

<http://www.centrollouisianaorchidsociety.org>



President's Message

What a success it was! A few bumps here and there but overall, the show was a great success. Thanks to everyone who attended and pitched in to get things done. With so much cooperation and help we made a small show seem much larger than it was. Many thanks to the members who brought show plants: Al Taylor (29), Eron Borne (8), Janie Phillips (10), and Andrea Mattison (1). Our show exhibit was beautifully set up with many outstanding plants. Check the awards posted later in this newsletter. Thanks also go to all who were very generous with donations to the Judges Dinner and Hospitality Room. There was an abundance of food and drinks, with leftovers to take home. I am very proud of each of you who, when asked, did not hesitate to accept the challenges that were set before you. I also want to thank Eron Borne for helping me with the Registration and Linda Roberts and her helpers who conquered the task of handing out trophies. And a special thanks to the AOS judges for their expertise in judging and the clerks who aided them in their quest to award the best.

Our extra publicity made a world of difference and brought in 21 memberships, four of which were family memberships. Welcome to all our new members and hope to see you at the coming meetings. Many blooming plants were sold and that helped the bank account considerably. All of this added to the super success of the show.

We can look forward to the future with new members, new basic culture programs for new members who want to learn and having experienced members to guide them in the joy of growing and blooming orchids. Let's keep up the great energy and ambition throughout the year!

Happy growing!

Russel Deroche, Jr.



Meeting Time and Place:
Sunday, March 16, 2025
Time: 2:30 pm

Show & Tell entry is 2:00-2:20
Program: How to Grow your Supermarket Orchid and get it to Rebloom - By Eron Borne

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

Refreshments: Al T. and Rick A.

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 Spring CLOS Show Report **From Show Chair Eron Borne**



Wow, what a wonderful show! We hope everyone enjoyed the amazing diversity of beautiful orchids in all the exhibits and got to go home with a new orchid or two (or three or four!) Orchid shows are truly a team effort and so many people contributed in so many areas. First, thank you to all members who brought food to contribute to the hospitality room. We feasted both days thanks to our dedicated members and friends. I know EVERYONE I can think of that came to the show brought some sort of contribution to the hospitality room. It would be impossible to name everyone and everything that they brought, but it is GREATLY appreciated! New member Sharyon Thompson attended our show for the first time and brought a delicious dish as well! Thank you, Andrea Mattison, for making sure we had everything in the hospitality room covered (and your wonderful spiral ham and other goodies.)

Our CLOS award winning exhibit was set up this year by Wilton Guillory, Al Taylor, Andrea Mattison, and Eron Borne. Society plants were provided by Al, Eron, Andrea and Janie Phillips, and every plant that was entered made a difference! The CLOS exhibit won 32 ribbons, the trophy for Best Society Exhibit over 25 sq/ft, and the American Orchid Society Show Trophy!

13 Blue Ribbons

13 Red Ribbons

6 Yellow Ribbons

CLOS members won the Best Grown Plant in the Cypripedium Alliance Trophy (Eron), Best Grown Plant Trophy in the Cattleya Alliance classes 102-110 (Al), Best Large Flower in the Miscellaneous Genera Trophy (Eron), Best Small Flower in the Miscellaneous Genera Trophy (Eron), the Byron McGraw Memorial Trophy (Al), and the Reynolds Bath Memorial Trophy (Eron.) Members also won the Best Orchid Art Exhibit (Andrea) and Best Education Exhibit (Eron) Trophies. The CLOS exhibit had 5 plants pulled for AOS judging, Eron receiving an HCC/AOS to his Zygopetalum and Al an AM/AOS to his Dendrobium.

Thank you to Russel Deroche, Jr. for the immense amount of paperwork working on the Classification and Entries and helping with printing and designing the logo for our show program. He has continued keeping a

spreadsheet of each show with all of the plant entries, ribbons and trophies and to say this is tedious and time consuming is an understatement. He also helped fine-tune the staging area for the show room, among many other things and served as Co-Chair with Eron to the show.

Linda Roberts had her amazing orchid jewelry sales area and Janie Phillips had her amazing display of orchid art with prints and cards for sale of her paintings. I hope everyone got to buy something from these two ladies. Janie's husband Scott Phillips also helped out in every way he was asked and both he and Janie helped throughout the whole weekend. Both Janie and Scott clerked for the judges for the first time and became quick pros! Their charcuterie boards were awesome!

Pat Huval and Yvonne Blanchard were outstanding at our orchid plant sales tables and nearly all the sales plants were sold. Not only did they sell the plants, but they put care and compassion to sharing growing techniques and suggestions with the people who were newer to growing orchids. And what a wonderful pot roast and cake!

Jim Barnett, Al Taylor, Richard Smith did a fantastic job manning the welcome entry table and we had lots of new members join our society. Richard also helped take down our exhibit along with many others. Jim kept up with any payments, reimbursements, and new memberships. New members received a free bonus Phalaenopsis and a poster of Native Orchids that Connie Guillory donated to our society. Connie and Wilton also provided pizza for our hospitality.

Thank you to the New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Acadian, and Calcasieu orchid societies for putting in their beautiful exhibits in our show this year. Many of those society's members also assisted us through the show. I know some of their members brought food as well.

Linda Roberts donated lots of neat collectables to the Silent Auction and she also was in charge of getting all of the show trophies to the award-winning plants.

In addition to helping create our display, Al Taylor was the Judging Coordinator and organized the ribbon and AOS judging. His salads were delicious and was also a big help at our welcome information table. Al ordered

and took delivery of the sales plants unpacking them and labeling each one. That was no small chore! He also helped Eron with publicity.

The judges for our show from the AOS Louisiana Judging Center were Lena Parker, Frank Zachariah, Al Taylor, Eron Borne, Larry Hennessy, Jackie Bravo and AnnaMaria Ball. Thank you to Randy Johnson from the Houston Judging Center for attending and helping judge our show. Judging Clerks for the evening were Janie and Scott Phillips, Andrea Mattison, and Linda Roberts.

The show trophies were donated by Al Taylor (china plates, cups and saucers), Connie Guillory (large platter plate), Linda Roberts (china plates), and Eron Borne (SWROGA Best Grown Plant Trophy.)

We missed many of our members and friends that couldn't attend our show due to schedule conflicts. I do apologize if I missed anyone as I was running non-stop and may have inadvertently missed someone or something. The pictures in this newsletter do not do the flowers and exhibits justice as only being there in person can capture the overall beauty and true color of everything. Our next CLOS show will be in the fall of 2026.

If you have any suggestions or ideas to improve things for our next show, please send me an email. I look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting this month and thank you so much for making our 2025 show a great success!

Eron

eaborne@yahoo.com

March Birthdays

Scott Phillips (Mar 19), Wilton Guillory (Mar 21)

MARCH MEETING

How to Grow your Supermarket Orchid & get it to Bloom!

The program this month will touch on the very basics to grow your orchid and get it to bloom. The focus of this program is to help new orchid growers or those struggling to re-bloom their orchids. If you have just a few orchids, or have tried raising orchids in the past without success, this is the program for you. We have had many requests for a beginner program, and this program will get you well on your way to blooming these beautiful and exotic flowers!

Tip of the Month

The ideal growing conditions of March present a great opportunity to get our plants off to a superlative start on the new growing season. The virtuous among us, who have already repotted their cattleyas and other sympodials as they have finished blooming across the winter, can smile serenely, assured of their place in orchid heaven. For us few reprobate it is still not too late to catch up with virtue. In addition to flowered-out plants, now is also the time to replant those genera which are breaking or ready to break their dormancy; i.e., catasetums, mormodes, calanthes and those Himalayan species that have finished flowering. Now is also an excellent time to repot those hard cane dendrobiums that need it, with the reminder that they really don't like to be disturbed and relish their roots being crowded in the pot. - 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
February 16, 2025

1.0 Call to Order

President Russel Deroche called the meeting to order at 1432.

2.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved from our January meeting. All were in favor.

3.0 Officer Reports

3.1 President Report

3.1.1 Russel announced the birthdays for this month and all wished Heather a happy one.

3.2 Vice President Report

3.2.1 Vice-President Richard had nothing to report.

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.

3.4 **Secretary Report** – Heather had nothing to report.

4.0 Old Business

4.1 Jim spoke to the pastor's secretary at St. James Church to make our annual payment and he was able to straighten out some confusion they had and our monthly meeting times.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Members discussed other shows and which ones we should think about participating in.

5.2 Al brought up the Louisiana Judging Center will host the Multi Center Judges Workshop February 20th. There will be a Friday night social the night before on the 21st and he said we were all welcome to attend. The social will be held at the St. James Youth building, the same as our monthly meeting place.

5.3 We welcomed our newest member Pat who officially joined today!

6.0 Program

This month's program was focused on our upcoming spring show February 28-March 1st. Members discussed catering for the judge's dinner and hospitality. Russel requested we email him with what we each plan to bring. Also, discussed were the number of tables needed, plants for sale and trophies. Al will provide enough plants to give to anyone who signs up to join our society.

7.0 Raffle and Show & Tell

Raffle Winners: Andrea, Russel and Pat

Door Prize Winner: Pat

Russel provided the refreshments this month.

Show and Tell voting and winners presented as follows:

Best Grown Plant: (tie) *Rth.* Kin Star FCA – Al
(tie) *Phaiocalanthe* Liberty Creek 'Louisiana' – Al

All Others Group: 1st – *Phaiocalanthe* Liberty Creek 'Louisiana' – Al
2nd – *Phalaenopsis* unknown – Richard

Cattleya Alliance: 1st – *Rth.* Kin Star FCA – Al
2nd – *Pot.* Leillo Fortune – Andrea
3rd (tie) – *Slc.* Margie Kepley – Andrea
3rd (tie) – *C.* (Rubescent X Don Peterson) 'Louisiana' HCC/AOS – Al

There was no other business.

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1607.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather A. Wilfert
Secretary

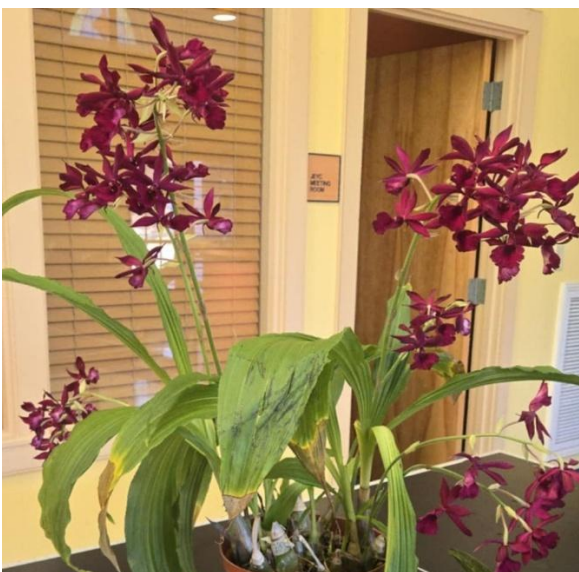
Show and Tell Winners - Cattleya Category



1st – *Rth.* Kin Star FCA – AI, 2nd – *Pot.* Little Fortune – Andrea, 3rd (tie) – *Slc.* Margie Kepley – Andrea, 3rd (tie) – C. (Rubescent x Don Peterson) 'Louisiana' HCC/AOS – AI (below)



Others Category (below)



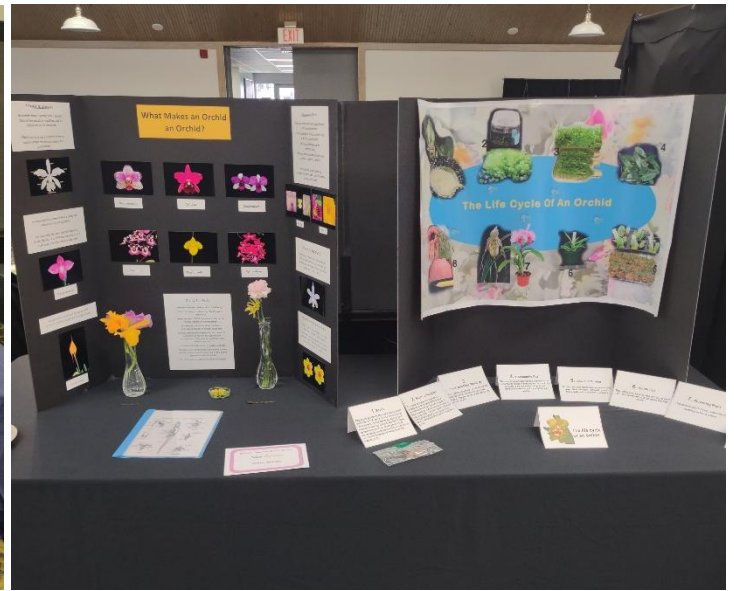
1st – *Phaiocalanthe* Liberty Creek 'Louisiana' – AI (and also best grown) 2nd – *Phal.* Unknown – Richard

PICTURES FROM OUR 2025 ORCHID SHOW

The CLOS floor exhibit – AOS Show Trophy



(CLOS exhibit continued- other view angles shown above and below)



Andrea’s Art exhibit, all her own artwork (left.) Eron & his daughter’s Educational exhibit (right.)



Calcasieu OS (Lake Charles) Best Tabletop Exhibit (above.)

Baton Rouge OS Best Group Exhibit (below.)





New Orleans OS exhibit (above.)

Acadian OS exhibit (below.) Thank you to Eddie Dupuy for his help during our show (and the tinsel!!)



Janie Phillips at her art sales table. She is a very talented artist and I made sure to get some cards!



Mineral Buildup in Potting Media

We often hear the recommendation to “flush the pot” periodically in order to remove mineral buildup in potting media that occurs as your fertilizer solution evaporates. We are told to irrigate with fresh water only to accomplish that, so we merely suspend our feeding regimen once a month, every other watering, or however we feel comfortable.

Unfortunately, that may not be particularly effective. In the September 2006 Orchids magazine, Dr. Yin-Tung Wang of Texas A&M University published an article about the retention of mineral salts, and the difficulty in flushing them from diatomite. Let’s look at the mechanics of why that might be:

Start with a “virgin” particle that is saturated with a fertilizer solution – the mineral ion distribution is uniform throughout. As the water evaporates from the surface, in order to stay in solution – the natural drive to stay less concentrated, as becoming a solid is as concentrated as it gets – those ions migrate toward the center of the particle, increasing their concentration in the remaining liquid. Eventually the driving force to stay in solution loses out, and those ions will precipitate as the mineral salts in a highly concentrated “core”.

Now you flush the dry pot, watering with clear water only. The particle absorbs from the outside, in, and once the water reaches that “core”, it starts to dissolve that outermost part of the concentrated minerals. Some of those minerals will be moved to the surface for extraction, but unless you continue to flush heavily, evaporation will “push” it right back to the middle. To truly “flush” the medium, long-term soaking is needed, which allows the minerals to migrate into a large volume of liquid.

That scenario is true for both organic- and inorganic media particles, but with organics, if you repot appropriately, you throw the problem away! With inorganic media, because of their long (essentially

unlimited) life spans, the tendency is to go longer periods of time without repotting, which exacerbates the problem.

So how do we avoid, or at least minimize the problem, as in traditional culture, it is inevitable?

We know that we must feed our plants adequately in order to get them to grow and bloom well. Infrequent watering and the use of concentrated fertilizer solutions favor buildup, and as we can see, clear-water flushing is not particularly effective in reversing it. If, on the other hand, we tend to water more frequently and use lower levels of fertilizer additions when we do, we reduce the evaporative “driving force” and keep the mineral concentration low to begin with.

None of that applies to semi-hydro culture, by the way, as you’re essentially keeping the medium mass at a constant level of moisture and mineral content, slowing the rate of buildup. Note that I did not say “preventing” buildup, as all media components will accumulate minerals and plant wastes over time. There is a sister article on this subject as it relates to inorganic media components.

Until next time... *Good Growing!*



2025 March AOS Corner – for [Affiliated Societies](#)

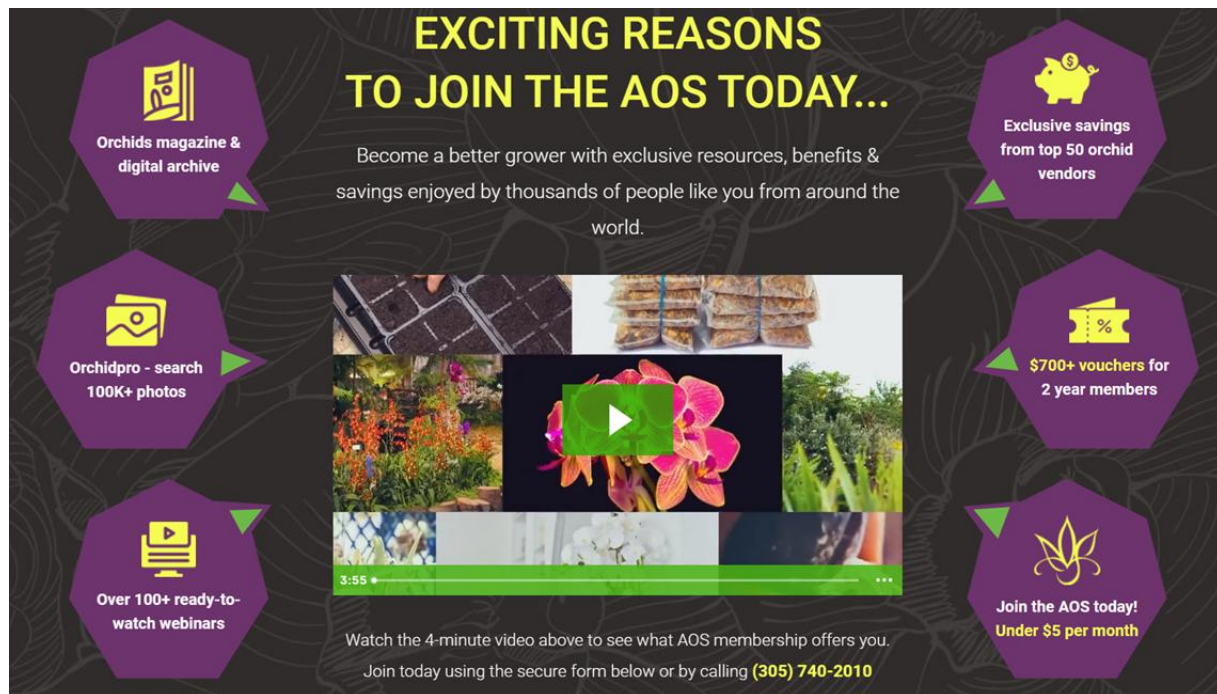
We encourage use of the [AOS website](#) by all members.

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.

Orchids magazine & digital archive

Orchidpro - search 100K+ photos

Over 100+ ready-to-watch webinars

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\$700+ vouchers for 2 year members

Join the AOS today! Under \$5 per month

Watch the 4-minute video above to see what AOS membership offers you. Join today using the secure form below or by calling **(305) 740-2010**

The graphic features a central video player showing a vibrant orchid. Surrounding the video are six purple callout boxes, each with a yellow icon and text describing a benefit of AOS membership. The background is dark with a subtle pattern of orchid leaves.

MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Hello to all the Societies out there. I am sure many of you are heavily involved in show season. I hope that you avail yourselves of our Sticker Books for kids to create a kids table and teach the little ones who will someday inherit the earth, about orchids and their importance in the world. The books are available to each paid society by calling the office and ordering. You just pay for shipping and the books are yours. Please do not sell them. They are given to us for a very nominal charge. They should be given to children to occupy them while moms and dads are shopping or viewing exhibits. I was recently at the Madison, Orchid Quest, and they had a whole table of youngsters with these books. Have some crayons and markers handy too... They were having a wonderful time.

Speaking of attending a show, I just got back from Guatemala City and a lovely show. They were so welcoming and just so grateful to have us there. We had a lovely dinner and then after the show, spent some time up in the mountains at Central America's biggest market, in Chichicastenega. The mountains are beautiful and the people so warm and welcoming. We did shopping of course and many of us were able to get some good bargains.

I do hope you take advantage of the many shows in your areas. Support local societies as they are so important to carrying on our love of orchids. If you do not belong to a local society, you can check out our webpage and find one in your area. Don't be shy. Walk in and join in. Bring your plants, share your knowledge and learn more about this wonderful hobby so that you can be a better grower. – Cheryl Erins – cerins@aos.org

Upcoming AOS Webinars for AOS Members

Webinars - Coming Attractions!

REGISTRATION IS EASY www.aos.org/webinars

Cannot make it on the scheduled date and time? No need to worry.
Register now and view on your time schedule.

Send Your Greenhouse Chat Questions and Photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

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

When	Feb. 05, 2025 Wednesday 8:30 pm EST	Feb. 12, 2025 Wednesday 8:30 pm EST	March 05, 2025 Wednesday 8:30 pm EST	April 03, 2025 Thursday 8:30 pm EDT
Topic	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Feb. 02</i>	Inorganic Potting Media, Never Repot Again Part 2 Inorganic Potting Media	Why Won't It Bloom? Explore Common and Other Reasons Your Orchid Fails to Bloom	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by March 31</i>
Presenter	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	Harvey Brenneise Long time orchid grower across multiple states and in different environments.	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer



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

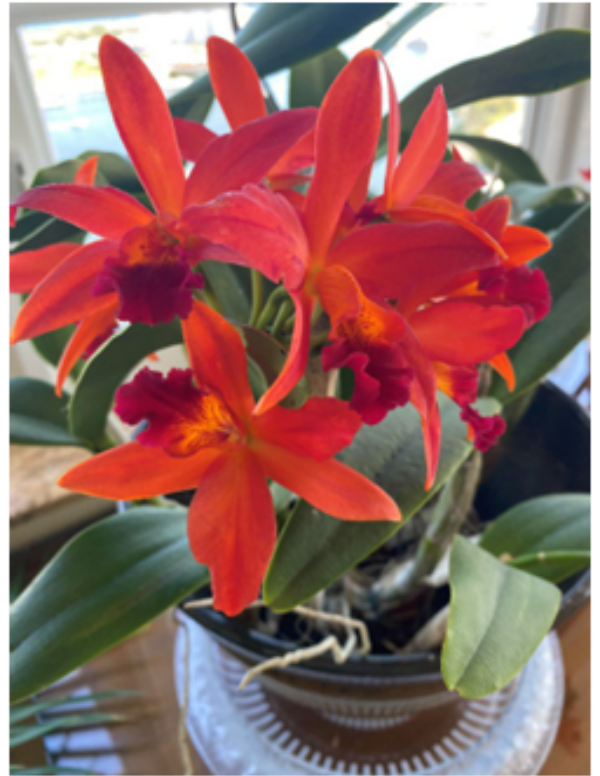
Use the
WEBINAR
Display
Filter

BEHOLD THE LOWLY BAG BABY!

by: Jill Smith

About five years ago my daughter moved into a townhouse. The lady who had lived there previously had left a couple of nice vandas on a tree out in front and a couple of sad looking orchids on the living room window sill. Knowing very little about orchids, my daughter was happy for me to take them off her hands and I was delighted at the chance to welcome some new adoptees into my collection. I looked at the two orchids of unknown provenance as opportunities and I was particularly excited because one of them actually had a tag with a viable name! I looked it up and it was *B/c.* Jami Hollingsworth 'sun bulb' orange and the picture was of a plant with glorious, red orange clusters. Now fired up, I was determined to get this baby going. I yanked it out of its existing home and anchored it bare root in a clay pot, hung it up and promptly forgot about it.

Lo and behold, every February Jami H. produced some small clusters of those stunning red orange flowers and it was gratifying that she was happy and growing successfully. This year, when I spotted numerous brown, withered sheaths, I knew the time was near for her to start showing off. After a few weeks, the buds started emerging from the sheaths and before I knew it, there were five or six spikes with lots and lots of buds. The clusters opened and each individual flower was perfect – the theory of benign neglect had produced a gorgeous, impressive plant!



I took lovely Jami to our general meeting last week and I was elated that the judges deemed it worthy of a cultural ribbon. I was asked where the plant came from and as I related the story of randomly finding it in my daughter's townhouse, one of the judges proclaimed it was a Bag Baby! I laughed hysterically but I didn't know whether to be thrilled or insulted. Then, after thinking long and hard and hearing my friends and colleagues talk about the great successes they've experienced with the lowly Bag Baby, I decided to write about this much maligned concept of buying and selling orchids.

We all see them in the garden sections of the big box stores, hanging unceremoniously on a rack against the wall, non-blooming plant inside a net bag with a stunning picture of what is to come (if you don't water it with an ice cube). I had never bought one other than to raffle off at a Newcomer's Keiki meeting. I didn't even know I owned one! I was informed by my experienced friends that Bag Babies are often a great buy and can produce hardy plants with beautiful blooms. So, even if you're tempted, don't look down your nose at the humble Bag Babies at the Depot. Grab one, pot it and hope for the best because you're likely to get just that! I highly recommend Jami Hollingsworth!

SPRING 2025 AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY CULTURE DAY

Open to everyone to register, not just AOS members. If you can't watch it live that day, everyone that registers for the culture day will get a link to view the presentations at their own convenience.

<https://www.aos.org>

Under the Community & Events tab at the top, select "Orchid Culture Day"

Your Invitation!

Join us for this Outstanding Online Event
Mark Your Calendar—Set Your Device Reminder



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

American Orchid Society
7th CULTURE DAY

Sunday, May 18, 2025

11 a.m.—3:30 p.m. EST

This Event is Recorded for all Registrants to View at their Leisure

ORCHIDS—From Seed to Success

Door Prizes!
Must be online day
of event to be eligible

4 Guest Speakers
4 Great Topics

- **Orchid Pollination - In Nature and at Your Kitchen Table**
Explained by Adam Karremans, Director of Lankester Botanical Garden
- **Can I Make My Own Hybrid?** *Demonstration of flasking, deflasking and compots, by Hobby Growers and Hybridizers, Keith and Dina Emig*
- **Brassavola-Cattleya Alliance Novelty Hybrids** *Tune in to meet Allen Black and understand his dedication to this group of orchids*
- **Easy to Grow and Bloom Hybrids** *Presented by Manny Aybar, accomplished hobbyist, AOS Judge, and AOS award winning exhibitor*

Online Registration Required—Only \$40

Native Orchid of the Month—March

Corallorrhiza wisteriana
(spring coralroot)

Corallorrhiza wisteriana (spring coralroot) is a saprophyte and is among the few flowering plants that have no green color at any time, but support themselves, as mushrooms and toadstools do, on the dead remains of other plants in the soil.

The flowering stems are yellow to purplish and stand anywhere from 2 to 8 inches tall, bearing small flowers that might reach 1/3 inch from top-to-bottom at the most. The sepals and petals form a hood-like structure over the lip and are a greenish-brown color. The lip contrasts nicely with these, being a snowy white with small purple spots.

Flowers are rapidly pollinated (or perhaps self-pollinate) and do not last long.



Spring coralroot can be found throughout much of the lower 48 states of the United States, excluding portions of New England and the far western states. In Louisiana, it is found primarily in the northern wooded portion of the State. The plants are difficult to locate due to their unusual growth cycle. They are most frequently located on sites where there is abundant decaying woody debris.

Spring coralroot blooms as early as January in Louisiana, but may continue through July. The flowers generally only



last a few hours. The plants remain dependent on fungi for their entire lives, often hosting their fungi in crystalline, coral-like modified root structures.



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*



***Remember, previous newsletters can be found at our
Central Louisiana Orchid Society website under the
About Us tab.**

<https://www.centrollouisianaorchidsociety.org>