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ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS

A Communication Instrument for Society Members and Others

Volume II Issue 8 August 2020



Orchid Society of Greater As a non-profi

...Promote interest in and to disseminate information in culture, development, and hybridization of orchids.....

The Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. Annual dues are \$25 for Individuals and \$30 for Household.

President: Jean Rogers jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com

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August-September News!

Project Plant Recap & Update

Sunset Valley Orchids provided the offsprings of (C. Fire Fantasy 'H&R' x C. Cosmic Delite 'SVO' HCC/AOS), now registered as C. Warpaint. Two more have bloomed this month – Iva Stribling's and Judy Harris'. So now eight of these minicatt crosses have bloomed. Please share pictures when yours blooms. Kristy Charland has formed an 'album' on our Orchid Growers of OSGKC Facebook page where we can see how different the flowers can be. Please go to the website listed below to keep up with the blooming. Fun, Fun!!!!



<u>Auction</u>

Mark your calendar – September 26th, Zoom Auction. You still have time to look over your orchids. What would you like to part with so you can have room for new ones. What could use dividing to give it a fresh start. Please think of preparing some orchids for donation - \$5, \$10 or auction. Please let Jean Rogers know ASAP at <u>jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com</u> if you have donations. Thanks to those of you who have already responded. You can drop off your donations at Jean's house, on the front porch tea-cart.

Facebook Group

Our Facebook page, Orchid Growers of OSGKC, is a great place for us to communicate, share, learn from each other. All through the month we have orchids that bud and bloom and we get so excited and want to share it, and the meeting is sooooo far away!! Use the Orchid Growers of OSGKC Facebook Page. Here is the link:

<u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/909878999427064/?ref=share</u> It is easy to post your precious orchids and get oooohhs and ahhhhs from other members. Or something is going on and you want to ask someone – post it on this website. If you need Facebook help (I know I did and still do!!) contact Kristy (charland.ek@outlook.com). She'll be glad to help. **If you want to email us**, please look at March's Newsletter for contact information of willing helpers in the Society and their 'specialty'. (Can't find the March issue – email jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com). This is all especially important since we can't meet in person.

Meetings

<u>This from Susie Hanna, Program Chair - upcoming speaker:</u> Featured Speaker for September 13: Peter Lin, Big Leaf Orchids, Southlake, TX, "Novelty Phalaenopsis" *The term, "novelty"* phalaenopsis refers to a specialized group of hybrids that are rewarding for their compact size, frequent flowering, branching, color range, and fragrance. Many of them are Summer blooming unlike their cousins, the standard Phals seen blooming from Valentine's Day onward into Spring. Peter Lin, of Big Leaf Orchids, will showcase the best novelty phalaenopsis hybrids today, and review the breeding attributes that create more colorful and unusual phalaenopsis. Peter has been growing orchids for more than 25 years, and has many personal connections to hybridizers in Taiwan that enable him to import some astonishing new flower forms.

Prior to his presentation, he will be sending us a plant list that members can order from. This will be distributed via email

Hope you enjoyed the virtual tour August 9th of the Orchid Growing spaces of Eric Shirling with his poly-greenhouse in his basement, Jean Rogers with a "Sun Room" and outside growing space, and Al Clinton and Susie Hanna with their multiple growing areas – wasn't Al's Masdevallia room amazing?? I wouldn't even know how to begin!!! Also in August some of our members participated in PhalFanatics Symposium and Auction. This was a good precursor to our **Auction on September 26th!!** More information about this group page 14 in the newsletter, in case you are interested in joining and supporting this philanthropic orchid group.

Last Month's Meeting Speaker Notes

From Al Clinton:

Providing a sheltered place for your plants to grow outside in the summer is a great way to advance your enjoyment of orchids and other tropical plants. Here is a list of some of the materials we used to construct our covered plant house adjacent to our home.

From Home Depot, Menards, or Lowes:

6x6x10 and 6x6x8 treated or cedar posts (treated is best).

Concrete and metal attachment and pins to set the posts.

2" x 6" boards for rafters (will need at least two, maybe more depending on the width of the structure).

2 x 4 wooden cross pieces to stabilize the sides (and back if necessary).

Ribbed, single-ply, clear polycarbonate sheets. There are several sizes to select from. Follow the manufacturers' instructions for installation and buy the recommended accessories to attach.

2 x 2 or 2 x3 boards for supporting the polycarbonate sheets placed across the rafters.

Screws with rubber gaskets for attaching the polycarbonate to the support.

4 x 6 treated lattice or cedar if you prefer for sides.

From a plant supply house (just google for best source):

50% to 70% shade cloth, depending on the type of orchids and location of your grow area. You can also put plastic or cedar or treated lattice on top to dampen down the light. You can easily put up a shade cloth area by putting some metal posts into the ground and attaching the shade cloth with wire or heavy-duty twist ties.

If growing inside some useful materials from Menards, Home Depot and Lowes:

Twin-wall polycarbonate can be used to construct a grow room, or growing box. It can also be used to make shelves. Plastic-coated fencing wire can be hung vertically to hang mounted plants, or horizontally for plants in hanging baskets. Wooden dowel rods can be used for hanging baskets.

Large, heavy-duty, plastic boot trays can be used to hold plants to catch water overflow (check Gardeners Supply online for these)

From Jean Rogers:

I use 2-T5 grow lights suspended (by white chain from Home Depot) from the ceiling or under garden baskets for over my orchids. The chain is easy to adjust the distance from the orchids if needed. The lights are on timers set for 13 hours in the summer, 12 fall and spring, and 11 in winter. My garden baskets are assorted styles but all about 36 inches high. I find them at resale stores in the Bottoms. I have foil wrapped cardboard in the bottoms of them, then line the bottom of the basket with 2 layers of heavy-duty foil – bent up on the sides making a little tray. In this I put a layer of floral or decorator marbles for the pots to sit on creating a humidity tray. Tower humidifiers keep the sunroom about 60% humidity and a ceiling fan plus 2 oscillating fans provide air movement.

From Eric Shirling:

Growing in the basement is a great alternative if you want to expand your grow space, but don't don't have the space. To help maintain the humidity and temperature a portable greenhouse is helpful, but any kind of space that can keep the environment to your orchids liking. I use a humidifier that lets me set it to the desired setting and a heater with a thermostat to keep the temperature a little higher. I use 48" LED fluorescent style lights attached to each shelf. I also use smaller LED spot lights in areas where some extra light is needed. Most of the lights are on a timer that keeps them on for 12 hours a day. Fans are important to keep the air moving. I have one oscillating fan along with several mini fans that I hang from the end of the shelf so they blow across the top of the plants

Judging Notes...

Upcoming Shows & Judgings Around Our Region

If you have an orchid blooming that you think is FANTASTIC – Contact Mark Prout or Doug/Beth Martin. If it is time for a meeting at the Judging Center – they could take your plant to be evaluated for an award (and/or give you their best opinion if it indeed should be looked at). There are Judging Centers all-across America. The one closest to us is the MidAmerica Judging Center in St. Louis, MO. It holds monthly judging on the 2nd Saturday of each month. The mission of the Judging Centers is to provide orchid growers in the region with the opportunity to have their plants evaluated and judged for AOS awards. These include HCC, AM, FCC, JC, AQ, CBR, CHM, CCM, and CCE.

Stay Tuned:

September 12, 2020 Mid-America Judging Center

Missouri Botanical Garden, Commerce Bank Center for Science Education, 4651 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, MO October 10, 2020 Mid-America Judging Center

Missouri Botanical Garden, Commerce Bank Center for Science Education, 4651 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, MO November 14, 2020 Mid-America Judging Center

Missouri Botanical Garden, Commerce Bank Center for Science Education, 4651 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, MO December 12, 2020 Mid-America Judging Center

Missouri Botanical Garden, Commerce Bank Center for Science Education, 4651 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, MO

July OSGKC Judging

13 members submitted 36 blooming orchids for judging and show.

Blue Ribbons were received by: Anna Archibald for Bulb. lobbii and Den. Joyce Kelly, Annie Heath for her Phal. NOID pink, Cindy Hobbs for her Holocostylis Pink Yawi, Dr. Dan Schlozman for he Ctsm. DoubleDown x Ctsm. figrinum, Jean Rogers for Clty. (Caulocattleya) Ethels Paradise 'In Kalapana', and Sue Bondurant for her Goodaleara Stellar **Red Ribbons** were received by: Anna Archibald for her Oeceoclades Kaleidophyte, Annie Heath for Phal. NOID fuchsia & white Cindy Mayor for Cts. Tapabroaum x callearum pr. Dan Schlozman for C. Parta of Paradise and Magon Mayo for her Schlozman for C.

white, Cindy Meyer for Cts. Tenebrosum x callosum, Dr. Dan Schlozman for C. Ports of Paradise and Megan Mayo for her Neo. Falcta 'Taiyouden' White Pibbons were received by: Dr. Dan Schlozman for his C. Keeh Wallis and Masd. Ken Dela, Halv Nguyon for her

White Ribbons were received by: Dr. Dan Schlozman for his C. Kosh Wallis and Masd. Ken Dole, Haly Nguyen for her Phal. Mituo Bellina, Jen McAroy for Phal. NOID fushia/white spotted, and Megan Mayo for her Neo falcta 'Edoshimaru'

May Plant of the Month (drum roll)

Cindy Hobbs Holocostylis Pink Yawi AND Jean Rogers Clty. Ethels Paradise.





Members Choice: Cindy Hobbs Holocostylis Pink Yawi – gets 3 free raffle tickets for August raffle.

"Just for Viewing Pleasure" – Thanks to; Susie Hanna, Al Clinton, Kristy Charland, Annie Heath, Jean Rogers, and Mark Prout, for submitting their blooming orchids for our enjoyment in July.

<u>August Digital Ribbon Judging</u>

1)**Ribbon judging** will be by designated 'judges' from the society based on 2 pictures – a close up of the best flower and a picture of the plant showing all flowers/plant. Both pictures need to be submitted in order to be in the judging. Ribbon winners will receive digital awards which, if they desire, can be traded for real ribbons when we meet again.

2)**Members' Choice** – members have **5 days** from date newsletter is emailed, to send your nomination (vote) in for the orchid of the month that is your favorite, again, based on the two pictures in the newsletter. Please send your nomination (vote) to Jean Rogers at <u>jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com</u> This month - Send by the end of the day Saturday Sept. **5**th. Winner will receive 3 free raffle tickets to use the following month.

Blooming Orchids for Show and/or Judging. Deadline for submissions was August 27th at midnight. Watch for the September dates in an upcoming email. <u>Huge thank</u> you to all the members who sent pictures. Orchids for Judging: (<u>Send your "Member's</u>

Choice" to jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com by Saturday 9/5)







Onc. Aka Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate'

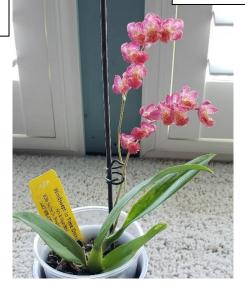




Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani'



Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani'





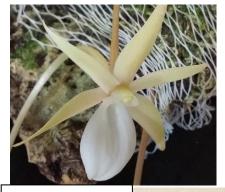
Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani'





Den. aberrans





Areangis punctata





Phal. Jia Ho Summer Love 'Little Pixie'





Phal. NOID #2





Phaleanopsis Sasquatch'White Angel'





Phal. bellina



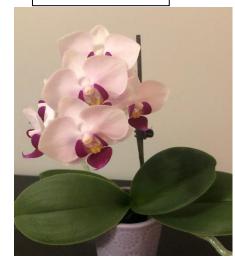




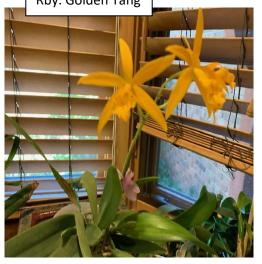




Phal. NOID mini #3











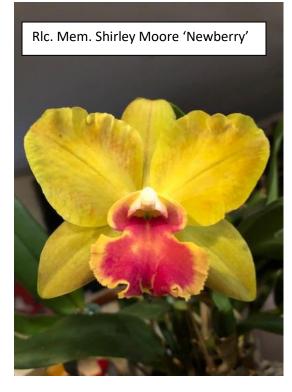


C. (Precious Jewel X Jalapa)



NOT for JUDGING – just for your VIEWING PLEASURE!

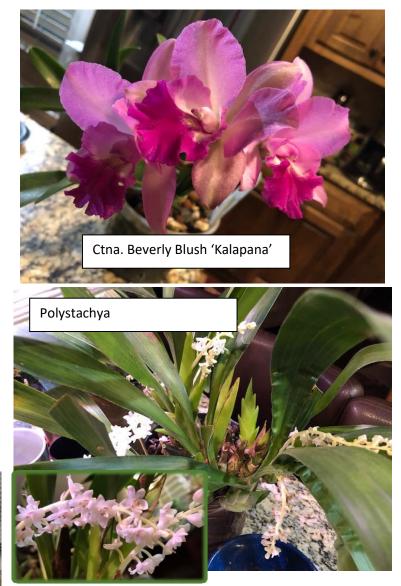
From Jean Rogers





Onc. Sweet Sugar





From Judy Harris



From Al Clinton and Susie Hanna





9

From Mark Prout

Paphiopedilum henryanum



Rlc. Susan Fender 'Cinnamon Stick' AM/AOS



Paph. Wössner Helene







Zelenkocidium Kukoo



For Fun and Learning!!

Orchid Growing Tidbits (How I Grow It....)

Some individual genera – Blue Ribbon Winners and special orchids - How I grow it:



From Cindy Hobbs – Holocostylis Pink Yawi

I purchased this plant from Peter Lin at our October, 2019 meeting. It was already in spike so I did not immediately repot the plant. (I have started repotting all new purchases that are not blooming just to check out their root systems and to remove any sphagnum packing material.) It bloomed off that spike in December, 2019 with 20 beautiful flowers. Over winter I gave it medium-high LED light, watering once a week, in a controlled environment with 60% humidity. The first of May it went outside with my other plants in an area of good, indirect sunlight. Apparently it loved the cooler and wet Spring we experienced, producing another spike in May. By June it was again in full bloom. When purchased, this plant had already bloomed once, so it was a well-established and mature plant. This is my first orchid to bloom twice in one year and I am delighted with it.



From Jean Rogers Clty. Ethels Paradise

This is in my growing room in a, with 2 T5, 4' growing lights about 8" above it all through the year except when it warms up in spring. When the temperature is staying above 50 degrees, it goes outside on the northeast side of my house. It received sun from about 8:00-10:00 and then has filtered sunlight through trees. It gets watered once a week (usually) with water from my dehumidifier. I use ¼ teaspoon per gallon general orchid fertilizer. There are 3 humidifiers running in the room and that typically yields about 55% humidity. There is a ceiling fan on medium and 2 other oscillating fans plus the fans on the humidifiers. I last repotted in 2/19 in a mix of medium bark, charcoal, sponge rock, and Leca clay beads.



From Sue Bondurant Goodaleara Stellar 'Hoku'

I had it in Oncidium Imperial potting mix from rePotme. It was placed in a west exposure that had filtered light because of shear curtains. The plant was fed and watered with a mixture of distilled water, ½ strength measure of orchid food, ½ tsp. of Cal-Mag, ½ tsp. of epsom salts. The humidity in the area of the orchids is kept between 55% and 70% humidity with the help of a humidifier and the room has good air circulation. For the most part I check all my orchids every day to see which ones may need attention of some sort, but then I don't have a very big collection so it is an easy task and something I enjoy doing. The frequency of watering depends. If newly transplanted, I find that for the first week or

two some of my orchids need watering every day as the new medium has not had a chance to break down enough to really hold much moisture and then I taper off to every other day or every third day as they begin to hold moisture better. Eventually some only need water about once a week, and a couple that arrived planted in nothing but moss, I only water about once evert 10 day to two weeks until I can report them in a better medium, I'm sure that if I had a larger collection it could become quite a chore. I just enjoy checking them for new growth or if something needs to be removed like a flower spike that is finished or an old leaf that is ready to be remove or a sheath that has turned brown and become unsightly, those sorts of things, I like to do them on a regular basis. It keeps the area looking clean and neat and keeps the collection looking its best.



From Dr. Dan Schlozman Ctsm. DoubleDown x Ctsm. figrinum Light: I use Cattlea light

Fertilizer: I continue to follow the fertilizer program with klite (from First Rays), kelp, and beneficial bacteria

Potting media: it came in moss and did very well so I repotted moss. Temperature: standard for an all-purpose greenhouse-55 to 60 low and mid 80s to upper 80s

From Mark: for general info., timing, etc. <u>http://sunsetvalleyorchids.com/htm/culture_catasetinae.html</u>



From Annie Heath Phal. NOID, pink

I keep all of my orchids in my dining room, which have south/southwest facing windows. My phals are near the windows so they can get the temperature change they need to bloom (from what I've researched). They need dramatic cold spells to trigger spikes. They are in a sphagnum/bark mix medium. Every couple of weeks I do a thorough soaking for all of my orchids. Then just every couple of days give them a good spritzing of plain tap water. I have a reverse osmosis system. That's about it. So far, I haven't killed too many. Haha!



From Anna Archibald Bulb. lobbii 'Lenny'

I won this Bulbo in a raffle at an OSGKC meeting late last year, and it put on a pretty spectacular show! It bloomed consecutively for about four weeks, putting out five or six blooms in total. I keep it on my back patio that faces north and is covered slightly by an overhang. It gets a bit of direct sun in the early morning, but otherwise is in bright shade all day. It's potted in sphagnum moss that I try not to let ever dry out completely. I mostly water with rain water and it gets lightly fertilized with seaweed and MSU fertilizers approx. every two weeks.



From Anna Archibald Den. Joyce Kelly

This dendrobium is a relatively new addition to my collection and one of my largest. I got it in March and since then it's grown like wildfire, putting out this new cane and a beautiful flower spike. It also sits on my back patio that faces north and is covered slightly by an overhang. It gets a bit more direct sun in the early morning than the Bulb. lobbii, but otherwise is in bright shade all day. I mostly water with rain water and it gets lightly fertilized with seaweed and MSU fertilizers every couple of weeks.

Outside OSGKC Resources

<u>Kristy's Korner</u>

August 30, 2020 Hello orchid fans!

First, a big thank you to Jean Rogers and Susie Hanna for encouraging me to start a column for the newsletter! Kristy's Korner will be your monthly look at sites on the web that I've found interesting and informative.

So, I was a newbie to growing Phragmipediums and Paphiopedilums. As I was asking for advice on one of the many orchid groups I am a member of on Facebook , one young man stepped up with fantastic advice. I came to find out his name is Dustin, and he's a grower from Canada. His blog/Instagram/webpage/YouTube channel are all called herebutnot. He grows in a small apartment, and gives advice on many different orchid genera as well as house plants. Please visit <u>www.herebutnot.com</u> to access his blog and type in "here but not" in the search bar to find him on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram! I promise, you'll enjoy it! BE WELL!

PhalFanatics

Hey all you Phalaenopsis lovers, here is a great group that you can join. Go to **PhalFanatics.com** to learn more, become a member, then join the Facebook group.

August 15-16, 2020 was a big event with several OSGKC members participating: Phalaenopsis Growers Symposium with speakers on a variety of topics. On-line Auction of some great plants. This was great to see as we'll do our auction the same way. It really worked well and helped us with our planning.



PhalFanatics® was formed in 2019 with these goals in mind:

- 1) Enhance and demystify the Phalaenopsis growing experience.
- 2) Increase the member's appreciation through shared experiences and networking.
- 3) Sharing knowledge on different Phalaenopsis species and their contributions to breeding new hybrids.
- 4) Provide scholarships each year to Horticulture students.

5) Most importantly have fun and enjoy everlasting friendships through the love of Phalaenopsis.

If you'd like to be a part of the attainment of these goals, go to their website and explore the information.

Artificial Lighting Reprinted from First Rays with permission from Ray Barkalow. You can also go to his website for information on many, many helpful orchid raising topics: firstrays.com

For those not lucky enough to have a greenhouse, or who have run out of space on window sills, the use of artificial light is a major "plus" to growing. You have a lot of options when it comes to choosing lighting, but you should do some thinking and planning before making a purchase. For example, some things to consider include:

- Will this be a primary source of light for the plants, or as a supplement to natural light?
- Where will the fixture be located? In a living area or basement "grow room"?
- Is heat generation a problem or a plus?
- How large of an area will be lighted?

- How much "head room" (distance from plants to the light) do you want?
- What is your budget for lighting? (Don't get cheap here light is a crucial parameter in orchid growing.) Consider purchase price, bulb replacement, and operating costs.

There are four basic types of lighting available – High Intensity Discharge (HID), fluorescent, incandescent, and light emitting diodes (LED) – each having its own pluses and minuses.

High Intensity Discharge (HID)

HID lighting is the most energy-efficient way to provide light in terms of light output per watt consumed, and there are two types of HID lights commonly used – Metal Halide (MH) and High Pressure Sodium (HPS). Sometimes growers will use a combination of both.

They are very bright, and do generate a great deal of heat, so may not be the best choice for living areas of your home.

Metal Halide (MH) 10,000 hr life

Metal halide bulbs produces light that favors the blue part of the spectrum, which is excellent for plant growth. If you are seeking a HID light for your primary light source, metal halide is the way to go, especially when you consider that newer technology has led to bulbs having boosted levels of the red end of the spectrum.

High pressure sodium bulbs emit light in the orange-red part of the spectrum, which can induce budding and flowering in plants. For that reason – and because they can lead to "leggy" growth – HPS bulbs are better suited as supplemental light sources, and are often used in greenhouses. The output spectrum tends to override the colors of flowers when viewed or photographed. They are more economical to use than MH, due to the greater light output and longer bulb life. They are often used in conjunction with metal halide bulbs.

High Pressure Sodium (HPS)

20,000 hr life

For years, folks using fluorescent lighting have typically used inexpensive "shop lights" that utilized 4-, 40W T12 bulbs. Those bulbs typically had output levels in the neighborhood of 35-40 lumens/watt, and typically had to be "right on top of" plants in order to provide adequate light levels. Fortunately, technology has advanced to the point of giving us highly efficient, long life compact fluorescents (CFL) and smaller diameter, more efficient T5 tubes. (Incidentally, the "T" number designation indicates the nominal diameter in 8ths of an inch – i.e., a T12 is 12/8ths or 1.5" in diameter.) Because they generate so little heat, it is possible to place the lights quite close to plants without fear of burning them. Like HPS and MH bulbs, one can find fluorescents that favor the red end of the usable spectrum (those with a "color temperature" of 2700°K to 3000°K) or blue end (greater than 7500°K), but those in the 5000°K to 6500°K range tend to be sufficiently "broad spectrum" to be a primary light source.

Fluorescent

20,000 hr life

T5 fixtures are probably the best choice for lighting plants in a living area, and are excellent for isolated growing areas as well.

Incandescent

2,000 hr life

The old standard incandescent lamps may be the least expensive to purchase, but they inefficient and put out a poor spectrum of light for plants. You'll note that they are often tinted blue to shift the spectrum away from their

strongly red output. If you suddenly need to supplement the light on a single plant, you might get by with an incandescent grow light, but you'll actually do much better with another choice.

Light Emitting Diodes (LED) 50,000+ hr life

LEDs are the latest in the evolution of horticultural lighting. They produce the least amount of heat, and as the technology advances, it is possible to get in excess of 100 lumens per watt. There are entirely too many variations to discuss in the context of this article, so we'll touch on some basics.

Monochrome LEDs each put out very specific wavelengths of light, so in early plant lights, colors need to be mixed in order to approximate the desired spectrum. You are probably familiar with the so-called "blurple" lights – a mix of blue and red LEDs. As the selected wavelengths of those chips matched the peak absorption areas of chlorophyll, they worked quite well and were used extensively by marijuana growers. Unfortunately, as orchid growers actually want to see their plants and flowers, so the lack of green in the spectrum produced an eerie, alien appearance, making those lamps unacceptable. To overcome that, "white" LEDs are often used to make LED lighting more applicable to living areas.

So-called "white LEDs" are really ultraviolet or blue LEDs to which a coating of blended phosphors is added. The blue or UV wavelength excites the phosphors, which in turn emits light in a number of wavelengths that combine to appear as white light. Most "white" LEDs are manufactured with household lighting in mind, not plant growth. As the human eye is most sensitive to wavelengths in the green part of the spectrum, white LEDs often emit green very strongly, making them appear very bright to us, but may be quite lacking in the wavelengths plants need, especially toward the red end of the spectrum. As of this update, only a few "white LEDs" have had their phosphors tailored to meet plant needs while being acceptable to us, so it is common to find LED plant light fixtures use white in combination with various red LEDs – a combination that works very well.

The Raffle!!

Get ready and excited for another Remote Raffle.

To help me with organization and follow through, there will be just 3 items in the raffle again this month and *they are some beauties!!* I'll have a page with a 'numbers list' for each item. When you put your check in the mail, you email me how many tickets you paid for and how many of your tickets you want placed for which raffle item. Cost will be same as at meetings \$1 per ticket, \$5 for 6, \$10 for 12, and \$20 for 25. You'll have **5 days** from the date the newsletter is emailed, to send your money and choices. So if the newsletter goes out on Saturday the 25th; **you have till end of the day** Thursday July 30th). Send your money to Joy Prout at 129 NE. Edgewater Dr., Lee's Summit, MO 64064. Send your raffle choices to me (jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com) and I will add your name on the designated plant sheet in the order I get your designations. Ideally, winners will be drawn on the day following the voting, or at the virtual meeting if we have one that month (so this time it would be on the 31st (unless I get tied up with something on the farm \bigcirc). When you are ready to get your plant, we can do like we did for Project Plant – We'll connect and figure out if you want to pick it up from the porch of Joy and Mark - east (phone 816-304-2889), Jean Rogers - central (214-402-6958) or Cindy Hobbs -west-ish (913-220-5684).

Play the Raffle. Here are the 3 beauties.





Tolumnias used to be called "Mule Eared Oncidiums" for their thick, terete-shaped leafs that are much like succulents in that they hold a lot of water. They shared some characteristics with oncidiums but taxonomists decided to give them a new name and category. **Tolumnias** are also easy-to-kill orchids if you overwater them! And they are also easy-to-grow orchids, but only if you can do the following things for them.

1)Their roots do not like to remain wet for long, therefore they are best grown on a mount, or in an <u>empty</u> pot (I prefer terracotta for this), or in a net pot with just a bit of free-draining media (gravel, wine corks, charcoal, lava rocks, coir fiber).

After watering, the media/root area needs to be dry by evening. In summer/warm months, I water every day, but observe your plants and the environmental conditions. If it's very humid, you can go longer without watering. In the winter, if your growing area is cool, and there is less light, shorter days, reduce watering, and perhaps just a misting is adequate.

2) Bright light, like their Oncidium cousins, or their friends, the Cattleyas. If they grow, but don't bloom, increase the light.

3)When in growth, ie., new leaves and new roots, fertilize weekly. I like to use 1/2 tsp of MSU fertilizer in RO, rainwater, or distilled water each week during growth phase. Reduce fertilizer in the winter/cool months. 4)Like all orchids, they can get bugs, especially mealy bugs, which will hide at the bottom of the leaves. Treat them quickly before things get out of hand.

5)And like all orchids, they can get fungal and bacterial disease: key is lots of air movement. Additionally, I spray once a month with Physan when inside, and outdoors, I spray them after every rainy period. 1/4 tsp Physan per gallon of water.

Phrags – Pure Water Needed: Most like a lot of pure water: daily or even set them in a dish of water that you refill when it starts to get low. Warm temperatures: 70°F-85° by day, with a drop of 10-15° or more at night. More light than *Paphs*, around 2500-3000 foot candles. South or East windows are a good choice.

One of the finest gentleman and orchid growers in our area, Tom Larkin, Whippoorwill Orchids/Past President of the Orchid Society of the Ozarks, had this to say about growing Phrags:

"Remember, Phrags take more fertilizer than paphs; however, too-heavy feeding will cause the leaf tip to burn. It's important to thoroughly water plants each watering to leech out accumulations of salts. Phrags should never completely dry out. Leaf tip burn can also occur as a result of drying out of the plant too severely, then when the plant is watered, the salts present in the media rush to the tips and cause burn."

Tom liked DynaGro products, so he said from Mid-February through September use 1/4 tsp.of DynaGro 7-9-5 per gallon of water that is low in minerals (R.O., distilled, rainwater, etc.), plus 1/4 tsp DynaGro Pro Tekt with each watering. Then October-Mid February reduce fertilizer. Be sure to flush thoroughly with clear water every 4th or 5th watering.

Other growers prefer Michigan State Fertilizer (MSU Formula), 1/4 tsp per gallon of water used as above.

2)Phragmipedium Longifolium





3)Paph. Wossner Ministar



Paphiopedilum Care –

Consistency is Key: Paphs. are slow growers and they only spike once per new growth. They need consistent care year round. They want moist roots, but not wet or dry. Light: bright enough to encourage vibrant leaves and vigorous growth, but not HOT enough that it will burn the leaf. East-facing windows with direct, early-morning sun, or South/West windows with a sheer cloth or screen that blocks some of the hot and intense light. Mottled-leafed Paphs. grow well with Phalaenopsis light, 1000 foot candles. Strapped-leafed (multi-floral) Paphs. need brighter light: 2000 foot candles. From Orchid Wiz: -

Paph. Wössner Ministar is composed of species of which 100% take low light and 100% take medium light. Grow this hybrid in shaded to dappled light conditions.

Paph. Wössner Ministar is composed of species of which 100% take cool temperatures and 100% take warm temperatures. Grow this hybrid in cool to warm conditions, or 58°F to 75°F at night.

60%-70% humidity. Do NOT allow mature plants to dry out between waterings. Grow in a plastic pot with media that drains well but retains moisture. Commonly cultivated indoors. Fertilize weekly, very lightly (one quarter the normal dose). Common media: fine fir bark, with a little perlite.

News from the AOS

We thank the American Orchid Society for allowing us to use these AOS Corner items in our newsletter! Even if you're not an AOS member, there are lots of free resources available to everyone...and of course we encourage you to join. AOS membership includes digital access to ORCHIDS magazine, including digital archives of more than 350 issues dating back to 1932!



Published since 1932, ORCHIDS (formerly known as the AOS Bulletin) is among the many benefits of an AOS membership. Exploding with glorious full-page color photographs, each monthly issue is packed with topics of current interest for both beginners and advanced orchid growers.

MONTHLY AWARDS GALLERY

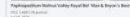
AOS MEMBERS review the beauty and diversity of awarded orchids in every issue of ORCHIDS magazine and in the OrchidPro awards database. http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx

PLUS everyone can check the most recently awarded orchids on the AOS website. https://secure.aos.org/orchid-awards.aspx

To view flower details, measurements, and a description of each awarded orchid or exhibit, go to aos.org, sign-in, then select Orchid Pro from the drop down menu on your membership status box. https://op.aos.org/









This is a sample of the latest awards shown in **OrchidPro**. The diversity of orchids seen in the judging system is aweinspiring. Check in frequently to view the 100 most recent awards. While in OrchidPro, click on any one photo and read the details, measurements and description for each award. Find out when and where it was exhibited, and the exhibitor for each orchid. Select the VIEW ALL AWARDS button to compare the current award to previously awarded clones. Orchids are a continuing education.





American Orchid Society Educational Exhibit Certificate

'Time is Running Out' EEC | AOS (81 points) Award No: 20204859 2020 Event: Deep Cut Orchid Society Show Exhibitor: Mary Ann Denver Photographer: Cheryl Langseth

DESCRIPTION

An attractive, informative 2-meter wide by 0.5-meter deep educational table-top display highlighting orchid conservation; "Time is Running Out" is anchored by a

"Doomsday Clock" set at 11:58 and an audible tic-toc; red yarn reaches from the clock to the endangered orchid species continents; a three-section poster on the right features general information, pictures of endangered orchids, and actions the public can take to encourage and support conservation; a framed list of endangered orchids listed by continent; species orchids from the genera Cattleya, Lepanthes, Masdevallia, Dendrobium, Paphiopedilum, and Dendrochilum are aesthetically arranged on the table-top and on the left on an arched, 1-meter natural wood branch; commended for the variety and quality of the plant material, encouraging public awareness, and educational message.

<u>Want a chance to WIN \$500?</u> Calling all our artist friends: The AOS Development & Special Funding Committee is running a T-Shirt Design Contest. Don't miss the deadline. Details can be found on the AOS Facebook pages, website and Instagram or you may request contest details from jenniferr@aos.org



Submit a design, share on Facebook & Instagram, and watch for the polls to vote for your favorite.

AOS members have access to over 2,050 articles published between the years 2003 - 2009 and 2011 - 2018 through the <u>digital archives</u>. http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx

Worth the Read - ORCHIDS September Preview

- The New Refugium Botanicum Pleurothallis luna-crescens by Franco Pupulin and Melissa Díaz
- Collector's Item Bulbophyllum caloglossum by Charles Wilson
- Orchids Illustrated Thelymitra by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins
- Phragmipedium dalessandroi by Olaf Gruss
- Platystele Try Growing Something Different by Larry Sexton
- Psychopsis limminghei and Alfred de Limminghe by Rudolf Jenny
- Into Africa: Part 5 Mauritius by Thomas Mirenda

• *Lindleyana* - Pollination Biology of a Leading-Edge Population of *Cypripedium montanum* (Douglas ex Lindl) in South-Central Alaska by Tara Luna

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? An Affiliated Society may use recorded webinars for presentations at their monthly meetings. With Wi-Fi access, it's easy! Webinars are an internet-connected audiovisual presentation. You can view from anywhere that you have an internet connection via Mac, PC or even your mobile device. It's easy to find the <u>scheduled</u> <u>webinars</u> and to register on the AOS website. You will find the link here: <u>http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx</u>

Webinars-Coming Attractions!



To view **REGISTRATION is REQUIRED.**

Orchid Societies

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyhow!

ALL webinars are recorded and available to view at your leisure. GREENHOUSE CHAT Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing. Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

> Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook, Instagram and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.

Remember to check in with us on **Facebook** and **Instagram**! <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS/</u> <u>https://instagram.com/americanorchidsociety?igshid=16ixfciczky01</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/52597049839/</u>

AOS Judge



CULTURE CONNECTION <u>CULTIVATE</u>: to grow in a prepared medium Visit the AOS website for a <u>Monthly Checklist on Orchid Care</u> <u>https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/september-october-checklist.aspx</u>

September: The Month of Aloha

By Thomas Mirenda

A singularly beautiful word from the Hawaiian language with several meanings including love, hello and goodbye, Aloha is more about spirit and philosophy. It reflects a caring and nurturing nature that kind people feel for each other. It does not judge, it does not discriminate and it is a universal term of endearment. This month, many of us say goodbye wistfully to summer friends, jobs and carefree days, while simultaneously embarking on fantastic new adventures and initiatives. I am no exception, as I begin my new position at the Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden this month. I know this new adventure will be hard work and will present many challenges for me. Nonetheless, I am invigorated by the Aloha I know I will experience there. Needless to say, the capacity to grow orchids outside is icing on the Haupia cake.

Our lives take us on many different paths, but all of us on the orchid path know what it means to be nurturers and cultivators. This month as the seasons shift again and temperatures and day length wax and wane (depending on what hemisphere you are in), it is important to be very observant of your collection. Some photoperiod-dependent plants will slow down with these changes, others may speed up as temperatures are more to their liking, but one thing is for sure, changes are coming!

OVERHEATING IS OVER With the onset of fall, many things shift; that is, temperatures are getting lower and nights are getting longer. The intense, and sometimes damaging, heat that has kept many plants in suspended animation is ending and more favorable growing conditions commence. I have often seen new flushes of growth on cattleyas, dendrobiums and Oncidium alliance plants this time of year. If you live in a climate where the cold weather does not start for a couple more months, then you can water and fertilize as you might in the spring for another month or so. But if your winter weather starts in October, you might want to slow down or hold off on feeding your plants this month to get them ready for dormancy, (catasetums, and deciduous dendrobiums) or spike initiation (phalaenopsis and cymbidiums).

THE GREAT OUTDOORS Any plants that have summered outside may have grown spectacularly with the excellent light, fresh air and rainwater. Even so, if you live in a harsh winter area, you need to at least start thinking about where the plants will go as the weather shifts again to cold. Make sure your indoor spaces, be they greenhouses, windowsills or light rooms are sanitized and ready for the return of all the " 'chids" that were camping out this summer. Since they will have grown, there may not be room for everyone! You might consider giving away some plants to new orchid society members or making some divisions of really choice plants that you love and cannot part with.

SAFETY INDOORS It is also very important to inspect plants for hitchhikers such as ants or sow bugs (or worse things) that might have invaded them while outside. Spray or drench any such plants before bringing them inside as they can

cause serious problems if they spread through your collection. It is also wise at this time to test your heaters, vents, fans, and misting and irrigation systems to make sure they are still in good working order. You do not want that unpleasant surprise of finding them malfunctioning during the first cold snap of the year.

WILD AND GARDEN ORCHIDS Many fantastic natives are blooming around this time of year including the glorious platantheras and spiranthes among others. Do not miss this show! Find out about local populations and see these beauties at their peak of blooming. If you are growing hardy orchids such as bletillas and cypripediums in your gardens, most have ragged foliage by now, or may not even be visible above ground this month. Make sure you mark their location and purchase or gather the mulch (usually pine needles are good for many of these types of plants) that is helpful and often necessary for their winter protection. I am looking forward to not having to do this winter ritual anymore. Do not be jealous. Come visit me instead! Aloha! *(As pertinent now, as it was then - Reprinted with permission ORCHIDS VOL. 86, NO.9, September 2017)*

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One of the most cited benefits of joining the AOS is the wonderful monthly magazine *ORCHIDS*. **AOS members have** access to over 2,050 articles published between the years 2003 - 2009 and 2011 - 2018 through the <u>digital</u> archives. Updates to the searchable digital archives are ongoing. <u>http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx</u>



Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City

OSGKC.org

A non-profit, educational organization stimulating interest in orchids and their culture

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On Facebook:



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Like us, post your pictures or comments, join the community!!

What's Ahead ...

While we try our best to promote our unique hobby and continue to engage the interest of our orchid growing members, your safety and health must be our primary concern. We plan to do events by zoom until Health Officials report it's safe to gather again, and OSGKC Board determines likewise. Please check <u>www.osgkc.org</u> for updates and changes to our program schedule.

September 13, 2020

OSGKC meeting – 2:00 Brief meeting chat followed immediately by Peter Lin of Big Leaf Orchids, Dallas, on "Novelty Phalaenopsis"

September 26, 2020

Orchid Auction Digitally for Members of OSGKC

October 11, 2020

OSGKC meeting – 2:00 Brief meeting chat followed immediately by Russ Vernon, speaking on "Lycastes and Their Culture"

November 11, 2020

OSGKC meeting – 2:00 Brief meeting chat followed immediately by Dr. Robert Marsh, University of Texas, Dallas, on "Growing Barkerias"

May 7-9, 2021 Southwestern Regional Orchid Growers Association Show Kansas Orchid Society in Wichita See:kansasorchidsociety.com