

Volume III Issue 3 March 2022



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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March News-April!

Comments from Kristy Charland, President

Hello Everyone,

What a busy March we've had as a society! I think we're back in the swing of orchid shows. Thank you to those who have participated in making our exhibits beautiful and successful. Whether you made the trips, or sent your gorgeous plants for our exhibits, it takes our whole society family to make these displays come to life! Your participation makes the process so much fun! Remember, the Wichita show promises to be a great one. Please try to participate, April 29-May 1.

So, spring at my house means repotting. How about yours? I took advantage of the one nice day this past week, and took my repotting production line outside. That was fun! I potted 4 cattleyas, one phalaenopsis, and removed a phalaenopsis keiki that is in spike, and moved it to its new pot. The mama plant looked stressed.

I'm excited to show all of you my success at reviving a novelty phal using a product called Dragon's Blood. I learned the tip on Big Leaf Orchid's Facebook group. I'll bring the plant to the next grower's roundtable at the April meeting. So much knowledge to be gained on these grower's pages.

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.

Be well,

Kristy

Comments from Jean Rogers, Editor

It's been brought to my attention that the husband of our dear friend and longtime member, Judy Harris, has passed away. Our heartfelt condolences go out to you Judy. We pray for your peace and comfort as you go forward. And, we in the Orchid Society

hope you will call on us if there is anything we can do.

Sincerely OSGKC

This month I'm going to include pictures from our shows. But please remember that we'd like to see your blooming orchids. Feel free to take pictures anytime during the month and then send them when I let you know I'm working on the newsletter. We love seeing each others' successes.

If you find a new product or potting information, have an inquiry, or any other thing you think other members might be interested in, please send it to me and I'll include it in the newsletter.

jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com I'll include it in the

newsletter. Check out "Ideas, Items, and Inquiries" on page 14.

Last show of the year for us is in Wichita. It is a SWROGA (Southwestern Reginal Orchid Growers Association) show which is comparable to our MAOC show which we hosted in 2018 in Independence, MO. And if you want vendors – they will have VENDORS. Ecuagenera has a cut off date for pre orders of this Thurs, April 7. Both J&L and High Desert Orchids offer 10% discount. Maybe we should inform the membership of this in your meeting reminder. Please look to the right.

If you have questions/problems, remember to bring your plant or pictures of it to the meeting. 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

DRCHID SOCIET Orchids: Simply irresitible! Kansas Orchid Society Spring Show and Sale Botanica, the Wichita Gardens April 30th and May 1st, 2022 Hosting the Southwest Region Orchid Growers Association Kansas Orchid Society Spring Show and Sale

KANSAS ORCHID Orchids: Simply irresistible! SOCIETY Vendors





Sunset Valley Orchids www.sunsetvalleyorch fred.clarke@att.net (760) 310-0778



High Desert Orchids kelly@hiahdesertorchids.com 505-231-6816 10% discount, KOSIO is the code to get the discount on my website We specialize in Miniature archids, Jewel orchids and Hoya, We will also be bringing a selection of flacks and rare species from Thailand through our affiliate, Trapical Exotique.



J & L Orchids www.jlorchids.com info@jlorchids.com 203-261-3772

Pre-orders will receive a 10% discount and can be placed by contacting us directly or through our website at https://jlorchids.com using the coupon code: KansasOS

Orchid Art by Charles Hess

Friday's Embroidery

Project Plant Recap & Update

Hi all you project plant participants! The most recent update on the Rodrumnias from Windswept in Time Orchids is that Kristy asked about them being sent next week and Edgar said "Hopefully. Cold this week then I think things get better. These are the most recent Tolumnia crosses we are growing for project plant. You can post any activity of yours on Orchid Growers of OSGKC (see link below) or send information to Kristy Charland at 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')

Facebook Group

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

https://www.facebook.com/groups/909878999427064/?ref=share It is easy to post your precious orchids and get oooohhhs and ahhhhs from other members. Or something is going on and you want to ask someone – post it on this website. If you need Facebook help (I know I did and still do!!) contact Kristy (charland.ek@outlook.com). 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:

Next up at our April 10 meeting is a nationally-known orchid grower, Ray Barkalow, "Understanding Orchid Nutrition". Orchids have requirements that differ from other common garden plants. Most are epiphytic but there are also lithophytic and terrestrial orchids. Some have higher requirements for calcium and magnesium. Some have to have very pure water with little mineral content. Most do not want high amounts of nitrogen. Ray has his own theories about orchid nutrition. Ray is the owner of First Rays, a supply house featuring a wide variety of orchid supplies. His website also offers a lot of educational material at no charge. Check out the website at: www.firstrays.com. Our speaker will be coming to us via Zoom on the large screen TVs at the Merriam Community Center, and we will also offer his talk on Zoom for those who want to watch from home. Later in the year, on September 11, 2022,, we will hear from Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids who will give his talk on "Orchids 101" for a different perspective on orchid culture and nutrition. Orchids are forever fascinating and challenging, and learning more is what it's all about. Come join in!

Ray has an on-line store with a variety of supplies for orchid growing, along with an extensive list of freely-available culture sheets. Check it out at firstrays.com.

Ray's Bio:

My orchid growing began when I was a Ceramic Engineering student at Georgia Tech. After about a year of volunteering my time at the public greenhouses in Piedmont Park – now the Atlanta Botanical Gardens – the orchid grower there gave me a big, "floofy" purple cattleya. It took me about two years to kill it via the typical root rot-desiccation cycle torture, and at the time, I simply "did not kill plants," so I was determined to learn more and got addicted like everyone else. Needless to say, in the decades since, I've learned that I am a very effective plant killer... (Isn't it true that you're not an orchid-growing "pro" until you have killed your weight in plants?) I am known for my scientific approach to growing, looking at the factual "whys" behind the "myths" that are spread about orchid culture, allowing me to confirm or disprove them.

During my professional career in the chemical industry, I had many opportunities to travel internationally, and put together an extensive collection of orchids from around the world, mostly purchased from street vendors and shipped back to myself on my import permit (pre-CITES). That travel schedule (averaging 13 flights a week for 3.5 years at one point) led to a great deal of experimentation surrounding keeping plants healthy and happy during my absences, and that's what led to the development of Semi-Hydroponics.

First Rays came into being by accident – literally – courtesy of a greenhouse heater and alarm failure on a 7°F night in January of 1994. That 20-year collection of plants from around the world was a total loss. After a few months, I purchased a new heater and alarm system wrote them off as business expenses, even though I had no idea how I'd make a business out of orchids.

Shortly thereafter, I divided the first couple of replacement plants I had purchased at the Philadelphia Flower Show, created a text-only web page listing them, and offered the extra divisions to the internet orchid community via a post to the Comp-U-Serve Gardening Forum. Within three hours I had two orders, and I knew how I'd make it a business.

I am now nearing my 50th year of orchid growing and First Rays is in its 28th year of operation, although a lot smaller than it was at its peak, before I retired from my "real job". To me, the best part about the business is the exposure it has provided, allowing me to meet and communicate with folks from around the world on the fascinating subject of orchids. Sharing the obsession is second only to growing the plants.

Our May 15th speaker will be Charles Wilson, speaking on Bulbophyllums. Charles is an AOS judge, and a superb orchid grower. He used to be in the Memphis Orchid Society which put on spectacular displays at the Springfield and Arkansas shows and at the SWROGA Southwest Regional Orchid shows. He and his wife Susan, used to be very active in the Mid-America group (probably still). They live in Georgia now. Charles has done a number of AOS Webinars.

Last Month Speaker Review by Cindy Meyer and Crystal Remington

Kelly McCracken Miniature Cattleyas 3/13/22

Kelly McCracken of High Desert Orchids showed us the ins and outs of growing miniature cattleyas. Kelly also shows us how you can learn more about orchids by studying them using their previous names. She graciously shared with us her knowledge on: Hadrolaelia, Sophronitis, Rupiculous Laelia plus a few other tidbits.

Hadrolaelia - From Brazil. The buds are produced in young leaves.

- Laelia jongheana: The largest needs a winter rest. Brazilians grow them in bark and rock.
- Laelia pumila: These medium sized orchids enjoy bright light and to dry out.
- Laelia praestans: Is a floppy plant (better mounted), enjoys a shadier environment.
- Laelia dayana: Best potted, preferring more water and some shade; similar to praestans.
- Laelia sincorana: Comes in various colors, similar to the Rupiculous Laelia.
- Laelia alaorii: The smallest, shadiest and most fragrant of them all is a sprawler, best mounted.
 Albas of all are much smaller.

Hadrolaelia culture chart

Species	Water	Temp	Light	Plant Size	Flower color
jongheana	Low, dry winter	Intermediate/ warm	Bright	Large	Pink, alba
pumila	Dry well between	Intermediate/ warm	Bright	Medium/small 6-8"	Alba, tipo, coerulea, dark, some unusual pinks
Praestans	Dry lightly between	Intermediate/ Warm	Bright to shade	Small, 6"	Alba, tipo, dark, some unusual pinks
Dayana	Dry lightly between	Intermediate /warm	Bright shade	Miniature, 4-6"	Alba, tipo, semi- alba, coerulea
Sincorana	Dry well between	Warm/ Intermediate	Bright	Miniature, 4-6"	Alba, tipo, coerulea, lots of pinks
Alaorii	Dry lightly between	Intermediate/ warm	Shade	Small miniature 3-4"	Alba, soft pink, dark pink

Sophronitis - Flowers are smaller, producing one or two, need about a week to fully open to their most stunning form. Cool intermediate (50-55, not higher than 85) growers (except cernua, orange flowers), need the 10-15 degree drop, high humidity, and bright light. Large red flowers.

- Sophronitis coccinea best grown in clay pots
- Sophronitis wittigiana: the only one with a pink form and the only one with an alba form, best grown mounted. The coolest grower requires medium light.
- Sophronitis brevipedunculata: Easiest to grow as it can dry out. Produces unique shaped tightly clustered bulbs.
- Sophronitis riograndesis: Tiny can be planted in 1" pots. They also like drier bark growing environments. Andy Orchids may have some available
- Sophronitis cernua: Also tiny with unique bulbs, showing large clusters of flowers. Enjoys a warmer climate.
- Sophronitis alagoensis is very similar to the cernua with slightly different colors.
- Sophronitis mantiqueirae: best mounted on tree fern flourishes in shady moist homes.
- Sophronitis pygmaea can be found in a yellow form.

Sophronitis culture chart

Species	Water	Temp	Light	Plant size	Flower color
		Intermediate/			
alagoensis	Dry well between	warm	bright	1"	pinkish red
	Dry between				Red with yellow
bicolor	water	Intermediate	bright	6"	lip
	Dry between	Intermediate/			Red to salmon
brevipedunculata	water	warm	bright	2"	pink
		Warm/			Orange, has
cernua	Dry well between	intermediate	bright	2"	yellow form
		Cool/			Red, orange,
coccinea	Always damp	intermediate	bright	4-6"	crimson, flava
					Watermelon to
mantiqueirae	Always damp	Intermediate	shade	2.5"	crimson
					Red, orange,
pygmaea	Dry slightly	intermediate	bright shade	1"	yellow
riograndensis	Dry slightly	Intermediate	bright	2"	Red, yellow lip
*		Cool/			
wittigiana	Dry slightly	intermediate	Bright shade	2"	Pink, white

Rupiculous Laelia these rock dwellers are the hottest cattleya of the current times. Growing in the detritus of rocky craigs, it comes in four colors: pink, orange, red, and yellow. Most are intermediate to cool growers needing bright light. The secret to successful growth is in the roots.

- Laelia crispilabia: Easy grower for beginners enjoying warmth; comes in various colors.
- Laelia ghillanyi: Fragrant, water it well and then leave it alone. Enjoys it bright and warm.
- Laelia reginae: Reliable bloomers
- Laelia itambana: This small plant produces spikes that reach for the sky
- Laelia cardimii: Tiny, enjoying a very bright moist environment.
- Laelia bradei: Has purple bulbs and can be grown mounted, producing soft colors
- Laelia longipes/lucasiana: Pepper smelling; water well leave it alone, cool grower.

Growing Tidbits

Media: for some mount horizontally with moss around the roots or use the Brazil pot (Cork, plus moss in a clay pot). Plant grows up the cork. Don't fill the pot with moss leave airspace. The Japanese style is to hollow out the bottom of the pot for more breathing room. She recommends a clay pot, because it acts as an air conditioner keeping the plant cool. She uses r/o water and ¼ strength MSU fertilizer. Uses low strength every single watering. MSU has cal mag in it to help with calcium issues causing black pseudobulbs.

Judging Notes...

Upcoming 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.

April:

- 9, monthly judging at Johnson County Library, Leawood, Kansas

4/30-5/1 Kansas Orchid society Spring 2022 Show & Sale (&spring SWROGA), Botanica, The Wichita Gardens, 701 Amidon St, Wichita, KS

May

- 7, Oklahoma Orchid society's Spring 2022 Show and Sale, Will Rogers Gardens Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36th Street.

Oklahoma City, OK

- -14, monthly judging at Dielman Recreation Center, Creve Coeur, Missouri
- -20-22 Memphis Orchid society Show and Sale, Memphis botanic Garden, 750 Cherry Rd, Memphis, TN July
- -8-10, Baton Rouge Orchid society's Show and Sale, LSU Botanic Garden at Burden Conference Center, 4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, LA

OSGKC Judging

Ribbon judging at our meetings at the Merriam Community Center are not official AOS judging events, but are an introduction to the judging process and a way for members to share and learn more. Seeing orchids in flower is one of the greatest joys of our meetings and we are so happy to be able to do this again. Please bring in your blooming orchids, even if you don't think they are "award quality". You will always learn something by bringing plants in to discuss and share with other members. And, ribbons count for points which build through the year for our year-end award presentation each December.

March Meeting Judging Results by Cindy Meyer

Blue Ribbon Winners

Cattleya: Cattleya "War paint" Ariel Paulson (Project Plant!!)

Dendrobium: Den. Microchip (aberrans x normanbyense) Brian Donovan

Paphiopedilum: spicerianum Jean Rogers Phalaenopsis: NOID Phal Annie Heath Species: Phal equestris Donna Klehm,

Red Ribbon Winners

Cattleya: BC mariner star Cindy Hobbs, LC Coaston Sunrise 'Tropical' Cindy Hobbs

Dendrobium: Dendrobium moniliforme 'Siroaya' Brian Donovan

Phalaenopsis: Phal targa queen Ariel Paulson, NOID Donna Klehm, NOID Donna Klehm

Species: Phal equestris (orange) Brian Donovan

White Ribbon Winners

Phal.: Phal equestris orange - Brian Donovan

Cattleya: NOID Cindy Hobbs

Dendrobium: Den moniliforme 'sankanou' Brian Donovan, Den NOID Donna Klehm

Phalaenopsis:Phal Fred's Amour Brian Donovan, NOID Annie Heath, NOID Donna Klehm, Phal I-Hsin Sesame Donna Klehm,

For Fun and Learning!!

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

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

March Blue Ribbon Winners



C. Warpaint by Ariel Paulson

Light: 1000 Lumen LED bar about 6" away

Temp: varies from ~65 in winter to ~80 in summer

Humidity: 30-50%, but it is in the back of the tent so gets the least airflow / least humidity

fluctuations

Water/fertiilizer: weekly, tap w/ 1/4-conc all-purpose MiracleGro + 1/4 conc Botanicare Cal-

Mag Plus

Media: semi-hydro with hydro-crunch



Den. Microchip by Brian Donovan

This is an easy-growing plant that doesn't require a lot of special care. The flowers smell kind of like a cinnamon pastry. I have it in a mix of medium and large fir bark. I water it once a week on average (more in the summer and maybe once-every-other-week in the coldest weeks of winter). I fertilize it weakly-weekly. It is a "heavy feeder" and can take a lot of fertilizer during its months of growth. I put it outside during the summer. It will take a lot of light, but I don't think it needs a lot of light to grow and bloom successfully. The one downside is that its leaves seem susceptible to some issues and drenching it in Physan a couple times a year might be necessary.



Paph. spicerianum by Jean Rogers

I have this under yellow led lights that are on about 13 hrs. winter and 16 hrs. summer. It does not got outdoors summer. I use clean water from my dehumidifier and water twice a week usually, maybe 3 times/wk in summer with a pump up sprayer. I use MSU RO fertilizer about twice a month, and flush my Paphs. once a month. After flushing I water/fertilize with Ray Barklow's KelpMax, K-lite, and Quantum. Humidity in the room is about 50%. Potting mix is Coco chips, charcoal, and perlite. I repot every 1-2 years.



Phal. NOID - by Annie Heath

I have my orchids in a south and west window. They're kind of right next to the window pane. With the cold weather we were having my phals had enough temperature difference to bloom for me. I've been watering them when looking a bit dry with just regular tap water but we also have an RO system. Every once in a while I'll do a good soaking in my sink. And that's about it.:)



Phal. equistris by Donna Klehm - Species

This is in my east kitchen window. Located near the window to get natural light and have a plant light about 6" above. Watered once a week and fertilized lightly every other week with fertilome orchid food. Thit gets Megathrive every other week as the bottle recommends. Temps are on the cool side-night 62, day 66. It is surrounded by lots of other orchids so humidity is probably around 50%.

March – Orchid of the Month

Den. Micro Chip **Grown by** Brian Donovan



Blooming Orchids for Show

NOT for JUDGING - just for your VIEWING PLEASURE! Thanks to members who donated!!

Did you know we have an amazing 89 members in our membership??? Yes, 89!!! It would be beyond my wildest dream if even ¾ of you sent a picture for 'Viewing Pleasure'!!! Share your beauties!!! Become involved in the Society as much as you can. It is so fun and rewarding associating with all of you!!!

This month I'm putting in pictures from the shows. We've had 3 –Arkansas, Springfield, MO, and Omaha Nebraska. Hope you can spot your beauties!! Omaha – 40 plants entered: 33 ribbons, 14 blue, 11 red, 8 white, 2 best of class.



Arkansas Show - Thanks to Joy & Mark Prout, Kristy Charland, Cindy Hobbs, and Jean Rogers



And then comes OMAHA. Thought you might like to see an exhibit set-up:

Thanks to Gary and Louise Hicks for taking the pictures and documenting this endeavor!!! 'It takes a village'. Thanks to Joy & Mark Prout, Gary & Louise Hicks, Cindy & Rae Ann Meyer, Crystal Remington and Jean Rogers.



Arrived to our site. Nice that in Omaha they provide the backdrop and table skirt. Other places, we have to provide that.



This time, first up was to remove the plastic that had been used to protect the flowers from the cold and wind.



Flowers were moved to the floor 'staging area', being sorted for which end they would go on. Mark's specimen Dendrobium (on left) would be focal point.



As plants were being set, 'pot socks' were being put on. Any without a sock would have to be wrapped in black fabric. Cindy Meyer applied lots of socks!!



Backdrop was in 2 pieces and not level. Gary Hicks worked under the table to level them and to plug light cords in.



Now we have light. So much easier to really see the colors. Where to start, where to start????



Which plants where and how high? Which plants can we use to transition from one color to another?



Mark and Joy's specimen plant unveiled. WOW!! That's a big plant to get situated, steady and secure!!



Well, here it is! Now we have to wrap it in black fabric!



Then, where should we put it??? Center? Off to a side?? What other colors do we have? Even amounts or will more go on one side than the other? And how high? How will be get Dipti's Gower Ramsey to play nicely with it?



Got to start somewhere, let's try this!!



So, then there is analyzing and adjusting. It was nice to have the extra 'eyes'. Cindy and Joy worked on the right, Jean, Crystal, and Rae Ann on the left.





And MORE ADJUSTING!!!! It takes a view from a distance and Louise Hicks helped over and over. Thank goodness for Rae Ann's height!



Hmmmmmm.
Now what?
Are we there?



Then finding the pots without socks.





The moss: Put it in a bucket of water to get it good and hydrated, squeeze it, and then place it.



Cover any unwanted sights. In the top of pots, over the edge.



Place it around the pots, on the front edges, create a natural looking woodland.



Plants in place. Moss in place. Entry tags hung on plants. Ready for judging.



Ribbons are awarded. Entry tags removed. Ready for the public to enter. 40 Plants. 33 Ribbons. 14 Blue, 11 Red, and 8 White. Best Dendrobium in Show. Best Phalaenopsis in Show. Best Specimen in Show. Best Exhibit in Show.



Our exhibit – Blue ribbon in its category. Best of class for exhibits.









Mark & Joy's Dendrobium



Mark and Joy's trophy crystal & plate for Den.



and plate for best Phal. in the show.

Susie's trophy crystal

A few closer-ups:



































Other Exhibits:















Omaha Vendors:



















Ideas, Items and Inquiries (If you know of something for this section, please send to

(If you know of something for this section, please send to <u>jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com</u> for inclusion)

Iva Stribling Found Tweezers on Amazon



10 PCS Precision Tweezers Set, Premium Craft Tweezers Kit, Stainless Steel Electronic ESD Tweezers, Anti-static Industrial Soldering Tweezers, with Tweezer Storage Bag. \$9.59

I have ordered a set and LOVE them. Can reach between canes and pseudobulbs to get the dead out. And helps get old sphagnum moss etc. out from between roots.

Brand: UUBAAR

4.6 out of 5 stars 640 ratings

Community Service

If you have knowledge of an upcoming event, or something you think others might like to know of, please let me know and I can put it 'HERE' in the newsletter – <u>jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com</u>



Bird's Botanicals

Upcoming events



SAT, APR 16 AT 7:30 AM

OP Farmers Market Opening Day

Bird's Botanicals - Overland Park Farmers Market

Outside OSGKC Resources

Having just had Kelly McCracken, owner of High Desert Orchids (HDO), Albuquerque, NM, perhaps the following will provide some extra insights on some of these Mini Cattleya orchids. I couldn't find much in the way of articles but found these YouTube links.

1



Miniature cattleya growth and repotting tips

YouTube · Orchid Whisperer

Jul 16, 2015



Caring for Different Types of Orchids: Caring for Mini Cattleya ...

YouTube · ExpertVillage Leaf Group

Jan 19, 2008



OrchidWeb - Miniature Cattleyas - YouTube
www.voutube.com > watch



Common Problems with Mini Cattleyas - YouTube
www.youtube.com > watch

And spring is here (I think). Many will be soon taking orchids outdoors. Here is a piece from the AOS. We thank them for allowing us to reprint it.

Growing Orchids Outdoors

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 needs of many orchids. 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 deepest 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 of approximately one-half strength, with a fertilizer appropriate to the potting mix in which the plants are grown.

A Selection of Plants

- 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!

APRIL





Al Clinton



Birthday April 19th

- 1. How long have you been in OSGKC (When did you join the OSGKC?) Joined in 2004.
- 2. How long have you been growing orchids? Since about 2002.
- 3. What got you hooked?

I had always been a gardener, hybridizing lilies and hemerocallis ("daylilies"). Susie had started with orchids in '96, and got me interested.

- 4. What type of orchid is your favorite?
- I specialize in Masdevallias.
 - 5. Where and how are you growing orchids? (include pictures if you can)

We built a greenhouse (attached to our house) in 2009, and a few years ago we built a "cool"room inside it for Masdevallias. See photos.

- 6. What was/is your profession or training are you still working or retired? Liberal Arts and Fine Arts education, taught Elementary Art, retired in 2000.
- 7. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..." None of my friends are surprised by what I do.
- 8. Birth Month and Day" April 19.
- 9. Do you have any pets? A cat, Munchkin



Cindy Meyer



Birthday April 24th

My biggest life regret will forever be the 1 year in Taiwan and the 4 years I lived in China; wasting the glorious opportunity at my fingertips by having well below adequate orchid knowledge. (2006, 14-18)

My orchid addiction blossomed in the fall of 2019 when my sister and I attended our first OSGKC auction. Ever since that day I've become hooked! Like my fellow OSGKC members I love animals and have 6 cats, countless chickens, herds of guineas, and flocks of peacocks. On occasion I massage a few horses. I am very grateful and thankful to be a part of this fascinating group of orchidists.

To loving to learn- Cheers



Pei Kuan

Birthday April 27th

- 1. How long have you been in OSGKC (When did you join the OSGKC?) 1 year and half
- 2. How long have you been growing orchids? 2 years
- 3. What got you hooked? The unique character of orchid flowers
- 4. What type of orchid is your favorite? Phalaenopsis
- 5. Where and how are you growing orchids? (include pictures if you can). I grow them in my living room.

They are part of the decorations in my living space.

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

 I was working as an international travel consultant. Temporarily not working now.
- 7. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..."
 - One surprising fact about me is I enjoy a lot of things in my life. I enjoy taking some interior design and fashion design lessons. I enjoy many good foods. I enjoy growing orchids and plants, etc.
- 8. Do you have any pets? No





Kimberly And Joyce Knowles

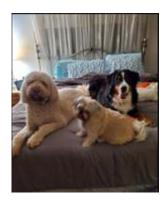
Birthday April 28th and July 30th

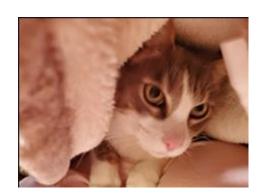
Picture of my Aunt Joyce and I after we made snowmen. My pets are Charlie Brown the goldendoodle, Sugar the pug zu, Remi the bernese mountain dog, and Stanley the cat.

We are brand new to the orchid group. My Aunt has beautiful flower gardens outside. She was in the Independence Garden Club from 2003 until 2016. She served as secretary for two years and president for 3 years. She was also a member of the Kansas City Water Garden Society for about 9 years. I also have a lot of outdoor flowers. We purchased some pretty little orchids at Trader Joes last year. We were excited to have new sprouts grow on both of our orchids. Then I was elated to get mine to rebloom! So I am intrigued to learn more about them. How to plant my new babies. I also have gotten a few new ones. Two for my sunny window and one for my shady window. Currently we both are just growing in our windows.

My Aunt Joyce's birthday is July 30th and mine is April 28th. My Aunt worked at Lake city in information systems. I worked at Verizon and then Sprint in voice engineering. I have a 29 year old daughter and one granddog and grandcat. Lol

I'm not sure what would be a surprising fact about us. We both like flowers, birds, crafts, and good food. Lol





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



Got Orchids?

dating back to 1932!

The American Orchid Society website is your portal to knowledge for all things orchid. The AOS website, along with ongoing Webinars and OrchidPro, offers a plethora of information to help you grow and show your orchids to peak performance. We encourage use of the AOS website by ALL orchid growers. The next best place to learn about the orchids that will thrive in your area, is to attend and become involved in your local Affiliated Society meetings.

Are You Registered? Our next Members' Meeting is April 06-09

1200 Anastasia Avenue. Coral Gables, FL 33134

Get in on Some FUN Raising Too!

One hundred years of orchids! After more than once delayed due to COVID, the Centennial Celebration is finally taking place. Members' Meetings are open to all American Orchid Society members, and the orchid loving public. Imagine a gathering of hundreds of like-minded people, people who love orchids just like you. Committee meetings take place Thursday morning. We would be delighted if you would join us. Ask for the Affiliated Societies Committee meeting room location and time at check-in.

For registrants: This meeting also includes a visit to Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens, home of the AOS and its orchid library, on Thursday, where you can explore the gardens and sit in and observe American Orchid Society judging. There is the town hall meeting and a fund-raising auction on Friday. Saturday there are presentations featuring a great line-up of guest speakers focusing on conservation. View the complete schedule so you don't miss any of the activities.





Who wants to **WIN** the number one signed, Angela Mirro limited edition print, commissioned for the Centennial by the AOS? Those who have already purchased prints commented that it is "bright, energetic, colorful and depicts all that we love about orchids!" This is your chance to own an original print, hand signed by the artist, celebrating 100 years of the AOS, and a few other great prizes.

Purchase one ticket for \$10 or get a bonus ticket when you buy 11/\$100. Get your tickets online now and at the AOS Centennial Members' Meeting. (Void where prohibited). Prize winners will be announced at the Centennial Banquet and Gala, April 9, 2022.

- 1. Angela Mirro limited edition signed and numbered poster: #1 of 100
- 2. Orchid collection from R. F. Orchids Valued at \$1,000
- 3. Beautifully etched Heisey orchid candy dish

All proceeds benefit the AOS Conservation Endowment.

Please read the fine print on the BetterWorld host site platform regarding terms of use. CLICK here for drawing details: https://aos.betterworld.org/.../aos-centennial-celebration

http://aos.betterworld.org/giveaways/aos-centennial-celebration?fbclid=IwAR3Kvo3FFw5S6pE7wGJEnCD3kbX_xUs-tMBgj07plSsMcKr0i8VUDraHAME



An Orchidist's Glossary

The website glossary is a quick reference enhanced with specifics from A to Z. Learning about orchids can be a challenge. Pronouncing the terms associated with orchid growing is just one of them. Understanding definitions is another. The American Orchid Society has developed a tool on the website to educate us all.

A glossary in general, is an alphabetical list of concepts, terms and words within a given field of knowledge or science. It is in this sense that the AOS has called this an Orchidist's Glossary. It views the listed words from the viewpoint of an orchidist only, and thus is most meaningful when limited to its field. It is far from fully comprehensive, but it does embrace a fairly wide range of words used by orchid growers, orchid botanists, and various orchid authors.

The words listed are printed in several different typefaces. This is intended to aid the reader in quickly distinguishing whether the word refers to a botanical term, a specific name of an orchid, a genus name, or an orchid personality. There are sound files included.

Aerides (ay-air-EE-dees) A vandaceous genus of about 26 species from tropical Asia noted for their fragrant pendent racemes. The genus was first described by Juan Lourerio in 1790, who derived the generic name from Greek to describe these epiphytic plants.

Zygopetalum (zye-go-PET-a-lum) A genus of 15 species of terrestrial and epiphytic orchids restricted to South America. It is related to Colax and Promenaea, having been founded by Hooker in 1827, the name referring to the yoke-like callus on the base of the lip.



The website glossary is a quick reference enhanced with specifics from A to Z.

Explore the alphabet to better understand the things you hear while around experienced orchid growers.



Aerides lawrenceae 'Surprise' FCC/AOS (90 points)

Award No: 20144019 Exhibitor: Carol De Biase Photographer: Nick Nickerson

Zygopetalum Artur Elle 'Trey's Legacy'

AM/AOS (81 points) Award No: 20102144 Exhibitor: Wayne Parrish Photographer: Greg Allikas

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The Allure of Color

By Jean Allen-Ikeson

Orchid judges sometimes obsess about how we judge or why we judged a plant the way we did, or the way someone else did. When we get together from across the continent at an American Orchid Society Members' Meeting, we do so for fellowship and to exchange ideas. The latter takes form in an evening seminar before anything else really takes

place publicly called the Judges' Forum, which is open to the public.

In the fall of 2016, we considered the topic 'What were we thinking?' It was a bit of navel gazing to try to reconcile awarding flowers that did not come across as special in a photograph. As we were discussing one such award, a member of the team that judged the flowers spoke out and said something to the effect, 'But we were dazzled by the color that is not apparent in the photograph!'

And there was the rub: photography does not always display what our eyes see, either because the technology that does not 'get it all' because it tries to capture a 3-D image in 2-D and does not have the same pallet that our eyes have or a photographer that was not entranced by what we saw and therefore failed to capture it. Whatever happened in this instance, I realized, upon reflection, that the team had been seduced by the allure of color. They were, as we all are seduced, especially in a gray, dull winter, by the seeming neon lights of color our orchids produce.

Stunning orchids are like a jeweled crown: the crown itself is the form that holds the stunning jewels of color and whose substance and texture can elevate it to extraordinary. No wonder when we walk into a show that we can be captured by a splash of color from a distance, either because the color is brilliant or because the plant is so floriferous that the sheer volume of color catches us off guard and we are awed.

The problem with the photograph that we were looking at and wondering, 'why did they do that' was that the crown itself appeared to be not all what it should have been. The form was a bit wonky and that was reflected by a score that barely got over the bar for an award. But according to the eyewitness, the rare gems of color and the large flowers made the plant beyond ordinary, although not extraordinary. The judges were caught up in the moment.

But it is not just the average grower or judges that are slaves to color. Most good or great hybridizers learned that lesson early on. Ernest Hetherington wrote about the importance of strong color in hybrids more than 50 years ago. My late friend, Mario Ferrusi, figured it out and made a name for himself hybridizing stunning masdevallias and growing and showing them to perfection. His greenhouse at the height of the blooming season made the neon lights of Las Vegas appear artificial and tawdry by comparison. Could he have been so successful with a genus such as Phragmipedium before the discoveries of Phragmipedium besseae and kovachii? Probably not.

Color surprises and enchants us. It has star quality. Good form displays it best. Size, substance, and texture give it more pomp and pageantry.

There is an old saying that goes something like, 'Don't forget to stop and smell the roses.' For orchid growers, color is the scent that excites our perception and makes us pause to appreciate orchids' sensuality and beauty. Enjoy!

Monthly Checklist for March and April

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay. Articles like this can be <u>found on the AOS</u> website and in the archived issues of ORCHIDS.

<u>Cattleya</u> Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can weaken owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this

time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.

<u>Cymbidium</u> Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs, and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

<u>Dendrobium (Australian)</u> These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from Dendrobium kingianum and Dendrobium speciosum -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer, and light during the growing season.

<u>Lycaste</u> This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of psuedobulbs with each successive year.

<u>Miltoniopsis</u> This marks the beginning of the flowering season. Amazing displays of color will dazzle the grower over the next few months. Prepare your plants for optimum display by staking spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage. Do not miss the wonderful fragrance as the flowers unfold.

<u>Paphiopedilum</u> March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents you doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year. Cleaned and potted paphiopedilums look happy.

The summer-blooming types will be showing the first of their buds in March and April. Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. It is especially difficult to clean mealybugs, in particular once they have become established in the plant. Better to get to them before they get a good toehold.

Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Do not be too anxious to stake the spikes, because if they are staked too soon, the flowers may develop a "nodding" stance, where the dorsal will not stand upright. If the spikes seem to develop at an angle, let them, and stake after the flower has hardened for best carriage, especially on the hybrids with fairieanum background.

<u>Phalaenopsis</u> In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging -- even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the lookout for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them.

<u>Pleurothallids</u> Members in this large and increasingly popular group will be looking their best now. If plants are not in flower, the next few months provide an excellent time to divide if needed or repot into fresh mix. Taking care of these tasks now will allow enough time for your plants to become established before the hot weather arrives.

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

HAVE YOU VISITED THE <u>OrchidMarketplace.com</u>?

View this guick video to see how it all works.

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



Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City

OSGKC.org

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

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Facebook.com/OSGKC/ @OSGKC on Facebook or Messenger Orchid Growers of OSGKC -

https://www.facebook.com/groups/909878 999427064/

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

What's Ahead ...

Please check <u>www.osgkc.org</u> for updates and changes to our program schedule.

Sunday, April 10, 2022 monthly meeting

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS Featured speaker: Ray Barkalow, "Understanding Orchid Nutrition".

April 30-May 1, 2022 Kansas Orchid Society Spring 2022 Show & Sale (& spring SWROGA), Botanica, the Wichita Gardens, 701 Amidaon St, Wichita, KS See Page ?? for information

Sunday, May 15, 2022 monthly meeting

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS Featured speaker: Charles Wilson, "Growing Bulbophyllums"

Sunday, June 26 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.

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

Sunday, July 10, 2022

Orchid Growers Member Tour

Sunday, August 14, 2022

Member Picnic

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS Featured speaker: Kelly McKracken, High Desert Orchids, "Artificial Lighting for Orchids"

Possibly OSGKC Orchid Show Date TBD

Sunday, October 9th, 2022 monthly meeting

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS Featured speaker: Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids, "Orchids 101: Great Growing Tips from a Top Expert"

Sunday, November 13, 2022

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS *TBD*

Sunday, December 11, 2022

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS Holiday Party and Awards Presentation