

# NEWSLETTER

*Saskatchewan*



*Orchid Society*

**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 email [info@saskorchids.com](mailto:info@saskorchids.com) to update your contact information.

**Future Meeting Dates:**

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023 Elim Church

Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023 Elim Church

Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023 Elim Church

**SOS Executive**

<b>President:</b>	Tracey Thue
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Shayne Feltis
<b>Past President:</b>	Bob Lucas
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jenn Burgess
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Donna Carlson-O'Keefe
<b>Social:</b>	Shirley Keith Lynn Campbell
<b>Plant Orders:</b>	Heather Anderson David Schwinghamer
<b>Resources:</b>	Don Keith Tom Kondra
<b>Librarian:</b>	Deb Huculiak
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Tracey Thue Tobi Fenton
<b>COC/AOS Rep:</b>	Tom Kondra
<b>Speakers:</b>	Heather Anderson
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Calvin Lo
<b>Facebook:</b>	Calvin Lo
<b>Web Address:</b>	<a href="http://www.saskorchids.com">www.saskorchids.com</a>
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:info@saskorchids.com">info@saskorchids.com</a>
<b>facebook:</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?">https://www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety?</a>
<b>Mail Address:</b>	SOS, Box 411, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3

**September Meeting - Saturday, September 23, 2023 1:30 pm CST**

In-person at [Elim Church](#) (see address on page 2)

Meeting begins promptly at 1:30pm.

Guests are always welcome!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MEETING AGENDA:

**Meeting starts @ 1:30pm**

**Announcements**

**Problem Corner**

If you are bringing a sick plant for advice, please put it in a plastic bag to protect other plants at the meeting!

**Guest Speaker Presentation via Zoom @ 2:00pm**

**Break - 50:50 ticket sales, Resources sales, Library Show and Tell**

Please bring your flowering orchids for the Show & Tell Table. It will be helpful for the photographer if you write your full name and the name of the plant on a piece of paper and put it under the plant pot. During Show & Tell, share with the membership how you grow and flower your plant. Photos will be featured in the October newsletter. Your name will be featured in a Show & Tell Draw made in May, 2024.

**50:50 Draw**

**Adjournment**



### The SOS Newsletter

now available only in digital form by:

**E-mail** - each month;

**Online** - a link will be posted on the SOS website



**SOS Email address for purchases by e-transfer**



Please send all e-transfer purchases to: [payment@saskorchids.com](mailto:payment@saskorchids.com)

Specify in the message section of the e-transfer what the transfer is for (plants, membership, supplies, calendar, etc.).

**Our September 23, 2023 meeting will be held at:**

**Elim Church**

**419 Slimmon Road, Saskatoon, Classrooms 7&8**

*Masking is welcome.*

*Please, if you are experiencing any cold, flu or Covid-19 symptoms (cough, fever, sore throat), please stay home, even if you have tested negative with a rapid test.*

**SOS EMAIL CONTACTS**

Plant orders to: [orders@saskorchids.com](mailto:orders@saskorchids.com)

General requests or queries to: [info@saskorchids.com](mailto:info@saskorchids.com)

**SEPTEMBER GUEST SPEAKER**

**Francisco Miranda, Miranda Orchids**

**Presentation: "Brazilian Orchid Habitats -  
The Amazon"**

Francisco Miranda is a taxonomist, naturalist and orchid grower. He 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 these presentations reflect Francisco's extensive travels to study orchids in their natural environments.

Miranda Orchids is located between Orlando and Tampa, Florida.

Francisco is unable to travel to Saskatoon, so will be presenting his talk via zoom from Florida!

**FUTURE GUEST SPEAKERS**

**Dave Sorokowsky,**

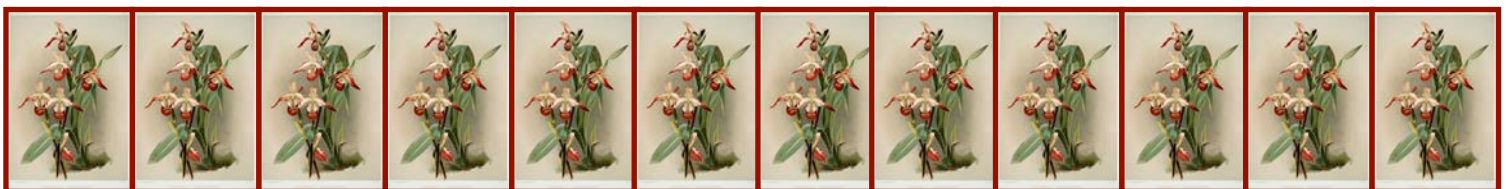
Paph Paradise

October 21, 2023

**Calvin Lo,**

Saskatchewan Orchid Society

November 25, 2023



**Saturday, September 23, 2023 @ 1:30 PM CST**

**The guest speaker presentation will be by Zoom at 2:00 pm CST**

**The meeting will be in-person, with the presentation by Zoom.**

## **RESOURCES**

**Prairie Home and Garden - 425 34 St. East, Saskatoon**  
**(a few doors west of Quebec Ave.)**

Don Keith, SOS Resources, shares the information that the above new store supplies equipment and amendments for gardening, hydroponic and greenhouse growing - fertilizers, nutrients, seeds, and soil amendments. It also carries a wide selection of lighting and circulating fans that may be of interest to the orchid grower with a grow tent or greenhouse.

The owner, Josh, is offering a **10% discount to members of the Saskatchewan Orchid Society**. As well, he is willing to match any published price, which is very appealing with regard to greenhouse and grow tent mechanicals.

**Remember to have your SOS membership card as proof of membership, and check out the new store!**

## **SOS CALENDAR**

### **We want your orchid photos!**

Please submit high quality photos for the 2024 SOS calendar - large dimensions and 300 dpi if possible.

Email them to [sara.thue@icloud.com](mailto:sara.thue@icloud.com)

## **SOS CALENDAR #2**

### **Pre-order your 2024 calendar early!**

The much-anticipated SOS calendar, produced by SOS member Sara Thue, comes out in November in time for Christmas gift-giving. But you can pre-order your copies now.

Deb Huculiak (Librarian) will have a pre-order sheet at the September meeting, so be sure to visit her. She will also have a copy of the 2023 calendar, so if you're new to the society, go have a look - you'll see why they're so popular!

## **EXECUTIVE**

**Are you interested in becoming involved in the Executive but are unsure of the duties or time involved?**

At the September meeting, be brave and approach the member of the executive position you're keen on (see the Executive list on Page 1) and ask about shadowing them for a while.

Learn about the position by helping, then consider standing for that position next year. New energy and ideas are always welcome!

**Reminder: 2023 Executive Election will be held at the November meeting.**

## **SOCIAL**

Are you renowned in your family for your cookies? Do you have a cake recipe you want to try out? Here's your chance: sign up to bring treats to a future meeting. See Shirley and Lynn at the Social Table where they will have a signup sheet.



Monica De Wit, AOS Judge, invites you to

### **AN OUTREACH ORCHID JUDGING**

Greetings Orchid Lovers! I'd like to invite you (and your prized orchids) to an "outreach orchid judging" in conjunction with the 10-week event at the Muttart Conservatory, called **"Orchids Through Time"**

A number of years ago, the American Orchid Society started the opportunity of "outreach judging" to be "practical and educational." Practical, because it is not linked together with an orchid show (you leave your plants with us for hours, not days); and educational, because you can observe the judges and students in action (which doesn't happen at shows).

The judging will take place on **Saturday, September 30** at the **Muttart Conservatory, Edmonton, Alberta**

I am working with the Muttart staff to be able to provide a ticket for those with plants, but it may be necessary to pay regular admission.

Of course you can just come to observe, but we would love for you to bring your blooming orchids. Your plants should be groomed to remove dead leaves and/or leaf tips. Clean the leaves of hard water spots and any stray pests. If your plant is heavily infested, please do not bring it (happens to the best of us).

I will be accepting your plants between 10:00 and 10:45 a.m. in one of the three classrooms adjacent to the centre court beyond the admission booth. Look for signs. I will ask for your cell phone number as well. Many of the plants will stay with us until 3:30-3:45 p.m. but if you absolutely need your plants back before that time, please let me know. But count on them staying until at least 2:00 p.m. I can text you if your plant is being discussed if you would like to observe during that time only.

Awarded plants/flowers will also be measured, "described" and photographed. If you are not aware, there is also a fee to process the award. I will need to find the current fee (in USD) but you may also find that information on the AOS website. (Members pay less: hint, hint.)

I hope to offer these "outreach judgments" much more often in the coming years. If all goes according to plan, by next year we will have all the necessary judging accreditation within Alberta to host more of these events at different times of the year. We can come to you as well! (I'm thinking of the folks in Saskatchewan and Calgary.)

Feel free to message me at [monicadwt@gmail.com](mailto:monicadwt@gmail.com) with any questions.

Come, enjoy "Orchids Through Time" and visit with a number of out-of-town orchid judges and hopefully we'll see many fall-blooming orchids that we don't often see.

We'd love to welcome you.

Monica De Wit





## Obituary for David Nixon

Charles David Clive Nixon, affectionately known to all as “just Dave,” passed away peacefully in Edmonton, Alberta on August 20, 2023, at the age of 68 years.

Dave was born in Warrington, England on November 3, 1954 to Eric and Irene Nixon. He grew up and attended school there, where he showed a love for learning, particularly chemistry. He attended the University of Birmingham, where he earned a degree in chemical engineering. Always the adventurer, Dave immigrated to Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada in 1981, to pursue a successful career in the oil and gas sector with Syncrude Canada Limited, becoming a highly respected project manager.

In addition to his work, Dave was a beloved father to his daughter Charlotte and his son Phillip, filling their childhood with bike rides, tree forts, and bedtime stories. While in Fort McMurray, Dave’s love of genealogy grew, particularly his one name study on the Ismay family. While being a member of the Fort McMurray Genealogical Society, he met his future wife. In 2008, Dave married Lois LeVesconte in Edmonton, Alberta. Dave lived in Edmonton for many years enjoying a wonderful backyard garden, going to the symphony, attending the annual Edmonton Fringe and becoming the president of the Orchid Species Preservation Foundation (OSPF). In retirement and with Lois by his side, Dave became a globetrotter with trips to Great Britain, the United States, Dominican Republic, and Ecuador. Dave always put family first and loved spending time camping, playing board games, and laughing by a fire. Dave thrived in the role of teacher and mentor and spent much of his time sharing his knowledge of orchids with school children, tour groups, and orchid enthusiasts.

Dave’s memory will be cherished by his wife, Lois LeVesconte; children Charlotte Nixon (Adam Mailman) and Phillip (Contessa) Nixon; stepdaughter Anne MacGougan; sister Heather (Kevin) Ralphs; niece and nephew Emma (Mike) Crarer and Matthew (Alexis) Ralphs; grandchildren Aiden, Emery, and Addison. Dave is survived by his mother-in-law Norma; sister-in-law Claire (Murray) Gibney; and his brother-in-law Alan (Liliana) LeVesconte. Finally, Dave will be fondly remembered by his Canadian family of nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, life-long friends, and all those deeply touched by his generous and kind spirit.

A Celebration of Dave’s life was held Thursday, August 31, 2023 at 1:30 pm at Park Memorial Reception Centre, 11015 - 101 Street NW, Edmonton.

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## MAY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** May 27, 2023 1:30 p.m. CST

**LOCATION:** Lawson Heights Civic Centre

Vice-President Shayne Feltis welcomed everyone to the meeting - we are celebrating the Society's 40th Anniversary today.

**SHOW AND TELL:**

Pat Randall

*Cattleya* Milton Warne 'Premiere' AM/ AOS - from the Orchid Species Preservation Foundation; blooms every year.

*Cattleya purpurata* var. *schusteriana* (4N) - a tetraploid plant from Orchids Limited; formerly known as *Laelia purpurata*.

Irene S.

*Vanda* Hibrida Pachara Delight - with purple flowers

Heather Anderson

*Phragmipedium dominianum* 'BobMac'

*Bulbophyllum falcatum* - grown mounted in her orchidarium.

*Dendrobium yuliana* - from Andy's Orchids, grown mounted in her orchidarium and misted daily.

*Dendrobium* Aussie's Hi-Lo - from Ecuagenera.

Cody Hamilton

*Phalaenopsis javanica* - fragrant flowers (scent described by Cody as similar to burnt plastic); grown under lights in a greenhouse.

*Laeliocattleya* Tokyo Magic '6-1' AM/ AOS x *Brassolaeliocattleya* Carolina Golden D'Or 'Lenette #2' AM/ AOS - acquired from Sunset Valley Orchids.

*Phalaenopsis* Jiaho Blueberry x *Phalaenopsis violacea* var. *indigo*

*Phalaenopsis violacea* var. *indigo* (x sib)

Calvin Lo

*Dracula chimera* - large dark flower with coarse hairs; a cool grower.

*Dracula sodiroi* - orange flowers; grown in intermediate conditions. From Ecuagenera.

David Schwinghamer

*Dendrobium bracteosum* - long-blooming pink flowers.

Bob Lucas

*Phragmipedium humboldtii* 'Fortuna' - a long-sepalled flower. The plant has undergone many name changes.

*Phragmipedium* Andean Fire (*Phrag. besseae* x *lindleyanum*)

*Phalaenopsis* Tyng Shin Blue Jay

*Phalaenopsis* Memoria Vivian Orban x *Phal.* Katherine Norton - a cross made by Bob.

*Paphiopedilum delenatii* 'Hsin-Ming' SM/TPS x *Paph. bellatulum* '2006' BM/TPS - has mottled leaves.

Shayne Feltis

*Miltonia phalaenopsis* - lilac-scented flowers; grown on countertop and watered every three days. From Ecuagenera.

*Psychopsis* - shown as a "cautionary tale" to a change in culture: the plant had mostly dried up, which coincided with being repotted.

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

### MEMORIAL PRESENTATIONS BY BOB AND HEATHER

- **Sherida Gregoire** made many contributions to the Society and had many roles on the executive. She received a Canadian Orchid Congress award to recognize these contributions. Sherida attended many shows and, in her retirement, brought discarded orchids from Safeway for SOS draws. After her passing in March, 2021, Sherida's orchid collection was donated to the SOS and their sale raised money for the Society. The Show and Tell prize is named in her memory.
- **Mercedes Montgomery** was a retired nurse and an SOS member for many years. She passed away in January, 2023.
- **Doreen Learmonth** passed away in March, 2023. She grew orchids in her basement under lights. Years ago, she sold Paphs to Dutch Growers. Her husband, Bob, a retired CPA, was also an SOS member and used to do a financial review for the SOS. Bob died in 2021.
- **Sarah Nykiforuk** passed away in September, 2021. She was very outgoing and part of the SOS's social committee. She was a member for many years. Sarah had made a donation to the Society that started the Wilma Nykiforuk award for best show table plant, in memory of her sister.

**50/50 DRAW:** 5/\$5. Total ticket sales: \$50. Winner: Mary O.; she donated her \$25 winnings back to the SOS.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS:** Single for \$25; family for \$30.

**RESOURCES:** Nothing to report, but Tom Kondra brought a Masdevallia seedpod to show everyone, and he hopes to have the seeds flaked.

### PROBLEM CORNER:

A Brassiocydium has outgrown its pot - should it be repotted and, if so, how?

It could be divided, soaked and repotted. You could take off and repot the newer growths and either discard or replant the back bulbs if there is a chance of new growth from them. Calvin suggested a division point on the plant.

### LIBRARY:

Deb Huculiak announced that there are items available to be borrowed.

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE:

Shirley Keith announced that treats will be restarted at meetings in September. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the room. And there is cake and refreshments today to celebrate the SOS's 40th Anniversary.

**BREAK** for cake and refreshments.

### PRESENTATIONS:

**Bob Lucas** presented and explained his potting and culture methods. For his Phalaenopsis he now uses Promix HP (high porosity) over a base of foam packing peanuts. For his Paphiopedilums, he uses Orchita mixed with perlite, which lasts 2-3 years. He pots his Phragmipediums in 750 mL clear plastic containers with holes poked one inch above the bottom. The bottom two inches of the pot is filled with rocks and topped with a mix of coir (coconut fibre) and coarse perlite.

Water quality: the pH of Saskatoon's water is 8 to 9 and should ideally be between 6 and 7. Bob uses MSU mixed with magnesium nitrate, and adds liquid silica (potassium silicate: 1 tsp./18 litres), which gives a nice sheen to the leaves. He also sometimes adds kelp. The Paphs are fertilized at half the strength of the Phals.



## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Light: For Phrags, Bob has 400 watt sodium lights. His other plants are under T5s.

Questions: What causes brown tips? It can be due to over fertilization in older leaves. He is unsure of the cause in new growth.

For Phrags, is there value in maintaining/keeping older pseudobulbs? Bob will keep them to grow a specimen plant, but older fans may not produce new growths. Newer fans should be bigger on a healthy plant.

Calvin Lo talked about fungal issues with a plant that he brought to show. An *Aeranthes grandiflora* had always had brown spots but they spread, which coincided with a spider mite infestation. He identified it as a fungal infection, which can be slower spreading and more difficult to treat. Bacterial rot, on the other hand, can cause the plant to turn black and mushy quite quickly. Calvin has tried alcohol on the leaves to potentially slow down the spread but found that a systemic fungicide (Bioadvanced Disease Control for Roses, Flowers & Shrubs) effectively stopped the spread of the fungus. All new growth is now disease-free. Calvin was unable to source a systemic fungicide in Canada, so had to purchase it online from the US.

### PLANT SALES:

Throughout the meeting, Donna Carlson-O'Keefe took numbers to be drawn for the sales table. For sale were approximately a dozen plants, fluorescent and LED lights and ballasts, and two glass terrariums.

ADJOURNMENT: 3:20 pm



## Bringing in the Orchids.....Not the Bugs

If your orchids have been on summer vacation outside then with night time temperatures dropping, now is the time for the orchids to come back inside. It's wise to assume they've picked up some insect or fungus passengers over the summer and to perform a cleansing dip before returning the plants to the house. Here are some recipes to help.

### **Plant Dip Recipe** (from James Sather, past SOS member)

Add the following to a 5-gallon pail (20L) and mix well:

15-18L warm water

3 x 375mL 3% hydrogen peroxide

3 x 375mL 70% isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol)

1/4 cup Neem oil

1/4 cup Sunlight dish soap

Immerse plant in the solution, wash by hand any leaves sticking out; let soak 5-10 minutes. Drain. Let dry and take the plant inside.

### **Spider Mite Spray** (Bob's recipe from Horst Bohne)

1L water

1/2 tsp. Neem oil

25mL horticultural oil

A touch of antibacterial soap

Spray both sides of the leaves and let dry.

### **Spider Mite Spray** (from Ingrid Schmidt-Ostrander)

1/4 cup baking soda

1/2 cup apple cider vinegar

1 TB lemon juice

2 drops dish soap

1/4 tsp. Epsom salts

Dissolve the Epsom salts in 1 cup of very hot water. Put the rest of the ingredients in a 2L bottle. Add Epsom salt solution to the bottle and fill to the top with water. Shake well.

Cover the growing medium with plastic, turn off the lights, and mist the plant all over. Wait 20 minutes, spray with water to rinse off the solution and the dissolved remains of spider mites and eggs.

**AOS Western Canada Judging Centre - May 13, 2023 Judging Results**

**Judges:** Abu Salleh, Deborah Ward, Poul Hansen, Paul Paludet (associate)

**Photographer:** Alexey Tretyakov

(All awards are considered provisional until paperwork and payment is processed by AOS and published in OrchidPro.)



*Chiloschista parishii* 'Monika Yvonne' CCM/AOS 86pts  
Exhibitor: Eugene Banziger

*Chiloschista parishii* 'Monika Yvonne' AM/AOS 82pts  
Exhibitor: Eugene Banziger



*Phragmipedium* Zapatilla de la Virgen 'Vivienne' CCE/AOS 90pts  
Exhibitor: Eugene Banziger

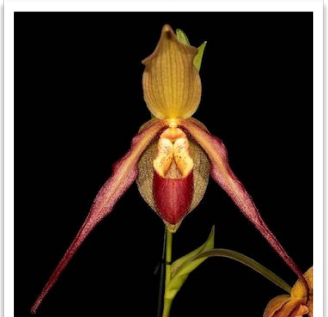
*Phragmipedium* Zapatilla de la Virgen 'Vivienne' AM/AOS 83pts  
Exhibitor: Eugene Banziger



*Phragmipedium wallisii* 'Trevor Michael' AM/AOS 83pts  
Exhibitor: Eugene Banziger  
(Award provisional pending species identification)



*Phragmipedium* Ashley Wilkes 'Gordon Rowles Skipper' HCC/AOS 78pts  
Exhibitor: Diana Rowles



*Phragmipedium* Senanus 'Konglin' AM/AOS 80pts  
Exhibitor: Joe Chow



## AOS Western Canada Judging Centre - Foothills Orchid Society Show Judging Results

**June 3, 2023**

**Judges:** Monica De Wit, David Edgley, Ben Rostron, Abu Salleh, Jennifer Atkins (student), Ellie van der Hoven (student), Hendrik van der Hoven (student)

**Photographer:** Doug Savage

(All awards are considered provisional until paperwork and payment is processed by AOS and published in OrchidPro.)



**AOS Show Trophy 'What We Do For Fun' ST/AOS 81pts**

Exhibitor: Orchid Society of Alberta



***Phragmipedium* Diana Salazar 'Audrey II' AM/AOS 81pts**

Exhibitor: Dustin Miller



***Cypripedium* Emil 'Bright Eyes' HCC/AOS 78pts**

Exhibitor: Gay Graham

***Cypripedium* Emil 'Bright Eyes' CCM/AOS 81pts**

Exhibitor: Gay Graham



MAY SHOW AND TELL

Photographs by  
Calvin Lo



*Phalaenopsis Jiaho Blueberry*  
*x violacea var. indigo*  
Cody Hamilton



*Phalaenopsis violacea var. indigo*  
Cody Hamilton



*Laelia regentii*  
Calvin Lo



*Dracula sodiroi*  
Don Keith



*Dracula chimaera*  
Don Keith



*Barkeria spectabilis*  
Calvin Lo

*Dendrobium bracteosum*  
David Schwinghamer



*Laelia purpurata var.*  
*schusteriana*  
Pat Randall





*Miltonia phalaenopsis* 'John Leathers'

Shayne Feltis



*Bulbophyllum falcatum*

Heather Anderson



*Phragmipedium Dominianum* 'Bob Mac'

Heather Anderson



*Dendrobium yulianae*

Heather Anderson



*Dendrobium Aussie's Hi-Lo*

Heather Anderson



*Phalaenopsis javanica*

Cody Hamilton



*Laeliocattleya Tokyo Magic* x  
*Brassolaeliocattleya Carolina Golden D'Or* 'Lenette'

Cody Hamilton





*Phragmipedium Andean Fire*  
Bob Lucas



*Phalaenopsis Tying Shin Blue Jay*  
Bob Lucas



*Phragmipedium humboldtii 'Fortuna'*  
Bob Lucas



*Paphiopedilum Vanda M Pearman*  
(*Paph delenatii 'Hsin Ming' x bellatulum*)  
Bob Lucas

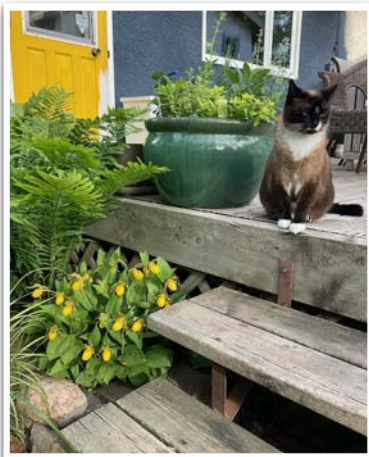


*Cattleya Milton Warne 'Premier'*  
Pat Randall

*Phalaenopsis Memoria Mary Anne Jones*  
Bob Lucas



## SUMMER PHOTOS FROM MEMBERS



Photographs by the growers

**Jessamy Foulds**

*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*

My husband rescued these from a ditch excavation many years ago and they've been happily growing and blooming in our garden ever since.



**Pat Randall**



*Cattleya* (Caudebec x Seagulls Royal Suit)



*Cattleya* (Jungle Elf x Caudebec)



*Brassocatanthe* Empress Worsley  
'Roman Holiday'



*Cattleya* Pannemaeckeriana



*Brassocatanthe* Little Mermaid 'Janet'



*Cattleya* Gaudii var. *coerulea*





*Rhyncholaeliocattleya*  
Ports of Paradise 'Emerald Isle'



Pat Randall

*Rhyncattleanthe*  
Rebecca's Delight 'Moonglow'



*Cypripedium parviflorum*  
var. *parviflorum*



*Cypripedium Anna*

Bob Lucas  
Photos by Sara Thue

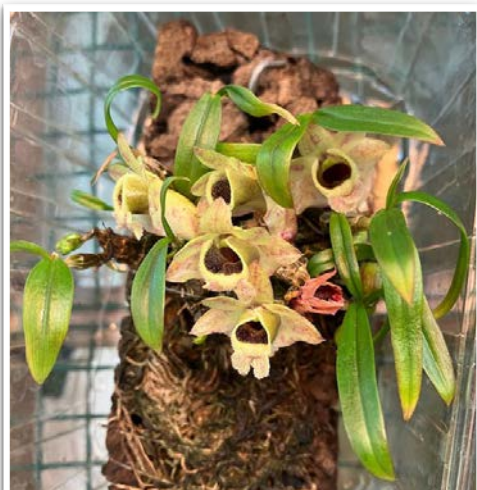


*Phragmipedium Suzanne Decker*  
(*Phrag. kovachii* x *Cape Sunset*)



*Phragmipedium April Fool 'Carly'*  
(*Phrag. Cardinale* x *besseae*)

Tracey Thue



*Dendrobium hekouense*



*Coelogyne merrillii*



*Paphiopedilum tigrinum*



*Phragmipedium Full Sail 'Prairie Wind'* AM/AOS



*Dendrobium Ise 'Pearl'* HCC/AOS



# THE ROOT ZONE

## **The Magical Metamorphosis of *Stanhopea jenischiana***

Grown by Tracey Thue

Photographed by Tracey Thue and Sara Thue





