

<http://www.centrollouisianaorchidsociety.org>



President's Message

March is upon us and with March, orchid care changes from winter maintenance to spring work.

This is the month to begin fertilizing. Please take care to not overfertilize. Also, our plants are emerging from the dormant season and new growth and new roots often have started. If you have repotting or dividing to do, get all those chores done before we hit the hot summer months. I am amazed at how quickly the seasons turn on us. If you're repotting, I have a new procedure for cleaning and reusing clay pots. I soak them (actually store them) in #2 wash tubs filled with water. I have four in my greenhouse. When I run out of pots of a size I use often, I clean all the pots. I used to run them through the dishwasher afterward to kill a residual fungus or virus. Now I put them in a kiln to make sure I'm not transferring any virus or other malady. Orchid pot clips and stakes can also carry virus. You really don't want to ruin a good plant.

Good growing to you all.

Al Taylor



Meeting Time and Place:
Sunday, March 15, 2026
Time: 2:30 pm

Show & Tell entry is 2:00-2:20
Program: Masdevallia and Dracula
A SWROGA powerpoint presentation created by Sandra Svoboda and presented by Eron

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

Refreshments: Eron

Central Louisiana Orchid Society Officers

President – Al Taylor
Vice President – Eron Borne
Secretary – Myrna Ayo
Treasurer – Russel Deroche, Jr.
Director – Rick Allardyce
Director – Andrea Mattison
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Conservation Rep - Jim Barnett
Newsletter Editor – Eron Borne
Show & Tell – Al Taylor
Webmaster – Eron Borne

MARCH MEETING

HOW TO REBLOOM YOUR PHALAENOPSIS

This month we will talk all about how to rebloom your Phalaenopsis. Phals do require certain things to be able to rebloom. Our program this month will cover all the aspects to grow and rebloom your Phal.

Tip of the Month

General Orchid Growing Tips

Signs of spring abound with an abundance of emerging flower spikes and buds. The flush of spring growth will follow soon so plan your repotting program that should begin in earnest this month. The best time to repot is right before the new roots start growing so the plants will reestablish quickly. Watch for signs of mites, particularly on thin leaved orchids like the catasetinae and grammatophyllums, and treat any problems promptly.

Attention to fertilizer in March will pay high dividends later on. As many sympodial orchids are commencing their growth cycle, now is a good time to apply slow release fertilizer to last the season. The 13-13-13, 180-day formula marketed at Home Depot as 'Dynamite' (Nutricote in commercial sizes) is the best available. Its plastic coating is superior to others and relatively unaffected by heat, an especially important consideration in S. Florida. Applied now it will be exhausted by September when we want to slow our plants down in anticipation of bloom and dormancy.

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.



March Birthdays



Carolyn Kerry (Mar 1), Scott Phillips (Mar 19)

Wilton Guillory (Mar 21), Jason Witzman (Mar 28)

CENTRAL LOUISIANA ORCHID SOCIETY

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 15, 2026

Location: St. James Episcopal Church Youth Building

1. CALL TO ORDER

Time: 2:40 PM – Called by: Al Taylor

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Heather was unable to serve as Secretary; Yvonne volunteered for this meeting.
January minutes were approved.

3. OFFICER REPORTS

President: February birthdays Linda & Heather; Roundtable discussion was led by Myrna – due to Heather not being present.

Vice President: Eron absent (speaking in Key West).

Treasurer: \$260 deposited; Balance \$3,409.99; Report given by Russel Deroche- approved

Secretary: No report.

4. OLD BUSINESS

CenLa Focus ads completed.

June meeting date has been unchanged.

December meeting: Dec 20.

Setup COS Show: Al; Takedown: Pat, Myrna, Yvonne.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Dates for other orchid shows shared.

New COS Show location announced.

Myrna accepted the Secretary role.

6. PROGRAM

Roundtable discussion led by Myrna.

Topics: Potting Catasetums, Orchid virus, Happy Sap, Orchid journaling, Ant control.

7. RAFFLE / SHOW & TELL

Door Prize: Al Taylor #1

Raffle Winners: Al, Yvonne, Myrna, Andrea.

Refreshments: Myrna, Pat, Yvonne.

Best Grown Plant:

C. Yen Surprise E 'Seiko' – Linda

Cattleya Alliance:

1st Place: C. Yen Surprise 'Seiko' - Linda

2nd Place: *Epc.* Butterfly Kiss – Andrea

3rd Place: None

Other Group:

1st Place: *Den.* Noble – Linda

2nd Place: *Den.* Starburst Vista – Myrna

3rd Place: None

8. ADJOURNMENT

4:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Myrna Ayo

Secretary

Below left: Eron's awarded *Masdevallia floribunda* 'Catahoula Snow' HCC/AOS



Above right: One of Eron's *Draculas*!

Show and Tell Winners - Cattleya Category



1st – *C. Yen Surprise 'Seiko'* – Linda (also Best Grown), 2nd – *Epc. Butterfly Kisses* – Andrea,

Below – Linda with her beautifully grown Cattleya



Other Category



1st – *Den. Noble* – Linda, 2nd – *Den. Starburst Vista* – Myrna



Getting New Plants

Getting new plants is one of the absolute joys of our obsessive hobby. Whether obtained via mail order, picked up at a vendor, from a show, or as a division from a friend, there are a few things you can do to ensure your new plant becomes a valued member of your collection and not a “problem child”.

► First and foremost, segregate it from the rest of your plants. No matter where it originates, there just might be a pest or pathogen “hitch-hiking” that is undetected. Inspect every leaf, top and bottom, and every fold, nook and cranny, looking for insects and damaged tissues, treating as needed. Personally, I segregate the new plants for at least two weeks, inspecting them periodically. Yes, you may spray the plant with a disinfectant like Phytan, if you wish. In this day of coronavirus, that may be a wise choice.

If you find any sign of a pest or other ailment, or just want to be particularly safe, treat it immediately and restart the clock on the quarantine period (we all should be good that, now...)

► Evaluate the potting medium. Not only can it be a “safe haven” for insects, you should see if it is 1) in good shape and not a threat to suffocate the roots, and 2) decide if it’s viable as a medium in your [growing conditions](#).

Ideally, you should repot the plant immediately into something that works for you, which also gives you the ability to inspect the root system, but if the plant is in bud or bloom, or otherwise not ready to be repotted, I recommend “babying” it until it’s the right time to repot. Instead of drenching the medium, for example, I only trickle a bit of water into it, to avoid water logging it.

► You may not have a good handle on the conditions the plant had been growing in, so you should treat introduction to your conditions as a transition. Be conservative, in terms of light levels and temperatures – moderation is the key at first, gradually moving it to your preferred levels.

► If, after about two or three weeks where everything seems to be on the “up & up”, and you’ve seen no signs of pests or ailments, feel free to introduce it to “gen pop” and enjoy it going forward!

Until next time... *Good Growing!*

Upcoming Orchid Shows

Calcasieu Orchid Society
Presents

A French Garden of Orchids

Orchid Show and Plant Sale



ORCHID EXHIBITS, PLANT VENDORS, ORCHID ART

March 14, 2026 - 12:00 Noon until 6:00PM

March 15, 2026 - 12:00 Noon until 5:00PM

Bulber Auditorium

McNeese State University

4305 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA

The American Orchid Society 2026 Spring Conference



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

*In conjunction with the Apopka
Spring International Orchid Festival
Apopka, FL*

April 8th -11th

Featuring:

- *Expert Orchid Speakers*
- *Hands-On Workshops*
- *Meeting of the Members*
- *Award Presentations*
- *AOS Elections*
- *Top Quality Vendors*
- *AOS Judging*
- *Welcome Reception*
- *Live & Silent Auctions*
- *Sumptuous Gala Dinner*

For more information visit <https://aos.org/members-meetings> or email TheAOS@aos.org.

Terrebonne Orchid Society Show and Sale
ORCHID REFLECTIONS

April 24, 25, 26, 2026

Southland Mall; 5953 West Park Avenue; Houma, LA 70364

24thWOC



Germany 2026

24th World Orchid Conference
26-29 March 2026 Dresden



2026 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

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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	Mar. 03, 2026 Tuesday 8:30 pm EST	Mar. 18, 2026 Wednesday 8:30 pm EST	April 02, 2026 Thursday 8:30 pm EST	Orchid Culture Days <i>Pay Per View at Your Leisure</i>
Topic	Greenhouse Chat FREE Live Orchid Q & A Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Feb. 28</i>	Vanda Cultivation FREE Live Make Caring for Your Vanda Orchids Easier. Tips from a Passionate Orchid Grower.	Greenhouse Chat FREE Live Orchid Q & A Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by March 31</i>	Recorded Webinars Choose from Eight Popular Full Day Presentations. Gain Insight Into the Culture of Orchids. Select <i>Virtual</i> from the Full Index to Sign up for the Culture Day Presentations.
Presenter	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	Serena Roman Orchid Grower Known as Lady Vanda	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	Expert Growers, AOS Judges, Scientists, Biologists and More

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

Use the
WEBINAR
Display
Filter

* Orchid Word of the Month *

Coelogyne (see-LODGE-eh-nee)



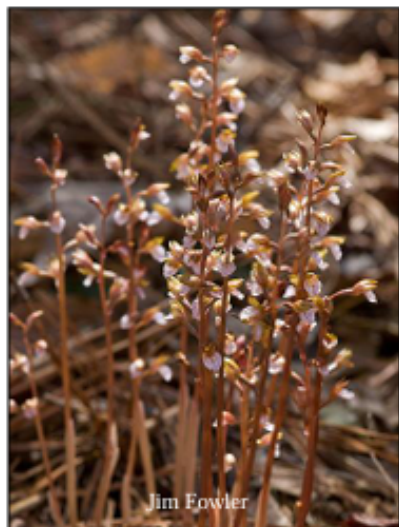
Native Orchid of the Month—March

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.



*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*



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.

<https://louisianajudgingcenter.weebly.com>