



ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS

A Communication Instrument for Society Members and Others

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Volume II Issue 6
June 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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June-July News!

Comments from Jean Rogers, President

I have to tell you, I love the speakers Susie has lined up for the Society. But as much as I love listening and learning from them, I'm really, really excited for the next two months. July is the member growers tour. And August is the 'in-person' picnic at Antioch Park. She has lined up touring of very different growing spaces. I can't wait to see them up close!! The picnic will be a first time together since February of 2020!!! There will be some very fun activities, educational activities, food (Cindy Hobbs is arranging), and we get to be together!!! Susie will have more info as times approach. Gosh I hope you are as excited as I am!!

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 or comments, 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 want 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.



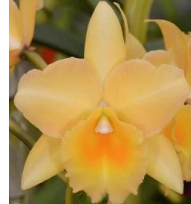
Lc. Mari's
Magic 'H & R'



Slc. Candy
Sparks
'Superior Flare'



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



Blc Bouton
D'or 'Halycon'

Meanwhile, please continue to keep Kristy Charland posted (charland.ek@outlook.com), 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:

Annual Orchid Growers' Tour

Sunday, July 11 at 2 p.m. we'll be taking a Zoom tour of three members' growing areas. A lot of variety in this year's tour, and a great opportunity to see different ways of growing orchids.

First up is Ariel Paulson, who has a collection of a variety of plants grown under lights. Lots of small orchids, along with many other plants. Ariel is KING of Orchid Rescue. You'll want to check out his orchid hospital setting. Questions about artificial lights for growing well? Here's a chance to get some first-hand advice.

Next we visit Karen Schorno who has a beautiful grow room attached to her house and a combination of natural and supplemental light. She definitely has the 'orchid loving gene'. Her conservatory is such a sight to see.

And then we get to see Jen Winters' vast collection of orchids in a large grow room that she and her husband created by enclosing a deck. Jen has such a green thumb!! If she wasn't 'hooked' before, covid certainly gave her the time to get into orchids big time.

What a line up!! Look forward to sharing it with you!!

August Picnic

Sunday, August 15 we'll be meeting in person for the first time in many, many months. We've reserved a lovely, shady spot at Antioch Park. More details to come.

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

Jim France Oakwood Orchids

- "Growing Orchids Without a Greenhouse" -

Jim France: Has been growing orchids for 30+ years and is an AOS judge. He got bit by the orchid bug, after doing contracting work for a neighbor. He then promptly drowned his first cymbidium. We all can learn from mistakes and be the best possible growers! Ideally use an indoor pool, it will give you the perfect environment. For the rest of us follow the tips below.

Light: Plants are more reliant on blue/red wavelengths (PAR) than the human visual system. Light is measured in lumens or foot candles and both depend on distance from the light source. Jim recommends high-intensity discharge (HID) lights for their quality and heat, even though they are not quite as efficient as LEDs. No Bulb is full spectrum; they are not the Sun. Bulbs need to be changed every 1-2 years and lose their output over time. Inadequate lighting will not provide a productive plant. After you achieve optimal light you need to increase water, air movement and food! Be careful not to sunburn the plants. When growing underlights be sure to adjust the hours of exposure and play God.

Humidity: Critical for happy plants but even harder to regulate than light. Growers need to monitor the humidity with gauges and adjust accordingly. Warm air humidifiers are better than cold air humidifiers. Humidity trays are great for catching water, but do not work as well to increase humidity.

Pests: They can occur in both environments, but when growing indoors we lose the predators to kill the pests. He recommends using alcohol and being persistent. Quarantine new plants.

Feeding: vary fertilizers as opposed to staying with just one.

Water quality: Lots of water means lots of drainage! Rain water is ideal when possible.

Growing orchids under lights can be awarded, based on his beautiful collection of photos! And now we know how to be successful without buying a Greenhouse.

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.

July 10, 2021

Creve Coeur Recreation Center., 11400 Olde Cabin Rd, Creve Coeur, Mo 63141

August 14, 2021

Johnson County Library Leawood branch

September 11, 2021

Johnson County Library Leawood branch

May OSGKC Judging

20 members submitted 67 blooming orchids for judging and show in **May**.

Thanks to the following members for submitting orchids for judging in May: Kristy Charland, Brian Donovan, Megan Mayo, DiptiSolanti, Dr. Dan Schlozman, Louise Hicks, Jen Winter, Jean Rogers, Anna Archibald, Merri Archibald, Karen Schorno, Sabrina Markese, Jackie Wing, and Ariel Paulson

“Just for Viewing Pleasure” – Thanks to; Susie Hanna, Susan Tompkins, Mark and Joy Prout, Jean Rogers, and Jim Pyrzynski for submitting pictures for our viewing pleasure.

Blue ribbons:

Epidendrum (Epi.)Max Valley (Cattleya category) by Jean Rogers, Phal. Sir Elton John ‘Pink Python’ by Sabrina Markese, Den. Razzle Dazzle by Ariel Paulson, Paph. niveum by Jean Rogers, Phrag. pearcei by Jean Rogers, V. falcata -‘Honggang’ by Megan Mayo, Milt. Rene Komoda by Dr Dan Schlozman, Den. lindleyi (Species) by Brian Donovan

Red ribbons: C. Ports of Paradise ‘Emerald Isle’ FCC/AOS by Dr. Dan Schlozman, Pot. Marlene Lundquist x Blc. Love Sound by Megan Mayo, Jkf. Appleblossom by Megan Mayo, Lc, Love Knot x C. mossiae by Anna Archibald, Ctt. Fairyland by Jen Winter, R - Phal. Yaphon Pink Bee ‘Sweetheart’ by Kristy Charland, Phal. NOID #1 by Louise Hicks, Phal. #2 by Jackie Wing, Phal. #3 by Anna Archibald, Den. NOID by Megan Mayo, Den Hsinying Frosymaree ‘Firebird’ by Megan Mayo, Den. Stardust ‘Firebird’ by Jean Rogers, Paph. Heron’s Faire by Dr. Dan Schlozman, Paph. Greyi ‘10’ by Merri Archibald, Vanda falcata ‘Seiryoun- Nishiki’ by Megan Mayo, C. tenebrosa by Karen Schorno, and Maxillaria Tenufolia by Dipti Solanki

White ribbons: Phal. NOID #4 by Dipti Solanki, Phal. Taida Pride Queen ‘Taida Orange’ by Ariel Paulson, Phal. Gan Lin Sunlight ‘DF1350’ by Kristy Charland, Paph. Prime Child by Merri Archibald, Den. trantuanii (species) by Anna Archibald, Den. unicum (Vietnam form, species) by Ariel Paulson, Den. moniliforme ‘Benikida’ (species) by Megan Mayo, Den. moniliforme ‘Beni-shitan’ (species) by Megan Mayo



March Orchid of the Month (drum roll)
grown by Brian Donovan

Members Choice:
Den. lindleyi grown by Brian Donovan



June 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 Tuesday July 6th.**

Blooming Orchids for Show and/or Judging.

Deadline for submissions was June 25th. Watch for the July dates in an upcoming email.

Huge thank you to all the members who sent pictures.

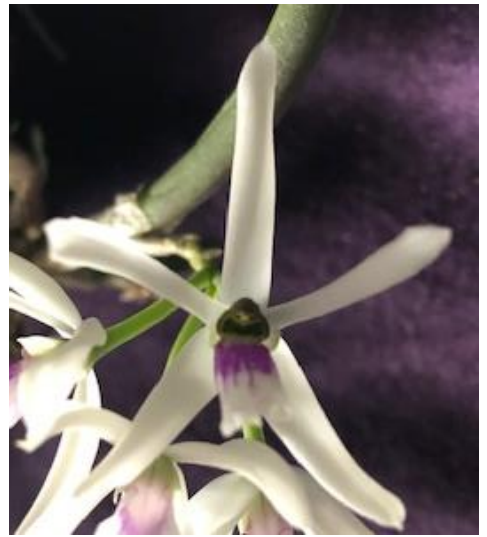
Orchids for Judging: (Send your “Member’s Choice” to jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com by July 6th)



Cattleanthe (Ctt.) Orchidglade 'SVO'
HCC/AOS



Phyncattleanthe
(Rth.) Martha's
Exotic Magic



Leptotes bicolor



Cattleya (C.) Hawaiian Wedding
Song "Virgin"





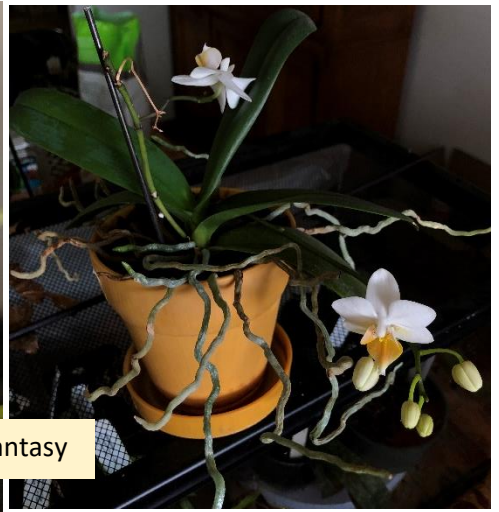
Phalaenopsis (Phal.) Taida King's Caroline 'Tiada Little Zebra'



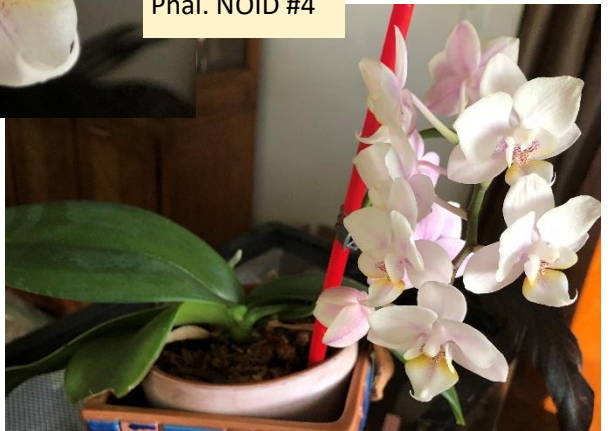
Phal. NOID #2



Phal. Liu's Fantasy



Phal. NOID #4





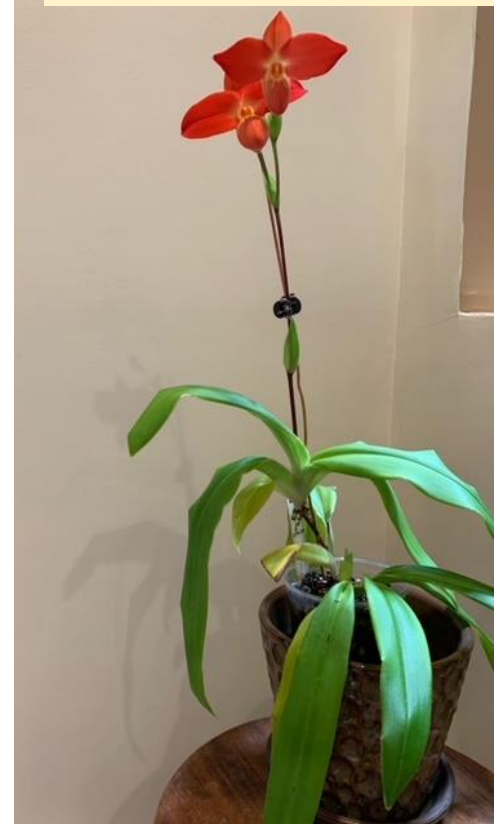
Dendrobium
(Den.) unicum



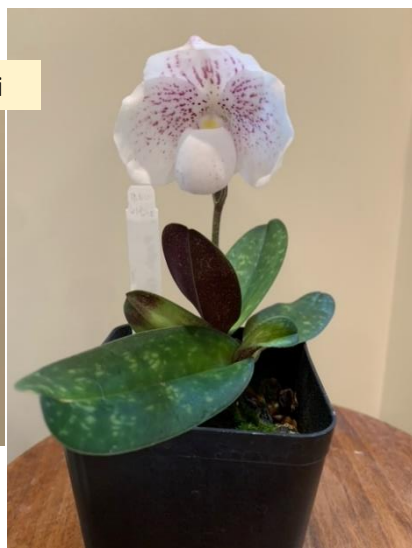
Den. Lorrie Mortimer



Phragmipedium (Phrag.) besseae



Paphiopedilum (Paph.) Greyi





Vanda (V.) hendersonianum



Oncidium Sharry Baby 'Red Fantasy'



Habenaria (Hab.) rhodocheila 'Electric Orange' - Other



Hab. rhodocheila - Other





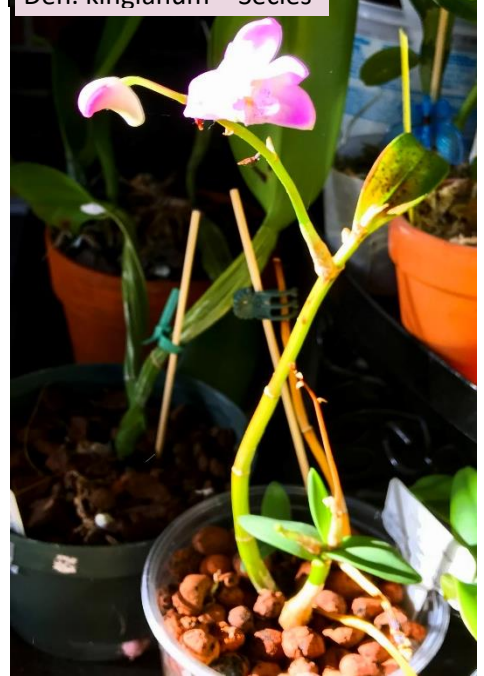
Eulophia (Euph.) andamanensis - Species



Den. aphyllum - Species



Den. kingianum - Species



NOT for JUDGING – just for your VIEWING PLEASURE!

From Susan Tompkins

Bulbophyllum Lion King



Vanda Miss Joaquim



From Jackie Wing

Phalaenopsis NOID #1



From Mark and Joy Prout

Cattlianthe (Ctt.) Orchidglade



Habenaria Canary



Catasetum (Ctsm.) Dentigranum



Cattleya Zip



Cattleya Zip



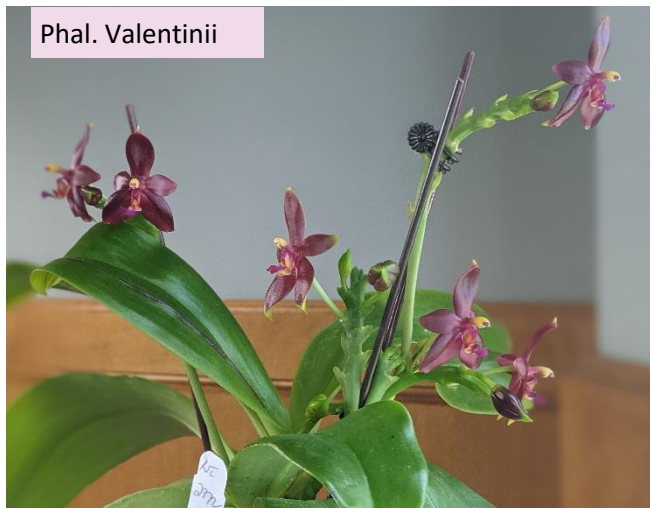
Rhyncholaeliocattleya (Rlc.)
George King 'Serendipity'



Bulbophyllum (Bulb.) JM Guilloty



Phal. Valentini



From Christy Charland

Aliceara (Alcra.) Stellar 'Hoku'



From Susie Hanna

Phal. Fred's Pimento



Brassocattleya (Bc.) Hippodamia
'Kelvin Lucky' AM/AOS



Habenaria rhodocheila 'Electric
Orange'



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 Jean Rogers

Epidendrum Max Valley

My Epidendrum is in an east window with two 4' T5 grow lights over it. The lights are on about 12 hours in winter, 13-14 hours spring and fall. The grow room is usually 75 day and 60 night (winter or down to 70 summer). It usually goes outside for the warm months. I water usually once a week till water runs through the pot using water from my dehumidifier or RO water from Natural Grocers. Fertilizer is ¼ strength each watering, alternating with MSU pure water one week and K-lite the next. It is in a medium size bark potting mix.



From Ariel Paulson

Dendrobium (Den.) Den. Razzle Dazzle

Same medium, not touched, all moss I think. Weekly tap/RO mix with 1/2 conc MiracleGro, 1-1.5 cups. Currently 12" from 1000-lumen LED bar. Indoors only, 70-85 degrees, humidity 40-60%.



From Dr. Dan Schlozman

Miltonia Rene Komoda (Oncidium category)

Miltonia Rene Komoda: I grew my Miltonia of the same way I have grown most of my plants with the exception of masdavalis and phals. That is, I use semi hydroponics and follow Ray barkalow suggestions of a low potassium Michigan State formula combined with probiotics and kelp-both from his website-once a month. The light is slightly less than cat light as I think you have to be careful about the leaves burning. In my hands the plant is easily affected by fungus topically on the leaves, so watch for this carefully. I have a greenhouse and I keep the plant in the greenhouse. I repot every three years or if the plant jumps the pot. I use RO water twice a week.



From Sabrina Markese

Phalaenopsis Sir Elton John 'Pink Python'

Elton John lives in my bathroom where there's plenty filtered light & humidity. There are large North & East windows that are open and a ceiling fan running 24/7. He's potted in Birds phal bark mix. Watered once weekly & fertilized once monthly w Grow More.



From Jean Rogers

Paphiopedilum (Paph.) niveum

My Paph. is in a north window with two 4' T5 grow lights over it. The lights are on about 12 hours in winter, 13-14 hours spring and fall and 15 hours in summer- it does not go outside for the summer. The grow room is usually 75 day and 60 night (winter or down to 70 summer). I water usually twice a week till water runs through the pot using water from my dehumidifier or RO water from Natural Grocers. Fertilizer is ¼ strength, every 2nd or 3rd watering alternating with MSU pure water one week and K-lite the next. I flush it with tap water at the sink once every month or two. It is in a medium size bark potting mix.



From Jean Rogers

Phragmipedium pearcei

My Phrag. is in a north window with two 4' T5 grow lights over it. The lights are on about 12 hours in winter, 13-14 hours spring and fall and 15 hours in summer- it does not go outside for the summer. The grow room is usually 75 day and 60 night (winter or down to 70 summer). I water usually twice a week or when I see the drip saucer is dry as I try to keep a little moisture there. The water is from my dehumidifier or RO water from Natural Grocers. Fertilizer is ¼ strength, every 2nd or 3rd watering alternating with MSU pure water one week and K-lite the next. I flush it with tap water at the sink once every month or two. It is in a medium size bark potting mix.



From Brian Donovan

Dendrobium lindleyi (Species)

This Dendrobium species likes a lot of light year around. Like most orchids, it can't take direct sunlight, but something approaching Cattleya light is appropriate. I put it outside as soon as it finishes blooming in the spring. I grow it in a basket with medium fir bark. I know some people grow it mounted, but I've also talked with people who have struggled to get it going when it's mounted. I think growing it in a basket is probably the best approach for most windowsill growers. The key with this species is that the spring/summer watering requirements are very different from what's needed in the winter/fall. During the spring and summer, I frequently water it and fertilize it. In the heat we've been having lately I have been watering it every other day or every three days. Although it likes to dry out between waterings, that happens

quickly with basket-grown orchids in 90+ degree heat! In December and January, I don't water it at all (not even misting). I leave it completely alone. Then, in early February, I gradually pick up the watering pace. March through May I water it about once a week. I've experimented with longer and harsher winter rest periods, including neglecting it from Halloween to Valentine's Day, but the two months off in December and January seems to work just fine.



From Megan Mago

Vanda falcata 'Honggang'

Vanda falcata 'Honggang' is upstairs hanging around my kitchen sink. There are 2 LED spotlights and a 4 wand grow light (red white and blue LEDs). I don't fertilize the little vandas much, but when I do, they get a very weak MSU. I change their moss yearly. I water them with filtered water when they are slightly less than crispy dry during the summer, about 2x a week. During the winter, they get crispy dry, watering 1x a week or so. The temp averages 73-75. The humidity averages 51%-39%. Right now it's 47% at 8 am with a temp of 75*. There are ceiling fans on all the time. I don't take these guys outside, our summers can get soooo hot. I have taken a couple of hybrids out in the past. They bloomed too much, then died. They were dry daily. It was more work than I wanted to take care of. The folks that are taking the neos outside are bringing them in and out often, depending on the weather. I've got my Dens. outside right now along with some big Catts. They are

doing quite well, but it isn't consistently hot yet.

Outside OSGKC Resources

Kristy's Korner

June 24, 2021

Hello orchid fans!

This month I'd like to feature some of my favorite Instagram accounts to follow. I'll do my best to put them in categories for you to check out if you would like to. Hybridizers and stores: Krull_Smith, rforchidsmiami, goldcountryorchids, marlows_orchids, chadwick_orchids, theorchidgeek, sunsetvalleyorchids, paphparadise, hilo.orchid.farm, orchidweb, Akatsukaorchid, newworldorchids, rosshella53, peter.t.lin, norman91763, bigleaforchids, mituo_orchid. Some notes about these... Chadwick is one of my favorites because Arthur Chadwick does live spots featuring particular cattleyas with history behind them. The Orchid Geek is Jose "Carlos" Lopez, Fred Clarke's right hand. Fred doesn't post, but Carlos does! For phals, try Big Leaf, Mituo, orchidweb and Norman Fang.

Persons who grow:

Georgehatfield62, fishtanksarefororchids, phalhouse, letstalkplants, paphiofun, ryansorchids, here_butnot, theorchidspot, aceoforchids, orchid.magic, joannaorchidpotter, ra.greenworld, cattnerd

Organizations/societies: fivecitiesorchid, americanorchidsociety, gawler_orchid_club, fortworthorchid, southfloridaorchidsociety

Special mention of Orchiddynasty. One of my very favorites for artful presentations and photographs. Just gorgeous!!!!

There are so many more fun accounts to follow. If you follow one, you can see who they follow, and that's a great indication of the quality of their page. It's rabbit hole time!

BE WELL!

Kristy

We thank Amanda Matthews one of our newer members, of Orchideria for granting permission to reprint any articles from her website. Article is by Orchideria, photos are from OSGKC members.

ORCHIDERIA CULTIVATING ORCHIDS & CRAFTING TERRARIUMS



ORCHID LIGHT REQUIREMENTS: 4 SOLUTIONS FOR ARTIFICIAL LIGHT

Growing orchids indoors with **artificial grow lights** isn't complicated, once you know what you're doing. In fact, it's quite easy. Some **orchid have light requirements** that have to be supplemented since indoor light isn't enough. The most vital question now is **how much light is right for your specific orchid?**

Once I purchased my first household plant, a Boston Fern, I quickly realized a big flaw: my house sits on all the wrong angles to provide sufficient sunlight. None of my windows get adequate sun and growing plants indoors would require some real thought.

Artificial grow lights were the solution.

I'm not an electrician. None of my electrical-conduit-processing neurons actually understand all the electrical-conduit processing, so research was mind-picking. With a ton of articles in the orchid light requirement section with information that I just didn't grasp, I got frustrated—fast.



What light to use?

How long to keep the lights on?

How far above the orchids?

High Light Intensity Orchids: what's that?

PAR? CRI? Lux? Lumens? Foot Candles?

Worse—once I saw how much they cost, I knew I couldn't mess up.

What's the best type of grow light for your orchid? LED GROW LIGHTS offer a full spectrum of light wavelengths, which best benefit the growth of your orchid. Both during vegetative growth/dormancy and during budding/flowering, the orchid receives the maximum amount of light without the added heat, which could cause sunburn and heat stress.

To get to the answer above about orchid light requirements, I had to do tons of research.

All I really wanted to know was **what light was necessary for our orchids?** To answer that, I first had to grasp some basic concepts, which I'll explain below. To best choose what orchid grow light to purchase, I've provided a detailed explanation of the **pros and cons of each** one, and **how to install the lights** in your room.

Basic Orchid Light Requirements

Since orchids grow outside, they receive the **full spectrum of sunlight** (and other forms of non-visible light.) Light fixture industries saw the potential in developing horticultural products that fulfilled botanist's necessities and produced bulbs that would satisfy this new consumer.

They made a bulb that recreated **only two types of light** on the wave spectrum because after many years of study, botanical industries realized that these two types influenced the growth of the orchid more than the other colors.

Results: a **red wave light**, which is good for flowering, and a **blue wave light**, which promoted vegetative growth in the orchids. (I'll explain more on this later.)

But light in nature doesn't come only in red and blue wavelengths. **Even though the orchids develop more under the influence of these two light waves, that doesn't mean they don't use the other "colors"**. This is why a **full-spectrum light** was released a few years later, providing **a wider range of light to the indoor plants**. The results were fantastic: many orchid enthusiasts and hobbyists raved (in a positive way) about the lights, and flowers bloomed more vibrantly because of them.

Recently LED lights have replaced both of these. The greatest advantage of LED lights over the first two is the **amount of light they produce**, but mostly, **heat isn't produced**. By more efficiently converting electricity into just light **and not heat**, they're more cost-efficient in the long run.

Before I can effectively explain the finer details of each light and dive into the specifications of each, there's a bit of science that I need to cover. I'll keep it simple and straightforward, providing enough information and expertise to keep the article interesting, yet practical (Hopefully!)

How much light do orchids need? In the winter, they will need 12 to 14 hours of artificial light to fulfill standard orchid light requirements. Starting spring, slowly increase the hours until you reach 14 to 16 hours a day. You can purchase timers that automatically come on and off, which are really wonderful when you're on vacation.

Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR)

All plants get their nutrients by the process of **photosynthesis**, which mainly is getting light from the sun and with the aid of chlorophyll, transforming carbon dioxide it into energy. It would only be natural to evaluate a lighting system on a ratio of how much light is given in relation to how much photosynthesis a plant can undergo.



Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR), is this measurement, which ranges from 400-700 nm (nanometers). To keep it simple, this is the same spectrum of visible light.

On the light spectrum, plants have two colors which they grow the best at, red and blue. They don't react to green but reflect it. Remember the light developers we talked about above? Well, they got this information and produced that bulb with these two colors.

To orchid growers, this spectrum means that when **red and blue wavelengths** are reaching their leaves, they're producing more energy. Depending on the orchid's natural life cycle, if budding or dormant, the red or blue will have more effect. With this tad bit of information, light industries built the red/blue light.

Orchid and photo by Megan Mayo

Red (620-750) enhances the production of budding and flowering.

Blue (450-495) develops more vegetative growth.



Red + Blue =

If you like art or remember art class from middle school, you'll know that mixing red and blue gives you a purple color.

May I rephrase that: a horrific, nausea-inducing purple.

There is no way this sick purplish-blue light is ever making into my home office.

Sorry plants. But no—just no. I might be an orchid enthusiast, but I also take pride in home decor.

Kelvin Color Temperatures and CRI

Another important concept is the **Kelvin scale**. We are accustomed to measuring Kelvins for temperature, but this scale is how the temperature changes the color of the light. The **same light can be a different color** depending on how hot or cold it is.

This notion goes hand-in-hand with

CRI (color rendering index) which is the ability of a light to produce the colors authentically. Depending on the light, some colors look a bit different.

Our goal is to imitate sunlight as much as possible in our “dark, dungeon-like” living environments. Ok, maybe not that dark, but indoor light does have a lot to be desired. For a reference, the sun is around 5000K and has a CRI value of 100.

The closer you can get to 100 CRI, your orchids will look more natural, since 100 is natural sunlight.

An example: with fluorescent lights, the max you can achieve is around **85 to 90**, which is pretty good. Further away from 100, the more unnatural and sicker your orchids will look.

A cool light, leaning more toward the blue spectrum will range from **5,000 to 6,500K**.

As said before, **blue light promotes growth in the roots and leaves**. The other side of the spectrum (red part) promotes flowers and buds, ranging around 2,700K.

To be safe and fulfill orchid light requirements, pick a Kelvin of around 5,000 and a CRI closer to 100 as possible.

Warm 2700 K

Neutral 4200 K

Cool 6000 K

Foot Candles (fc)

When you grow orchids, knowing what **PARs, CRIs, and Kelvins**, and other types of electrical jargon that needs to be interpreted does help, but the most important concepts are just **two: lumen and foot candles**. (Thank goodness!)

These basically are: 1) how much light will reach the leaves and 2) at what intensity.

The most accurate way to measure the proper lighting for indoor orchid growing is by using foot candles. **Foot Candles (fc) is a measurement of how much light can one candle produce in a foot's distance.** For example, the sun produces 10,000 fc on a bright summer day.

On a rainy day with thick, overhead clouds, only 1,000 fc are reaching the orchid leaves. Some orchids love bright sun, others prefer shade. When classifying orchids to how much direct sun they like, there are 3 categories:

Low-light orchids require 1200-2000 fc

Medium-light prefer 2000-3000 fc

High-light orchids thrive with 3000 fc.

Note: It's easy to mix these numbers up with Kelvins, which are also in the thousands, and usually what light-industries put on the package. Remember, Kelvins are color/temperature measurements. Foot Candles is how much light is given.

For math people: To convert the fc to lumens, **1 fc is equal to 10.764 lux**, or 10 lumens per square meter.

This is important to know because many orchid growers will market their plants with the foot candles requirements, but lighting industries market their products with lux, or lumens.

Your Orchid Will Tell You It's Light Requirements

Kelvin, PAR, CRI, or foot candle... If you're like me, then what's going to dictate the right light is in fact, your orchid. Observe the leaves. If they are a **deep, dark green color**, almost tending toward spinach, then they are in desperate need of more light.

If they are **spotting, and turning a bit pinkish-red on the exterior**, they could be getting too hot, but just the amount of sun needed. The reddish pigment (which is the orchid's naturally produced sunscreen) could mean that it's not the orchid light requirement that's off, but that they're low on nutrients or just too cold. Be sure to check those out before you move them to a shadier place.



If they are turning **yellowish-green**, then they have too much sun, and you need to move them as soon as possible.

Some high-light orchids do not tolerate as much light as they're marketed as.

You need to **do your research** on specific names to discover how to better care for your orchid.

For example, it's easy to say that all Vandas are high-light orchids. In fact, some species are more medium-light, depending on their parents. If you place them in high-light conditions and forget about them, it's likely you'll discover sunburned leaves and overheating problems, which can be irreversible.

Now that the science part is over, let's get on with the information you actually came to get. **What light is best for my orchid?** In essence, there are 4 types of grow lights you can use:

Fluorescent

CFL (Compact Fluorescent lamps)

HID (High Intensity Discharge)

LED Grow Lights

1) The “Idea” Light Bulb, Found in Supermarkets

We have to mention this one just to say **don’t use it**. The orchid light requirements just don’t get met. Even though these incandescent lights burn around 2700K, which is great for flowering and budding, but on the downside, **produce tons of heat** and have to be replaced every 3 to 5 months.

Half the energy is wasted by heat production. You’re paying for that heat, too, which does nothing positive for the orchid.

If you have no other option, then try to get a halogen light, which is a better version of the incandescent bulb, producing a third more of the light. Keep the orchid leaves far away from the plant, so the heat won’t produce stress in the leaves. Of course, this lessens the efficiency...

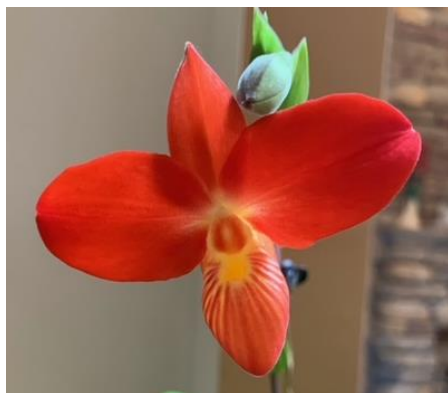
Enough said about this one—just cross it off your list. ~~Incandescent Lights~~

2) COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS (CFL)

If you’re just starting with orchids, or the room you have your orchid in has a well-lit window but you’re just wishing to supplement a tad bit, **two fluorescent bulbs** should be sufficient. If you’re renovating your attic or basement into the next modern greenhouse, and there are no windows or natural light, then aim for **four bulbs per shelf**.

The shelf your orchid collection sits on mustn’t be wider than 22 inches, if not the fluorescent bulb will have little effect on the orchid. Install right under your light, which should be **4 to 12 inches above your orchid**.

In general, the closer the better, but allow room for a flower spike. Strictly speaking, if you divide the distance from the light to the top of the orchid by 2, then you quadruple its intensity.



Another way to double the efficiency of your lights, whatever kind you use, is by using a reflector on the backside of the bulb. Light will reflect onto the orchid and not be wasted illuminating, well...nothing.

If you decide to go with the fluorescent tubes, note that not a single tube will do the job efficiently.

You’ll have to mix and match to achieve the right lighting. Oscillating between cool and warm lights, this can be done.

Phragmipedium besseae by Kristy Charland

In the past, there were mainly two types you can choose from: the 48-inch 40 watts, or the 96-inch 74 watts. Today you can buy any size and wattage you’d like. You can even combine two categories of lighting, resulting in the **High-Intensity Fluorescent bulbs**, which mainly places you in the category below. For these, you’ll need to have a special light fixture, which raises the initial investment.

Our recommendation is to go with the **normal fluorescent 45 to 60 watts** if you have only one or two orchids. If you have a dozen or more, **then aim for the 250w**.

PROBLEMS: These lights don’t provide the best lighting for your orchids. They will grow, but not to their full potential. Mixing and matching bulbs is essential. Buy a cool light (4000K) and next to it install a warm light (2700K). This works well.

COST: The cost of fluorescent bulbs is wonderful—at first. After 1.8 years, they need to be replaced completely, since they are working at only 10% of their potential. They last longer than the regular light bulb, maxing out 5 months, but every two years adds up quickly.

MAINTENANCE: For maintenance, wipe down the bulbs once a month to remove dust and air particles that accumulate on the surface. Even though we don’t see these much, they do interfere with how much effective light the orchid is receiving. Regular maintenance is extremely important.

ORCHIDS THAT LIKE FLUORESCENT BULBS: Always try natural light first. If you happen to be blessed with sun that pours through your windows, keep these low-light orchids out from direct beams. Early morning light and late afternoon light are the best, but never direct sun. If that fails or is insufficient, use the fluorescent lights to complement these low-light orchids. They are wonderful candidates for artificial light.

Fluorescent lights are perfect for low-light orchids, like



**Phalaenopsis (Moth orchids),
Paphiopedilum,
Miltioniopsis (or Pansy orchids) and Nelly Islers.**

Fluorescents fulfill these orchid light requirements well.

Phalaenopsis Sir Elton John 'Pink Python' by Sabrina Markese

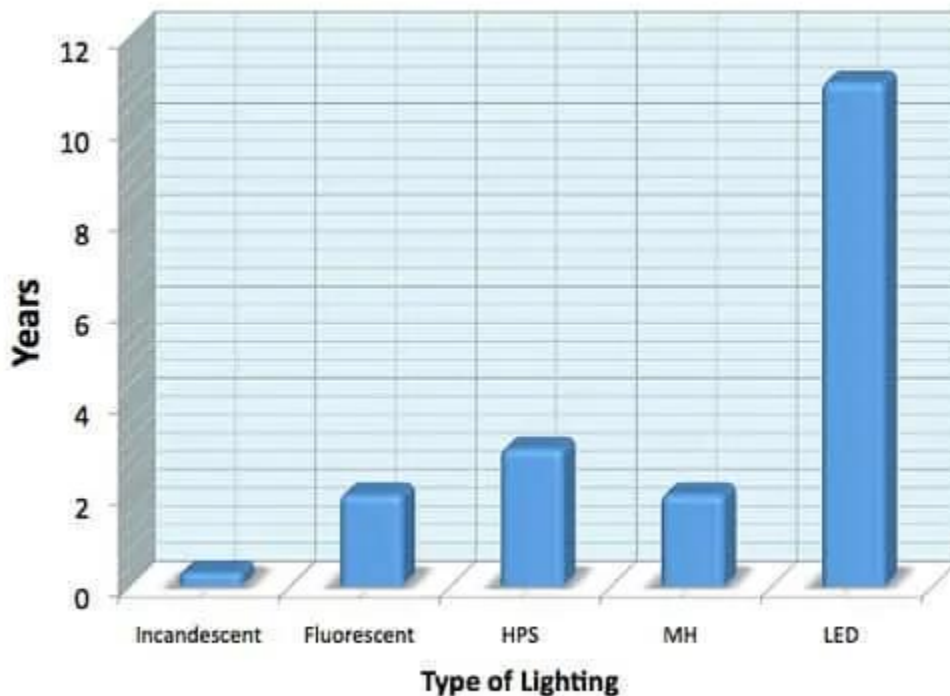
By **low-light orchids**, we mean orchids that still want abundant, bright light, but not direct sunlight. These more sun-sensitive orchids don't produce enough hormones that protect them from direct sun, and they can be easily prone to sunburn, overheating, and be affected by heat stress. The perfect place for these orchids is in bright shade.

Some orchids don't fit into the low-light orchid requirements but also sunburn with too much light. These are called the **medium-light orchids, which prefer 2,000 to 3,000 fc. Many Oncidiums, Miltonias (don't confuse the Miltonias with the Miltioniopsis mentioned above), Brassia, and Dendrobiums can fit into this category.**

These medium-light orchids cherish fresh sunlight during early morning and late afternoon, but prefer bright shade if at all possible. A window sill is perfect as long as they don't get direct sun on their leaves for a long period of time.

For artificial lighting, they'll want a lower light, but closer too them. To correctly supply lighting to these, we recommend using a combination of Fluorescent lights, or a High Intensity Fluorescent Light.

Life expectancy of different types of lighting technology



"Grow Lighting Life Expectancy Chart" by byr7 is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/)

3) HIGH-INTENSITY DISCHARGE LIGHTS (HID)

HID lights are specialized in producing the red/blue spectrum that your orchids grow so well in. There can be a few options in how this light works, but the main three are: mercury vapor, high-pressure sodium, and metal halide.

PROBLEMS: There are two problems with these lights though: **1) cost and 2) heat** production. They have the advantage over the simple light bulb in that the intensity is far stronger than your average light bulb, but even so...they miss the target PAR and don't hit the full spectrum, lacking on the ends.

Since they're so high intensity, the production of heat raises your energy bill, almost skyrocketing it. Also, the wattage can be a bit too much for your orchid. Not only do these lights fulfill the orchid light requirements, they do so way too much. Instead of the four inches away from the orchid as used in Fluorescent lights, HID need to be **further away** depending on the wattage.

If you have a **250W bulb, then keep it about a foot away from your orchid.** If it's still too strong, move it to three feet. With the 400W, three to five feet, and so on... Up to the 1000W, which should be almost at ceiling height.

If you're not sure which to purchase, go with the **400W.**

COST: The cost of the bulbs is extremely high. It's true that the higher the wattage, the more you'll save in electrical usage—cost efficient. But still not cheap. The overall cost of these lamps is still very high. Besides, you have to change these lights every two years.

ORCHIDS THAT LIKE HIDS: The higher intensity lights are more adequate for high-light orchids, which makes sense.

What is a high-light orchid? Any orchid that thrives in over 3,000 fc of direct light is a high-light orchid. Vandas, Cattleyas, and Brassavolas are great examples. Dendrobiums can fit into this category, but do some research to see who the parents are and its specific species. Some don't like that much light.

This still doesn't mean these orchids thrive in direct sunlight all day. Don't go to extremes by overfill the orchid's light requirements. They do tolerate more direct sun and hotter temperatures than other orchids do. Always feel the leaves to see if they are hot. If yes, move the orchid.

Heat kills orchids—a silent murderer—who gets away with so many orchid deaths since not many people address heat issues in growing orchids.

How much light is too much? There is a simple method that doesn't require math (yeah!) which is pretty accurate. Place your hand in the path from the light to the orchid, about 6 inches above the leaf. Observe the shadow. If you can trace the shadow perfectly, then your light is too strong. Move either your orchid or the light. Test again. If your shadow is traceable but not as sharp, this is ideal. If your shadow is just a bur, a deeper, undefines outline, then your light is too weak.



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!

JULY



Carol Gregg

Birthday July 5th

I have been a member of OSGKC for only 1 year. I am a Realtor and always purchased orchids to place in my listings, as they are such a classy plant. They are so beautiful that I thought I would try to learn more about them and possibly try to grow them. I have only attempted growing mini phals and love the mounted minis. One surprising fact about me is that I have a degree in Chemistry. I was born July 5th and my family is a pet friendly family; we recently lost our Beagle rescue, but have 3 rescue cats, jumping spiders, house centipedes and other insects.



Sabrina Markese

Birthday July 27th

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

November 2019

2. How long have you been growing orchids?

20+yrs

3. What got you hooked?

Grocery store orchid probably. I honestly don't remember

4. What type of orchid is your favorite?

Phalaenopsis, now novelty phalaenopsis

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

Living room, bathroom, kitchen

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

Medical Doctor. I currently work at KU in Lawrence

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

I have a childhood penpal in New Zealand.

We've been writing each other since I was 9yo.

We finally met her in 2005.

8. Birth Month and Day"

7/24

9. Do you have any pets?

Currently two cats, Max & Jinxer

I'm a dog person though. Lost my Holly girl in 2017. She can never be replaced.



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!

Call for Nominations for the American Orchid Society Board of Trustees

The AOS is seeking nominations for members of the Board of Trustees of the American Orchid Society, for all six officers (for 2022-2024) and four trustees (for 2022-2025). Members may nominate any AOS member in good standing, including themselves, and shall provide a rationale as to why they should be considered. All nominations will be evaluated by the Nominating Committee and a slate will be mailed, in accordance with the by-laws, prior to the election at the Members Meeting in the spring of 2022. The following competencies have been determined by the Board and will be used in the evaluation.

All nominees shall:

- be members of the AOS, and embrace the mission and priorities of the AOS
- exhibit integrity and ethical behavior
- possess strong interpersonal and communications skills
- have board experience, preferably with a non-profit organization

Expertise in some of the following is desirable and will weigh in the evaluation:

- finance, business and/or investment strategies
- legal background
- development/fund-raising
- strategic planning and implementation
- marketing
- conservation, research or education

Responsibilities:

- attend conference-call type meetings when scheduled (two per month for officers, one for trustees)
- attend two face-to-face members' meetings annually (must pay own travel expenses, there is no compensation)
- actively participate and contribute to Board activities and work

- financially support the organization in a manner commensurate with one's ability, while seeking additional financial support elsewhere
- advocate on behalf of the organization and be ambassadors to the orchid community

Volunteer [job descriptions](#) can be found here: <https://www.aos.org/about-us/job-descriptions.aspx>



Send nominations to chairnominatingcommittee@aos.org
 Nominations will be accepted through October 27, 2021

Dillon-Peterson Essay Contest – Commemorating our Society's 100th Anniversary in 2021

The [Dillon-Peterson Essay Contest](#) is asking for in-depth articles relating to significant people, events, programs, technology changes, or even plants that have helped shape the direction of the AOS or are likely to in the future. IDEAS - Was there someone special in the AOS who mentored and inspired you and others? Did an AOS award that you received plant the seed resulting in you becoming involved in judging? Could you tie that into how the judging program has helped shape the AOS and Affiliated Societies? Perhaps there are technological advancements that have evolved, or the AOS has adopted, that will change the AOS and your enjoyment of orchids. Share why the AOS has had, and will have, an enormous influence over the lifetime of orchid enthusiasts.

CONTEST RULES

- The essay must be an original, unpublished article.
- The contest is open to all persons except employees of the American Orchid Society and their immediate families.
- Submissions must be no more than 5,000 words.
- Manuscripts must be submitted in English and should be submitted electronically as MS Word or compatible file.
- Submissions will be judged without knowledge of the identity of the author. The decision of the judges is final. If no entries meet the expected criteria of excellence, the award will be withheld.
- Artwork is not necessary for entering this competition.

The winner receives a cash prize and a certificate suitable for framing.

Deadline for submission is November 30, 2021

<https://www.aos.org/about-us/article-submissions/essay-contest-winners.aspx>

Submit all entries to the Dillon/Peterson Memorial Essay Prize:

Ron McHatton - American Orchid Society at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

PO Box 565477, Miami, FL 33256

Email: rmchatton@aos.org

Nonwinning entries will also be considered for publication by the editor of Orchids and may be used in Orchids or other AOS publications with the written permission of the author.

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>

The July 12th webinar addresses three specific award types granted to orchids that have been brought in to judging centers or AOS judged shows. The charts below illustrate abbreviated data from OrchidPro. The CBM (Certificate of Botanical Merit) with 976 awards is an award type that has been discontinued but was a precursor to the current CBR (Certificate of Botanical Recognition). Notice that one award type has a point score while the other does not. That is not a mistake. Tune in to the webinar to understand the differences.

Drag a column header and drop it here to group by that column

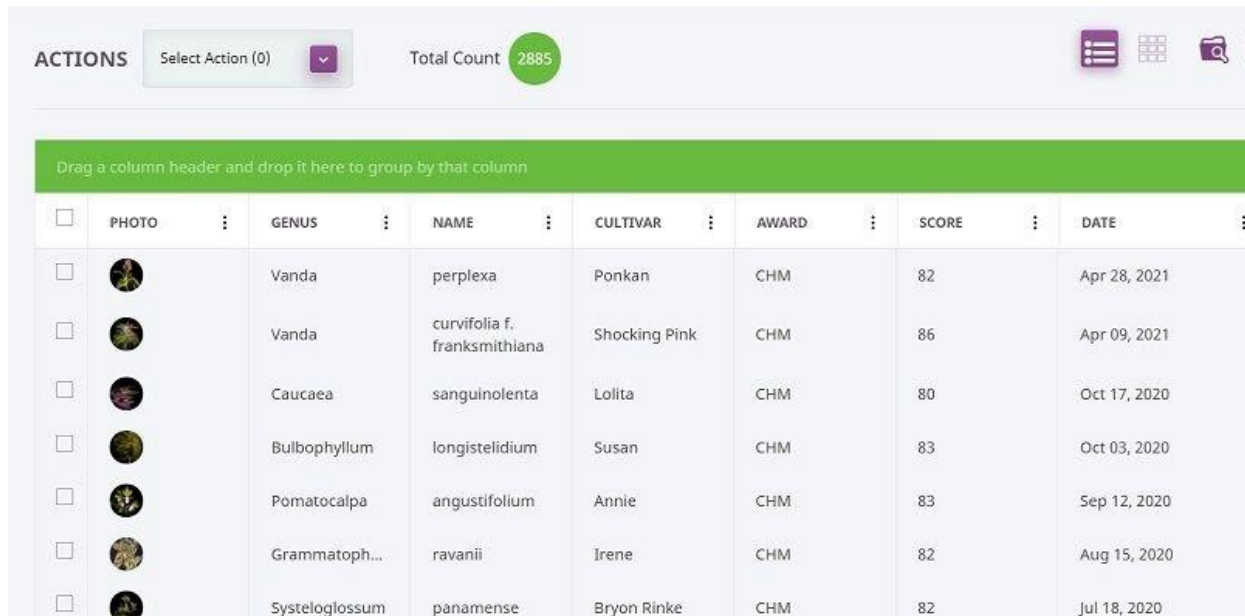
<input type="checkbox"/>	PHOTO	GENUS	NAME	CULTIVAR	AWARD	SCORE	DATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		Stelis	emarginata	Haverhill	CBM	81	Feb 22, 1978
<input type="checkbox"/>		Cymbidium	canaliculatum var. marginatum	Orchidglade I	CBM	80	Feb 08, 1978
<input type="checkbox"/>		Dendrobium	ruppianum	Oxford	CBM	84	Jan 28, 1978
<input type="checkbox"/>		Aeranthus	filipes	Casa Luna	CBM	83	Jan 14, 1978
<input type="checkbox"/>		Bulbophyllum	lasiochilum	Dale's Dream	CBM	83	Dec 17, 1977
<input type="checkbox"/>		Epidendrum	antsatum	George Thurmond	CBM	83	Dec 14, 1977








Drag a column header and drop it here to group by that column

<input type="checkbox"/>	PHOTO	GENUS	NAME	CULTIVAR	AWARD	SCORE	DATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		Himantogloss...	calcaratum subsp. jankae	Red Lizard	CBR	0	May 22, 2021
<input type="checkbox"/>		Prosthechea	aemula	Irene	CBR	0	May 15, 2021
<input type="checkbox"/>		Neotinea	tridentata	Neptune	CBR	0	Apr 10, 2021
<input type="checkbox"/>		Neotinea	ustulata	Burnt Ends	CBR	0	Apr 10, 2021
<input type="checkbox"/>		Epidendrum	agoyanense	Orkiddoc	CBR	0	Mar 13, 2021
<input type="checkbox"/>		Pterostylis	concinna	Dusty's Pea-Wee	CBR	0	Feb 13, 2021

CBR (Certificate of Botanical Recognition)

The 3041 awards are to rare and unusual species with educational interest that have received no previous awards. The entire plant must be exhibited. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification.



<input type="checkbox"/>	PHOTO	GENUS	NAME	CULTIVAR	AWARD	SCORE	DATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		Vanda	perplexa	Ponkan	CHM	82	Apr 28, 2021
<input type="checkbox"/>		Vanda	curvifolia f. franksmithiana	Shocking Pink	CHM	86	Apr 09, 2021
<input type="checkbox"/>		Caucaea	sanguinolenta	Lolita	CHM	80	Oct 17, 2020
<input type="checkbox"/>		Bulbophyllum	longistelidium	Susan	CHM	83	Oct 03, 2020
<input type="checkbox"/>		Pomatocalpa	angustifolium	Annie	CHM	83	Sep 12, 2020
<input type="checkbox"/>		Grammatoph...	ravanii	Irene	CHM	82	Aug 15, 2020
<input type="checkbox"/>		Systeloglossum	panamense	Bryon Rinke	CHM	82	Jul 18, 2020

CHM (Certificate of Horticultural Merit)

The 2885 awards are to well-grown and well-flowered species or natural hybrids with characteristics that contribute to the horticultural aspects of orchidology, such as aesthetic appeal. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification.



The 2021 Fall Members Meeting will be held in conjunction with the AOS Centennial Celebration.

We are looking forward to welcoming all AOS Members and Friends to our first "in-person" meeting since 2019 this October! Help us celebrate 100 years of Orchids in Coral Gables, Florida.

All manner of activities are planned for the Members Meeting - AOS Judging, Orchid Conservation speakers, a Live Auction, and more!

To Commemorate our Centennial, a special Celebration Gala will be held on Saturday, October 30th at the historic Biltmore Hotel.

REGISTER NOW

2021 Fall Members Meeting & Centennial Celebration

October 27-30th, 2021

The Biltmore Hotel

A National Historic Landmark

1200 Anastasia Avenue

Coral Gables, FL 33134

[Event Registration \(aos.org\)](https://secure.aos.org/event/register)

<https://secure.aos.org/event/register>

[Members Meeting Schedule \(aos.org\)](https://www.aos.org/News-and-Events/Members-Meetings/schedule.aspx)

<https://www.aos.org/News-and-Events/Members-Meetings/schedule.aspx>

Reprint from:

ORCHIDS | CONTENTS

The Bulletin of the American Orchid Society July 2014 Volume 83 Number 7

Reprint: TOM'S MONTHLY CHECKLIST JULY: THE MONTH OF BACKSTORY
By Thomas Mirenda

First impressions, while super-important for events such as job interviews, party mixers and speed dating, rarely tell the full story, as anyone who has ever followed up on a speed date will tell you. We humans are complicated creatures formulated through a strange, alchemic mixture of ingredients: where we grew up or went to school, who nurtured us, who tortured us, who loved us, etc. Not to mention the mind-boggling genetic component of our natures. We are such complex organisms that to fully understand and appreciate each other is a truly monumental task. We simply cannot do it all. On the regrettably rare occasions I do reach out and connect with new friends, I am invariably amazed at their stories and inner beauty. We are all who we are for real reasons and understanding what motivates others requires real time and effort.

Understanding your orchids is not different. Whether species or hybrid, to delve into the back-story of your individual orchids is the key to success with them. In the same way that a friendship is nurtured by conversations and storytelling about the past, orchids have a history and a context that, once uncovered, fully explains their needs and natures. July is a month laden with historical events. It is also a month many of us travel or go on vacations. Take this month as an opportunity to reflect and learn. Cultivate some new friends, and learn exactly what your orchids need. If you can do the former, the latter is actually much easier.

GRILLING One great way to make friends is to throw a summer barbecue. People will rarely turn down a fantastic feast. Most orchids will be outside as well enjoying the humid, tropical weather. A dappled area under a tree or lath area is an ideal spot to summer your orchids, and feeding your orchids is most appreciated this time of year. While I hesitate to recommend a particular fertilizer regimen, formula or brand, I encourage you to ask among your orchid friends (while they are eating that burger you just grilled for them) what works best for them. Plying them with some beer or wine can also be helpful in finding out their orchid cultivation secrets.

COOL IN THE POOL On a hot summer's day, is there anything better than plunging into the cool water? While certain warm-growing orchids, such as myrmecophilas, encyclias, trichocentrum, brassavolas, standard hard-cane dendrobiums and most vandas thrive in the torrid weather, most orchids from more montane habitats prefer cooler conditions. Wetting them down during the heat of the day will often keep the plant's metabolism working well, which in turn will keep your orchids growing despite the summer heat. Beware of waterlogging orchids with excessive mistings though.

LET US MOVE! BUT GENTLY Whether your orchids are inside or out, a little air movement mimicking the mountain breezes of their natural habitats can be really beneficial. Sweltering, still air combined with direct sunlight on an orchid leaf will almost always result in overheating and sunburn. Even orchids that crave the heat and sun, such as dendrobiums, really benefit from air movement this month. Just like water, light levels and food, air movement must be given in moderation. If the movement is too strong and relentless, orchids may have trouble respiring. Gentle air caressing your orchids is always a good idea.

RELATIONSHIPS All of this summer socializing, while fun and exciting, actually serves a larger purpose. Engaging in the social aspect of orchids — the plant societies, the shows, the auctions, supporting orchid businesses, etc. — broadens our knowledge and capabilities. The complexity of the orchid world is pretty incredible. No one can really know it all. But because of this, it is also wildly fulfilling. New orchid species are discovered virtually every day, and thousands of lovely, novel and rewarding hybrids are created frequently by professional breeders and enthusiasts around the world. The backstory of orchids is endlessly fascinating, and once you look past the awesome first impressions they make, a profound, deeper bond will invariably form between you and your orchids.

— 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).

AOS members can view articles dating back to 1933 in the digital [ORCHIDS MAGAZINE](#) archives.

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



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. Join us for an exciting live auction, a splendid gala banquet with gourmet dinner, live entertainment with music and dancing in a beautiful historic setting.



Make your plans now to meet us at the historic Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida. We look forward to welcoming you as we celebrate this important 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.

<https://www.aos.org/news-and-events/members-meetings/schedule.aspx>

Webinars-Coming Attractions!






When	July 06, 2021 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	July 12, 2021 8:30pm EDT Monday	July 15, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday	August 05, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Judges Forum: Botanical Awards, CBM, CBR, CHM, What's the Difference?	Cyrtorchilums: Dancing Ladies of The High Andes	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Jean Allen-Ikeson National Education Coordinator for Judging <small>(presented w/ Peter Poot)</small>	Dr. Leslie Ee, ND Associate Judge President of COC	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer

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 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**



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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Membership:

Visit www.OSGKC.org and click the
"membership" link, and then under PayPal
click donate

Dues \$25 Individual, \$30 Household

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Orchid Growers of OSGKC -

<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.

July 11, 2021

Tour of Orchids, area members' growing spots – Ariel Paulson, Karen Schorno, and Jen Winter – Check out their Bios and pictures in Google Docs.

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

November, 2021

TBA

December, 2021

Party, Party, Party!!!