



September 2021

Southern Tier Orchid Society

WWW.SOUTHERNTIERORCHIDS.ORG

President's Message

Hello Fellow Orchid Society Members,
I hope you all enjoyed the summer and had a chance to relax, with enough orchid blooms to make you smile. Some of these are included in this newsletter so you can see what your fellow club members have blooming.

Unfortunately, the Covid virus has stymied us once again. We were all set to have our annual picnic at Anne Quain's house but the delta variant made most of us uncomfortable about getting together in person. Same with our September meeting. October is still up in the air but will likely be virtual, too.

We recently sent around a survey to members about meetings in person and auctions. We received a very good response and the results are in this newsletter.

While Zoom meetings should be easy, they have been poorly attended. If you have a problem accessing Zoom please let me know and I can help you get on. We can do a test in advance of a meeting.

A laptop is best but a smart phone can also be used. An older, desktop computer will not have a camera or microphone tho these can be added if desired. Also you don't have to show your face on Zoom, login with your name and we will at least know who is attending.

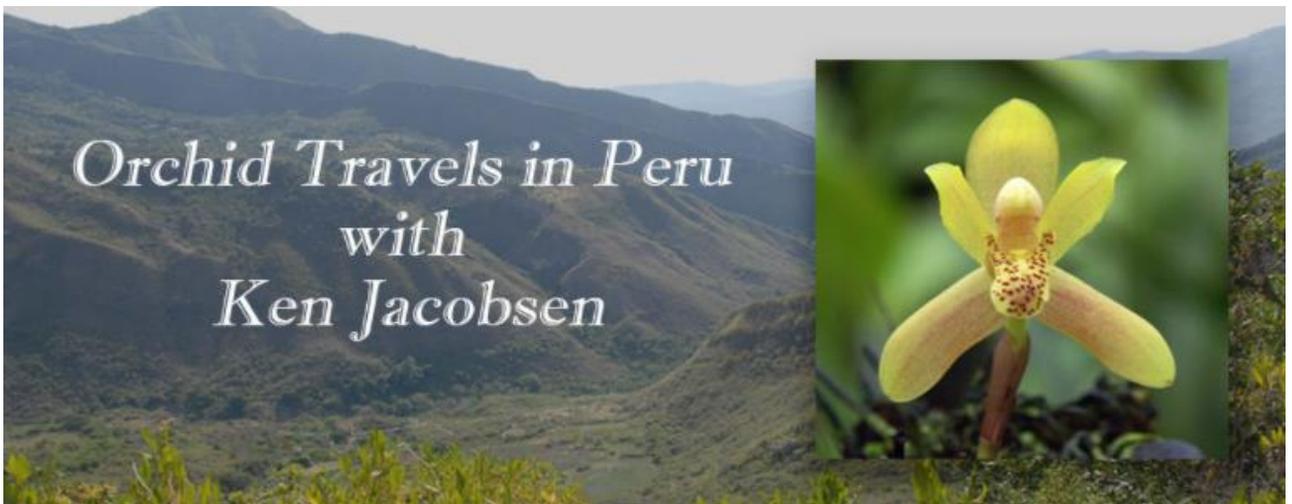
Please join us this fall as we miss seeing you all.

--Carol Bayles

Webinar, September 19 Meeting

Ken Jacobsen "Orchid Travels in Peru"

Join AOS judge Ken Jacobsen on an orchid adventure in Peru, home of both cool and warm growing orchids. More than 3,000 of the known 30,000 species of orchids grow in Peru! Ken will also share photos and treat us to orchid shows in both Lima and Moyobamba, called the City of Orchids and home of the many native species. Come follow his treks and photography through natural orchid areas in Peru.



EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Carol Bayles

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Jane Trey

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Ben Cabot

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Bernice Magee

Members-At-Large

Luis Matienzo

Sharon Voorhees

Jean Mint

Newsletter Editor

Carol Bayles

Contributions, including pictures to the STOS newsletter from members are welcomed! Send to the editor at cjb4@cornell.edu

Web Master Carol Bayles

Social Media Rich Thomas

Librarian Paula Palmer

Show Chair Carol Bayles

Program Coordinator Carol Bayles

Auction Committee Pete O'Connell

Web Site:

<http://www.southerntierorchids.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SouthernTierOrchidSocietyNY>

Email address:

STOSorchids@gmail.com

Calendar

All meetings will be via Zoom until the threat of Covid-19 has passed. The link will be emailed to members within 1-2 weeks of the meeting. Meetings are 2-4pm.

September 19 General meeting and social time. Officer nominations, webinar "Orchid Travels in Peru with Ken Jacobsen"

October 17 Officer voting, Fall auction kickoff (tentative)

November 21 General Meeting, possible speaker

December 19 Possible Christmas Party

Zoom link will be emailed about one week before the meeting. Feel free to share it with family, friends or other interested folks but please do not share on open social media platforms.



Nicely staked and presented orchids, by Carlos Machu, see page 5 for story.



Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the STOS Executive Board Meeting on September 3, 2021

Present: Jane Trey, Luis Matienzo, Bernice Magee, Jean Mint, Carol Bayles

We discussed the September 19 meeting, whether it should be in person at the church, or via Zoom. Carol noted it that would be easier to get a speaker on Zoom at this late date. We decided to get opinions from the membership and will send a survey.

We also talked about a fall auction, likely in October. Luis suggested maybe we don't need 2 auctions/year. Auctions were originally held to provide plants for displays at our Spring show and the Central NY fall show, but the auction plants are rarely brought to the shows. Jane suggested that we could have non-blooming plants in the auction. Jean noted that Orchids Amore in Florida may have free shipping. Also in question is whether we should have an online auction or in person. Another survey question.

Nominations for officers are due at the Sept meeting. Bernice mentioned that if someone else wanted to be AOS Rep, that would be OK with her. We will also need a Board Member-at-large as Luis's time is up. This is a 3-year position. We also need a Program Coordinator, Carol would like to drop this position. The librarian position is open as Paula Palmer is moving, and a newsletter editor is needed. We are assuming that other existing officers are interested in running again, but anyone may run against them.

We noted that the Zoom presentations have been poorly attended, ~15 people out of 40+ members. Perhaps a different time or day would appeal to more members? Another survey question.

Luis noted that dues for 2022 will be due this fall. Carol will try to get PayPal onto the website.

Luis had to leave at 11:00 and the meeting officially ended, tho the rest of us chatted awhile.

--Submitted by Carol Bayles



Top view of Sam Reicher's
Oncidium Twinkle 'Pink Profusion'

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the STOS Member Meeting May 16,2021

The meeting was an internet meeting on ZOOM, due to the world wide pandemic.

Called to order by President Carol Bayles 2pm, +/- 12 people in attendance.

- Approved minutes of the April meeting as printed in the newsletter.
- Treasure report Jane Trey -our balance is \$9,598.00. We made \$700 profit at the auction from donated orchids. All the plants sold and we are financially in good shape.
- AOS report Bernice McGee- I have several months of issues of our AOS magazine. Let Bernice know if you want one and she will send you one. Membership to the AOS offers discounted digital subscriptions, and reduced pricing for two year memberships. You also get a \$30 gift certificate for certain growers. Jean Mint used her discount when visiting growers on her trip to Florida.

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New business;

- Carol offered to lead a field trip to the Hammond Hill State Forest east of Ithaca to view lady slipper orchids in the wild. The walk will be less than 1 ½ miles. Several members expressed interest. It was discussed that Chenango Valley State Park near Binghamton has some orchids.
- 2022 officers;
 - Nominations will be held in September, and election in October for new officers. Colin offered to be a board member filling the vacancy from Luis' finishing his 3 year term.
 - Need a new librarian
 - Opportunities for new program coordinator to get speakers, and a newsletter editor.
 - Carol offered to remain as President and continue as webmaster, and chair the Orchid Show if we have one. Expressions of appreciation were given to her for a great job.
- Anne is planning a summer picnic date to be announced.

Show table:

Many people showed orchids, too numerous to name them all here.

Luis discussed a question of transferring from moss to bark. Suggested wetting the bark for several hours in water with a few drops of dish soap to break down the oil in the bark, allowing the bark to absorb water.

Adjourned After 49 minutes and opened to guest speaker
Submitted by
Ben Cabot, Secretary.



STOS Business

STOS Officers and Coordinators

Nominations for officers will take place at our September meeting and voting at our October meeting (in accord with the revised Bylaws). All officers are elected for one year so all will be up for re-election. Members in good standing may run for any office. Board members-at-large have staggered 3-year terms, one expires every year. Also, there are several committee chairs that need to be filled.

Board Positions

AOS Representative -- provides the link between the AOS and the Society; brings to the attention of the members at each meeting items of interest from the AOS, handles the ORCHIDS magazine loans.

Board Member-at-Large, along with the officers and other Coordinators and Committee members, will be the counseling and advisory Board for the Society. Attend EB meetings and vote on issues.

Positions to be appointed by the Board at any time:

Meeting Program Coordinator – Choose and contact speakers for meetings. A list of past STOS speakers and an AOS list of possible speakers is available.

Newsletter Editor –Responsible for requisitioning content and producing and emailing a monthly newsletter from September through May. Adding content optional.

Librarian –Responsible for handling checkout and return of books by members at monthly meetings, and organization and promotion of books.

Please consider taking on one of these positions. The rewards include: getting to know more of your fellow members, getting to have a say in how the club is run, and having fun in the process. STOS will not survive if there is no one to run it.

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**STOS Membership Survey Sept 2021** – 21 responses

Q1 Are you ready to meet in person for the Sept 19 meeting? This might be just a social meeting, as getting a speaker at this late date might be hard.

Yes 3 No 16

Q2 Are you willing to meet in person in October for a meeting and auction?

Yes 9 No 7

Q3 The alternative for Sept is a Zoom meeting and speaker. would you prefer this?

Yes 13 No 5

Q4 Do you like having 2 auctions per year?

Yes 15 No 2

Q5 Would changing the time/date of our monthly meetings make it easier for you to attend, either in person or on Zoom?

Yes 4 No 15

Q6 Are you interested in becoming more active in the club? Several positions are available and all officers can be challenged. Please contact me if you are interested or just have questions

No interest (no response) except 2 for member-at-large

## Training your Blooms

I just read an article in the March 2021 issue of ORCHIDS (thank you Bernice) called 'Stakes' by Carlos Macku. I found it very interesting and am providing a shorter version here, along with some of my own comments and opinions.

We all have seen beautiful, arching flower spikes in photos. These don't get that way by themselves, they require specific input from the owner. Flower spikes, or for that matter, pseudobulbs, can start out growing horizontally, and it may take some time to train them to grow vertically or however we want them. Phalaenopsis are the most obvious candidates for staking, but many spikes benefit from a bit of staking.

For stakes you can use whatever you like, bamboo or wood are popular, wire and even plastic can be used. There are many products on the market. Carlos suggests using wire shirt hangers, which can be cut and bent as desired. A loop around the end is very useful for holding a spike, avoiding clips, twist ties, etc, which can damage the spike. It is very important to not squeeze or cut the spike and to give it room to grow thicker.

Ideally you want to start the training as soon as possible after the spike appears, when it is still quite flexible. You may want to start with a short stake and replace it with longer ones as the spike grows. The advantage of wire is you can bend it to create a nice arc or even a loop or other shape, if you like. However, the spike will generally arc on its own, once it grows past the end of a vertical stake.

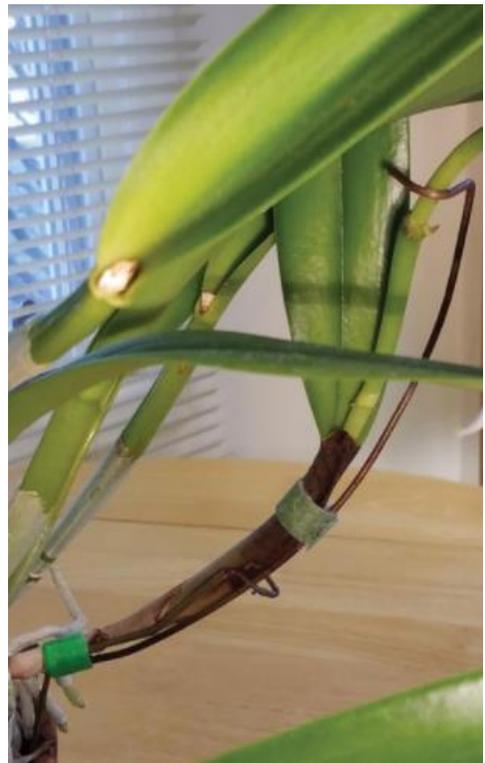
Sometimes you just can't get the stake in the right place until the flower spike is a bit longer and stiffer. Now what? I have found that you can lift the spike as far as you dare (be careful!), fasten it securely, and wait a few weeks, then move it a little bit more, fasten again, etc until you have it where you want it.

I have also done this with pseudobulbs and bent leaves, and have successfully gotten them to stay where I want them. Sometimes it takes more than one stake, some string or ribbon, and some ingenuity. And it always takes patience, you may have to wait months until you can release a pseudobulb. This is especially useful when an orchid is outgrowing its pot and the pseudobulb wants to hang down over the outside of the pot.

One other issue is getting the individual flowers on a spike to face mostly in one direction. I haven't mastered this yet but I suspect you want to keep the plant facing the same direction toward the light while the spike and buds develop.

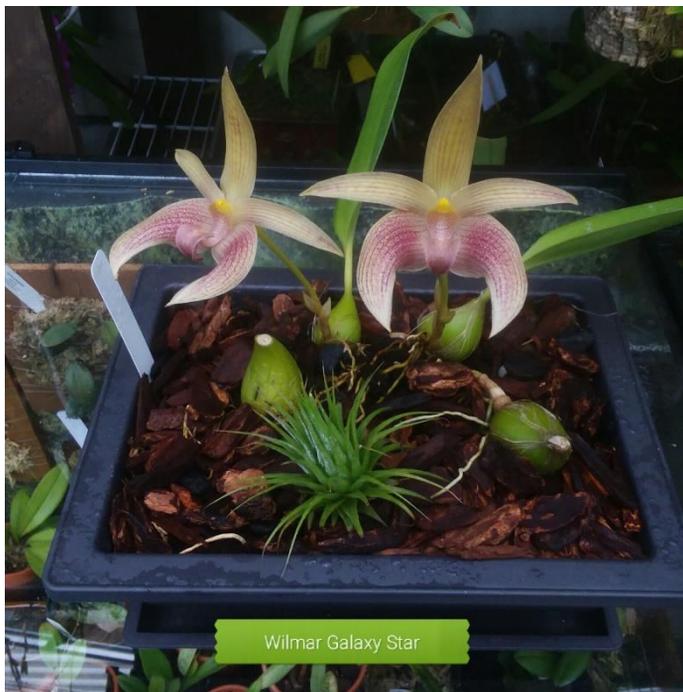
Whatever you do, always take a picture of your blooming orchid, as a record, to show your friends, and to bring to our 'show table'.

--Carol Bayles



Photos by Carlos Macku, ORCHIDS Magazine

# Show Table - John Zygmunt



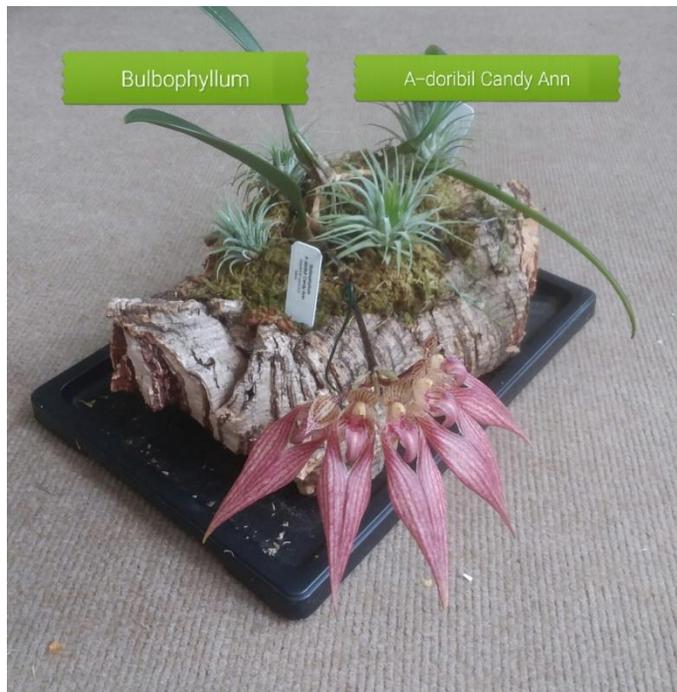
Wilmar Galaxy Star is a nice miniature in a bonsai pot



Thai Spider is a Bulbophyllum that likes it hot. The flowers don't last but this is one of John's favorites, with a fitting name. Air plant added for looks.

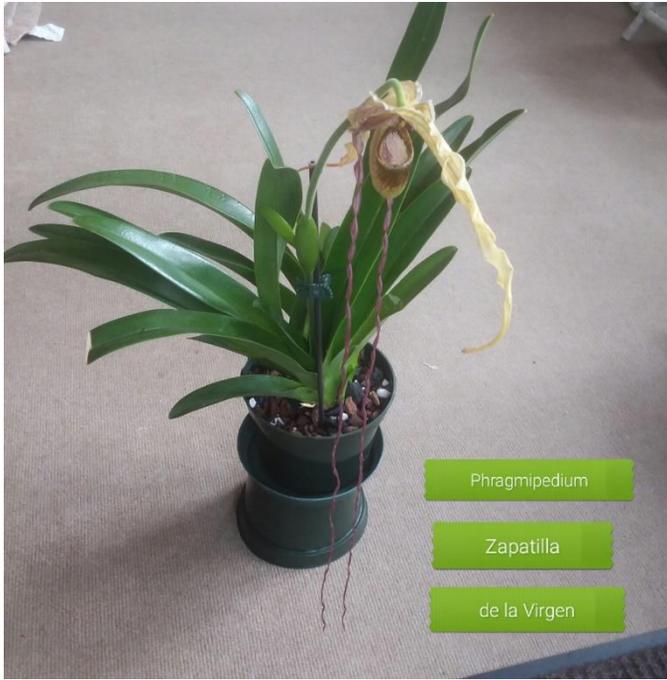


Bulbo. Tingabarium. Likes dappled light, cold to warm. China, Viet Nam, Laos. Again a miniature in a Bonsai pot. Many miniatures like to spread and are shallow rooted so Bonsai pots work well.

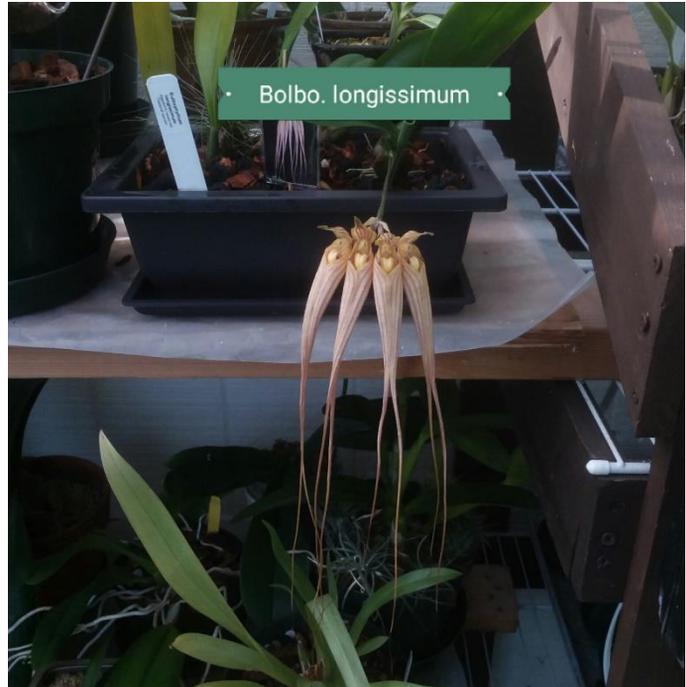


Bulbo. A-doribil "Candy Ann". hybrid miniature. Certainly looks "A-doribil" to me! I grew it on cork just for variety and added an air plant for looks.

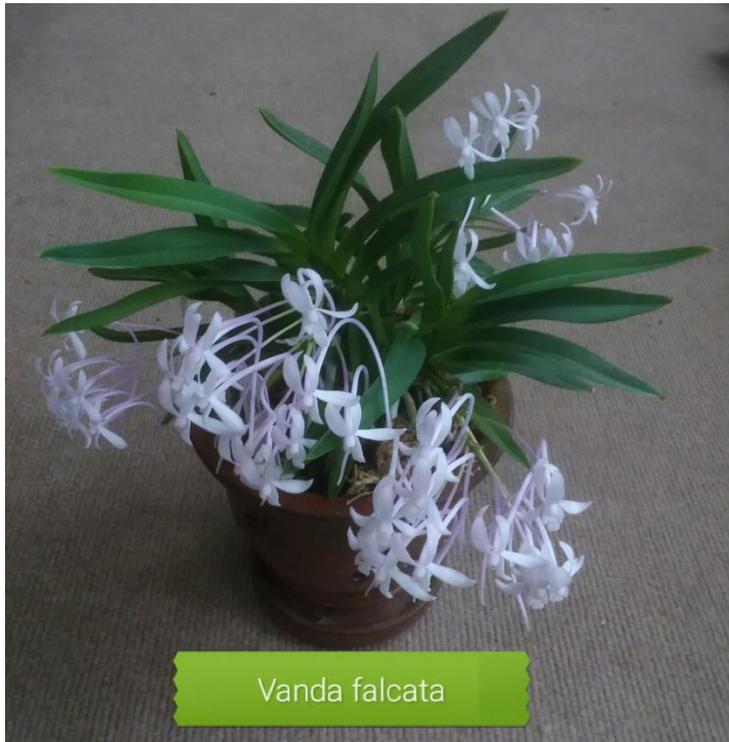
# Show Table - John Zygmunt



Phragmipedium Zapatilla de la Virgen, a hybrid with tails 21" long. I've heard that the tails will keep growing until they touch ground, providing a way for pollinators to climb.

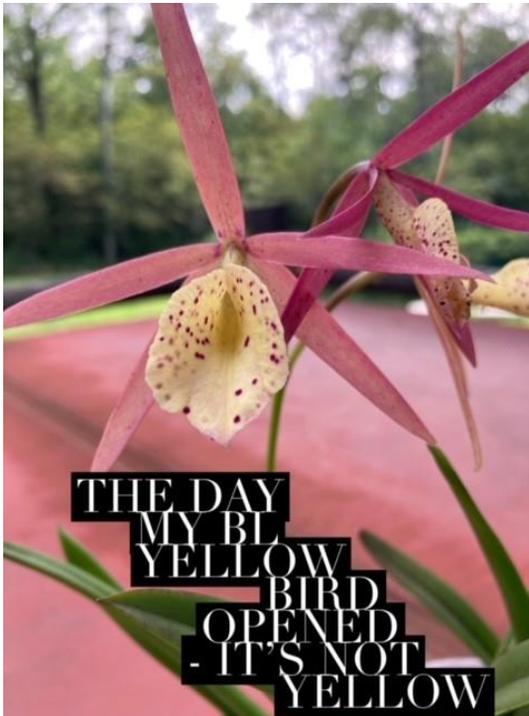


Bulbo. longissimum. Species that likes dappled light, warm to hot. Thailand.



Vanda falcata from NE Asia and Japan. The Japanese put these in fancy pots and charge lots of money.

# Jean Mint- Outside for the Summer



Brassocattleya hybrid 'Yellow Bird is not yellow upon opening....



But when mature, Yellow Bird is yellow!



Brassocattleya YU Toung Star 'Athena'.  
Bc Tetradip x Bc Morning Glory



Masdevallia ventricosa. Gift from John Zygmunt

# Jean Mint- Outside for the Summer



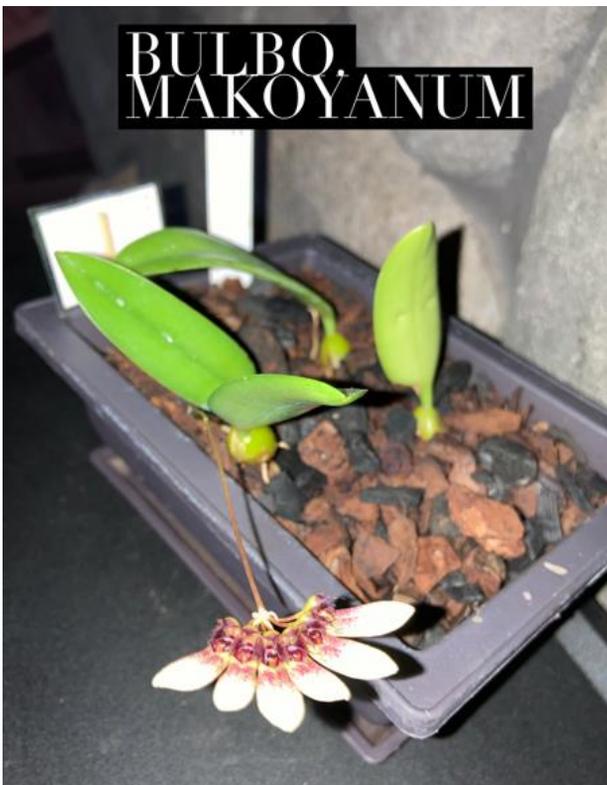
**COELOGYNE  
USITANA  
X  
SIB**

Coelogyne Usitana x sib



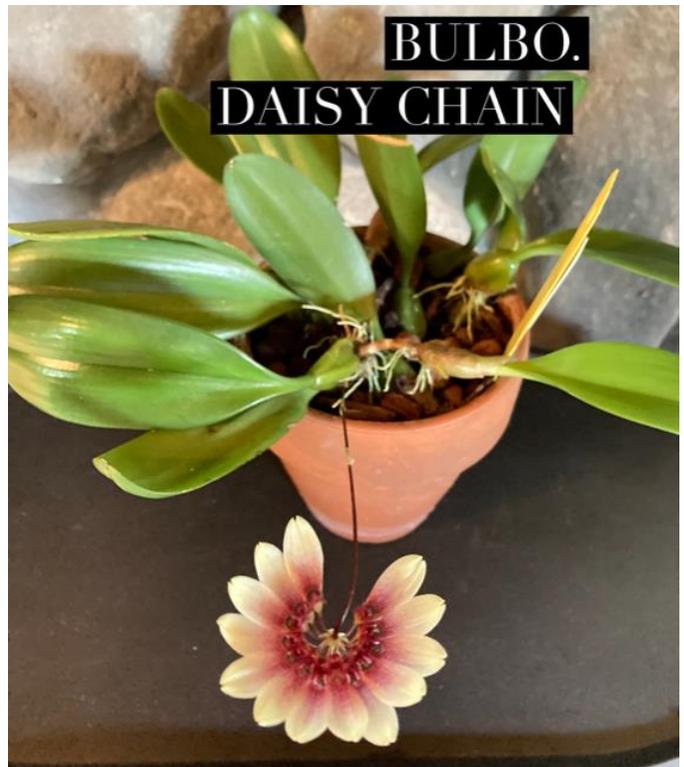
**PHAL.  
CORNU-CERVI  
(‘JUNGLE  
X ‘#2’) X YELLOW**

Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi 'Jungle #2' x  
cornu-cervi 'Yellow'



**BULBO.  
MAKOYANUM**

Bulbophyllum makoyanum



**BULBO.  
DAISY CHAIN**

Bulbophyllum Daisy Chain

## *Jean Mint- Outside for the Summer*



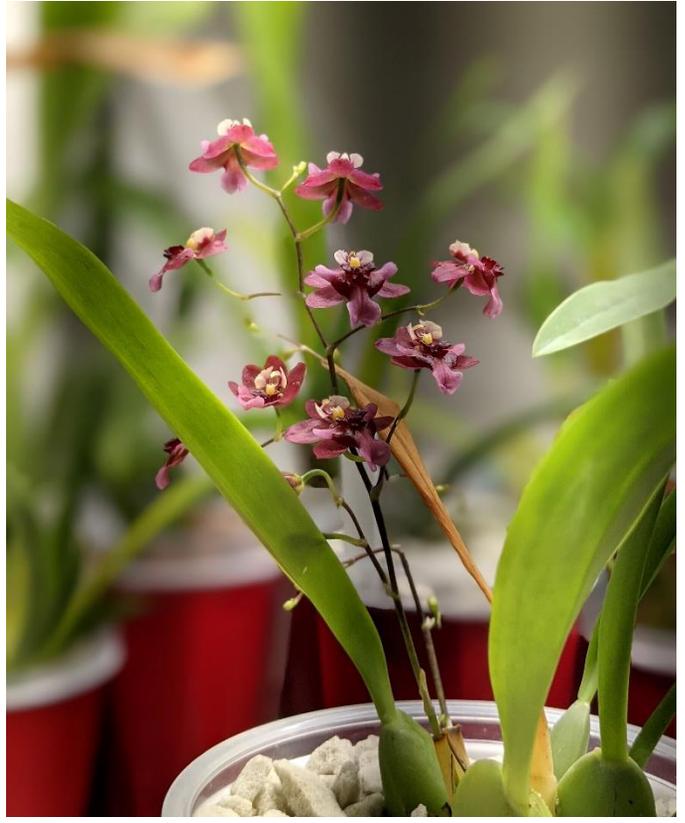
Jean's orchids stayed outside all summer. She emptied the water in the trays after rains. Despite the constant moisture (or perhaps because of it) she had terrific root growth overall, with roots poking out of every hole and even climbing through clips! (photos below)



# Show Table - Sam Reichler



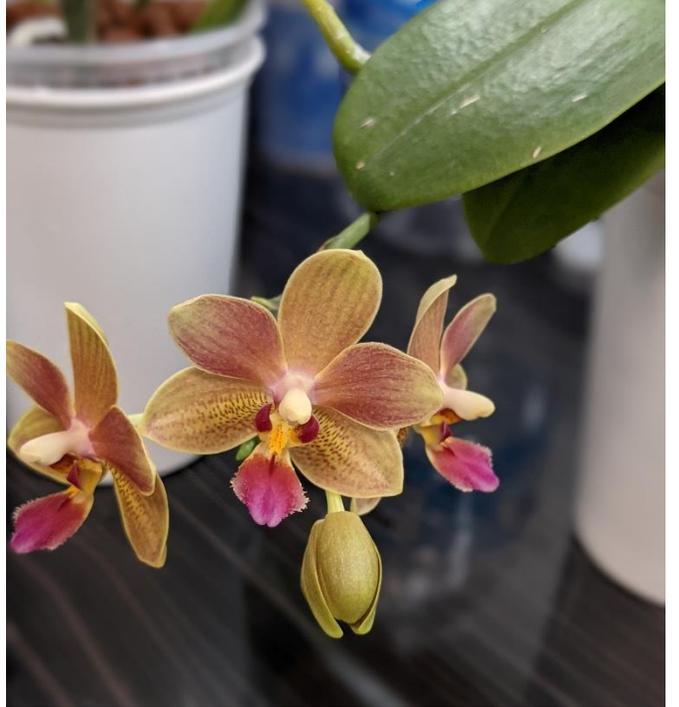
*Prosthechea cochleata x radiata*'



*Oncidium Twinkle* 'Pink Profusion'



Two different *Phalaenopsis* of unknown origin



## Show Table



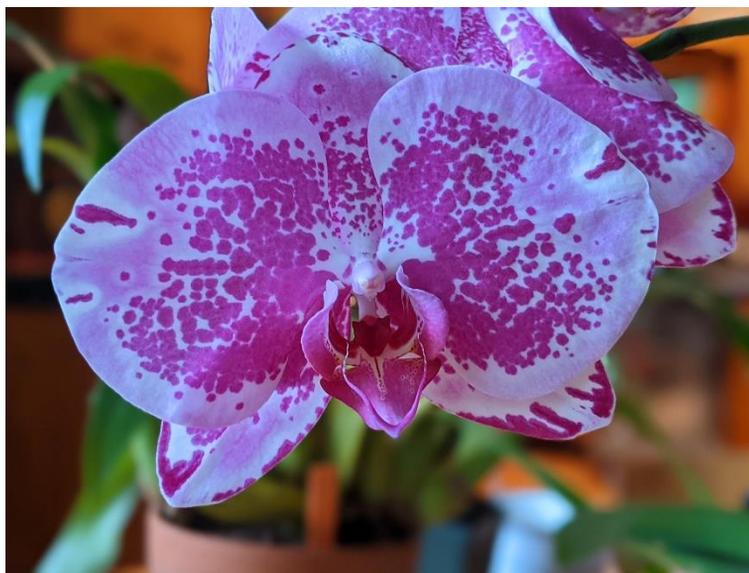
Phal. from Spring 2021 auction, one of John Z's donations. There are 11 flowers on one spike. The flowers have been in bloom for 4 weeks so far. --Nancy Wolf



### Platanthera psychodes

I found this orchid in a powerline right of way among giant cattails near Lititz, PA, after searching for hours. My friend thought they were about a quarter of a mile away and they ended up a half mile. I had broken my hip in May and probably shouldn't have been doing this. I fell a couple of times and was reluctant to fight through the cattails to where he saw it. But his description of the flower was so good that I pushed through against my better judgment. Glad I did. It is the largest bloom of *Platanthera psychodes* that I've ever seen. Date found is August 1, 2021. Common name is small or lesser purple fringed orchid. --Ken Hull

## Show Table – Carol Bayles



Phal. from Spring 2021 auction, one of John Z's donations. Bloomed a long time. I wasn't fond of speckled orchids, but I have grown to really like this one.



Miltoniopsis lycaena 'Stamperland' AM/RHS from the Fall 2020 auction. The first bud died but the second came through. My original plant of this variety died, probably due to improper repotting (timing? media?)



Coelogyne Jannine Banks 'Snow White' blooming for the third time this year. Flowers last a few weeks at most. Someday I hope to have 2 spikes simultaneously!



Phal. from a friend, has been blooming for months. I love big white phals.

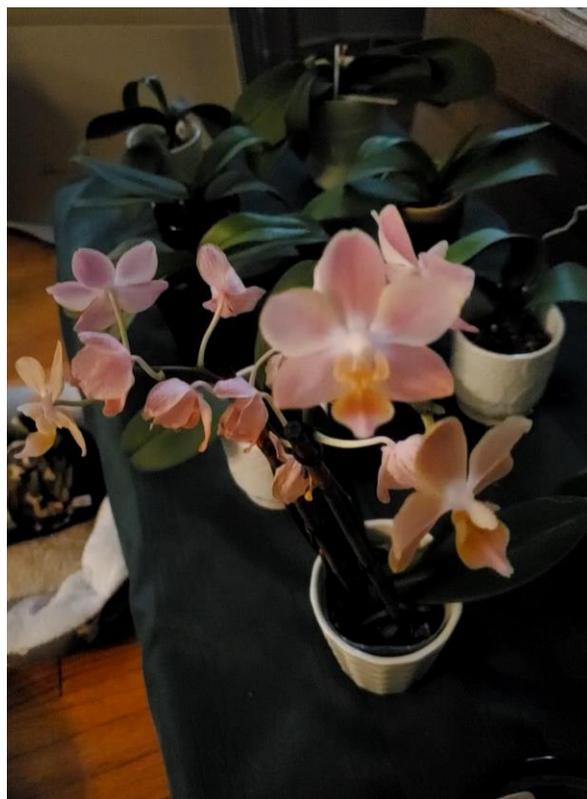
## Show Table – Carol Bayles



My husband built these for me to keep excess sun, rain, hail, and caterpillar droppings off my orchids when they are outside for the summer. We happened to have the translucent plastic sheet around so that partly determined the size and shape.



Odontoglossum Bandfieldara Gilded Tower "Mystic Maze". This classic orchid has bloomed every year for at least 5-6 years.



Lost ID Phal—This one is from Anne Quain, more from Anne on the next page

# Show Table – Anne Quain



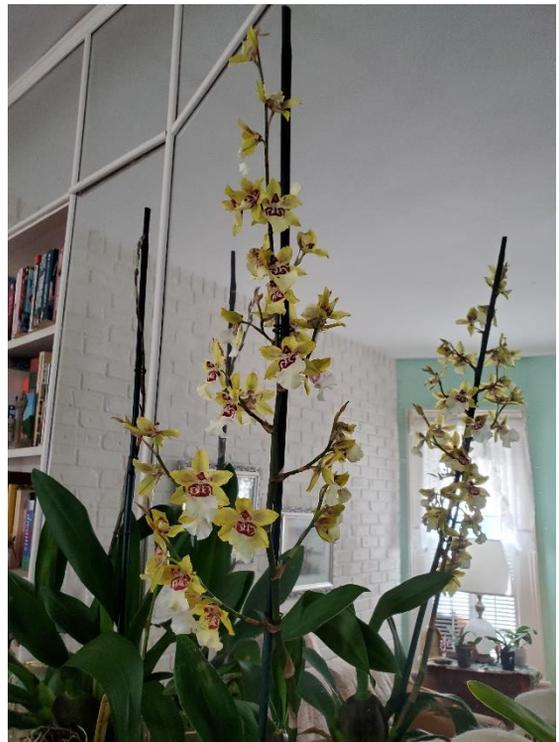
Bulbophyllum Daisy Chain has bloomed once in the spring and twice this summer. I was very surprised to get two bloomings this summer. The blooms are so cute, I just wish they lasted longer!



This lost ID Phal didn't bloom for years so it got put to the side but the last couple years it has been in bloom almost constantly.



Burretara Francine 'Roseglow' is an Oncidinae hybrid group

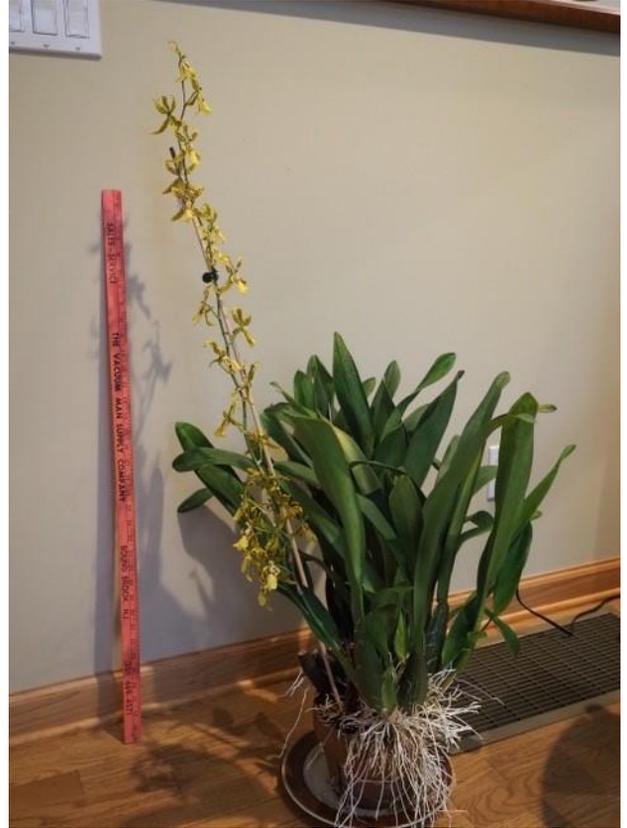


Onsidium Wildcat "Yellow King",

## Show Table – Jim Rowley



Brassidium “Fly Away Miami” had 2 spikes this year, after not blooming for 5 years. This spike has 24 blossoms, the first had 44 flowers.



A division of the plant at left, blooming for the first time in 8 years. 24 flowers.



Close up of ‘Fly Away Miami’ flower

Why the sudden blooms? Perhaps because Jim put his orchids under lights last fall. See next page for more info.

## Show Table – Jim Rowley



From L to R, fluorescent bulbs, a sodium-vapor bulb, and an LED light. The LED gives 4500 foot-candles at 12", over twice as bright as the sodium vapor light.



Brassia of unknown lineage blooming for the first time in 6 years. This is the second spike this summer.



Paphiopedium Robert de Veer 'Rubescent' x mastersianum. Second bloom this summer. This plant has bloomed every year for 8 years.