



# ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS

*A Communication Instrument for Society Members and Others*

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Volume II Issue 9  
September 2020



**Orchid Society  
of Greater  
Kansas City**

*As a non-profit organization to...  
...Promote interest in and to  
disseminate information in  
culture, development, and  
hybridization of orchids.....*

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

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## September-October 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. One more has bloomed in September – Pat Bridgford's. So now nine of these mini- Catt crosses have bloomed. Megan Mayo has 2 new growths. 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!!!!



### Auction

**September 26<sup>th</sup> was our first ever Zoom Auction.** It was very successful- thank you so much!!!!. We raised \$1,957.49 for the society. 89 plants were sold and 1 RO system. If you have any suggestions for the future, please let me know. I hope you had lots of fun and love your new babies.

### 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: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/909878999427064/?ref=share> It is easy to post your precious orchids and get oooohhhs 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](mailto: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](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com)). This is all especially important since we can't meet in person.

## Meetings

### Upcoming speaker - From Susie Hanna, OSGKC Program Chair:

Russ Vernon with New Vision Orchids in Indiana, will be our featured speaker, "Growing Lycastes". Russ is a familiar face back when we were all enjoying orchid shows. He regularly attended the St. Louis and Omaha shows, and of course, the Mid-America shows we have hosted in Kansas City. Lycastes are very rewarding plants, but only if you understand their requirements. Russ will enlighten and inspire us on this topic.

**Sunday, Oct. 11 on Zoom**

## Last Month(s) Recap:

### Comments from Jean Rogers, president

**Hope you enjoyed our September 13<sup>th</sup> program: Peter Lin, Big Leaf Orchids, Southlake, TX, "Novelty Phalaenopsis".** I've only recently learned about Novelty Phals., and they've 'kinda found a spot in my heart'.

*The term, "Novelty" Phalaenopsis* refers to a specialized group of hybrids that are rewarding for their short stature and short inflorescence, making them easy to accommodate growing under lights. They have frequent flowering, color range, and fragrance. No cascade of flowers like the hybrids found in the grocery store, but not uncommon to have at least one flower blooming. Many of them are Summer blooming. Susie has sent a list from Peter of newly available plants, mainly Novelty Phalaenopsis and Cattleyas.

It was so nice getting to see many of you as you delivered orchids for the auction and picked up orchids from the auction. I so hope we can start getting together soon. I do miss you. We have two new members, Susan Tompkins and Carol Gregg. Watch for their names and faces in our next Zoom meeting and get to know them and welcome them.

Jean

### Last Month's Meeting Speaker Notes, From Susie Hanna (with much help from Peter Lin)

What is a Novelty Phalaenopsis? This term is being thrown around, sometimes inaccurately. It does not refer to all small Phalaenopsis, many of which come from the species equestris. Novelty Phalaenopsis is a group of hybrids that have the background species from the subgenus Polychilos, most commonly, *Phal bellina*, *violacea*, *amboinensis*, *pulchra*, *venosa*, *tetraspis*, *micholitzii*, *cornu-cervi*, and *gigantea* (as well as others). If you think you have a novelty Phal, but are unsure, it's best to research it's background. Hybridizers are now several generations into this line of breeding, so a novelty Phal can have hybrid parents, but those parents will have a lot of species from the Polychilos sub-group.

Generally, Novelty Phals. produce a few brightly-colored and often scented flowers, on shorter inflorescence than the standard hybrid Phal. While the flower stems may be shorter, the leaves can be quite large, glossy, and very beautiful. The plants are lovely even when not blooming. Most are summer-blooming, and the inflorescence can be viable for several years, so many are sequential bloomers, and just keep on blooming. Don't cut off the inflorescence until they turn yellow/brown and are obviously dead.

The Polychilos subgenus comes from tropical environments in Indonesia, Borneo, and the Philippines. Because they grow near the Equator, they do not have the range of day and night temperatures that we experience here. But even with countries that have only two seasons, these species can sense warmer temperatures. Increasing day length and warmer temperatures are what induces Novelty Phals to flower. While there is a variable of perhaps 10 degrees from day to night, they require consistently warm temperatures and high humidity. Our recent speaker, Peter Lin, Big Leaf Orchids, reminded us that we need to pay attention and make sure that these Phals stay warm enough through the winter. Ideally they should not be held at temperatures below 70 degrees in the winter, and the ideal high temperature in the summer would be low to mid 80s, although they can handle warmer temperatures. As with all orchids, air movement is important. If for practical reasons, you have to keep Novelty Phalaenopsis in cooler temperature (i.e. below 70F during the winter time), make sure the roots stay dry by nightfall. Roots are vulnerable to die and to turn black if they are kept wet and temperature is allowed to go below 70 F.

If you are struggling to keep these plants warm in the winter, try a seedling heat mat. I just bought two of them for about \$20 from an Ebay seller, 10" x 20". If you can maintain warmth at the roots, then the air temperature can be cooler than 70. Peter advises: *" I have done both pots right on the mat, and pots inside of plastic humidity tray. Over time you will definitely feel the increase in temperature in the pot. Placing pot directly on the mat will dry off quicker depending on room's humidity."*

Unlike their complex hybrid cousins that require a cooling period usually in the Fall, to initiate spiking, novelty Phals are triggered to bloom by the warmth and energy of the Spring and Summer months, as days lengthen, the night temperatures are increasingly warm, and the day temperatures go up. Peter Lin tells me that he has friends in Singapore who only grow Novelty Phals because it's too warm to provide the low temperature to induce spiking in the complex hybrids.

Light: under artificial light, between 800 and 1500 fc. In a window, direct morning sun in an east window is ideal. In the winter, South or West facing windows work well from mid-October through mid-February, but as the season progresses and the sun becomes stronger, check that the light isn't too bright, and provide some shading. If growing in a North window, provide supplemental lighting. Always make sure that the leaves don't feel warm to the touch. If you have very dark leaves, slow growth, no flowering, you probably need to increase the light. In the winter, best to be sure that it isn't too cold next to a window. If growing in your home in the winter when the furnace is running, try a cool-mist humidifier placed in the area. It will make both you and your orchids more comfortable.

Watering: The media should be almost dry and then be watered. It's best to use pure, low-mineral water. If you are growing in sphagnum, put just enough water into the pot to moisten the media, but don't run lots of water through the way

you would with bark. Spaghnum holds salts and nutrients and so less fertilizer is required compared to bark media. I use 1/4 tsp MSU fertilizer per gallon of water every two weeks. And remember what Peter said, when you see the new, tender bright green root tips, the plant is in growth-stage, looking for nutrients. When the plant is not actively growing, which will happen in the winter, apply no or very little fertilizer.

If you'd like to learn more about all the exciting developments in the world of Phalaenopsis, go to IPA, International Phalaenopsis Alliance on Facebook. Available through them is a great publication: *Phalaenopsis Species and Hybrids*, a special supplement to the AOS Orchids magazine. I just saw that IPA has them on sale now, \$12.49 for IPA members, \$25 for non-members. Also, they have a great book, *Phalaenopsis, The Genus in Pictures*.

**Peter Lin, Big Leaf Orchids**, has just received a shipment of Novelty Phals from Taiwan. **Here is a link to his plant list** (<http://bigleaforchids.com/store/BigLeafOrchidsFall2020PriceList.pdf>) Now is a great time to acquire plants with the moderate Fall temperatures making shipping easier.

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## Judging Notes...

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### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:

**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

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### August OSGKC Judging

13 members submitted 36 blooming orchids for judging and show.

**Blue Ribbons** were received by: Jen Winter for Ctsm. Frilly Doris – Other category, Jennifer McAroy for Oncidium Aka Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate', Merri Archibald for Phal. Jiaho Summer Love 'Little Pixie', Crystal Remington for Dendrobium aberrans, Brian Donovan for Aerangis punctata – Vanda category, and Dr. Dan Schlozman for Miltonia regnellii var. alba – Species category and for his Blc. Precious Jewel X Jalapa – Cattleya category.

**Red Ribbons** were received by: Dipti Solanti for Howeara Lava Burst – Oncidium category, Crystal Remington for Phal. NOID mini #3, and Phal NOID, Haly Nyugen for Phal. bellina - species category, Annie Heath for Phal. NOID #2, and Dr. Dan Schlozman for Rby Golden Tang

**White Ribbons** were received by Jennifer McAroy for Howeara Lava Burst – Oncidium category, Iva Stribline for Cattleya Warpaint, Kristy Charland for Phal. Sasquatch 'White Angel', Annie Heath for Phal. NOID #1, and Crystal Remington for Howeara Lava Burst #3



#### **August Plant of the Month (drum roll)**

Miltonia regnellii var. alba grown by Dr. Dan Schlozman!!!

#### **Members Choice:**

Brian Donovan for Aerangis punctata – gets 3 free raffle tickets for August raffle.



“Just for Viewing Pleasure” – Thanks to; Susie Hanna, Al Clinton, Iva Stribling, Judy Harris, Jean Rogers, and Mark Prout, for submitting their blooming orchids for our enjoyment in August.

## September Digital Ribbon Judging

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 [jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com) **This month - Send by the end of the day Saturday Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>.** Winner will receive 3 free raffle tickets to use the following month.

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*Blooming Orchids for Show and/or Judging. Deadline for submissions was October 3<sup>rd</sup> at midnight. Watch for the October dates in an upcoming email. Huge thank you to all the members who sent pictures.*

**Orchids for Judging: (Send your “Member’s Choice” to [jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com) by Saturday 10/10)**



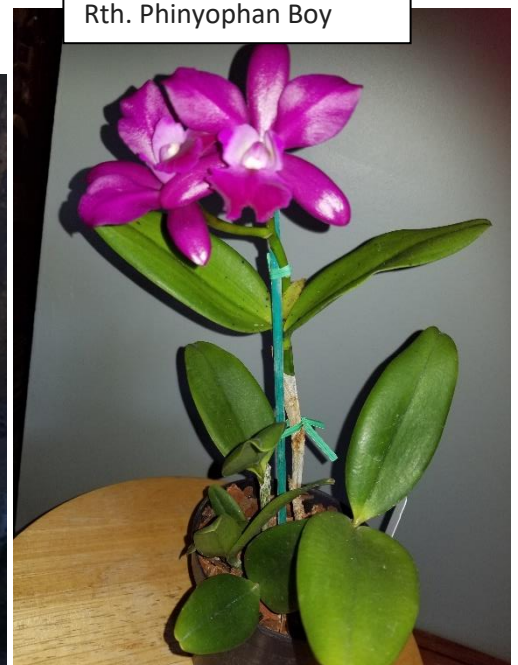
C. Pot. Melinda Rose Funke 'Ernie'

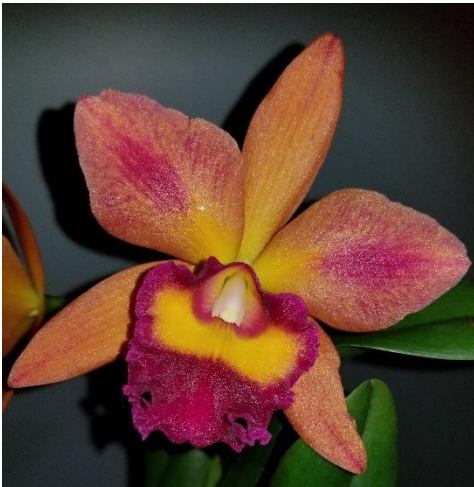


Ctt. Varut Statrack 'CS' HCC/AOS



Rth. Phinyophan Boy





Rth. Chief Sweet Orange 'Sweet Orange'



Ctt. Ann Komine 'Breathless' AM/AOS



Bc. Kosh Wallace



Vanda Robert's Delight 'Black' AM/AOS





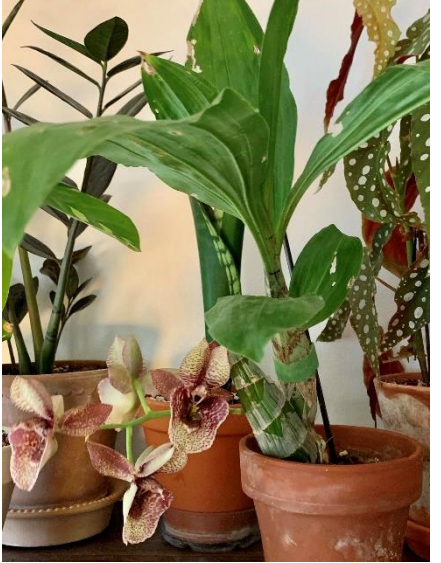
Paph. helenae



Paph. henryanum



Ctsm. Kay Lowe 'Sofia Altagracia'  
Margolis 'HCC/AOS x Ctsm. Dark  
Odyssey



Alca. Marfitch 'Howards Dream'  
AM/AOS



Tolumnia Northern Lights



Tolumnia Tequila Sunrise



Wilhemara Pino Princess 'Nite Naulege'



Miltonia Pacific Clouds

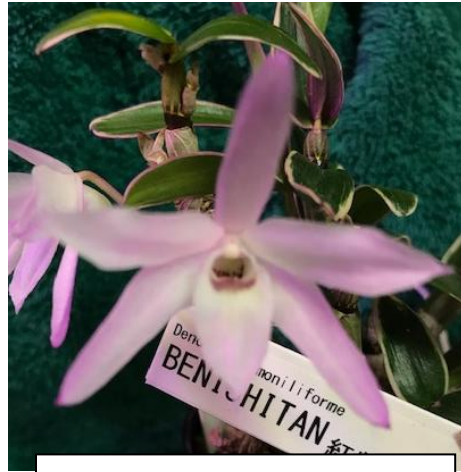


Miltassia Lavender Kiss 'Lavender Taffy' AM/AOS





Restrepia trichoglossa



Den. moniliforme 'Benishitan'



Den. Tiny Bubbles



Bulb. Daisy Chain





**NOT for JUDGING – just for your VIEWING PLEASURE!**

**From Jean Rogers**



Rby. Golden Tang



Phal. Tying Shin Baby Smile 'M77'



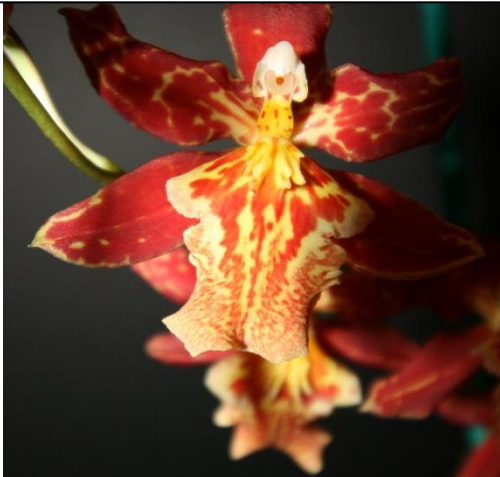
Phal. (Nobby's Green Eagle 'Montclair' x Jennifer Palermo 'Blue Hawaii')



Phal. FANGtastic Green Envy 'Judy Su' AM/AOS

**From: Sue Bondurant**

Burrageara Living Fire 'Glowing Embers'



**From: Anna Archiba**

Ctsm. (Chuck Taylor 'Way Good' x Ctsm. Dentigrianum) female flower



**From PatBridgford:**

New Vanda from auction – on vacation with Pat 😊

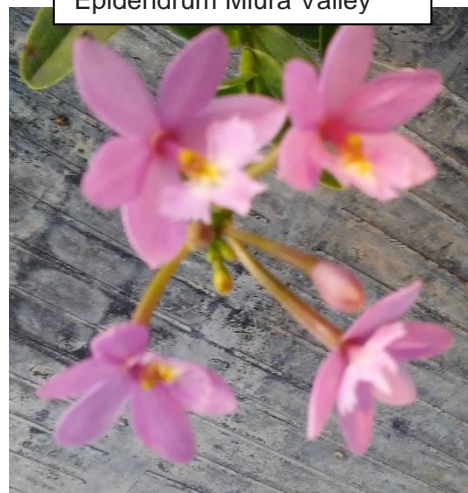


**From Al Clinton and Susie Hanna**

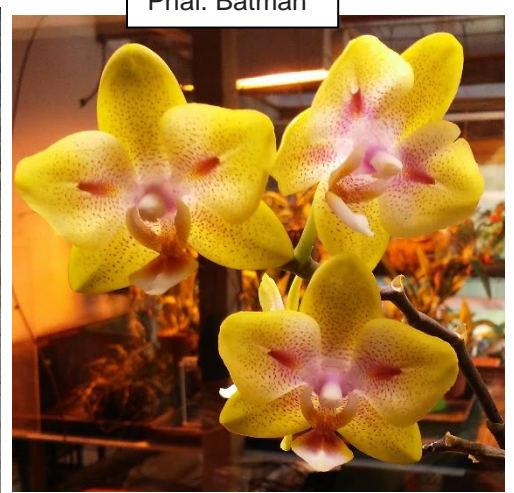
Phal. Montclair Sunset



Epidendrum Miura Valley



Phal. Batman



Coelogyne Unchained Melody



C. (Lime Sherbert x Brasavola nodosa)



**From Mark Prout**

Paphiopedilum helenae



Habenaria (Conure x Red Hybrid)



Habenaria (Red Hybrid) x medusa





Pectabeneria Thai Dancer



Cynoches Super Cooper



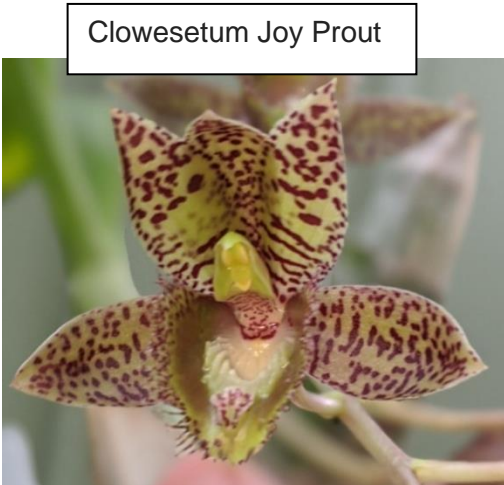
Pecteilis hawkesiana



Paph barbigerrum car. coccineum



Bc. Memoria Vida Lee 'Limelight' AM/AOS



Clowesetum Joy Prout



Rth. Pure Love

**From Jen Winter**

Odontocidium Parquet 'Uptown Girl'



Oncostele Top Hat & Tails 'Two Tone'



**Pictures From David Bird – Oh my, Oh my !!!! Look - his latest - mini-Catasetums. So CUTE!!!**

David has these beauties and others for sale at City Market (Farmers Market). They are small plants, bloom multiple times a year and are FRAGRANT!!



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# For Fun and Learning!!

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

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



**From Jen Winter** I was fortunate to spur a glorious *Catasetum* bloom spike with a combination of strong lighting (2000-4000 f/c) and ample water.

*Catasetums* love hot, humid and sunny summers. I actually suffered temporary loss of my central air; and was allowing my orchid room to reach 70% or even 80% humidity with fans and humidifiers. The *Catasetum Frilly Doris* thrived high on a shelf just a foot or two away from the grow lamp when it initiated its spike. They like warm, open areas with lots of sun and "monsoon summers" in the wild. Once the bloom spike began to exceed the weight of the plant, I lowered it to a safer spot and tucked it into a heavier pot for safety. Once this monster started to really grow, I noticed a pattern. When watering the plant (I water frequently when in the summer season - sometimes daily) - But when in spike, watering the plant makes the pot heavy but the long, dangling bloom spike will slurp all that water into the spike, leaving the pot dry and light - tipping the plant over after you leave. At the end, I needed both a ceramic and a clay pot to balance my blooming *Catasetum*.



**From Dan Schlozman**  
***Miltonia regnellii***

I use standard Cattleya light. The mix was semi-hydroponic. Fertilizer and feeding consisted of K-Lite fertilizer, probiotics and kelp. (Check Ray Barkalow's protocol on FirstRays.com or read more below on page 16)



**From Brian Donavan**  
***Areangis punctata***

I'm growing the *punctata* mounted on top of sphagnum moss (similar to how some folks grow neos). I water it when the sphagnum gets dry, about once every other day. 50%+ humidity, bright LED light (I've had success with those LED "work lights" used for construction projects), and weakly weekly.



**From Crystal Remington**  
***Den aberrans***

I received this happy little mini-orchid at the Christmas party in 2019, it produces multiple blooms that last 8-12 weeks. I have it living on my kitchen counter next to my herb AeroGarden that has a 20W led light bulb for full spectrum light. It seems to like a lot of light. I water with RO about every 5-7 days. As it sits on a few rocks in a small plastic liner, I use that as an indicator for watering, i.e when the liner rocks are dry it's time to water. It seems to like the extra humidity produced in the kitchen as I am frequently cooking, boiling water, baking, etc which also gives it slightly warmer conditions than the typical 68-72 degrees in the rest of the house. I fertilize monthly with granular Feed Me mixed with RO water. It is potted in mostly bark potting mix and is due for a re-pot after this blooming cycle



**From Merri Archibald**

**Phal. Jia Ho Summer Love 'Little Pixie'**

My Phal is on my kitchen window sill that faces to the west. It has bright indirect light. I water weekly with light fertilizer, and I used rainwater this summer. It's potted in a mixture of orchid bark mix with some extra sphagnum moss. The average temperature on the window sill ranges from 65-75. Since it is above the sink, I imagine there is quite a bit of humidity that occurs naturally. Otherwise, I spritz some of my other plants and roots that are on the sill, but don't have a humidifier or anything like that.



**From Dr. Dan Schlozman**

**C. (Precious Jewel x Jalapa)**

I use standard Cattleya light. The mix was semi-hydroponic. Fertilizer and feeding consisted of K-Lite fertilizer, probiotics and kelp. (Check Ray Barkalow's protocol on FirstRays.com or read more below on page 16)



**From Jen McAroy**

**Onc. Aka Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate'**

Grow light, house window on the East side. Water once week until blooming season and then don't let it dry out completely. Window cools at night.



**From Mark Prout**

**Habenaria erichmichelii**

I'm learning a lot from our scheduled speaker for Feb. 2021, Sarah Hurdel. Once you figure out the dormancy, they're fairly easy. I threw out the first ones I tried when they didn't sprout in the spring. Even Leon just advised waiting them out. Some do come around. I have a Hab. riodocheila which sprouted in August. The key is moisture, because their native environment is monsoonal. I shared two of the slides from her Habenaria talk to our growers group Facebook page.



Novelty Phalaenopsis  
– See culture notes  
under 'Meetings' on  
page 2

## Outside OSGKC Resources

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### Kristy's Korner

October 3, 2020

#### Hello orchid fans!

This month I'd like to feature a couple of websites that not only offer orchids for sale, but they also provide excellent growing tips. The first one is the site of one of our benefactors of last month's auction, RF Orchids out of Homestead, FL. The proprietor, Mr Robert Fuchs is also the current president of AOS. [www.rforchids.com](http://www.rforchids.com) has beautiful plants for sale, some photographs of the gorgeous nursery and grounds surrounding the greenhouses (who wouldn't want to work there?) AND a very informative culture tab called Orchid Care. It features care tips on Vanda, Phalaenopsis, Cattleya, a four part section on Dendrobiums, and a section on "Making Orchids Bloom". It's all very well written and easy to understand.

The second I'd like to feature is Orchids Amore [www.orchidsamore.com](http://www.orchidsamore.com) The location of this vendor is Ft Myers, FL. As far as plants, they have a little bit of everything! What really attracted me to this site was their very detailed description of Den Spectabile care since I have this plant. And then, I found that they have tutorial sections on Hydroponics, Disease and Pest Control, mounting videos, culture of many other orchid types, and even a section on a butterfly refuge that they supply with orchids, and downloadable calendars and greeting cards. Such Fun!

BE WELL!

Kristy

### Caring for your orchids.

I suppose you've brought your orchids in if you had them outside. You'll want to make sure they are bug free. Here are some products and resource information you might find helpful. **Remember that products containing copper should NOT be used on dendrobiums and thin-leaved species like coelogyne.** Thanks to Sue Bottom for granting permission to reprint any of her articles.

**From St. Augustine Orchid Society Site:**



#### Orchid Diseases

With orchid diseases, there are chemicals that can prevent different diseases from occurring, but there are very few chemicals that can cure a disease once your plant is infected.

Some More Links:

[Part 1 - How Do Orchids Respond to Disease.](#) Sue Bottom

[Part 2 - Bacterial and Fungal Infections.](#) Sue Bottom

[Part 3 - Bactericides and Fungicides.](#) Sue Bottom

[Orchid Hygiene.](#) Sue Bottom

[Hydrogen Peroxide](#), Sue Bottom  
[Fungal and Bacterial Orchid Diseases](#), Dr. Huang



## Orchid Pests

Despite your best efforts to provide the best environmental conditions for your orchids, there are some pests that can wreak havoc. The good news with orchid pests is that there are chemicals that can kill the invaders, the bad news is that they can cause quite a bit of damage before you are aware of their presence.

Some More Links:

[Featured Creatures](#), University of Florida  
[Insect and Arthropod Pest ID and Mgmt.](#), University of Georgia  
[Fungus Gnats](#), Dr. Paul J. Johnson, South Dakota State University  
[The Usual Suspects](#) (Sue Bottom, SAOS)

**Jerry Merola from Orchids Amore** advocates natural bacterial products as preventatives:



Vermi-liquid is the skin secretion of worms. It is often called worm-tea. This is not to be confused with compost tea made from worm manure, which does not work on orchids. It contains millions of beneficial microbes necessary for healthy plants that no longer live in dry compost. It enables plants to process fertilizers.  
\*nutrients readily available, processed by worms such that plants thrive in  
\*foliage spray acts as fertilizer, great for stressed plants



Essentials is another seaweed extract that concentrates the best features of seaweed as a fertilizer enhancement. It is a concentration of many beneficial additives for plants. Its most noticeable ingredient is gibberelic acid. This is a rooting hormone that greatly increases root growth in plants. It also tends to generate keiki growth. Unlike the other rooting hormones IAB and NNC, which are inorganic and do not dissolve well in water, Essentials is liquid in nature. It will not burn roots if over dosed.



Companion is an organic solution extracted from seaweed. It consists of highly concentrated bacillus bacteria. This bacteria has been shown to work as an anti-fungal inoculate. We do not believe anything kills fungus once it invades an orchid (except cutting it out) but the best cure is to never get it in the first place. Companion strengthens the orchid raising its level of defense to resist the first infection. Partnered with Essentials it aids in the branching of roots. Partnered with Vermi-liquid (natural beneficial microbes) it makes a powerful three way punch.

**Must I Supplement Calcium & Magnesium?** 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](http://firstrays.com)

**Ray also advocates natural products** for his regimen, which act as preventative. For an article on it: <https://firstrays.com/growing-excellent-plants/>



K-Lite Fertilizer (12-1-1-10Ca-Mg)

KelpMax - Plant Growth Stimulant

Broad-spectrum plant probiotic

Most fertilizer formulas do not contain calcium or magnesium, primarily because they are usually found in our water supplies. But is it enough? Must I supplement calcium and magnesium? And how about if I use reverse osmosis (RO) water or collect rainwater?



## First, why are we concerned about calcium and magnesium in the first place?

Calcium (Ca) plays a wide range of roles in plant health and growth (see my “[Fertilizer Basics](#)” article), but we must pay attention to supplying it because – unlike most other nutrients – once deposited in plant tissue, calcium cannot easily move to other plant tissues. Without a sufficient, continuous supply of calcium, our plants may display stunted or stopped growth, distorted new growth, black spots on leaves, or yellow leaf margins. If you grow sympodial orchids like cattleyas, you may notice new growths dying and rotting before they are fully formed.

Magnesium (Mg) is a critical structural component of the chlorophyll molecule and is necessary for several other plant functions. Magnesium-deficient plants show yellowing between veins of older leaves, and may appear limp. Fortunately, magnesium can easily be shared among plant tissues, so a deficiency tends to be less debilitating.

The next question is “**How much calcium and magnesium do my plants need?**” This is yet another case in which there has been little research specifically with orchids, but based upon tissue analyses and professional growers’ recommendations, generally, our “fertigation” solutions should contain about 40-80 ppm Ca and 20-50 ppm Mg.

Comparing some fertilizers, when applied at 100 ppm N – a reasonable target for weekly feeding – these are the corresponding calcium and magnesium concentrations:

Formula	ppm N	ppm Ca	ppm Mg
K-Lite Orchid/Epiphyte Fertilizer	100	77	23
Greencare Orchid Special for RO (MSU RO)	100	61	15
Greencare Orchid Special for Well Water (MSU WW)	100	10	0
Peters Excel Cal-Mag	100	33	13

**Does my water supply have enough calcium and magnesium** in it already? Your municipal water provider is required by law to keep tabs on the water quality and to make that information available to its consumers. Their primary concern is your health, not that of plants, so there will be a lot of useless info, but look for “hardness” minerals like calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) and magnesium carbonate ( $\text{MgCO}_3$ ). Based upon the elemental content of the dissolved minerals, water containing 100 ppm  $\text{CaCO}_3$  will contribute 40 ppm Ca and 100 ppm of  $\text{MgCO}_3$  will carry 25 ppm Mg.

If you use reverse osmosis (RO) water, distilled, or collected rainwater, you must provide all nutrients, including calcium and magnesium. If you haven a well or municipal water supply, I strongly suggest you get a water analysis done. While you may find a local lab, it is probably best to have your analysis done by the [J R Peters Laboratory](#) in Allentown PA. They are a “plant-centric” lab, so their analysis will be in directly applicable terms and units. For a nominal fee, they will send you a sample collection kit ([you can request it online](#)) and email the results back to you within 24-48 hours of receipt.

**Can I give my plants too much calcium or magnesium?** The answer is “yes”, especially for calcium, as a high concentration in the plant, the potting medium, and in the fertilizer solution can block the uptake of other nutrients. Stick to the guidelines above and it should not be a problem. An excess of magnesium has not been shown to be a particular problem, but again, stay within the guidelines to be safe.

# 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 **Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup>**; **you have till end of the day Friday October 9<sup>th</sup>**. 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](mailto: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 October 11<sup>st</sup> (unless I get tied up with something on the farm ☹)). 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.



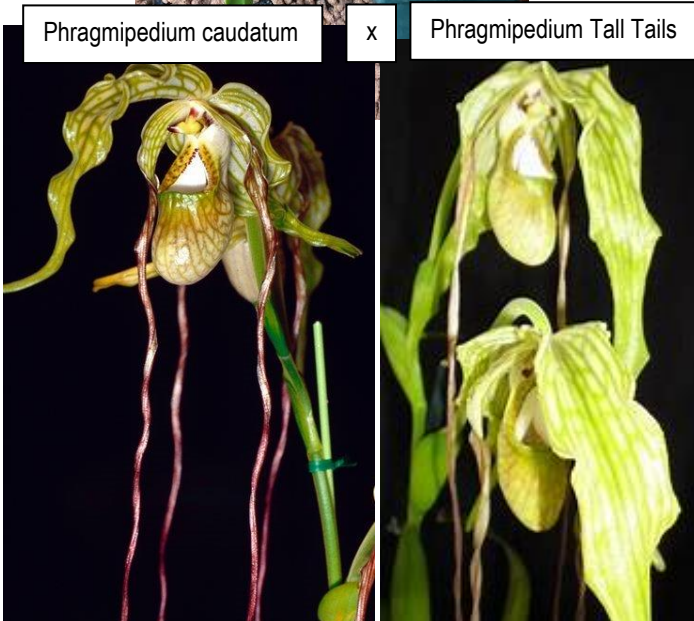
1)Phragmipedium Titan Tails

**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.



Phragmipedium caudatum

x

Phragmipedium Tall Tails



2) Tolumnia Jairak Flyer 'Coronation'



**Tolumnias** used to be called "Mule Eared Oncidiums" for their thick, terete-shaped leaves 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 empty 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, i.e., 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.



3) Paph. (Little Trouble #1 x King Charles)

#### 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-leaved Paphs. grow well with Phalaenopsis light, 1000 foot candles. Strapped-leaved (multi-floral) Paphs. need brighter light: 2000 foot candles.

From Orchid Wiz: -

**Paph. Little Trouble** is composed of species of which 100% take warm temperatures, 50% take cool temperatures and 50% take hot temperatures. Grow this hybrid in cool to hot conditions, or 58°F to 85°F at night. It is composed of species of which 100% take low light and 50% take medium light. Grow this hybrid in shaded to dappled light conditions.

**Paph. King Charles** is a bulldog Paph. and is composed of species of which 94% take cool temperatures and 94% take warm temperatures. Grow this hybrid in cool to warm conditions, or 58°F to 75°F at night. It is composed of species of which 94% take medium light and 83% take low light. Grow this hybrid in shaded to dappled light conditions.

**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.



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## News from the AOS

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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!



### Hosting an Orchid Show in the COVID Atmosphere



Our Lakeland, Florida affiliate, Ridge Orchid Society, hosted an AOS judged orchid show, September 19 and 20. Pictured here is the Show Quaranteam, Vivian Gibby, Marcus Norvell, and Dina & Keith Emig.

Even though it is a much smaller event than both the Tamiami and Redland Orchid Festivals, this 58-year-old orchid society pulled off something that many were skeptical could be done in this health-compromised atmosphere. It turns out that this show and sale was well attended by an orchid-starved public. It even left a plus in the society earnings column.

Only one regular vendor declined to participate due to the health of a family member. As soon as the show announcement went public, a new vendor that was a good fit for this group quickly replaced them. What did the society do to make it work?

- ✓ All exhibits were limited to 8' x 30" tabletops.
- ✓ Display set-up and take down teams were limited to four individuals.
- ✓ A Safety Committee was appointed to sanitize frequently touched surfaces throughout the weekend.
- ✓ Hand sanitizer was available throughout the hall.
- ✓ Everyone was required to wear a mask and masks were available at the entrance for those who needed them.
- ✓ All food for society volunteers, vendors, and AOS Judging personnel was prepackaged or individually wrapped.
- ✓ Kitchen volunteers wore gloves.
- ✓ The exhibit hall was limited to 50% of normal occupancy.
- ✓ There was a capacity checker at the entrance and when the doors opened Saturday morning, there were a few who had to wait their turn to enter.

All plant registration and classifications for ribbon judging took place Friday, September 18 during exhibit set-up. Upon completion, there were 199 ribbon judging entries. Five ribbon teams with clerks were assigned.

Society planning is only part of the equation. Would there be enough AOS judges from our region willing to participate? This time there were fewer AOS judges for this show, resulting in one less AOS judging team than in years past.

Saturday, September 19, ribbon judging started promptly at 8:30 a.m. followed by AOS judging. Twenty-three plants were nominated for AOS review by eleven accredited judges, assisted by four student judges. Twelve of the nominations

received quality awards. An AOS Show Trophy was awarded to a small commercial grower for the most outstanding display in the show.

The society was excited! That is a record number of awards for their show.



Show Trophy awarded to Accent Orchids for Best Exhibit in Show. Their display received 84 pts. and is described as follows: A well balanced and visually flowing 30 in. x 96 in. table top display, with a centrally placed delicate Habenaria medusa, and hybrid catasetum, among other well placed genera including Vandachostylis Lou Sneary 'Pink', Paphiopedilum parishii, and Grammatophyllum scriptum. Strategically placed driftwood, cork, fern and rocks created a natural looking environment. Award #20201383. Photo by Laura Newton.



**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 [scheduled webinars](#) and to register on the AOS website. You will find the link here:

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED:**

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

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

*posted to Facebook, Instagram and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.* We digitize the webinars and they are 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](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)**

## Webinars-Coming Attractions!

				
<b>When</b>	<b>October 06, 2020</b> 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	<b>October 20, 2020</b> 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	<b>November 10, 2020</b> 8:30pm EST Tuesday	<b>December 02, 2020</b> 8:30pm EST Wednesday
<b>Topic</b>	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Paphiopedilums, Their Care and Understanding	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Ron McHatton</b> Chief Education and Science Officer	<b>Dave Sorokowsky</b> Owner Paph Paradise Awarded grower and AOS Judge	<b>Ron McHatton</b> Chief Education and Science Officer	<b>Ron McHatton</b> Chief Education and Science Officer

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



**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!** Plan to attend the **Fall Members Meeting** with a virtual auction beginning October 16. <https://www.aos.org/news-and-events/members-meetings.aspx>



**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** AOS Representatives, please remember to let your society members know; we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources available to help make orchid growing enjoyable and successful. *Individual society membership and AOS Membership are not the same. Although affiliated, each requires separate membership dues.*

# Spots and Stripes

*Orchids* supplement for 2020

coming this October!



Spotted Vandas  
by Robert Fuchs

Spotted Catasetinae  
By Fred Clarke

Harlequin Phalaenopsis  
by Steve Gonzalez

Cheetahs of the Cattleya World  
by Laura Newton

Spotted and Striped Masdevallias  
by Marguerite Webb

*Dendrobium bifalce* and Striped *Dendrobiums*  
by Pam Porteous  
and much more!

join today  [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)

American Orchid Society

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE

<https://secure.aos.org/donate>

Choose

ANNUAL Orchid Supplement

## BONUS

In addition to our normal monthly issue, October brings our annual supplement to *Orchids* magazine. Seeing spots? Perhaps stripes? Maybe both? This year's supplement is devoted entirely to spotted and striped orchids across a wide array of often-grown genera. Just how did all those fabulously colored hybrids come about? You won't want to miss this supplement.

Consider donating to this and future [AOS annual supplements](https://secure.aos.org/donate). Each year a supplement is dedicated to bringing you in-depth information on a specially selected topic. <https://secure.aos.org/donate>









### AWARDS GALLERY




AOS MEMBERS can review the beauty and diversity of awarded orchids in every issue of [ORCHIDS magazine](https://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx) and also in the most up to date [OrchidPro](https://op.aos.org/) awards database.

<http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx>

<https://op.aos.org/>

Below is a sample of comparing awards shown in [OrchidPro](https://op.aos.org/). Remember to sign on to [aos.org](http://www.aos.org) and look for OrchidPro on the drop down menu. Click on any one photo in LATEST AWARDS to read the details, measurements and description for each award. Find out when and where it was exhibited, and the exhibitor for each orchid. While you are there, select OTHER AWARDS button to compare the current award to previously awarded clones. The diversity of orchids seen in the judging system is awe-inspiring. Check in frequently to view the 100 most recent awards. Orchids are a continuing education.

**ACTIONS** Select Action (1)  Total Count     

 <p><b>Dendrobium hekouense 'Chandra P'</b> AM   AOS (81 points) Sep 13, 2020</p>	 <p><b>Dendrobium hekouense 'Chandra P'</b> CCM   AOS (82 points) Sep 13, 2020</p>	 <p><b>Dendrobium hekouense 'Cordelia'</b> CHM   AOS (84 points) Aug 19, 2017</p>
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*Dendrobium hekouense* 'Chandra P'

AM | AOS (81 points)

Award No: 20202290

Date: Sep 13, 2020

Event: California-Sierra Nevada Center Monthly Judging (Sacramento, California)

Exhibitor: Douglas Kubo

Photographer: Ramon de los Santos

#### CULTURE CONNECTION

**CULTIVATE:** to grow in a prepared medium

Visit the AOS website for a [Monthly Checklist on Orchid Care](#)

<https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/september-october-checklist.aspx>

## Monthly Checklist for September and October

### Cattleya

Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-month's bloom.

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.



This is the month for purples derived from *Cattleya labiata* breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too.

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.



*Cycnoches chlorochilon, the green swan orchid.*

### **Cycnoches**

This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches chlorochilon*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

### **Cymbidium**

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.



*Dendrobium Burana Stripe is a popular and easy phalaenopsis-type hybrid.*

### **Dendrobium**

This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

### **Rhynchosele bictoniensis**

Both *Rhynchosele bictoniensis* and its hybrids bloom in this season. *Rhynchosele bictoniensis*, formerly known as *Lemboglossum*, *Odontoglossum*) is a showy species from Mexico that has three different color forms: sulphureum (green with white lip), album (brown with white lip) and roseum (brown with a pink lip). It is a vigorous grower with tall inflorescences of many flowers, and imparts to its progeny (as seen in *Odcdm. Bittersweet* and *Odm. bicross*) ease of culture, warmth tolerance and eye-catching patterns. They make a prime candidate for *odontoglossum* beginners and advanced alike.

## **Paphiopedilum**

Standard, green-leaved paphiopedilums begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

## **Phalaenopsis**

The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid-type fertilizer, is beneficial.



*Rossioglossum grande shows off its large, dramatic flowers.*

### **Rossioglossum grande**

Once known as *Odontoglossum grande*, this is a spectacular orchid with six to eight flowers up to 8 inches across. Often known as the tiger orchid, it has bright golden yellow flowers heavily marked with chestnut brown barring. The plants are beautiful with a grey-green cast to the foliage, which is borne on succulent pseudobulbs. It prefers hot and wet summers with cooler, even down to 40 F, dry winters. Grow under filtered light. Watch for snails and slugs that eat the flowers, pseudobulbs and leaves.



**Orchid Society  
of Greater  
Kansas City**

**OSGKC.ORG**

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

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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 [www.osgkc.org](http://www.osgkc.org) for updates and changes to our program schedule.

### 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"

### December 13, 2020

OSGKC meeting –

A Zooming Holiday Event full of SURPRISES!!! 😊

### May 7-9, 2021 Southwestern Regional Orchid Growers Association

Show Kansas Orchid Society in Wichita

See:kansasorchidsociety.com