

<http://www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org>



President's Message

I have finally been able to uncover my plants on my carport that have lived under tarps, with heaters inside, over the winter. Many didn't quite make it, some are struggling to recover and regrow, and a few even had blooms to welcome in Spring. Unfortunately, I have not been able to attend any recent shows because of the stress fracture to my hip and the distance I would have to drive to get them. I hope some of you have been able to get to a show or two!

There are still shows on the calendar in New Orleans and Baton Rouge and I hope to get to at least one of them or maybe both. Time will tell. Hope some of you will be able to attend them, also.

I am looking forward to my first CLOS repotting meeting. It's always fun to get down and dirty repotting orchids. People have their own tricks to repotting and are usually willing to share them with others. Hope to see all of you at the repotting party!

Happy growing,

Russel Deroche, Jr.



Meeting Time and Place:

Sunday, April 21, 2024

Time: 2:30 pm

Show & Tell entry is 2:00-2:20

Program: Repotting Orchids

Location: Home of member Andrea Mattison

**Place: St. James Episcopal Church
Youth Building (except this month,
see above)**

**1546 Albert Street, Alexandria, LA
71301**

Refreshments: Andrea

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 - Linda Roberts

AOS Representative – Eron Borne

ODC Representative – Andrea Mattison

Conservation Rep - Jim Barnett

Newsletter Editor – Eron Borne

Show & Tell – Al Taylor

Webmaster – Eron Borne

APRIL MEETING

Repotting Orchids

Come learn how to properly repot your orchids. Bring any plants you would like assistance in repotting. The CLOS will provide the bark but you need to bring your own pot selection.

Tip of the Month

The weather in April is definitely settled into warm, with passing cold fronts only adding the delight of a pleasant change in temperature. The clean, bright days brimming with abundant sunlight and the low relative humidity create the high drying potential that orchids love. Now we can get our orchids off to a great start on the growing season by practicing our very best watering skills under ideal conditions. Water heavily when you water and allow the plants to dry thoroughly before watering heavily again. Drying 'hard' in the Spring will produce benefits all season. We want to get our plants well launched while leaving all the fungi high and dry.

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
March 17, 2024

1.0 Call to Order

Russel Deroche, Jr. called the meeting to order at 1435.

2.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved from our February meeting.

3.0 Officer Reports

3.1 President Report

3.1.1 President Russel Deroche, Jr. announced there were no March birthdays.

3.2 Vice President Report

3.2.1 Vice-President Richard Smith was absent.

3.3 Treasurer Report

The treasurer report was given by the treasurer Jim Barnett.

3.3.1

Russel will check with Red River Bank to see what needs to be done to make the changes to the account.

3.3.2

Raffle Tickets were sold.

3.4 Secretary Report – Heather was absent.

4.0 Old Business

4.1 Linda Roberts and Heather Wilfert will attend and set up our exhibit at the Calcasieu show in April. We will put together 3-5 plants for a display. Heather will help to break down the exhibit.

5.0 New Business

5.1 We still need a backup person for Secretary.

6.0 Program

Eron showed us The Most Popular Orchid Genera & How to Identify Them

7.0 Raffle and Show & Tell

Raffle Winners: Russel Deroche, Jr.

Door Prize Winner: Judy Smith

Eron provided the refreshments this month.

Show and Tell voting and winners presented as follows:

Best Grown Plant: *Den. aggregatum* - Andrea

Cattleya Alliance: 1st – *Lc. Straight Answer 'No Question'* AM/AOS - Andrea
2nd – *Ctna. Why Not*

All Others Group: 1st – *Den. aggregatum* - Andrea

2nd (tie) – *Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance* - Eron

2nd (tie) – *Vanda Uraiwan Belle* – Eron

2nd (tie) – *Paph. venustum* - Eron

There was no other business.

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1620.

Respectfully submitted,

Russel Deroche, Jr. for
Heather A Wilfert
Secretary

Doug Stannard, Heather Wilfert, and Linda Roberts attended the Calcasieu Orchid Society Show and set up our society exhibit. We entered a tabletop exhibit in the Five or Fewer Plants Exhibit Class. Our exhibit took the trophy for it's class and the plants earned numerous ribbons and trophies. Al Taylor had two plants pulled for judging and he won an AOS award on his beautiful yellow cattleya! (The following three pictures are of the exhibit.)







Upcoming Educational Opportunities for CLOS Members

NOC SYMPOSIUM

Longleaf Pine Flatwoods of West Central Louisiana and East Texas

Overview

Longleaf pines once covered an estimated 90 million acres, from southeastern Virginia to Florida and west through Louisiana to east Texas. It is the latter area, sometimes known as the Pineywoods, straddling two states that we will visit in April, 2024. This will be our first foray to this interesting and unique part of North America.

Our meeting venue is the Regent Suite in the Student Center at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, the oldest and one of the most historic towns in Texas. The event begins with a reception and early check-in on Thursday, April 25, followed by two days of presentations, then two days in the field ending on Monday, April 29.

TRANSPORTATION: Those who drive may find numerous sites of interest along the way. If you prefer to fly, the closest large airports are Shreveport, LA and Houston, TX. Drive time from either airport to Nacogdoches is approximately two hours.

LODGING: Nacogdoches is a college town with a busy tourist season and a variety of lodging options posted on the Convention and Visitors Bureau website: www.visitnacogdoches.org

Advanced symposium registration is required and will be limited to the first 100 respondents.

Electronic registration is simple and convenient on the NOC website. Use your PayPal account or bypass that option and use your personal credit card.

www.nativeorchidconference.org

NOTE: Registration at the door is not available.

Upon receipt of your registration, a confirmation notice will be emailed to you. Periodic updates will be emailed as necessary.

CONFERENCE FEE:

Full Registration: \$199 US per person

Student Registration: \$ 99 US per person

(full-time students at any high school, college or university)

Case Grant Program: The NOC supports native orchid research and conservation through its Fred Case Grant program; part of your registration fee may be used to supplement this special effort.

A most important aspect of this event is the opportunity to meet people who share a common interest in natural history in general and native orchids in particular. Many long-lasting friendships and professional relationships have been formed at NOC symposiums. Why not take this opportunity to renew them and/or make new ones in the Pineywoods of East Texas.



Snowy orchis
(*Platanthera nivea*)

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Gesse Bullock -
The Tree that Fire Saved

Charles Allen, Ph.D. - *Orchids of Louisiana*

Kevin Allen - *Orchid Reintroduction in a Changing Climate: A Louisiana Case Study*

Tyson Hart, Soil Scientist, USDA -
Plants, Soils and Geology of the Western Gulf Coast Plains

Laura Juszczak, Ph.D. -
A Highway Cornucopia for Native Orchid Conservation: Cloverleaf Interchanges as Exclusion Islands

Joe Liggio - *Orchids of Texas*

William E. Rogers, Ph.D. -
Spiranthes parksiil, the Navasota Ladies' Tresses

Jyotsna Sharma, Ph.D. -
Invisible Partners of Orchids

Harsheta Sharma & Tyler Keiser -
Endofungal Bacteria from Orchids

Patrick Smallwood - *Mycorrhizal Specificity and Cypripedium acaule*

Schedule of Activities

Thursday, April 25 Regent Suite

6:00pm - 8:30pm	Reception; early check-in
Friday, April 26	Regent Suite
8:00am - 8:45am	Check-in; Cont. Brkfst.
8:45am - 9:00am	Welcome
9:00am - 11:30am	Presentations
11:30am - 12:00pm	Annual meeting
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch (provided)
1:00pm - 4:00pm	Presentations

April 27 Regent Suite

8:00am - 8:45am	Continental Brkfst.
8:45am - 12:00pm	Presentations
12:00pm - 12:45pm	Lunch (provided)
12:45pm - 3:00pm	Presentations
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Field trip planning

Sunday, April 28

8:00am - 5:00pm	Field Trips
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Monday, April 29

8:00am - 5:00pm	Field Trips
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Optional Opportunity - Hike on Your Own:
Abita Creek Flatwoods Preserve and Lake Ramsay Preserve (East of Baton Rouge, LA)

Spreading pogonia
Cleistesiopsis divaricata



Saturday,

21st Annual Native Orchid Conference Symposium

April 25-29, 2024

The Longleaf Pine Woodlands at a Glance

Today, less than three percent of the original range of longleaf pine habitat is intact, some of it protected in the Kisatchie National Forest in west central Louisiana and the Angelina and Sabine National Forests in east Texas. Longleaf pine savannas occur on sandy, dry, acidic soil. Where they meet woodlands, hillside seepage bogs and swamps, high plant diversity is evident. Many plants of note occur in these areas. They include native orchids (e.g. *Calopogon oklahomensis*, *C. tuberosus*, *Platanthera chapmanii*, *P. cristata*, *P. integra*, *P. nivea*, and numerous *Spiranthes*), as well as companion plants such as sundews, pitcher plants, and gentians. Those with sharp eyes (and/or an experienced guide) can find *Cypripedium kentuckiense* in the east Texas Pineywoods and west-central Louisiana where it was the subject of an extensive restoration project in the Kisatchie National Forest.

Historically, lightning strikes ignited natural fires which are so essential to longleaf pines. They facilitate the sprouting of seeds and suppress the encroachment of groundcover and dense brush. The forest was quietly renewed every three to four years, benefitting native orchids and endangered plants/animals such as the Red-cockaded woodpecker, Gopher tortoise and Henslow's sparrow. Now, prescribed burns are needed to rejuvenate the forest. They are conducted by people committed to preserving the unique, historic forests and include members of the Alabama-Coushatta tribe who care for their own lands and private preserves near the Big Thicket.



Prescribed burn



Gopher tortoise



Red-cockaded woodpecker

WHAT TO EXPECT

Weather - Subtropical climate with short, mild Winters & long, hot Summers. April temperatures range from mid 70-80 (high) to mid 60-65 (low). Humidity will be high. Louisiana is one of the two rainiest states in the US (avg. rainfall 57" LA; 51" east TX). Last year the area experienced a month's long heat dome which also blanketed the Midwest and Great Plains. Forecasters predict a strong El Nino weather pattern this winter which may bring sufficient rain to end the current drought.

Field trips - Dress for high temperature and humidity. Hiking will be minimal on mostly level terrain. Recommended: Sturdy shoes/boots that can get wet; hat, sunscreen, insect repellent.

Orchids - Our field trips could produce 10 - 12 orchid species including: *Cypripedium kentuckiense*; *Platanthera nivea*; *Isotria verticillata*; *Cleistesiopsis divaricata*; *Calopogon tuberosus*; *C. barbatus*, *C. pallidus* and *C. oklahomensis*



Calopogon pallidus

For additional information or assistance, contact the NOC via the 'Contact Us' tab on our website or email:

Bob Sprague, President bobsatcyndal@aol.com
Janice Yates, Vice-President jyates4110@gmail.com
Richard Barmore, Treasurer rebstef61@yahoo.com



Cypripedium kentuckiense

Sales Area: Limited space will be available for those wishing to sell or display orchid related items (books, prints, etc.). Pre-approval is required. If you wish to reserve sales or exhibit space, please advise.

Cancellation Policy: 75% of the symposium registration fee may be refunded if written notice of your intent to cancel is received by April 1, 2024.

Growing Orchids Under Lights or in Windows

Light is the single most important factor to consider when growing plants. This is because plants literally eat the light – via photosynthesis. Photosynthesis is a process whereby plants use the solar energy of the sun to power chemical reactions that trap the sun’s energy in the form of sugars. One can think of plants as living solar panels. In order to be successful with lights either indoors or in a greenhouse, you need to know a little bit about what you are growing, and a little bit about the properties of light.

Properties of light

Light has many properties, but when growing plants under lights, you only need to be aware of three – light quality, light quantity, and the Inverse Square Law.

Quality of light – the color or form of the light, often expressed as a color or a wavelength (each wavelength corresponds to a particular color). For many orchids, you don’t have to have the ideal quality of light, as long as the quantity of light is strong. However, for optimal results in blooming, you should strive for a spectrum that mimics sunlight’s color. Color can be measured in PAR (Photosynthetically-Active Radiation), CRI (Color-Rendering Index), or PPFD (Photosynthetic Photon Flux Density).

PAR is a metric that came about from an old study in the 1970s that sought to determine which colors of light affect photosynthesis the most. While PAR is good, we later found that it’s not a complete measure of the actual light that plants use, but because it was the first metric available for growers, it’s still used today. The issue with PAR is, is that it does not measure far red (>700nm wavelength) or far blue/UV light (<400nm) that plants need and use.

CRI is a measure of how closely-matching a beam of light’s color is to the sun. CRI goes from 1-100, and a measurement of 95+ is closest to the color of the sun. This includes the far red and far blue that plants need. As a grower, you can get away with any light bulb that has a CRI rating of 90+.

PPFD is a measure of PAR at a specific distance, so you can determine how much light is hitting the plants’ leaves. PPFD is a more accurate measure of light color at the plant’s leaves, as opposed to at the center of the bulb, even though it only accounts for the PAR.

Quantity of light – the amount of photons (pockets of energy) that are hitting the plant. Quantity is measured in brightness or lumens, but can also be measured with PPFD, as that metric combines quality and quantity. Indoors, we measure light in terms of hours of ambient light vs hours of direct sun that a plant is getting. With light bulbs, we can know the number of lumens.

Light Indoors - Windows

Indoors, we can take advantage of windows to get free light for our plants. When thinking about how much light a plant needs indoors, one must consider the direction that the window faces, whether or not it’s obstructed, your latitude on the earth, and the number of hours of direct sun that come through that window.

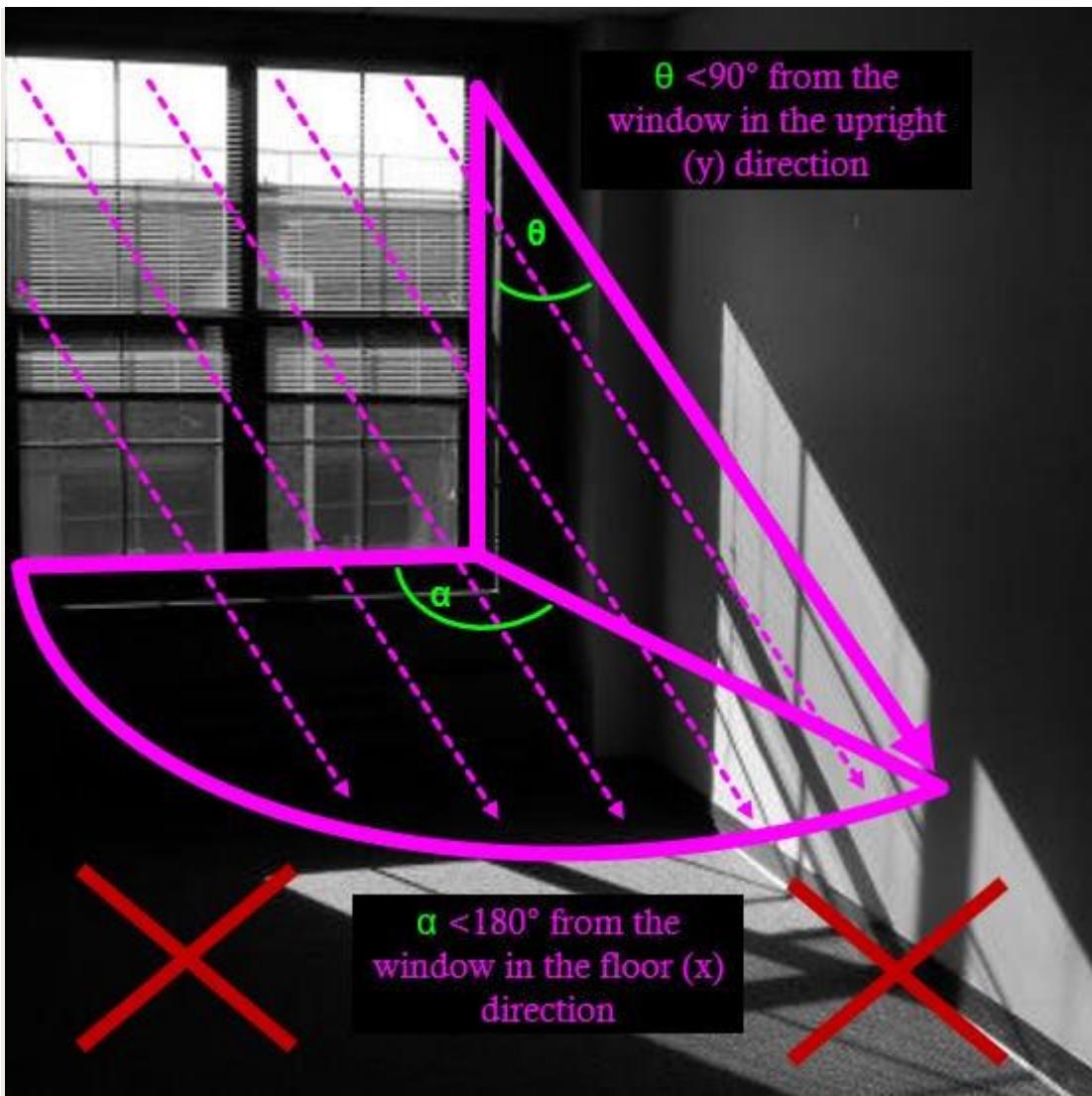
In the northern hemisphere, the sun rises in the east, swings to the south, and sets in the west. That means that south-facing windows will have the highest quantity of light. East and west windows will have a bit less, and north-facing windows will have the lowest quantity of light, assuming that the windows are unobstructed. There are some folks who claim that one can

burn a plant in a window, and that's only true for south-facing windows for folks below the 37th parallel (the northern border of Oklahoma). That means that plant placement is important! In general, follow these rules for window placement:

- North windows (*or windows with <2 hours of direct sunlight*)
Pleurothallids
Bulbophyllum
Some *Paphiopedilum/Phragmipedium*
Miniature species
- East/West windows (*or windows with 2-5 hours of direct sunlight*)
Most orchids can go here, and is the safest for orchids whose light requirements you do not know
Oncidium
Miltoniopsis
Maxillaria
Angraecum
Neofinetia (now *Vanda*)
Some *Dendrobium*
Some *Paphiopedilum/Phragmipedium*
- South windows (*or windows with >5 hours of direct sunlight*)
Cattleya (and *Cattleya*-adjacent)
Some *Vandaceous/Vanda*-adjacent
Some *Dendrobium*

Additionally, placement of the plant in relation to the window is important – always place a plant IN a window, not next to it. Always ensure that the plant can “see the sun” from its location and get hit with as many rays as possible. A beginner’s mistake when growing plants is to either place plants too far from a window, or to place them off to the side of the window, where the plant is facing the wall, and isn’t in the window. No plant should be more than 3 feet from a window.

Figure 1- A window. Plants should only be placed in the area where the direct sun hits, as indicated by the measurements. The closer the plant is to the glass, the better.



Be also aware that the more light and heat a plant gets, the more frequently they will need to be watered. This may change with the seasons, and may change if there is a source of heat or air conditioning nearby. Plants can be placed near an air conditioning unit, as long as the air is not blowing on them. Plants should be 3 feet or more away from heaters. In older homes with radiator heat, the radiators may be in the windows. In that case, one should get a radiator cover and some kind of shelf that's a few feet above the radiator, so that the plants can get the light without being cooked to death.

Light Indoors – Artificial Plant Lights / Grow Lights

When thinking about setting up grow lights for your plants, the most important factor is the bulb. You can be as creative as you like about which kinds of lights or the setup that you choose to setup. Be sure that you follow the basic rules of lightbulbs below to ensure that your plants are getting enough light.

- Greater than 1600 lumens per bulb with a CRI of 95+
- 500-650 PPFD or greater at 18" above the plants or 850-1100PPFD at 12" above the plants

Also, some basic information about bulbs:

- **Incandescent**

These are energy inefficient, and are generally not bright enough for plants to grow under unless you get the 200w bulbs.

- **Fluorescent**

Fluorescent bulbs produce some UV and a wide spectrum of colors, though may get hot.
Don't have leaves touch the bulbs

Light diffuses

- **LEDs**

Cheap to run and the diodes don't get as hot

Often low quality spectrum unless you buy from a horticultural or photography lighting supply store

Light does not diffuse as far as fluorescent

Risk of "laser burns" if plant leaves are too close

- **High-pressure sodium (Greenhouse only)**

Expensive, but excellent spectrum and growth from plants

Very hot and requires special wiring

Light In Greenhouses - Artificial Plant Lights / Grow Lights

The cheapest and easiest way to light up a greenhouse if you are lucky enough to have one is by utilizing the power of the sun. However, in northern climates above the 37th parallel, orchids may need a little lighting help in the winter. If your greenhouse is smaller and created by DIY means, then follow the instructions for indoor lighting. If your greenhouse is installed by a greenhouse company, consult with them or another reputable greenhouse supply store about plant lighting options. Photosynthesis is universal, so you can use any grow lights for any plants, such as cannabis lights for orchids.

This article was reprinted from the American Orchid Society website, www-aos.org.

Andrea and her Best Grown Plant – *Dendrobium aggregatum*



Show and Tell winners – Cattleya Alliance Category



1st – Lc. Straight Answer ‘No Question’ – Andrea, 2nd – Ctna. Why Not – Andrea

Show and Tell winners – Other Category



1st – Den. aggregatum – Andrea, 2nd (tie) –Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance - Eron, 2nd (tie) – Vanda Uraiwan Belle – Eron, 2nd (tie) – Paph. venustum – Eron (not pictured)



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

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2024 April 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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Don't miss this webinar in April

**Click on the images to register for the webinars you
are interested in attending!**

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 8:30 PM EST



**Viruses in Orchids, Symptoms,
Spread and Sanitation - Join
John Hammond as he explores
the various viruses that plague
orchids, the symptoms you
should be keeping an eye out for,
and how to stifle the spread of these debilitating
diseases. *Members only.***

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