



ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS

A Communication Instrument for Society Members and Others

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Volume II Issue 4
April 2021



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 2nd Sunday of each month. Annual dues are \$25 for Individuals and \$30 for Household.

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April-May News!

Comments from Jean Rogers, President

Hope you enjoyed our auction and chat with Sarah Hurdel in April. Susie does an amazing job at keeping us connected and learning. I loved getting to chat with Sarah; I think her method of potting is so interesting. I was walking around the pond at 'the farm' this weekend and saw MOSS!! If any of you want some and don't have access to any, let me know and I'll bring some home for you.

It seems many of you have close to 'maxed out' your growing space – (my philosophy is the same as for the dishwasher – “there’s always room for just one more”. 😊) I’m sure you are looking forward to hearing “Growing Miniature Orchids, Part 2” by Dr. Kristen Uthus of New World Orchids on May 16th. Did you ever imagine there were so many miniature orchids? Keep my philosophy in mind – there’s always room for just one more.

I hope you opened the Member Picture Pamphlet from Cindy Meyer. She has done an amazing job – It is wonderful getting to see all your faces. And, she is working on the addition of the bios. There will be a complete pamphlet in the future – the bios are SO VERY INTERESTING!!! If you haven't sent your pictures and information already, please do so right away to Cindy Meyer at cameyeri@gmail.com and, include your **birth day and month**. If you have Household Membership, send info for both!! Remember to put August 15th on your calendar for the annual picnic which will be at Antioch Park. It has a large pavilion, lots of space, plenty of room for us to spread out but be FACE TO FACE!!! I can hardly wait!!

Remember that we have Iva hostessing Beginners Group at 1:00 before meetings. **ANYONE and EVERYONE** can listen in. Though it is directed at the more beginning grower, I learn something from Iva every month!!! If you are a seasoned grower and have questions, just hold them for Care and Culture Round Table which begins at 1:30. Cindy Hobbs and Susie Hanna are doing a dynamite job of receiving members questions/pictures and lining up members to help. We have such a great group of people who what to help each other!!! **If you have questions/problems, please send them and pictures to Cindy at tincan1201@aol.com as soon as you can** so she can work on finding members to address the issue. Please remember that if you don't want to wait till next meeting, you can always post to Orchid Growers of OSGKC Facebook page and get help from other members. And If you don't do Facebook but you are an AOS member, you can send pictures to the

Greenhouse Chat (see AOS Webinar Chart below) and experts will help you during the Webinar Chat AND follow up with you. If you are not an AOS member, please consider becoming one. You can do that at their website.

<https://secure.aos.org/store/register-renew> And for any help, please contact Mark Prout, AOS Rep for our Society.

Happy orchid growing.
Jean

Project Plant Recap & Update

This year we are split, we have two crosses that we will grow. Some members purchased one, some the other, some both!! My how different the parents are. Sunset Valley Orchids provided the offsprings of the two pairs. Please share pictures when yours blooms. 17 were ordered of the 1st cross and 15 of the 2nd cross. Orchids were received March 17th.



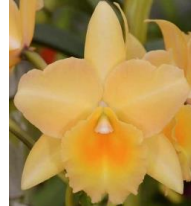
Lc. Mari's
Magic 'H & R'



Slc. Candy
Sparks
'Superior Flare'



Blc. Schroder's
Love 'SVO'
AM/AOS



Blc Bouton
D'or 'Halycon'

Kristy ordered a couple extra so if you want one, please let her know (email below) - \$13, Blooming Size.

Meanwhile, please continue to keep Kristy Charland posted if anything else is happening with last year's C. Warpaint. Kristy 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!!!!

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 oooohhs and ahhhs 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, 2020 Newsletter for contact information of willing helpers in the Society and their 'specialty'. (Can't find the March 2020 issue – email jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com). This is all especially important since we can't meet in person.

Meetings

Upcoming meeting(s) - From Susie Hanna, OSGKC Program Chair:

Our May meeting will be the third Sunday in May (May 16) since Mother's Day falls on the second Sunday. Dr. Kristen Uthus will be joining us to further explore the world of "Growing Miniature Orchids" on Sunday May 16. Kristen was with us in March for part one of the presentation, and we had some technical difficulties that interfered with the program, so hopefully this time things will go smoothly. She has some wonderful photos to share and lots of good cultural information. The orchids she will discuss are perfect for the home grower, especially if you have very limited room for growing.

Our June 13 program will be Jim France, Oakwood Orchids: 'Growing Orchids Without a Greenhouse'.

We are planning another orchid growers' tour for July 11. Last year we did a virtual tour, and this year we could try a hybrid tour. Members who'd like to show their growing areas please contact me, and we can discuss a way to do a tour either in person, or on Zoom. Please email me: hannaorchids@gmail.com.

Mark Prout and Susie Hanna attended a Zoom conference on Phalaenopsis hosted by *Societa Felsinea di Orchidofilia (SFO)* based in Bologna, Italy. We were the only Americans present out of a total of 90 people. The organizers of this event were very friendly and welcoming and spoke excellent English. The featured speaker was David LaFarge from Bordeaux, France, who is an internationally-recognized expert on Phalaenopsis. He gave a slide presentation overviewing the 80 recognized species, and discussed a number of hybrids, including efforts at producing a blue-lavender Phal. The talk concluded with advice on culture along with a lively Q & A session. The organizers indicated that there is a real need by orchid growers in Italy to connect with each other and internationally to obtain more information. What's available to read on the internet about orchid growing is not sufficient.

There will be future events sponsored by the group. A nominal donation was requested to attend this. For more information, see their Facebook page: Societa Felsinea di Orchidofilia .

No news from MAOC.

Other news:

Peter Lin of Big Leaf Orchids now has a new Facebook page for purchasing new arrivals. He's just received a new shipment of unusual Phals from Taiwan. Find him at Big Leaf Orchids Sales

Last Month's Meeting Speaker Notes by Cindy Meyer and Crystal Remington

Last month was the auction so that meant a "month off" for Cindy and Crystal. But my, don't they do a good job with the minutes???! If you haven't read them, please do so on our website OSGKC.org. You can get a recap of information that was covered and be ready to approve the minutes at the meeting.

In April. We had an auction. There were 75 plants offered and 3 stain glass sun-catchers. All items were sold. After expenses, the net was \$1239.81 minus PayPal fees. That will help us pay for some more great speakers that Susie Hanna does so an amazing job of finding and hopefully contribute to some conservation causes that Robin Byer is researching.

Judging Notes...

Upcoming Shows & Judgings Around Our Region

If you have an orchid blooming that you think is FANTASTIC – Contact Mark Prout. 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.

May 8, 2021

Springfield Botanical Center, 2400 S Scenic Ave, Springfield, MO 65807

News regarding our own Mark Prout AOS Judge, significo!!!

A year ago, the 23rd World Orchid Congress was set to open in Taichung, Taiwan. It was of course postponed. It was held this year virtually. Usually this would have included a big orchid show with massive displays.

Virtual judging of a much smaller competition was organized by the Taiwan Orchid Growers Association (T.O.G.A.). TOGA created a website displaying each plant in a range of classes. Judges could view each entry in 360° views with magnification.

They invited accredited AOS judges to participate, which Mark did. Judges were assigned a range of classes and given three days to choose the 1st, 2nd, 3rd in each class. Then all judges chose the top six from top vote getters over two days. The Grand Champion came from the part of the Cattleya Alliance Mark's team judged.

Grand Champion

總冠軍

Vkt. Jinn Feng Orange 'Golden Plum'



February OSGKC Judging

20 members submitted 60 blooming orchids for judging and show in **March**.

Thanks to the following members for submitting orchids for judging in **March**: Crystal Remington, Kristy Charland, Brian Donovan, Cindy Hobbs, Dr. Dan Schlozman, Jim Pyrzynski, Louise Hicks, Jen Winter, Jen McAroy, Jean Rogers, Anna Archibald, Donna Klehm, and Sabrina Markese

Blue Ribbons were received by: Cindy Hobbs for Ctt. Gold Nuggett (Cattleya), Donna Klehm for Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani' AM/AOS (Oncidiums), Brian Donovan for Den. Gregulus (Species) and for Den. Micro Chip (Dendrobiums), Sabrina Markese for Phal. Yaphon Very Open, Jen Winter for Paph. St. Swithin (Paphiopedilums), Crystal Remington for Phrag. Gerry Dizon (Phragmipediums)

Red Ribbons were received by: Jean Rogers for Ctt. Aussie Sunset and Rchg Honky Tonk Woman (Cattleya), Cindy Hobbs for Ctt. Fire Island "Fiery" HCC/AOS, Jen Winter for Prosthecea Fragrans, Jim Ryzynski for Brassia pozoi, and Cattleya cernua, Anna Archibald for Den. Bruce Gordon, Donna Klehm for Phal NOID #2, and Brian Donovan for Paph. Wardettes.

White Ribbons were received by: Kristy Charland for Bc. Yellow Bird and Trh. Spring Blaze, Jen Winter for Paph. Delenatii (Species), Anna Archibald for Encyclia cordigera (Species), Donna Klehm for Phal. NOID #4, and Jen Winter for Paph. Memoria Serafin Perez.



March Orchid of the Month (drum roll)
Paph. St. Swithin brown by Jen Winter

Members Choice:

Den. Micro Chip grown by Brian Donovan



"Just for Viewing Pleasure" – Thanks to; Susie Hanna & Al Clinton, Jean Rogers, Anna Archibald, Crystal Remington, Susan Tompkins, Jen Winter and, Mark and Joy Prout for submitting pictures for our viewing pleasure.

April 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 **This month -Send by the end of the day Sat. May 4th.**

Blooming Orchids for Show and/or Judging.

Deadline for submissions was April 26th. Watch for the May 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 by May 4th)



Brassocattleya (Bc.) Kosh Wallace
'Paradise' HCC/AOS



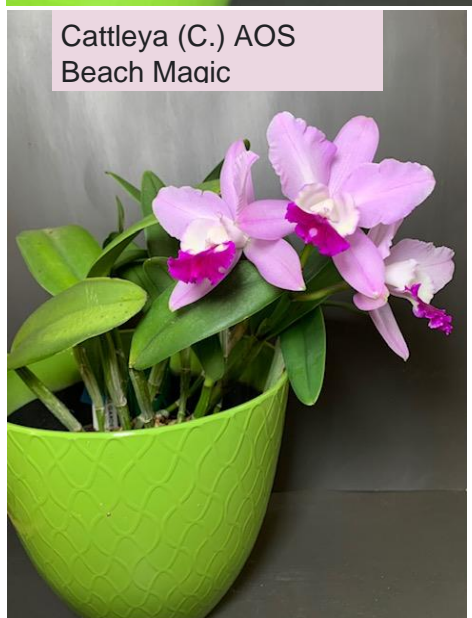
Jackfowlieara (Jkf.)
Appleblossom #1



Cattleya (C.) AOS
Beach Magic



Rhyncattleanthe (Rth.) (Love Passion
'Island Romance' x Lc. Tropical
Sunset 'Oceans Heaven')



Cattleya Melody Fair 'Mishima'





Enanthleya (Eny.) Jackie Bright
'Hilo Stars'

Cattleya Ports of Paradise
'Emerald Isle' FCC/AOS



Rhyncholaeliocattleya
(Rlc.) Margery Kekauoha
'Royalty'

Jackfowlieara (Jkf.)
Appleblossom #2





Jkf. Appleblossom #3



Dendrobium (Den.) kingianum
var. pulcherrimum



Den. moniliforme
'Koganemaru'



Den. Sherry Abe

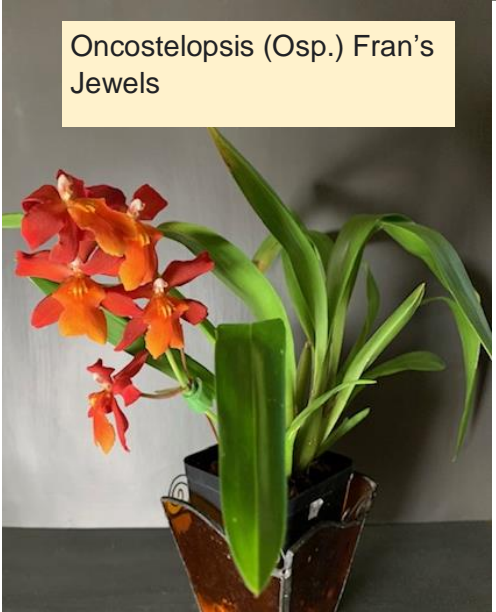




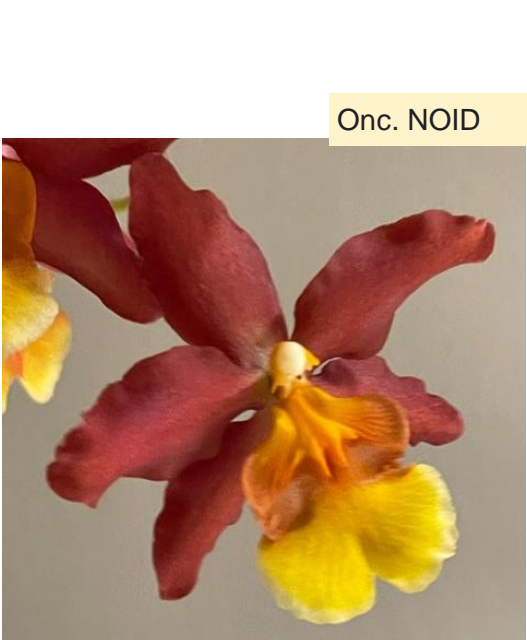
Oncostelopsis (Osp.) Fran's Jewels



Oncidium (Onc.) Wildcat 'Golden Red Star'

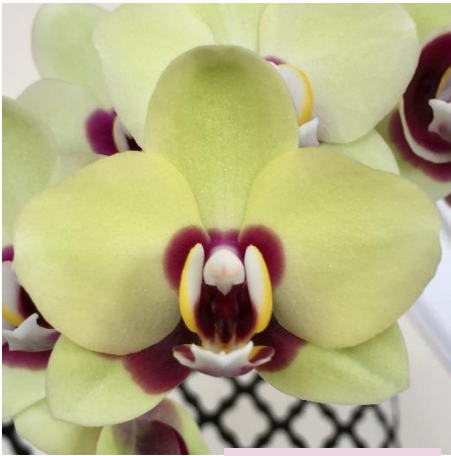
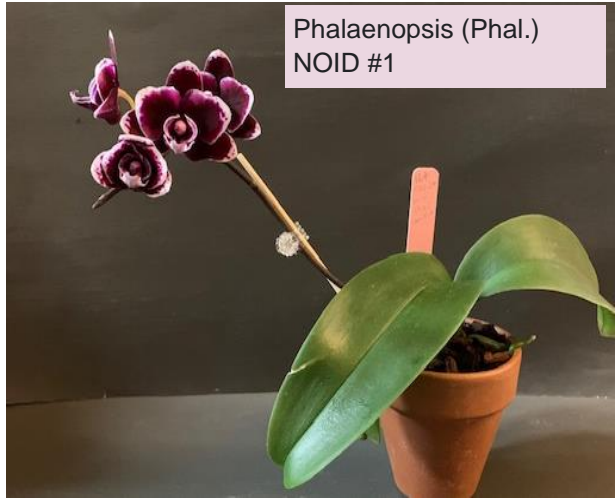


Onc Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' AM/AOS



Onc. NOID

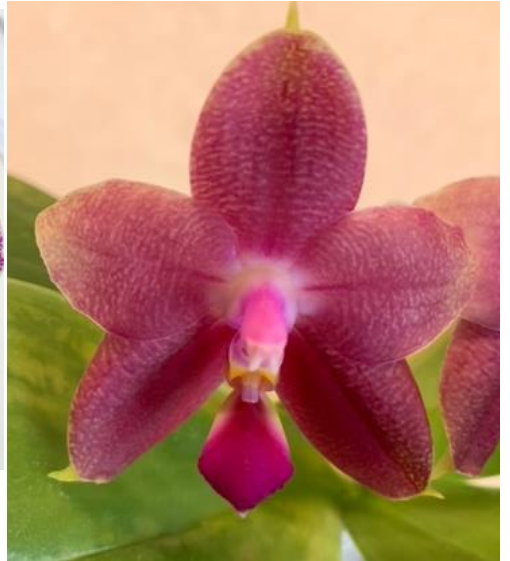




Phal. NOID #2



Phal. NOID #3





Phalaenopsis Chiada Francis 'Picotee'



Phal. NOID #4

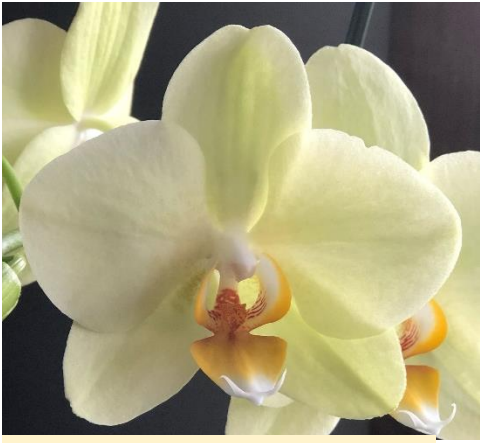


Phal. NOID #5



Phal. NOID #6





Phalaenopsis (Phal.) NOID #7



Phal. NOID #8



Phal. NOID #9



Phal. NOID #10



Phal. NOID #11



Paphiopedilum (Paph.) Honey

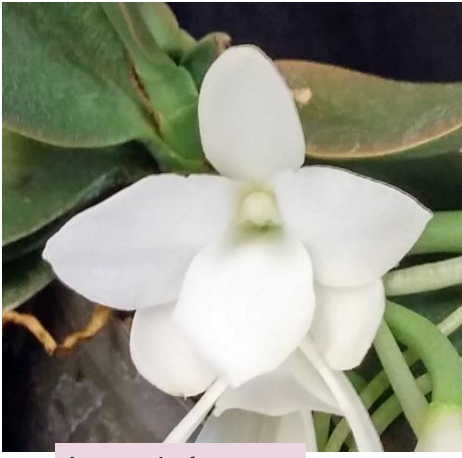


Paph. (Maudiae 'Los Osos' x Hsinying Cyber Leopard 'C.H.')



Cypripedium parviflorum var. pubescens





Aerangis fastuosa



Phalaenopsis equestris var. orange



Brassavola (B.) nodosa



Phalaenopsis equestris



Zygopetalum (Z.) Debbie De Mello



Mormodia (Morm.) Regine Viard



NOT for JUDGING – just for your VIEWING PLEASURE!

From Susan Tompkins

Cattleanthe Jardin del Azuay



Dendrobium junceum



Guarianthe aurantiaca



Restrepia striata



Phal. Yaphon Oh Mygod



From Mark and Joy Prout

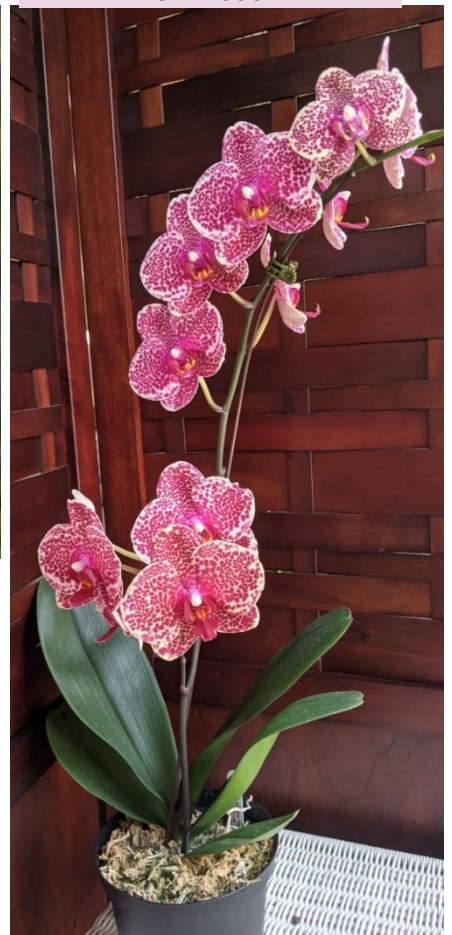
Encyclia Borincana



Phragmipedium Hanne Popow



Phalaenopsis I-Hsin
Sesame 'OX 1699'



Rhyncattleanthe (Rth.) Gold Sound



Phragmipedium China
Moon 'ViClI' AM/AOS



Paphiopedilum thaianum



Cattleya intermedia var. *coerulea* 'Super Blue'



From Susie Hanna

Phal. sumatrana



Phal. Mini Mark



Rodrumnia (Rrm.) Pink Lace



Phal. Brother Sandra



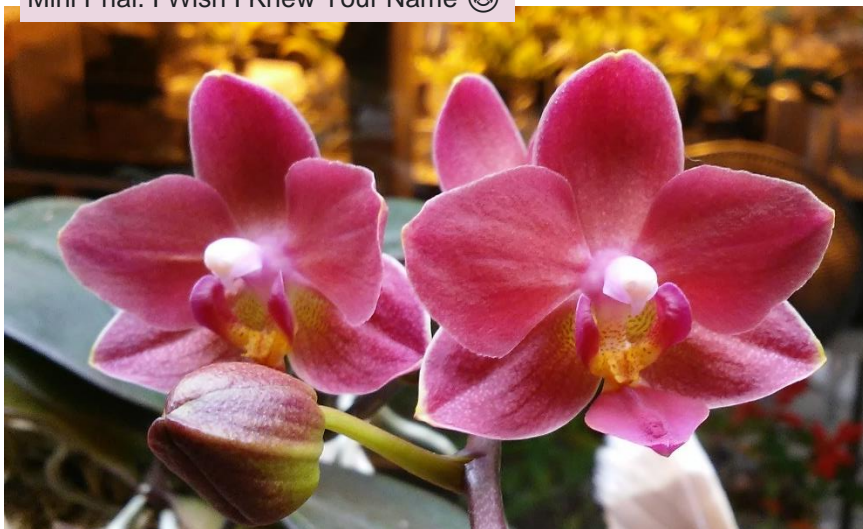
Den. farmeri



Tolumnia Gypsy Beauty



Mini Phal. I Wish I Knew Your Name 🌸



From: Merri Archibald



Phal. NOID

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 Jen Winter
Paph. St. Swithin

I find my paph's grow happiest a few feet back from the south facing smoked glass window in my grow room. I then added a rather powerful grow lamp 3 ft overhead on a daylight matching schedule timer. I'm having luck with the Vivosun 6500k grow lights. Some paphs are happier on bottom shelves directly in the window. I water them every 2-3 days with full drainage so there's no chance for any water to pool around them. Any time I water any other species nearby, I also water my paphs. I try not to water at night if it's cool to help prevent root rot. Once a week, I add nutrients. It's an enclosed sun porch so nights still drop to the mid 50's and 60's with highs in the daytime in the 70- 80's this month. I am fortunate I can keep the humidity quite high, usually over 60% with a large metal fan on a stand. To do this I have a very small mist system for short 5 min bursts; and on sunny days, I spray water over the floor and walls (which are the outside of the house).



From Crystal Remington
Phrag. Gerry Dizon

The key to this guy was using RO water. I started using tap water and ended up with poor growth and brown tips. After making the switch to RO and once monthly MSU fertilizer, it really started to take off with green full leaves and a spike leading to the most recent blooming. I water 2-3 times per week and leave a little bit in the tupperware dish it sits in so it doesn't dry out completely. It sits in a South facing window year round. It is potted in bark and after it finishes this bloom cycle will need to be repotted.



From Brian Donovan
Dendrobium Micro Chip

I grow this one under bright lights and put it outside under shade cloth for the summer. It can tolerate a fairly wide range of temperatures. It also likes a decent amount of fertilizer. I'm growing it in chunky bark with a few additives like clay pellets, chunks of charcoal, and perlite. I water it once a week. The key, I think, is to keep it well-drained. Those green beetles that come around during the summer like to feast on its leaves, so keep that in mind if you grow this one and want to put it outside during the summer (I learned this lesson the hard way two summers ago).



From Donna Klehm
Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani' AM/AOS

My little guy is in an east window in my kitchen but probably gets little natural light because of the taller orchids near it. So I've added a grow light that is about 8" above the plants and on from 6am-7pm. Given a good soak once a week with tap water, occasional light fertilizer. It's in the original pot-plastic with all the slots in the sides in bark. Humidity is about 60% due to it being in the kitchen and the other plants around it.



From Cindy Hobbs
Ctt. Gold Nugget

This Cattleya 'Gold Nugget' has been in my collection for over 10 years, a rarity for me to keep a large "catt" blooming for that long. It skipped blooming last year as it, along with my entire collection, was recovering from a mealy-bug struggle. This year, I increased its light, putting it directly under an LED tube light about a foot above. I also increased my humidity this year (60% constant) and have been using a time-released fertilizer pellet that was sprinkled on the surface of the bark. I am a forgetful fertilizerer, so this has helped my plants get a little boost each watering. I have this plant in a clay pot with bark and I water once a week. I was so happy to see its beautiful and colorful bloom with six flowers!



From Brian Donovan
Den. gregulus – Species

I won this at the OSGKC Christmas party auction several years ago. It's originally from Andy's Orchids. It's become one of my favorites because it's always doing something interesting. It has a really fascinating growing habit and blooming cycle. During the summer it develops new pseudobulbs, and during the fall it develops grass-like leaves. The leaves eventually fall off around the wintertime. Soon thereafter it goes into spike and eventually produces clusters of small, long-lasting, flowers. I have it mounted and water it nearly every day. I let it dry out completely between waterings, which means that sometimes I skip a day. During the winter I let it rest and only water it a couple of times a week. Phal.-like light and occasional fertilizer.



From Sabrina Markese
Yaphon Very Open

Phal.

This is potted in Birds larger orchid mix. We have floor to ceiling Northwest facing windows where I keep the majority of my orchids. Water once weekly. Fertilize with Grow More (20/10/20) every other week year round, switching to Grow More Bloom formula (6/30/30) when blooming. No other supplements. No special lighting.

Outside OSGKC Resources

Kristy's Korner

April 27, 2021

Hello orchid fans!

I apologize for being so brief this month. Lots of activity in the Charland family right now!

I want to draw your attention to the recent "virtual" World Orchid Conference 23 Taichung, Taiwan which took place on April 23-26. Want to see some gorgeous plants? Here's the link to the opening ceremonies:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOJcJBLhrvQ> And here's a link to the virtual exhibition.

https://super720.com/?page_id=12533

BE WELL!

Kristy

We thank Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids for granting permission to reprint any of his care notes.



Sunset Valley Orchids 2021 Spring Newsletter

I hope that you're all doing well and staying safe and healthy. Please take all the precautions necessary to stay safe - like spending more time with your orchids!

It's officially spring, and your *Catasetinae* should be getting started on their growing season. Some of you along the southern edge of the country have already started watering and fertilizing. I am hearing reports from southern growers that many plants now have new growths that are 6-12" tall with new roots approximately 3- 6" long. This is the time to start watering and fertilizing! Growers farther north (myself included) may still have a few weeks until the new roots are 3-6" long. Remember that not all *Catasetinae* come out of dormancy at the same time, so you may have some plants showing well-developed roots while others will be just starting to root. Begin watering and fertilizing plants that are ready and hold off on the ones still needing more time; this is a good practice to develop.

During this time of year, *Catasetinae* like lots of light, warmth, humidity and air movement. Be sure your plants are getting the correct conditions now, as this will really help them get a good start on their seasonal growth.

Ideal temperatures in early spring are 60-70 degree nights and 75-85 degree days. Humidity should be 50% or higher to best support the plants and new roots.

When beginning to water, start slowly and gradually increase the frequency and quantity as the plants develop their pseudobulbs. I start the watering season using ½ tsp fertilizer per gallon of water and increase to 1 tsp per gallon as the days get longer and the plants experience high temperatures in July and August before switching back to ½ tsp per gallon in September and October.

Don't forget that *Catasetinae* prefer to be repotted or divided with the onset of new growth, just before or as the new roots start to show. If you have plants in 3" pots, wait until you see the start of a new growth, then unpot and add more moss around the existing medium to fit into a 4" pot.

Early in the growing season is when spider mites can get a foothold on your plants. Be diligent and check the undersides of the new leaves regularly. If mites are detected, spray immediately. Their populations can quickly get out of control if early action is not taken!

The new 2021 *Catasetinae* offering is really amazing! Plants are developing nicely, and I expect to have the new list ready to distribute in late June.

Here are the stages of growth and root development



No water, growth just started



No water, roots just starting to show.



No water, growth just started



This plant size to begin watering.

Please join our [Facebook page](#):
Fred Clarke and Carlos Lopez
Sunset Valley Orchids Inc.
(760) 310-0778
fred.clarke@att.net
www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com

We thank Dave Sorokowsky of Paph Paradise Orchids for granting permission to reprint any care notes from their website.



Introduction

So you've bought yourself a Paph... good choice! Now how do you keep it happy and healthy? Here is what you need to know about the care and feeding of Paphiopedilum orchids, what you need to know to grow your Paphs like a professional.

Mottled leaf Paphiopedilums

Often referred to as 'Maudiae' hybrids, these are among the easiest orchids to grow in the home. They require less light than most other orchids. A north or east window will provide ideal light for these plants. They are considered warm growing, which means they appreciate the same temperatures we do. Days in the 70's to low 80's are fine, and night temperatures above 60 F.



Use a balanced fertilizer, like 20-20-20. Orchid roots are sensitive to salts so we recommend fertilizing at about 1/4 to 1/2 the label rate. Use the 1/4 rate if you want to fertilize every time, and the 1/2 rate if you fertilize every other watering.

The most important part of watering is to make sure you flush the pot thoroughly. This means watering the plant for a good 10 seconds. This washes out excess salt build up and brings oxygen to the roots.

Speaking of roots, the best way to maintain a healthy root system is to repot these plants every year. They can be repotted any time, even in bud or bloom. Repotting seems to stimulate new root growth and perk up listless plants. There is no ideal mix that suits all growers. We use 1/3 pine bark, 1/3

number 3 perlite and 1/3 charcoal. If you have good quality water you won't need the charcoal. If you are in a humid climate you may need more perlite or coarse bark to help the plant dry out a bit more between waterings.

Never let these get completely dry, but don't let the mix get soggy. Water just before they get dry, feed them regularly and repot every year and you will have great success!

Complex Paphiopedilums

These are the 'bulldog' Paphs. Known for their huge, colorful, long-lasting flowers.



This is another group that doesn't require as much light as many other orchids. A north or east window will provide enough light for them to grow and flower. A west or south window can work but the plants need to be protected from the hot sun with sheer curtains.

As with mottled leaf Paphs, we recommend a balanced fertilizer, like 20-20-20. Orchid roots are sensitive to salts so we recommend fertilizing at about 1/4 to 1/2 the label rate. Use the 1/4 rate if you want to fertilize every watering, and the 1/2 rate if you fertilize every other time.

The most important part of watering is to make sure you flush the pot thoroughly. This means watering the plant for a good 10 seconds. This washes out excess salt build up and brings oxygen to the roots.

Complex Paphs appreciate the same temperatures we do. Days in the 70's to low 80's in the summer and nights into the 60's are fine. Keeping them a few degrees cooler when they are blooming will

extend the life of their flowers. They easily tolerate temperatures into the 50's during winter nights.

Repot these plants every year for best root growth. Old media can break down and become 'sour'. Repotting stimulates new root tip growth and allow you to remove old, soft roots that no longer function. Small plants to medium plants will do best in fine bark, larger specimen plants may need medium bark as these plants can get quite large if well grown.

As with other Paphs, always flush the pot thoroughly when you water, delivering oxygen to the roots and rinsing out excess salts.

Multifloral Paphiopedilums



These are the largest members of the Paph family. They require a bit more space but the spectacular display of flowers they provide makes them worth it!

Multiflorals require more light than most other Paphs. They can grow along side of Cattleyas. They also like warm temperatures, 80's during the day in the summer and nights in the 60's. They will tolerate 50's on winter nights but keep them on the dry side when it's cold to prevent rot.

A balanced fertilizer will work for this group. They are heavy feeders during the growing season so 1/2 strength of a 20-20-20 plant food will work. Multiflorals require more calcium than some others. This is usually supplied by the calcium occurring in municipal tap water. If you have very soft water or use pure water you may want to add a calcium supplement to your regime. Let these plants dry out a bit between waterings.

Since these plants are rather large, they require a larger grade of bark. Larger bark and drier culture mean that the media will not break down too quickly, so repotting is usually done every other year.

If you live in Florida or a similar climate you can grow these outside under light shade. Just protect them when the rare frosty night comes along.

Phragmipedium are intimidating to many people. Most are actually quite easy to grow as long as you consider their requirements. For that you need an understanding of the habitat where they grow. We are by no means expert growers of Phragmipedium. Our California Central Valley summers make many of these quite challenging for us. After years of trial and error we are able to keep most of the species and hybrids growing and thriving. Here we offer some advice based on that experience. This is by no means a 'one size fits all' situation. You may have to learn what works for you.

The Easy Phragmipediums



We are calling this group 'easy' because they will grow alongside many other common orchids in your collection. We successfully cultivate these ones with Cattleyas and Oncidiums. This group includes *Phragmipedium caudatum* and most of its other long petaled relatives as well as *Phragmipedium lindleyanum*. Many of these Phrags grow at relatively low elevations so they are tolerant of warm temperatures. They will grow well with daytime temperatures in the mid 80's F and nights in the 60's.

Many plants in this group will take very bright light. I once saw a speaker at a conference who had been to the habitat of these species. He had a photo of a *Phragmipedium* growing up against a *Catasetum* species in situ. They were in full sun and it was obviously the dry season as the *Catasetum* had no leaves. What does this tell us? It tells us that this group does not want wet feet, they want good light and good air movement.

We grow these ones in well drained media. We use Orchidata seedling bark with about #3 perlite mixed in...about 1/3 of the mix. They get watered once per week most of the year...sometimes a bit less in the cooler months and sometimes a bit more when it's really hot. We fertilize at every watering with a complete fertilizer that adds micronutrients as well as basic nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.

These seem tolerant of high fertilizer rates, but we choose to flush them with pure water from time to time. Bright light is ideal, but we don't recommend direct sun. These will do just fine in moderate light alongside your complex or mottled leaf *Paphiopedilum*.

The Common Hybrids



It is difficult to lump all of the *Phragmipedium* hybrids you see into one group, but most modern breeding has become fairly complex. These hybrids usually contain some combination of the most common species like *Phragmipedium besseae*, *kovachii*, *schlimii* and its relatives, *longifolium* and *sargentianum*.

Unless you are dealing with a hybrid made exclusively with cooler growing species (see the next section), these will be fairly hardy and tolerant of a good range of conditions. Breeders use parents like *Phragmipedium schlimii* to create more compact growing plants, but also to take advantage of their heat tolerance. Most of the commonly seen hybrids will appreciate intermediate temperatures. We recommend low 80's for daytime and low 60's at night. Humidity is important for this group. If you are able to maintain 60% to 70% humidity the plants will perform very well. Humidity trays and misting

systems will help with this. Air movement is also very important. This helps prevent disease from developing.

We have been successful with Orchidata Precision grade bark mixed with about 30% of #3 perlite. This mix holds moisture well but also allows for air at the roots. We water frequently, especially in the warmer months. Every other day is common in the summer. In the winter we will water twice a week in order to draw air into the mix to keep it fresh. If possible, try to just get water to the pot and avoid the foliage. This is especially important in the cooler months when the leaves will not dry quickly. Always flush the pot thoroughly with water in order to draw air into the mix and flush out mineral buildup. We fertilize at a high rate of 125 ppm nitrogen, but flush the plants with pure water an hour after we fertilize. You can opt for a weak fertilizer application of a 1/4 rate and forgo the flushing.

Many of the species that make up these hybrids come from habitats where water is moving by their roots. Even when it is not raining water is seeping from higher ground and slowly trickling over the roots. There are people who have tried to make ebb and flow systems to mimic this in their greenhouses. I have heard of mixed results. If the water is kept fresh and the roots are not submersed completely this could be an ideal situation. We have not tried this.

The Cool Growers



This is the challenging group for most of us. They include species like *Phragmipedium besseae* and *kovachii*. These species come from high elevations where daytime temperatures do not get much past 80 F. They are not tolerant of much heat and require high humidity.

We have had good luck with these in the last few years. This of course comes after over a decade of killing high quality (and high \$\$\$) *Phragmipedium besseae*. We try to keep the greenhouse in the low 80's even in our hottest months. Good air movement is critical. We use a misting system under the bench to help maintain humidity. This is supplemented with overhead misting on the hottest, driest days. Overhead misting must be used with caution, as you do not want to wet the foliage and encourage disease.

We water this group every 2 to 3 days in the warmer months. We don't worry about wetting the foliage as we water early and the leaves dry quickly, but ideally you would focus the water on the pot. Fertilizer is applied once per week at 125 ppm nitrogen. This is quite strong for this group but we flush the pots with pure water within an hour. Water quality is critical for these plants. They do not tolerate

mineral buildup in the mix.

These plants are potted in Precision Orchidata with about 30% of #3 perlite. This mix holds moisture but allows for air in the pot. For *Phragmipedium kovachii* we use the Classic grade of Orchidata as the plants are larger and we add about 5% oyster shells to the mix. This species seems to appreciate the higher pH in the mix that results from the oyster shells. Mature *kovachii* should have an even larger grade bark as they require very large pots.

With spring upon us and so many of us getting ready to put our babies outside, I thought it might be good to look at some suggestions from an expert.



**Outdoor Orchid
Growing**

Thanks to Ray Barkalow and First Rays for granting permission to reprint any of his articles.

Properly selected and cared for, orchids can be among the showiest and most exotic of all garden or patio plants. There are many areas throughout the southern and central United States where temperatures for a good portion of the year are compatible with the requirements of outdoor orchid growing. Some coastal areas are nearly frost-free year round. In these areas, with some protection from excessive sun, wind and rain, lovely orchid plants can be successfully cultivated on the patio or as a part of the landscape. In frost-free areas, the plants can be left in place all year. Where frost or temperatures below 40°F threaten, plants can be brought into the home to be grown on windowsills, under lights or on an unheated patio where the coldest temperatures are avoided. The trick is in selecting plants that are already adapted to your particular area. First, though, consider some basic cultural needs of the plants.

LIGHT

No flowering plant will do well in deeper shade, and orchids are no exception. Orchids generally come from environments where dappled light is the norm. The hotter the sun, the more midday shade is required. In humid or coastal areas, more

sun can be given. The required amount of light will also dictate your selection of plants. If you can offer only one light situation, select only plants that can do well under those conditions.

TEMPERATURE

In most cases, you will be limited to whatever Mother Nature provides, eased only by the amount of shade you supply. Generally, there are many lovely orchids that will do well in the temperature range from 40° to 90°F. Your particular temperature conditions will influence your choice of plants.

HUMIDITY

Most areas with satisfactory temperatures will have adequate humidity. Anywhere from 40 percent and up will do. Only in the deserts will it be unsatisfactory. In such areas, grouping orchids with other plants can create a microclimate that will suit them.

WATERING

This will depend greatly on your plant selection, and whether the plants are grown under cover. In general: Most orchids require at least some air circulation around their roots yet are intolerant of excessive moisture at the roots.

FERTILIZER

Fertilize regularly, at a low dosage, with a fertilizer appropriate to the potting mix in which the plants are grown.

A selection of plants that may be grown outdoors

- Cattleya Alliance Hybrids: Especially good are hybrids with *Laelia anceps* in their ancestry; half sun, temperature-tolerant.
 - Cymbidiums: Only in areas with cool summer nights, not for the Gulf states; nearly full sun.
 - Dendrobiums: Among the many choices, Indian and Australian types best; half sun, temperature-tolerant.
 - Encyclia Species and Hybrids: Half sun, very temperature-tolerant.
 - Epidendrums: Especially the brilliant reed-stem types; need almost full sun, temperature-tolerant.
 - Oncidiums: Mexican species, or higher-elevation types; bright shade to half sun.
 - Paphiopedilums: Lady's-slipper orchids are for the shaded garden.
 - Phaius: The nun orchid, with broad leaves and tall spikes; shade to half sun, keep moist.
 - Spathoglottis: Broad, palmlike leaves and spikes of purple and yellow flowers; shade to half sun.
-

Let's Get to Know Each Other

OSGKC Members!

MAY



Pat Bridgford

Birthday

I was born on Mothers day years ago.

I believe I have been a member of OSGKC for 3 years.

Growing orchids started about 6 years ago when a friend gave me 5 orchids. They were 3 Catt's and 2 Dendrobiums. I had never seen any orchids besides the big box store ones, so I started to research the diff. kinds of orchids and got hooked. Catt's are my favorite. Some of my green family members are growing in windows while others are under lights. I am a retired nurse that worked on an orthopedic floor for 20 years. After which I worked in a family practice, pulmonary clinic, a physc clinic for children in the system, as well as a jail nurse. I was born in May on Mothers day many years ago. My husband and I have had many pets both rescued and purchased. We now have 2 Pomeranians who are certified therapy dogs as well as registered service dogs. The four of us very much enjoyed going to Nursing homes, schools, and church events before the lockdown. Also, a rescue black cat who likes to tease the poms and 3 rescued birds (parakeet, conure, and a cockatiel). I also have a 75-gallon freshwater aquarium and 2 ponds outside. One of the ponds have 4 large koi and the other has goldfish and shubunkins. That pond has plants, while the koi pond does not because the koi like to dig them up. My husband and I are part of the planning committee for his yearly Navy reunion while I publish the quarterly newsletter. Something you may find surprising is lam a gun enthusiast and shoot once a week. I also am a competition BBQ pitmaster





Ariel Paulson

Birthday May 19th

1. How long have you been in OSGKC (When did you join the OSGKC?)

2014

2. How long have you been growing orchids?

2014

3. What got you hooked?

Complexity of doing it right, also have been growing houseplants all my life.

4. What type of orchid is your favorite?

Vanilla

5. Where and how are you growing orchids? (include pictures if you can)

Steel racks, LEDs and humidity tents.

6. What was/is your profession or training - are you still working or retired?

Biology degree, currently work in biological data analysis and software development.

7. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..."

I have somewhere around 5000 books.

8. Birth Month and Day"

May 19

9. Do you have any pets?

Springtails and fungus gnats, I suppose.



LINDA TAMBLIN

Birthday May 27th

1. How long have you been in OSGKC (When did you join the OSGKC?) Beginning my second year. Joined in 2019.

2. How long have you been growing orchids? Dabbling for about 40 years.

3. What got you hooked? Tropical plants are my jam. I have been growing all kinds of plants since I was a kid. I



love the toughness, diversity, and adaptations in Orchidaceae.

4. What type of orchid is your favorite? Difficult to say since I am still trying new plants. I started with Dendrobiums and now I'm grabbing up miniatures and Japanese orchids. Who knows what's next? That keeps it exciting!

5. Where and how are you growing orchids? (include pictures if you can) My orchids grow under lights in the winter. Trying different microclimates in my house - basement, south window, west window, and even north window. I enjoy the experimentation. In the summer most of my plants head outside on the deck where they grow shaded and protected under screens.

6. What was/is your profession or training - are you still working or retired? I've had my share of professions - catering chef, terrarium plants and supplies business owner (Recycled Eden), financial analyst, and most recently editing horticultural publications.

7. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..." I rode an elephant through a jungle

8. Birth Month and Day" May 27

9. Do you have any pets? Doberman/Lab mix named Bea, Foster/Hospice kitty named Harriet



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!

APRIL – Congratulations to Us, The American Orchid Society is 100 years old!

The American Orchid Society has officially reached the 100-year mark. As a centenarian, we have felt all of the growing pains of the ages. We have stretched and exercised to become the strong body we are today. The affiliated societies have united the orchid loving public by providing a monthly meeting place for growers and exhibitors, from novice to expert. Many of our societies have been around for the long haul.

WHAT ARE WEBINARS?

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

Webinars-Coming Attractions!






When	May 04, 2021 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	May 31, 2021 8:30pm EDT Monday	June 08, 2021 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	June 17, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	<i>Prosthechea karwinskii</i> in Mexico, reintroducing a threatened species	Show Trophy Subjective or Objective	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Julia Douglas AOS Conservation Grant Recipient	Marc Burchette Head of Biltmore Estate Orchid Collection	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer

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**

Noteworthy

Recently *Orchids* magazine has reinstated a **Question and Answer** column. It contains excerpts from the Greenhouse Chat webinars. Greenhouse Chat webinars address everything orchids, from culture to pests and diseases.

While we're on the subject of orchid Q & A, today I asked Ron McHatton what is one of the most asked questions for Greenhouse Chats? He said, "What caused these spots on the leaves?"

Ron said the question does not have a single answer. He continued... "the spots are everything from mites to scale to fungus and bacteria, sunburn and even some that are clearly virus." His answer did not surprise me at all. It demonstrates that there is no one single answer to all of our orchid questions. Again, proving that orchids are not a one-size-fits-all endeavor. We keep coming back to learn more to grow our orchids better. Have you tuned in to a Greenhouse Chat?

Let's Get Wild About Vandaceous Orchids

The AOS 2021 supplemental issue will go in-depth with this family of orchids

Each special issue is underwritten by [donations](#) from orchid growers like you.

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

Vandas Selected from Most Recent Awards in OrchidPro...



Award No: 20211314

Vanda A. F. Buckman
'Leslie's in the Pink'
CCM/AOS (88 points)
Vanda falcata x
Vanda christensoniana
Florida North-Central Judging Center
Exhibitor: Leslie Belew
Photographer: Wes Newton



Award No: 20211503

Vanda tessellata
'Marta'
AM/AOS (85 points)
West Palm Beach Judging Center
Exhibitor: Juraj Kojs
Photographer: Nick Nickerson



Award No: 20211309

Vanda Motes Green Goblin
'Pippen's Protégé'
AM/AOS (83 points)
Vanda tessellata x
Vanda longitepala
Florida North-Central Judging Center
Exhibitor: Cheryle Daniel
Photographer: Wes Newton

[ORCHIDPRO](#) the AOS awards database, is available at no extra cost to members. A digital version is included with every AOS membership. You have access to the same program that the judges use at monthly orchid judging. Visit often to view quality and outstanding culture in awarded orchids. <https://op.aos.org/award>

To learn more about [orchid awards and judging](#) visit <https://www.aos.org/orchid-awards-judging.aspx>

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May 2014 Volume 83 Number 5

May: The Month of Exploration and Adventure by Thomas Mirenda

A great thinker named Helen Keller once wrote this: "Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing." I dare say she had a very different perspective about life than the rest of us, but I believe that perspective revealed a larger truth to her. I can't imagine how dangerous it would be to be blind, nor what an adventure it would be to discover, or rediscover, our world minus the incredible gift of sight! In a way, without venturing out into the world, we are blind to its many glories and mysteries. Some, like our beautiful native orchid species, might be just outside our back doors whereas others require treks across mountains, oceans and hemispheres to discover.

This is a remarkable planet with outstanding and dazzling diversity. To spend your life in just one place, however safe and lovely, would be like reading just one page of the encyclopedia. The fields and forests of May are a wonderland of floral magic and I encourage you to get out there and see them for yourself. I try to go on an orchid trip every spring; sometimes a local jaunt to the Green Swamp Preserve in North Carolina is all I can muster, but it is still most incredibly satisfying. I guarantee you that there are some fascinating and beautiful wild and orchid-rich areas well within driving distance. With a little bit of research, you can easily find out about them. Last year a group of my friends reveled in the spring spectacle that occurs annually on the island of Sicily. It was probably one of the best experiences of my life. Don't sit on the sidelines! Get out there and explore your world! Enjoy an adventurous spring this year!

EMERGENCY Don't be alarmed! Spring is all about emergence. And your orchids are showing the signs of this. New roots and growths are popping out of your plants rhizomes with incredible vigor now! Everything wants to grow in May while the air is cool, fresh and moist! The flowers in your garden will attest to this basic truth of the spring.

TAKE ME OUT Any cool- to intermediate-growing orchids in your collection can be moved outside this month. Bringing orchids out for the fine weather will produce stronger and tougher growths. Spring rains are falling and the delicious rainwater can be a tonic for struggling orchids. Chlorine and fluoride added to our water are often the culprits when an orchid seems to languish. If such plants seem to perk up when exposed to spring rain and weather, it may be worth your while to invest in rain barrels or a reverse osmosis water purification system for your orchids.

DO ME PROUD Take this spring growth spurt as your golden opportunity to repot. Repotting during dormancy, while sometimes necessary if a plant falls over or starts to rot, is rarely a good idea. But the spring, when new orchid roots are searching for fresh bark to adhere to, is just about the best time to take on this annual chore. Cattleyas that have grown to the edge of their pots, oncidiums and miltonias with broken-down mixes, catasetums and lycastes coming out of dormancy and any pot that has weeds growing in it, should be taken and redone while they are in active new growth. Plants establish best when repotted with about 1 to 2 inches (25–50 mm) of new root growth. Roots longer than this are more easily damaged.

THE EDGE OF WETNESS Always soak your bark overnight before a potting session. Orchids take in water through the velamen in their roots by osmotic pressure. If your mix is too dried out, it will actually desiccate your orchids by wicking moisture out! This being said, roots are searching for moisture and keeping them too wet will inhibit their colonization of your new medium. Always allow newly potted plants to dry out a bit between waterings for best results. Watering and fertilizing in general should be stepped up this time of year. Take advantage of your orchid's natural willingness to grow in the spring. Water and fertilize accordingly!

EXPLORE YOUR WORLD Whether it's the wooded area down the street or across an ocean, wild orchids are patiently waiting for you to discover them this month. Don't disappoint them! Many orchid societies and botanic gardens offer nature walks and other excursions this month to see some pretty incredible places, encrusted with fantastic plants at their peak. If such trips are just too challenging to participate in, I encourage you to go to your local public garden! National Public Garden Day is on May 9 this year: [www. nationalpublicgardensday.org/gardens](http://www.nationalpublicgardensday.org/gardens).

I hope each and every one of you ventures out that day to see all the great marvels of nature, which are everywhere on our spectacular planet.

— *Tom Mirenda has been working professionally with orchids for over three decades and is the past chair of the AOS Conservation Committee. He is an AOS accredited judge in the Hawaii Center (email: biophiliak@gmail.com).*

ORCHIDS MAGAZINE

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



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<https://go.aos.org/freeissue201904>

From the AOS website...

AOS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DATES: October 27th - 30th, 2021

We are proud to present the American Orchid Society's Centennial Celebration!

The four-day celebration will encompass our 2021 Fall Members Meeting activities, an exciting live auction, and a splendid gala banquet that will feature a gourmet dinner, live entertainment, music, and dancing in a beautiful and historic setting.

Please join us at the beautiful landmark location - The Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida. We look forward to welcoming you as we celebrate this momentous occasion.

Events include:

- Wednesday, October 27 - Meet and Greet reception for registrants 5-6 p.m.
- Thursday, October 28 - AOS Judging, hosted by East Everglades Orchid Society
- Friday, October 29 - Special Centennial Auction, starting at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, October 30 - Speaker Series, until 3 p.m.
- Saturday, October 30 - Centennial Gala, starting at 6 p.m.



Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City

OSGKC.ORG

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

ORCHID SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

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Visit www.OSGKC.org and click the
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click donate

Dues \$25 Individual, \$30 Household

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Orchid Growers of OSGKC -

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[999427064/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/909878999427064/)

**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 for updates and changes to our program schedule.

May 16, 2021

OSGKC Zoom meeting

Speaker – Annual Dr. Kristen Uthus, New World Orchids, "Growing Miniature Orchids, Part 2"

June 13, 2021

OSGKC Zoom meeting

Speaker – Jim & Yvonne France, Oakwood Orchids, "Growing Orchids Without a Greenhouse"

July 11, 2021

Tour of Orchids, area members' growing spots

August 15, 2021

Picnic – Antioch Park

August 27-29, 2021

Ohio Valley Orchid Fest

Kettering, Ohio

Outdoors, vendors, judging

September 12, 2021

OSGKC Zoom meeting

Speaker - Edgar Stehli, Windswept in Time Orchids - "Growing Epidendrums and Encyclias"

October 2, 2021

Springfield Orchid Society Fall Orchid Show.

Springfield Botanic Center