

NEWSLETTER



Editor's Note: The newsletter is distributed electronically (blind copied so addresses remain private) to all members for whom we have an email address. If you do not receive an emailed newsletter please notify me at thues@sasktel.net.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

SOS meetings pause during the summer and resume in September. The fall lineup for meeting dates and guest speakers is still in the planning phase. Stay tuned and watch your inboxes for more information!

SOS Executive

President:	Tracey Thue
Vice-President:	Vacant
Past President:	Bob Lucas
Secretary:	Donna Carlson-O'Keefe
Treasurer:	Cheryl Grummet
Social:	Shirley Keith Lynn Campbell
Plant Orders:	Heather Anderson David Schwinghamer (Acting)
Resources:	Don Keith Tom Kondra
Librarians:	Deb Huculiak Kathryn Hiller
Newsletter:	Sara & Tracey Thue
COC/AOS Rep:	Tom Kondra
Speakers:	Heather Anderson
Webmaster:	Calvin Lo
Facebook:	Sara Thue
Web Address:	www.saskorchids.com
facebook:	https:// www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?
Mail Address:	SOS, Box 411, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3

The May general meeting will be held on **Sunday, May 30 via Zoom beginning at 2:00pm**. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for a link to register for the Zoom meeting.

Our guest speaker is Francisco Miranda, Miranda Orchids presenting "*Brazilian Orchid Habitats - 3 (the Coast)*"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL MEETING AGENDA:

Join Zoom meeting - family members are requested to join on a single device to help us stay under the maximum number of devices for our zoom subscription

2:00 pm Presentation - Francisco Miranda

We are sharing our zoom meeting link with members of the Manitoba Orchid Society & Orchid Society of Alberta for the presentation.

SOS Business Items

(Following Francisco's presentation)

Announcements

Annual Award Draws

Problem corner

General feedback



SOS Memberships Early Renewal Incentive

Memberships are due for renewal in September 2021 to cover the Society's activities from September 2021 to May 2022. Members renewing in April and May 2021 will receive a \$5 voucher for materials purchased from the SOS Resources.

Please send an e-transfer to SOS Treasurer Cheryl Grummett cherylgrummett@me.com

Or mail a personal cheque to
P.O. Box 411, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3J3

Annual Award Draws

Annual Wilma Nykiforuk Memorial Award

Postponed until next in person meeting.

Annual Show & Tell Draw

Renamed Memorial Sherida Gregoire Award

Names of members who provided photos of flowering orchids during the year placed into a draw, once for each month. The winner of the draw will receive a free membership.

Please register for the Zoom meeting by clicking on this link:

Topic: Francisco Miranda: "Brazilian Orchid Habitats 3 - The Coast"

When: May 30, 2021 02:00 PM Saskatchewan

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJcod-utqD4uHt2usij2rJ7dpYZjNHUV5FLO>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

PLANT ORDERS

Ching Hua Orchids

Plants will arrive in Vancouver May 26 and should arrive in Saskatoon on Thursday or Friday.

Pickup day is tentatively Saturday, May 29th.

Members who have ordered from Ching Hua will be emailed directly in the next few days with the amount owing for their plants.

More information regarding pickup time will be shared as soon as the arrival date is firmed up.

Plants will arrive bare-root, wrapped in sphagnum moss so will need to be potted as soon as possible upon pickup.

Paph Paradise & Gold Country Orchids

Delivery is estimated to be mid June, pending US Fish & Wildlife Dept processing the CITES documentation.

Heather will receive the invoice prior to plants arriving. Those of us who have placed orders will be charged the cost of the plants in USD + 15% for documentation & shipping. Heather will contact us for payment in cash, cheque or e-transfer.

Orchids will be shipped to Calgary and FOS member Ross Otto will ship our orchids to Saskatoon. The Calgary-Saskatoon shipping will be divided between plant orders and Heather will collect this at the time of plant pickup.

"How do we select your plants?"

When we are pulling orders, we always look for the largest and strongest plants. Basically we try to select the plant that we would chose for ourselves. If we can find one in bud, we will select that one.

You can order with confidence knowing that you will receive the best plants available."
Paph Paradise Orchids



Cattleya tenebrosa (Laelia tenebrosa)

<https://orchidroots.com/detail/372387/species/?tab=sum>



Cattleya amethystoglossa

Dalton Holland Baptista

SPEAKERS PROGRAM

Francisco Miranda, from Miranda Orchids, will present “Brazilian Orchid Habitats - the Coast.”

While living in their native Brazil, Francisco Miranda and Maria Cristina owned Boa Vista Orchids from 1986 to 1999. In 1999 they moved to the U.S. and started Miranda Orchids, and specialize in *Cattleya* alliance species.

A taxonomist, naturalist and orchid grower, Francisco Miranda travels extensively in the U.S. and internationally speaking at orchid-related events and meetings. He has been doing this since 1988, while still living in Brazil. The subjects of his presentations reflect Francisco's extensive travels to study orchids in their natural environments.

REQUEST FOR TREASURER

Please consider putting your name forward for the Treasurer position (or for Secretary, in which case Donna Carlson-O'Keefe will switch to Treasurer).

LIBRARY

If anyone is interested in borrowing any library resources, please email Librarian Deb Huculiak hucuh@sasktel.net to arrange for pickup. Please include in your email message your name and a phone number for Deb to reach you. You can find a .pdf of the library holdings on our website. Available are books, magazines (AOS Orchids and Orchid Digest), pH meter, light meter.

APRIL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

recorded by Donna Carlson-O'Keefe

The meeting was chaired by Tracey Thue. There were at least 31 participants from the two societies.

Tracey welcomed the members of the Saskatchewan Orchid Society and the Manitoba Orchid Society to the Zoom meeting. She then introduced the speaker Dave

Sorokowsky from Paph Paradise, presenting on General Paph Culture.

Before the presentation, Dave gave an update on the status of the joint order from Paph Paradise and Gold Country Orchids which has been held up for months for government paperwork. They have filed for the CITES permit, but what used to take 15 days now takes 90 days. They expect to have approval any day now. The SOS orders will go to Ross Otto in Calgary and he will process them and forward them to us. The single Manitoba order will go through Toronto.

**Presentation by Dave Sorokowsky,
Paph Paradise:
“Don’t Fear the Slippers! (The answers to
the question: Why can’t I grow Paphs?)”**

This was a webinar presented to the American Orchid Society last fall, entitled Why Can't I Grow Paphs? and is available to AOS members on their website.

General culture:

- Watering:
 - Water quality is very important. Most Paphs require low total dissolved solids (TDS), low hardness. Rainwater or reverse osmosis (RO) water is ideal. Paphs will tolerate harder water but then how you water becomes even more important.
 - Their water is quite hard, 250 ppm or more, and they use a Damm 750 Water Breaker nozzle on their watering wands. The 750 means that it has 750 orifices in the nozzle. You can get an 1100, which has 1100 holes, but because the holes are smaller, they quickly get gummed up with the minerals in the hard water.
 - They water from above and the tiny droplets of water pick up lots of oxygen as they fall. This air gets flushed through into the pot as they water. Paphs need to be watered very thoroughly. In their greenhouses, they water from different directions to be sure the plants get water on all sides. If you are in doubt about the plants getting enough water, check a couple of pots after you water. Tap the plants out of their pots and check for moisture: all of the potting mix should be wet. Paphs don't mind having their roots disturbed once in a while.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

- Potting media:
 - They use Orchiate (New Zealand pine bark), a very hard bark that doesn't break down too fast. For pots up to 3½" they use Orchiate Classic grade with #3 perlite and charcoal, more Orchiate. This gives lots of good drainage and lots of air for the roots. As a result, the roots will fill the entire pot. Dave showed a slide of a plant that was growing in a bark mix that had broken down and as a result was very wet. Most of the roots were at the top of the pot where they could get air with just a few going down the sides to get water. The roots were not getting access to all the nutrients throughout the potting medium.
 - Sphagnum moss gives you a very wet mix which then gets too dry. Once it gets dry and rock hard, it is very hard to re-wet it. It is not good for Paphs.
 - Expanded clay pellets (LECA) are used for semi-hydroponics; a lot of Paphs will grow well in this type of mix, but if you are going to switch a plant into this new environment, be sure there are new roots coming because all the old roots will die off.
 - Oyster shells – he uses them for specific species, for example, *Phragmipedium kovachii* which requires a high pH limestone mix. Other Paphs also grow on limestone in nature. They don't worry about it much at the nursery because their approximately 1/3 each, but with slightly water contains so much calcium already, but he does see it used in Hawaii where they have very pure water.
 - Coconut husk – don't use it! It stays too wet and will kill all the roots. It also attracts the calcium and other minerals and holds onto them, giving a salty environment.
- Fertilizer:
 - MSU (Michigan State University) fertilizer provides all the necessary trace elements. They use MSU at home but not in the greenhouse because it is too expensive to use on a commercial scale. In the greenhouse they use a cheaper source of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium and then add trace elements to mimic the MSU formula.
 - They fertilize at about 150 ppm nitrogen through most of the year. There are online calculators to help you figure this out; they use the one at firstrays.com. This is increased to 250 ppm during the longest days and dropped to 100 ppm in winter. They might even go up as high as 300 ppm in June. This doesn't burn the roots because once a month they turn on the overhead sprinklers for more than an hour to flush through all the mineral buildup. If you are worried about the mineral buildup, you could come back an hour after fertilizing and flush the minerals through; plants pick up most of their nutrients in the first 20 minutes.
 - The pH is adjusted to 5.6, the pH at which the nutrients are most available. Once the pH gets above 6.0,

manganese and other nutrients get bound up and are not available.

- Three times a year (twice in the spring and once in the fall) they use Epsom salts (magnesium sulphate), 1 tsp per gallon. When they do this, they adjust the pH to 5.0, the pH at which magnesium is most available. This also leaches out some of the mineral buildup.
- Pests and Disease:
 - Mealybugs are the biggest issue when you are growing Paphs.
 - Mites can be a problem when the humidity is low.
 - Occasionally you will get fungal diseases but if you are growing strong healthy plants with enough calcium, they will have strong cell walls and you won't see a lot of fungal infections. People ask them if they water as much in the winter: they do, but they water on a sunny day and they turn the heat up in the nursery at night. They have strong plants and very good air flow, so they don't have a problem with fungal diseases. It is difficult to duplicate the strong air flow in a home environment.
 - Bacterial infections are rare, but they move very aggressively through a greenhouse.
 - Bacterial and fungal infections may look similar but to tell the difference, crush the leaves. If they smell awful, it's a bacterial infection; if they don't, it's a fungal infection.
 - Finally, the leaves react very badly to cat saliva, a problem that is endemic to his house.



Paphiopedilum Maudiae type

orchidweb.com/blog/the-stunning-flowers-and-foliage-of-paphiopedilum-maudiae-types/

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

The Specific Stuff:

How easy are these to grow?

So Easy!!!

- Maudiae Paphs:

- Require less light than most other orchids. A north or east window is good. They need a moderate amount of light, will do well even with a little less light than a *Phalaenopsis*.
- Like the same temperatures that we do.
- Bloom multiple times throughout the year.
- Wide range of colours!
- Foliage is attractive even when they are not blooming.
- BUT do not like to dry out completely. They flush *Maudiaes* really well once a week, maybe twice a week if the weather is really hot.
- Should be repotted regularly.
- Warm growing: summer days 80-85 F, nights in the 60s; winter days in the 70s, nights 58F.

- Complex Paphs ("bulldog" type):

- Larger and more robust plants than *Maudiae*, bigger leaves, bigger root system.
- Similar requirements to *Maudiae*, but will tolerate drying out a bit more than *Maudiaes*.
- Will tolerate cooler temperatures (down into the 40s F).
- Moderate light, north or east window is fine.
- Intermediate to warm growing: summers to 85 F, but flowers will last a lot longer when cool in winter, 70 F days and 50s at night. They will tolerate cooler nights if they are dry: if they are cold and wet, they will rot.
- They can be repotted any time of year.
- Generally water these once a week, flushing them out well. When in spike, they often give them extra water to ensure proper flower development. If they are too dry at this time, you can get deformed flowers. These are huge flowers, and the plant draws extra energy and water out of the plant to develop the flowers.
- Keep them drier when it's cold.

- Multiflorals:

- Pretty easy to grow but they require space.
- Larger plants, more tolerant of drying out.

- Need more light. They like similar conditions to *Cattleyas*.
- Like to be warm: summer mid 80s during the day, low 60s at night. Will tolerate cooler winters if kept a little dry.
- They are bigger plants so require bigger pots. They use a larger grade of bark (Power or Power+ Orchidata) with #4 perlite in pots larger than 3.5".
- Generally only repot every 2 years, preferably in spring to summer because that is their peak growth period.
- Thorough watering is still important, although they only water them every second week in the winter.

- Parvisepalums:

- Many Parvi hybrids are good choices for indoor growing.
- Tolerant of wide range of temperatures.
- Grow mostly on limestone rocks so they don't like wet feet. They like lots of drainage, so even though the pots are quite small, they use a larger grade (Power) of Orchidata for the potting medium.
- You may need to water them twice a week in the summer because they dry down so fast.
- They grow them in bright light, but not as bright as multiflorals.
- Seem to do well alongside their complex Paphs.
- These species come from China. They like warm summers, cool (to cold) winters, even down almost to freezing.
- Many of their best hybrids are from crosses with multiflorals. These should be grown in bright light because of the multifloral background.
- Many of these will appreciate oyster shells or dolomite in the potting mix or as top dressing.
- A well drained mix is important.
- Some species like a drier winter but the hybrids are more forgiving.



Paphiopedilum armeniacum

[orchidspecies.com/
papharmeniaceum.htm](http://orchidspecies.com/papharmeniaceum.htm)

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Some specifics on species

- Many can be more challenging than hybrids.
- There are some very hardy species.

❖ *Paphiopedilum venustum*:

- Very vigorous species, very easy to grow
- Moderate light
- Blooms reliably
- A mealybug magnet - Dave used to keep one as an indicator plant for mealybugs in his collection.
- They have been used extensively in hybridization for the red spots on their petals and the veiny pouch.

❖ *Paphiopedilum wardii*:

- Robust grower, attractive foliage, forms clumps quickly.
- Moderate light.

❖ *Paphiopedilum delenatii*:

- Reliable spring bloomer
- Moderate light
- Needs good drainage
- Repot every year
- Several varieties: *dunkel*, *album*, *vinicolor*
- Fragrant flowers!

❖ *Paphiopedilum villosum*:

- Very easy to grow, rapidly forms large specimens
- Long lasting waxy flowers in the winter season
- Cold tolerant, grown outside in the San Francisco Bay Area.

❖ *Paphiopedilum gratixianum*:

- Similar growth habit to *villosum*
- Not as cold tolerant

❖ *Paphiopedilum henryanum*:

- Tolerates a wide range of temperatures.
- Fall blooming

❖ Sequential blooming species:

- Stay in bloom for months
- They give them a bit more light than *Maudiae* species, but otherwise grow them much the same: warm, same potting mix, same watering regime.

❖ *Paphiopedilum haynaldianum*:

- Stunning flowers, up to six per spike.
- Needs to be warm and bright, grow alongside *Cattleyas*.
- Very easy to grow, the fastest species they have grown from flask to bloom.



Paphiopedilum concolor

Grower: Heather Anderson

Photo: Tracey Thue Jan 2017

- Does not tolerate cold, keep above 65F.

❖ *Paphiopedilum lowii*:

- Similar requirements to *haynaldianum*.

❖ *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*:

- Just needs bright light and lots of space.
- Slow to produce first bloom (7-9 years from flask to bloom), then flowers reliably.
- Can take more cold than the previous two, down to the 50s if they are running dry in winter. The cool winter rest helps them bloom better.

Degree of difficulty: moderate:

❖ *Brachypedilums*:

- Should be easy to grow but they are in this group based on customer feedback.
- Lower light requirements
- Need good drainage
- Don't like cold, most come from close to the equator
- Don't need much light; they grow them in the shadiest part of the greenhouse
- Compact growth habit makes them ideal for growing under lights
- Some of the parent species come from low elevations near the equator, and the temperatures are never below 70F at night
- Seedling heat mats can help keep them happy. They run their greenhouses in the 50s at night in the winter, but the seedling mats can be set at 70 F. They put the plants on the mats and that keeps the crown warm so they can set the ambient temperature in the greenhouse at a cooler temperature without damaging the plants. When you grow with bottom heat, you can really develop good roots

• Species that should be easy, but....

❖ *Paphiopedilum niveum*:

- Very warm in its native habitat
- 90F days and 70s at night. They grow them on heat mats in their nursery, but they still don't grow as well as they do in Hawaii. Would probably do better grown indoors.
- Grows on limestone so needs good drainage.
- Gets a lot of rain in its natural habitat.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

The Troublemakers:

❖ *Paphiopedilum fairrieianum*:

- This species can never dry out
- Water it twice a week, even every other day when seedlings are small
- Do not divide it!

❖ *Paphiopedilum tigrinum*:

- Comes from high elevations - cool summers and cold, dry winters
- Gets a lot of rain in the summer, but in the winter it gets its moisture from dew and frost
- Grows on trees.

❖ *Paphiopedilum sangii*:

- Found close to the equator at moderate elevation
- Temperature never drops out of the 60s F
- Gets heavy rainfall (120 inches a year) but grows on hillsides so the roots never sit in water
- Dave grows these on heat mats and waters as frequently as *fairrieianums*.

❖ *Paphiopedilum helene*:

- Grows directly on rocks
- Does not tolerate wet feet, especially in winter
- Dave will sometimes skip a watering in winter so these get a nice dry-down.

❖ *Paphiopedilum armeniacum*:

- Grows in China on limestone at high elevations
- Bright light, cool, rainy summers, cold, dry winters
- Dave saw one at the Tokyo Dome Show last year, the largest, best *armeniaceum* he has ever seen; the seedlings were selling for \$350 each!

❖ *Paphiopedilum emersonii*:

- Grows along cracks in limestone with moss on the roots
- Distinct dry season with cooler nights, not as cold as *armeniaceum*.

Other helpful hints

• Beneficial bacteria/fungi

- Inocucor Garden Solution: contains two beneficial bacteria and brewer's yeast. They did a trial with Inocucor: they treated 2 community pots and left 2 pots untreated. There was no visible difference after a couple months...then a cooler failed. The plants in the untreated pots all died, while the treated pots had a 50% survival rate. The microbes help the plants assimilate

nutrients so it helps build stronger plants.

Unfortunately, that solution is no longer being made.

- Bush Doctor Microbe Brew: contains more variety in the bacteria plus adds mycorrhizae (symbiotic fungi). Unfortunately, it smells really nasty (like an outhouse in a fish market!) but it works. When this is mixed, it gives a pH of about 4.7 so they adjust the pH to 6 with potassium hydroxide (not sodium hydroxide) before using.
- Plant Success Organics Granular Mycorrhizae: they haven't used this yet, but it may not smell so bad.
- These products are available at hydroponic stores. They have been developed for use in the cannabis industry.
- **How to rescue rootless Paphs:**
 - "Sphag in a bag": take off the lowest leaf by cutting it down the middle, splitting it and peeling it away. (Never snap a leaf off a Paph – you will end up damaging the crown where the roots are.) The new roots will appear where the leaf was. Put some moist sphagnum moss in a Ziploc bag and put the plants next to it, not necessarily in it – the moss is just there to provide humidity. Puff up the bag with air, seal it up and put it off to the side where it gets some light but not a lot. Once a week open up the bag to put in fresh air and check the humidity. If there is enough energy left in the plant, it will start to produce roots.
 - Once there are roots, carefully pot them up and put them in a shady part of the greenhouse. The key thing then is not to look at them. If you look at them, they will die!



Paphiopedilum belenae

Photo: OrchidRoots

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

- **Artificial roots:** this is a method for growing roots on stronger, bigger plants. Remove the basal leaf as above, and tie on a plastic twist tie or something similar just above where the roots will grow. These are the “artificial roots” that will stabilize the plant as the new roots grow. Pot up the plant, burying the ends of the twist tie in the potting medium to hold the plant steady, and put it in a shady part of the greenhouse as for the “sphag in a bag” plants. In a few months the plant should produce a strong new root system.

What's new in the nursery?

Dave showed slides of a number of interesting and beautiful hybrids which they have just registered. He sold two flasks of one of these hybrids, Paph Vogue Paradise, to someone in Holland last year and within 9 months they had bloomed every one of those plants! They have amazing technology in Holland. This grower gets subsidized energy in his nursery, so they use under bench heating and LED lights, and even pump in CO₂ to make the plants grow faster.



Paph fairrieianum

Photo by Tracey Thue

In summary:

- ★ Water, water, water!!! Water thoroughly and use good quality water, if you can
- ★ Repot annually with a well-drained mix
- ★ Start with the easy ones
- ★ Look at what you do well, e.g. if you grow Cattleyas well, try multifloral Paphs. If you are growing plants such as Phals in lower light, try the Maudiaes or the complex Paphs
- ★ For tougher species, look at the habitat. The website orchidspecies.com gives information on habitat. The books *The Genus Paphiopedilum, Natural History and Cultivation*, Vol 1 and 2, by Dr. G.J. Braem, Charles O. Baker and Margaret I. Baker are invaluable sources of information. Dave also uses *The Paphiopedilum User's Manual* by Lance Birk. [Editor's note: these books are available to SOS members - contact Deb Huculiak hucuh@sasktel.net to borrow!]

Dave acknowledged the use of photographs by Ramon de los Santos and other AOS photographers.

Following the presentation, Tracey thanked Dave for his very interesting talk and the great hints on growing the more challenging Paphs.

Dave then took questions from the Zoom audience.

Q. Do you turn the seedling heat mats down or unplug them at night?

D. He leaves the heat mats on at night. The new community pots are also placed on the heat mats to help them get established. The mats are set at 70F.

Q. Besides *fairrieianum*, are there any other plants that should not be divided?

D. *Paph fairrieianum* is the main one that absolutely should not be divided. He generally doesn't divide his plants; he just lets them grow into specimen plants until they fall apart naturally. If you do need to divide a plant, usually you can see a natural break forming and that is where you will divide it. He recommends flushing them with 3% hydrogen peroxide afterward. Peroxide is a very useful tool for unhappy roots and unhappy plants. Under stress from pathogens, plants will actually produce peroxide internally.

Q: I'm glad to see you recommend the use of peroxide. With environmental restrictions, we can't use many of the chemicals we used to, and peroxide and alcohol are about all we are left with. **How fast do I have to rinse it off the roots after using peroxide?**

D: Peroxide quickly breaks down into oxygen and water so there is no need to rinse it off. Use a fresh bottle of peroxide because it does break down quickly once the bottle is open. It can be purchased quite cheaply at a dollar store, although the peroxide at the dollar store may not be very fresh. You might be better off getting it at a pharmacy.

Q. What do you use to get rid of mealybugs?

D. Safari is good to use in the nursery; Bayer 3-in-1 is good for household use. (Names may be different in Canada.) If you get new plants, pot them up and clean everything, and then isolate them, so you don't introduce new mealybugs into your collection. If the mealies are under reasonable control, you can use Enstar insect growth regulator. It has to make contact with the insect and you need to use a surfactant to make sure it sticks to the insect, but it is quite benign because it is specifically meant to prevent mealybugs and scale from moulting. If you have a greenhouse and a big enough collection, there are predatory wasps and critters that feed on insects. They keep insect infestations in check, although they don't get rid of them completely.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Q. You are fertilizing more heavily in summer which would give a high level of total dissolved solids. Do you control this just by flushing afterwards?

D. Yes. He doesn't use straight RO water or rainwater for flushing as they will leach out too many nutrients. If using RO or rainwater, he adds a bit of MSU to it to replace the nutrients. At their nursery they use their well water, which contains calcium, for flushing.

If there are other questions, Dave invited members to email him. Paph Paradise's website is paphparadise.com.

Tracey and Denise from the Manitoba Orchid Society both thanked Dave for his great talk. The MOS then left the meeting, and the SOS meeting continued.

SOS Announcements:

Tracey welcomed new members to the Saskatchewan Orchid Society, and welcomed all members to the meeting.

Our main activities run from September until May, but as an incentive for early renewals, if members renew in April or May for the upcoming year, they will receive a \$5 voucher for resources.

SOS Plant Orders:

David reported:

The Ecuagenera and Orchids in Our Tropics orders were picked up last week. Thank you to Tom Kondra for driving to Lloydminster to get the Ecuagenera order.

Paph Paradise/Gold Country Orchids is still encountering CITES problems. No ETA yet.

Heather reported:

The Garden Slippers order will be shipped tomorrow (April 25) and arrive the next day. Heather will contact members for distribution.

The Ching Hua order will probably be shipped in late May or early June.

SOS Resources:

Don reported that they recently got an order of cork from the Orchid Species Preservation Foundation and will sell it by the piece at about \$15 per square foot, about half of what you would pay at a reptile store. He will take pictures of the pieces with prices on them to send to people who are interested. They are getting two bags of Orchidata from the OSPF which should tide us over for the time being.

SOS Problem Corner:

Q. Are there other people who recently got flasks? What did you do to get them going?

A. It was recommended that he contact Bob Lucas. The Orchids Ltd website has lots of great videos, and there are others on YouTube. It was suggested that he Google flasks and community pots for information. Bob and one of the videos both had suggested planting the seedlings out into sphagnum.

Tom said he got a flask of a *Lepanthes* species. He put some in a community pot, put holes in for airflow and sealed it in one-gallon Ziploc bag. Within days the plants were already growing.

Calvin recommended sorting the seedlings for size. Larger ones could be transitioned to mounting right away. If the unsorted seedlings are all planted together in a community pot, the smaller ones will suffer.

Q. I got a *Vanda cristata* from Sherida's collection. It was grown in a double walled glass container and had a lot of algae on the roots. What do I do with it? She thought perhaps it had been grown hydroponically.

A. Don replied that *V. cristata* has air roots and should not be grown hydroponically. Another member who also got one of Sherida's *Vandas* said that she is growing it above water for humidity.

Calvin says that it is popular to grow them in glass vases. They fill up the vase with water for 10 minutes and then throw out the water. The vase helps keep the humidity up without getting the roots too wet.

Q. I bought two *Cymbidium*s. The lower leaves of one of them are yellowing, with the outermost leaves browning the most. There is no sign of any bugs.

A. Tracey suggested it could be that the fan is just finishing and the plant is pulling nutrients out of that fan.

Adjournment

2:57 p.m.

ORCHID MARKET

Don Keith will provide orchid supplies to SOS members, orders to be placed once monthly, on the Friday before the monthly meeting. Orders will be ready for pick up after 10:00 a.m. the Sunday following the monthly meeting. Please pay with exact cash, by cheque made out to the SOS, or pay Don by e-transfer. Email Don at donkeith@sasktel.net

For May orders, email Don by 8:00 p.m. Saturday, May 29, 2021. He will have your order ready for pick-up from his house after 10:00 a.m. Sunday, May 30, 2021.

SOS ORCHID SUPPLIES

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
Fir Bark	3L bag fine or medium (please specify)	\$6.00
Orchiata Pine Bark	3L bag fine, medium or med-coarse (specify)	\$6.00
Orchiata Pine Bark	40L bag, fine, medium or med-coarse (specify)	\$52.00
N.Z. Tree Fern Fibre	3L bag, seedling mix	\$8.00
Perlite	4L bag medium/coarse	\$4.00
GrowStones	3L bag, 1/4 - 3/8" or 1/2 - 3/4"	\$6.00
Sphagnum moss, N.Z.	8L compacted 12L compressed	N/A N/A
Grodan Grow Cubes	3L bag, 0.4" cubes 7L bag 0.4" cubes	\$5.00 \$10.00
MSU fertilizer	1 cup 13-3-15 for tap or RO water	\$5.00
Oyster shells	1 cup bag	\$0.25

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
Cork slabs	Various shapes, sizes (see photo, pg 12)	\$6 - \$32.00
Inflorescence clips	Small, brown or green	10 for \$1.00
Rhizome clips	Small Med/Large	\$1.00 \$1.25
Clear Pots	2 1/4 x 2 1/4 square	\$0.50
	2 1/2 x 2 1/2 round	\$0.50
	2 3/4 x 2 3/4 round	\$0.75
	3 1/4 x 3 1/2 round	\$1.00
	4 x 4	\$1.25
	4 1/2 x 4 1/2 slotted	\$1.50
Net Pots	3"	\$1.25
	3.5"	\$1.25
	5"	\$1.50
	6"	\$1.75

**If you are interested, please email Bob Lucas
at robert.lucas@usask.ca**

1. Sunblaster 24" T5 HO bulb and ballast, new in packaging, one @ \$25.00.
2. Used hanging fixture, 2 48" T5 bulbs and ballasts, two @ \$25.00 each.
3. Used 24" T5 bulb and ballast, one @ \$15.00.
4. Used 24" T5 bulb and ballast, package of two for \$20.00.
5. Used 48" T5 bulb and ballast, four @ \$15.00 each.
6. Used 48" T5 bulbs, package of four for \$10.00.
7. New SaskPower outdoor timers, two @ \$7.50 each.
8. Greenearth concentrate horticultural oil, 500ml, new, two @ \$5.00 each.

A photograph of numerous fragments of fossilized wood, likely petrified wood, arranged on a light-colored surface. Each fragment is labeled with a small white tag indicating its specimen number. The fragments vary in size and shape, showing the characteristic grain and texture of fossilized wood. A ruler is visible in the upper right corner for scale.

bigskylabs@sasktel.net

This was from Sherida's sale. I believe she bought it from Cheryl Anderson. I didn't realize how BIG it is. Beautiful plant, in good shape. **\$15**



robert.lucas@usask.ca

Leucadia Farewell x Orchidview Tabasco

PAGE 12

For sale by Erica Kondra

erica.kondra@gmail.com

***Phalaenopsis* Orchidview Tabasco x *Phal.* Leucidia Farewell
\$10**



***Phalaenopsis* Cool Cat '#17' x *Phal.* C.R. Blood Red Sun 'CR' AM
\$10**



***Phalaenopsis* Cool Cat '#17' x *Phal.* C.R. Blood Red Sun 'CR' AM
\$10**



For sale by Heather Anderson

heather.jane.anderson@gmail.com

***Phragmipedium* Ice Princess (*Phrag. pearcei* 'Cricket' x *Phrag.* St. Ouen 'Sweet Snow')
2 divisions: \$15 (in spike); \$10**



Cattleya maxima

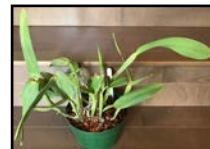
2 plants: 7" pot \$10; 8" pot \$15

Some hail damage from being grown outside by previous owner.
Image of mother plant in flower is from Nov., 2020 with 11 blooms.



***Rhyncanthe Siren* (*Cattleya skinneri* x *Rhyncholaelia digbyana*)
7" pot \$15**

Image of plant in flower is from Oct., 2020.



For sale by David Schwinghamer

dms-2019@protonmail.com

***Cattleya skinneri alba* 'Alcemi'
6" pot. 3 old growths, 2 new growths. \$5**



Lockhartia parthenocomos

Several mounted divisions for sale \$10 each
Unique foliage and easy to grow. Grown in orchidarium.



Lockhartia parthenocomos

<http://www.orchidspecies.com/lockparthenocomos.htm>

For sale by Tracey Thue

thues@sasktel.net

Cattlianthe Doris & Byron 'Christmas Rose'

12 mature growths, 4 new growths starting. \$10



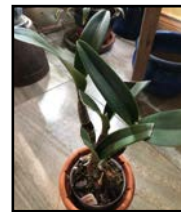
Brassolaeliocattleya Love Sound 'Dogashima' AM/AOS x Potinara Dream Circle 'SVO' AM/AOS

2 divisions: 3 growths in 3" clear pot \$5; 4 growths + new growth starting, in 3" clear pot \$10



Dendrobium Hot Pulany x Kurenai

Division in 3" clear pot, 7 canes, 1 new growth \$5



Epilaeliocattleya Magic Wand

5 growths in 3" clear pot \$10

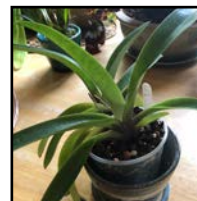
Masdevallia Cutie (Amethyst 'Ilia Lin' AM/AOS x Bella Donna 'Pink Ice' HCC/AOS)

4 divisions in 2.5" pots, sphagnum moss 3 @ \$3 each; 1 @ \$5



Paphiopedilum King Arthur

1 division in 3" clear pot, 3 growths \$8



Pholidota chinensis 'Nisqually'

2 divisions: 2.5" pot \$5; 4" basket \$8

Restrepia brachypus

3" clear pot \$5



Lepanthes mastix

1.5" pot in flower \$10

For sale by Pat Randall

pat.randall@sasktel.net

***Epilaeliocattleya* Volcano Trick 'Orange Fire'**

4-1/2" pot. Since I divided the mother plant and re-potted this division in December, it has developed a new growth and lots of new roots. It gets nice spikes of many 2" to 2-1/2" brightly coloured blooms. Fairly long lasting, around 3 weeks. It blooms for me every year in late summer or fall. \$15



SHOW AND TELL

Grown by Rebecca Gatto



***Paphiopedilum* Valiant Red**

(*Paph.* Orchilla x *Paph.* Valwin)

I keep this orchid moist and in bright light. I received it in spike from Sherida's collection. I wanted to show everyone how beautiful it is, in memory of her.



***Phalaenopsis* Rocket Man**

I received this when I first joined the SOS in 2018. It was just a small seedling. I water it when it's fully dry and keep it in bright indirect light. I wanted to showcase this one because it has sentimental value.

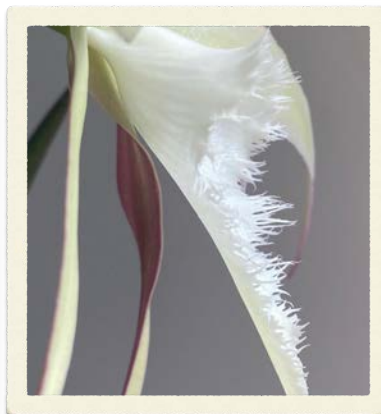
The seedling was from Bob Lucas, who says one of the parents was *Phalaenopsis* Ching Ruey's Blood-Red Sun 'Ching Ruey' AM/AOS

Grown by Calvin Lo



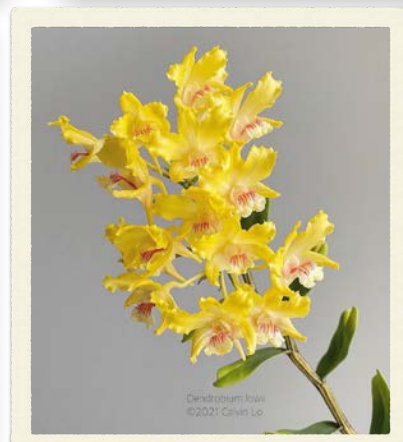
Cattleya forbesii

One of the easiest to grow *Cattleya* species.
Windowsill culture and free blooming with subtle
copper-coloured flowers.



Brassavola David Sander

This was an SOS membership incentive
plant many years ago! Not a frequent
bloomer but when it does, I remember
why it's one of my favourites: large
lascivious blooms that smell deliciously
like jasmine and frangipani at night.



Dendrobium lowii

An easy grower from the black-haired
Dendrobium group, with masses of
wonderful yellow flowers and hairy red
lips.



Angraecum equitans

Second blooming in 9 years! Got it as a seedling. Hopefully this Malagasy angraecoid is reaching maturity and will bloom more frequently in years to come.



Angraecum arachnites

Spidery flowers on a plant with an exquisite growth habit. Madagascar native.



Dendrobium igneoniveum

First time blooming of a rare black haired Dendrobium. Was purchased as a seedling of the related *Dendrobium tobaense*, but I'm not disappointed to see these wonderful flowers, which to me, carry a somewhat feminine bohemian vibe.



Grown by Pat Randall



Cattleya lueddemanniana

I bought this plant from Ecuagenera in fall, 2011 at the Calgary Orchid Show. This species is native to Venezuela. It usually blooms in spring but has also bloomed in the winter. The sheath and spike appear very soon after the growth matures and within a few weeks the blooms appear. They are 6" wide and heavily scented - rather spicy, that seems to



Cattleya mossiae

This is another Cattleya species native to Venezuela. I got this from Paramount Orchids in 2011 as a small seedling. It has been blooming every spring since 2016. They are 6" wide and nicely scented. This one usually goes to the Edmonton Orchid Show and has had 2 AOS nominations, but was never awarded. It is grown in a clear pot with medium bark under lights.



Cattleya Walkerinter var. coerulea

This is a primary hybrid between *C. walkeriana* and *C. intermedia*. Mine is the blue form. I got it at the garage sale of Ching Hua plants after the Edmonton show in spring, 2017. It has bloomed one flower only every spring until this year when it finally gave me two. The bloom is a good size (5") for a small plant, long lasting and scented. I grow it in a clear pot of medium bark under lights.



Cattleya Milton Warne 'Premiere'

I got this from OSPF in 2015. It blooms every spring. Blooms are 5" wide and nicely scented. They last a full 6 weeks. It is one of my tallest Cattleyas. It is potted in a clear pot with medium bark and grown under lights.



***Cattleya (Laelia) purpurata* var.
schusteriana (4N)**

I ordered this in 2016 when Orchids Limited was in Canada at an orchid show in B.C. He shipped it to me from there, bare root and with heat packs, at the end of October. This species originates in Brazil and is Brazil's national flower. It is used in many Cattleya hybrids. I grow mine in a clear pot with medium bark, under lights. It gets a warm bright summer and a cooler winter. It is a faithful bloomer in late spring. There are 2 more spikes, each with 2 buds that will open in about a week. A few days after opening, these blooms expand from about 5" wide to between 6 and 7" wide. They have a lovely scent.

Grown by Becky Janzen

Dendrobium chrysotoxum* var. *suavissimum

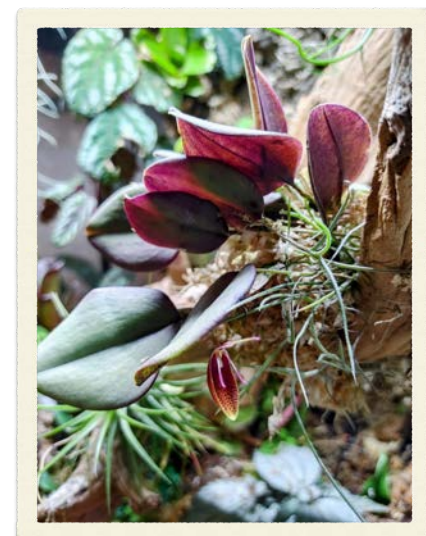
This is the first time this has bloomed for me. I've kept it in a terrarium for a while, then gave it a cool, dry winter rest. Since then, it's been on the windowsill. At present, it's in a west window.



Grown by Candice Jackel-Cram

Restrepia cymbula

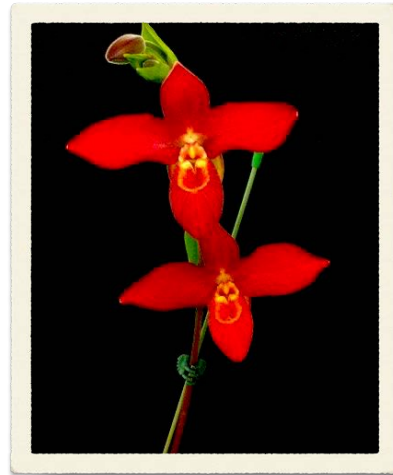
This came in the recent Ecuagenera import. This is the second flower since it arrived.



Grown by Bob Lucas



Phalaenopsis Rocket Man ‘#11’



Phragmipedium Jason Fisher ‘BB’

Grown by Heather Anderson



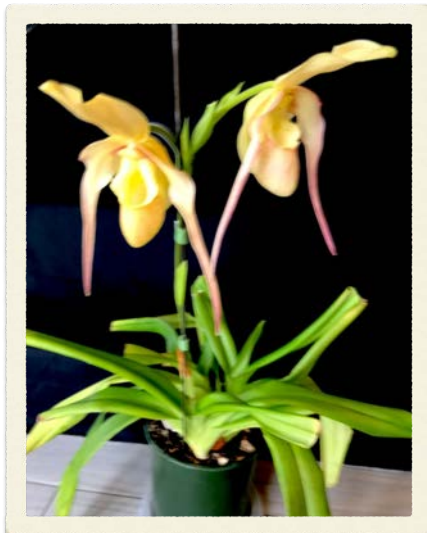
***Dendrobium* Rainbow Dancer**

This is grown in the orchidarium and it blooms somewhat sporadically.



Trichoglottis pusilla

This mounted orchid was bought from Ecuagenera two years ago and it has bloomed annually since then. It is grown in the orchidarium.



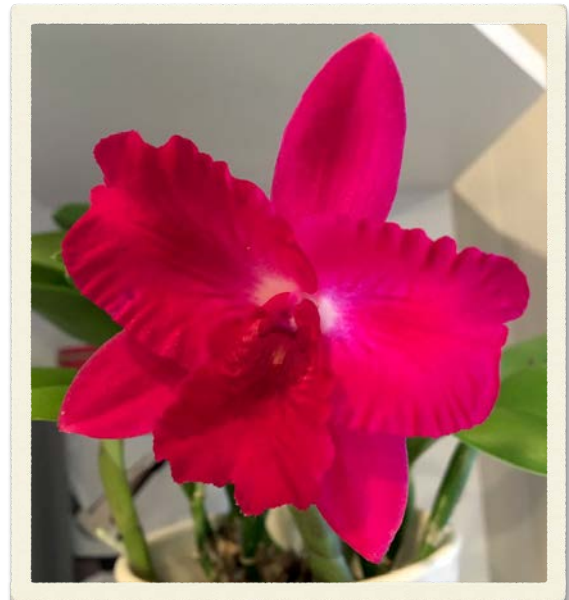
***Phragmipedium* China Dragon**
(*Phrag. Grande* x *besseae flavum*)

Grown under lights and once blooming it is brought out of the basement greenhouse and enjoyed in the living room in an east window. It sits in a saucer of water. It was originally purchased from Zephyrus Orchids and is one of my favourite orchids.

Grown by Donna Carlson-O'Keefe

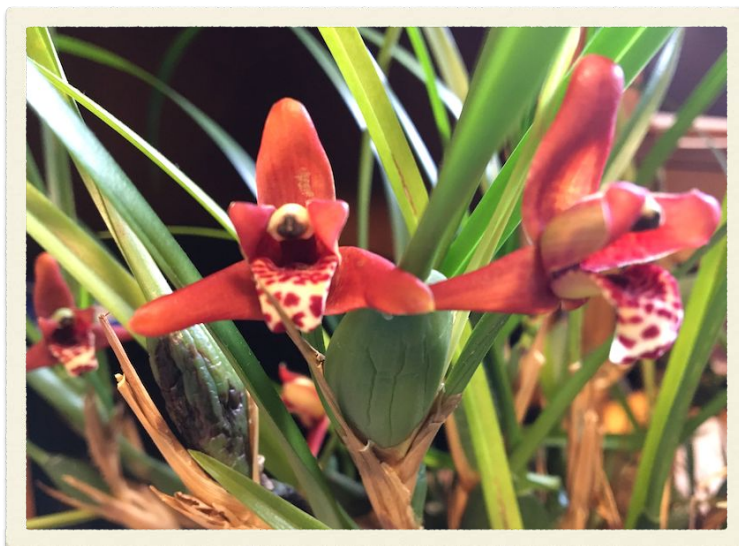
***Sophrulaeliocattleya Cosmic Delite 'SVO'*
HCC/AOS x *Potinara Louise Clarke*
'Outstanding'**

This is a Sunset Valley Orchids cross. I grow it under T5 lights in the basement and then bring it upstairs when it blooms. I bought it from Fred Clarke in October, 2019 and it has bloomed 3 times since then. He said the crosses would turn out to be either an excellent-shaped solid red or well-shaped red with yellow flares and red stripes on the petals. I was hoping for the yellow flares but I got the solid red. But it is a reliable bloomer and I enjoy it anyway.



***Rhyncattleanthe Shining Little Sun*
'Youngmin Golden Boy' (*Cattlianthe*
Golden Girl x *Rhyncattleanthe Taida Love*
Star)**

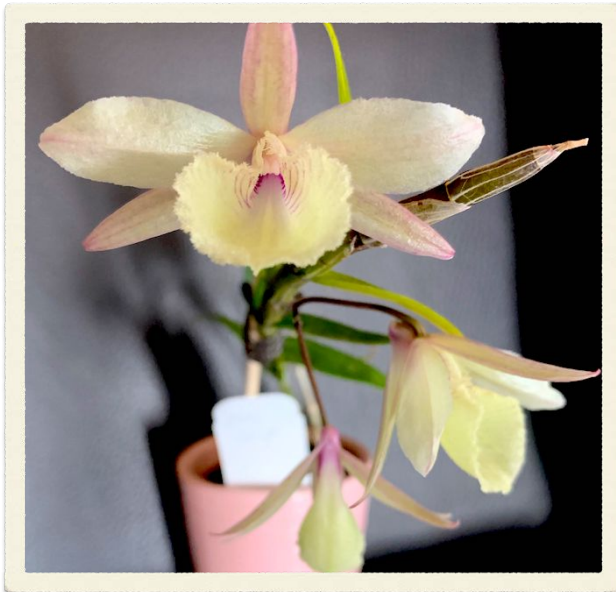
I bought this from Ching Hua in 2017. I also grow this one under T5 lights in the basement and bring it upstairs when it blooms. It usually has three flowers but this time it produced five.



Maxillaria tenuifolia

I bought this from Tracey Thue at the SOS Silent Auction in 2014. I grow it in a north window in my office and it fills the office with that wonderful coconut fragrance every year.

Grown by Sherry Fensom



Dendrobium aphyllum

Sold to me as a small seedling, this plant has a lot of growing to do and I was surprised to see it decide to bloom this spring. I provided it with a cool and dry winter rest for about a month. This bloom has a lovely sweet scent.



Bulbophyllum Wilmar Candy Stripes

I obtained this from our order with Terry's Orchids. It has 2 new growths emerging and has just opened this bloom. So far no scent, but time will tell. I keep it in a bonsai pot and it grows with pseudobulbs close together, which seems to keep it looking tidy.



Cattleya (mantiqirae x cochinea)

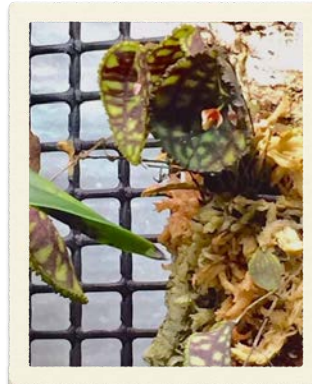
This has a lovely iridescent orange on the petals in the light. It's been in bloom for quite some time, which is always a pleasant treat.

Grown by Tom Kondra



Lepanthes panope

Cool growing. Leaves unravel slowly from long 7" stems. Flowers are successive.



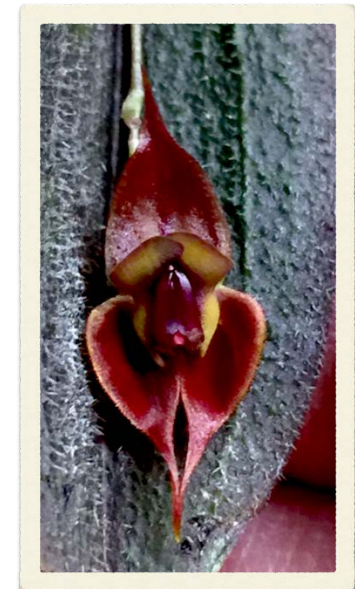
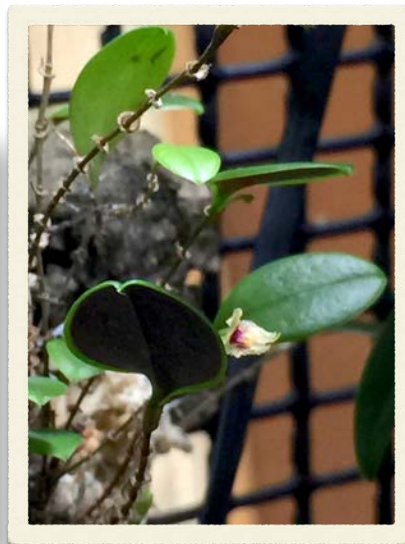
Lepanthes calodictyon

Grown cool. Round, ruffled leaves with spotty pattern. Tiny blooms.



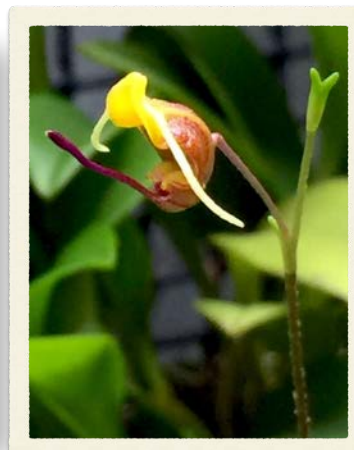
Lepanthes caloura

Mini orchid grown cool.



Lepanthes gargoyla

Grown cool. Fuzzy spear-shaped leaves. Successive bloomer.



Scaphosepalum anchoriferum

Grown cool. Leafy small orchid with many spikes and successive blooms.



Scaphosepalum gibberosum

Grown cool. Tall spikes that grow taller with successive blooms. Great mustachios blooms.



Lepanthes sijmii

Grown warm. 5" stems with broad leaves. Blooms on long inflorescence with multiple blooms.



Dracula janetiae

Grown cool. This is the first bloom of a wave of spikes.



***Porroglossum muscosum*
yellow**

Grown cool. Blooms on a furry spike and successively. Bottom lip will close if brushed lightly.



Pleurothallis eumecocaulon

Grown cool. Placed right beside a fan, the blooms bob continuously without effect from the fan breeze.



Specklinia grobyi

Grown cool for 3 years. Moved to warm conditions and bloomed right after.



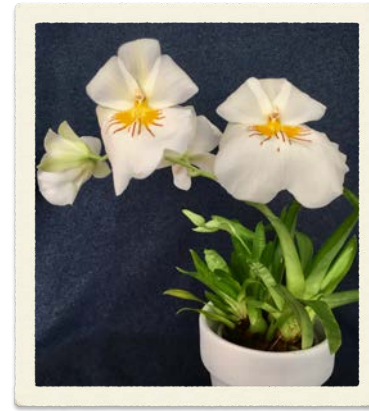
Grown by Lynn Campbell



***Phalaenopsis* Kaleidoscope**

An old faithful but this year it has extra nice huge flowers.

Grown by Jenn Burgess



***Miltoniopsis* Sunglow 'Amazing'**

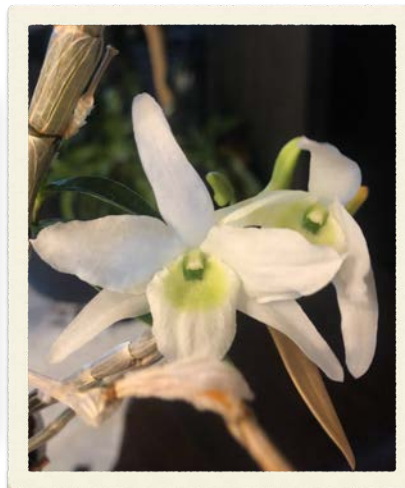
From Forestview pre-pandemic, it had one bloom last winter. It's grown under lights and the 3" flowers do indeed have an amazing fragrance!

Grown by David Schwinghamer



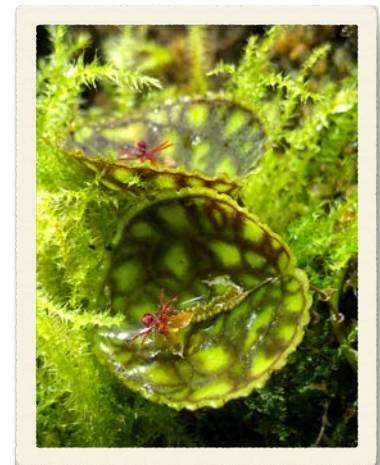
***Dendrobium* Jonathan's
Glory 'Dark Joy'**

Five blooms. From Ecuagenera.



***Dendrobium* Pacific Dawn**

Five blooms. I bought this plant from Tracey Thue last fall and can't say enough good things about her Dendrobium divisions. I gave the plant a winter rest from November to February with regular misting.



***Lepanthes* calodictyon**

Three blooms so far on this 3-leaf plant from Ecuagenera. I'm excited to see how this miniature does.

THE ROOT TIP



Cattleya intermedia

Photo: Luiz Filipe Varella

bluenanta.com

To stoke our anticipation of Francisco Miranda's upcoming presentation, a hauntingly beautiful image from Brazil.