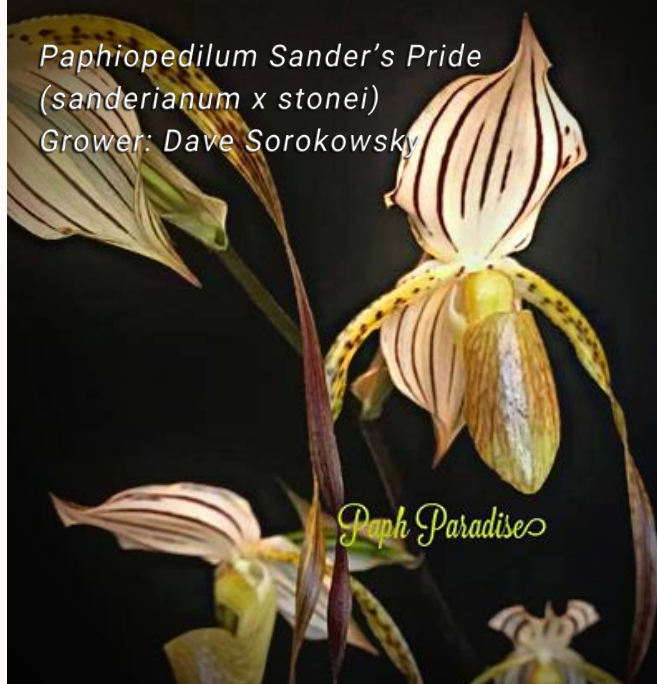


ALAMO ORCHID SOCIETY OF SAN ANTONIO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | VOL 30 ISSUE 10 | OCTOBER 2022

Paphiopedilum Sander's Pride
(*sanderianum* x *stonei*)
Grower: Dave Sorokowsky



FEATURED ORCHID

PROGRAM NOTES

October Member Meeting

Wednesday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m.
San Antonio Garden Center



Dave Sorokowsky of Paph Paradise Orchids will be speaking about Novelty Paphiopedilums, including culture and care as well as where we will go next after this first generation of novelty breeding. Dave has degrees in biochemistry, enology, and viticulture, and has been growing and hybridizing paphiopedilums for 15 years. He is an accredited AOS judge and his paphs have received over 100 awards. He will be bringing plants for sale.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*My watering
solution during
the summer
drought*

I bought a small RO system so my orchids could get good water.

For the first time, I panicked because I collect rain water for my orchids and this year there was no rain for months. I did some research and settled on a small reverse

osmosis (RO) system. It cost about \$300 including various connections, and a meter to test the water. (not including the cost for a handyman to extend my water line and faucets.) The system was an easy set up and produces 1 gal of water per 2 gal of waste water. I did have to extend the water line to where I wanted it in order to be convenient to fill the holding containers. The system screws on to the



faucet and flows through a sediment filter, from there it goes to a carbon filter, and lastly goes to the RO membrane. The outflow is divided into the RO water -

MORE ON PAGE 2

We are dedicated to helping its members and friends throughout San Antonio and the Texas Hill Country increase their knowledge about orchids. The Alamo Orchid Society is a 501(c) nonprofit organization established in 1955.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept 26 thru Oct 7	AOS Virtual Auction https://aos.betterworld.org/auctions/aos-fall-2022-auction
Oct 6 7:00 pm	Monthly Member Meeting Dave Sorokowsky, Novelty Paphiopedilums culture ✨❖
Oct 13 7:30 pm	AOS Webinar: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton Register www.aos.org
Nov 2 7:00 pm	Monthly Member Meeting Sergio Garcia, Olompali Orchids ❖

✨ Speaker will bring plants | ❖ Orchid raffle/plant sale will be held | ♦ Monthly AOS Regional Judging Meetings

PROGRAM NOTES

November Member Meeting

Wednesday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m.
San Antonio Garden Center



Sergio Garcia is an expert in Cattleyas and Laelias. At a young age, his father took him to show in Sao Paulo, Brazil. They were awestruck by the *Catasetum pileatum* and met Mr. Heitor Gloeden, the most respected orchid grower in Brazil's history. Following

that meeting, Gloeden took them under his wing and taught them about orchids. After college, Sergio moved to California where he began cultivating orchids. Today, he balances the demands of his professional life with his orchid business, **Olompali Orchids**. He focuses on 1) hybridization to create new forms & improve existing species, 2) protecting the environment and focusing on sustainability, 3) practicing fair trade, 4) partnering with Wenzel Orchids, a multi-generational Brazilian business. Connect with him on **Facebook**, **eBay**, and **YouTube**.

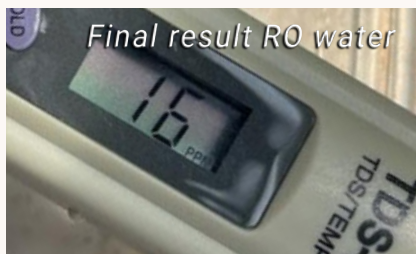
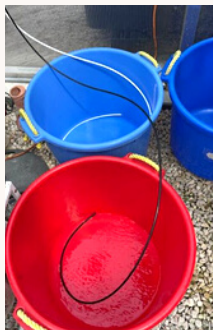
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: RO WATER SYSTEM SETUP

*continued
from page 1*

(the white tube) and the waste water (the black tube). It takes about 3- 4

hours to get about 15 gallons. I fill 3, 15-gallon containers at a time. I have to plan ahead in order to get the water I need to water my collection. That water lasts for 2-3 days. Although it takes some effort and planning, my orchids appreciate good water.

~Susan Coyne, President,
Alamo Orchid Society



2022 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Susan Coyne

INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT

Brian Shelton

SECRETARY

Tracey Davis

INTERIM TREASURER

Melanie Olajos

DIRECTORS

Lou Lou Bly, Hospitality & Website
Denise Garcia, Newsletter

GREENHOUSE MANAGERS

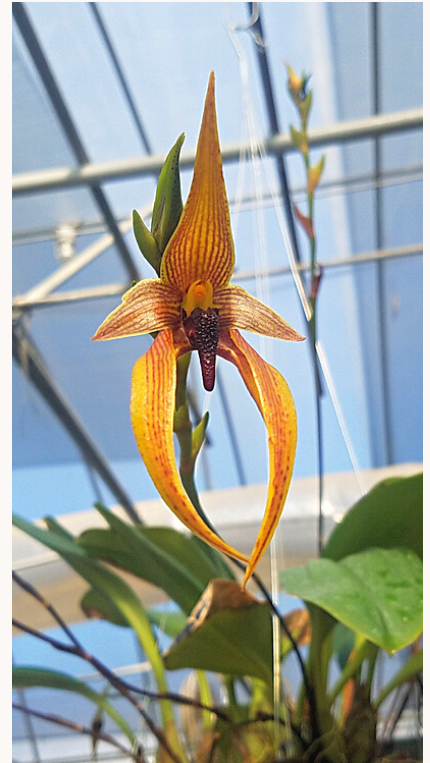
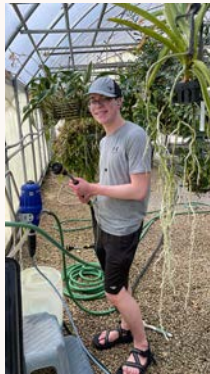
Susan Coyne
Lou Lou Bly

SOCIAL MEDIA

Susan Coyne
Denise Garcia

SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL GARDENS & ALAMO ORCHID SOCIETY GREENHOUSE UPDATE

Volunteers, Aiden, Lou Lou, Sandy, and Ashton helped care for society plants and property. A big thank you to Aiden for cleaning the Dosatron and watering the orchids. The new wet wall parts finally arrived so, SABG should be installing those soon. We had a member graciously storing society property in storage for several years, so we have pulled those items for review and will see what is salvageable to share with members.



SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Member Meeting 09/07/22

Officers in attendance: Susan Coyne - President, Tracey Davis - Secretary, Denise Garcia - Director, Newsletter Editor, Melanie Olajos - Treasurer
Lou Lou Bly - Director, Hospitality and Growers Group

→ Some updates will be made to the bylaws in order to apply for a 501c3. Updates include the address to the Alamo Orchid Society, P.O. Box with 2 persons having the keys, flexibility of the Chairmanship depending on needs, and adding a social media chair. Meetings will take place with the IRS to refill tax-exempt status from a 501c4 to a 501c3.

→ October is our month to share with 2 other clubs for the Garden Center Club Meetings. Denise will be taking this on again.

→ October is the month for election of new officers. Tracey is the chair and will coordinate with committee members on any new nominations. There is an opening for a board member. Nominations are due by 9/23.

→ Discussion on whether to have a Christmas party and if possible. May have conflicts if the SABG will need the Garden Center parking lot like last year.

→ We now have the ability to use Square tap in order to accept credit card payments. Some fees may apply.

Board Meeting 09/20/22

Officers in attendance: Susan Coyne - President, Brian Shelton - Vice President, Interim, Tracey Davis - Secretary, Denise Garcia - Director, Newsletter Editor, Lou Lou Bly - Director, Hospitality and Growers Group

→ Susan is still working with Melanie on organizing and transferring all the treasurer duties and documents.

→ Regarding the nominations for a new board member, no one has submitted any as of yet. Tracey will be reaching out to the committee members to see if there has been any interest or if there is someone that wants to be considered for the open position.

→ Circuit planning has started for next year. It has been decided amongst the participating clubs that we will limit the number of speakers to 4 next year. The 4 months to share in speakers will be April, June, August and October. Monthly meeting planning for next year will get underway soon.

→ There has been some discussion underway regarding planning a vendor fair next fall. Vendors will be contacted to check availability for a weekend in September.

→ We are still working on getting a domain name so that our website can get up and running.



GREAT IDEAS: HOMEMADE RACKS FOR HANGING & MOUNTED PLANTS

From the [American Orchid Society](#)

If you grow mounted plants and you have a lot of them, you need a good "vertical bench" on which to hang them. Such racks can be built out of wire mesh and plastic pipe, can consist of just a coil of rabbit cage wire standing on end on a bench or hung by chains from the ceiling, or can be fashioned from one of those discarded wrought iron porch supports that were once so popular on 1950s ranch style homes but now have been relegated to the greenhouse. Vertical benches have the advantage of taking up a small footprint of valuable floor space while providing a home for a large number of mounted plants. Even a little wire mesh tied to the end of a light stand expands the space when you are growing under lights.

Most farm-supply stores and many building centers carry wire mesh that can be used. Chicken wire is probably too lightweight except for the lightest mounts. Mesh with 1-in. spacing works well. Plumbing pipe may be purchased in building centers in reasonable lengths. Copy this page with the accompanying photo and take it to the store and tell them, "I want something like this." You will also need plastic ties such as those used by electricians or heavier single-strand wire to tie the wire mesh to plumbing pipes.

The best rack I have ever seen was built by Annette Bagby (a retired AOS judge) and her architect husband Jim, who live in Milton, Ontario. The rack was built to house her collection of pleurothallids and other smaller mounted plants in their sunroom greenhouse. Note that the support cross bars may also accommodate hanging baskets for such things as vandaceous orchids. This rack is between 5 and 6 ft. tall. Such racks are easy to move, sturdy, and do not rot. Unless you make the rack wide enough to keep from tipping as in the photo, it might be a good idea to anchor it with a couple of light chains to hooks in the ceiling.



WIN AN ORCHID!

At the next in-person society meeting, earn a chance to win!

- Bring food / drinks for the refreshment table → **GET A TICKET!**
- Bring a blooming orchid for "show and tell" → **GET A TICKET!**
- Purchase \$15 or more of orchid supplies, → **GET A TICKET!**
- Bring a guest / new member to the meeting → **GET A TICKET!**

The more you can do, the more tickets you get. And you're helping support your orchid society.

AUGUST 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

PREVIOUS BALANCE.....\$10,540.18

INCOME

Raffle Tickets.....90.00

Interest.....0.09

TOTAL INCOME.....90.09

EXPENSES

Zoom speaker fee.....50.00

Meeting monitor fee.....52.50

Reimbursement for Rainbow

Gardens Event Supplies.....134.08

TOTAL EXPENSES.....236.58

ENDING BALANCE.....\$10,393.69

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR NOMINATIONS

Susan Coyne to remain President

Brian Shelton to become Vice
President

Tracey Davis to remain Secretary

Denise Garcia to remain Director,
Newsletter Editor


LouLou Bly to remain Director,
Hospitality and Growers group and
Website Editor

Treasurer - open seat

Sandee Thompson has volunteered
to take over Treasurer since
Melanie Olajos was interim

Director - open seat

JOIN THE ALAMO ORCHID SOCIETY

Find us on 

Membership dues are \$35 per household. We will begin collecting dues for 2023 in January and February 2023. You may bring your dues to our meetings held the 1st Wednesday of the month at the San Antonio Garden Center, 3310 North New Braunfels, 78209 at 7:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) Or, you may mail payment to Alamo Orchid Society, PO Box 701536, San Antonio, TX 78232-9998. Checks need to be made out to Alamo Orchid Society.

Get Involved! There are several ways to interact with our club and its members. Join our activities and events at the San Antonio Botanical Garden and [post in our Facebook group, Alamo Orchid Society of San Antonio \(OFFICIAL PAGE\)](#). You can email us at alamoorchidsociety@gmail.com with any questions or feedback. We would love to hear from you!