



St. Augustine Orchid Society

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My Favorite Orchid

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Yvonne: Selecting a favorite orchid is a difficult task. I like vandas and their hybrids with ascocentrums, etc. A vanda was one of the first orchids I ever purchased and I proceeded to kill it through ignorance. I have several now and they are doing well. I especially like the



Ascda. Somsri Gold

way they hang free and when they are so beautiful in bloom.

But; then there are the cattleyas ranging from their big fragrant blooms to the tiny riotous clusters of the minicatts. Oh, and then there are the dendrobiums with the long canes and flower spikes that last for months. How could I forget phals with their many colors, variegations, spots etc. that last for months. I also like the smaller varieties that don't have the wow factor of the larger varieties but they are also special.

How can I choose one? I can't, they are all special to me.

Bob. My Turn! Ditto to what Yvonne wrote almost. My favorites are those that need to be nurtured to some extent until they finally bloom. These are the plants that we are lucky enough to pick up during the Society's monthly raffles. It is a good feeling when you repot these plants and see them grow, sprout, spike and bloom after a sometimes long time. Some have taken up to 3 years to bloom. Patience is needed.

Now as to my favorites- I have a lot of luck growing dendrobiums and oncidiums, they are relatively hardy and seem to like being outside in our yard. Actually all of our plants are outside for most of the year. I have included photos of some of our successes.



Bc. Cynthia 'Lilac Gem'