



## President's Message

I hope you are enjoying your summer so far and are keeping your orchids watered and fed. It is time to get ready for the severe heat and the sometimes-severe storms that come with it. May your summer bloomers send up spikes of flowers that you can enjoy! I have a few finally blooming and am enjoying their beauty and fragrance.

I was unable to attend the Baton Rouge show this past weekend but do hope it all went well. From the pictures I have seen, it did. If you did make it and were able to take home some new plants, I envy you.

We are now getting closer to the peak of hurricane season, so stay aware of the weather and hopefully we will only have some rainy days in August and September to cool us off for a bit.

Happy growing and blooming,

*Russel Deroche, Jr.*



**Meeting Time and Place:**  
**Sunday, July 20, 2025**  
**Time: 2:30 pm**

Show & Tell entry is 2:00-2:20  
**Program: Growing and Blooming Cattleyas**

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

**Refreshments: Heather Wilfert**

### 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

# **JULY MEETING**

## *"Growing and Blooming Cattleyas"*

**Russel will show a video and discuss how to grow and bloom cattleyas. Cattleyas are very hardy in our environment and are a great addition to anyone's collection!**

**NOTE: Due to the cancellation of our June meeting, the program on "Charles Darwin, his Little Book on Orchids, and his Theory of Evolution" will be rescheduled for later this fall.**

**Also, there are no June minutes since there was no June meeting.**

## Tip of the Month

Careful watering and judicious drying will do more than any other practice to ensure healthy plants. Drought is the orchid plants armor against disease. Be sure that your plants dry as completely as the weather of July permits. Nonetheless, as our plants are in full growth they need adequate water in July therefore after a hard drying, orchid plants need a thorough rehydration. If the next rain fall is insufficient to saturate pot, roots and media, the grower should add to the natural moisture until he is sure both roots and media are saturated, using two or three applications of water spaced a few minutes apart. When the plants stop dripping is the time to apply the next dose of water. Don't stop watering until the "heft" of the pot tells you that it is holding as much water as it can.

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.



## July Birthdays



Catherine Turner (July 30)

The Central Louisiana Orchid Society set up an exhibit in the Baton Rouge Orchid Society Show last weekend. Members Al Taylor and Pat Huval set up the exhibit and Pat took it down. Our plants received 9 ribbons (7 blue and 2 red) and a trophy for Best Grown Plant in the Miscellaneous Group. We ask all members to please consider helping set-up or take down a future show exhibit! If it will be your first time or two, we'll make sure there is an experienced person there to help. Also, we need plants from members to include in our displays. The CLOS thanks Al and Pat for making sure our club was represented at this show!



# Acadian Orchid Society Show, Lafayette, LA

## Contact

Eddie Dupuy  
337-445-9252  
[eddiedupuy@cox.net](mailto:eddiedupuy@cox.net)

## Location

The Our Lady of Fatima,  
Knights of Columbus  
Hall, 111 Goodnight Drive,  
Lafayette, LA 70503

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The Acadian Orchid Society Show is being held  
October 4 - 5, 2025 at The Our Lady of Fatima,  
Knights of Columbus Hall, 111 Goodnight Drive,  
Lafayette, LA 70503.

Judging is being held on October 3, 2025 at 6:00  
PM.

Show Times:  
Sat: 9am-5pm  
Sun: 9am-3pm



**\* Orchid Word of the Month \***

**Dendrobium** (den-DROH-bee-um)

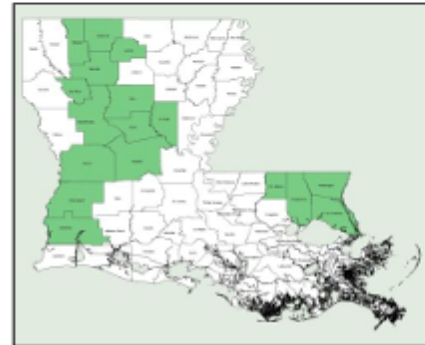
Native Orchid of the Month—July

*Platanthera ciliaris*  
(yellow fringed orchid)

Yellow fringed orchid (*Platanthera ciliaris*) is a large and showy species. It grows in "acid soil of hillside seepage bogs" in the longleaf pine landscapes of the Gulf Coast. Like many species in these habitats, including flatwoods, it is dependent upon recurring fire to create open conditions. Further north it is found in bogs, but even there it may be dependent upon fire to create open conditions.



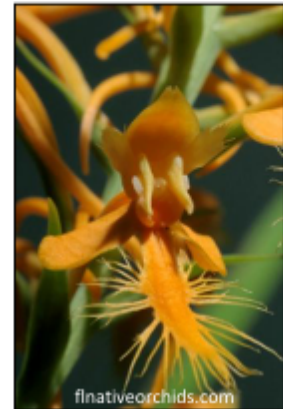
Plants may be to 36 inches tall with a raceme of up to fifty flowers, each about 1 inch from dorsal sepal to the end of the lip. The flowers are borne in a cluster at the top of the plant that can be six inches tall. Flowers are apricot to orange in color, heavily fringed on the lip and bearing a spur at the back of the lip filled with nectar at the very tip.



The split anther (an uncommon structure among orchids) spreads to either side of the orifice, which leads to a slender spur filled with nectar in the last centimeter or so. Butterflies are the chief pollinator of this orchid,

having to extend their tongues down the spur to drink the nectar.

Flowering occurs from June through September (peaking in August).



Seedlings will produce a single leaf, or perhaps a few leaves in a basal rosette. The leaves, light, almost bluish-green with several prominent veins, start out at the base of the plant and may be of good size (in some cases 12 inches long), and then rapidly decrease in size to mere floral bracts as they clasp higher up the fluted stem.



Data compiled from various sources and provided courtesy of the Central Louisiana Orchid Society.  
[www.centralloouisianaorchidsociety.org](http://www.centralloouisianaorchidsociety.org)

\*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](mailto: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.