

<http://www.centrollouisianaorchidsociety.org>



President's Message

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy 2025! It seems like true Winter has finally arrived and hibernation time is at hand. Hope some warm air is flowing in your greenhouses and the plants are thriving. Mine has been covered with polycarbonate plastic and is doing well for now. I hope to finish the rebuild in the Spring.

Our show is quickly approaching, and we need to discuss what remains to be done. Hope your plants are getting ready to grace our exhibit with beautiful blooms. We will be using last year's schedule with the current dates and a new picture of the theme. So, if you have a copy of the last schedule, the classes will remain the same for entries.

Welcome to Sharyon Thompson as the newest member of our Society. We're glad to have you aboard and are willing to share your experiences with us.

I am looking forward to accomplishing much this year, with everyone's help.

Happy growing and blooming,

Russel Deroche, Jr.



Meeting Time and Place:
Sunday, January 19, 2025
Time: 2:30 pm

Show & Tell entry is 2:00-2:20
Program: Brassavola orchids
and Broughtonia sanguinea
Presented by: Eron Borne

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

Refreshments: Eron

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

2025 Orchid Show

We need help from ALL of our CLOS members. If you are able to help on one or both of these days, please contact Eron at eaborne@yahoo.com or 318-758-0008. Thank you and we look forward to an amazing show this year!



Central Louisiana Orchid Society

Orchid Show and Sale

"Carnival of Orchids"

Friday, February 28, 2025, 2:00-5:00pm

Saturday, March 1, 2025, 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
 - ❖ Beautiful orchids available for purchase
- ❖ Bring your kids! Orchid treasure hunt and ribbons awarded.

www.centrollouisianaorchidsociety.org



JANUARY MEETING

Brassavola orchids and Broughtonia sanguinea

Brassavola orchids are known as the "spiders and stars" of the orchid world. Their elegant but intriguing shapes make a very special addition to your orchid collection. If anyone has seen many *Broughtonia sanguinea* in bloom, you know that they are the kaleidoscope of the orchid world. Join us as Eron delves into some of these spectacular orchids!

Tip of the Month

In the drought of January, mites, that affect nearly all genera of orchids, continue to be a serious problem that will only get worse. Mite populations will reach a crescendo in March and April but January is a good time to scotch them.

Paphiopedilum and other softly leaved genera are particularly susceptible but no genus is free of them. One theory on why deciduous genera such as *Catasetum*, *Calanthe* and others lose their leaves hypothesizes that this totally rids them of mites. Being totally rid of mites is a good thing! Sometimes this is easier said than done because mites reproduce with such voluminous speed. Their life cycle from egg to reproductive adult being is as short as twelve days. In order to control mites one must achieve as total a kill of the population as possible. Total control can only be achieved with two successive sprays. After spraying for mites initially, one must spray again in 7 - 10 days. No single spray is totally effective in killing both adults and eggs and a second spraying is necessary to kill any survivors before they can reproduce. Oil as recommended in the December chapter at 1.5 oz per gal followed in 7-10 days by soap at the rate of 2 oz per gallon is very effective. These treatments are also quite effective against scale and mealy bugs which thrive on drought as well. Be sure your plants are well watered the day before applying both oil and soap and be sure that you cover thoroughly all leaf surfaces especially the lower ones which are mites favorite hide outs. - 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
December 15, 2024

1.0 Call to Order

President Russel Deroche called the meeting to order at 1445.

2.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved from our November meeting.

3.0 Officer Reports

3.1 President Report

3.1.1 Russel announced our one December birthday was Al and we wished him a happy one.

3.1.2 Russel passed out new registration form and collected our dues for 2025.

3.2 Vice President Report

3.2.1 Nothing to report at this time.

3.3 Treasurer Report

The treasurer report was given by the treasurer Russel, as Jim was absent.

3.3.1 Overview of CLOS Deposits/Withdrawals since last month and current financial state of the society.

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 contacting the local Girl Scouts to invite them to participate in our upcoming spring show. Participation could include a kid's corner, crafts and contest. Eron gave her the go ahead and discussed how they could earn badges for their participation. We would provide Orchid Society patches.

4.0 Old Business

4.1 We discussed our planning for our spring show.

4.2 Al confirmed our paying for liability insurance for 2025.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Andrea motioned to vote for our current slate of officers and Al second; all were in favor.

5.2 We had a new guest today! Welcome Sharyon! She shared her experience in shows and ways to advertise our society. One such idea is for us to participate in a Mardi Gras Parade locally. She had several good ideas and members are excited to have her as the newest member.

- 5.3 Al spoke of the CLOS remaining an active corporation and paying our dues for the Domestic Corporation Annual Report, notary and judging center as he keeps this on his dashboard. He voiced needing a reminder for dates due. Russel suggested making a list for all accounts payable.
- 5.4 Al brought CenLa Focus magazines to share, where we can have a free monthly advertisement of meetings. He asked Heather to create this ad for each month. In addition, we will hand in a full color page add to announce our spring show. Eron will provide that article.
- 5.5 Al brought two Phalaenopsis to the meeting and has twenty at home to donate to the first people who come to our show and join our society.

6.0 Program

No program in lieu of our annual Christmas Potluck and Bingo. Everyone brought something yummy to eat and each member went home with two gifts. It was a joyous occasion!

7.0 Raffle and Show & Tell

Raffle Winners: Judy, Eron, Heather and Andrea

Door Prize Winner: Al

Each member contributed to the refreshments for this month's potluck.

Show and Tell voting and winners presented as follows:

Best Grown Plant: – Den. Stripey – Andrea

Cattleya Alliance: 1st – *Pot. Montana Spirit* – Eron
2nd – C. Martha Clark x Beaufort – Al

All Others Group: 1st – Den. Stripey – Andrea
2nd(tie) – *Phrag. richteri* – Eron
2nd (tie) – *Paph. Michael Koopowitz* - Eron

There was no other business.

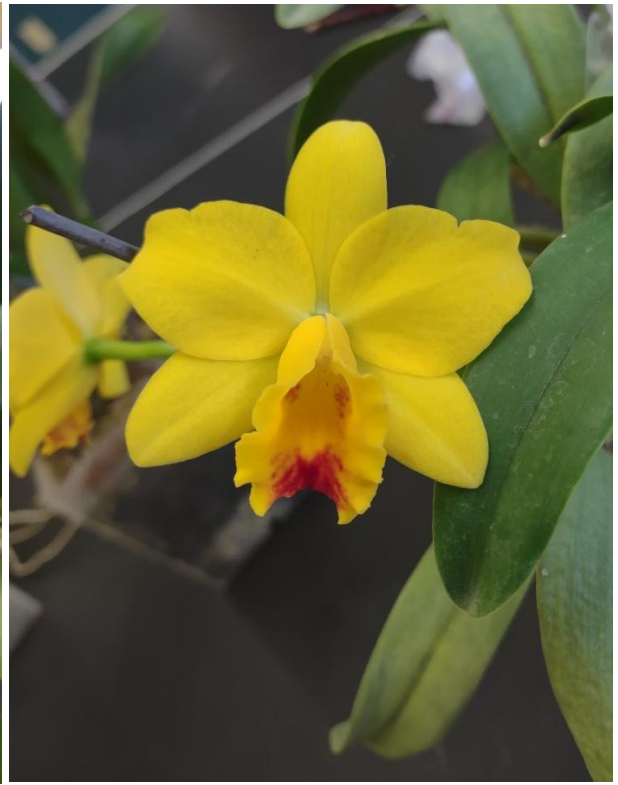
8.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1649.

Respectfully submitted,

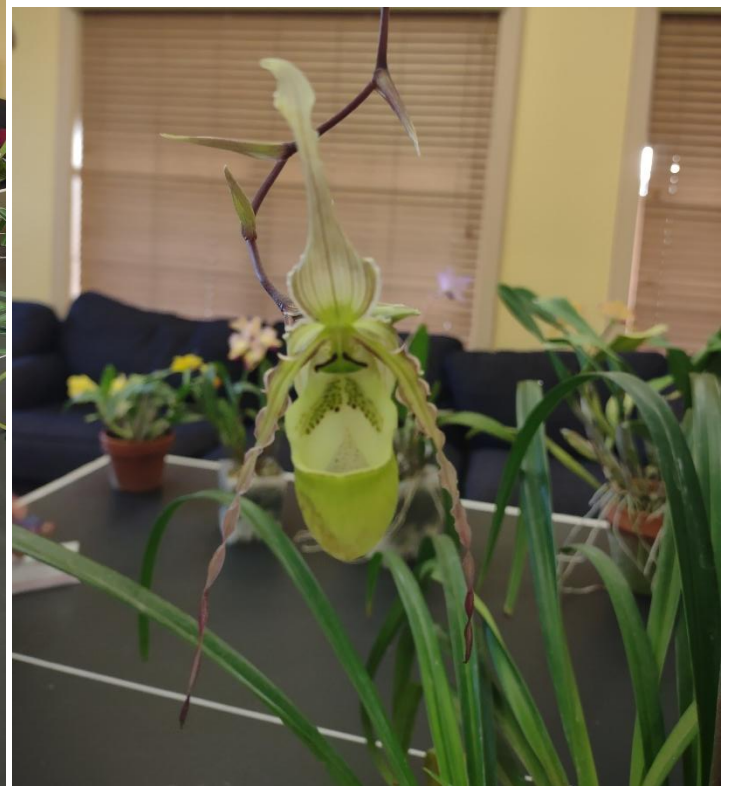
Heather A. Wilfert
Secretary

Show and Tell Winners - Cattleya Category



1st—Pot. Montana Spirit 'Big Sky' HCC/AOS –Eron, 2nd –C. new hybrid (Martha Clarke x Beaufort) – Al

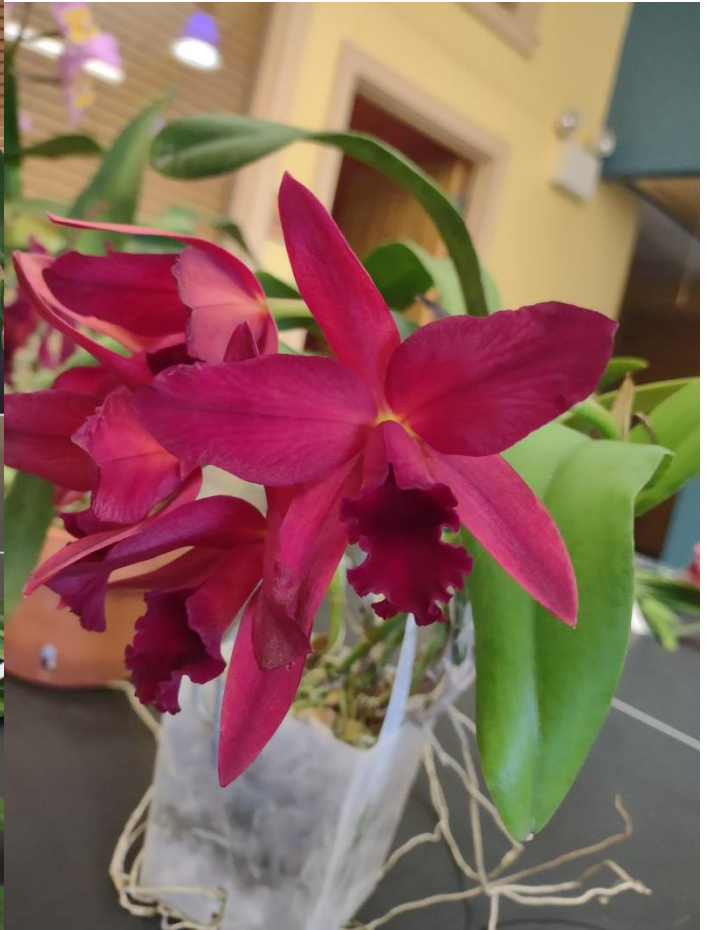
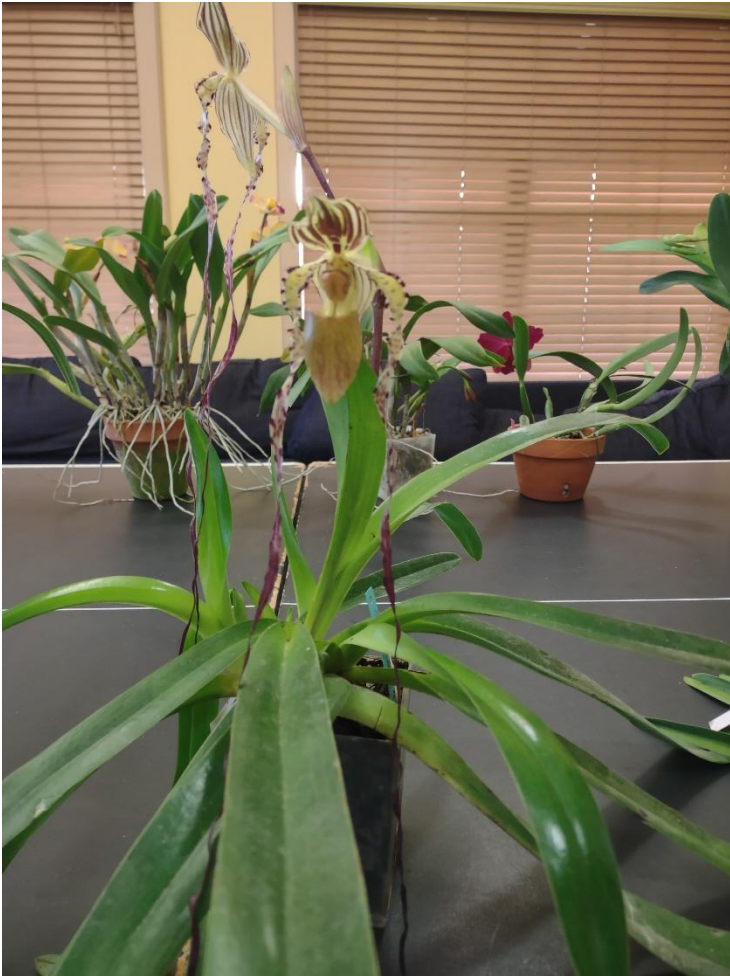
Other Category



1st – Den. Mr. Stripey – Andrea (also Best Grown), 2nd – Phrag. richteri - Eron,

Others continued

3rd – Paph. Michael Koopowitz - Eron(below left), and (right) a bonus red in bloom for the Christmas season!



The following is provided courtesy of Sue Bottom as published in the St. Augustine OS newsletter.



Why Do Orchids Need a Drop in Nighttime Temperatures?

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@hotmail.com

Did you ever wonder why all the books say that many orchids need a 10 to 20 degree drop in temperature from day to night? Lower nighttime temperatures are critical for good growth and flowering because there must be a proper balance between photosynthesis and respiration for a plant to bloom well.

Orchids by Day. During the day, your plants are busy:

- ★ *Making Food.* Your plants are busy using solar energy in a process called photosynthesis. Light is absorbed by the chlorophyll in the chloroplasts and the carbon dioxide absorbed by the plant is converted into chemical energy in the form of sugars and starches.
- ★ *Using Food.* Your plants consume their energy reserves in a process known as respiration. The food reserves of sugars and starches are used to maintain existing tissue as well as produce new growths, flowers and seeds.



During the day, your orchids are busy converting light energy into chemical energy via photosynthesis, using the available light, carbon dioxide, water and nutrients.

Why Do Orchids Need a Drop in Nighttime Temperatures?

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@hotmail.com

Orchids by Night. At night, photosynthesis stops but growth and respiration continue drawing on the energy reserves created during the day. Respiration occurs more quickly at higher temperatures than at lower temperatures. At lower temperatures, it is possible for the energy consumption to be less than energy production, allowing the plant to store energy for future use, including flowering. If night temperatures are too high, food is used faster than it can be made so growth is poor and orchids either do not flower or they flower poorly.



At night, your orchids consume energy reserves in a process called respiration. Respiration is temperature dependent so less energy is consumed when nights are cooler, leaving the plant more energy to produce flowers.

Providing Lower Nighttime Temperatures. Providing cooler nighttime temperatures can be problematic if you're growing indoors in a climate controlled environment. Probably the best alternative is a programmable thermostat or manually turning the thermostat down at night. Orchids growing by a bright window will be a few degrees warmer during the day from solar gain and orchids growing by an open window may be a few degrees cooler at night in winter. Where possible, you can provide lower nighttime temperatures if you grow your orchids outdoors or on a screened porch during the warm season.

Why Do Orchids Need a Drop in Nighttime Temperatures?

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@hotmail.com

Flower Induction by Night Time Chilling. Many orchids require a significant day night temperature difference to induce flowering. Phals require a 15 degree drop in nighttime temperatures for two or three weeks to initiate their flower spikes and cymbidiums and dendrobiums can require an even larger temperature difference. Den. crumenatum is an interesting species that opens all its blooms simultaneously 8 or 9 days after a thunderstorm, some believe as a result of the cooling effect of the evaporation of rainwater.

Zygopetalums Crave Cooler Nights. I have long loved zygopetalums with their bluish purple, green and bronze flowers and incredible fragrance, although they have tended to



Zygopabstia Cosmo-Phillips

be very short lived in my care. I've tried growing them in a wide variety of light conditions and potting mixes. Knowing that they like cooler conditions than we have in St. Augustine, I tried the old grower's trick of growing them in sphagnum moss in a clay pot dropped in a second clay pot to keep them a little cooler from the water evaporating from the porous clay. They grew better, but still struggled. I was telling Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids my tale of woe and he told me to get them out of the greenhouse and under the shade of a tree. That provided a few extra degrees of nighttime cooling and the growth rate exploded over the summer. I was treated to more zygo blooms than ever before.

Understanding your plant's metabolism gives you insight into how best to grow it. Cooler nighttime temperatures allow your orchid to store rather than consume the food it manufactured during the day. This stored energy can then be used by the plant to produce flowers. Next to insufficient light, insufficient day to night temperature change is the most likely cause of your orchid failing to bloom. If your plants are growing well and you are sure they are getting enough of the right kind of light, try dropping your night temperatures by a few degrees. You may be pleasantly surprised by the increase in flowers your plants produce.



2025 January 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.


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 Greenhouse Chat webinars are recorded and indexed by topic for future viewing.

When	Throughout December	Jan. 02, 2025 Thursday 8:30 pm EST	Jan. 09, 2025 Thursday 8:30 pm EST	Feb. 05, 2025 Wednesday 8:30 pm EST
Topic	Check Out the Timeless Collection of Recorded Webinars	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Dec. 31, 2024</i>	Inorganic Potting Media, Never Repot Again Part 1 Semi-hydroponic growing	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Feb. 03</i>
Presenter	The world's top orchid experts share the latest information on a broad range of webinar topics.	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	Harvey Breneisse Long time orchid grower across multiple states and in different environments.	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer



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Native Orchid of the Month—January

Listera australis

(southern twayblade)

The earliest blooming of our native orchids is a rarely seen species, *Listera australis*, the southern twayblade. It is so small as to be easily overlooked in the moist woodlands that it calls home. It is found in both moist pineland bogs and moist hardwood forests across much of Louisiana. Twayblades emerge from early January to July in Louisiana, but later as you travel northward through their range which extends all the way into the southern parts of Canada. Frequently they occur in association with rhizomes of the cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*.)



Prem Subrahmanyam

The plant is usually no more than three inches tall, occasionally up to six inches, with a pair of leaves (hence the common name) that are seldom more than a half-inch long. If you are fortunate to find a plant, don't look away, lest you spend another five to ten minutes relocating it. Seedlings consist of only the stem and the pair of leaves, while mature plants will have a flower stem arising from between their leaves. Usually about 10 flowers occur on the stem. The flowers are a wonder of miniaturization, with petals and sepals only about 1 mm long in which many of the floral parts are composed of literally just a few hundred cells. The forked lip is by far the most conspicuous part of the flower, reaching

lengths of about a half-inch.



Prem Subrahmanyam

This is one of Louisiana's smallest orchids. They come up rather quickly, set seed and senesce all within the period of a month to a month-and-a-half some time from January to July.

