

CENTRAL LOUISIANA ORCHID SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 43 ISSUE 7

July 2022

<http://www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org>



From the President

Greetings,
Last weekend, the Baton Rouge Orchid Society held an orchid show and vendor sale at the Burden Museum and Gardens off Essen Lane. Members of the Houston and Louisiana Judging Center attended and judged the orchids. There were no AOS awards given at the show. There were 4 vendors selling at the show. The 4th Saturday of the month will be the Louisiana Judging Center's meeting/judging. Feel free to bring your orchid to be evaluated at the Westside Library in Alexandria. 11am until finished.

Note the program for this month is an AOS presentation which should be of interest to all. Stay cool if you can.

Wilton Guillory, President



Meeting Time and Place:
Sunday, July 17, 2022
Time: 2:30 pm

Show & Tell entry is 2:00-2:20
My Favorite Curiosities – an AOS webinar by Ron McHatton

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

Refreshments:
Eron

Central Louisiana Orchid Society Officers

President – Wilton Guillory
Vice President – Al Taylor
Secretary – Eron Borne
Treasurer – Jim Barnett
Director – Andrea Mattison
Director – Connie Guillory
SWROGA Director#1 Linda R
SWROGA Director#2 Eron B
AOS Representative – Wilton
ODC Representative – Andrea
Conservation Rep - Jim Barnett
Newsletter Editor – Eron (temporary)
Permanent NEEDED!
Show & Tell – Al Taylor
Webmaster – Eron Borne

JULY PROGRAM

My Favorite Curiosities & Oddities

An AOS webinar by Ron McHatton

Ever wonder why the outside of the flowers of *Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis* are covered with those odd rubbery little spines, the pseudobulbs of your *Myrmecophilas* are hollow or why some of your orchids grow fine spiky roots that stick straight up and defy getting them in a pot? Each of these has a definite evolutionary purpose. Join Ron as he discusses a selection of his favorite curiosities out of a family replete with curiosities.

Member Feature

Andrea Mattison

My husband Clyde and I moved to Tioga in the early nineties. We both taught science at Grant High School. I had always grown indoor plants under lights and had always wanted to grow orchids. My early attempts to grow anything other than Phals ended in disaster. One weekend I went to the Alexandria Mall and The Central Louisiana Orchid Society was holding a show there. I immediately joined the society, but even with all the help that all the members gave me, I still couldn't grow Cattleyas. My wonderful husband said that if I needed a greenhouse to grow them, that I should get a greenhouse. So, we ordered kit for a 16 x 24-foot greenhouse, and since then I have been able to grow Cattleyas and many others. Unfortunately, I still kill many orchids because even with a greenhouse you can't give every orchid the conditions that they need. I still try new types until they proved to me that I can't grow them. Later, I had a shade house built over the cement floor of the dog pen that the former homeowner had installed. This has helped me grow orchids that can't survive the super-hot summer heat in my greenhouse. I have enjoyed helping CLOS host orchid shows and have attended many shows hosted by other Societies in Louisiana & Texas.

Central Louisiana Orchid Society
Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2022

1.0 Call to Order

President Wilton Guillory called the meeting to order at 1435. Wilton welcomed one new guest, Marge Harrington. He wished all the fathers in attendance a Happy Father's Day!

2.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved from our May meeting.

3.0 Officer Reports

3.1 President Report

Wilton gave his report.

3.1.1 Discussed the upcoming show in Baton Rouge and it was previously decided that the CLOS would not set up an exhibit this year.

3.1.2 Reminded our members that the Louisiana Judging Center will have their monthly judging next Saturday on June 25.

3.1.3 Wilton acknowledged the hard work on the website and all the recent activity on our new Facebook page.

3.2 Vice President Report

Our July meeting program is "My Favorite Curiosities," an AOS webinar by Ron McHatton. Our August program is scheduled to be on the Native Orchids of Louisiana by Dr. Jim Barnett.

3.3 Treasurer Report

The treasurer report was given by the treasurer Jim Barnett.

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.

3.3.3 Jim re-registered our society on our state's corporate fee site.

3.4 Secretary Report – May minutes were in this month's newsletter.

4.0 Old Business

We were unable to find out the status of the Kees Park hall for our spring show. Jim will continue trying to contact them and hopefully know more next month.

5.0 New Business

5.1 There was no new business this month.

6.0 Program

Part 2 of the AOS Webinar titled Paphs! Their Care and Understanding by Dave Sorokowski was shown.

7.0 Raffle and Show & Tell

Raffle Winners: Andrea, Al, Eron, Richard & Judy & Heather

Door Prize Winner: Richard

Jim and many other members provided the ice cream refreshments this month.

Show and Tell voting and winners presented as follows:

Best Grown Plant: Phrag. richteri – Eron

All Others Group: 1st – Mtps. Bert Field ‘Aileen’ AM/AOS – Eron

2nd – Cattleya leopoldii - Al

3rd – Bulb. frostii - Eron

There was no other business.

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1545.

Respectfully submitted,

Eron Borne

Secretary

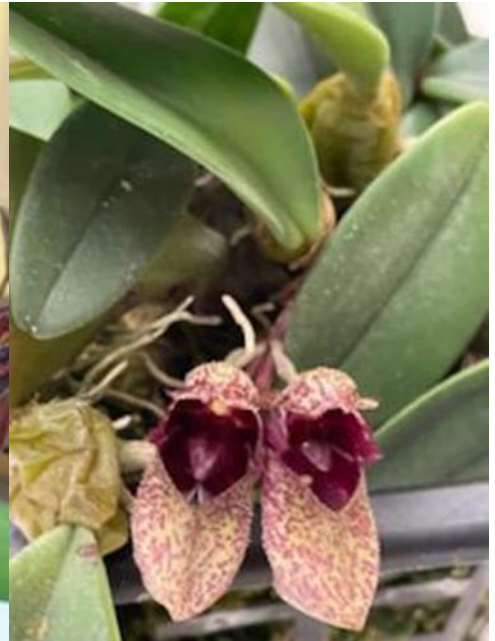


Tip of the Month

Last month, Heather shared that she has been using this organic insecticide & fungicide and it has been working very well! BH-B controls botrytis, fusarium, root aphids, black spots, powdery mildew, downy mildew, bugs, gnats, blight, spider mites, and many more.

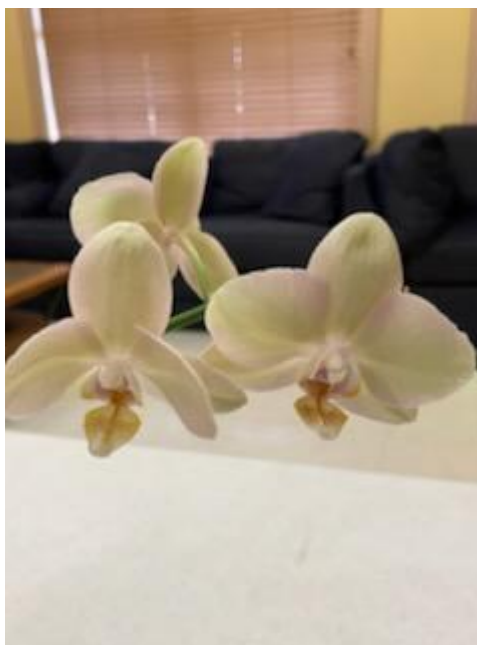


Eron's Best Grown Plant – *Phragmipedium richteri*



Show and Tell winners – (All genera combined category)

1st - Miltoniopsis Bert Field -Eron, 2nd - Cattleya leopoldii - Al, 3rd - Bulbophyllum frostii - Eron



Other Show & Tell plants



2022 July 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.

[OrchidPro](#) helps you prepare to exhibit your orchids in a competitive field. Compare your blooms to those of similar previously awarded orchids. Consult the [Handbook on Judging](#) for insight into what the judges are looking for when your plant comes to the table.

Whether you are new to the hobby or an established successful grower, there is always more to learn. Review the AOS website. Bring your orchids to the nearest [Judging Center](#) or set up an Outreach Judging for your society. You now have orchid growing goals! You're welcome.

The Importance of Fresh Air

The importance of fresh air to orchids is possibly the least appreciated aspect of growing orchids. All the orchid books tell you to ensure there is air movement around your orchids. For years I kept adding fans to my growing area thinking I was satisfying this basic requirement. But orchids do not want recirculated stale air, they want to be bathed in fresh air, particularly the wafting breezes they get when they are outdoors.

The first time Ruben Saulea of Ruben in Orchids talked to our orchid club, we talked about how I could improve my orchid growing. At that time, we had the traditional greenhouse with a wet wall at one end, exhaust fans at the opposite end and polypropylene covering all the other surfaces. Ruben took one look at the greenhouse and said rip out the water wall and replace the side wall with stucco metal lath, keep the vents open at either end of the greenhouse and open the top vent. This allowed free movement of air throughout the greenhouse during the growing season. A retractable curtain closes off the stucco metal lath during cold weather, but otherwise the plants are always bathed in fresh air. That was the year the greenhouse exploded with new growth and an incredible display of blooms.

I struggled trying to grow vandas in the hoop house covered with greenhouse film with doors at either end. When Rafael Romero of Plantio La Orquidea looked at our growing set up, he told us to rip out the film on the side wall and replace it with stucco metal lath and a retractable curtain. Voilà, the vandas bloomed freely and the incidence of leaf spotting and rots was greatly diminished. During the summer growing season, the vandas are now all moved out into summer shade structures that allow free air on all four sides. The vandas grow like weeds in the fresh breezes.

This demand for fresh air makes sense if you think about how many orchids evolved from understory terrestrials to epiphytes. Many types of orchids left the forest floor to grow high in the canopy on the trunks or branches of tall forest trees where more light was available and where winds were stronger than on the ground.

Wafting breezes offer many benefits to your orchids:

- Fresh moving air improves gas exchange through leaf pores and around the rhizomes and roots, a process that is required for the plant's metabolic processes.
- Fresh moving air cools the leaves during warm weather when high light and high temperatures could otherwise cause the plant to overheat and restrict its metabolic processes, and possibly result in leaf sunburn.
- Fresh moving air helps distribute warm and cold air so extremes in air temperature will not harm the vegetation.
- Fresh moving air helps dry excess moisture from the leaves so bacteria and fungi will not proliferate.

Of course, air movement and humidity must be in balance. In a low-humidity environment, excess air movement will cause more evaporation and possibly result in dehydration. In a high-humidity environment, air movement is a must to prevent orchid disease problems.

During the cooler months, your orchids are probably in their winter homes inside. You can group your plants on humidity trays filled with pebbles to hold extra water after watering and provide some humidity around the plants. A fan blowing a gentle breeze around your plants is good. When the temperature is right, you can open a window by your plants and let them get a taste of the fresh air they crave.

When warm weather returns, try to find a location outdoors where your orchids can get loads of fresh air. A screened porch is great, particularly for phalaenopsis that want shadier conditions and a covered roof where water won't accumulate in the crown of the plant causing rot. Hanging your orchids under a tree where they'll receive dappled light and fresh breezes 24 hours a day will result in an incredible summer growth surge, particularly if you ramp up your watering and fertilizing schedules to match the increased plant vigor.

Proper air movement is just as important to your orchid as providing the proper amount of water and light to your plant. It is also the least appreciated aspect of orchid growing. If you struggle with fungal and bacterial problems on your plants, you can apply chemicals to treat the symptoms. However, in many instances, proper air movement would have prevented the problem from arising in the first place.

— Sue Bottom started growing orchids in Houston in the mid-1990s after her husband Terry built her first greenhouse. They settled into St. Augustine, Florida, Sue with her orchids and Terry with his camera and are active in the St. Augustine Orchid Society, maintaining the society's website and publishing its monthly newsletter. Sue is also a member of the AOS Editorial Board (sbottom15@hotmail.com).

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REGISTRATION IS EASY <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry.

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Greenhouse Chat Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.

Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

When	July 17, 2022 2:00pm EDT Sunday	July 19, 2022 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	August Summer Break
Topic	Orchid Conservation Efforts in Rwanda	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Choose Your Topic From RECORDED WEBINARS
Presenter	Michael Tibbs International Traveler, Author, Hybridizer, Consultant	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Expert Growers, AOS Judges, Hobbyists, Conservationists and more

Check Out the Timeless Collection of Recorded Webinars on the AOS Website



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

