

BROS News

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March Meeting Information

Our monthly meeting will be held this Wednesday, March 15, at the Burden Conference Center at 7pm.

This month's meeting is going to be a hands on workshop on setting up an orchid exhibit for the coming shows. Our BROS members who have experience in this area will teach us tips and tricks for setting up great exhibits.

Other March Meeting Highlights:

- We will offer a door prize
- We would like BROS members help generate potential themes for our orchid show. One theme suggested so far: Rainbow of Orchids.

President's Message



President's Note March 2023

Hi All,

Spring seems to have come early this year. Like many of you, I have been allowing my plants to enjoy the mild weather outside. Bright green roots on our orchids mean that many varieties have started growing again.

The BROS set up a display table at LSU's annual Spring Garden Show where there were record crowds! Thanks to everyone who participated and especially to Patty Granier for organizing the table and the volunteers.

Lastly, BROS needs your help. We try to offer as many enriching opportunities to members and the community that we can, but that means we need volunteers to staff the events. Enthusiasm and just being there are much more important than knowing a lot about orchids. Please, please, please reach out to Kathy Connerly if you can help with an out of town show. Our great volunteers are working overtime, help them out by spreading the work.

Also, consider picking up Motes' *Florida Orchid Growing Month by Month*. It is full of good information and practices that also apply to our south Louisiana environment (with a few exceptions).

- Frank

February Meeting Minutes

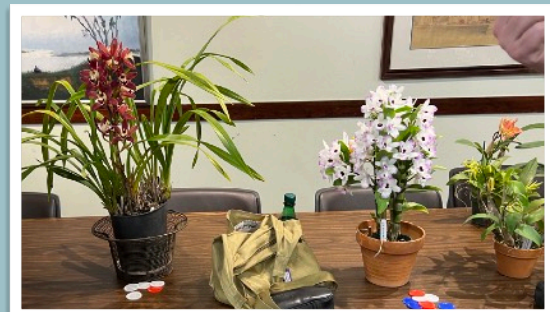
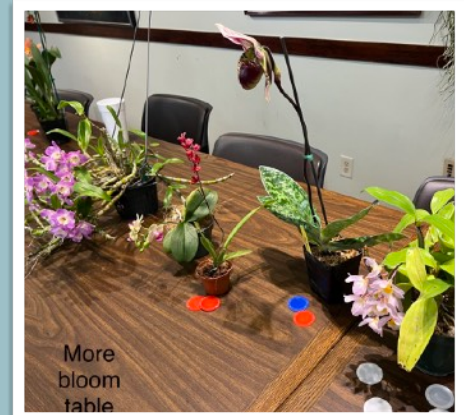
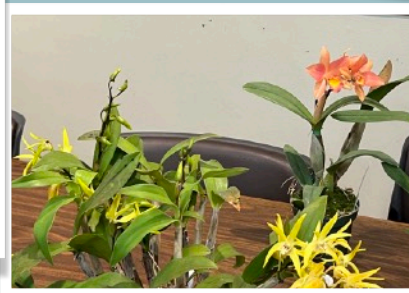
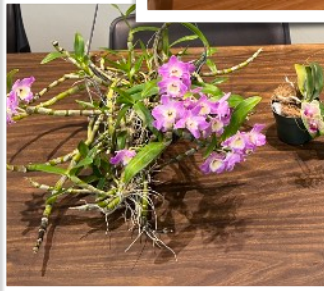
Our February meeting started with Nancy informing the society that we had 38 members in attendance. Frank then gave a summary of the 20 awards received by the society and members during the Gulf Coast Orchid Show.

Harold Letz from the Acadian Orchid Society gave a very interesting presentation about orchid seed culture. He discussed the history of growing orchids from seeds, including the early struggles and important discoveries. Harold also provided an explanation of how he grows orchids from seed and showed pictures of his equipment. We learned that he built his flow hood himself, and he recommended using HEPA filters for doing work such as replating. We saw several pictures of flasks containing orchids at different stages of growth and learned that it is important to keep the environment sterile, so the orchids aren't overtaken by the growth of fungus. During Q&A, we learned that it is typical to use a 10% bleach solution or 3% hydrogen peroxide solution for sterilizing. He prefers to then rinse everything with sterile, distilled water when using hydrogen peroxide.

After Harold's presentation, Glenn informed the society that there are volunteer opportunities available for helping with the conservatory. Everyone should have received a sign-up link by email with the subject "Conservatory Sign Ups". However, if you prefer, you can directly contact Glenn or Frank Zachariah and they will help get you signed up.

- Lanna Lytle

FEBRUARY MEETING PHOTOS



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had 38 members at our February meeting. No visitors other than our speaker. No new persons signed up at the meeting.

Jennifer Farlough joined on our website February 24. She is from Gonzales and has an interest in the foster orchid program and our orchid shows.

Hope you make it to our March meeting since it is going to be about show setups!

- Nancy Morrison
Membership

We Need Your Help for Out of Town Shows!

Out of Town Shows Need Volunteers

BROS needs volunteers to put up or take down one of this season's shows. It's a lot of fun. You'll learn so much from the displays and other growers there. And, you'll have a chance to purchase from the vendors' tables before the public is admitted. Please consider helping with one of the following orchid shows!

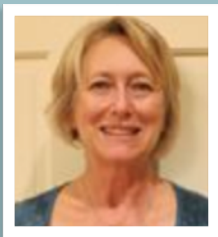
Terrebonne – March 24-26, Southland Mall, Houma

Acadian - April 14-16, Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, Lafayette

New Orleans – June 3-4, Lakeside Mall, Metairie

NOTE – We assist you in setting up the display on Thurs. night before, and the final one is done on site the Friday before each show.

-Kathy Conerly



MARCH GREEN GROWERS MEETING PHOTOS

Dr. Gene Berg continues the Green Growers' BROS educational tradition for new orchid enthusiasts, but all members are welcome! Green Growers meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm at 425 Nelson Drive. All members, new and old, are welcome!





March Conservatory Notes by Frank Zachariah

Notes on the LSU Conservatory

by Frank Zachariah

An important note: This coming Sat (Mar 18) is the day we are moving all the grids with the mounted orchids into their home in the Shade House. This would be a good day to volunteer so this goes quickly and smoothly.

Now is the time to see the flower spikes on James Jeansonne's Myr-Catt hybrids! They are truly unique and we are blessed to have them in our collection.

We will have a handful of Vandas from Hawaii to sell at our Wed evening meeting to help fund the Conservatory.

We have dozens of Phals spiking in the Glass Greenhouse. Burden has turned it into a really nice display area with ferns, geraniums, begonias, bromeliads, -- and orchids. Stop by and visit it next time you are at Burden. Jeff Kuehny (the Director of Burden) has given us an area adjacent to the Conservatory to grow Phals to continue to replenish the Phal stock.

This is the easiest time to grow orchids -- the nights are not so cold and the days are not scorches. And this is a good time to check for pests that may have invaded your collection and extinguish them before their populations explode.

I am in awe at the intricacies that the orchids have devised in their shapes, colors, and fragrances to attract pollinators to carry them forward another generation. They have succeeded in including us humans in this consummate role.

Come by and see your collection.

Conservatory Photos by Glenn Gawarecki

MARCH CONSERVATORY BEAUTIES



Spathiglottis plicata



Lcn. Kimberly

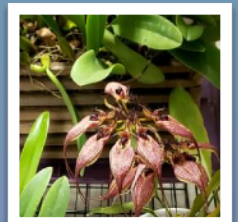


Pot. Tricky Love 'Nelly'



Acadian Orchid Show

The Acadian Orchid Society will hold their show on April 14-16. Friday will be exhibit setup and judging, and Saturday and Sunday will be the show. The theme of this year's Acadian Orchid Show will be Orchids - Spice of Life.



AOS AWARDS FROM THE LOUISIANA JUDGING CENTER

FEBRUARY AWARDS



**Phrag. unregistered
'Catahoula Fire' AM 82**



**Phal. Zheng Min Fregata 'Peter'
HCC 77 Jackie Bravo**



**Phal. Pylo's Pax 'Catahoula Clown'
HCC 75 Eron Borne**



**Vanchoanthe Ben Mianmanus 'Bravo'
HCC 77 Jackie Bravo**

ABOUT OUR SOCIETY

2023 BROS

President - Frank McMains
Vice Pres.- Glenn Gawarecki
Secretary - Lanna Lytle
Treasurer - Pat Canning
Show Chair - David Coco

LSU Orchid Conservatory
Frank Zachariah

Newsletter Editor
Kathy Lopiparo
Co-Editor - Jim Morrison

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Lata Johnson (through 2023)
Frank Zacariah (through 2024)
Charles Dartez (through 2025)

SWROGA REPS

Lata Johnson
Kathy Conerly

AOS REP

Jim Morrison

ORCHID DIGEST

Frank Zachariah

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program - Patty Granier and
Lata Johnson
Publicity-Kim Kensill
Membership-Nancy Morrison
Show Chair-David Coco
Hospitality-Jeanette Foster

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Don't forget to assist us by bringing appetizers, sandwiches, cookies or desserts to any upcoming monthly meeting. Contact Jeanette if you would like to sign up for September or any future meetings. Her email is fosterjeanette51@gmail.com

