



# ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS, ORCHIDS

*A Communication Instrument for Society Members and Others*

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Volume II Issue 10  
December 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month. Annual dues are \$25 for Individuals and \$30 for Household.**

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## December-January News!

### Comments from Kristy Charland, President

Good day members,  
Well, here we go. Thank you very much for putting your trust in me to guide our society for the next two years. First, I'd like to thank Jean Rogers for her two years of service and for enthusiastically taking us through the initial pandemic years. Jean, you're a tough act to follow, and happily, Jean remains on the board of directors as past president.

My goal for our society is for Joyful Growing & Learning ! I think growing our plants successfully is so much fun, and it's even better when shared! And growing our society is lots of fun too! So, we'll continue to look to Susie Hanna for the fabulous speakers we've been enjoying, and look to our membership for input to make the experience all that it can be. Thanks to Ariel Paulson for consenting to be my immediate support system as vice president, and thanks to Joy Prout, Cindy Meyer and Crystal Remington for continuing as Treasurer, and Joint Secretaries. I've asked Brian Donovan to continue as an at-large board member, and I've asked Megan Mayo to be our second at-large board member, and they have both accepted. What a great group!

Please participate in the Facebook group. Here's the link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/909878999427064/?ref=share> Or search Orchid Growers of OSGKC in facebook groups. I'll continue to administer the group, spearhead the project plants, and I'm co-chair of the raffle with Mark Prout.

Here's to a safe and productive 2022!

Be well,  
Kristy

### Comments from Jean Rogers, Editor

Remember that **DUES are PAST DUE**. If you have not paid them, please mail a check to Joy Prout at 129 NE Edgewater Drive, Lee's Summit, MO 64064. Still \$25 individual, \$30 Household. Or, you can go to the website and pay with PayPal. If delinquent dues are not paid by the February meeting, all membership benefits are removed. That would be sad!!

*In January and going forward, we will meet at the Merriam Community Center – 6040 Slater St., Merriam, KS 66202 There is much more room, good ventilation, good light, no train whistling by and no hand-dryer ready for take-*

*off. The room is about 56' x 56'. There will be room to have 1-6 people at a table, however you feel comfortable. I do hope you can attend!!! The meetings will be Hybrid Meetings. It will be great to actually be able to sit and have a conversation with another orchid lover yet keep connected to those who can't attend whether by distance, health or weather!!!*

Hope this New Year is Happy and Blessed for you and all your loved ones!

Tis the giving season, if you've gotten new orchids or have oldies and have questions, remember - We have such a great group of people who want to help each other!!! **If you have questions/problems, please bring your plant or pictures of it to the meeting.** 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

These are the crosses we are growing for project plant currently. They are little things!! If you are participating, please keep us abreast of what's happening with yours. You can post it on Orchid Growers of OSGKC (see link below) or send information to Kristy Charland at [charland.ek@outlook.com](mailto:charland.ek@outlook.com)



Rodrumnia Orchidom Valentine x Self x  
Tolumnia Wave Dancer 'Copper Sun' AM/AOS  
#ESW45



Rodrumnia Orchidom Valentine x Self x  
(Tolumnia Orchidom 'Joy Time' x Rodrumnia  
Orchidom 'Joyful Dancer') #ESW42

## 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](mailto:charland.ek@outlook.com)). She'll be glad to help. **If you want to email us**, please contact Megan Mayo – Mentor Chair to connect you with someone.

## Meetings

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

#### **OSGKC Programs for 2022**

The Programs Committee is hard at work arranging educational and fun events for 2022. There are still dates open, so please let me know if you have suggestions for speakers, topics or fun things to do as a group. We have a beautiful new meeting place, just east of IKEA. We have reserved two large rooms that open up into a very large space so that we can spread out. We understand, with the viral cases being very high right now, that meeting in person isn't for everyone, so we will also be streaming the meetings on Zoom. And so far, all our speakers will be remote. Perhaps that will change and we will be able to have some in-person speakers. How we will handle our auction in April is uncertain. And, we've even been discussing having an orchid show in the Fall. So get involved! Send your ideas and comments:

**Susie Hanna** [hannaorchids@gmail.com](mailto:hannaorchids@gmail.com)

Hybrid Meetings, in person and on Zoom, are planned for 2022

*Masks are Encouraged.*

Merriam Community Center

6040 Slater Street

Merriam, KS

Sunday January 9, 2022

Speaker: Mark Prout, "Eye of the Beholder"

**Upcoming 2022 Meetings and Events**

Feb. 13 Peter T. Lin, Diamond Orchids, "Miniature Vandaceous Species and Their Hybrids"

March 13 Kelly McCracken, High Desert Orchids, "Miniature Cattleyas"

April 10 Annual Orchid Auction?

May 15 Charles Wilson, "Growing Bulbophyllums"

June 12 Orchids in the Park, Antioch Park

July 10 Orchid Tour

August 14 Picnic

Sept. 11 TBA

Oct. 9 Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids, "Orchids 101: Great Growing Tips from a Top Expert"

Nov. 13 TBA

Dec. 11 Holiday Party and Awards

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**Last Month was the Holiday Party and Awards Banquet by Cindy Meyer and Crystal Remington**

1. Megan Mayo and daughter Michelle played Holiday music for the Society's pleasure – SO DELIGHTFUL!!!

2. The Society provided ham and turkey and everyone brought sides – NO ONE went home hungry!!

3. Annual Awards Announcements

- Best Cattleya: Dan Scholzman
- Best Dendrobium: Megan Mayo
- Best First Bloom Seedling: Kristy Charland and Jim Pyrzynski
- Best Oncidium: Jennifer Winter
- Best Pleurothaliid: Dan Scholzman
- Best Paphiopedilum: Jean Rogers
- Best Phragmipedium: 4 (Kristy Charland, Crystal Remington, Sariah Kinney, Jean Rogers)
- Best Phalaenopsis: Sabrina Markese
- Best Vanda: Megan Mayo
- Best Species: Brian Donovan
- Best Miscellaneous: Jean Rogers and Dan Scholzman
- Royal Barber Memorial Award: Jennifer Winter
- **Orchidist of the Year: Dan Scholzman**

4. There were 36 items in the raffle thanks to the donations of the following:

- Dipti Solanti
- Sunset Valley
- Ecuagenera
- Seattle Orchid
- Orchids Amore
- Cal-Orchids
- First Rays
- GAPS Ecosystem
- Orchid Supply.com
- Thai Orchids And Leis
- RMP Orchids

# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month. The mission of the Judging Centers is to provide orchid growers in the region with the opportunity to have their plants evaluated and judged for AOS awards. These include HCC, AM, FCC, JC, AQ, CBR, CHM, CCM, and CCE.

Creve Coeur Golf/Ice Arena  
11400 Olde Cabin Rd  
Creve Coeur, MO

Second Saturday of the month starting at noon.. (Feb 12, April 9, May 14. March Judging will take place at the Springfield Greene County Botanical Center in conjunction with the Springfield Show – March 19

## December Meeting *OSGKC* Judging

Blue ribbons:



Species: *Mystacidium capense* - Kristy Charland



Oncidium: *Onc. NOID-Donna Klehm*



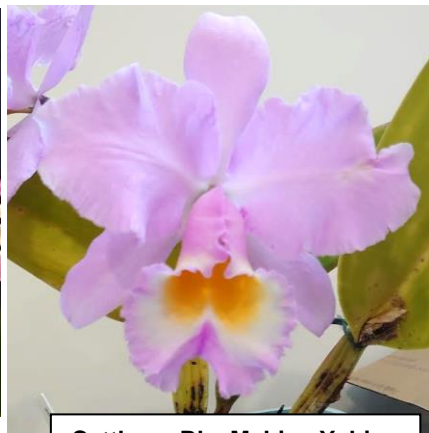
Paphiopedilum: *Paphiopedilum villosum* - Crystal Remington



Phalaenopsis: *Phal. Main Show 'Green Monster'* - Kristy Charland



Dendrobium: *Den. NOID-Donna Klehm*



Cattleya: *Rlc. Mahina Yahiro 'Ulii'* AM/AOS - Judy Harris

### **Red Ribbon Winners**

Onc. Heaven Scent 'Sweet Baby'- Kristy Charland

Phal. NOID - Kristy Charland

Habenaria medusa - Donna Klehm

Cattleya- Rth. C. Circle of Life x Rth. Life's Melody- Donna Klehm

Den. (Maiden Charlotte x Micro Chip) - Crystal Remington – (Now registered as Den. Charlotte's Web)

Phal. NOID - Philip Kinney

Aerangis ugandensis- Brian Donovan

### **White Ribbon Winners**

Phal. NOID - Donna Klehm

Bcd. Gilded Tower Mystic Maze HCC/AOS - Donna Klehm

Tolu. Northern Lights - Krist Charland

Phal. violacea - Kristy Charland

Den. (Charlotte's Web x Micro Chip) - Crystal Remington

## *November Newsletter Judging*

**14 members submitted 33 blooming orchids** for judging and show in **November**.

### **Thanks to the following members for submitting orchids for judging in November:**

Megan Mayo, Donna Klehm, Brian Donovan, Dr. Dan Schlozman, Anh Vu, Anna Archibald, Merri Archibald, Cindy Hobbs, Pei Kuan, Pat Bridgford, Jen McAroy, Sariah Kinney Jim Pyrzynski, and Kristy Charland

### **Blue ribbons:**

Cattleya NOID #1 - Cindy Hobbs, Phal. bellina - Anna Archibald, Plectrelminthus caudatus (First Bloom) - Jim Pyrzynski,

Phal. equestris var. leucaspis (Species) - Brian Donovan, Paph. helenae - Anna Archibald, Cycnodes Wild Rainbow

(Other) - Kristy Charland, Tolumnia Tequila Sunrise (Oncidium) - Megan Mayo, Den. aberrans #1- Brian Donovan, and

Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice - Sariah Kinney

### **Red ribbons:**

Rlc. Fritz Nickolaus 'Spring Dance' - Kristy Charland, Ctt. Ann Komine 'Breathless' AM/AOS - Dr. Dan Schlozman, Cattleya (Circle of Life x Life's Melody) - Donna Klehm, Phal. Jia Ho Summer Love 'Little Pixie' HCC/AOS - Merri Archibald, Phal.

NOID #2 - Megan Mayo, Paph. delenatii (Species) - Kristy Charland, Paph. Blenhill - Kristy Charland, Habenaria Regnieri

'Rubenesque' AM/AOS (Other) - Cindy Hobbs, Dgmra. Shibumi (Oncidium) - Kristy Charland, Onc. Wildcat 'Green Valley'

- Pei Kuan, Psycho Mariposa (Oncidium) - Pat Bridgford, Den. Razzle Dazzle n - Jen McAroy, Den. moniliforme

'Sankanou' - Megan Mayo

### **White ribbons:**

Bcn. Maikai 'Mayumi' - Dr. Dan Schlozman, Rlc. Ports of Paradise 'Emerald Isle' FCC/AOS - Dr. Dan, Phal. #1 - Donna

Klehm, Paph. liemianum - Anh Vu, Paph. Katrina - Merri Archibald, Lycaste Fabienne (Other) - Anh Vu, Psycho

Mariposa - Pat Bridgford, Den. moniliforme 'Yamato-nishiki' - Megan Mayo, Den aberrans #2 - Megan Mayo

**November Orchid of the Month** (drum roll)



AND



**Members Choice:**



## December Digital Ribbon Judging

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

2) **Members' Choice** – members have **5 days** from date newsletter is emailed, to send your nomination (vote) in for the orchid of the month that is your favorite, again, based on the two pictures in the newsletter. Please send your nomination (vote) to Jean Rogers at [jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com)

This month -Send by the end of the day **Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**.

## Blooming Orchids for Show and/or Judging.

**Deadline for submissions was December 26<sup>th</sup>. This was our last newsletter judging as January starts meetings in person. Huge thank you to all the members who have sent pictures for judging over these last two years!!!**

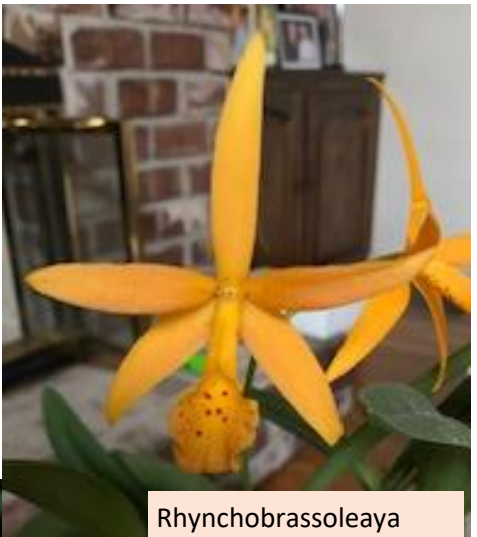
Orchids for Judging: (Send your "Member's Choice" to [jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com) by January 18<sup>th</sup> )



Cattleya (C.) Gaskell Pumila  
'Azure Star' HCC/AOS



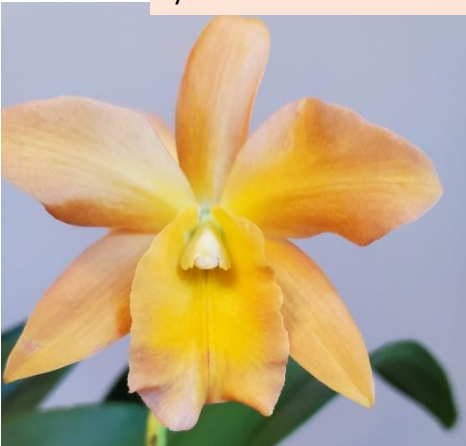
C. NOID #1



Rhynchobrassoleaya  
(Rby.) Golden Tang



Rhyncattleanthe (Rth.)  
Synda Nelson





C. NOID #2



C. NOID #3



Brassanthe (Bsn.) Maikai  
'Mayumi' HCC/AOS



Angraecum sesquipedale







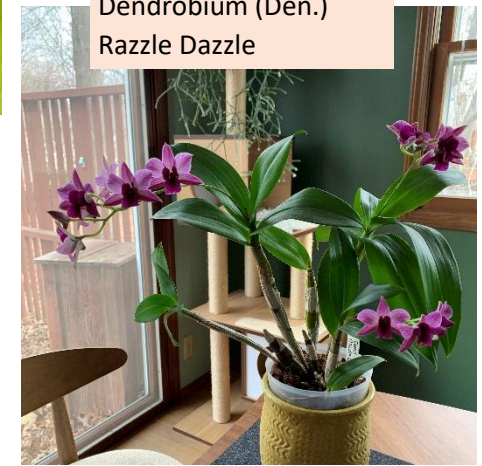
Phalaenopsis (Phal.) NOID



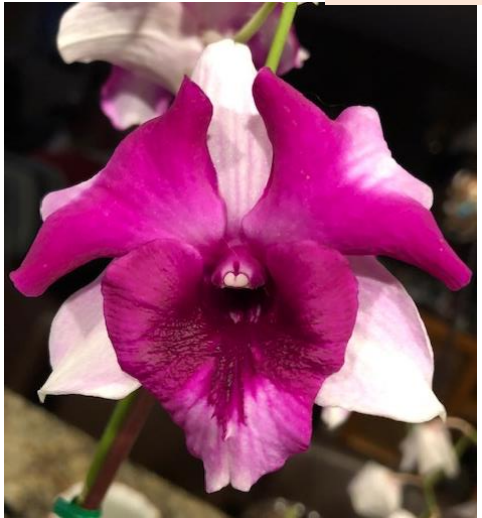
Phal. (Joey x Samera)



Dendrobium (Den.)  
Razzle Dazzle



Den. NOID





Paphiopedilum (Paph.)  
Hsinying Majakun



Paph. delenatii



Psychopsis Mendenhall  
(Oncidium)

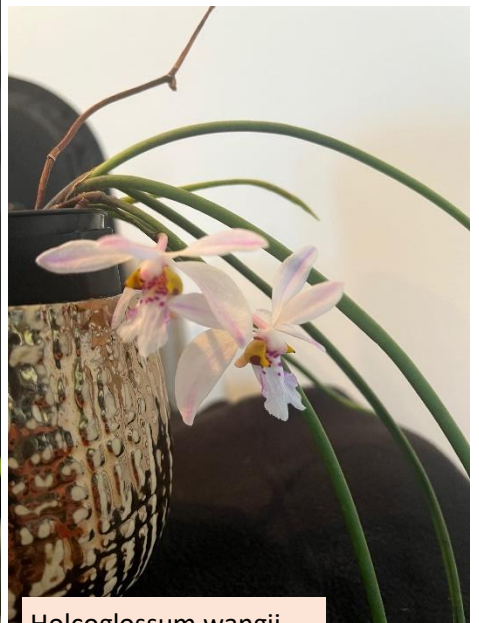




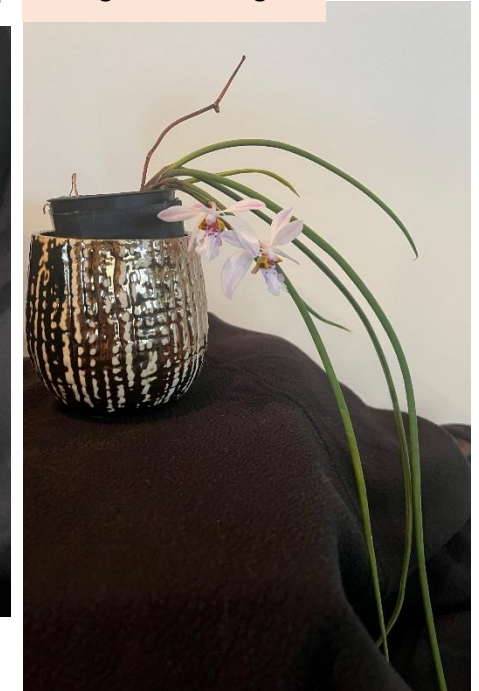
Vanda (V.) falcata



Vanda Falcata 'Shutenou'



Holcoglossum wangii



Pleurothallis saueri



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

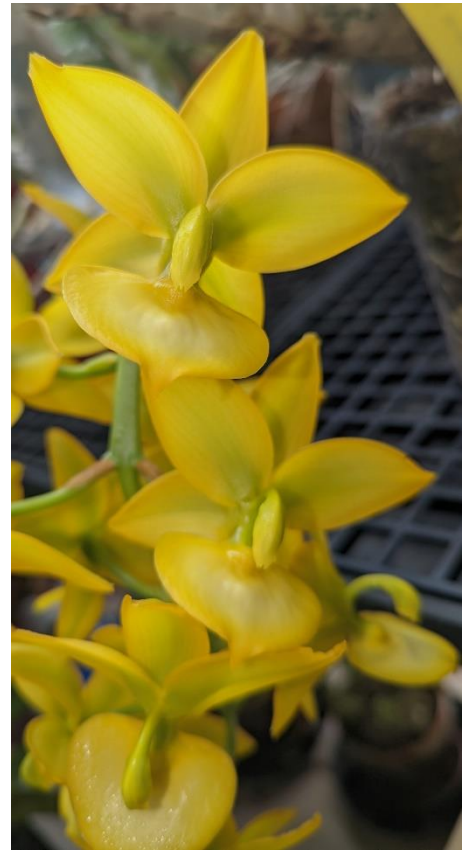
**From Mark and Joy Prout**



Mormodes Roehampton's Flame



Rlc. Dream Circle 'Lone Jack' AM/AOS



Cycnoides Wine Delight  
'Yellow Swan'



Oncidium Sharry Baby  
'Sweet Fragrance'

**From Cindy Hobbs**



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# For Fun and Learning!!

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

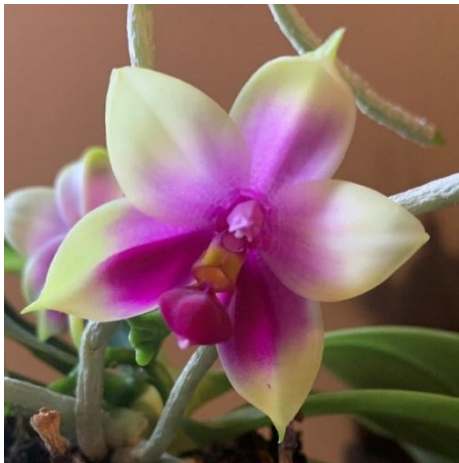
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### Some individual genera – Blue Ribbon Winners and special orchids - *How I grow it:*



**From Cindy Hobbs**  
**C. NOID**

I bought this from the auction about a year ago. It had very healthy roots so I did not repot it immediately as I often do. I used the time-released granular fertilizer year-round. It stayed in my grow tent in my basement with LED lights and a humidifier set at 60%. Around the first of May it went outside and I set it where it would get the highest light without burning it....under a tree and close to shade line so that it got direct sunlight about 2 hours of each day. It started the spike around August and by November I was delighted with a bloom stalk with four flowers which were extremely fragrant. Just wish the squirrels would bring back the tag because it's definitely a beauty.



**From Anna Archibald**  
**Phal. bellina**

Phal. bellina: I keep this orchid about a foot under an LED grow light at room temperature and water it roughly every week and a half. When I remember I use MSU tap water fertilizer at a quarter strength. I don't currently have any supplemental humidity, but it seems to stay around 55% pretty consistently. It's growing in the medium orchid bark from Kelley's Korner.



**From Brian Donovan**  
**Dendrobium aberrans– Species category**

This seems to be a relatively easy species for me. I have a growing in on mix of medium and fine bark (nothing special). It can take a lot of light. I fertilize aggressively in the Spring and Summer and then back off in the Fall and Winter. It doesn't need a hard winter rest like some other Dendrobiums. I use good water because I think it's susceptible to fungus and leaf tip die-back. The smell of this species is very peculiar. It doesn't give off a scent that will fill a room (like Brassavola nodosa), but if you put your nose close to the flowers there's a smell that is not too dissimilar from burning plastic. The scent might be an acquired taste, but flowers are extremely cute.



From Jim Pyrzynski

*Plectrelminthus caudatus* (First Bloom)

This orchid is found in central Africa where it is warm to hot and humid.

It is an Angraecoid and they tend to dislike repotting. I grow it in an octagonal basket with chunks of tree fern as the medium. The roots tend to grow out of the pot in all directions. And the roots are very sensitive. Avoid bumping them.

I water it almost daily, watering until the velamen on the roots turn green. I grow under lights, giving it lots of light and good air movement. Sometimes I dunk the whole lower part of the plant in water (I need a 32-gallon trash can due to the diameter of the root system) for a few minutes to give it a good watering. I fertilize it with a weak solution of Michigan State formula fairly frequently, but flush it with pure water on alternate waterings or with a Calmag solution.

I did place it outdoors this past summer when the weather seemed appropriate. It was hanging in a White Pine tree sort of protected from the elements - and if bad weather was forecast I moved it to the house. But the outdoor rains gave it a better watering than I could with the hose. After a few weeks outdoors I noticed a flower spike which bloomed in October. The flowers lasted for about 3 weeks. According to [ordhidspecies.com](http://ordhidspecies.com) the normal bloom time is supposed to be winter into spring - maybe going outdoors triggered blooming this time. It is putting out new roots - a good sign.

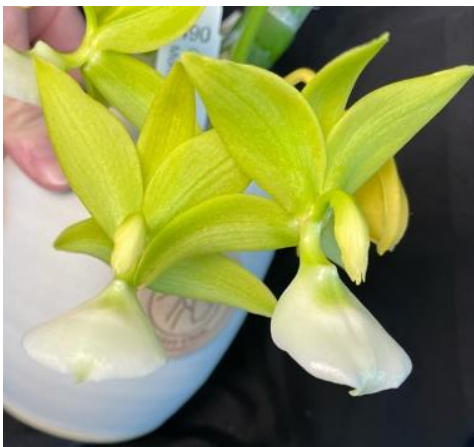


From Brian Donovan

***Phal. equestris* var. *leucaspis* (Species)**

*Phal. equestris* is probably my all-time favorite orchid. It always seems to be doing something (in spike, producing a keiki, or producing a keiki that is also somehow in spike). The flowers last for many months. Interestingly, this is the first orchid species to have its [entire genomic sequence](http://entire.genomic.sequence) mapped (completed in 2014 by a team of 38 scientists). I have this one growing in a very chunky bark mixture with medium and large bark and several packing peanuts (it likes to dry out quickly). I have it under medium, normal, Phal. light. Lori Walters once described this species to me as being very "smart" because it is very expressive about its needs (for example, if the leaves turn to purple it's telling you that you're giving it too much light). I fertilize regularly weakly/weekly during the Spring and Summer and back off a bit in the Fall and Winter (Jacks 30-10-10). I water it weekly (slightly less often during the winter). I also I think it appreciates good air movement. I purchased it from the Louisiana Orchid

Connection, which is a very affordable source for this species (Big Leaf has fancier, but usually more expensive, varieties).



From Kristy Charland

***Cycnodes* Wild Rainbow (Other Category)**

During growth time, plenty of light, water and fertilizer. This one blooms after dormancy begins and leaves are dropping/have dropped. I just misted it occasionally while the flower spike was growing.



**From Anna Archibald**  
**Paphiopedilum helenae**

Paph. helenae: I love this little Paph! It lives in an eastern window in my dining room (about 10 feet away from the shelf where my Phals are growing). I water it about once a week and use MSU tap water fertilizer at a quarter strength when I remember. I don't currently have any supplemental humidity, but it seems to stay around 55% pretty consistently. It's growing in a mix of bark and sphagnum moss from Kelley's Korner.



**From Megan Mayo**  
**Tolumnia Tequila Sunrise (Oncidium Category)**

My Tolumnia is directly under the led shop light  
it's about 72\*-68\*  
I use brita filtered water with 1/8 tsp of MSU fertilizer every time I water. I dunk and soak these plants (growing on cork) for about 5 minutes 2x a week  
humidity is about 50-60%  
they are on cork with some moss



**From Sariah Kinney**  
**Phragmipedium Sorcerer's Apprentice**

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## Outside OSGKC Resources

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We thank the American Orchid Society for allowing us to use these 2 articles



American Orchid Society  
Education. Conservation. Research.

# From AOS

## What's wrong with my orchid?

### *Bud Drop*

There are many reasons why buds fall off before flowering:

- Under or over watering.
- Temperature extremes and rapid temperature changes (heating vents, air conditioning blowing directly on the plant).
- Fumes from natural gas leaks, paint, other chemicals.
- Ethylene - high producers are apple, avocado, peach, pear, plum, melons, figs, and tomatoes.
- Low humidity.
- Genetics.
- Aphids, thrips and some mites.
- Changing growing location. If you want to change a plant's location so that it will be enjoyed, wait until the flower opens first.

All reuse must contain the following:

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# Tolumnia (Equitant Oncidiums) Culture

Taken from the August 1994 American Orchid Society *Bulletin*



*Tolumnia* Golden Sunset 'Maili', AM/AOS

The group of orchids now called *Tolumnia* were at one time called *Oncidium* section *Variegata* or commonly referred to as "equitant oncidiums". The foliage seldom exceeds 6 to 8 inches in height, and a 4-inch pot can house a "specimen" plant. The leaves are arranged in pairs overlapping or straddling one another at the base, accounting for the popular term "equitant" (derived from the Latin meaning riding a horse). Most of the species produce growths at short intervals along the rhizomes, resulting in a compact, clumping growth habit. A few, however, possess elongated rhizomes that create rambling tangles of growth. Flowers are produced primarily in the spring on 12- to 18-inch inflorescences that are often branched on older plants. Some types have much shorter, bouquet-like displays.

Compared with most mainstream genera, the *Tolumnias* have been hybridized for a relatively short time -- about 50 or so years. The short time it takes to reach flowering size (approximately 2 1/2 years from pollination to bloom) has enabled breeders to make significant advances in just a few years. Today's hybrids offer an astounding array of colors and patterns not seen in the species. Their petite size and ability to adapt to a fairly wide range of conditions make them suitable for growing spaces under lights or on windowsills. The key to growing *Tolumnias* is understanding their natural habitat. The species are endemic to the Caribbean Basin with many confined to a single island. Most of the species involved in modern hybrids are found in intermediate to warm conditions growing on twigs where they are exposed to bright light and air movement. Moisture is provided by high humidity and by

daily rain showers or heavy dews. Due to constant air movement by the trade winds, plants never remain wet for long.



DAVID ALDRICH

The authors greenhouse during the peak of the spring flowering season. Stepped benches and wire-mesh walls expand the growing area by taking advantage of vertical spaces.

## Culture

### Temperature and Humidity

Grow Tolumnias almost anywhere an intermediate range of temperature (55 to 90F) and relative humidity of 50 to 70 percent can be provided. Those cultivated in windows or under lights benefit from summering outdoors where climate permits.

### Light

Provide bright, diffused light that is somewhere between the optimal for phalaenopsis and that for cattleyas. The general rule of thumb is if shadows on the orchid bench are just discernible, the light is about right. Plants that are growing well but reluctant to bloom usually need an increase in light intensity. Once conditioned to high light, tolumnias are fairly tough, but when moving tender plants to a higher light situation, increase their exposure gradually to prevent burning. This is especially true when moving plants outdoors for the summer.

### Watering

This is the most crucial aspect to success with tolumnias. There is no hard and fast rule for how often to water. Only close observation of your conditions will indicate frequency. Plants must dry out between waterings. Drying will be faster outdoors than on a humidity-enhanced windowsill. Damp, cloudy days will retard drying while bright, breezy days will hasten it. Plants on mounts can be misted daily because drying is rapid, but those in pots must be observed more closely for complete drying. The adage "if in doubt, don't water" applies here. Avoid misting or watering during the heat of the day. Water that collects in the overlapping leaf bases can reach "cooking" temperatures and severely damage plant tissue, especially the tender young growths.

## Fertilizing

In the natural habitat, plants are bathed with nutrients derived from decaying plant and animal matter with every rain. So, for cultivated plants, frequent and dilute feeding is the preferred approach. A balanced fertilizer applied every second or third watering at half to quarter strength should be adequate. Flushing with plain water between feedings is important because residual salts can damage the roots.



Approximately 200 plants can be seen in this view of the author's greenhouse.

Mounted tolumnias hang on wire-mesh walls above bench-grown plants to maximize space.

## Mounting and Potting

Frequency of watering and selection of substrate are closely integrated. The objective is to achieve the proper combination allowing for good irrigation with adequate aeration and rapid drying of the root area. Mounting is the method of choice; at least for a start. Twigs, cork bark, small wood or tree-fern plaques all work well. Place a pad of moss or coconut fiber around the roots and secure the plant to the mount with monofilament line or strips cut from nylon hose. A daily light misting will help establish growth. If plants on mounts show a tendency to shrivel despite regular waterings, this may indicate conditions drier than optimum. Pare off some of the mount without disturbing the plant and simply set it in a clay pot (with no medium). This procedure may afford just the right amount of extra moisture around the root area. If conditions still seem too dry, sift potting mix into the container around the base of the plant. The medium used should be porous and drain readily.

For those just starting to grow the tolumnias, this step-by-step procedure causes minimal trauma to the plant while it and the grower are getting acquainted. As you observe the results you will be able to choose the method that works best in your conditions.

## Problems

The airy, bright and dry cultural preference discourages most disease problems. Mealybugs and scale are encountered most and may be dealt with simply by direct removal using a cotton swab soaked with ordinary rubbing alcohol. For larger infestations, wettable powder formulations of Malathion or Orthene (used according to manufacturer's directions) provide efficient control. Cygon seems to be toxic to the plants and should be avoided.

Unless plants are cultivated in a basket, a 3- to 4-inch pot full is the maximum size to which a plant should be allowed to grow. When this size is reached (every two years on average), divide and repot the plant. Otherwise, as the central part of the plant begins to decline it may affect the healthy portion

through bacterial or fungal rot. Repotting should be done when new growth begins in the spring to assure quick establishment in the new quarters.

And wait ... don't cut off that spike after the first blooms fade. There is often a secondary spike waiting to form and provide several more weeks of bloom.



Today's orchid enthusiast has dozens of options when selecting toolumnia hybrids. Joane Molenock grew this *Tolumnia* Loveable 'The Hollow', AM/AOS (Good Show x Rainbow)

**Anita Aldrich** is a life member, accredited judge, former trustee of the American Orchid Society, former chairman of the Society's Committee on Awards (now the Judging Committee) and former chairman of the Conservation Committee. She has 40+ years' experience raising orchids and is owner of Sundance Orchids in Galveston, established in 1976. Since 1975 she has been hybridizing toolumnias, and a frequent contributor to the American Orchid Society Bulletin. Anita has lectured frequently to orchid societies and horticultural groups nationwide, and has played an active role in many orchid-related societies and activities in the Southwest. 817-89th, Route 2, Galveston, Texas 77554.

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# Let's Get to Know Each Other

## OSGKC Members!

January



*Beth and Doug Martin*

Joined January 1998

We joined OSGKC in January 1998, a few months after moving to Kansas City from St. Louis. Beth served as President 2010-11 and as shows and exhibits chair 1999-2020. She also started the beginners group in 1999 and led it for 5 years. Doug served as President 2004-05 and also served as program chair 2000-04, donations chair, conservation chair and Mid-America Orchid Congress representative. We've co-chaired two MAOC shows hosted by OSGKC, in 2007 and 2018. We're both AOS Associate Judges and past presidents of MAOC.

We started growing orchids in 1991. Beth bought Doug his first orchid, a Phalaenopsis, for Valentines Day at the St. Louis orchid society show, and he immediately bought two more! We grow orchids in a light room in our basement, and also outdoors. Doug's current passion is Mediterranean terrestrials and he loves Cypripediums, and Beth likes mini-catts and phals. Beth is a retired lawyer and Doug is a retired chemistry professor. We both love traveling to see orchids in their natural habitats, and we've seen them in 38 US states and 7 other countries. We have one elderly cat, Batman, who Doug rescued (with his late brother Carlos) as a kitten.

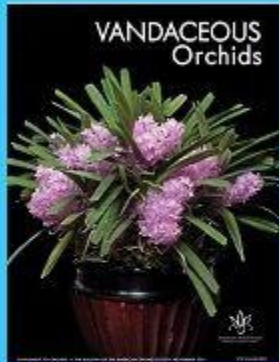
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## News from the AOS

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

There's Always More to Learn - Become Familiar with the VANDA ALLIANCE  
Growing, History, Hybridizing, Conservation [REGISTER HERE](#)



# AOS Orchid Culture Day

Pour Your Coffee and Prepare Brunch!  
Enjoy a Day with these Delightful Speakers

Explore the Virtual World of Vandaceous Orchids

SATURDAY, January 29, 2022

Start Time 10 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time)

\$30 USD

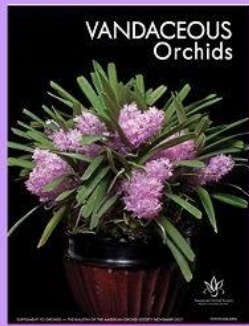
Building on the 2021 Bodacious Vandaceous Orchids Magazine Supplement, this is an opportunity to learn more about the VANDA family of orchids.

Tune in to presentations by four distinguished speakers.

- 1) **Kim Fedderson** from *Fair Orchids*: Yes, You Can Grow Vandaceous Orchids at Home
- 2) **Jason Fischer** from *Orchids Limited*: The Culture & History of *Vanda falcata* (formerly *Neofinetia*)
- 3) **Bob Fuchs** Pres. of *RF Orchids*: The Latest Trends in Vanda Hybridizing
- 4) **Brenda Oviatt** from *Botanica Ltd.*: Angraecoids - Conservation and Culture



NEW FOR THE NEW YEAR! Put This On Your 2022 Calendar  
[REGISTER HERE](#)



# AOS Speaker's Day

**Pour Your Coffee and Prepare Brunch!  
Enjoy a Day with these Delightful Speakers**

**Explore the Virtual World of Vandaceous Orchids**

**SATURDAY, January 29, 2022**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4834617917122351119>

**Start Time 10 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time)**

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- 4) **Brenda Oviatt** from *Botanica Ltd.*: Angraecoids - Conservation and Culture

FOR THE NOVICE

## Why Do You Grow the Orchids You Grow?

By Sue Bottom/Photographs by Terry Bottom (Photos can be viewed in *ORCHIDS*, January 2016, pages 26 through 29)

Now It's Habenarias

Has your taste in orchids changed over time? When you first start growing orchids, you buy everything in sight, all you know is that you need more, more! Cattleyas are my enduring favorite, the incredible flowers, the fragrance, perhaps that's why most of the benches and overhead poles are filled with them. But then you go to an orchid show and see something that you simply can't live without.

In the beginning it was phalaenopsis. When we were living in Houston, the Houston Orchid Society was a phalaenopsis club thanks in part to Bill Tippitt's breeding of multifloral phals. It was an exciting time for phalaenopsis, the hybridizing for yellows was in its heyday and the harlequin phals had just been introduced. How can you not love phals with their long lived graceful blooms?

Then one day Stephen Moffitt gave a presentation to the Galveston club about catasetums, so naturally I started growing them. What is easier than a plant that requires no winter care during its dormancy but grows like mad in the summer? Add Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids into the mix with all his beautiful and fascinating hybrids and there are new wows to tempt you every year.

Next there was the vanda phase, so many colors, sizes and shapes! After that it was the ephemeral stanhopeas. That addiction started with a *Stanhopea grandiflora* that bloomed 8 times in one year, can you spell hooked? It took a bit of observing how others succeeded with theirs and some trial and error until I could reliably rebloom them and by then I

had almost two dozen different varieties. After that came the African angraecoids in their white and green glory, the dendrochilums with their chains of miniature flowers and... well, you get the idea.

Roy Tokunaga of H&R Nurseries had some *Habenaria medusa* seedlings for sale when he came to talk to our club and I had seen pictures of this oddity and thought, why not? When it bloomed, it was love at first sight and the hunt was on for more. There have been many enablers along the way, including Thanh Nguyen of Springwater Orchids on the east coast and Peter T. Lin of Diamond Orchids on the west coast and several in between. Before the year was over, there were about two dozen habenarias in the greenhouse, orchids that grow from tubers and require a dry dormant winter.

That's how I found myself outdoors on a cold January afternoon with all these dead looking plants figuring out how I was going to repot them so they'd come back to life in the spring. The trickiest part is keeping the tuber oriented so the shoot end is pointing up and the root end is pointing down, easier said than done in that one end looks pretty much like the other. I think I made the wrong decision on one or two of them last year. For the similarly afflicted, this is what I have gleaned from reading about them and talking with other orchid growers.

*Pot Selection.* First, look for deeper standard size pots rather than azalea or bulb type pots. Don't use peanuts at the bottom of the pot because that's where the tubers will want to form. Use smallish pots, if you think you're slightly underpotting, you've probably chosen the right pot.

*Potting Mix.* Most folks suggest using either sphagnum moss or Pro-Mix HP as your potting mix. I opted for a Pro-Mix HP/sponge rock mix and top dressed with a little sphagnum moss so the soilless mix wouldn't wash out of the pot. If you use sphagnum, make sure you have the AAA grade, otherwise find a good soilless mix. Next year I may try a few in straight sphagnum moss packed tightly enough that the plants will stand up without support.

*When to Repot.* After flowering, the vegetation starts to brown and the plant begins to enter dormancy. The tubers are still growing and storing energy for next year's growth so just limit your watering until the plant dies back. Don't be in any hurry to remove the dead top vegetation from the pot because that will help you orient the tubers properly during the repotting process.

*Tuber Orientation.* If you just knock the plant out of the pot and clean away the old potting mix like you would with other orchids, you'll find yourself saying oops, which end is up? The first time repotting, I held the tubers in my hand oriented top to bottom from depotting through repotting, to make sure they didn't get turned around. Often you can tell there is a pointy end from which the shoot grows that should be oriented up when you repot. But if you can't tell which end should be up, hedge your bets and lay the tuber sideways.

*Then You Wait.* Once your tuber is happily ensconced in its dry new home, put the pot someplace where it won't accidentally get watered. You have to wait until the tuber breaks dormancy and sends up a new shoot and then you can begin watering. If there is no new growth when all your other orchids have spring fever, you can give your *Habenaria* an occasional sip to encourage it to start growing. Once it has a few inches of height, give it copious amounts of water and fertilizer during the growing season because like your other winter dormant orchids, it has to cram 12 months of growing into 7 or 8 months. In the fall the bloom spikes will emerge from the center of the plant, get ready for the show!

Orchid growers go through all sorts of trials and tribulations learning how to grow one type of orchid and then when they finally figure it out, they decide to start growing a different type of orchid. It is probably natural that our taste in orchids evolves over time. After all, if you look back at your recipes from several years ago you realize your ingredients and techniques have morphed over time... though you must be careful not to admit to a Louisiana native that you are now adding beans to the gumbo!

*Sue Bottom started growing orchids in Houston in the mid-1990s after her husband Terry built her first greenhouse. They settled into St. Augustine, Florida, Sue with her orchids and Terry with his camera. They are active in the St. Augustine Orchid Society, maintaining the society's website and publishing its monthly newsletter. Sue is also a member of the AOS Editorial Board. [sbottom15@hotmail.com](mailto:sbottom15@hotmail.com)*



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## Coming in ORCHIDS January 2022

- Collector's Item - *Cattleya cernua* by Judith Rapacz-Hasler
- For the Novice - After the Cull by Sue Bottom
- Orchids Illustrated - *Lycaste* by Wesley Higgins and Peggy Alrich
- Photograph of the Week
- First Ladies and Their Cattleyas: *Cattleya Florence Harding* by A.E. Chadwick
- Who Were These Guys; Part 16: Joseph Dalton Hooker (1817-1911) by David Rosenfeld, MD
- *Paphiopedilum druryi* in India by Udai C. Pradhan
- Growing orchids in Wine Coolers by Alfonso Doucette
- Nomenclature Notes - Will the real *Brassavola cucullata* Please Stand Up by Tom Mirenda and Claude W. Hamilton

To receive a FREE digital sample of ORCHIDS magazine [click here](#)

[Orchid Question and Answer \(aos.org\)](#)

Check out the AOS website for Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

### *Habenaria rodocheila*

#### Question

I was given a plant of *Habenaria rodocheila* in full bloom. It is a really beautiful orchid and I would like to see it bloom again next year. Now that the flowers have faded, how do I care for it? — **Captain G.P. Woodward**

#### Answer

Habenarias have been promoted as being among the most difficult orchids to grow. Yet if one pays particular attention to their general needs, they are actually one of the easiest. The most important key to their culture is watering. Asian species of *Habenaria* go through a definite monsoon-type growing season. They are developed from corms that go totally dormant in the parched soil of their native habitat, so parched that the soil is rock-hard and cracked. In the early spring, the rains soften the soil and spark the *Habenaria* into new growth. The plants are now kept in a constant state of wetness, growing at amazing rates until midsummer. At the point when the rosettes of leaves seem to be slowing down, this is the time to watch for emerging flower spikes from the center of the rosette. The plant should still be kept continuously moist until the last flower has fallen off. At this point, the plant must still be watered, but allowed to dry slightly between waterings. This is done because the plant is now producing new corms for next year's growth under the soil.

[Habenaria rodocheila 'Claira Mae's Birthday Surprise'](#)  
[CCM/AOS](#)

(87 points) Photographer: Richard Noel



Now comes the hard part. When the foliage starts to become spotted and looks as if it is dying, stop watering the plant. Give no water at all. We put our awarded plants on top of an electrical service panel where it is guaranteed they will not receive any water, even accidentally. Repot in dry mix at this time. Then around February to March, take a look every week and see if anything is poking up through the top of the soil. If it is, water it. If not, put it back. An occasional misting by the middle of April can spark the plant if no signs of growth are present. Habenarias purchased as bare-root corms should not be planted until April, as the damp soil mixes will start growth and alter their growth cycle unfavorably. The preferred mixes are any of the soilless blends, such as Pro-Mix HP. — **Joe Palermo**

### [All About Orchids \(aos.org\)](http://aos.org)

#### **New to Orchid Growing? Check out the AOS website for Short Easy to Read Articles on Orchid Basics**

*Starting in June 2009, AOS published a monthly newsletter for beginners. The series continued for nearly three years and was intended to educate people with a casual interest in orchids. Subscription was open to all and by the time the last issue was sent there were ten thousand subscribers. They are archived on the AOS website. Here is a timely example of the content.*

Here are a few suggestions to keep your orchids healthy this winter.

- If you are a windowsill grower, the light will be entirely different at this time of year. Assess it carefully and make any necessary adjustments. A south window may be brighter due to bare trees and the sun being lower in the sky. Watch for sunburn and move plants back from the window or add a sheer curtain to cut down the light.
- Shorter days and gloomy weather in many parts of the country can cause plants to produce soft growths that are more susceptible to pests and disease. Some orchids will not flower if they do not receive enough light. If necessary, use a grow light on a timer to provide additional light in winter.
- Orchids grow more slowly in winter and will need less water and fertilizer. Most growers cut their fertilizer back to twice a month at half strength. Monitor orchids to keep them at their proper moisture level for their type. Generally, orchids will need about half as much water in winter as they do in summer. Some orchids must have a dry winter rest in order to flower.
- The loss of humidity as a result of forced air heating can take its toll on your orchids. Remember, most orchids grow optimally with 60-75% humidity. If your home is especially dry, and you will know by the way your own skin reacts to winter, provide extra humidity for your orchids. A tried-and-true method is to set orchid pots on trays of pebbles that are filled with water; just make sure your plant is not sitting in the water. Misting a couple times a day can also help.
- Winter is cold, so protect plants from drafts. If buds start falling off of a Phalaenopsis inflorescence the first thing to suspect is a drafty window. Do not put plants close enough to a window to touch the glass!

# Webinars-Coming Attractions!



<b>When</b>	January 11, 2022 8:30pm EST Tuesday	January 18, 2022 8:30pm EST Tuesday	February 15, 2022 8:30pm EST Tuesday	February 23, 2022 8:30pm EST Wednesday
<b>Topic</b>	Miltoniopsis	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	A Guide to Modern LED Lighting How to set up an indoor grow area	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
<b>Presenter</b>	Mark Whelan Retired Professor Multi-genera Orchid Grower	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Kelly McCracken Owner High Desert Orchids, Miniature Orchid Specialist	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](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)**

## HAVE YOU VISITED THE [OrchidMarketplace.com](http://OrchidMarketplace.com) ?

View this quick [video](#) to see how it all works.

<https://aos.wistia.com/medias/we4i8onm3c>  
products. <https://marketplace.aos.org/>

### MEMBERS GET MORE INSIGHT [Sit in on Judging Webinars](#)

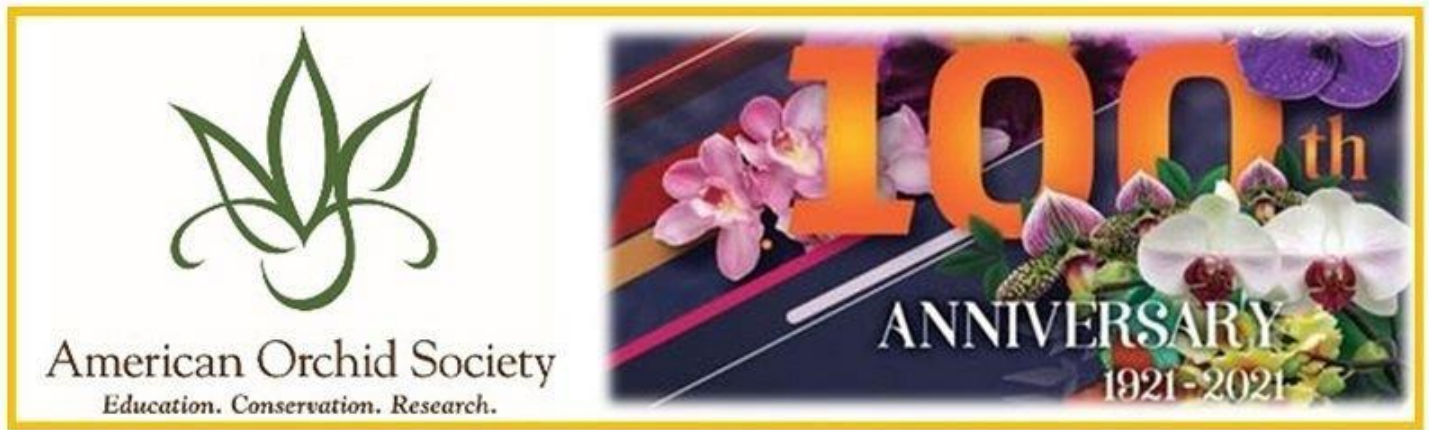
Is your orchid award worthy? Learn what the Judges are looking for.



Have you ever considered becoming an American Orchid Society Judge?

We invite you to come learn with us

[judges@aos.org](mailto:judges@aos.org)



### **Centennial Celebration at the Spring Members Meeting**

Make plans now to attend this once in a lifetime event. Come meet and mingle with other orchid enthusiasts that support the mission of the AOS, **April 06-09, 2022**. Meet the office staff. Come hear what is happening in the AOS. Learn about the people who volunteer their time to this passion we all love. All AOS members are invited to attend committee and board meetings. Sit in on a [committee](#) meeting. Commit to a committee! Become a new volunteer! It's peak season in South Florida. Don't wait to book your [accommodations](#)! Explore the historic Biltmore hotel in Coral Gables. [Register now](#)



## 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**

**President** – Jean Rogers

[jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com)

**Vice-president** - Kristy Charland

[charland.ek@outlook.com](mailto:charland.ek@outlook.com)

### **Membership:**

Visit [www.OSGKC.org](http://www.OSGKC.org) and click the  
"membership" link, and then under PayPal  
click donate

Dues \$25 Individual, \$30 Household

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[www.OSGKC.org](http://www.OSGKC.org)

Webmaster: Ariel Paulson

**On Facebook:**



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

### **February 13, 2022 OSGKC monthly meeting.**

Featured speaker: Peter T. Lin, Diamond Orchids, "Miniature Vanda Species and their Hybrids"

more information at [diamondorchids.com](http://diamondorchids.com)

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS

1:30 -4:30 p.m.

We have a Beginners' Group and a Culture Roundtable discussion prior to the featured speaker. Guests are welcome.

[www.osgkc.org](http://www.osgkc.org) and find us on Facebook

**Each meeting will be held in person at the community center as well as available via Zoom.**

### **Sunday, March 13, 2022 OSGKCmonthly meeting.**

Featured speaker: Kelly McCracken, High Desert Orchids, "Miniature Cattleyas"

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS 1:30 -4:30 p.m.

We have a Beginners' Group and a Culture Roundtable discussion prior to the featured speaker. Guests are welcome.

[www.osgkc.org](http://www.osgkc.org) and find us on Facebook

**Each meeting will be held in person at the community center as well as available via Zoom.**

### **Sunday, April 10 OSGKC Annual Orchid Auction**

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS

2-4 p.m.

*Our annual orchid live auction of an amazing variety of orchids, many in bud or in flower. Live auction as well as plants for sale starting at \$5. This is our main fundraiser and loads of fun. Please start analyzing your orchids – what doesn't make your heart throb any more, please consider donating it to the auction. If you have plants that need dividing, please consider doing it soon and donating a division to the auction. Thanks!!*

**We are planning an in-person auction, depending on the situation with Covid.**