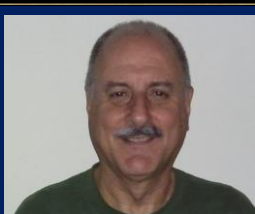


<http://www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org>



President's Message

Hopefully the worst of Winter is behind us, but in the south we just never know. At least the water supply is being replenished a little at a time. Stay vigilant with your watering and heating as well as constant circulation of the air.

February birthday wishes to Heather Ann Wilfert (Feb 10) and Linda Roberts (Feb 27). Hope your celebrations are grand!

We do have shows coming up in the months ahead that we have been invited to participate in and need to discuss who will be able to help with set-up and break down if we choose to put up a display. From the pictures I've seen of the Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show in Gautier, MS, it seems to have been very well attended with beautiful displays and several vendors. Next on the calendar is the Calcasieu Orchid Society Show in Lake Charles, LA, on April 5,6,7 with the theme of "Picture Perfect Orchids". Al Taylor will not be available to help with the show so we need to discuss whether we can participate or not. This show will be held at the Cash and Carry Historic Event Center. Soon after that Terrebonne Orchid Society will also be having a show April 12,13,14 in Houma, LA, at Southland Mall if we wish to participate. Decisions need to be made.

My plants have suffered another winter without a greenhouse because, with the hip stress fracture, I was not able to get it all rebuilt. Friends and I got the front, back and one side done before my hip gave out and I will need a few weeks to recover from the surgery, so it will just have to wait.

If you get to try any of the techniques we learned in the January programs, please let us know your successes and failures. Celebrate your days until we meet again!

Please keep those who are having health issues in prayers.

Russel Deroche, Jr.



Meeting Time and Place:
Sunday, February 18, 2024
Time: 2:30 pm

Show & Tell entry is 2:00-2:20
Program: Orchid Pests & Diseases
An AOS Education Committee Webinar
presented by Barb Schmidt, Chair, AOS Education Committee

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

Refreshments: Al Taylor

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 – Linda Roberts
AOS Representative – Eron Borne
ODC Representative – Andrea Mattison
Conservation Rep - Jim Barnett
Newsletter Editor – Eron Borne
Show & Tell – Al Taylor
Webmaster – Eron Borne

FEBRUARY MEETING

Introduction to Orchid Growing

An AOS Education Committee Webinar presented by Barb Schmidt, Chair of the AOS Education Committee.

The Orchidaceae Family is one of the oldest families of flowering plants, appearing sometime in the Late Cretaceous Period. Since that time, native orchids have spread to every continent except Antarctica and can be found in every climate except those that are permanently frozen or permanently dry. In this class, we will explore orchid physiology and what makes an orchid an orchid, terminology, growth, and care instructions, as well as learn some trivia and fun facts.

Tip of the Month

Danger of freeze continues past mid-month and frost can occur still into March. Even if the weather is balmy, it's too early to let down our guard or take down any protection we have mounted against the cold. The trend however is toward the positive as each lengthening day brings extra hours of warming sunshine to begin waking our plants from their long winter's rest. The lower overall temperatures of February still call for less frequent and lighter applications of fertilizer as was the practice in January.

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.

Central Louisiana Orchid Society
Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2024

1.0 Call to Order

President Russel Deroche called the meeting to order at 14:36.

2.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved from our December meeting.

3.0 Officer Reports

3.1 President Report

- 3.1.1 Russel wished all January birthdays a happy one.
- 3.1.2 Russel passed out the current Membership Spreadsheet and everyone checked his/her information. Corrections were made. He and others also mentioned members who should still be listed or members still needing to respond to e-mail regarding this list.
- 3.1.3 He then brought up the need to gain access to our banking account online for record of accounts receivables and payables, as well as earnings from raffle, dues and etc.
- 3.1.4 Russel would like input on Raffle item ideas and this year's programs.

3.2 Vice President Report

- 3.2.1 Nothing to report.

3.3 Treasurer Report

3.3.1 Jim Barnett had no report at this time but mentioned payments he will be making for approved donations to SWROGA conservation efforts and St. James Church.

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 inquired about how to best gain new members. Members discussed flyers at shows, word of mouth and business cards. Andrea will bring business cards with all our information for members to distribute.

4.0 Old Business – Nothing to discuss.

5.0 New Business

- 5.1 Russel opened the need for back-up people for current officers if absent. Russel will be the back-up for Treasurer. Other back-ups to be revisited.

- 5.2 Al presented Andrea with the 2023 Gremillion Award for the most points with her show and tell plants throughout the year. Al explained how points are earned.
- 5.3 Al mentioned the annual Gulf Coast Orchid Society's Show and Sale in Gautier, Mississippi. The show will be held February 2nd - 5th. Also, the Calcasieu Show in Lake Charles April 5th - 7th and voiced our need to have an exhibit in this show and will gather plants we need.

6.0 Program

Lessons in propagating orchids! Russel displayed several videos and explained the many ways in which to propagate orchids using such things as Aloe Vera, lemons, cinnamon, garlic cloves, bananas and tomatoes. This was a good lesson, and we were given links to the videos.

7.0 Raffle and Show & Tell

Raffle Winners: Andrea and Heather

Door Prize Winner: Judy

Russel provided the refreshments this month.

Show and Tell voting and winners presented as follows:

Best Grown Plant: *Den. Enobi* 'Purple Splash' -Andrea

Cattleya Alliance: 1st – *Pot. Star Fire* - Andrea

2nd – *Lc. Brittania* 'Fightin Tigers' An AOS - Al

3rd – *C. (Jersey Sumeminer x Pat Thrall)* - Al

All Others Group: 1st – *Den. Enobi* 'Purple Splash' -Andrea

2nd (tie) - *Calanthe* hybrid - Al

2nd (tie) – *Den. Blue Twist* - Al

There was no other business.

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1554.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather A Wilfert
Secretary

Conservatory Orchids

For and By the Community

Text by Frank Zachariah and Eron Borne/Photographs by Frank Zachariah

WHAT CAN THE AOS do to interest the youth of today in orchids? This question has been consistently addressed by the Education Committee of the AOS. For any orchid lovers who are involved in Girl or Boy Scouting, we have developed an Interest Project and an iron-on patch. One excellent idea is to have Girl or Boy Scouts help with local orchid society projects to earn patches.

The latest Scout project comes to us from the Louisiana State University Orchid Conservatory in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Author Zachariah is the chair of the conservatory. It all began about four years ago, when the Baton Rouge Orchid Society said, "Let's start an orchid conservatory on the grounds of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge." It was an ambitious undertaking to grow orchids that do well here, and attempt to grow those that do not. The conservatory now has a memorial collection to honor families' prized treasures, a dedicated seedling section for local enthusiasts who are trying their hand at hybridizing, and a potting bench for demonstrations so members can learn "hands-on" how to grow these in their homes. There are also weekly volunteers that keep the conservatory tidy and moving forward. Fortunately, the garden's director and his staff have also actively been involved in maintaining the collection. The public is allowed to stroll through and see what grows there, and the conservatory changes out flowers on display, so visiting this already attractive Botanical Garden is an even more enjoyable experience.

The interest in and donations to the conservatory have been overwhelming! There are now several thousand orchids, from seedlings to specimens, of which 600 are in a special mounted display. The orchids are outside under shade cloth from late March to early November. Because southern Louisiana is a subtropical rainforest, this creates many challenges — from pests and tropical storms to weeds and sanitation.

One important group in our community that has helped keep the conservatory maintained is the Boy Scouts. We have a handful of Scouts that come three times a year to help in fulfillment of their



conservation requirement. It is also a way for the boys (and their dads) to spend quality time doing something fun and of value to the community.

There are about 30 boys in Troop 888 chartered under Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. The Scouts are always eager to help wherever they are needed, no matter the task. A major undertaking was counting every orchid in the conservatory, giving us our first accurate inventory. Grand total: 3,421 plants! The boys printed up new labels for plants with smudged or broken tags. They deflasked and potted up members' hybridized seedlings. In addition, the Scouts also created mounts and added them to the conservatory's mounted display. Because orchids can take an interminably long time to bloom, these youth will certainly get to enjoy the flowers more than our senior members. We hope to keep them interested during those growing years. The AOS is providing every Scout a patch for their participation and each Scout receives a blooming phalaenopsis to give to their mom. For most, we are sure it will be the first orchid they kill, but they are encouraged to come back and get another (and another) until they become successful.

Troop 888 schedules about three work days a year, and 15 Scouts have helped for the past three years. The goal is to expand to other local troops and other youth organizations. By investing in the next generation a stewardship and appreciation of the remarkable beauty of nature, we hope to keep our passion for the orchid family blooming for decades to come.

If you are interested in the Scout



- [1] Scouts potting up crosses from Baton Rouge Orchid Society (BROS) members.
- [2] Replacing old and broken labels with new tags.
- [3] Scouts ready to receive their marching orders.
- [4] The AOS badge.

Interest Project, please contact the AOS Education Committee at education_committee@aos.org.

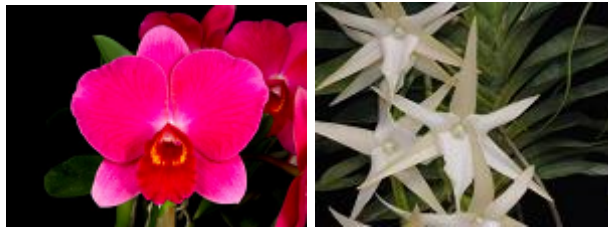
— Eron Borne and Frank Zachariah
(email eaborne@yahoo.com; lousid8@gmail.com).

Upcoming Educational Opportunities for CLOS Members

Native Orchid Conference Symposium

The annual symposium for the Native Orchid Conference will be coming south next April 2024! The conference will be hosted in Nacogdoches, TX, and there will be field trips to a couple of native orchid populations in East Texas and possibly West Central Louisiana. The symposium speakers will be excellent. More information on this event will be relayed as the details are finalized.

5th AOS Orchid Culture Day - "Orchids for Enjoyment"



Our 5th Culture Day has been rescheduled for March 3rd, 2024 with a Spring theme.

Our speakers will be:

Mike Coronado (RF Orchids)

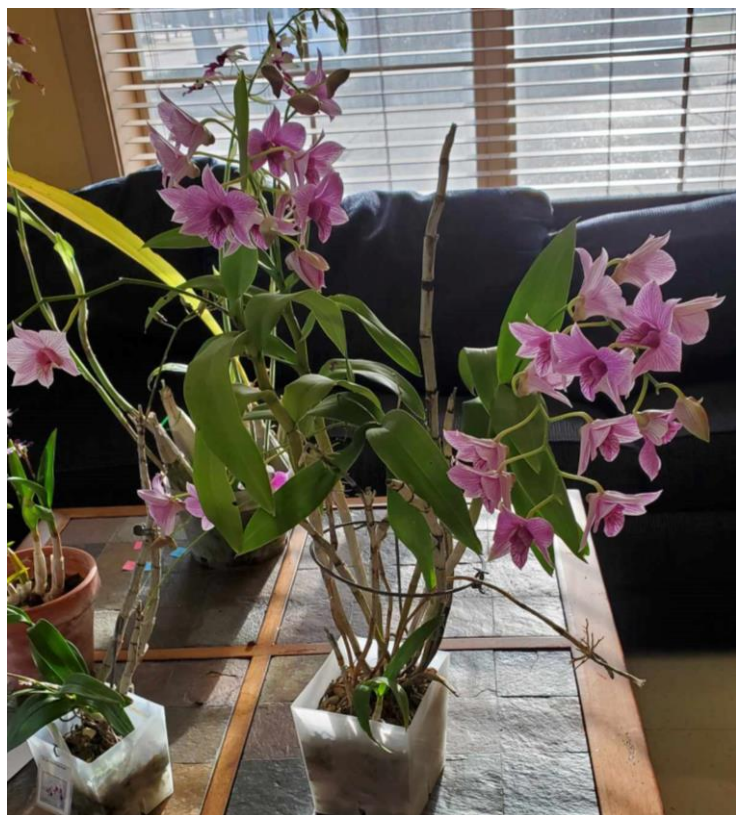
George Hatfield (Hatfield Orchids)

Lorenz Grobler (AfriOrchids)

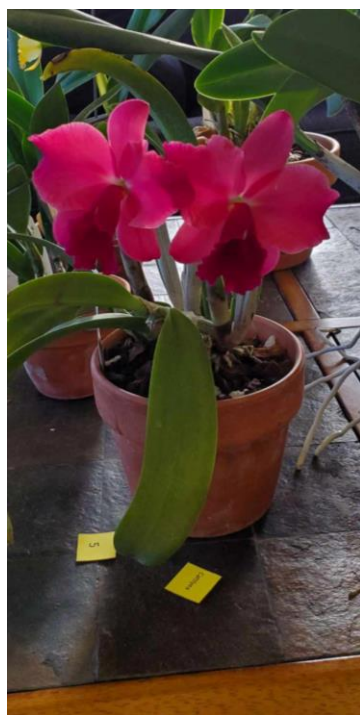
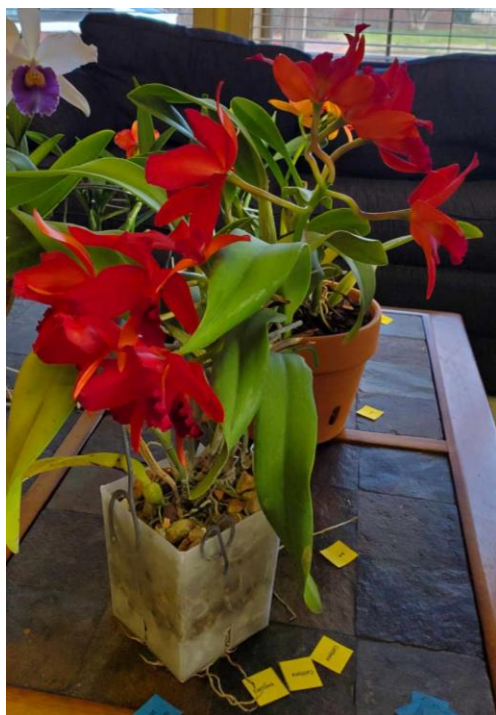
Julien Baruch (Krull Smith)

Further details will be posted on the AOS website soon.

Andrea's Best Grown Plant – *Den. Enobi* 'Purple Splash'



Show and Tell winners – Cattleya Alliance Category



1st – *Pot. Star Fire* – Andrea, 2nd – *Lc. Britannia* 'Fightin' Tigers' AM/AOS – AI, 3rd – *C. (Jersey Sumeminer x Pat Thrall)* - AI

Show and Tell winners – Other Category



1st – *Den. Enobi 'Purple Splash'* – Andrea, 2nd (tie) – *Den. Blue Twist* - Andrea, 2nd (tie) – *Calanthe hybrid* - Al

Al presenting Andrea with the 2023 Gremillion Award for the most points in show and tell.





2024 February 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.

JOIN TODAY AND SAVE

[Learn more about joining the AOS](#)

- Orchids magazine & digital archive
- Orchidpro - search 100K+ photos
- Over 100+ ready-to-watch webinars
- Saving min 5% from top 50 orchid vendors
- \$700+ voucher for 2 year members
- Join the AOS today! Under \$5 per month

Don't miss these webinars in February

Click on the images to register for the webinars you are interested in attending!

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 8:30 PM EST



Phalaenopsis: From Soup to Nuts with David Edgley - Join Accredited Judge and Chair of the AOS Judging Committee, David Edgley, for a wonderful panorama of Phalaenopsis

breeding and the culture needed to grow these delightful orchids. *Members only.*

Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:30 PM EST



AOS Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton - Join Dr. Ron McHatton as he answers your questions about all things orchids. As this webinar was released earlier this week, you

can view the recording now! *Open to all.*

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*



2024 Spring Members Meeting



April 3rd - 6th in Apopka, Florida

Make plans to join us at the 2024 Spring Members Meeting which will be held in Apopka, FL, April 3 - 6, in conjunction with the Apopka International Spring Orchid Festival and the International Phalaenopsis Alliance.

There will be orchid speakers, AOS Judging, a hybridizing workshop, vendors, a live auction and more!

You can book your accommodations now at the Hilton Garden Inn in Apopka here: [AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY \(hilton.com\)](https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/apopka-hilton-garden-inn/). Rates stated are for rooms only, taxes & fees are applicable.