# St. Augustine NEWSLETTER Orchid Society March 2021

Volume 16 Issue #3

### CLUB NEWS



March Monthly Meeting
By Janis Croft

and Welcome Thanks. President Tom Sullivan opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with 36 attendees. Tom thanked Dianne Batchelder, Dottie Sullivan and Janis Croft for the treats and coffee in individual containers. He also thanked the team for Covid cleaning the room in preparation for the meeting. Tom informed all that the Silent Auction would end

after the presentation.

Club Business. Sue Bottom welcomed our new members, Steve Dorsey, Martha Reems, Sandie Swanson, Kathy DeVries and Tony Lombardino. Membership VP Linda Stewart welcomed our guests, Kimberly and Kathleen. Linda Stewart asked all with birthdays this month to raise their hands for their free raffle ticket. As our Sunshine Coordinator also, Linda announced that if you know of anyone in need of a cheering up or a get-well card, let her know by emailing her at <a href="mailto:info@staugorchidsociety.org">info@staugorchidsociety.org</a>. See Linda at the Welcome Table to pay dues, or use the PayPal link online.

Keiki Club. Sue announced that Charlie Rowell has agreed to be our new Keiki Club Coordinator, organizing the beginner culture classes and Keiki Club activities. If you have suggestions for programs or activities for our beginners, talk to Charlie or send an email to <a href="mailto:info@staugorchidsociety.org">info@staugorchidsociety.org</a>.

Repotting and Supplies. The repotting clinic will be held on Saturday, March 6th, from 9 until noon at the Memorial Lutheran Church Pavilion across from back parking lot. Potting supplies will be available. If you need supplies,



email <a href="mailto:info@staugorchidsociety.org">info@staugorchidsociety.org</a>. We have potting mixes, butterfly clips, time release fertilizer, water soluble fertilizer for hard water and fertilizer baskets

Florida Orchid Shows. The Jacksonville Orchid Society Show will be at the club's

new location, Mandarin Garden Club at 2892 Loretto Road, Jax 32223 on March 20 and 21. The vendor sales area will be outdoors and there will be plenty of parking at the Masonic Lodge next door. The other shows this month are in Martin County, Tampa and Nature Coast in Spring Hill. Check website calendar for details here.

Library. Howard Cushnir brought Bulbophyllums by Bill Thoms and Cymbidium Orchids by Sue and Graham Guest. He also mentioned that the American Orchid Society's monthly *Orchids* magazine and the *Orchid Digest* quarterly magazines are catalogued and ready for loan requests. He encouraged all to use the library collection listed on our SAOS website. If you would like a book, send a request to info@staugorchidsociety.org and Howard will bring the item(s) to the next meeting.



**Show Table**. During the pandemic, we replaced our inperson review of the show table plants with a virtual show table presentation where Courtney Hackney talks about the plants from pictures sent in by members. There are many advantages to the Virtual Show Table, we see large plants we might not otherwise see, can spend more time talking about the plants and see the plants and flowers well on the screen. But, we don't get to see them up close and personal or smell their fragrances.

Courtney announced that, starting next month, we will try to a new approach to the in-house Show Table that will focus on "culture" - how people grow their plants and examine different potting techniques. He had brought in a blooming *Cattleya. skinneri* which was a division of a larger plant. He had dropped the cutting into an empty pot with a

Continued on page 3

### CLUB NEWS



#### March

5-7 Martin County Orchid Society Show Martin County Fairgrounds

SAOS Repotting Clinic, 9 am til noon 6 Behind the Memorial Lutheran Church 3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086

Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show 6-7 Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center

JOS Meeting, Show Update, 7 pm 9 Lorraine Conover, JOS Show Chairman

12-14 Orchid Society of Coral Gables Show Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden CANCELLED

13-14 Englewood Area Orchid Society Show **Englewood Methodist Church CANCELLED** 

13 FL North-Central Judging, 1 pm Clermont Garden Center, 849 West Ave

SAOS Virtual Show Table 16 Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace Invitation Will be Sent by Email

19-21 Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Show North Collier Regional Park, Naples **CANCELLED** 

20-21 Jacksonville Orchid Society Show The Garden Center of Jacksonville

27-28 Nature Coast Orchid Society VFW Post 8681, Spring Hill

27-28 Central Florida Orchid Society Show National Guard Armory, Orlando **CANCELLED** 

27-28 Deep South Orchid Society Show Coastal Georgia Gardens, Savannah **CANCELLED** 

27-28 EPIC Celebration of Spring Annual Flower and Garden Expo St. Johns County Agricultural Center **CANCELLED** 

#### April

Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society Show 3-4 Flamingo Gardens, Davie

6 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm Cattleyas - Species Influence Courtney Hackney, SAOS

SAOS Repotting Clinic, 9 am til noon 10 Moved from 1st to 2nd Saturday Behind the Memorial Lutheran Church

10 FL North-Central Judging, 1 pm Clermont Garden Center 849 West Ave

13 JOS Meeting - Oncidiums, 7 pm Steve Hawkins

17-18 Tallahassee Orchid Society Show Doyle Conner Agriculture Bldg CANCELLED

SAOS Picnic and Orchid Sale, 4 to 6 pm 18 Memorial Lutheran Church 3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086

### St. Augustine Orchid Society Organization

President Tom Sullivan

tomjs91@gmail.com

Vice President Janis Croft

Communications croftie1984@gmail.com

Vice President Dianne Batchelder Events ladydi9907@aol.com

Vice President Linda Stewart Membership lindstew@hotmail.com

Vice President Sue Bottom

**Programs** sbottom15@hotmail.com

Treasurer Bill Gourley

wgourley@bellsouth.net

Directors at Large Bob Schimmel, 2019

bobsch37702@gmail.com

Cathy Mayo, 2020

allatoonalady@gmail.com Charlie Rowell, 2021 charlierowell75@gmail.com

**Exhibit Committee** Janis Croft

Chair croftie1984@gmail.com

**Howard Cushnir** Librarian

hscushnir@gmail.com

Newsletter Editors Sue and Terry Bottom sbottom15@hotmail.com Webmasters tbottom14@hotmail.com



# **CLUB NEWS**

### Continued from page 1

little tree fern at the bottom, wired it in place and put it under his bench. He had intended to add potting mix but never got around to it, and after a year, realized it was growing fine as is. It was in full, beautiful bloom. Once the weather is a little warmer, we may even set up a table outdoors so members can bring plants they have questions about for diagnosis and discussion.

We will continue our Virtual Show Table featuring Courtney via Zoom for the foreseeable future. They begin at 7 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Send your photos for the Virtual Show Table by end of the month so they can be included in the newsletter and provide Sue time to prepare the presentation. Each month's Virtual Show Table is recorded and posted on our website.



**SAOS Program.** Sue Bottom announced our guest speaker and board member, Linda Stewart, an excellent orchid grower with a flair for decorating as evidenced by the plants she has brought in for display on the Show Table. She has an eye for beautiful containers and particularly likes growing her bulbos in glazed bonsai pots. Her first set of pots were from her brother Steve Hawkins whom she introduced to the group.

Steve brought in two of his specimen bulbo plants. The first was *Bulbophyllum* Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry' FCC/ AOS (the Members Choice from November 2020) that he has mounted on a round tree fern ball. He had inserted a heavy wire all the way through and let the two ends stick out the bottom. The wire prongs extend into a pedestal that sits in his greenhouse. This way the plant gets light from all directions so the new growths and flowers make a beautiful display from all directions. His other bulbophyllum started out on a cork mount that it soon outgrew. It also did not provide the 360° growing pattern he prefers. He wedged the cork into a plastic net basket with a little sphagnum moss around the top. As we could all see, the plant now had a circular growth around the pot and plenty of air at the bottom because the wedged cork plank held it up.

Sue Bottom brought in a bulbophyllum that she mounted on a wire basket turned upside down, with coconut fiber and Spanish moss around the roots for additional moisture. You could hardly see the basket as the plant had overgrown all over it. She showed another bulbo growing on one of the clay baskets purchased from Joanna Shaw (who is now the president of the Venice Area Orchid Society). Joanna makes a wide variety of baskets and orchid pots, and these shallow clay baskets with slotted openings are great for bulbos. You can add a little sphagnum moss or Spanish moss for moisture control, they make a great display, and they don't rot like the wooden rafts.

Leslie Brickell grows many bulbophyllums and Linda showed photos of hers that are mostly grown in shallow plastic vanda baskets. She started many on wooden rafts, but found that by the time the plant has reached specimen size and is blooming beautifully, the wooden raft begins to rot requiring the plant to be removed from the wood. It takes time for the plant to recover from transplant shock and return to its former glory. She also uses tree fern slabs. Leslie's companion article starting on page 10 is a great tutorial on growing bulbos.

Linda prefers to grow her plants in glazed bonsai pots. They have a hole or two in the bottom that she puts wire through to secure her plants to the pot. If you only have one hole, she tapes a stick across the hole and loops wires around the stick and up through the hole. She then demonstrated how she pots a bulbophyllum. After inserting the wire, she adds Styrofoam peanuts on the bottom so roots have air space. Then she positions the plant and wraps the wire strands around it, twisting the two strands together to snugly (not tightly) hold it in place. Next she adds high quality sphagnum to the top and snugly packs it around the plant. As the plant grows, she coaches the new growths back in to the pot. When the sphagnum starts to deteriorate, she uses tweezers to pick it out and add new. Typically, in two years she will need to repot the plant. To do so, she cuts the wire underneath the pot and lifts the entire plant out. The peanuts are easy to pick away and the excess moss can be removed with water and tweezers. She then places the plant in a larger pot and is quickly finished with repotting—another benefit of growing bulbophyllums.

**Meeting Conclusion.** The evening concluded with the Silent Auction and Raffle Table. Thanks to the helpful hands that stayed to Covid clean the tables, chairs and room.



### CLUB NEWS



### **April 6 Monthly Meeting**

Cattleya Species – Their Influence in Hybridizing Courtney Hackney, St. Augustine Orchid Society

Keith Davis is postponing his St. Aug visit, so the Good Dr. Courtney Hackney is going to be our featured speaker. Courtney is going to talk about different cattleya species, including some of the unappreciated ones, that are in the background of modern hybrids. He will give us insights into how the characteristics of different cattleyas are expressed in their offspring. Should be a great help to us when we look at the plant tags of seedlings we'd like to bring home, letting us conjure up an image of how the blooms might look!

When: Tuesday, April 6, 6:30 til 9 pm Where: Memorial Lutheran Church 3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086

### Keiki Club - Road Trip Opportunity

Jacksonville Orchid Society Show

Have you ever gone to an Orchid Society show and seen all the beautiful exhibits or shopped from 7 orchid vendors side by side? Orchid vendors include EFG, Mac's, Ritter Tropic 1, Krull Smith, Quest, Springwater and Odom's.

Where: Mandarin Garden Club 2892 Loretto Road, Jax 32223

When: March 20 and 21, Doors open at 10 am

### **American Orchid Society Corner**

#### Webinars

March 2, 8:30 pm, Everyone Invited Greenhouse Chat Orchid, Q&A - Ron McHatton March 9, 8:30 pm, AOS Members Only Angraecoid Orchids – Beth Martin

#### **Orchids Magazine this month:**

Macrobulbon Bulbophyllums – Charles Wilson Orchid Roots – Fred Clarke Stakes – Carlos Macku

**Photos of Latest AOS Awards** 

### **Renew Your Membership**

We'll be collecting dues for 2021 through March. Dues are \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family. You can mail your membership check to SAOS c/o Linda Stewart, 1812 Diana Drive, Palatka 32177. If you prefer to renew your membership online, you can use the PayPal link on our website. Easy Peasy!

### Shop Smile.Amazon

Click this <u>Smile.Amazon link</u> to select the St. Augustine Orchid Society as your charity. For eligible purchases, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to us.





### Keiki Club – Growing Area Tour Repotting Madness at the Bottom's

We had over two dozen people at our annual repotting party Keiki Club get-together and growing area tour at the Bottom's. We talked about how you prepare plants for repotting, and then the repotting frenzy began. Charlie manned a mounting table, with all the pecky cypress mounts he had prepared and we had a tray of seedlings and nodosa hybrids for members. Tom manned a basketing table, with all the wire baskets he prepared and divisions of RI. digbyana and Onc. maculatum to give to members. Sue and other SAOS members manned the potting table with divisions, keikis to give away, plus plants that Harry had donated to the effort. Everyone dropped \$5 in the donation bucket and walked away with new plants, and had lots of fun!

# **INSPIRATION**





### Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@gmail.com

Q1. This is a Phal. Yaphon Green Batman that seems okay except for the drooping. I use reverse osmosis water with Epsom salts when watering. Any suggestions?



**A1.** Perhaps you should knock it out of the pot and take a look at the roots. I'd guess there is a root problem. Norman's Orchids packs the sphagnum very very tight on their phals, so even when the top may feel dryish, the bottom of the pot is still wet, so it is very easy to overwater them. Knock it out of the pot and check the roots, that will guide your course of action.

**Q2.** I am having a problem with the flowers of some of my dendrobiums. The buds are damaged. They either fall off or if they develop into flowers the petals are small, deformed and damaged. I don't really know if it is a fungal disease or caused by pests



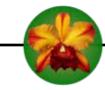


**A2.** Just looking at the flowers, you couldn't rule out bacterial blighting, but my guess would be thrips based on the damage you are seeing on the buds. Thrips are very difficult to control. They crawl into the buds and chew on them long before the flower is ready to open. If this is a persistent problem, you can spray the buds and flowers once or twice a week with Orthene to prevent the damage, or drench the plants every 6 weeks or so with Orthene. There's more information here.

**Q3.** I got my first 2 Catasetums last year and am noticing something strange on both. There are dark brown, slightly sunken and a bit sticky, spots on a couple of older pseudobulbs. This only developed after I stopped watering them for their winter rest so I'm not inclined to think it is rot. The newest bulbs are still quite plump and I have a new growth just starting on one. Should I be concerned about these spots?



**A3.** Yes, it is rot. Feel the bulb, it probably feels pretty soft compared to the one next to it. This is not an aggresive rot like black rot in cattleyas. It is slow moving and you can just cut away the older bulbs when you repot, which you should consider doing now as the new green growth is emerging.





**Botrytis** by Dr. Courtney Hackney

There is likely no more important subject to orchid growers than pest and disease control. Many new hobbyists lose orchids to both before realizing there was a problem. Typically, by March, problems in your growing area manifest themselves because orchids are crowded together in cold windows and greenhouses.

This provides the ideal environment for disease and pests to spread from plant to plant.

I often get numerous inquiries asking what I use to combat pests of various kinds and disease. My reluctance to specify any given pesticide or product is not because of the fear of a lawsuit, but because there are so many variables that go into a successful control program. There are, however, some general products and approaches that have worked well for me, and are worth sharing. There are also cautions.

The first and most important rule is good sanitation, which includes adequate air movement, maintenance of appropriate temperature and humidity, and the removal of dead or infested plant tissues. Air needs to be exchanged with fresh outside air to lower bacterial and fungal spore levels. Indoor hobbyists may have the same problem when their growing area is semi-enclosed. These steps alone solve at least half of the potential bacteria/fungal problems.

Botrytis, black spots on flowers, is a common problem in winter or in overly humid greenhouses. This is rarely a problem when there is good air movement or when night temperatures are above 65 F. Once Botrytis appears in a greenhouse it can be difficult to eliminate. It can be done, however. First, remove all dead tissues from benches, floors, and plants. Flowers with these black spots will also need to be removed. Spray walkways, benches and other non-living surfaces with Physan or another agent that kills bacteria at the recommended dose. Note that there are usually two different Physan mixing formulas; one for orchid applications and one for sterilizing non-living surfaces. Some growers use a 10% Clorox solution to kill bacteria on nonliving surfaces.

The next step is to kill the spores that are hiding on plants. One of the best products is an old copper based product called Kocide. It is relatively inexpensive, but not always readily available for the hobbyist. Apply at the recommended level to all plants, but not on flowers. It will



leave a blue sheen on leaves. It also has the added benefit of inhibiting slugs as copper is deadly to them and they will not cross a leaf covered with this product.

The next step is very important. Increase air movement beyond what you had before. Every flower in the greenhouse needs to move in the breeze you create. Never water if there is even the slightest chance that the day will be cloudy. Remove any water remaining on leaves before nightfall. If new spots appear, apply hydrogen peroxide. This is the same concentration used for cleaning a wound and can be purchased at any drug store. Dab the infected area with a cotton ball or remove the flower. If more spots appear, then air movement is not adequate or night temperatures are below 65F.

Fungi also prefer moist conditions and respond to the same control measures. All four of these products (Clorox, Physan, Kocide, and Hydrogen Peroxide) have been around for a long time, which gives me some confidence that there are few unknown side effects. They are all dangerous poisons and I treat each as if it was the most toxic product on the planet and wear protective gloves, respirator, and clothing. It never hurts to be over cautious. Be especially careful when preparing the Kocide solution as the fine powder can easily become airborne and inhaled.

Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from March 2007.





### **Bulbophyllum Cultural Requirements**

by Dr. Clair R. Ossian, reprinted with permission

I find it rather surprising that we do not see more of these delightful species grown in this day of crowded, smaller greenhouses. Most *Cirrhopetalum* species certainly fall under the heading of miniature plants, and a huge variety might well be grown in a small area. The average member of the group would have a plant height of three to six inches, while some unusual members might reach seven or eight inches. The (flowers are generally held nicely above the foliage.

The pseudobulbs arise from a creeping rootstock or rhizome, and this provides one of the few problems with these species — namely how do you keep them growing where you want them? These plants are very hard to contain in a pot, as they tend to grow quickly over the side and wander off. The only other disadvantages known to me are the short flower life (seldom more than a week), and the need for constant dampness combined with perfect drainage in the growing medium. The short flower life is made less of a drawback by the fact that these species may, and often do, flower for months at a time with a new inflorescence every few days to a week throughout much of the year. In fact, in our greenhouse, species come in and out of bloom rather randomly throughout the year with no obvious blooming season.

Other good features include a growth habit that produces bifurcating rhizomes and a rampant growth habit such that plants may be brought to specimen size easily. A single-lead plant with four or five pseudobulbs will make up several new growths a year, filling and growing over the sides of a four-inch pot in two or three seasons.

The exotic flowers with the odd shapes, strange appendages and striking blooming habits also provide another plus — brilliant color. The species mentioned in this article range through purples, reds, roses, yellows, oranges and ochres, and most are well marked with dots or stripes of contrasting colors.



Bulb. medusae growing for many years in a 6 inch plastic vanda basket.

Although most *Cirrhopetalum* species will flourish well in a warm, temperate greenhouse like ours here in Texas, numerous species originate in moderate to high altitudes and will tolerate cooler temperatures as well, a big plus in energy-conscious households. Before buying any plants, check the literature for those species that come from the higher localities if you are buying for low-temperature tolerance.

Media selection is simple but critical. *Cirrhopetalum* species and hybrids need a good bit of water throughout the year, with a few deciduous exceptions such as *Cirrhopetalum refractum* in which a dry, resting spell is needed. To satisfy the dampness requirement without causing rot problems, a medium must be used that will hold dampness while allowing perfect drainage. Experience has shown that there are two strategies that seem to work best.





Bulb. Meen Ocean Brocade x Bulb medusae growing in a shallow clay basket from Joanna Shaw.

Continued on page 9



### Continued from page 8





Bulb. sanguineopunctatum growing on a wooden raft.

One is to grow the plants in shallow bulb pans, azalea pots, or baskets filled with a fine medium like seedling fir bark, chopped tree fern fiber, or mixtures of chopped osmunda and perlite (the latter recommended by Teuscher, 1974). Such means will allow the plant to ramble as it wishes, while still providing the moist medium needed for the fine roots. The second method involves mounting the plants on slabs of tree fern or oak bark, thus allowing the rhizome to behave as though it were still on its native tree. While tree fern slabs are getting rare and expensive, in areas like ours where the main fireplace wood is oak, a visit to your wood seller will generally get you some slabs of loose oak bark that make excellent plant mounts lasting for years. If pots or bulb pans are used, remember to fill the container mainly with drainage materials such as rocks or crock, and just fill the uppermost parts with the medium selected. A deep medium means a medium that stays too wet and one that rots too soon.

The selection of shallow containers or slabs will be governed in part by the nature of the species involved. *Cirrhopetalum makoyanum* is cooperative and will stay in a small area for years, while *Cirrhopetalum ornatissiumum* needs to wander and will only be really happy on a slab.

Most of the species will grow lushly and rapidly in low to medium light levels, but the flowers will be few. Move the plants to a spot that will allow maximum light levels in combination with the needed moisture. In general, the higher the light, the more numerous the flowering spikes. Fertilize the plants just as you would cattleyas in growing conditions, and good growth should result.

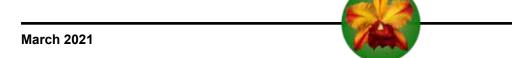
Problems aside from the above are few. In our collection, we sometimes see mealy bugs, but these are easily controlled with insecticides. The fine medium discussed above seems to encourage bush snails, so watch out for these! Some authors have suggested growing cirrhopetalums in long-fibered sphagnum moss, but we find that it is very hard to keep bush snails out of sphagnum.

Cirrhopetalums are fascinating orchids to grow, and I hope more growers will be persuaded of this by the conclusion of parts two and three of this series.

This is excerpted from the first of four bulbo articles written by Dr. Clair R Ossian in 1983 before most of the species were transferred from the genus Cirrhopetalum to Bulbophyllum; this one appeared in the American Orchid Society Orchids magazine in February 1983 (Vol.83:2, pp.116-117).



Bulb corolliferum growing in a shallow Joanna Shaw clay basket.



### **Bulbophyllum Culture**

by Leslie Brickell



Bulbophyllums were one of the first orchid groups that I purchased in a substantial quantity. Then, Courtney's catts came to stay for a while and Sue's catts on the show table stole my heart, and I went cattleya crazy! But back to bulbos, I love to water and since bulbos love water and heat (my greenhouse can get hot in the summer), they are very hard to kill, and can grow pretty fast. I figured they were a good fit for me as a beginner.

First off, I truly believe that my well water is my best growing friend. I am so grateful for my good water. My bulbos get watered whenever they are approaching dryness. With bulbos, if in doubt, water. Bulbos have small roots so they tend to dry out faster. Salts can build up in dry



Bulb. gracillimum 'Joy's Dancing Spider' AM/AOS grown and flowered by Leslie Brickell.

sphagnum (not a good thing for any plant). Now to offset all the watering, air movement is essential. You do not want the bulbos just sitting in wet sphagnum constantly. There needs to be some gradual change from wet to semi dry. In summer, I usually water them every day to every other day; winter is usually every 2 to 3 days. This really depends on your growing space, air movement, plant size, and potting media used. It has taken me a while to find my niche... I am a slow learner!



Bulb. lilacinum grown and flowered by Leslie Brickell.

Second, I have a Dosatron and it sure makes feeding a piece of cake. I fertilize every time I water using a very dilute fertilize, equivalent to a rate of about 1/32 tsp/gallon.

The best growth I seem to get is from either 6 inch square plastic baskets with a layer of peanuts for drainage and then a small amount of good sphagnum moss or mounted on tree fern plaques. Bill Thoms showed how to use tree fern plaques correctly at one of our meetings. Holding the plaque vertically, if water runs out fast, turn it 90 degrees.

Continued on page 11

### Continued from page 10

The plaque will hold more water and as we know, bulbos really like water. I did start out with wooden baskets and wooden plaques but they rot and then you have to repot and bulbos don't like to be repotted. So the few that I still have on wood will eventually need to be changed out once the wood rots. I am not looking forward to this because the bulbos are fairly large. Of course, this may be an excellent opportunity to share with others!

I do have sachet bags (Linda told me about the sachet bags that can be purchased at the Dollar Store) filled with organics hanging over the bulbos. The organics I use is Mills Magic. I have used this for years with my roses. It is awesome stuff, you should see my geraniums! It can be found at the Rosemania.com website. They ship orders over \$25 for free.

Now, about light and air movement. In the beginning, everything I read seemed to call for shade or low light. Only a couple of sources called for bright light. So, I began with lower light like my phals liked and over the years have moved them around to eventually finding homes in bright light like my catts. My bloom counts and bloom frequency have increased greatly with the increased light. I have bulbos hanging in the greenhouse with no other

plants shading them and have bulbos getting afternoon sun (in the greenhouse). I think the key is to have lots of air movement. This keeps the leaves cool. I have added a couple of plug in fans to blow on my bulbos 24/7.

Bulbos are good with high temperatures. They like hot. Those hot summers encourage rapid growth. However, this also means that during winter, bulbos need protection. I keep my heater at 60 degrees on those chilly winter nights.

Finding bulbos locally to purchase can be difficult. You would think that an orchid family that is so large would be available everywhere. Bulbophyllum blooms are not as showy as many other types of orchids so it does make sense that you will need to search for them on line. Every bulbo I own (except 2 that Courtney gave to me) has been purchased on line and shipped to me. That shipping can get expensive!

My advice is to take advantage of plants for sale by Bill Thoms when he comes to speak, seek bulbo vendors when you attend large orchid shows (will life ever get back to normal so we can have and attend these wonderful shows?), and make friends with SAOS members who grow bulbos and will share cuttings for free. Bulbos grow fast. That cutting will bloom within a year. And, according to Courtney, bulbos DON'T get virus!



Bulb. mastersianum grown and flowered by Leslie Brickell.



# **ORCHID ADVENTURES**



March 2021

# **SHOW TABLE**



Grower Allen Black Lc. Miss Wonderful 'Pandemic Hope'



Grower Mary Ann Bell Blc. Hsinying Catherine 'Hakucho' AM/AOS



Grower Sheila Nathanson Phrag. Sunset Glow



Grower Suzanne Susko Fdk. After Dark 'SVO Black Pearl' FCC/AOS



Grower Steve Dorsey Lpt. bicolor



Grower Sue Bottom
Coel. Unchained Melody 'Mendenhall'



Grower Leslie Brickell
Chysis bractescens



# **SHOW TABLE**



Grower Sue Bottom Hab. Regnieri



Grower Steve Dorsey Dendrochilum (Ddc.) wenzelii



Grower Suzanne Susko
Cl. Rebecca Northen 'Grapefruit Pink'



Grower Shelia Nathanson Blira. Pluto's Drummer 'Pacfic Pink'



Grower Leslie Brickell Bulb. ambrosia



Grower Bea Orendorff Den. tetragonum

Link to all Pictures. https://www.flickr.com/gp/44931404@N04/8Rxf02