

February 2019

<http://www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org>

From the President

First, I want to say that there were many beautiful orchids at our Show and Tell table last month! Many different members brought in plants for us to see and I know we all love to see what each other has in bloom. A BIG thank you to all the members who brought flowers to our meeting!

Our spring show is now only TWO months away! We have several volunteer areas where we could use your assistance and we need your help! All of these jobs are EASY, but they need you! You can volunteer for more than one area if you prefer to change out. If we can take "shifts," no one will be stuck behind a table the whole time. Please let Linda or I know if you are willing to help with one of the tasks below.

Clerking: On Friday evening, we have ribbon judging for all the plants entered from the exhibits. Clerks help the judges spot the plants and put ribbons on the winners. They also may be asked to help with the decisions. This is a fun way to learn about the flowers and why some merit ribbons and others do not. I will coordinate the clerks, but we need you to volunteer to be a clerk! We usually start around 5:30 just after the judges' dinner, lasting for a couple of hours.

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Meeting Time & Place
Sunday, February 17,
2019

Plant Entry 2:00 pm
Meeting time 2:30 pm

St. James Episcopal
Youth Building
1546 Albert Street,
Alexandria, LA

Refreshments-Wilton and
Connie Guillory

Central Louisiana Orchid Society Officers

President –Eron Borne
Vice President – Wilton
Guillory
Secretary –Janice Upton
Treasurer – Jim Barnett
Director-Linda Roberts
Director –Al Taylor
Director- Andrea Mattison
SWROGA Directors: Linda R
AOS Representative –Wilton
ODC Representative – Andrea
Mattison

Newsletter Editor – Connie
Guillory
Show& Tell –Rick Allardyce

President's Message continued

Al and Wilton are once again arranging the CLOS exhibit and will be there first thing Friday morning. Members of our society can bring their plants to be entered in our host society exhibit and we ask that plants be brought in very early so we can see what will go and fit together. If you would like to put in your own personal exhibit, please let Linda know. Give it a try and it can be something small!

Kid's Corner Table: This is a learning area and is something we can get the youth that visit our show to participate in. As you know, our venue is at Kees Park, which has a children's playground not far from our exhibit area. Volunteers are needed to assist children with some special games and activities I will have ready. Everyone who helped last year enjoyed the interaction with the kids and parents.

AOS/CLOS/Orchid Digest information table. This is usually the first table people see as they walk through the door. Volunteers are needed to chat with people about orchids and the various organizations and to hand out information.

Repotting Table: I really would like this to be used more at this show. If people find out we have someone that can assist them in repotting their orchids, they may go home and come back with their orchid for help. In addition, of course any of our members can bring theirs in to be repotted as well! This is a great benefit and way we can help someone who is scared or unsure how to repot their orchid the first time. However, it takes manpower for all these stations and with a small society; we will need everyone's help to make this the best show possible. Please volunteer to participate in our show and it will be an accomplishment we can ALL be proud to have been a part of!

This month's program will feature Connie sharing her and Wilton's experiences from the 2017 World Orchid Conference in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Linda Roberts and Karen Armstrong also attended from our society and may have input as well. Connie will show a slideshow of many orchids from the conference.

Included in this month's newsletter is an excellent article on Watering Our Orchids. Please be sure to check it out!

I will be on a family vacation during our meeting this month so I will see everyone in March.

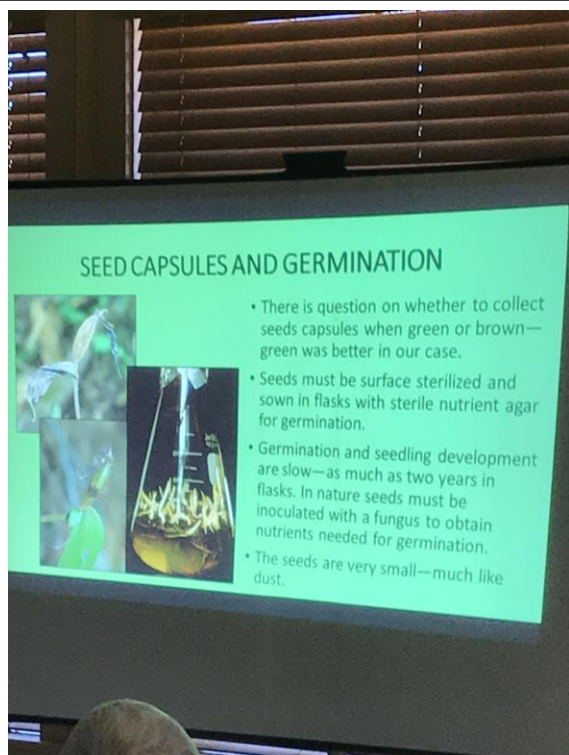
Eron

Upcoming Orchid Shows and Events

2/23/2019 - 02/24/2019	Austinaceous Orchids <i>Zilker Botanical Garden, Austin TX</i>
03/08/2019 - 03/09/2019	GNTOS Orchid Show and Sale Hosting SWROGA <i>Richardson Texas Civic Center, Richardson Texas</i>
03/22/2019 - 03/24/2019	Alamo Orchid Society's March Madness Orchid Show and Sale <i>San Antonio Garden Center, San Antonio Texas</i>
04/06/2019 - 04/07/2019	Houston Orchid Society Show and Sale <i>Memorial City Mall, Houston Texas, Harris County</i>
04/12/2019 - 04/13/2019	C.L.O.S. Spring Show <i>Kees Park Community Center, Pineville LA</i>
04/20/2019 - 04/21/2019	Tulsa Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale <i>The Tulsa Garden Center, Tulsa OK</i>
05/04/2019 - 05/05/2019	Oklahoma Orchid Society Show and Sale <i>Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Center, Oklahoma City OK</i>
05/31/2019 - 06/02/2019	New Orleans Orchid Society's Show and Sale <i>Lakeside Mall, Metairie LA</i>
07/12/2019 - 07/14/2019	Baton Rouge Orchid Society's Show and Sale <i>Burden Museum and Gardens, Baton Rouge LA</i>
09/13/2019 - 09/15/2019	Galveston Bay Orchids Society SWROGA Show <i>HILTON HOUSTON NASA CLEAR LAKE, Houston Texas</i>



**Eron Borne received the Gremillion Trophy for 2018
Rick Allardyce presented Eron the his trophy at January 2019 meeting**



- There is question on whether to collect seeds capsules when green or brown—green was better in our case.
- Seeds must be surface sterilized and sown in flasks with sterile nutrient agar for germination.
- Germination and seedling development are slow—as much as two years in flasks. In nature seeds must be inoculated with a fungus to obtain nutrients needed for germination.
- The seeds are very small—much like dust.



Dr. Jim Barnett presenting Jan. program



**Linda Robert's with her
*Angraecum sesquipedale***



This is the famous Darwin orchid, native to the island of Madagascar, with large white flowers with up to 12-inch long spurs (nectary). Darwin predicted the pollinator to be a moth with a 12" proboscis. Years later, it was discovered to be true. The moth, *Xanthopan morgani praedicta* (named for Darwin's prediction of such a moth), was found to be the official pollinator. Very nice plants that are flowering size. Also known as the Star of Bethlehem Orchid or Comet Orchid as it flowers near the end of September or sometimes later in January. Fragrant at night.

Central Louisiana Orchid Society Minutes

January 20, 2019

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Eron at 2:30 P.M. He introduced Haydee Jenkins whose husband had been a past president of the society. In addition, Linda and Paul Chance were introduced.
2. **Minutes** – The December 2018 minutes were approved as written.
3. **Officers' Reports** –
President: Eron confirmed show dates of April 12th and 13th. Linda is the show chair.
Vice-President: Wilton stated that Connie will do a presentation in February on the World Orchid Conference. It is held once every three years. It was last held in Ecuador, which they attended. Other shows and the workshop in Dallas are listed in the newsletter if anyone is interested. The Tri-Center Judging Workshop hosted by the Dallas Judging Center will be February 9, 2019. Fred Clarke, Peter Lin and Roy Tokunaga will be presenting. Cost is \$40.
Treasurer: Jim stated that a donation of \$250 was made to St. James Episcopal Church.
4. **Old Business** – Connie passed around the Hospitality List so that members could sign up to provide refreshments for our meetings. The April 2019 meeting will be cancelled unless there is a circuit speaker. We would instead hold our meeting at the orchid show.
Linda stated that we needed to pick a show theme. Connie, Andrea and Linda will discuss ideas for theme. It was later decided the theme would be Symphony of Orchids. Baton Rouge and Shreveport have indicated that they may attend our show. Since Lafayette is having their show the same weekend, we may not have every society participating in ours. Jim and Linda will do the awards. We have 19 from Doris. Linda will add one for special award. Eron will do one for Best Flower in Show or other special award. We would need about seven more. Connie will look for others. Rick suggested that Al and Doris could check for plates. Janice will see if Office Depot saved previous order for banner. We need another one to place on MacArthur Drive. It was suggested that something be added about show being held at Kees Park but Andrea stated that she could redo the signs Wilton had saved from last show and put Kees Park on a sign, which could then be put in ground in front of banner. Connie asked Eron about updated flyer. He stated that he would get that sent out. Janice and Laurel will make copies and distribute so that they will be available to the public. The Judging Coordinator will be either Mary or Al. Dick Jamison cannot come. Karen, Wilton, Al and Mary will be judges. Possibly Shreveport judges may come.
5. **New Business** – Gremillion Trophy- Dick Gremillion was a founding member. Points are awarded to members based on plants brought, being present and extra points for winning. Rick presented Eron with the Gremillion Trophy for 2018.
6. **Presentation** – Jim Barnett presented a program Growing Orchids from Seed from a *Cypripedium kentuckiense* Restoration Study.
7. **Adjournment**- Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 P.M.

Submitted by Janice Upton



Please Join the
Central Louisiana Orchid Society
for the
2019 Orchid Show and Sale
"Symphony of Orchids"

Friday, April 12, 2019, 2:00-5:00pm

Saturday, April 13, 2019, 8:00-4:00pm

Kees Park Community Center

2450 Highway 28 E, Pineville, LA

Free Admission



- ❖ Amazing displays and galleries of orchids
- ❖ Orchid growers will be present to give tips on growing and repotting
 - ❖ Silent Auction
- ❖ Beautiful orchids available for purchase
- ❖ Bring your kids! Orchid treasure hunt and ribbons awarded.



If you want to learn more and how to grow these beautiful flowers, come to a meeting.
The Orchid Society meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 2:30pm in Alexandria.
Anyone interested in orchids is welcome!

For more information, please visit our website: www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org



Blc. Blanche Aisaka Rick Allardyce

Show and Tell

January 2019

Cattleya Division

1st. Soph. coccinea, Eron

2nd. Blc. Blanche Aisaka.
Rick Allardyce

3rd. C. percivaliana. Eron

Others Division

3 way tie for first

Dracula Swamp Fox. Eron

Bulb. makoyanum. Eron

Den. Petticoat x Garnet
Beauty Not sure who entered
this.

Best Grown-
Soph. coccinea, Eron Borne



Blc. Blanche Aisaka. Rick Allardyce



Eron Borne's *Dracula* Swamp Fox (bella x cordobae) , called also monkey orchid or the monkey-like *Dracula*, is an epiphytic orchid originally described in the genus *Masdevallia*, but later moved to the genus *Dracula*. The arrangement of column, petals and lip strongly resembles a *monkey's face*. These rare monkey orchids only grow in the cloud forests of southeastern Ecuador and Peru at elevations of 1,000-2,000 meters on the side of mountains.





C. percivaliana- Eron Borne



C. percivaliana- Eron Borne



**Phrag. China Dragon 'Carol' AM/AOS.
Eron Borne's plant**



**Phrag. China Dragon 'Carol' AM/AOS.
Eron Borne's plant**



Bulb. makoyanum-Eron Borne



Bulb. makoyanum-Eron Borne



Water Your Orchids!

I would like to stress the importance of watering.

Folks tend to spend a lot of time "worrying" about feeding their plants: "What fertilizer formula is best?", "How much to use?", "How often to feed?", and "Should the formula be changed seasonally?". However, feeding is actually a relatively minor aspect of orchid-growing, while watering, which is often a struggle, is actually the driving force for growth. Let's look at this with some basic scientific background:

95% of a plant is water. Most of that remaining 5% is carbon and oxygen, with all of the nutrient elements from fertilizer constituting only about 1% of the plant's total mass. When a plant "affixes" carbon from carbon dioxide in the air, it grows. So what has that to do with water?

There is an enzyme within plant cells that can react with either oxygen or carbon dioxide. When it reacts with carbon dioxide, energy is consumed, carbon is affixed, and oxygen is released. If it reacts with oxygen, energy is also consumed, but without growth, it is wasted. That's where water comes in.

If there is an ample supply of water at the roots, hormones travel up the plant and tell the stomata (openings through which gas exchange occurs) to open up. That releases the oxygen generated when carbon is affixed, and lets more atmospheric carbon dioxide into the leaf, increasing the overall carbon dioxide concentration. That increased concentration enhances the likelihood that the enzyme will react with it, rather than oxygen. If, on the other hand, water is not plentiful at the roots, the stomata remain closed, the percentage of oxygen within the plant remains elevated, decreasing the rate at which carbon can be affixed, stalling the process and slowing growth.

To give you a relative scale for all of this, for a plant to put on one pound of dry mass (a few growths for a big cattleya or cymbidium, but a lifetime for a little pleurothallid) it must absorb and process about 25 gallons (200 pounds) of water, but only about 5 grams of fertilizer elements - about a teaspoon!

Maintaining the flow of air to the roots by using as "open and airy" a potting medium as possible is very important. Such a medium also has the advantage of allowing the grower to water heavily and frequently, without fear of waterlogging the medium and suffocating the roots, and that's what leads to the fastest growth.

Credit to Ray Barkalow.....First Ray's Orchids



Den. Petticoat x Garnet Beauty
Not sure who entered this.





Sophronitis coccinea- Eron Borne's plant Best Grown Plant for January 2019



THE FEBRUARY 2019 AOS CORNER– From the desk of Denise Lucero, Vice Chair, American Orchid Society Affiliated Societies Committee (Affiliated_Societies@AOS.org).

For newsletter editors: Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner, in whole or in part, in their society newsletters. We encourage promotion of AOS website use by your members.

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

The new year is now underway and many of us are undertaking new roles in our local societies. We're hard at work organizing new programs to support our societies' members and promote the love of orchids. Remember that the Affiliated Societies Committee is here to provide support for you, the Affiliates. We've created a page titled "Guides and Articles" on the AOS.org website that you can reach from the Affiliated Societies page. You'll only have access if you're logged in but you'll find everything from Publicity & Orchid Show Resources to Printable AOS Membership brochures. The purpose is to share information within our community about proven processes and methods we have applied to our own organizations that have resulted in success. If there's something else you'd like to see, make a suggestion for future documents, or share a document of your own with other affiliates, drop us line at Affiliated_Societies@aos.org. You'll receive a response from one of our Affiliated Societies Committee Members.

Also, it's time to ask you to join us at the AOS Spring 2019 Members' Meeting. The meeting is being held March 20th - 24th, 2019 in conjunction with the San Diego County Orchid Society Spring Show in beautiful San Diego, California. With its great weather, miles of sandy beaches, and major attractions, you won't regret adding a few days onto your trip to enjoy this laid back oceanside destination. The Schedule of Events isn't listed on the website just yet, but the link for hotel reservations is. To get the Event Rate of \$139 you'll need to book by February 18th, 2019. Regular room rate is \$177 but the AOS rate of \$139 is available from March 16th through March 28th. Meeting activities will be held at the Hilton Mission Valley and the show will be at the Scottish Rites Center. Book your room now: <http://www.aos.org/news-and-events/members-meetings/accommodations.aspx>. We'll make sure you receive notice once the full schedule is available.

AOS President Susan Wedegaertner's message in February's issue of ORCHIDS magazine includes an introduction of the current AOS Finance Committee to us. The committee consists of Graham Wood, Treasurer; Doris Asher, Assistant Treasurer; and Nancy Mountford, the former Assistant Treasurer. Former Treasurer, Sue Wedegaertner, is now our President and the committee's staff liaison is Ron McHatton. Although small in number, these dedicated and knowledgeable members of the Finance Committee are vital in providing financial oversight and ensuring our financial needs are monitored. They make recommendations directly to the Board to ensure we maintain necessary resources to fulfill our mission, vision and objectives. We appreciate these individuals and the guidance they provide.

We're always looking for ideas to bring kids into the world of orchids. While planning your next orchid show don't forget to check out the AOS Kids Corner for ideas. Here's the link to the main page: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/kids-corner.aspx>. See other articles for instructions on how to create activities we've tested out or make up your own great activities. Please share your ideas and experiences with the education Committee at sstubbings@comcast.net.

Thanks again for all the pics that you are sending in for the Instagram feed. Our Instagram Administrator, Candace Hollinger, sends her appreciation to you all. It's wonderful to see such a variety of everything orchid that's enjoyed around the globe. Please remind your members that we would love pics of how they grow, what's blooming now or anything they love about orchids. Please continue to send your photos and short

videos to: americanorchidsociety@gmail.com. Be sure to send a short caption explaining your photo. Also, if you are bilingual and can include your caption in English plus your other language(s)—it will help with our universal outreach.

Remember to check-in on our Facebook Group Page for Affiliated Societies of the American Orchid Society. The response has been great--many thanks to all of you who added pics of show banners. We can all learn from what has been successful for other societies. Let us know how your show went, and what was successful for you, or what didn't quite make the mark. Our administrator, Chad Brinkerhuff, monitors the feed and is a great resource for all that the AOS has to offer. Keep us up to date on what's going on at your local society and let us know how we can help you.

Don't forget to check out the NEW List of Speakers to help you plan society meeting programs. You will now find the Affiliated Societies link on the home page under the "About Us" heading.

And... Here's a link to check it all out - <http://www.aos.org/>

CULTURAL

AOS Affiliated Society newsletters are filled with member contributions of orchid-related topics like this one, or about culture tips or articles pertaining to running a society. If you have an article that might be of interest to other Affiliates please send us a copy and we'll share it with the community. Drop us line at Affiliated_Societies@aos.org. You'll receive a response from one of our Affiliated Societies Committee Members. Thanks for this one, Tony.

Moths, Bees, Birds... and Perhaps People?

By Tony Lombardino

Originally published in Deep Cut Orchids Society Orchid News

Orchids have populated the earth for over 300 million years, first appearing when all the continents of our current world were fused into one huge land mass. As the continents drifted apart, eventually taking their current positions, orchids travelled with them and, as a result, populate every continent except Antarctica. During their travels through space and time incredible environmental changes must have presented these amazing plants with unimaginable challenges to their survival. Yet despite these challenges, orchids were able to evolve and thrive.

Much of their survival has been due to their amazing ability not only to attract pollinators, but to co-evolve with those pollinators so that the pollinators themselves cannot survive without the very orchids they pollinate. Take, for example, the male euglossine bees that harvest scent molecules from certain orchids in order to attract the females necessary for mating. Or the Darwin moth, who so depends on orchid nectar that it has evolved a tongue ten inches long so it can traverse the nectary of the angraecum that it pollinates. It can be said that the success of orchid survival has depended to a great extent on their ability to seduce other organisms into assisting them in their ability to reproduce.

However, in today's world this delicate dance of survival is being disrupted by rapid environmental changes, many of them caused by human incursion into natural orchid habitats. Deforestation, insecticides, human plundering and even climate change are threatening orchids far faster than natural evolution can mitigate. If left to their ancient survival mechanisms, it's likely that entire families of orchids may well become extinct.

But although we humans have disrupted the ancient rhythms of the natural world, is it also possible that we have been, like moths and bees and birds, seduced into helping orchids survive? Have these plants, with their beauty, complexity, and almost infinite variety, now found an avenue of escape from extinction by attracting the attention and affection of us humans?

In recent decades, orchidists have learned to propagate orchids far faster and in exponentially higher numbers than ever occurs in nature. We now create hybrids that are stronger and more resilient than their parents. Our interests have moved from genera with big, fragrant flowers to those subtler but no less interesting groups such as miniatures, those with insignificant flowers and even those whose fragrance can be nauseating. In addition, those of us who love these amazing plants are spending time, energy and money on conservation programs to preserve as many of their natural habitats as we can.

In our human-centric ways of thinking, we tend to believe that we are always the ones in control. We are attracted to orchids, so we buy them, learn their needs, help them thrive, fill greenhouses with them, propagate them. All for our enjoyment, we think. But from the point of view those orchids we're obsessed with, is it possible that we are just the latest in a long line of conquests to assist them in their struggle to survive?

UPCOMING WEBINARS

It's easy to find the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You'll find the link under the All About Orchids tab. If you check there, you will find any webinars that have been scheduled after the production of the monthly Corner.

American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Dr. Ron McHatton

Tuesday, January 29th, 2018 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST Open to all

Please join Dr. Ron McHatton, AOS Chief Science Officer, as he answers your questions about all things orchid. He will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by Tuesday, January 22nd . Remember to include pictures.

Register now using this link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8715770793699735042>

Cultural Techniques for Growing Cymbidiums with George Hatfield

Wednesday, February 13th, 2018 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST Members Only

Please join George Hatfield of Hatfield Orchids, premier hybridizer and grower of Cymbidiums. He will share tips on getting them to flower with lots of flowers and cultural techniques for growing award-winning Cymbidiums!

Register now using this link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8443419564208111107>



Cymbidium Whitney Houston 'I Will Always Love You' HCC/AOS; Photographer: Larry Vierheilig

American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Dr. Ron McHatton

Tuesday, February 26th, 2018 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST Open to all

Please join Dr. Ron McHatton, AOS Chief Science Officer, as he answers your questions about all things orchid. He will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by Sunday, February 24th. Remember to include pictures.

Register now using this link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2314157910598154753>

Note: After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the seminar.

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his/her presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE? The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- The New Refugium Botanicum - Phalaenopsis (Sedirea) japonica by Franco Pupulin
- Form and Function: Fringe Festival Fascination, Part 2 by Thomas Mirenda
- For the Novice: A pair of articles on orchid shows and displaying your plants for the first time.
- Judges' Corner: Organizing a Judging Project by Jean Allen-Ikeson
- Orchids Illustrated - Dendrobium by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins
- The Care and Feeding of Orchid Society Speakers by Sue Bottom
- The Japan Grand Prix International Orchid Festival, Part 2: The Later Years by Clare and Johan Hermans
- Remaking Cattleya Prince John by Arthur E. Chadwick
- Southern California Orchid Road Trip by Heidi Kirkpatrick and Gayle Brodie

YOUR SOCIETY CAN EARN FREE AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS

Upcoming shows are a good time to encourage new membership to AOS. Affiliated societies can now earn a one-month extension of their AOS society membership for each new AOS member that they refer (note: membership renewals don't count). Make sure to note your Society Affiliation in the comments section of the application.

With twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can have a FULL YEAR OF FREE AOS membership! Be sure to have membership applications with your society's name already filled in and available at your club meetings!

Remember to let your members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources at their disposal--making growing orchids even more enjoyable and successful.

Digital Access to Over 350+
past issues of Orchids magazine extending back to 1932!

ALSO FEATURED IN ORCHIDS MAGAZINE!

16-page award gallery of breath taking pictures of recently awarded orchids.



Cattleya Pink Pat 'Davis Doll' HCC/AOS; Photographer: Ramon de los Santos

RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON THE AOS WEBSITE:

See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new “Latest Orchid Awards” page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. Free to members and non-members.



Paphiopedilum Saiun 'Forest Park' AM/AOS; Photographer: Nile Dusdieker
Let's grow together,
Denise Lucero



Let's Grow Together!

www.aos.org



Update on longtime CLOS member, Kevin Allen who was instrumental in our conservation-restoration project with *Cypripedium kentuckiense*.

Linda and Jim,

Greetings from Cold Spring, New York! I have accepted a one-year horticulture internship here at Stonecrop Gardens, which begins tomorrow. I'm using this opportunity as a stepping stone to what I hope will be a career as a conservation horticulturist. I'm still looking at master's programs and hoping to find one that will provide an assistantship. The University of Florida seems to have a good program in conservation horticulture, so I might ultimately end up there after getting a solid background in horticultural techniques.

Before I made the trip up here, I checked on the lady's slippers, which are growing in pots at my family's property in Haynesville, LA. A handful of plants from the Evangeline Unit seed source are continuing to mature. As I have them growing in a semi-natural setting, the weaker plants have perished over time. I'm hoping that we'll end up with at least a few well adapted blooming-size plants. I have attached a photo of one of the plants, which has two or three eyes ready for this season.

The plants grown from the Kisatchie Ranger District seed source have not proven as hardy. Preferences can vary from population to population. I do have some young plants in pots and some still in flasks. Hopefully some of these will progress past the seedling stage. I'll keep after it. I seem to learn something new about these plants every year.

I hope you are both doing well.

Best regards,
Kevin

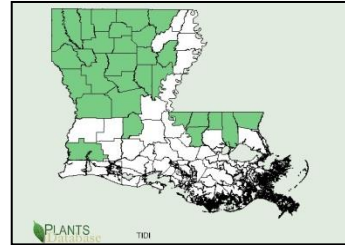


Image Copyright © 2011 by Gabi & Mihai Costea (contact: mcostea@wlu.ca) [ref. DOL40437]

Native Orchid of the Month—February

Tipularia discolor (crippled crane fly orchid)

Tipularia discolor or crippled crane fly orchid is widely distributed throughout the eastern United States and it is found across most of northern Louisiana (see map). Its habitat is in rich soil of deciduous woodlands; frequently in sandy, acid oak-pine near streams.



humus-
woods

The plant is easy to identify during the winter months because of its distinctive leaves. The dull to shiny green leaves (sometimes with raised spots) and purple on the bottom side show up well against a brown cover of dead leaves and needles. They appear as single oval shaped

purple
ground
leaves



that emerge in autumn (September and October), over-winter, and disappear in the late spring. There are no leaves at the time the orchid blooms.

Usually, the leaves wither away by the April. The flowering stem is 15 to 20 tall, erect, herbaceous, greenish-glabrous, and essentially leafless. It originates from a small corm to flower June to September and may have up to greenish-purple flowers with a

fly-like appearance. It is one of few orchids with distinctly asymmetrical



end of
inches
brown,

from
40 small,
spindly,
flowers.

Moths pollinate the plant. The flowers have pollinaria. Pollinaria are specialized structures containing pollen found in orchids. The moth travels to flower, the pollinaria attaches to the moth's eyes, and then the moth can the pollinaria to another flower for pollination.

the
transfer

