



# ORCHIDS

## GVOS Online

Keep up with the latest news and announcements

### Facebook

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

### Email

[grandvalleyorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:grandvalleyorchidsociety@gmail.com)

### Instagram

<https://instagram.com/grandvalleyorchidsociety>

## Calendar

### NOV

Zoom meeting with GLOS and AAOS

### DEC

Zoom Meeting?

### Jan

TBA

### Feb

TBA

### March

TBA

### April

TBA

## GVOS Board

### President

Gordon Griffen

### Vice-President

Mei Ling Clemens



Robiquetia cerina 'Dona's Treasures' AM/AOS  
Grown by Oakwood Orchids and recently awarded the  
Roy T. Fukumura Vandaceous Award

## November

This month we will be once again joining with the GLOS and AAOS societies for their Zoom meeting. The speaker for this month will be Jim France of Oakwood Orchids. His topic will be breeding and growing novelty Phalaenopsis orchids.

GVOS members have been invited to participate in the virtual plant table. Please send the photos of your blooming orchids to Ioana Sonea (<[ioanamsona@gmail.com](mailto:ioanamsona@gmail.com)>) by Friday, Nov. 20, to

be included in the Virtual Plant Table at the Zoom meeting. Photos should be of an orchid currently in bloom. Please do not submit photos taking from a previous bloom cycle. Finally, come early to the Zoom meeting: the meeting will be open to socializing 15 minutes before the officially start.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Zoom information</b>
<p><b><i>Novelty Phalaenopsis</i></b></p> <p>Novelty Phalaenopsis are commonly defined as “special variants of the Phalaenopsis have a compact size, are frequently in bloom and have versatile colors. Each species has its own characteristics. There are species characterized by their strong scent or rare color combination.”</p>	<p>Topic: GLOS General meeting                      Time: 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)                      Every month on the Third Sat, 12 occurrence(s)                      Join Zoom Meeting  <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/701683513?pwd=REQzYnpxaTZjb3p6dDNZNWxCOS8xUT09">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/701683513?pwd=REQzYnpxaTZjb3p6dDNZNWxCOS8xUT09</a>                      Meeting ID: 701 683 513                      Password: 20-Orchids                      One tap mobile                      +19292056099,,701683513# US (New York)                      Meeting ID: 701 683 513</p>

Oakwood Orchids has been in business for 26 years. Their Facebook page states that they are an “Orchid grower & enthusiast specializing in more unique varieties. Highlight orchids grown without a greenhouse. Orchids, orchid care, & orchid culture. They also have been one of our regular vendors at our shows for many years. Recently they were just the proud recipients of the Roy T. Fukumura Vandaceous Award from the American Orchid Society. This award the award was established in the autumn of 1992 recognizes the work of Roy Fukumura, in honor of his lifetime accomplishments in hybridizing. The recipient of this award is the most outstanding vandaceous orchid awarded by the AOS during the previous calendar year. The photo of their award-winning plant is featured on the front of our newsletter.

Contact them through their Facebook page or email

Facebook

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

Email

[oakwoodorchids@gmail.com](mailto:oakwoodorchids@gmail.com)

Follow them on Instagram

<http://instagram.com/oakwoodorchids>

## Member News

Congratulations to Mei Ling Clemens for her recently awarded plant. In Octobers Great Lakes Judging Center monthly meeting, she submitted two plants for judging and one was awarded with an AM/AOS of 80 pts. She was able to give it a clonal name. She decided to name it after her mother who introduced her to orchids. Pictured below is the newly awarded and named Vandochostylis October Twenty Second 'Nyi Nyi Tham Henne'



Fall news from Sunset Valley Orchids. Fred Clark's emails on growing are always packed full of information and pictures. If you are not already subscribed to his newsletters, the November newsletter is included below



## November 2020 Sunset Valley Orchids Catasetinae Growing Tips

What a great year! Feedback from Catasetinae growers across the country has confirmed that this was a spectacular growing and flowering season.

Now that winter has clearly arrived, your *Catasetums* should have matured growths and be mostly done flowering, *Cycnoches* will be finishing their blooming, *Mormodes* should be flowering now, and *Clowesia* should be starting soon.

Those of you in Florida and southern states already have dormant plants. Those in other areas like here in California should be seeing good signals indicating the start of dormancy, with the lower leaves starting to turn yellow and brown before they drop off.

These four plants demonstrate the first stages of dormancy, from left to right: 1) no signs, 2) slight leaf tip yellowing, 3) obvious yellowing and beginning of leaf tip die back, 4) several yellow leaves and tip die back clearly evident.

Leaf yellowing and drop signal the beginning of dormancy. This is when you stop fertilizing and cut back on watering frequency, simulating the end of the wet season in nature. This change in culture will cause the pseudobulbs to harden off in preparation for the upcoming months of dormancy. When most leaves are yellow/brown and have fallen off, cease watering altogether. This marks the start of the dormant period.

Interestingly, not all plants enter dormancy on the same schedule, and it is not uncommon to have plants in several stages of dormancy at the same time. As plants progress toward their dormant period, I segregate some of my most important Catasetinae into groups at similar stages of leaf loss. Grouping plants this way makes watering easier and assures proper transition into dormancy. Also, not all plants lose



all of their green leaves when dormant, and it's not uncommon for some to hold a few leaves well past the point when irrigation has stopped.

The onset of dormancy is caused by several factors: the maturity of the pseudobulb, shortening day length, cooler day/night temperatures and a reduction of root zone moisture. Generally, this process occurs naturally; however, when the plants are cultivated in warm growing areas such as in the home or under lights, dormancy sometimes needs to be encouraged. I have found that managing irrigation is one of the best tools to trigger dormancy. Decrease watering frequency in November and stop watering in mid-December, regardless of the number of green leaves. This will trigger dormancy in plants that are resisting the transition.

Have you had challenges overwintering your Catasetinae plants? If you are losing plants due to excessive dehydration, this may be caused by long periods of low humidity. Here is a solution that is being used successfully by some ingenious growers.



Set the pot in a jar with water, making a loose-fitting seal with the rim of the jar. The water should not touch the bottom of the pot. The reservoir will maintain high humidity around the roots, even while the plant remains dry during dormancy. This innovative technique produces great results! We have had lots of positive feedback from growers who are using this method.

By late December, it's important to get your Catasetinae into the dormant stage and provide them with an adequate rest period so that they will "wake up" early in the spring to a long growing season.

As my Catasetinae go to "sleep" for the winter I am reminded of an old proverb (with apologies to Ben Franklin) "*Early to bed and early to rise, makes a plant healthy, happy and floriferous.*"

**Your support as customers and friends is truly appreciated!**

**I am always available to take your calls and E-mails, so please feel free to contact me. I love to talk orchids!**

**And as always, Good Growing!**

**Please join our Facebook page:**

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

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## Orchid Show/Festival Schedule

Unfortunately, with Covid-19 continuing to be a major health hazard, some shows have already canceled. This will be updated as more information becomes available.

Show	Location	Date	Status
Grand Valley Orchids Society Show and Sale	Frederick Meijer Gardens 1000 East Beltline Ave NE Grand	Jan-20	Undetermined
Greater Lansing Orchid Show and Sale	Michigan State Soil and Science Building 1066 Bogue St, East Lansing, MI 48824	February	<b>Canceled</b>
Michigan Orchid Society Show	United Food & Commercial Workers Union Bldg., 876 Horace Brown Drive, Madison Heights, MI	March	<b>Canceled</b>