Oregon Orchid Society, PO Box 14182,
Portland, Oregon 97293**



Upcoming Events

February 15: Monthly Meeting Rainwater Harvesting

March 6: AOS Monthly Judging
Oregon Garden Silverton

March 15: Monthly Meeting

March 19: OOS Repotting Workshop
Al's Garden Center

April 3: AOS Monthly Judging
Oregon Garden Silverton

April 19: Monthly Meeting 2010 Awarded PNW Plants, Speaker: Craig Williams

April 29—May 1: 66th Annual Oregon
Orchid Society Show and Sale.
Ambridge Event Center, Portland

Meeting Refreshments

Time to sign up for the snack table. We need at least two people a month to bring snacks to the meeting.

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

OOS OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

OOS members are heading out into the community to stir up promotion and interest for our show and new members. This is a great time to meet new people that would like to join our society. Come share your experience and join in the fun. This is what our society is all about—being a resource for education. Check out the events and lectures coming up and feel free to join in.

OREGON ORCHID SHOW & SALE

"THE LARGEST IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST"

presented by:
the
**Oregon Orchid
Society**

**April 30 &
May 1**

Portland, OR
*The Ambridge
Event Center*

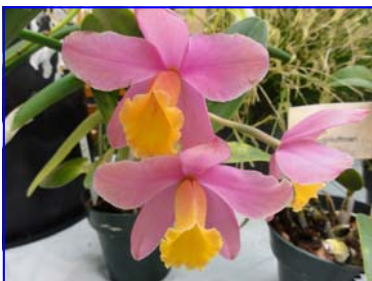
Local, National and
International Vendors

More Info:

www.OregonOrchidSociety.org



Mary's Peak Orchid Society Show and Sale Corvallis, February 5



OREGON ORCHID SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS:

President: Greg Nielsen
Vice President: Chris Howard
Treasurer: Rhonda Wrobel
Secretary: Stephanie Willis

Directors:

Dick Van Ingen
Jane Wiseman

Show Chair:

Michael Jenne and Craig Williams
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503.632.1655, lori@bctonline.com

Society Orchid Supplies

Orchid Bark for Oregon Orchid Society Members.

Contact Lori Rheinberger (503) 632-1655

4 cu ft orchid grade Perlite - \$15.00
4 cu ft high quality orchid bark - \$10.00

OOS Library

Have you noticed that selections from our library are brought to the monthly meetings for your borrowing pleasure? All members in good standing can borrow books for the month and then return them at the next meeting; easy, convenient and educational. Choose from the titles on the table or call or write ahead for specific items. The library's holdings are now available on our website. Contact Rick Burian 503-245-7994.

Newsletter

Do you have something of interest to the society? Put it in the newsletter.

If you have an announcement or something informational to share with the orchid growing community, you can put it in the newsletter. All submissions received by the first of month will get in that month's newsletter.

Get it to newsletter@oregonorchidsociety.org

Calypso Advertising

Advertising is available in the Calypso. A very economical way to reach a specific customer base. Contact the Editor at via email at newsletter@oregonorchidsociety.org
The current monthly rates are as follows:

Full Page Ad: \$15.00
Half Page Ad: \$10.00
Quarter Page Ad: \$8.00



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Eric Hunt