



Volume IV Issue 2  
February-March 2023



Orchid Society  
of Greater  
Kansas City

[OSGKC.ORG](http://OSGKC.ORG)

*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.**

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

Vice-president: Ariel Paulson  
[arielpaulson@gmail.com](mailto:arielpaulson@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Joy Prout  
[joy.diane.prout@att.net](mailto:joy.diane.prout@att.net)

Editor: Jean Rogers  
[jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com)

Membership:  
Anna Archibald  
[archibaldorchids@gmail.com](mailto:archibaldorchids@gmail.com)

Mentor  
Brian Donovan  
[bldonovan71@gmail.com](mailto:bldonovan71@gmail.com)

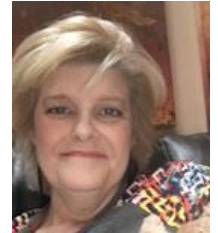
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## February-March News!

### Comments from Kristy Charland, President

As we sail into show season... I wish that our regional shows weren't packed into one month, but hey, it's a time when a lot of orchids are flowering, so it's nice to have something to send. Please be a part of the OSGKC exhibits to be judged by the team of AOS judges at each event. Evaluate your collection to see which ones you think will be in peak condition to be sent to a show. It would be wonderful to have a big contingent of OSGKC members at each show, but if you feel you aren't able to attend, contact one of the following people to evaluate your plants and make plans to transport them: Mark Prout, Jean Rogers, Crystal Remington, Anh Rongish or me. Mark will be a judge at each show, and Anh is a judge in training. Jean is the 'team captain' of the Arkansas show March 2-5. We are submitting a small exhibit at Orchid Delirium, March 11 at Powell Gardens in Kingsville, MO. The next weekend, March 17-19 is Springfield, MO and I am the team captain there. Then the Omaha, NE show is the 24-26 and Crystal is the team captain there. The show season is definitely a full Society effort. It is fun, so seek out your way to play a part. We're all available to help in any way we can.



Be well,

Kristy



### Comments from Jean Rogers, Editor

Louise Hicks, Yearbook Chair, and I have been diligently working on updating the yearbook for 2023. A part of that involves showcasing the Orchid of the Month from our monthly meetings. From those, the Society membership picks an Orchid of the Year for the front cover. The votes are in and this *Dendrobium gregulus* by Brian Donovan was your top pick. This will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row for a plant of Brian's to win the yearbook front cover spot. Congratulations Brian. Look for it soon when you receive your 2023 OSGKC Yearbook. We hand them out at meetings.



Dendrobium gregulus  
- February 2022  
- Brian Donovan

Many Members responded to my request to "please send me your 'Members' Bio". All but 9 members!!! If you didn't get it completed yet, I'm including the questions here so you can just copy, paste, answer, and send to me [jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com) I love getting to know you and the easiest way is with the Bios. With over 130 members, it's nice to be able to see face and name together and get to know each other. Thanks in advance!! Remember, you can just answer the questions or write a paragraph. This will be my last reminder!

1. When did you join OSGKC, and how long have you been growing orchids?
2. What got you hooked on orchids?
3. What type of orchid is your favorite?
4. Where and how are you growing orchids? (please include a photo of yourself and of your setup!)
5. What was/is your profession or training, and are you still working your job or retired?
6. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..."
7. Do you have any pets?
8. What is your birth date (Month and Day)?

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. They are "For Viewing Pleasure" only – not for judging which is done at the meetings.

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](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com) Check out "Ideas, Items, and Inquiries" after the pictures.

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

### Project Plant Update from Kristy Charland

"Project Plant" is a fun and educational group activity for society members. Here's how it works. I scout around for plant sources for first-bloom seedlings that members can all buy through a group order, and then we grow and compare techniques and the resulting flowers. It's a lot of fun, and I encourage you all to try it.

The plan is for our next 'project plant' to be a Paph. in low bud. Lehua Orchids will provide these in June or before if possible. This will be a new cross that we grow and compare and help each other. So fun to see how different the babies are (the flowers), just like with humans. The cost is estimated at \$15-20. If you'd like to participate and haven't let Kristy know, please do at: [charland.ek@outlook.com](mailto:charland.ek@outlook.com).

## 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 page. 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 Brian Donovan – Mentor Chair, [bldonovan71@gmail.com](mailto:bldonovan71@gmail.com) to connect you with someone.

## Meetings

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

Here's what's happening next month for speakers!

#### **Sunday, March 12, 1:30-4:30 Merriam Community Center, another great meeting of OSGKC**

Our early Spring program for the March 12 meeting will bring inspiration for diversifying your orchid collection. Peter T. Lin, Diamond Orchids, is one of the world's most prolific hybridizers of small-sized orchids for the home grower. In this talk, "**The 3 A's of the Orchid World**" Peter will talk about members of the Angraecoid Alliance: Angraecum, Aerangis, and Aeranthes. This will be a Zoom presentation. But please attend in person if you can so you can enjoy the camaraderie of our meetings, see the orchids that members bring in to show and share, and take advantage of the Beginners' Group which is always a great resource.

**Diamond Orchids has a great selection of plants available, and you may pre-order plants at 10 percent off for this event, expires 3/3. Just let Peter know that you are with the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City.**

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Powell Gardens, Kansas  
City's Botanical Garden



OSGKC will be participating in an orchid event at Powell Garden with an Educational Display and Information Table. Come join in the fun and see the growing orchid collection on display at Powell Gardens.

**Saturday, March 11 Orchid Delirium!** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The OSGKC exhibit will be featured in the Grand Hall at the Visitor Center. open to the public from 9am – 9pm.

Also.....**Horticulture Happy Hour** Saturday, March 11 | 4-5 p.m.

More information: [www.powellgardens.org](http://www.powellgardens.org)

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## January Speaker Review by Crystal Remington

### **Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids Speaker Summary Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids Australian Dendrobiums and their cultivation.**

As with any orchid, study how it grows in the wild. Below are some of Fred's tips!

Primary breeding dendrobium species:

- Speciosum grows on the side of rocks (well drained). Aussie dens enjoy bright light as they grow under eucalyptus which offers little shade.
- Grandiflorum grows on trees with crazy air roots.
- Curvicaule are a curved plant with curved pseudobulbs.
- Tetragonum have slender wiry pseudobulbs with four sides, and spider-like qualities in the flowers.
- Kingianum have straight pseudobulbs varying in plant size and flower colors.
- Falcorostrum grow in high altitudes where snow occurs (more cold tolerant).
- Fleckeri have small and slender pseudobulbs with short inflorescences holding bright colorful flowers
- Bigibbum has two gibbums (bumps) and live in the northern part of Australia near the equator; it is the species that led to den phals.

Note: Hybrids easily transfer traits from their parents. Examples: Tetragonums dots markings, Kingianums are known for being chunky and flower from the new lead and from previous pseudobulbs.

Care Tips:

- Watering: in summer water and fertilize regularly, in winter allow plants to dry out and wait a few days before watering. Dendrobiums as a whole prefer to be under potted.
- Fertilizing: use ½ tsp per gallon continuous liquid feed year round.
- Light: Aussie dens love bright lights between 3000-3500 foot candles
- Temperature: They will tolerate 33F-110F, but the ideal temperature is 75-90F in the summer and 40-55F in the winter.
- Potting media: can be many things, but Fred prefers kiwi bark; which he mixes three parts bark and one part perlite. When using smaller pots use a finer mix and in larger pots use a more coarse mix. Remember they prefer good drainage; when you water it should shoot right through the holes in the pot. Repot when new roots come out shortly after the new growth; those new roots are imperative, try to repot before they get too long.
- Remember to treat all plants as if they have a virus! Always take proper measures to ensure nothing is transferred to other plants.
- Acquiring: The easiest way to get items from Australia, buy flasks! That's the secret, it's much easier than getting plants shipped directly.

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## Judging Notes...

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### Upcoming Shows & Judging Around Our Region

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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.

**March 3-5, 2023**

Orchid Society of the Ozark's 12th Annual "Orchids in the Garden", Botanical Garden of the Ozarks, 4703 N. Crossover Rd, Fayetteville, AR

**March 10-12, 2023**

Greater North Texas Orchid Society & SWROGA, Water Land and Resource Building, Texas A&M AgriLife Center, Dallas, Texas, 75252

**March 17-18, 2023**

Springfield Orchid Society, Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave., Springfield, Missouri, 65807

**March 25 & 26**

Omaha Orchid Show and Sale, Lauritzen Botanical Garden, Omaha NE, 68108

**April 15, 2023**

Tulsa Orchid Society, "Orchids Wild and Wonderful" Annual Show & Sale, 10am-4pm, Ribbon judging 8am Saturday, a SWROGA show, Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S. Peoria Ave, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74114

**May 6-7, 2023**

Oklahoma Orchid Society, "Orchid Kicks on Route 66" Annual Show & Sale, a 'bench and full exhibit' show, 10am-4pm, a SWROGA show, Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 NW 36th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73112

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## 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. Any plant you enter, you should have owned and cared for, for at least 3 months (not just bought recently and brought in. Also, bring the same flowers in for judging only once. For example, if you enter a Paph. one month and the next month it is still in bloom, please do NOT enter it again. 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.

### February Meeting Judging Results by Cindy Meyer and Anh Rongish

Thanks to all who brought orchids to enter and show: Kristy Charland, Katerina Jenkins, Anh Rongish, Ken Plahn, , Jean Rogers, Jeff Howell III, Donna Klehm, Michael Rafferty, Anna Archibald, Merri Archibald, Sariah Kinney, Barbara Hadel, Diana Thomas, Kathy Harris, Susie Hanna, and Al Clinton

#### **Blue Ribbon Winners**

Cattleya: Lc. Pure Soul by Katerina Jenkins  
Dendrobium: Den. Sea Mary 'Snow King' Barbara Hadel  
Phalaenopsis: Phal. Palm Coast by Anny Archibald  
Paphiopedium: NOID by Mihael Rafferty  
Phragmipedium: Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice by Sariah Kinney  
Oncidium: Vuylstekeara (Vuyl.) Celtic Sun by Michael Rafferty  
Species: Dendrobium spectabile by Kristy Charland  
Other: Ddc. longifloium by Jean Rogers

#### **Red Ribbon Winners**

Cattleya: B. Little Stars Ken Plahn  
Dendrobium: Den. Cherry Dance by Katerina Jenkins  
Phalaenopsis: NOID by Donna Klehm  
NOID by Katerina Jenkins  
Paphiopedium: Paph. Hsinying Citron X Maudiae) #1 X Hsinying Majakum #7 by Merri Archibald  
Phragmipedium: Phrag. Eric Young by Ken Plahn  
Oncidium: Bllra. Marfitch "Howards Dream" by Katerina Jenkins  
Other: Ianclarkara (Ink.) Cheyenne Marie by Michael Rafferty

#### **White Ribbon Winners**

Phalaenopsis: Phal. NOID by Merri Archibald  
Phal. NOID by Scott Howell  
Phal. Timothy Christopher 4N 'Sakura' by Kristy Charland  
Phal. Sogo Vivian by Sariah Kinney  
Paphiopedium: Paph. St. Swithin by Ken Plahn  
Oncidium: Onc. Twinkle by Diana Thomas



**February – Orchid of  
the Month**

Vuylstekeara Celtic Sun  
by Michael Rafferty

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# For Fun and Learning!!

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

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### January Blue Ribbon Winners and special orchids and – "How I grow It":



#### **Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice by Sariah Kinney**

My Sorcerer's Apprentice sits near a large window, above some water to keep its roots humid. It gets morning and noon light, watered once a week with quarter strength fertilizer. It's potted in bark.



#### **Paph. NOID by Michael Rafferty**

The culture conditions were pretty simple- First Rays optimal growth combo at 1/2 recommended strength given every 4-5 days, Morning sunlight filtered at about 40-50% (some direct sun before 10 am), 68 deg low and humidity 40-60%. Medium bark mix repotted about 2 months before bloom. This is the first year that it has bloomed for me so I don't know if my conditions are optimal, but they certainly worked. I repot once a year in fine bark, in November.



#### **Oncidium Category: Vuylsteckeara Celtic sun**

The culture conditions were pretty simple- First Rays optimal growth combo at 1/2 recommended strength given every 4-5 days, Morning sunlight filtered at about 40-50% (some direct sun before 10 am), 68 deg low and humidity 40-60%. Medium bark mix repotted about 2 months before bloom. This is the first year that it has bloomed for me so I don't know if my conditions are optimal, but they certainly worked.



### **Phal. Palm Coast by Anna Archibald**

I keep this Phal with most of my others Phals and Paphs on an east-facing window sill. It gets quite a bit of morning light and does well in ambient room temperature. I water it about once a week to every week and half and use a low dose of MSU tap water fertilizer. It's potted in a mix of medium fir bar with some charcoal and perlite.



### **Cattleya: Lc. Pure Soul 'Yutaka Marinato' by Katerina Jenkins**

I grow it in the dining room next to a large window (west) from October to April and I also use growing lights (4 hours in the morning and 4 hours in the evening). It is about 65 degrees at night and about 68 degrees during the day. I water it every 14 days and use MSU orchid food by Repot Me and time release orchid fertilizer. I use purified water and rain water. It is outside from May to September in a shaded area where it still gets light all day but not a direct sun. It grows in a mix of bark and moss (layers). This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time that it has bloomed for me.



### **Other Category: Ddc. longifloriam by Jean Rogers**

I grow this in an east window but there is a 3' overhand outside so it doesn't get much sun. There are 2 T5 tube lights about a foot above it, about 11 hours a day. The temperature is around 75 days and 62 nights in the cooler months, about 80 days and 72 nights in summer. I water with RO water from Natural Grocers (\$0.29/gal) twice a week with a pump up sprayer. I fertilize using First Rays procedure – ½ tsp/gal K-lite each time, add 1 tsp/gal Quantum and 1tbsp/gal KelpMax once a month. Humidity is typically 50-60% in the plant room. Potting mix is about 1/3 each Coco chips, charcoal, and vermiculite.



**Species Category: Den. spectabile by Kristy Charland**

It's rather tall, so it sits on the floor of my grow room. It probably could use more light than it gets, but it needs high light. It's potted in chunky bark to drain well. I fertilize weakly weekly in summer with watering while in growth. And in the fall, slow down the watering and eliminate fertilizer. This one seems prone to fungus, so I spray with hydrogen peroxide once a month. Keep it in a pot just big enough for growth. Most dendrobiums don't like to be over potted.



**Dendrobium (Den.) Sea Mary 'Snow King' by Barbara Hadel**

I have a plant room in my basement with LED grow lights, which are on a timer and on 12 hours in the winter. I keep the humidity level just under 50%. Night temps get down to about 62, and day temps are around 72-74.

I water weekly with a 20-10-20 orchid fertilizer. Once a month I use First Ray's Kelp Max. Potting medium is bark.

This is the first time I've brought a plant to the meeting and I was thrilled with the blue ribbon.

Our pictures of the orchids from the February Meeting are thanks to the photography of Anh Rongish

**Blooming Orchids for Show**

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

Did you know we now have an amazing 134 members in our membership??? Yes, 134!!! 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!!!



Masd. Redshine 'Sheila' by Al Clinton



Masd. Cheryl Shohan by Al Clinton



Masd. yungasensis by Al Clinton



Masd. Measuresiana by Al Clinton





Epi. Magic Wand by Al Clinton



Phal. NOID  
by Angelique  
Staggs



Phal. NOID by Dusty Miller



Phal. NOID by Angelique Staggs



Den. NOID by Dusty Miller



Phal. NOID by Dusty Miller



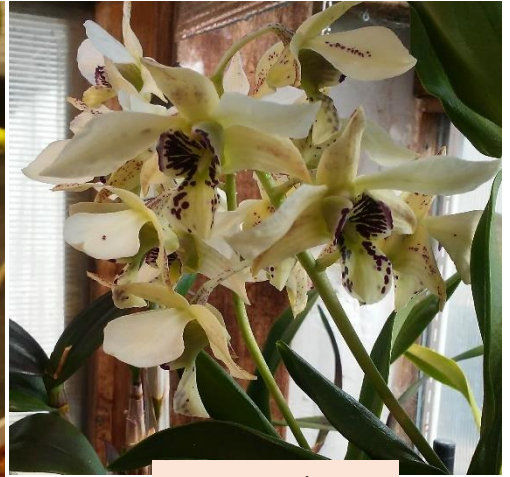
Phrag. NOID by Dusty Miller



Phal. Sacagawea  
by Susie Hanna



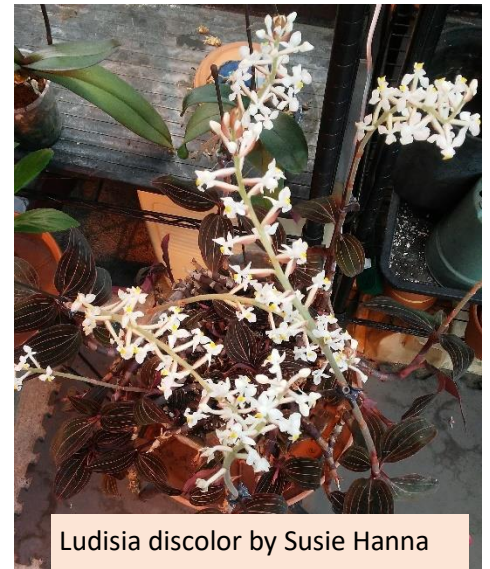
Phal. Mituo Diamond White  
Python by Susie Hanna



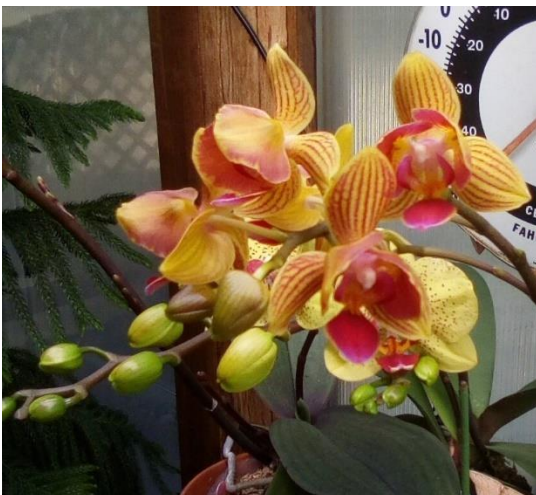
Den. Roy Tokunaga  
by Susie Hanna



'Tolumnia Festival'  
by Susie Hanna



Ludisia discolor by Susie Hanna



Phal. Fuller's Gold Stripe,  
peloric form by Susie



Phal. NOID by  
Scott Howell



Onc. Twinkle by  
Diana Thomas



Paph. Hsinying by  
Kathy Harris



Bllra. Marfitch 'Howard's  
Dream' by Katerina Jenkins



Paph. Spring  
Ecstasy by Katerina



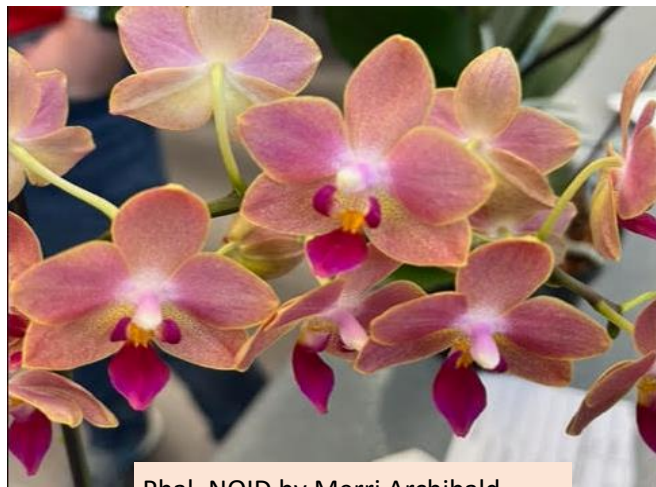
Den. Cherry Dance  
by Katerina Jenkins



Phal. Timothy Christopher  
4N 'Sakura' by Kristy



Phal. NOID by  
Katerina Jenkins



Phal. NOID by Merri Archibald



Paph Hsinging Majakun by Anna Archibald



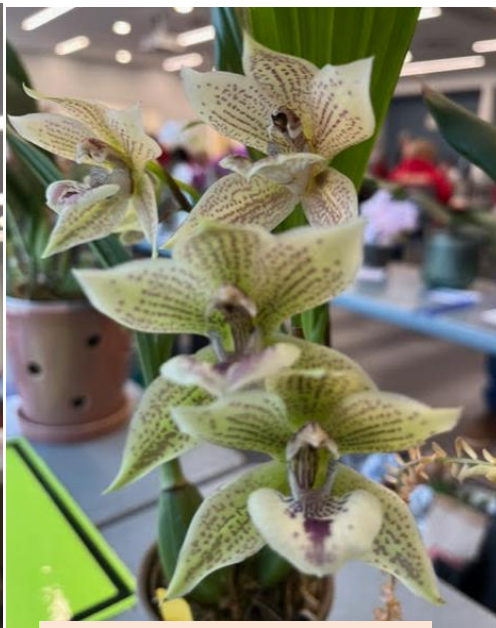
Phal. Sogo Vivian by Sariah Kinney



Paph Mint Chocolate by Anna Archibald



Paph. (Hsinying Citron x Maudiae) '#1' x Hsinying Majakum '#7' by Merri Archibald



lanclarkara Cheyenne Marie 'Gecko' by Michael Rafferty



Phal. NOID by Donna Klehm



Phal. NOID by Donna Klehm



Brassia Little Stars by Ken Plahn



Paph. St. Swithing by Ken Plahn



Phrag. Eric Young by Ken Plahn



Phal. Lit'l Bit by Susie Hanna



Phal. NOID by Ken Plahn



Phal. Sogo Vivien by Michael Rafferty



Masd. Angel Glow  
by Al Clinton



Holcostylis Pink Yawi by Al Clinton



Cattleya NOID by Rick Gutknecht



Bulb. lindleyanum by Susan Tompkins



Phalaenopsis NOID by Katerina



Ctt. Pasion in Borinquen by Susan Tompkins



Den. Bridal Red by Susan Tompkins



Otaara Hidden Gold by Susan Tompkins



Vanda Luna Von Fox by Susan Tompkins



Den. Roy Tokunaga by Susan Tompkins



Ludisia Discolor by Dr. Dan Schlozman



Phal. NOID by Michele Dowdell



Den moniliforme by Brian Donovan



Den peguanum by Brian Donovan



Den. indivisum by Iva Stribling



Den. Nobile by Iva Stribling



Phal. NOID by Iva Stribling



Pot. Mem. Nickou 'James' HCC/AOS x Lc. Tokyo Magic '6-1' AM/AOS by Iva Stribling



Den. Spring Bird by Iva Stribling



Phal. NOID by Jean Rogers



Phal. Chia E Yenlin 'Red Burry'  
by Kristy Charland



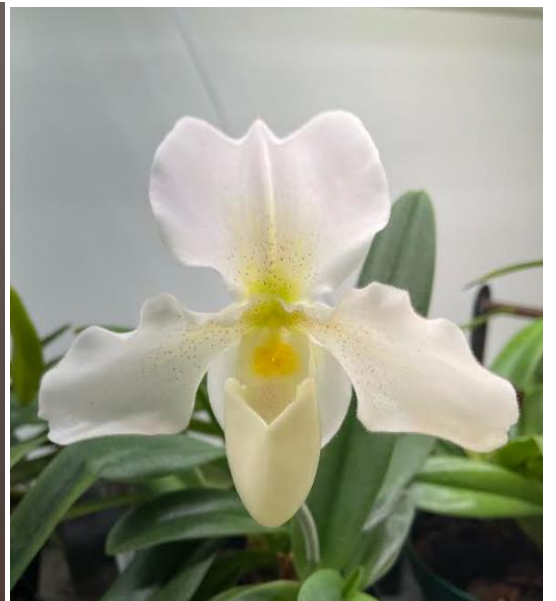
Phal. NOID by Kristy Charland



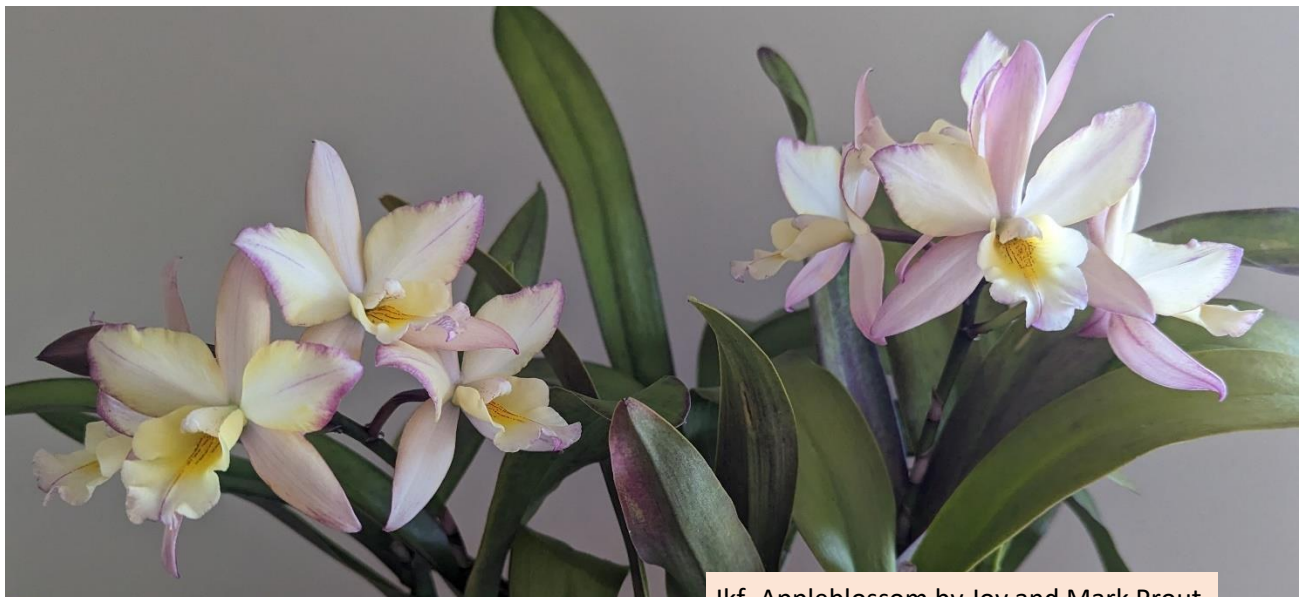
Cl. Grace Dunn 'Chadd's Ford'  
AM/AOS by Joy & Mark Prout



Habenaria crinifera by Joy  
and Mark Prout



Paph. FC Puddle by Kristy Charland



Jkf. Appleblossom by Joy and Mark Prout

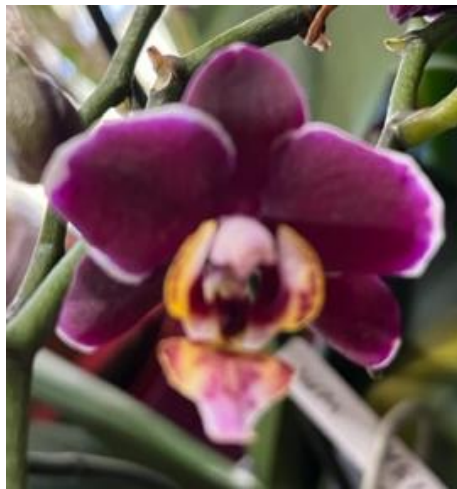




V. nana x Van. Charm by Joy and Mark Prout



Phal. NOID by Jean Rogers



Phal. NOID by Jean Rogers



Phal. NOID by Jean Rogers



Phal. Ming Hsing Red Rose 'M194' by Jean Rogers



Phal. Jiuobao Red Rose 'Monet' by Jean Rogers



Phal. Chia Shing Hot Kiss 'LD256'  
by Jean Rogers



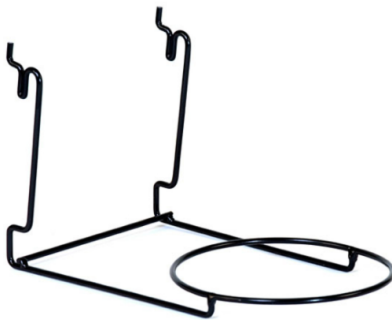
Phal. NOID by Jean Rogers



Den. gregulus by Brian Donovan

## Ideas, Items and Inquiries (If you know of something for this section, please send to [ANH.VU@ucdenver.edu](mailto:ANH.VU@ucdenver.edu) or [jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com) for inclusion)

Sarah Hurdel was a speaker for us a while back. When she showed us her growing space, her wire shelving units had 'extenders'. I contacted her and asked where she got them, and this is what she sent me – she uses Ball holder rings, and depending on your set up, she says you may have to cut the tips of the holders off. Holds pots nicely of those orchids that require less direct light.



### Ball Holder - 6" Ring Fits Slatwall And Grid And Pegboard - Black

★★★★★ No Reviews yet

\$3.95

SKU: 03090

ITEM WEIGHT (LBS): 0.46

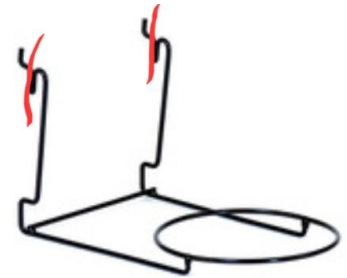
Quantity

ADD TO CART

ADD TO WISHLIST

ADD TO QUOTE

Pinit



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## Community Service

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



**Bird's Botanicals**

5.6K likes • 6.1K followers



816-522-9230

[Vashti.bird@gmail.com](mailto:Vashti.bird@gmail.com)

Birdsbotanicals.com

🌸 Message us for any specific plant requests!!

Orchid 101 Class was fun & very educational!! We have gone ahead and scheduled another Orchid 101 Class in August so stay tuned. David will be lecturing on 7 different Orchid families, provide you with tips & tricks on re-blooming, conduct a repotting demonstration, and plants/supplies will be available for purchase! Anyone interested can email me directly at [vashti.bird@gmail.com](mailto:vashti.bird@gmail.com)

Check out our website, I have posted dates/times/locations to the different Orchid Shows that we will be attending. We'll be in Springfield March 18 & 19<sup>th</sup> and in Omaha March 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

We are also a part of the Master Gardener Conference that takes place in June 2023.

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## Outside OSGKC Resources

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We thank Fred Clark for allowing us to reprint this article.

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### Growing Aussie Dendrobiums

Australian Dendrobiums are becoming a popular plant for orchid hobbyists. Their tolerance to a wide range of temperatures makes them ideal for our weather conditions here in the USA. Aussie Dendrobium flowers are fragrant and come in many sizes and colors. In recent years the Australian breeders have made some significant improvements and their efforts have captured the eye of almost every orchid grower in Australia.

**Watering and Fertilizing** are related as water carries fertilizer into the root zone. Important for good Aussie Dendrobium growth is to have their roots dry down between watering. In the summer fertilize with **every watering** using a fertilizer solution of 100 PPM nitrogen; this equates to ½ tsp. in a gallon of water. In the summer when days are long and warm, the plants are in active growth and photosynthesis is at a high rate. As a result, you water and thus fertilize more, usually 2 times a week, however during the hottest period watering may be 3 times a week. During the cooler months,

December-February, allow the plants to be totally dry before watering, generally every 10-12 days. In nature most Aussie Dens grow as lithophytes (on rocks) or epiphytes (in trees) which are well drained. The key to good Aussie Den culture is always check that the potting media has dried out sufficiently before watering.

**Light levels, Temperature, and Air Movement.** These are closely related, as light raises temperature and air movement cools it. Aussie Dendrobiums like light levels of about 2500-3500 foot candles (fc). For optimal growth I suggest growing under 55-65 % shade in winter and 65-75 % shade in summer. This is accomplished by adding a second layer of 30% shade cloth in late spring thru late summer. Also a Southern exposure or a location where the plants will receive plenty of bright, filtered light will work. The plants prefer summer day temperatures of 75-90 F and for winter nights of 45-55 F. Aussie Dens. are quite adaptable and short periods of higher or lower temperature usual don't damage the plants. In nature Aussie Dens. receive abundant air movement. Your growing area needs to have good air movement for best culture.

**Potting mix and Pots:** I prefer the 'Kiwi Orchid Bark' brand of New Zealand Pine bark for growing Aussie Dendrobiums; it is hard and lasts 3-5 years. Douglas fir bark is also satisfactory. Use 3 parts bark with 1 part perlite. Strive for consistency in the potting media and adjust the particle size based on pot size. For 2-3" pots use fine grade bark and #2 perlite, for 4" pots medium bark and #3 perlite and for 5" plus pots large bark and #4 perlite. Plastic pots work well; they are inexpensive, light weight and readily available. However clay pots may work better in hot humid climates. Aussie Dens. don't like to be overpotted. Select a pot size that will allow for a maximum of 2 years of growth. Oversized pots take too long to dry out, causing root problems; remember, an important key to good Aussie Dendrobium culture is allowing the root zone to dry between watering.

**Re-potting and Dividing:** Aussie Dendrobiums start their growth cycle in the spring and new growths indicate new roots but always wait until you see new root tips before re-potting. Please don't underestimate the importance of re-potting **when new roots are starting to show**, the stress on a newly potted plant is greatly reduced as the new roots will quickly reestablish it. Divisions **should be** made by cutting with a sterile tool or by pulling the bulbs apart. Try to keep the size of divisions between 3 and 4 bulbs. Remove '**most**' of the old media from the root system. Often the newest roots are so tightly intertwined with the old media and removing it is too damaging to them. As a result I may leave 5-10% of the old media in place in an effort to not damage these tightly intertwined newer roots. They are the most effective roots and minimizing damage will lead to a quicker re-establishment.

Australian Dendrobiums are new to the American orchid grower, the Aussies have been growing them for years, and they are one of the most rewarding orchid alliances. Their adaptability to a wide range of growing conditions, fragrance, and variety of flower color, shape and size makes these an excellent hobby plant. Everyone should have some in their collection. So why not grow and flower an Australian Dendrobium, or two or three, to perfection?

Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids

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*Thanks to Orchid Digest for the reprint from July, August, September 2018. This article has more in-depth information from Fred. Be sure to check near the end where there is "**Fred's Caveats for the Hobbyist**" in case you are trying to grow Aussie Dens under lights or in a windowsill.*



## GROWING AUSTRALIAN DENDROBIUMS: AN INTERVIEW WITH FRED CLARKE

PHYLLIS S. PRESTIA

I CAN'T HELP BUT NOTICE that it's a perfect Southern California day. The sky is cloudless and deep blue; the temperature is a balmy 75°F with a gentle ocean breeze. The sun is shining as I pull into the driveway of Sunset Valley

Orchids in Vista, California. I'm here to interview Fred Clarke, master hybridizer, respected orchidologist, creator of Fredclareara After Dark 'Black Pearl' FCC/AOS (one of the first "black orchids") and an all-around great guy. I don't hesitate to leave this beautiful day outside because I'm entering the greenhouse world of some fantastic orchids. Today we're talking about Fred's breeding program of Australian dendrobiums, with the specific purpose of understanding their cultural needs.

### Fred's Story

Fred's been growing orchids for exactly 40 years because this is when he got his first greenhouse. His father introduced him to John Walters, owner of Rex Foster Orchids in San Diego. John Walters loved to make hybrids and showed Fred how. In fact, Fred's first orchid hybrid was made shortly after meeting John. Fred was smitten.

When he attended his first orchid show, he bought two boxes full of cattleyas, all in flower. When he returned home, his mother was shocked that he had spent his life's savings, 300 dollars, on orchids. His retort was, "I'm 18 years old, and I'm going to spend the rest of my life growing orchids." To this, she responded, "We'll see."

At that time, Frank Fordyce had his nursery in Oceanside in northern San Diego County. Fred met Frank the second year that he had gone to the San Diego orchid show and spoke with him about making hybrids. Fred was about 19 or 20 years old at the time. Frank took an interest in Fred, a young man talking about making orchid hybrids. Frank's plants were interesting because they gave Fred the idea of having a smaller plant with a large flower, "a small footprint with a lot of blooms" as Fred says. Most standard cattleyas in six-inch or eight-inch pots were "big things two feet tall, took up a lot of bench space, only flowered once a year and had a tendency to be pink, white, and lavender," as he saw it. Fred was looking for something different.

Fred was a hobbyist, and his awakening creative side wanted to have a new and different kind of orchid, one with different colors, different shapes, different forms. As Fred says, "I didn't want to grow my grandmother's orchid. I wanted to grow something new and different and cut my own path." Orchid hybridizing was the way he could to do just that.



Fred Clarke among his specimen *Dendrobium speciosum* plants.



*Den. kingianum* 'Iced Vo-Vo's Sister,' one of the species used in miniaturizing large specimen plants.



*Den. fleckeri*, one of the species used in miniaturizing large specimen plants.

Breeding for mini-orchids became his focus.

As Fred tells it, "Cattleyas are great and widely available, very popular, and probably the most understood of the orchids in terms of growing culture. Plus, you can have cattleyas in bloom every day of the year in all different colors." Then a phenomenon started to occur in Southern California when a couple of Australian vendors came and sold their plants. Aussie dendrobiums were cold-hearted and bloomed in January through March, which is a time when there are lots of orchid shows in California. Fred's friend, Ramona Wilson, owner of Islander Delights, a small nursery in Poway, liked Australian native orchids. After talking with her and seeing her collection, Fred realized that these were pretty special plants.

Coincidentally, during that same time, his early work in catasetums was being recognized around the world as something new and novel. The Australians wanted him to do a speaking tour in Australia and bring flasks of *Catasetinae* to sell. While he was there, he attended their orchid shows which were half-filled with Australian dendrobiums. Some shows were dedicated solely to Aussie native plants, many of which were dendrobiums. He was impressed with how magnificent these orchids were. He says, "I was shocked. I came home thinking that the Aussie dens are the Australian's bestkept secret."



*Den. tetragonum*, one of the species used in miniaturizing large specimen plants.

His idea was to bring home these plants and start a new breeding program.

Once at home, he realized the potential in making new and different hybrids. He says, "I'm now in my 10th or 11th year. We've created a number of very significant hybrids." Fred thinks these are great plants for a number of reasons. "They're not finicky. They take temperatures down to near freezing and up in the 100's in summer. They bloom in January to March for the orchid shows in California. They're fragrant. They're low energy, so, you don't have to have a heated greenhouse to grow Aussie natives. In fact, if you live in a colder area, you could set your greenhouse thermostat at 35°F



Den. Regal Gillieston (Peewee x Regal Affair) is an example of the breeding for bright-colored flowers.



Den. Tosca Starburst (Tosca x Rutherford Starburst 'Red Wine') is an example of the breeding for bright-colored flowers.



Den. Brimbank Fire (Ray's Dream x speciosum 'Dark Purple') is an example of the breeding for bicolor flowers.



Den. Elegant Heart 'Hot Shot' (Peewee x speciosum) is an example of the breeding for bicolor flowers.

(2°C), and the plants would be fine. And finally, they rebloom from the old pseudobulbs, forming magnificent specimen plants in short order."

### Culture

**Fred's cultural sheet for "Growing Australian Dendrobiums"** is published on the Sunset Valley Orchids website and contains the basics for getting started. Important cultural highlights are bulleted below:

#### Watering and Fertilizing

- Keep the roots dry between waterings. A fast-draining potting mix is best.
- Fertilize weakly with every watering, about ½ teaspoon in every gallon of water.
- In summer when plants are in active growth, water more frequently or twice a week.
- During cooler months, water less frequently or every 10-12 days.
- As a rule, check the potting media for dryness before watering.

#### Light, Temperature, and Air Movement

- Light levels of 2500-3500 foot candles are ideal. Use 55-65% shade cloth in winter and 65-75% shade cloth in summer. The key is a bright, sunny location where plants will get plenty of filtered light.
- Temperature of 75-90°F (24-32°C) in summer and 45-55°F (7-13°C) in winter are ideal, however, Aussie dens are forgiving of short periods of higher or lower temperatures.
- For best culture, the growing area needs to have good air movement.

#### Potting Mix and Pots

- Fred prefers the Kiwi Orchid Bark brand of New Zealand pine bark, which he sells. He believes it lasts longer, three to five years. However, other barks such as Douglas Fir are acceptable.
- His formula is three parts bark with one part perlite. For smaller pots, he uses fine bark and small perlite, in larger pots he uses medium bark and medium perlite, and pots five inches or larger take large bark and large perlite. He uses plastic pots, but he recommends clay pots in humid areas.
- Don't overpot, as the media may not completely dry between waterings as these orchids require.

#### Repotting and Dividing

- Wait until you see new root tips in spring before repotting, so you don't stress the plant and set it back.
- Use a sterile tool when cutting divisions of three to four bulbs.
- Minimize root damage; removing "all" the media is not as important as not damaging roots.

## Fred's Caveats for the Hobbyist

- Growing Aussie dendrobiums is very similar to growing cymbidiums, particularly in the summer growing months. In most parts of Australia, particularly on the eastern seaboard, it's rather wet in the summer and dry in the winter. If your area does not match these seasonal conditions, you can manipulate that by watering and fertilizing more in summer. If you are meeting the requirements for water, fertilizer, light, and temperature, it's not uncommon for the plant to mature two pseudobulbs during the summer. Those two will flower along with the other mature pseudobulbs in the fall.

- For best flowering, you want to make sure the plants get below 55°F (13°C) but above freezing for about one month. That's important for the plants to feel the cold and the shortness of the days to initiate buds. During this cold treatment, they will dry out much slower. You need to reduce water significantly to allow the plants to dry out between waterings.

- During the winter period of January through March, keep the plants fairly dry. That means wait until you think the medium is dry, then wait a few more days to be sure it's dry, then water. In Southern California, Fred waters about every two weeks during the winter. And he doesn't use any fertilizer during this period. If you are growing in a greenhouse with warmer temperatures, use the same formula with the exception that you may be watering slightly more often than every two weeks due to the warmth and the fact that the plants may dry out faster.

- Aussie dens don't get a lot of pests. Fred says he never sees aphids or scale on his dendrobiums. "Some people say that they can get spider mites, but I've never seen them. They are fairly carefree," according to Fred.

- Aussie dens don't like to be over-potted. They like to be root-bound. There is a very short internode distance of about a half inch. A pot that has an inch of space around the perimeter is enough for three years of growth.

- "The Aussies always crack me up when they say: "Mate, your Aussie dens have to have perfect drainage," Fred laughs as he tells me. "That means well-drained. In other words, the water must drain right through, and nothing holds it back." It's always easier to add water than to have the potting mix too wet and try to dry it out.

- Nature is an organic place. Fred believes the potting medium should have an organic component, which is bark. The perlite helps keep the mix open, so it doesn't compact over time, assuring "perfect drainage" for a well-draining potting medium.

- Fred has formulated his own fertilizer for his water conditions, as his well water has extremely poor quality. For hobbyists, he recommends matching your water quality to the type of fertilizer you use. For pure water, rainwater, or deionized water use a 15-5-15 calcium and magnesium fertilizer designed for pure water. If using tap water that has hardness to it, he recommends a 20-20-20 fertilizer. For water in between pure and hard, seek help from the local water company or farm expert. Dendrobiums are quite tolerant of less than pure water. What they really don't like is to be wet and cold in the winter.

In conclusion, I asked Fred what his goal has been in breeding Australian dendrobiums. According to Fred, a lot of the genetics in his hybrids come from *Dendrobium speciosum*, which can sometimes be a monstrous plant, two feet long, very large, and robust. He is breeding to reduce the height and breadth of the hybrids. Fortunately, the vegetative qualities of *Den. speciosum* are not dominant in its offspring. Through careful selection of plants that express a smaller stature, he has been able to breed Aussie dendrobiums that mature and flower at 12 inches. That involves the incorporation of other species like *Den. tetragonum*, *Den. kingianum* and *Den. fleckeri*, without getting too much *speciosum* in the background.

Another of his areas of interest is breeding for bright colors. Most species are cream or light colored. He is focusing on dark, intense royal purples, bicolor flowers of purple and white, yellows, and yellows with red spots, all with a more compact footprint. Ultimately, he would "like to see them bloom and flower in a four inch pot just like most of my cattleya breeding. We are still not quite there yet."

I was curious as to what Fred considered to be his greatest success. One way is to look at the number of American Orchid Society awards for his hybrids. By this standard, he has been quite successful. However, Fred thinks success as a hybridizer would be by achieving his breeding goals. He says, "I try to produce a plant that grows quickly, that produces flowers in an appealing array of colors with a lot of blooms on a small plant in short order. A plant that will grow well in a wide variety of environmental conditions. Each hobbyist has their own growing environment, a micro-climate different even from someone else just a few miles away. Breeding a plant that is tolerant not just in California but across the U.S. is important. For me, that's success. That's a home-run."

As I reflect on Fred's years of hybridizing, it becomes apparent that he has reduced the size of cattleyas, *Catasetinae*, and now dendrobiums while maintaining the size of flowers. Most hobbyists don't have a lot of space in their growing areas. It's great to have a few large, robust plants, but they're hard to repot, they take up a lot of bench space, and can be



*Den. Midas Touch* (Avril's Gold × Yondi Tina) is an example of the breeding for yellow flowers.



An unregistered cross: *Den. Elegant Heart* × *Den. Aussie Parade* 'Many Spots' is an example of breeding for yellow flowers with red spots.

a challenge to take in for judging or put on a bring-and-brag society table. Fred's main goal is to breed plants that have a small footprint with a large flower and bloom several times a year with the potential of becoming specimens. In terms of Aussie dens, Fred has plants that have bloomed for 15 years off the same pseudobulb.

Fred considers himself a plant artist creating something new, different, and in many ways better. "More beautiful, grander, and brighter colors" is Fred's motto. For him, "satisfaction is in the excitement of breeding something new and better. Then breeding with the best plants to further capitalize on success, continually improving your product and your art." As I walk out of the greenhouses, I am reminded of how far that young hobbyist has come. Today, his commercial nursery is full of different types of beautiful orchids. He started with breeding mini-cattleyas. Then with the success of his cattleya breeding program, he began breeding mini-Catasetinae. With that success, he turned to something newer in this country, breeding Australian dendrobiums. With this success, who knows what will be next? What I know for sure is that for this masterful, creative hybridizer, one will come.



The dendrobium growing area at Sunset Valley Orchids.

References Clarke, Fred. Growing Aussie Dendrobiums

[http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com/htm/culture\\_aussie\\_dens.html](http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com/htm/culture_aussie_dens.html)

Sunset Valley Orchids, Inc. [www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com](http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com).

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For a slightly different perspective, another article is below. We thank the John Oxley District Orchid Society Inc. for sharing this article.



### **Culture of Australian Native Dendrobiums – cool to intermediate growing**

The Australian Native Dendrobium class is broken up into two general sections, cooler growing and warmer growing. The cooler growing orchids, (i.e. section dendrocoryne, rhizobium) typically appear around 0 to 1500m elevation on the great dividing range from Northern Tasmania up to cape York (only in the highlands up in North Queensland). These notes are intended to be a general guide to cover the basics, as each species has its own set of specific requirements.

Observations of plants' response to the cultural environment will go a long way to learning about their specific culture.

Plants covered by these notes include D. Speciosum, kingianum, gracilicaule, linguiforme, aemulum, tetragonum, jonesii, teretifolium, monophyllum, x delicatum, x gracillimum.

#### **Position:**

A position with semi-shade and good air movement is required. Excessive heat and stagnant air will result in cultural problems. If under shade cloth, 50% ideal for species such as D. speciosum, kingianum, gracilicaule, teretifolium, while 70% is ideal for the likes of D. tetragonum and aemulum. In the wild, these orchids can be found high up in the canopies of trees or on exposed rock faces where they are buffeted by winds and rains.

#### **Light:**

Morning sun is the best light for all orchids, and this indeed applies to Australian native dendrobiums. Most Australian native dendrobiums grow in easterly aspects in the wild. Additional shade may be required if western sun is prevalent.

#### **Ventilation:**

Orchids love to be wet, and then love to be dry. All Australian native dendrobiums grow in well ventilated environments. This helps to keep leaf temperatures cool during the height of summer and pathogens under control. An environment with good airflow is the principal guard against bacterial infections and fungus.

#### **Watering:**

This depends on your combination of light, position and ventilation. There is no single rule for watering. Over watering is the number one cause for failure in orchid culture. Water them when dry: in the hotter summer months, this may be every 2 days, In winter, this may be once per week. It is best to check the status of the mix before watering. If wet or moist, do



not water. Northern Australian dendrobiums from the sections phalananthe and spatulata (ie. Cooktown orchid) require a completely different watering regime, which is not covered in this set of cultural notes.

### **RE-potting and Potting mix**

Repotting should be done when the orchid fills its pot or when the mix breaks down. Many Australian dendrobiums flower more profusely when pot bound. Typical mixtures based on pine bark last up to 3 years. A mix commonly used by our members is 70% good quality pine bark, 15% charcoal, 15% perlite. These orchids will be potted into small bark early in their life, and larger bark grades once flowering size is achieved. Species with finer roots, such as *D. kingianum* may be grown in medium grade barks when at flowering size. As a general rule: 10mm grade up to 100mm pots, 15mm for all else up to 200mm with 20mm or 25mm for larger pots and *Den speciosum* from 150mm upwards. Seedlings in 50mm pots should be potted up with finer grade seedling bark.

### **Fertilising:**

The old adage of weekly-weakly applies to cooler to intermediate growing Australian native dendrobiums. Higher nitrogen fertilisers may be used over the summer months during periods of active growth. A fertiliser with a supply of trace elements such as magnesium and calcium should be sought. Year round, a fertiliser higher in phosphorus and potassium should be used, alternating with the higher nitrogen fertiliser in the summer months to ensure that new growths harden fully and do not become tall and limp. A year round weekly fertilising regime of 0.5 gram per litre of soluble liquid fertilisers is used successfully by our members.

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# Let's Get to Know Each Other

## OSGKC Members!

MARCH



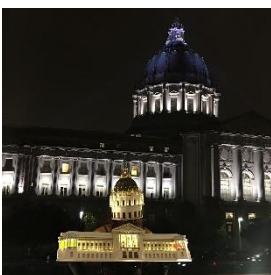
*Cheryl Hill*  
Birthday is March 6



I joined the Society in 2022 but have been growing orchids since 1992. It was the early and easy success of Cymbidiums that hooked me. I grew up in Minnesota, then lived in California for 42 years. I am recently retired after a career in the Design and Construction Industry in the Bay Area. We relocated to Kansas in 2020 and are very happy here.



My growing environment is an eastern window on my desk. My most prolific orchids are Phaeleonopsis, but my favorites are also Oncidium and Cattleya which I hope will prosper for me in the future. I can fit about 20 orchids.



My surprising fact is that I won the San Francisco Beaux Arts Ball (twice) for my Architectural creations.





*Susan Mertz*

Birthday March 10th

1. How long have you been in OSGKC (When did you join the OSGKC?) - May 2021
2. How long have you been growing orchids? -  
I'm a novice at orchids but want to learn. I usually buy them, enjoy them for a while, and give them to mom to continue caring for them.
3. What got you hooked? -  
Past visits to Bird's Botanicals when they were at the caves. Plus, we have a wonderful collection at Powell Gardens.
4. What type of orchid is your favorite? - The flowers of the oncidium orchids are fascinating.
5. Where and how are you growing orchids? (include pictures if you can) -  
I enjoy the ones in the collections' greenhouse maintained by our orchid collections' curator.
6. What was/is your profession or training - are you still working or retired? -  
Director of Horticulture at Powell Gardens
7. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..." - I love to create websites.
8. Birth Month and Day" - March 10
9. Do you have any pets? - no



*Alisha Moore Cole*

Birthday March 13th

1. How long have you been in OSGKC (When did you join the OSGKC?) Since 2019
2. How long have you been growing orchids? Since 2018
3. What got you hooked? A class at Powell Gardens
4. What type of orchid is your favorite? Lady's Slipper
5. Where and how are you growing orchids? (include pictures if you can)  
On a shelf in front of a curtained west window in my laundry room
6. What was/is your profession or training - are you still working or retired? Social Historian and museum professional
7. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..." I collect dolls.
9. Do you have any pets? No





*Nancy Kasperek*

Birthdate March 15



1. When did you join OSGKC, and how long have you been growing orchids? Just the last few months
2. What got you hooked on orchids? I have tried years ago and failed, as I had no clue what I was doing. This time I joined social media groups for newbies to read and learn, plus used reliable web pages as well.
3. What type of orchid is your favorite? I don't honestly know. When one blooms it's is always my current favorite
4. Where and how are you growing orchids? (please include a photo of yourself and of your setup!) Indoors in a shelf system with lights on each shelf. Pictures aren't currently available as I am rebuilding my area
5. What was/is your profession or training, and are you still working your job or retired? For 45 years I was an RN in a very busy Neonatal ICU, 9 months ago I retired
6. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..". . I am creative when it comes to gardening and quilting.
7. Do you have any pets? Parrots



*Anna Archibald*



Birthday March 18

My husband Will and I joined OSGKC in October 2019, a couple of years after we moved to Lawrence from New York. I've been growing orchids since 2015, when I purchased a NOID Phal from Home Depot and went deep down a rabbit hole looking up care tips. Now, I love Paphs, Dendrobiums and Cattleya, but have also collected a variety of other genera. I grow my orchids under lights and on eastern- and southern-facing window sills alongside hoya, succulents, begonias and aroids.

I grew up in Kansas and, after graduating with my Bachelor's in Journalism from KU, I moved to New York to work as a writer and editor, with stints at Women's Health, SHAPE, Wine Enthusiast and Thrillist. Now I cover food, drink, travel, horticulture and parenting as a freelancer. Working from home allows me plenty of time with our young daughter Maeve, my orchids (which I keep an account of on Instagram at @orchidaceae101) and our two cats, Patsy Cline and Joey. One surprising fact about me: I can tap dance!



## *Sarah Pratt*

Birthday - March 19th

1. Joined a year ago, and have known many of you for years.
2. Their incredible diversity
3. Semi-alba cattleyas (white with colored lips)
4. 30' x 48' Commercial greenhouse
5. Recently retired (after 45 years) veterinarian
6. I have been known to quilt (by hand)
- 7 Down to three porch cats at the moment

## *Dan Schlozman*

Birthday March 20



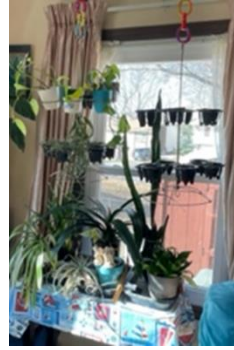
1. I've been in the orchid Society about 30 years. I joined about two years after I started growing orchids.
2. Hence, I've been growing orchids for about 32 years beginning shortly after I built my greenhouse.
3. With the greenhouse I began growing all sorts of tropicals and forcing other plants into bloom. Through a friend at Rosehill, I met Vivien Walters, owner with her husband of VCLI orchids and she became my mentor. My interest in tropicals and all other greenhouse growing rapidly waned and I was hooked on the intricacies and challenges of orchid growing.
4. Hard to pick one orchid genus in a multi use greenhouse. My favorites vary from time to time. Currently I'm most interested in the warmer growing plants – late blooming Phals. and Habenarias.
5. I grow orchids in an 8 x 13 Wendy's style greenhouse.
6. I'm a retired physician. I formerly practiced pulmonary critical care medicine.
7. One surprising fact about me is that I've stumbled into a lifelong hobby complete with a series of excellent friends and acquaintances.
8. My birthday is March 20, 1938, which makes me 84.
9. I have an Irish Doodle named Ron Weasley. (We're Harry Potter fans.)







*Megan Mayo*  
Birthday March 29



1. How long have you been in OSGKC (When did you join the OSGKC?) I can't remember...perhaps 10-12 years
2. How long have you been growing orchids? Just a little longer than 10-12 years
3. What got you hooked? We went to Hawaii to see our son in the Navy and had some plants sent home from there
4. What type of orchid is your favorite? Right now, it's neofinetia falcata....OH MY
5. Where and how are you growing orchids? (include pictures if you can) I grow them by the windows, windows along with lights, under lights only....they're everywhere!!
6. What was/is your profession or training - are you still working or retired? Because of stupid covid, I'm not working at preschool. I'm home until I get the vaccine
7. Complete this statement: "One surprising fact about me is..." I'm very involved at my church, singing, and playing guitar and violin. stupid covid took choir away for now
8. Do you have any pets? I have birds, fish and a dog. We had lots of different pets when the kids were young...that might be surprising...Mike and I have been only married to each other for 46 years and had 5 kids together and still live in the same house we purchased together after 1 or so years of marriage.



# News from the AOS

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



**Unfortunately, I have not yet received an AOS Corner again this month. Susie Hanna was able to find some scheduled Webinars and Greenhouse Chats:**

## **WHAT ARE WEBINARS?**

**Webinars** are online video presentations. You can register for an upcoming **webinar** or watch the recorded **webinars** any time at your convenience.

It's easy to find the [scheduled webinars](#) and to register on the AOS website.

**Webinars** offer new material each month and recorded sessions allow you to search a multitude of topics to view on your personal schedule. The popular monthly **Greenhouse Chats** are open to everyone. AOS membership is not required. However, if you are an AOS member there are so many more webinars available to view.

## **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

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

ALL webinars are recorded and available to view at your leisure.

## Webinars - Coming Attractions!

REGISTRATION IS EASY <https://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>  
 Cannot make it on the scheduled date and time. No need to worry.  
 Register now and view on your time schedule.

Send Your Greenhouse Chat Questions and Photos to: [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)  
 Greenhouse Chat webinars are recorded and indexed by topic for future viewing.

| When      | March 09, 2023<br>8:30 pm EST<br>Thursday   | March 16, 2023<br>8:30 pm EDT<br>Thursday                        | April 04, 2023<br>8:30 pm EDT<br>Tuesday  | April 12, 2023<br>8:30 pm EDT<br>Wednesday  |
|-----------|---|--|---|---|
| Topic     | Greenhouse Chat<br>Orchid Q & A<br><i>Send in your Photos<br/>and Questions<br/>by March 07</i> | Dracula —<br>Whimsical<br>Monsters of the<br>Orchid World        | Greenhouse Chat<br>Orchid Q & A<br><i>Send in your Photos<br/>and Questions<br/>by April 02</i> | Heirloom<br>Cattleyas<br>Bringing the Past<br>into the Present                        |
| Presenter | Ron McHatton<br>Chief Education<br>and Science Officer  | Tom Etheridge<br>AOS Judge,<br>former AOS Trustee<br>and Officer | Ron McHatton<br>Chief Education<br>and Science Officer  | David Toyoshima<br>Longtime AOS<br>member, former<br>chair of AOS Public<br>Relations |

Check Out the Timeless Collection of Recorded Webinars on the AOS Website



Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook, Instagram  
and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.

Use the  
WEBINAR  
Display  
Filter



## 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:** Kristy Charland  
[charland.ek@outlook.com](mailto:charland.ek@outlook.com)

**Vice-president:** Ariel Paulson  
[arielpaulson@gmail.com](mailto:arielpaulson@gmail.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  
Membership chair: Anna Archibald  
[archibaldorchids@gmail.com](mailto:archibaldorchids@gmail.com)

**Editor:** Jean Rogers  
9941 Marty St  
Overland Park, KS 66212  
[jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com](mailto:jeanierogerswarren@gmail.com)  
214-402-6958

**On the web at:**  
[www.OSGKC.org](http://www.OSGKC.org)  
Webmaster: Ariel Paulson

#### **On Facebook:**



Facebook.com/OSGKC/  
@OSGKC on Facebook or Messenger  
Orchid Growers of OSGKC -  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/909878999427064/>

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

## What's Ahead ...

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

### **Saturday and Sunday, March 3-5, 2023**

OSO's (Arkansas) 12th Annual "Orchids in the Garden"- Orchid Show &  
Sale, Botanical Garden of the Ozarks, 4703 N. Crossover Rd,  
Fayetteville, AR

### **Sunday, March 11, 2023**

**Orchid Delirium!** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

#### **Powell Gardens Botanical Garden**

**Horticulture Happy Hour** Saturday, March 11 | 4-5 p.m.

### **Sunday, March 12, 2023**

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS  
*Speaker: Peter T. Lin, Diamond Orchids: "The 3 A's of the Orchid  
World: Angraecum, Aerangis and Aeranthes"*

### **Saturday and Sunday, March 18-19, 2023**

Springfield Orchid Show and Sale, Greene Botanical Center,  
Springfield, MO

### **Saturday and Sunday, March 25-26, 2023**

Omaha Orchid Show and Sale, Lauritzen Botanical Garden, Omaha, NE

### **Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**2023 AOS Spring Members Meeting**, San Diego, Calif.

### **Sunday, April 30, 2023**

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS  
*Annual Orchid Auction*

### **Sunday, May 21, 2023**

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS  
*Speaker: Brandon Tam, "Orchids at the Huntington Collection"*

### **Sunday, June 11, 2023**

Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater Street, Merriam, KS  
*Speaker: Dave Sorokowsky, Paph Paradise: "Growing Paphiopedilums"*

### **Sunday, July 9, 2023**

*Annual Orchid Growers' Tour, Destinations to be announced*

### **Sunday, August 20, 2023**

*Annual Members' Picnic*

### **Sunday, September 10, 2023**

TBA

### **Sunday, October 8, 2023**

TBA

### **Thursday-Saturday, October 26-28, 2023**

*Annual OSGKC Show*