New Orleans Orchid Society's Newsletter

April 2015

Officers:
President: Carol Stauder
Vice-President: Konrad Becnel
Secretary: Ann Ebert
Treasurer: Alice Barrios
Past President: Donna Stange
Newsletter Editor: Larry Hennessey
Website Editor: Debbie Dinwiddie
Board of Trustees: Vienna Mackey, Molly Prokop, Peggy White

Meeting Notice:
Tuesday, April 21, 2015
Lakeview Presbyterian Church
5914 Canal Blvd  7:30pm

Program:
TBD

Orchid Basics Group Program:
TBD  7:00pm

April Meeting Location Change
Due to a scheduling conflict with a City Park event, April's meeting location will be Lakeview Presbyterian Church. It's located at 5914 Canal Blvd located just 1 block north of I-610.

The location is easier to reach than our regular meeting place at City Park. Go 1 block past I-610 and turn left on Brooks St (note it is a 1-way street), park in the large parking lot in the back and come in the back door. If you need directions, go to Google Maps 5914 Canal Blvd.

President's Message
Prez Sez,
Our show is fast approaching. We have only this month's meeting and next to prepare. If you have not signed up to sell raffle tickets or to clerk, please do so. This is one way you can give back to the Society. If you have no experience, don’t worry, we will give on the job training. Also, don't forget, we feed you as well, both breakfast and lunch. With the amount we are having to pay Lakeside this year, the raffle takes on more importance than ever. Let's get those raffle tickets sold.

Ann Roth is still collecting trophy donations. Your name will be included on the poster with everyone who makes this donation and displayed on the raffle table. $25, $35, or any amount will help to defray the cost of the trophies and the show.

If all you do is come to the show and walk among the exhibits, you will be helping with security.

Our posters should be ready for pick-up at this meeting. Take one or more and get businesses you patronize to display them in a prominent place. We want as many people as possible attending so we can show Lakeside management that we bring customers into the mall and, of course, we want our vendors to be happy with sales.
We will have our Committee sign-up sheets available again at this meeting. Please sign up for one or more where you feel you can be of help.

I have a request from a Jonathan Cohen (dgtiger1@aol.com or 504-430-0053) whose elderly mother cannot take care of her small orchid collection other than watering. He is asking if anyone would be able to give her a hand with dividing and repotting. His mom lives in the Lake Vista area. A fee is negotiable.

Let’s begin to groom and train plants we think will be blooming for the show. We want our exhibit to be the best!

Best Wishes for Good Growing.

Carol

New Orleans Orchid Society Minutes
March 17, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President, Carol Stauder.

The February minutes were approved as written in the newsletter.

Reports:
VP - Konrad reported that when he has a list of speakers he will send it out to membership.
Treasurer - Alice was in the ER again, but home now. Please sign a card for her.
Secretary - Ann Ebert is still out with her shoulder injury. Molly and Peggy filling in.
Newsletter - Larry did not have a report.
New Member Chair - Yvette not present. Carol asked any new members to introduce themselves.

Cards for Beverly Matherne and Paul Young for membership to sign. Ann Roth made a motion to donate to AOS in Ashley Matherne’s memory. Margaret seconded the motion. It was passed.

Marian suggested we make the Cattleya trophy in his name at our show. All were in favor.

Old Business:
City Park Spring Garden Show is April 10 and 11. She suggested members selling orchids donate 10% of sales up to $30 to NOOS, up from $25 previously.

April meeting will be at the Presbyterian Church, not City Park.

Baton Rouge show is July 10,11,12. There were no volunteers to set up.

New Business:
Committees - Molly spoke on the need for more member participation in the club. A committee system can provide the participation needed. She explained various committees and had sign up sheets for each committee. After several months of voluntary sign ups, members will be assigned to committees. New members will be asked which committee(s) they would like to be on.

Show: "A Symphony of Orchids" - Marian explained that the Mall is now charging for tables and chairs. The raffle will be important to help raise money for these changes. The deadline for entering plants is noon on Thursday.

Glen reported that Earl had back surgery and is doing OK now.

Break: Thank you Max for the cake and coffee.

Program: Glen gave a slide presentation on 'Orchid Pollination'.

Judging results: Ann reported that not everyone is voting so not enough votes for winners in the 'best hybrid' category.

27 members present and 1 guest.
Randy Johnson a new member.
Next meeting: April 21, at Lakeview Presbyterian Church 5914 Canal Blvd.
Respectfully submitted,

Molly Prokop
Acting Secretary

Upcoming Orchid Shows & Events

Orchid Culture Basics
with Larry Hennessey
April 18th
10:30 am – 11:30 am
New Orleans Botanical Gardens
Garden Study Room

NOOS Show
May 29 – 31
Lakeside Shopping Center
Metairie, La.

Upcoming AOS Webinars
May 27th at 8:30pm - Orchid Nutrition with John Salventi
June (date TBA) - Mini Phalaenopsis Breeding Trends with Peter Lin

Message from Trophy Fund Chairperson
I would like to thank and acknowledge the people who so quickly responded at the last meeting for donations to the Trophy Fund.
Carol and Arne Stauder
Eddie and Ethel Subervielle
Peggy White
Margaret Bossier
Molly Prokop
Diane Seidermann
Gary Crozat
Gayle Dellinger
And I would like to remind everyone that it is not too late to donate!!!
Thanks
Ann Roth

NOOS Logo Shirts Order information
Molly Prokop will be taking orders at the April meeting. She will have the book so you can pick out the style/color of your choice. 6 orders are needed to place the order.

March Judging Result

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Exhibitor</th>
<th>Plant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best Grown 1st</td>
<td>Carol &amp; Arne Stauder</td>
<td>Den anosmum v alba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Hybrid 1st</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Species 1st</td>
<td>Carol &amp; Arne Stauder</td>
<td>Den anosmum v alba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Pat Herbert</td>
<td>Aerangis citrata</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effective March 17, 2015
A plant must receive at least 4 votes to be considered for 1st, 2nd or 3rd place points.
Paul Young
Rest in Peace

Paul Young, a life member of NOOS, passed away on March 30, 2015 at the age of 91. He joined the society about 1967, according to his daughter, Lynne. A few years after joining NOOS he became the society’s awards photographer, and he continued in that role until about 2000. He reluctantly passed on that responsibility to others because of problems with his vision. Besides photography, Paul produced the show schedule and other printed items for many years. Paul and his wife Lilla, who predeceased him, were also on the trophy committee of many shows.

Paul, Lillia, and Lynne became interested in orchids when Paul’s mother-in-law brought a blooming white cattleya back from a trip to California. They knew nothing about orchids, but it came with instructions, so how hard could growing orchids be? A year later the cattleya re-bloomed, and about that time the family attended an orchid show, and they were eager for more. They joined NOOS and eventually built a greenhouse with Lynne growing and selling orchids as a small business. The business was called Lynne’s Orchids, but it became Paul’s after Lynne’s marriage to Calvin Grisafe. Lynne was an AOS judge for many years, and a two term past president of NOOS. Calvin was also a past president, but neither is involved with orchids currently.

With his health declining, Paul donated his orchid collection to City Park last year. Zuly Townsend, then a City Park volunteer and NOOS member, helped Paul water and care for his collection for a year or more before Paul donated his collection. Her help was greatly appreciated.

Besides his invaluable help with shows, Paul was a knowledgeable grower and always willing to share his considerable experience with other enthusiasts. It is hard to replace someone like Paul.

Patricia Sander

Note from someone needing help dividing/repotting

My mother is getting in age where she is have trouble caring for her collection of orchids beyond their watering. Though I am no expert nor novice, it does appear to me that many need repotting and separating.

My mother lives in the Lake Vista area and though, I believe, most of her plants are common house verity, they are meaningful to her. Is there any one that you can recommend that can help her, for a fee, prune and repot her small collection.

I thank you for your patience and look forward to your thoughts.

Kindest regards,
Jonathan Cohen
504-430-0053

Green Side Up: Reveries of Repotting By judywhite
From AOS Bulletin Beginner’s Series

Repotting: The most dreaded word to a beginning orchidist’s ears. Very thought apt to cause severe sweating, trembling hands and major heart palpitations; widespread fear sweeping hobby population in epidemic proportions. Many valiant efforts made to dispel panic; more needed.
Yikes-Help-Me-Get-This-Thing-Out-Of-This-And-Into-That is the plaintive cry heard from just about every new orchid grower. Repotting seems so scary and so confusing probably because we as beginning growers don't quite trust that orchids aren't as fragile as we tend to think. It's one thing to buy an orchid and have it sit around on a windowsill getting watered every week and flowering every once in a while if we're lucky. It's quite another thing to contemplate actually dumping the thing out of its seemingly secure home and familiar surroundings and exposing its vulnerable-looking roots to vicious scissors and then sticking it in something else strange and new. Handling an orchid in that roughand-tumble way for the first few times is much like holding a newborn infant and trying not to break the baby. But, by and large, both babies and orchids are fairly resilient little things. Just try not to drop them on the floor.

In an effort to reduce the basics of repotting down to its very simplest, I went around asking various orchid growers what they thought was the most essential bit of repotting advice. My favorite came from Christopher Bailes, eminent English horticulturist who edited The Orchid Review and grew orchids for both Kew Gardens and the very famous Eric Young Orchid Foundation, hefty credentials indeed. His advice? "Green side up." So remember that when you start feeling overwhelmed by repotting. In the end, it's always just green side up.

**Why Repot?**

If repotting looks and sounds so scary, why on earth do we do it? There are two reasons. Reason Number One: An orchid needs to be repotted if it gets too big for its pot. Some orchids make pretty graphic examples of being too big for the pot by actually crawling out of it and growing over the sides. Cattleyas are great ones for trying to escape in this manner. Orchids will usually have some roots that stick out of the potting mix and wave nonchalantly in the air. This is normal behavior and not usually a clue for repotting. But when the growths start hanging over the sides or new roots can't find their way into the pot at all, take a deep breath of air, because that orchid needs repotting soon. If there is no potting medium around the roots allowing absorption of water and nutrients, new growths will be affected, and flowering can be hurt as well.

Reason Number Two for repotting an orchid is that its potting mix has decomposed. Most potting mixes deteriorate with time if they're made from natural organic materials; that's the way the world works. Why do we care if the mix has deteriorated, particularly if the pot still seems a reasonable size for the size of the plant?

A very decomposed potting material means that there no longer are large bits of recognizable materials inside that pot providing good drainage and excellent air movement. Instead, the pot is full of fine, closely packed material that closes up the air spaces, creating an environment without decent air flow. No air means (egad) the dreaded Root Rot. And if you remember back to other parts of this series, roots are the key to orchid growing.

When roots die, the plant is doomed, too. Closely packed, decomposed pieces of the medium also mean that water has a real tough time passing through, since fine bits absorb water much more readily than do larger ones. And more water retention in an environment where there is less air flow means (you guessed it) more Root Rot. There's no way around a mushy mix. It's time — actually past time if it's mushy — to repot.

*(To be Continued next month)*