

<http://www.centrollouisianaorchidsociety.org>



President's Message

It has been an honor to serve as CLOS president for the past two years and I thank all of you for the opportunity. I hope we have made good progress and will continue to do so.

I wish all of you a safe and fun filled holiday season and a prosperous New Year. May your orchids grow and bloom and bring you even more joy this season.

Best of luck to all of you at the Bingo Party!

Happy growing and blooming,

Russel Deroche, Jr.



Meeting Time and Place:
Sunday, December 14, 2025
Time: 2:30 pm

Show & Tell entry is 2:00-2:20
Program: Christmas Bingo Party
Please bring a gift (~\$20 value)

Place: St. James Episcopal Church
Youth Building
1546 Albert Street, Alexandria, LA
71301

Refreshments: POTLUCK

Central Louisiana Orchid Society Officers

President – Russel Deroche, Jr.
Vice President – Richard Smith
Secretary – Heather Wilfert
Treasurer – Jim Barnett
Director – Al Taylor
Director – Andrea Mattison
SWROGA Director#1 – Eron Borne
SWROGA Director#2 – Heather Wilfert
AOS Representative – Eron Borne
ODC Representative – Andrea Mattison
Conservation Rep - Jim Barnett
Newsletter Editor – Eron Borne
Show & Tell – Al Taylor
Webmaster – Eron Borne

DECEMBER MEETING

Christmas Bingo Party

Back by popular demand is our annual BINGO party.

Please bring a gift with approximately a \$20 value. Everyone who brings a gift will win a gift. The member with the most Bingos will win the grand prize.

This will also be a POTLUCK party! Bring your best dish!

Tip of the Month

Winter's cool days and nights have already affected most collections; if all plants are not already indoors, they soon may be. Concerning daylight intensity and its duration, the seasonal change must be obvious by now. Don't allow daytime temperatures to rise too high before ventilating the growing area. Fresh air is important for healthy plants and their owners. Just remember that if the grower can be reasonably comfortable with the temperature and humidity conditions in the growing area, the plants are likely to be satisfied too.

Martin Motes, PhD, is the author of Florida Orchid Growing, which gives advice for orchid growers in Florida. As Louisiana conditions are almost the same, it pertains to us also.



December Birthdays



Gail Randall (Dec 03), Yvonne Blanchard (Dec 03)

Al Taylor (Dec 07), Janie Phillips (Dec 16)

Central Louisiana Orchid Society
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2025

1.0 Call to Order

President Russel called the meeting to order at 1439.

2.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved from our October meeting by all members.

3.0 Officer Reports

3.1 President Report

Birthdays for the month are Jacob Dickens on 11/11 and David Remedios on 11/16. Happy Birthday!

3.2 Vice President Report

3.2.1 Richard had nothing to report.

3.3 Treasurer Report

The treasurer report was given by Russel. Unfortunately, because of health issues, Jim has resigned as treasurer.

3.3.1 Checking account is stable

3.3.2 Raffle Tickets for sale – Many items were donated for the raffle this month. Everyone was encouraged to buy tickets.

3.4 Secretary Report – Heather had nothing to report.

4.0 Old Business

4.1 CenLa is running our free monthly advertisement of our monthly meetings.

4.2 Our annual December Pot Luck will be on the 14th. We will have a gift exchange with Bingo with suggested gift price of \$20.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Our show will be in the fall of 2026, October 9th-10th. Al will make the payment to the park from our account.

5.2 2026 Officers were voted in. Al will be our new president, Eron as vice president and newsletter editor, Russel as treasurer, Heather as secretary. Board members are Andrea and Rick. Eron will continue to be the AOS representative and Andrea the Orchid Digest representative.

6.0 Program

“Orchid Essentials,” a narrated PowerPoint by Frank Zachariah

7.0 Raffle and Show & Tell

Raffle Winners: With an abundance of donated plants almost every member won a plant!

Door Prize Winner: Eron

Heather provided the refreshments this month.

Show and Tell voting and winners presented as follows:

Best Grown Plant: – *C. walkeriana* – Rick

Cattleya Alliance: 1st – *C. walkeriana* – Rick

2nd – *Blc. George King Serendipity* – Rick

3rd (tie) – *Pot. Paradise Beauty ‘Golden Angel’* – Andrea

3rd (tie) – *Lc. Molly Tyler* – Andrea

All Others Group: 1st – *Phal. (Lioulin Blue Jungle X Miki Fly Eagle) AM/AOS* – Al

2nd (tie) – *Den. unnamed* – Rick

2nd (tie) – *V. Uraiwan Bell ‘Catahoula Raspberry HCC/AOS* – Eron

3rd – *Hab. Flamingo* – Eron

There was no other business.

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 15:56.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather A. Wilfert
Secretary

Show and Tell Winners - Cattleya Category



1st – *C. walkeriana* – Rick (BELOW) (also best grown), 2nd – *B/c. George King Serendipity* – Rick (above left),
3rd (Tie)– *Pot. Paradise Beauty* – Andrea (above right), 3rd (Tie)– *Lc. Molly Tyler* – Andrea (not pictured)



Other Category



1st – *Phal.* (Lioulin Blue Jungle x Miki Fly Eagle) – AI, 2nd (tie) – *Den.* NOID – Rick,

2nd (tie) – *Vanda* Uraiwan Belle ‘Catahoula Raspberry’ HCC/AOS – Eron (below)



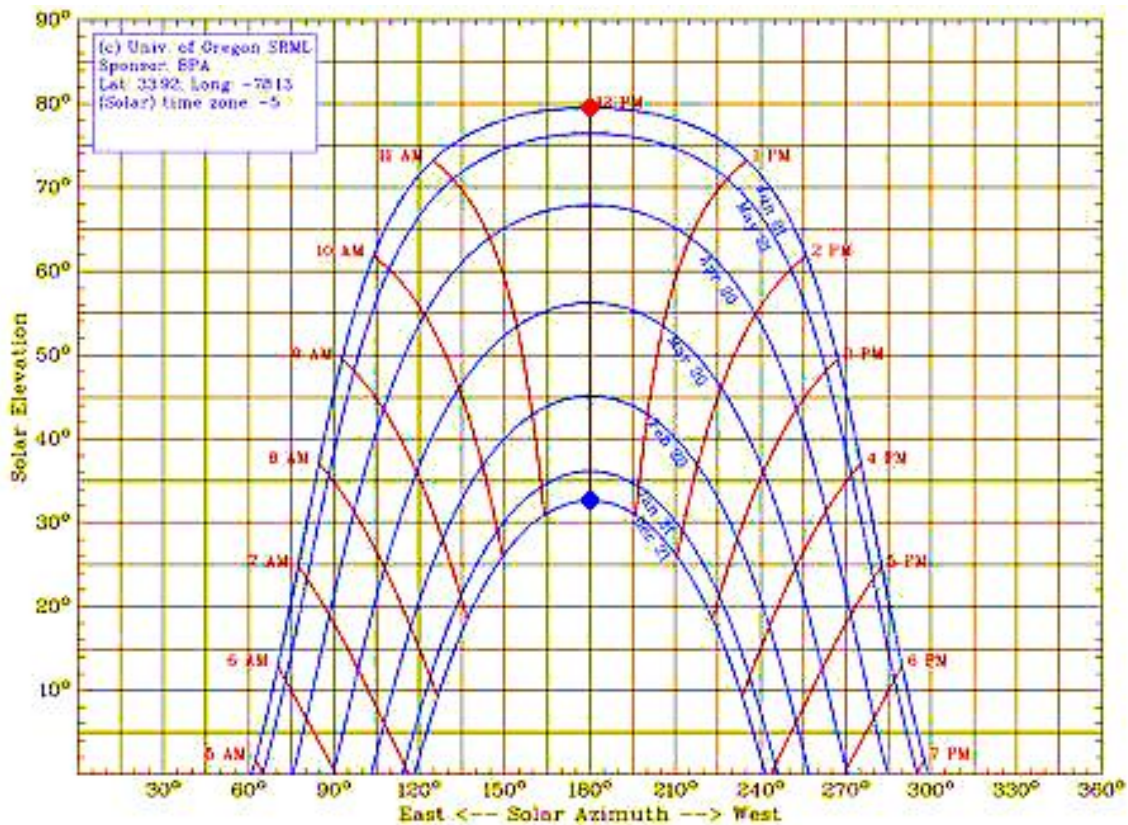
The following is provided courtesy of Ray Barkalow of First Rays Orchids, at www.firstrays.com.

SUNLIGHT INTENSITY AND SHADE DENSITY

There is a lot of information available about the light intensity needs of plants, so when purchasing grow lights, it is a relatively simple matter to specify the wattage we will need for our grow areas. However, if we are looking to supplement natural sunlight or determine how much shade we need for a greenhouse, it would help if we knew just how much natural sunlight intensity we have to work with in the first place.

At the equator, the sun's intensity gives us a Photosynthetic Photon Flux Density (PPFD) of $2000 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$ of light, which is roughly equivalent to 10,200 foot candles or 108,000 lux. As we move away from the equator however, the relative thickness of the atmosphere the light must travel through increases, and the angle of incidence "spreads out" the light, both of which decrease the light intensity. Not only does our location affect the sunlight intensity, but the time of year does, as well, as the sun is lower in the sky in winter than in summer. Fortunately, there are some simple tools that can help.

The University of Oregon Solar Radiation Monitoring Laboratory has an online [Sun Chart Program](#) that allows us to generate a solar elevation chart for your specific location, providing data for month of the year, as well as time of day. The chart for your location will look something like this:



From this chart we can see, for example, that at noon on December 21st, for this specified location, the sun will only reach a maximum of 33° in elevation (the blue dot), while on June 21st, it can reach 80° (red dot).

For this location, the maximum summer sunlight intensity is about 1970 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$ (10040 f-c, 106360 lux) or only about 1.5% below that of the equator, while in winter it's only 1090 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$ (5560 f-c, 58820 lux), or 45% less.

Before you ask "How did you come up with that?", I'll point you to [this article](#) at my website, which includes instructions and a calculator for determining your own data.

For folks growing in windows, outdoors, or in greenhouses, that seasonal variation can have a huge impact of your plants' growth.

Using the same data as above, if I grew cattleyas with a target noontime peak of about 575 PPFD/3000 f-c/32000 lux, I would need about 70% shade in the summer, but only about 45% in winter. (That may also be determined with that same calculator at my website.)

Until next time... *Good Growing!*



Save The Date
Join Us for this Online Event

Orchid Culture Day
Sunday, January 25, 2026

This Event is Recorded for all Registrants to View at their Leisure

Step Into the World of Slippers

4 Guest Speakers
4 Great Topics

Only \$40 USD

Door Prizes!
Must be online day of event
to be eligible

11 a.m.—4 p.m. EST

American Orchid Society
Advancing Orchid Culture, Research

View the details at www.aos.org

Upcoming Orchid Shows



Gulf Coast Orchid Society

Announces it's 46th Annual Show

Jan 30 – 31 and Feb 1, 2026

*Gautier Convention Center,
2012 Library Lane, Gautier, MS 39553*

**Special Plant Auction Sunday, Feb. 1,
Featuring hard to find, and specimen sized plants
preview at 10:30 followed by the auction.**

Free Admission to all events

Sales Open

Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm

Sunday exhibits and sales 10:00am – 3:30pm

Exhibits Open

Friday 1:00pm - 6:00pm

Saturday noon - 6:00pm

***Exhibit and sales set up starts 2:30pm Thursday Jan 29.
Set up continues Friday, Jan 30 from 8:00am until 3:00pm
Registration closes at 3:00pm Friday***

***No public access anytime Thurs, Jan 29 or Sun, Feb 1 after 3:30pm
Visitors, please give exhibit workers space to work.***

Ribbon Judging starts 8:00 am Sat., Jan 31*

Followed by AOS and Orchid Digest judging.

For more information call 601-530-8778. Like us on Facebook

**** Plants and flowers entered for ribbon judging, must have the name,
the cross (if a hybrid), the names of the parents, the variety if a species.***

NOID plants may be exhibited only.

Vendors:

**Florida Star Orchids
Sheila's Orchids
So Orchids**

**Spring Orchids
Anita's Tropicals and More
Hicks Orchids and Supplies**



Calcasieu Orchid Society
Presents

A French Garden of Orchids

Orchid Show and Plant Sale



ORCHID EXHIBITS, PLANT VENDORS, ORCHID ART

March 14, 2026 - 12:00 Noon until 6:00PM

March 15, 2026 - 12:00 Noon until 5:00PM

Bulber Auditorium

McNeese State University

4305 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA



2025 December AOS Corner – for [Affiliated Societies](#)

We encourage use of the [AOS website](#) by all members.

Got Orchids?

The American Orchid Society website is your portal to knowledge for all things orchid. The AOS website, along with ongoing Webinars and OrchidPro, offers a plethora of information to help you grow and show your orchids to peak performance. We encourage use of the [AOS website](#) by ALL orchid growers. The next best place to learn about the orchids that will thrive in your area, is to attend and become involved in your local [Affiliated Society](#) meetings.

[Webinars](#) offer new material each month and recorded sessions allow you to search a multitude of topics to view on your personal schedule. The popular monthly [Greenhouse Chats](#) are open to everyone. AOS membership is not required. However, if you are an AOS member there are so many more webinars available to view.

Whether you are new to the hobby or an established successful grower, there is always more to learn. Review the AOS website.

EXCITING REASONS TO JOIN THE AOS TODAY...

Become a better grower with exclusive resources, benefits & savings enjoyed by thousands of people like you from around the world.

Orchids magazine & digital archive

Orchidpro - search 100K+ photos

Over 100+ ready-to-watch webinars

Exclusive savings from top 50 orchid vendors

\$700+ vouchers for 2 year members

Join the AOS today! Under \$5 per month

Watch the 4-minute video above to see what AOS membership offers you. Join today using the secure form below or by calling **(305) 740-2010**

Upcoming AOS Webinars for AOS Members

Webinars - Coming Attractions!

REGISTRATION IS EASY www.aos.org/webinars
 Cannot make it on the scheduled date and time? No need to worry.
Register now and view on your time schedule.
 Send Your Greenhouse Chat Questions and Photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org
 Greenhouse Chat webinars are recorded and summarized by topic for future viewing.

When	Winter Break	Jan. 08, 2026 Thursday 8:30 pm EST	Feb. 10, 2026 Tuesday 8:30 pm EST	Special Selections
Topic	Choose Your Topic From Our Library of RECORDED WEBINARS	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Jan. 05</i>	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Feb. 07</i>	All About Orchid Judging Understand more about what goes on at the judging table. Select from the recorded FULL INDEX category.
Presenter	Expert Growers, Conservationists, AOS Judges, Hobbyists, and more	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	National Education Coordinator, Expert Growers, AOS Judges, and more



Webinar announcements are posted on the AOS website, on Facebook and Instagram, and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.

Use the
WEBINAR
 Display
 Filter



*** Orchid Word of the Month ***

Cymbidium (sim-BID-ee-um)

MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Hello Friends, It is cold up here!!

Thinking of things to do while we don't do much outside! Ten inches last night! Yikes, and more expected tonight. Most I have seen in a while. I was just looking at my orchid collections. Have you ever just sat down and wondered why you could not grow certain orchids? I moved from a greenhouse to in the "house under lights" situation 3 years ago now. I did lose a lot of my plants due to the fact that I could not get to them fast enough and onto a table in my home. We had to rebuild it to fit in a bedroom. So I lost a whole bunch of plants. Have you? I realized that I could not grow some genera anymore and took up a new trial, that of novelty Phalaenopsis. I have been so enamored with these beautiful orchids. I have realized that I no longer can provide the growing conditions necessary for Vanda, Oncidium and Dendrobium and have lost way too many to count because of it. I have reasonable luck with Cattleya as I have really high intensity LED lighting in one room. But I have limited space now and had to consider losing more or getting used to something that I could grow.

I have this huge kitchen. So what do you do with leftover space if you are an orchid addict? You find some orchids to grow in it. Done. I bought a couple novelty Phalaenopsis orchids at an AOS meeting in Apopka. I then ordered some online from a fellow I know. I have been experimenting with light, water and media to make sure that they grow for me. And so far so good. The colors of these little guys is amazing and many of them are fragrant. The violacea, bellina and their hybrids fill the air with such a sweet smell. I have shelving in this area of my kitchen with led fixtures above the shelves. We keep the light lower, with lower ranges of light. So instead of 5000K, they are 4000f.c, and 4500K. We run them from 7:30 am to 7:30 pm. In the summer we cut back on the artificial light and use the sunlight coming in the back doors.

I have many there now and have enjoyed watching the babies thrive and some are even blooming. You too can find alternative orchid options if you find you are not successful at growing what you have in the past or have failed at before. Some cannot grow in some environments. We need to realize that and a warning before you spend more, think about it. What am I doing wrong? What am I doing right? Can I more appropriately grow something else? Try it. Don't go out and spend a fortune. Buy a few. See how they grow. Do some reading up on them. What kind of light? Water? Media? No sense buying something that you have no idea about. It saves heartache later. Happy Growing!
cerins@aos.org .

Native Orchid of the Month—December

Spiranthes longilabris
(giantspiral lady's tresses)

Spiranthes longilabris (giantspiral lady's tresses) is an uncommon orchid and one of the last to bloom in any given year—October through December. It is found primarily on Gulf Coastal Plain in dry to moist meadows, pine flatwoods and savannas, fields, roadsides. Usually at this point, all the surrounding grasses have dried to a deep straw brown, leaving this orchid as one of the few green herbaceous plants remaining.

Plants are up to 12 inches tall and will have one or more grass-like leaves clinging to the base of the flowering stem, which usually bears the flowers in a rather lax spiral.



The flowers themselves are one of the larger flowers in the genus *Spiranthes*, with sepals that usually spread widely with a long, lacy lip held lowermost.

The usually 3 to 5 deciduous leaves persist through flowering, and are reduced to sheathing bracts upward on stem. Inflorescences are loosely to tightly spiraled, with usually 5 to 9 flowers per cycle of spiral. Flowers are mostly horizontal, strongly gaping, white to cream; lateral sepals are centrally yellow.



This species is seldom seen in the wild, although suitable habitat exists. This is likely because of the combination of relative rarity and the late blooming season.



*Remember, previous newsletters can be found at our Central Louisiana Orchid Society website under the About Us tab.

<https://www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org>

Become an AOS Judge

The American Orchid Society Judging Program

is seeking highly motivated orchid enthusiasts to join the judging ranks

Work with other like-minded people in support of AOS awards programs and educational efforts

*For more information contact us at
judges@aos.org*



The American Orchid Society has a regional Judging Center that meets in Alexandria on the fourth Saturday of every month. The Central Louisiana Orchid Society sponsors the Louisiana Judging Center. If you are interested in joining the judging program, please contact CLOS members Al Taylor and Eron Borne.