

GREATER LAS VEGAS ORCHID SOCIETY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2004 2 PM
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE USUAL PLACE, THE NEVADA GARDEN CLUB BUILDING AT WASHINGTON AND TWIN LAKES ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF LORENZI PARK. THE BUILDING WILL BE OPEN AT 1PM.

Carol Siegel, Newsletter Editor

CAROL SIEGEL- PRESIDENT
CLARICE DEAN -VICE-PRESIDENT
EILEEN MCKYTON- SECRETARY
DIANA SMITH- TREASURER

AND...

Dan Mumau, Michael Lawless - Membership Hospitality Chairmen
Eileen McKyton and Dan Hawley- Welcome Desk
Lillian Patterson- Photographer and Historian
Dan Mumau and Tony Billitere- Raffle Chairmen
Phyllis Bond, Leslie Doyle, Shelly North and Eileen McKyton- Special Events Chairmen
Jeri Lee and Tony Billitere- Community Liaison
Alex McKyton -Building Chairmen and Webmaster
Tex Severance and Mike Levin- Show and Tell Gurus
Tex and Gidget Severance- Judging Chairmen
Scotty Nogaim- Election Chairman, Raffle Lady
Steve Ninemire Library Chairman Clarice Dean, Assistant Librarian
Clarice Dean- Trip Chairman
John Haydukavitch-Video Chief
Shelly North-Classy Club Apparel Chairlady

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Sept 12, 2004 Mike Blitz, Exotic Orchids of Maui "What's
Happening in the World of Cattleyas"
SECOND SUNDAY

October 3, 2004 Aaron Hicks, "The Orchid Seed Bank"
November 7, 2004 Bill Bergstrom, "Weird and Wonderful
Orchids"

December 5, 2004 Fifth International Food Fest/HolidayParty"

January 9, 2005	Mike Glikbarg, Orchids of Los Osos, "Odontoglossum & Oncidinae" SECOND SUNDAY
February 6, 2005	Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids, "Orchid Growing For Dummies"
March 6, 2005	Jerry Fischer, owner Orchids Limited, "The Orchids of Borneo"
April 3, 2005	Charles Rowden, "Orchid Photography"
May 1, 2005	Dr. Joseph Arditti "Techniques Orchids Use to Survive in the Wild"
June 5, 2005	Sue Fordyce, owner Fordyce Orchids " " "Sophronitis and Her Sisters"/"Orchid Sign Language"
July 10, 2005	SECOND SUNDAY Sheldon Takahashi, o Carmela's Orchids, "Cattleyas"
August 7, 2005	Barbecue
September 11, 2005	Virtual Greenhouse Tour
November 6, 2005	The Adventures of Dennis D'Allesandro in Bolivia"
December 4, 2005	Sixth Annual International Food Fest and Holiday Party

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After the fires finally finished blazing on Mt. Charleston, our fun-loving group partied at our Annual Barbecue at the home of Eldine Stevens. It was so gracious of her to take us all in. We were grateful, too, that just our food and not our members were roasted over the flames. The club provided the meat, chicken and fish and drinks for the barbecue, prepared by the expert professional team of Dan Mumau and Mike Lawless, owners of A Catered Affair. They were up early in the morning and worked tirelessly to prepare the great food, glamorously presented. Once again, members outdid themselves with scrumptious side dishes and desserts, and we all enjoyed eating, drinking, and shmoozing, some of our favorite things. Clarice Dean

did a great little talk on what to do with the dendrobiums we endlessly win on the raffle, donated by the hotels and brought to meeting by Dan and Mike and Tony. They are often in distressed condition (the orchids not Dan, Mike and Tony...) but with a little TLC and some good cultural practices, you can have magnificent blooms, just as Clarice does! Clarice has consented to write up her little talk as a Species of the Month for August for those who missed it, and I hope to have it in the next newsletter.

In July, we enjoyed the funny and educational talk on the uses of orchids for sex, medicine, and the like. It was very interesting, and we all learned and laughed a lot. Many thanks to Steve Ninemire, Zaide Cadenas, William Whaley and Evan Acker Hyde for the delicious food at the meeting. We have never had so many orchids for sale in the history of the club. Daniel Vong brought beautiful oncidium, brassias and phalaenopsis for us to buy and provided the raffle table with lots of supplies. Mike Levin had magnificent phrags and paphs which we loved. Eileen McKyton, sold mini-cattleyas from Carmela's Orchids, and the club made \$140. Generous Leslie Doyle donated \$60 to the club from her iris sales. How sweet of her!

Clarice Dean had a non-orchid Species of the Month, Spanish moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*), which is fun to grow in the greenhouse as an indicator of high humidity and good growing conditions. The gray-green filaments hang in great masses from trees. Not really a moss, it is closely related to pineapples and bromeliads. Drape pieces over potted and mounted plants to increase humidity in the immediate area. Don't pot it!! It has no roots and likes to grow in air.

I presented a short slide show on the club's experience at Ash Meadows collecting *Spiranthes infernalis* for the American Orchid Society *Spiranthes* phylogeny (DNA) study. We will probably never again be allowed to DIG UP these orchids, and we thought it would be

fun to share the experience with the whole club. The club will get mention in the paper that comes out. Clarice prepared a lovely poster on this event with photos she had taken that day. There were also some slides on the native orchids I photographed on Bruce Peninsula, Canada, when I went with the Botanical Society of America. There were 46 native orchids, and I saw twenty in bloom!! Our library has a book on these orchids.

In July, our club realized its goal of having an article on the native orchids of Nevada published in THE NATIVE ORCHID CONFERENCE JOURNAL. Our club is mentioned by name several times in the article, and I was pleased to write an article that will make people realize that we- and Nevada- are important in the world of native orchids. Nothing has ever been written before on our native orchids.

On September 12th, Mike Blitz, owner of Exotic Orchids of Maui, will do a power-point presentation on cattleyas. He will discuss what is happening in the world of cattleyas and tell us how to grow them, too. He will be providing plants for sale and for the raffle. If you would like to pre-order plants from him, he will bring them with him, and you can save the shipping charges. You can find his website at www.mauiorchids.com, and you can contact him with your order. He will also be bringing plants. Diana Smith, Clarice Dean, Carol Siegel, Carol Spencer, and Anna Marie Nagai in advance for providing food for the meeting.

I have included TWO articles with the newsletter that discuss cultural concerns, one on how to bloom orchids, and one on growing techniques. We will make a special effort to teach culture throughout the year.

KEEP COOL. KEEP BLOOMING. KEEP SAFE. Love, Carol
growlove@cox.net 254-4168

Making Spaghetti Sauce By Carol Siegel

My good friend Leslie Doyle makes great spaghetti sauce. Known as the "Tomato Lady", she uses only fresh tomatoes from her garden which she serves chopped, uncooked, and slathered with delicious basil, garlic and olive oil. My husband says I make good spaghetti sauce, too. I use meatballs and Italian sausage and cook it all for 2 hours. It's delicious! Growing orchids is like making spaghetti sauce. Everybody does it differently, and it's still good. There are a lot of different ways to grow great orchids, too.

That was certainly evident at the Orchid Digest Speaker's Day, which I attended in California on July 17, 2004. It was a glorious event with great food, good wine, plants for sale, silent auctions—and many speakers with very different opinions on how to grow. They were all successful nursery owners and sold the beautiful results of their cultural practices. Some sparks flew as they presented their ideas. Let me share with you some of their thoughts.

DIATOMITE: POTTING MIX WONDER

The first speakers were Ramona Wilson and Fred Clarke who presented the new growing medium that is all the rage- and which they sell- diatomite (accent on the first "a"). They had boundless praise for their Maidenwell Diatomite from Australia at \$22 a 40 liter bag (available at Sunset Valley Orchids -760-639-5255- or Islander Delights -858-273-7288). I am always a little wary of people who both recommend AND SELL products but I am liking the diatomite I bought from them. Smart Dr. Harold Koopowitz says that there has been a new potting mix that is all the rage every five years for the last 120 years which just goes to show how easy orchids are to grow.

Diatomite is primarily the fossilized remains of fresh water Diatoms, little one-celled creatures from lakes, whose bodies are rich in silica. There are large deposits of diatomite in Lompoc, California, but this is from salt water, which is not good for orchids. The one they sell was laid down centuries ago in Queensland, Australia. It is heated to 600 degrees Celsius where the particles clump. They are then broken up and graded into three sizes, small 1/16" to 1/4", medium 1/4" to 5/8" and large 5/8" to 1".

It looks just like the pretty little rocks you put in an aquarium but is highly absorbent, absorbing one-and-a-half times its weight in water! It is free of weed seeds and pathogens, pH neutral and inert, which means it never decomposes. It also does not compact in the container, maintaining the openness of the mix, vital to providing air to orchid roots. Ramona Wilson says it just flows into the pot and staking of the newly-potted plant becomes unnecessary. I am particularly interested in anything that will keep my phragmipedium nice and wet and upright in the pot.

However, they mix their diatomite with some organic material like orchid bark and coconut chunks because the organic material supports microbial activity to help absorb fertilizer and promote optimal growth. They presented a variety of mix recipes, most of which seemed to be 2 parts of diatomite with 1 part bark or coconut chunks with some perlite thrown in for good measure. For paphs, they recommend going half and half with the diatomite and the bark/coconut. If you use these mixes, you need to fertilize as usual.

They did say that they have found, contrary to most claims, that their diatomite does not prevent bugs in any way. The usual thought has been that the silica in the diatoms would cut insects (like slugs and ants...) and cause them to dessicate and dry. They, alas, have not found that to be true.

ALAN KOCH AND DOING IT REALLY DIFFERENT...

Well, Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids didn't care for diatomite at all!! By the way, he will come and speak to us in February 2005 so you can argue with him then. He grows charming mini-cattleyas in a dry area of Central Valley, California. He uses only New Zealand sphagnum moss, which he prefer "to the cheap Chinese kind..." He puts a loose collar of moss just around the top one inch of the mini-catt in a clay pot, leaving the rest of the roots to dangle free in air in the pot. That's right!! THEN, he pours 3% hydrogen peroxide straight from the bottle through the recently repotted orchid. He only does this at the time of repotting. He says that the orchid itself produces 5% hydrogen peroxide at the junction where a leaf has fallen off to prevent infection of the plant. If something has a bacterial or fungus problem, he waters it THREE times with the peroxide.

He is also most fond of foliar feeding, meaning he sprays micronutrients on the orchid leaves rather than macronutrients at the roots. Many plants, he claims, have sensitive roots that don't like salts and do better with fertilizer through the leaves. He likes to spray seaweed extract on the underside of the leaves in the solution recommended. One time he adds a little ironite and the next time adds a little CMS from Hydrofarm, which has calcium and magnesium. He foliar feeds (sprays leaves) three times for every one time he gives regular fertilizer to the roots. (Dr. Koopowitz thinks orchids absorb just as well through the tops of their leaves so disagrees about the need to water the BOTTOM of the leaves only.... No wonder we are confused...) He believes when watering the roots that it is essential to use a non-urea source of nitrogen (it says on the packages..). Well, you can't argue with his gorgeous plants.

GEORGE VASQUEZ AND GROWING GREAT PHALAENOPSIS

I think I have George of Zuma Canyon Orchids convinced to come to speak to us in 2005. He was very hands-on and practical and grows great phalaenopsis at cheap prices. He said he **LIKES** to use cheap Chilean moss (boys...boys...) and said that you have to match your growing techniques to the kind of medium you use. He showed how sphagnum moss retains eight times as much water as bark and said you only need to water plants in moss **EVERY TWO WEEKS**. The plants need, according to George, only one cup of water every two weeks. Additionally, a plant in sphagnum needs only one-tenth the fertilizer of plants potted in other mediums since no nitrogen is required to break down the medium as in bark. He believes he saves \$3-to-4000 a month on his small nursery with the reduced watering and fertilizing.

When he pots, he puts tree seal on any part of the plant he cuts that will touch water. He buries his stem one extra inch into the pot so the new roots grow into the pot. He puts lots of moss all the way around the plants, not just an inch like Alan Koch. He likes to put styrofoam peanuts in the bottom (lots...) and likes plastic pots. He said the peanuts give good aeration around the roots. The first two speakers didn't like styrofoam at all. George covers the wholes in the bottom of the pot with the peanuts so the roots don't grow out the bottom of the holes, which would make it difficult to repot without root damage.

He broke my heart by saying we should **NOT** cut spent stems of phalaenopsis down to the first or third node which often stimulates another blooming since this weakens the plant. He says we should just cut it off after flowering and let it rest. Imagine...

He stressed that to rebloom phals you need a 22 degree difference between day and night temperature in the fall, but stressed that phals should not get **TOO** cold at night, such as going much below 60.

DR. HAROLD KOOPOWITZ AND PAPHS

Well, Harold would have none of the new-fangled stuff. He likes to grow his paphs in half small bark and half 5/8" RED lava rock, soaking the bark for 48 hours and using only that which floats to the top. He thinks using water free of the calcium and salts we have in our water is most important and stresses getting good air movement with fans. Paphs must be repotted every nine months, with spring and summer being the best time. Don't put the paph in too big a pot and use twist-ties to make artificial roots if your plants has lost its roots. Foliar feed with a sprayer on the TOP of the leaves and use plain old Miracle Gro with a commercial sprayer. He thinks the slight injury that potting does to the roots stimulates growth. He is enthusiastic about using cinnamon on his plants to stimulate growth and as a paph tonic.

With paphs, stake the flower spikes after the first flower has been open for one week to prevent nodding of the flower. Don't move your paph once it initiates a spike since the spike will be curved and wavy from the changes in light. Make sure other plants are not blocking your plant or it will bend looking for the light.

Well, it was just fascinating. In my humble opinion, the most important thing to do is find out what works for you with your favorite kind of orchids in your peculiar environment. If it is not working, keep trying. When you find the right recipe, just enjoy your spaghetti, I mean, orchids...

TEN QUESTIONS TO MAKE YOUR ORCHIDS BLOOM

By Carol Siegel

Orchids are the royalty of the flower world. They do as they darn-well please. Sometimes, they just drive us crazy by refusing to bloom. They just sit there looking all big and green, full of LEAVES but not even a trace of a flower.

When you ask your orchids, "Why? Why won't you bloom?," these are the questions your orchids might ask YOU. The answers to these questions will help you to more blooming success

1. AM I HEALTHY ENOUGH TO BLOOM?

Healthy plants bloom. Dying plants just try to stay alive. (Of course, there is always the martyr mother orchid who blooms right before she dies, but this is not the usual case.) If your orchid thinks it is in a concentration camp, it is not going to be willing to invest energy in flowers and seeds. It may not trust you yet. There are four stages of orchid growing: keeping the plant alive, making the plant bloom, making the plant bloom spectacularly, winning awards. Maybe you are not ready to make an orchid bloom; maybe you are at stage one. Just not killing your orchid may be an accomplishment for you. If your plant has no roots, droopy leaves, and shriveled pseudobulbs, you need to improve your culture. Make sure you have 50% or more humidity. Use a pot that is not too big and has good draining and make sure your potting medium is fresh. Give your orchids that right amount of water for the potting medium you use. Water bark more than moss, for example. Use reverse-osmosis, deionized, or potassium-softened water. Read the AOS Bulletin. Get the Orchid Digest. Go online to websites that discuss orchid growth. Ask questions at meetings. Buy or take out some books on orchid growing. Ask questions at our Virtual Greenhouse meeting. Improve your growing techniques, and blooming may soon follow.

2. AM I OLD ENOUGH TO BLOOM?

Okay. So your orchid is healthy. However, there are other considerations. You would not expect a two-year-old girl to date, marry and have children. She is just too young. Your plant may be too young to bloom no matter how good you are at raising orchids. Orchid plants have a long childhood: they take from four to twelve years to reach their adulthood- their "blooming size". Smaller, less expensive plants are often a good value, but don't expect them to bloom for a long time. If you are like me and like instant gratification, then you need to buy larger, blooming size plants (BS). If you buy a plant in bloom or with old spike stubs showing, then you will be sure your orchid is old enough to bloom.

3. AM I GETTING ENOUGH LIGHT?

Judywhite in her important article from the June 1990 AOS Bulletin ("Beginner's Series- Part VI Why on Earth Won't It Bloom?")- from which I got many of the ideas in this little article- says that the leading reason orchids don't bloom is that they are not getting enough light.

There are all sorts of fancy ways to tell if your plant is getting enough light, but leaf color is a really good guide. Dark green leaves mean that your plant is not getting enough light. It is making extra chlorophyll to manufacture food in the poor light so it is deep green. Moderate to light green leaves usually mean that your plant is getting the right amount of light to bloom. Have you ever noticed that your houseplants are really dark green? We think that that color is pretty, but houseplants almost never bloom!! Dark green is the wrong leaf color for blooming. How many of us say that we have a ton of houseplants, why can't we grow orchids? We mean why can't we BLOOM orchids. Well, keep them a deep green in poor light and you

will have the yards of foliage that houseplants have and no blooms. More light means more blooms.

4. HOW COULD I GET MORE LIGHT?

Think of ways to get more light in your growing area. If you grow under lights, use grow-light fluorescent or HID bulbs which mimic sunlight and not regular bulbs. Make sure you are replacing your grow-light bulbs at least once a year and more if you can afford it. The light output drops dramatically in fluorescent bulbs long before they burn out. Put high-light requiring plants like cattleyas closer to the middle of the bulbs since light falls off dramatically at the ends of the bulbs. Increase light by bringing the top of your orchids closer to the fluorescent or HID (high-intensity discharge) lights. Clean the lens covering your HID light and dust your fluorescents. Clean your orchid leaves on a regular basis. Increase the amount of time your lights are on with a timer. More time equals more light. Make sure your plants are not so crowded together that leaves are blocking other plants' leaves from getting light.

If you grow on a windowsill or greenhouse, make sure your window or glass is clean! Bring the plant closer to the window of your house or glass of your greenhouse for more light. Buy a light meter and see if your window or greenhouse is getting enough light. It might be too dark to bloom orchids. You can add artificial lights to your window or greenhouse to supplement your natural light. You can make your growing area more reflective with white paint, mirrored tiles or mylar.

5. AM I GETTING DIFFERENT AMOUNTS OF LIGHT ACCORDING TO THE SEASON??

Your orchid is genetically programmed to bloom in response to certain signals from the rainforest or jungle or mountaintop where it evolved. Your living room may be missing these signals. Your job is to

reproduce the signals that tell your orchid that all is well in the environment, that it is safe to bloom as it has for aeons. One of the most important signals that some orchids (like cattleyas) need is a variation in light and darkness according to the seasons.

If you are growing in a greenhouse, Mother Nature will take care of varying the amount of light with the seasons giving you less light in December and many more hours of light in June. Your orchid will be happy. If you supplement your greenhouse light with artificial light, you will have to put your artificial light on a timer to mimic the light that nature is giving- no light on at 1am when it is otherwise dark in your greenhouse.

If you are growing in a windowsill in the living room, and light is always on for the same number of hours while you conduct your normal life, your orchid will be missing its signal to bloom. You need to block the living room or TV light with a screen or sheet or such or put the orchid in a room that is seldom-used and can be dark when it is dark outside.

If you grow under lights in a garage or basement or bathroom, you need to turn on and turn off your lights with a timer. I set my timer for 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness in December gradually increasing to 18 hours of light and 6 hours of darkness in June and gradually decreasing to 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness in December, just as in nature. This fools my orchids into thinking that all is well in their garage-rain forest, that there is day and there is night, that there is winter and there is summer. Ah, they can bloom!!

6. AM I GETTING LOWER TEMPERATURE IN THE WINTER AND AT NIGHT?

As important as shortened day length is, it is equally important that nighttime temperature drop. If the temperature is the same day and night, buds will not initiate as well. Most plants require that it get at least ten degrees cooler at night than in the day for spike development. Some plants like cymbidium and phalaenopsis need a twenty-degree drop to initiate buds. Some plants like paphiopedilum require a temperature drop in the winter more than a change in day length to spike. Paphs with roth or stonei in their background and phals in general like three weeks at just below 60 degrees on winter nights to initiate a spike.

If you grow in your living room, opening a window will often do the trick. Turn the thermostat down at night. If you grow under lights, temperature will drop about 5 degrees when the lights are off at night. I grow in my garage and lift my plastic insulation and open the garage door for a few minutes to let in some cooler air. (Be careful not to have cold air blowing directly on your plants). Open the door in your greenhouse a crack. Get a minimum-maximum thermometer (available at many places including Charley's Greenhouse) to see just what a variation you have in temperature. You **MUST** have a temperature difference at night. Warm growing orchids like phals like winter nights of about 60 degrees. Intermediate growers like winter nights about 55 degrees. Cymbidiums and some odontoglossums like it around 50. However, just dropping temperature 10 degrees at night will go a long way to making your plants bloom.

7. AM I GETTING GOOD AIR MOVEMENT?

Sometimes, buds are produced and they "blast", the dreaded bud blast, scourge of the orchid grower, little brown stubs that were meant to become flowers. There are a million reasons for bud blast (I think some buds are just mean...), but moisture around the bud is a prime one. Invest in a lot of fans, on low, gently swaying your orchid

leaves, drying out the moisture around the buds, making good air movement, preventing fungus and rot and bacteria from getting your bud. I take a straw and blow away the moisture around my paph buds, sometimes using a Q-tip, too. Take special care not to get the little buds wet. Sue Fordyce recommended during her talk that we cut the tip off cattleya bud sheaths to let in a little air and dry out the inside of the sheath.

8. IS THIS THE RIGHT TIME FOR ME TO BLOOM? ARE YOU JUST IMPATIENT?

Most orchids bloom once a year, often at the same time every year. For example, *Cattleya* Irene Holquin 'Brown Eyes' always blooms for Mother's Day. If you buy it in June, you will probably have to wait until next May to have it bloom. There is no point in lamenting about your poor blooming record in December. December is not the right time for your plant to bloom. The plant is behaving just the way it was meant to. If you buy six plants in December, and they are all in bloom, don't expect any blooms (if these are your only plants) until NEXT December. Orchids do not bloom all the time. Cattleyas are gorgeous, but their blooms only last 2-4 weeks. The rest of the time they will be leaves. Paph blooms last from 1-3 months. The bloom, to some, is not as showy, but it will bloom for a long time. Some phals seem to be in bloom most of the time. Stanhopea and sobralia blooms last only days. Know your plant and don't expect it to do what it was not meant to do.

Some growers recommend a little epsom salts (one or two tablespoons) in a gallon of water for phals to coax them to bloom. Many believe that switching to a "blossom booster" fertilizer at the time when buds are starting to form (often fall) helps initiate buds and produces better flowers. Blossom booster are lower in nitrogen and higher in phosphorus and potassium which are needed more for flowers. You might try these.

9. AM I THE RIGHT PLANT FOR YOUR GROWING AREA?

Matching your plant to your growing setup is very important. There are 25,000 species and countless hybrids of orchids. Some you will not be able to grow in your little growing area no matter what you do. Some will flourish with great care, and some will just love your combination of benign neglect and inexperience.

If you keep killing one type of orchid, try another type. If one type of orchid likes your set-up, buy more of these! Use the period when you are struggling with your plants to learn the kinds of orchids you want to specialize in. I personally specialize in anything that does not die, first, and that blooms often and well, second. My growing area is too small to be a hospital. It is certainly not a REST home. If you bloom, you are in. If you don't, well, then you are not right for my area. You are a GIFT. And it is funny. My zygopetalum just sulked under my grow lights. I gave them to my friend. Under HER grow lights, they did fabulously well. Go know! If you don't have lots of light, try paphs and phals. If you have LOTS of light, try dendrobium and cattis. Move stuff around. Sometimes, one spot is cool and wet and another just a few feet away is hotter and drier. Experiment.

10. AM I SUFFERING FROM PURCHASE SETBACK?

It is quite common for plants that you have just purchased to go through a period of sulking after you get them. They have been ripped from their wonderful home in Hawaii or some such with swaying breezes, ideal humidity, and morning mists, stuffed in a dark box, and plunked down in your desert living room with nothing but your enthusiasm to sustain it. It may be in shock. It may not know what it did to deserve such a horrible fate. It may miss a whole blooming cycle. That's right. It may skip a year of blooming and not bloom for TWO years.

Don't take it personally. The plant is just saving its energy; it doesn't want to invest in seeds and flowers unless it knows they have a

chance of surviving. If you persist, your orchid will adapt, relax, and produce great blooms for you.

In fact, if your plant missed blooming on a new growth this year, it can still bloom on that growth next year. Our speaker Sam Tsui showed us a slide of an award-winning paph that had 18 blooms! When I asked how he got so many blooms, he said the plant had not bloomed on its new growths in a long time. Moving the plant to a new location sparked all the unbloomed new growth to spike, making a fabulous display. All is not lost!! In fact, your plant may just be saving up to win a great AOS reward for you. Smart plant!

So listen to your orchids. Increase your light. Varying the light with the seasons. Make it cooler at night. Buy a fan. Be patient. Most important, don't give up!! You can get your orchids to bloom!