

October 2018

<http://www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org>



### From the President

First, I want to thank everyone for volunteering for all the committees for our spring 2019 show. Shows are a team effort and with everyone pitching in, it helps everything go much smoother. I am very excited about the team we have in place for our show!

Speaking of shows... The Calcasieu OS show in Lake Charles will be on Oct. 26-28. This is one of the best shows in the state with lots of vendors to peruse. The CLOS will be putting in a society floor exhibit and will need many plants to fill it. Please let Al know if you will have anything in bloom to enter in our exhibit.

Our program this month will be a SWROGA program on Tolumnia culture. The program was created by Anita Aldrich who is an authority on Tolumnias. These are one of my favorite orchids and they are a small compact plant, making them easy to fit and grow in any growing space.

Enjoy the cooler fall weather and see everyone soon!

Eron



**Meeting Time & Place**  
**Sunday, October 21, 2018**  
**Plant Entry 2:00 pm**  
**Meeting time 2:30 pm**

**St. James Episcopal**  
**Youth Building**  
**1546 Albert Street,**  
**Alexandria, LA**

**Refreshments-Judy and**  
**Richard Smith**

#### **Central Louisiana Orchid Society Officers**

**President –Eron Borne**  
**Vice President – Wilton**  
**Guillory**  
**Secretary –Janice Upton**  
**Treasurer – Jim Barnett**  
**Director-Linda Roberts**  
**Director –Al Taylor**  
**Director- Andrea Mattison**  
**SWROGA Directors: Linda R**  
**AOS Representative –Wilton**  
**ODC Representative – Andrea**  
**Mattison**

**Newsletter Editor – Connie**  
**Guillory**  
**Show& Tell –Rick Allardyce**

## September 2018 Show and Tell

### **Cattleyas**

- 1st- Lc. CG Roebling 'Blue Indigo' - Eron
- 2nd - Blc. Owen Holmes 'Newberry' AM/AOS - Eron
- 3rd - Bc. Binosa - Andrea

### **Others**

- 1st - Aergs. ellisii - Eron (Also BEST GROWN)
- 2nd - Aerth. Hsinying Ramosa 'Elizabeth Grace' AM/AOS - Eron
- 3rd(tie) - Den. Enobi Purple 'NN' - Pam
- 3rd(tie) - Mtssa. Dark Star - Andrea



Bc. Binosa – Andrea Mattison



Mtssa. Dark Star – Andrea Mattison



Blc. Owen Holmes 'Newberry' AM/AOS – Eron Borne





Lc. CG Roebling 'Blue Indigo' – Eron Borne



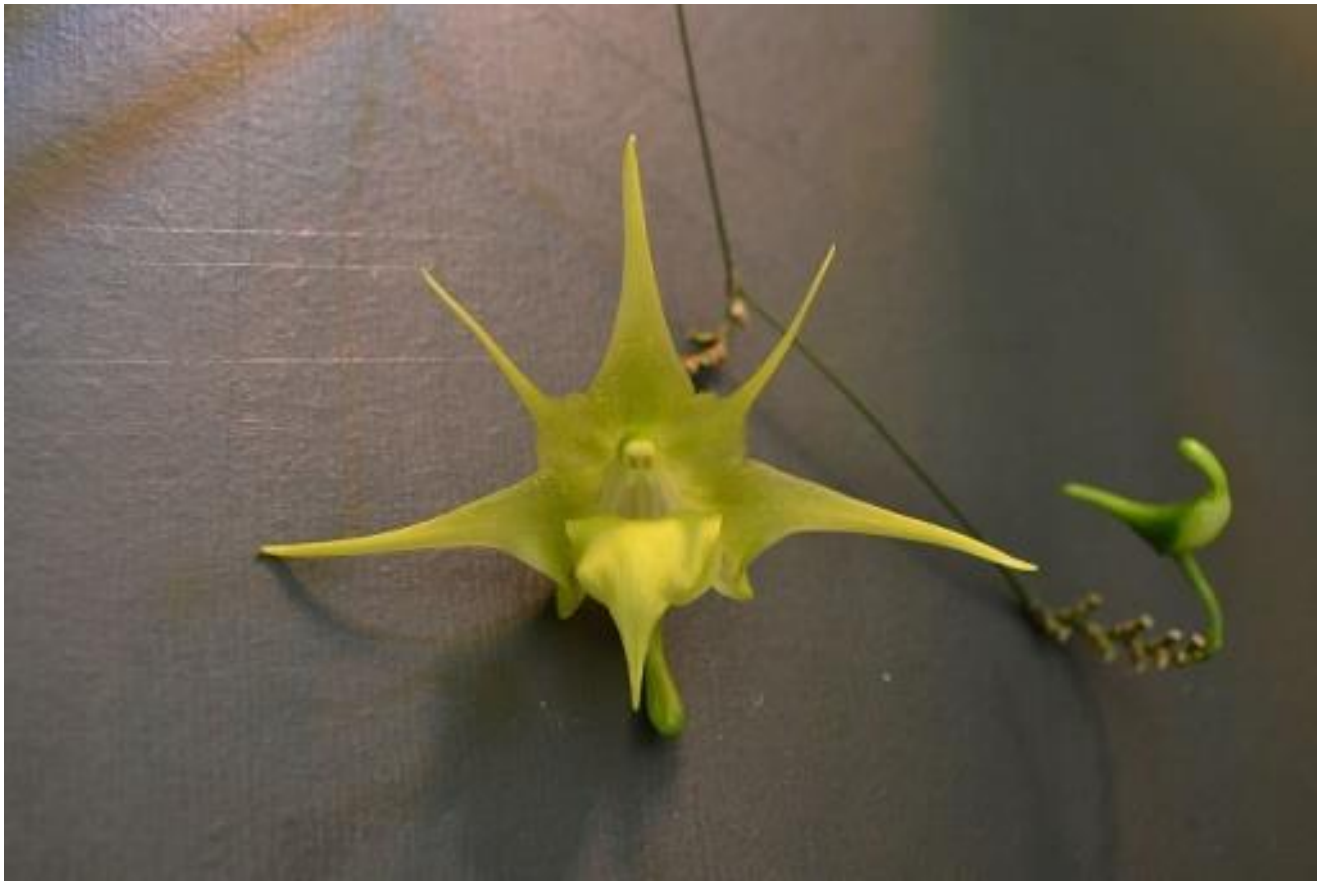
Den. Enobi Purple 'NN' – Pam Primeaux



Aergs. ellisii - Eron Borne  
Best Grown and first place in Others



Aergs. ellisii - Eron Borne



Aerth. Hsinying Ramosa 'Elizabeth Grace' AM/AOS – Eron Borne

## October Program

### Culturing Equitant Oncidiums (Tolumnias)

A SWROGA program by Anita Aldrich

**Presented By: Andrea Mattison**

The group of orchids now called *Tolumnia* were at one time called *Oncidium* section *Variegata*, or commonly referred to as "equitant oncidiums". The foliage seldom exceeds 6 to 8 inches in height, and a 4-inch pot can house a "specimen" plant. These are great compact plants that are easy to grow for any beginner. These plants can often bloom more than once a year. Larger specimen plants or large collections of Equitants can provide some blooms most of the year round. Equitants come in many shades of colors and have flowers that can be solid in color, spotted or barred. In this program, Anita Aldrich covers all the important aspects of culture to help growers succeed in growing and blooming Tolumnias.

## Central Louisiana Orchid Society Minutes

September 16, 2018

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Eron at 2:30 P.M.

2. **Approval of Minutes** – Approval of minutes – stand as corrected.

3. **Officers' Reports** –

President's Report: Eron stated that the Shreveport orchid show will be Friday and Saturday. Allen Koch will be the speaker. He is from Gold Country Orchids. He will be presenting on genus Paphs and mini cattleyas.

Vice-President's report: Wilton not present.

Treasurer's report: Jim stated that we spent \$100 and deposited \$45.

4. **Old Business** – October 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> will be the Calcasieu orchid show. Wilton, Connie and Al will set up. Karen, Walter and Linda agreed to take down the display.

5. **New Business** – Show committee chairs were set up as follows:

Show chair- Linda. Eron will co-chair. He'll give Linda packet on inviting other societies to participate. Jim and Andrea will help her here as needed. Linda will talk to Pat Duval about helping sell plants at show.

Classification and Entries – Connie and Doris. Connie has it saved. Doris helped put labels on. Karen Armstrong also helped. Laurel works at JoAnn's and can help get ribbons.

Exhibit Setup - Al and Wilton

Awards- Jim. Jim still has trophies. May need to order for special awards.

Hospitality and Judges' Dinner – Pam, Karen and Walter. Last show judges' dinner was potluck. We'll do that again.

Publicity – Laurel and Janice. We need to order another banner. Maybe put on MacArthur Drive. Janice will check and see if banner is still saved on the Office Depot website. Connie found signs from previous show. Andrea can redo them for this show.

Information table- Andrea. Andrea has information material from last show.

Eron will do chief clerk position.

Any of us can enter an orchid. It should be in show condition and named to be eligible for ribbon/award. Unnamed orchids can be used as fillers.

6. **Presentation** – Eron presented a program by Frank Zachariah, "Judging Cattleyas – from the Perspective of a New Student".

7. **Meeting adjourned after the presentation.**

Submitted by Janice Upton



## Upcoming Orchid Events

### Taken from SWROGA.org

Date/Time	Event
10/26/2018 - 10/28/2018	<a href="#"><u>Pirate's Chest Of Orchids Calcasieu Orchid Society Fall 2018 Show</u></a> <i>Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Lake Charles Louisiana</i>
11/03/2018 - 11/04/2018	<a href="#"><u>Kansas Orchid Society Fall Show</u></a> <i>Botanica The Wichita Gardens, Wichita Kansas</i>
04/20/2019 - 04/21/2019	<a href="#"><u>Tulsa Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale</u></a> <i>The Tulsa Garden Center, Tulsa OK</i>
05/04/2019 - 05/05/2019	<a href="#"><u>Oklahoma Orchid Society Show and Sale</u></a> <i>Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Center, Oklahoma City OK</i>
09/13/2019 - 09/15/2019	<a href="#"><u>Galveston Bay Orchids Society SWROGA Show</u></a> <i>HILTON HOUSTON NASA CLEAR LAKE, Houston Texas</i>
CALENDAR	

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## Other Orchid Sites

The American Orchid Society

The Terrebonne Orchid Society

SWROGA (Southwest Regional Orchid Growers' Association)

The Houston Orchid Society

The Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia

Orchid Species Photographs by Eric Hunt

The Baton Rouge Orchid Society





# Let's Grow Together!



www.aos.org



**THE OCTOBER 2018 AOS CORNER**— From the desk of Denise Lucero, Vice Chair, American Orchid Society Affiliated Societies Committee (Affiliated\_Societies@AOS.org).

For newsletter editors: *Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner, in whole or in part, in their society newsletters. We encourage promotion of AOS website use by your members.*

## **AFFILIATED SOCIETIES**

We're excited that October, along with the AOS Fall 2018 Member's Meeting, is finally here. We hope you've already registered and that we'll see you in Apopka, Florida. We want to invite everyone to join us at the Affiliated Societies Committee Meeting, which will be on Thursday morning, 9:00 a.m., at Highland Manor. Come and check us out and let us hear the voice of your local society. Remember, there's a BBQ at Krull-Smith Nursery on Saturday evening and that orchid friends are the best! It's sure to be a great night. Also, if you plan to participate in judging, you'll find a separate registration tab that you need to complete to be included. We're looking forward to seeing you.

Online registration is at: <https://aosmembersmeeting.com/>

In the October issue of ORCHIDS, AOS President Susan Wedegaertner's message will tell you all about the Special Funding Committee. The Committee is chaired by Marian Sheehan, along with Aileen Garrison, John Ingram, Alan Koch, and Jennifer Reinoso. If you're attending the Fall Meeting, you're sure to cross paths with them all. Together they do an expert job of coordinating and maximizing AOS's fundraising efforts. Due to the talents and generosity of our wonderful donors, you're sure to find incredible plants and unique orchid related items offered at the Member's Meeting Auction and Raffle. It's always fun, so make plans to carry something special home in support of the AOS.

Last month we reminded you to send your request for AOS Certificates of Appreciation for members of your local society. You can just drop an email to TheAOS@AOS.org with the request and recipient names.

We also want to make you aware of an often overlooked AOS award that can be given in acknowledgement of an individual society's activities and for their noteworthy contribution in furthering the goals of the AOS. This award is the *American Orchid Society Distinguished Affiliated Societies Service Award* (DASSA). It recognizes the value of a society's efforts to enhance the AOS mission to promote and support the passion for orchids through education, conservation, and research. If you're aware of a society that you feel should be recognized for their service please submit them for consideration. You can find the nomination form on AOS.org, listed near the bottom of the Affiliated Societies page under "Additional Information" DASSA Award.

Here's the Link: [http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/DASSA\\_Nomination\\_Form.pdf](http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/DASSA_Nomination_Form.pdf)

**Call for Nominations!**

We are seeking nominations for members of the Board of Trustees of the American Orchid Society. Nominations close October 15, 2018. Visit the AOS website for more information including where to submit nominations.

Check out AOS.org/Kids' Corner/Make Your Own Bookmarks for Kid's activities and ideas for making a Kids' Corner of your own at your next orchid show. All it takes is some crafty people, some loving volunteers and a table. The activities can all be created easily. See other articles for instructions on how to create the activities we've tested out or make up your own great activities. Please share your ideas and experiences with the Education Committee at [sstubbings@comcast.net](mailto:sstubbings@comcast.net).

Thanks for all the pics that you are sending in for the Instagram feed. The feed just gets better and better. Personally, I'm loving all the AOS award pics! We have some amazing growers out there! Our Instagram Administrator, Candace Hollinger, sends her appreciation to you all. It's wonderful to see such a variety of everything orchid that's enjoyed around the globe. Please remind your members that we would love pics of how they grow, what's blooming now or anything they love about orchids. Please continue to send your photos and short videos to: [americanorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:americanorchidsociety@gmail.com). Be sure to send a short caption explaining your photo. Also, if you are bilingual and can include your caption in English plus your other language(s)—it will help with our universal outreach.

Remember to check-in on our Facebook Group Page for Affiliated Societies of the American Orchid Society. We've recently updated the posting rules for the page, so take a look at the "Announcements" at the top of the feed. We always help each other by sharing so we've expanded and now allow Show

Posters to be shared. Let us know how your show went and what was successful for you or what didn't quite make the mark. Our administrator, Chad Brinkerhuff, monitors the feed and is a great resource for all that the AOS has to offer. Keep us up to date on what's going on at your local society and let us know how we can help you.

Also, remember we have an updated List of Speakers to help you plan society meeting programs. You will now find the Affiliated Societies link on the home page under the "About Us" heading.

And... Here's a link to check it all out - <http://www.aos.org/>

**CULTURAL SPOTLIGHT**

Questions and Answers, by *Sandra Tillisch Svoboda*

Originally printed in **ORCHIDS**, October 2013 Issue

**BRINGING PLANTS BACK INDOORS QUESTION:**

My plants are summered out-of-doors on a balcony against a wall. Fall is coming and I have to decide what to bring in and when. I thought I'd leave the phalaenopsis, coelogynes, lycastes, bifrenarias, Oncidium Alliance plants, dendrobiums and my miltonias out, especially the phalaenopsis because I understand they need cooler temperatures to induce flowering, but bring in my paphiopedilums and catasetums now. Your comments would relieve my mind. Thank you. — Anonymous.

**ANSWER:**

Your decision as to when to bring in will depend on the weather forecast and the temperature tolerances of your plants. I have listed below the temperature recommendations for the different genera you are growing. This should help you plan your move inside.

**CATASETUM** Most of these orchids are native to hot tropical areas and grow during the rainy summer months. During this growing period, day temperatures of 80–100 F (27–38 C) and night temperatures of 60–65 F (16–18 C) are beneficial. After growths mature, temperatures can be reduced to 55 F (13 C) at night, with day temperatures of 70–85 F (21–29 C).

**PHALAENOPSIS** These should usually be above 60 F (16 C) at night and range between 75–85 F (24–29 C) or more during the day. Although higher temperatures force faster vegetative growth, higher humidity and air movement must accompany higher temperatures, the recommended maximum being 90–95 F (32– 35 C). Night temperatures to 55 F (13 C) are desirable for several weeks in the autumn to initiate flower spikes. Fluctuating temperatures can cause bud drop on plants with buds ready to open. This is especially true when the buds are about the size of a pea and is the leading cause of bud drop at that stage.

**PAPHIOPEDILUM** Paphiopedilums generally enjoy the same temperatures that we do in the home; ideally, 60–65 F (16–18 C) at night and 75–85 F (24–29 C) during the day. Paphiopedilums can be grown outside in mild climates and can stand temperatures up to the high 90's F (35–37 C) and down into the 40's F (5–9 C) for short periods. In fact, many of those that produce multiple flowers per spike actually need short periods at cooler temperatures in order to flower.

**COELOGYNE** This is a diverse group of plants with many different requirements depending on where the species grow. You first need to determine whether the plants you have are cool, Intermediate or warm growing. Those that produce single flowers in succession (Coelogyne Bird in Flight is a good example) are typically warm growers as are those that produce large numbers of green flowers (*Coelogyne pandurata* for instance). Many of the white flowered species and their hybrids, especially the larger flowered whites like Coelogyne Memoria W. Micholitz are generally cool growing.

**LYCASTE** In an article in Orchid Digest, Steve Gettel says to grow these orchids warm while actively growing: 60– 85 F (16–29 C). This author grows Lycaste Brugensis (*longipetala* × *skinneri*) warm (minimum night temperature of 65 F [18 C]), on the advice of Henry Oakeley (personal communication), but all others are in the cool house during autumn and winter, where they receive a minimum night temperature of 48 F (9 C).

**BIFRENARIA** These are intermediate to warm growing plants and should generally be kept about 60 F (16 C) at night.

**ONCIDIUM** Temperatures for this group are generally considered intermediate to warm: 55–65 F (13–18 C) at night and 80–85 F (27–29 C) during the day. Temperatures up into the high 90's to 100 F (35–38 C) are tolerated for short periods if humidity and air movement are increased as the temperatures rise; a good general rule in any case. The exceptions to this temperature regime are those plants formerly included in *Odontoglossum* and their intergeneric hybrids. These plants are usually recognizable by their bright white or red, solid or patterned flowers. These are distinctly cool growing plants and intolerant for all but the briefest periods of high temperatures. For these plants day/night temperatures should be 70/55–50/55 F (21–24/10–13 C).

**DENDROBIUM** This is another very large, widespread cosmopolitan genus and to grow them well you need to determine to which group your particular plants belong. You can find a good summary describing the cultural requirements of the main groups here:<http://www.aos.org/orchids/culture-sheets/dendrobium.aspx>.

**MILTONIA** There are two distinctly different genera that are commonly referred to as miltonias. Those with star- or spider-shaped flowers are intermediate to warm growing and should be treated like the other similar plants in the Oncidium Alliance. The other genus, properly called *Milioniopsis*, has flowers reminiscent of pansies and gives them their common name pansy orchids. While milioniopsis certainly will not tolerate the extremes of temperature that a cattleya or vanda might, they by no means require - or like the almost frosty treatment in which most "odonts" delight. Night temperature is not a critical factor in our experience, as we have grown our milioniopsis with both paphs (55–58 F [13–14 C] nights) and phalaenopsis (65–68 F [18–20 C] nights) with good success. Night temperature should be kept at or below the high range, however, for best growth. *Milioniopsis* will tolerate down to 50 F (10 C) at night if kept on the dry side (but not bone dry). Young seedlings will, of course, prefer the warmer range of night temperature while mature plants should be run at 58–62 F (14–17 C) nights. The day temperature seems to be the critical factor for *Milioniopsis* and should be kept to an 80–85 F (27–29 C) maximum whenever possible. Much of this information can be found on the AOS website at <http://www.aos.org/orchids/culture-sheets/miltonia.aspx> and the links found there.

~ Sandra Tillisch Svoboda is President of the World Orchid Conference Trust, Past President of the American Orchid Society, and Chair of the AOS Education Committee. Along with being an accredited judge in AOS and CSA judging systems, she is Editor in Chief of the *Orchid Digest* along with a myriad of other positions she loves holding in the orchid community. (Email: [stillisch@cox.net](mailto:stillisch@cox.net))

**UPCOMING WEBINARS**

It's easy to find the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You'll find the link under the **All About Orchids** tab. If you check there, you will find any webinars that have been scheduled after the production of the monthly Corner.

**Orchiata Bark, What is everyone Talking About?**

**Tuesday, October 9th, 2018 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST      *Open to All***

Join Garry Clark, Group General Manager from BesGrow, and learn all about the potting media Orchiata. Learn what it is, how it is made, and all the uses for your orchids.

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**Register now using this link:** <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2584777404254202881>

**American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Dr. Ron McHatton**

**Thursday, October 18th, 2018 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST      *Open to all***

Please join Dr. Ron McHatton, AOS Chief Science Officer, as he answers your questions about all things orchid. He will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org) by Monday, October 15th.

**Register now using this link:** <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1416458341110234114>

**Note:** After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the seminar.

**WHAT ARE WEBINARS?** Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

**WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE?** The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

**THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE** will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- The New Refugium Botanicum - *Phalaenopsis lueddemanniana*
- The Genus of the Month - *Galeandras* by Thomas Mirenda
- For the Novice - Orchid Hygiene by Sue Bottom
- Orchids Illustrated - The Genus *Cymbidium* by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins
- Collector's Item – *Angraecum mahavavense* by Brenda Oviatt and Bill Nerison
- *Ansellia* - the Species and its Hybrids by Michael Tibbs
- Miniature *Cymbidium* Hybrids by Estaban (Steve) Gonzalez
- Who Were These Guys? Part 6 - Wilhelm Micholitz by David Rosenfeld, MD
- *Bulbophyllum* Karen Lewis - Or *Bulbophyllum echinolabium* and its Effects in Breeding by Bill Thoms



**Bulbophyllum echinolabium 'Jolah's Stinkin' Sisters'** CCM/AOS; Photographer: Barton Gendel

**PLUS:Our Annual Supplemental Issue - 80 Color-Packed Pages of Cymbidiums**

- *Cymbidium Alexanderi* 'Westonbirt' - Jean Allen-Ikeson
- *Cymbidiums of the Indian Himalayas* - Keshab C. Pradhan
- *Cymbidium devonianum* - Keith A. Andrews
- *Cymbidium madidum* - Nancy McClellan, Kevin Hill and Kathy Barrett
- *New Pathways in Pendulous Cymbidiums* - George Hatfield
- *Cymbidium Section Jensoa* - Kenneth P. Jacobsen
- *Cymbidiums: Thoughts on Genetics and Breeding* - John A. Dunkelberger
- *Spotlight: A Pertinaceous Pathway to a CCE* - Jerry Kessler
- *White Cymbidiums and Charisma* - Greg Bryant



- *Red Cymbidiums* - Carol Butcher
- *Spotted and Peloric Cymbidiums* - Kevin Butler
- *Grammatocymbidiums: A Route to Heat Tolerance* - KobsukhKaenratana



Grammatocymbidium Star Festival 'NN' HCC/AO; Photographer: Richard Otaki

**YOUR SOCIETY CAN EARN FREE AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS:**

Upcoming shows are a good time to encourage **new** membership to AOS. Affiliated societies can now earn a one-month extension of their AOS society membership for each **new** AOS member that they refer (note: membership renewals don't count). Make sure to note your Society Affiliation in the comments section of the application.

*With twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can have a FULL YEAR OF FREE AOS membership!* Be sure to have membership applications with your society's name already filled in and available at your club meetings!

Remember to let your members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources at their disposal making growing orchids even more enjoyable and successful.

Digital Access To Over 350+  
past issues of Orchids magazine extending back to 1932!

**ALSO FEATURED IN ORCHIDS MAGAZINE!**

16-page award gallery of breath taking pictures of recently awarded orchids.

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Miltoniopsis Les Dirouilles 'Lone Survivor' AM/AOS; Photographer: Alexey Tretyakov

**RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON THE AOS WEBSITE:**

See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new “Latest Orchid Awards” page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. Free to members and non- members.



Promenaea stapelioides 'Vistamont' AM/AOS; Photographer: Ramon de los Santos  
Let's grow together,  
Denise Lucero

# Monthly Checklist for September and October

## Cattleya

Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom.

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.

This is the month for purples derived from *Cattleya labiata* breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too.

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.



*Cycnoches chlorochilon*, the green swan orchid.

## Cycnoches

This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches chlorochilon*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

## Cymbidium

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the



plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.



*Dendrobium Burana Stripe* is a popular and easy phalaenopsis-type hybrid.

## Dendrobium

This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

## Rhynchostele bicorniensis

Both *Rhynchostele bicorniensis* and its hybrids bloom in this season. *Rhynchostele bicorniensis*, formerly known as *Lemboglossum*, *Odontoglossum*) is a showy species from Mexico that has three different color forms: sulphureum (green with white lip), album (brown with white lip) and roseum (brown with a pink lip). It is a vigorous grower with tall inflorescences of many flowers, and imparts to its progeny (as seen in Odcdm. Bittersweet and Odm. bicross) ease of culture, warmth tolerance and eye-catching patterns. They make a prime candidate for odontoglossum beginners and advanced alike.

## Paphiopedilum

Standard, green-leaved paphiopedilums begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their

move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

## Phalaenopsis

The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid-type fertilizer, is beneficial.



Rossioglossum grande shows off its large, dramatic flowers.

## Rossioglossum grande

Once known as *Odontoglossum grande*, this is a spectacular orchid with six to eight flowers up to 8 inches across. Often known as the tiger orchid, it has bright golden yellow flowers heavily marked with chestnut brown barring. The plants are beautiful with a grey-green cast to the foliage, which is borne on succulent pseudobulbs. It prefers hot and wet summers with cooler, even down to 40 F, dry winters. Grow under filtered light. Watch for snails and slugs that eat the flowers, pseudobulbs and leaves. Taken from <http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/september-october-checklist.aspx>

*The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.*

## Native Orchid of the Month—October

### *Pteroglossaspis ecristata* (giant orchid)

*Pteroglossaspis ecristata* (giant orchid, also known as wild coco) grows three to five feet high in savannas, as well as in sandhills, pine flatwoods, and grasslands. It grows from

Florida to Louisiana along the coastal plain. In Louisiana it grows both east of the Mississippi River in [flatwoods](#), and west of the Mississippi River in coastal prairies. Both of these habitats

are at risk from habitat destruction and fire suppression. Like many species of coastal plain savannas, it responds positively to fire.



*Pteroglossaspis ecristata* fruits (seeds appear as dust blowing away)  
Sandy Hollow WMA, Tangipahoa Parish  
Louisiana Natural Heritage Program

are erect, densely flowered toward top. Flowers are yellowish green with purplish brown markings and a three-lobed lip. They are twisted in toward the stalk, with a stiff

floral bract, 2.5 inches long, beneath each flower. Sepals and petals are yellow-green, folded forward over the lip.

It flowers July through October with fruits developing September through November. It is rare throughout its most of its range.



The giant orchid is a perennial herb that blooms only every few years, usually only after a fire. Often many flowers will bloom at once and remain open for about a week; they are probably pollinated by bees. Little else is known about the reproductive biology of this species; closely related species in the genus are known to be both self- and cross-fertile. The greatest natural threat to the loss of the species is the lack of fire needed to maintain a favorable habitat.



