President’s Message

Prez Sez,

Last month I wrote about my problem with red spider mites in the greenhouse. I should have included one other product that I tried, Sucra Shield which is labeled as a "biochemical insecticide/miticide for nursery, greenhouse and field crop use”.

This is another product where you must spray every leaf surface. It’s very time consuming and must be used more than once to achieve mite eradication. I did find this product rather expensive considering how much I had to use and the size of the container I purchased.

If you are interested in this product, I got it from Ray Barkalow of First Rays Orchids in Florida. As with any of the products I mentioned, do your own research before you use any of them.

A big THANK YOU to The Nominating Committee which has come back with its recommendations for our officers for next year: Russel Deroche for President, Randy Johnson for Vice-President, Ann Ebert for Secretary and Peggy White for Treasurer. Since Peggy was a Trustee, the Committee has recommended Debbie Dinwiddie to fill that vacancy. We will also accept nominations from the floor at the meeting. We will hold the election at the November meeting.

The Board is having a meeting on October 18. We will be addressing a couple of issues with our By-Laws. If the Board wishes to change the By-Laws, we will need to vote on that in November as well.

This is our last meeting in City Park until July 2016. The Park is having a special exhibition and we will not be allowed to use the Garden Study Center for our meetings for the rest of this year because of Celebration in the Oaks and for the first six months of next year because of the exhibit, so, after this month
begin thinking “Lakeview Presbyterian Church” when you are driving to our meetings.

We are very excited to have Bill Thoms as our presenter this month. From what I’ve heard he’s an excellent speaker. He will be talking about Bulbophyllum Culture. Bill informs us that bulbos are the largest genus in the orchid family, so he should be giving us lots of information.

He will have plants for sale and if you were of the smart ones, you pre-ordered your plants. He had some very reasonably priced and some rather pricey, but something for everyone. NOOS is purchasing a couple for our raffle table, so look for those in the months to come.

Now that our weather is beginning to change from summer to autumn, temperatures are moderating. Enjoy your days outside tending to your plants, orchids and others as well.

Best wishes for good growing,

Carol

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New Orleans Orchid Society
Minutes
September 15, 2015

President Carol Stauder called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved as published.

Reports:

VP – Konrad was not present. The program for the October meeting will be a presentation by Bill Thoms on Bulbophyllums. It was suggested and agreed that we have a plant swap at the November meeting.

Treasurer – No report.

Secretary – Ann requested that new members see her to complete a membership form and pay dues. New members who join after July 1 only have to pay $10 for 2015.

Newsletter - Larry – Larry asked for articles and ideas for the newsletter. He said that he plans to obtain Louisiana Orchid Connection’s price list for orchid supplies and that he will publish it in the newsletter.

Membership – Molly has found a source for new aluminum name tags which are magnetized. The tags cost $6.50 each. Please see Molly to order.

Raffle Table: 7 plants and 1 door prize. Members must sign the registration book to be eligible for the door prize.

Old Business:

Please see Molly if you would like to order a NOOS shirt. We need to have requests for at least 6 shirts before we can place an order. There are various styles of shirts which can be ordered.

The slate of officers for 2016 will be presented at the October meeting. Nominations for President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary will also be taken from the floor at the October meeting. Election of officers will take place at the November meeting.

We are still signing up people for various committees. Please call Molly to volunteer for a committee. Most committee business may be conducted by email and telephone and may not require meetings. You will be assigned a committee if you do not volunteer for one. Carol recommended that we change the membership form to include a section listing the various committees so that a new member can check off the committee that he or she is interested in.

The Central Louisiana Tabletop Orchid Show will take place in Alexandria on Friday, October 2 and Saturday, October 3. Ian has volunteered to set up with the assistance of Ed and Ethel. If you plan to enter plants in the exhibit, please email Carol your list of plants early so that she can prepare name tags.
New Business:

Please sign the sympathy card for the family of Lois Hicks, who passed away recently. Lois was the owner of Hicks Orchid Supplies. Hicks has been a vendor at our show for many years.

Jerry Stephens, a longtime judge, recently passed away.

Our meetings for November and December 2015 and January through June 2016 will be held at Lakeview Presbyterian Church rather than in City Park. City Park is having Celebration in the Oaks this November and December and a special exhibit during January through June 2016, so the Garden Study Center will not be available for our meetings during those months.

We will be having a board meeting after new officers are elected. This board meeting will include incoming and outgoing officers. If you have any concerns or ideas which you would like the board to address, please contact Carol.

Break: Thank you Max for the cake and coffee.

Program: “Madagascar Forest Walks” presented by Tin-Wei Yu and John Nelson of Louisiana Orchid Connection.

Judging results.
Plant raffle and door prize.
Final count: 27 members and 6 guests present.

Next meeting: October 20- Topic: Bill Thoms on bulbophyllums

The meeting was adjourned.
### September Judging Result

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Exhibitor</th>
<th>Plant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best Grown 1st</td>
<td>Ann Roth</td>
<td>Blc Hawaii Stars 'Paradise' HCC/AOS</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Ann Roth</td>
<td>Myrmecocattleya (syn. Schombocattleya) Alice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best Hybrid 1st</td>
<td>Carol &amp; Arne Stauder</td>
<td>Chtra Susan Griffis 'Lovely' AM/AOS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Ann Roth</td>
<td>Cattleya Granier's Charm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best Species 1st</td>
<td>Carol &amp; Arne Stauder</td>
<td>Encyclia cochleata var alba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Nancy Dempsey</td>
<td>Phal equestris fma alba</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Upcoming Orchid Shows & Events

**Fort Worth Orchid Society**

**SWROGA Fall Show**
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
3220 Botanic Garden Blvd.
Fort Worth, TX 76107

**The Northern Nevada Orchid Society is hosting the**

**2015 AOS Fall Member’s Meeting**
November 11–15, 2015
Reno's Atlantis Casino, Resort & Spa

**Acadian Orchid Society 55th Annual Short Course**
December 5, 2015
Wyndham Garden Lafayette
1801 W. Pinhook Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508

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### Bulbophyllum Growing Tips by Larry Hennessy

I never considered growing bulbos until I met Tom Nasser of Carolina Orchids at the Orchid Growers Fair in Baton Rouge over 10 years ago. He gave a talk about them and I had lunch with him afterwards. He couldn't understand why no one was interested in growing bulbos down here. He said the climate was perfect for growing them at least 7-8 months of the year. Most of them love the warmth and the humidity that we all complain about.

Bulbos are both disease and pest resistant. The only problem that I've experienced is the occasional new growth that rots when water gets trapped in it. But this doesn't appear to bother the plants much; they just put out another new growth. In fact they seem to be the quickest orchid to grow into a large specimen. Plants appear to double or triple in size each year. And many bloom off and on for several months. Some are sequential bloomers and some just put out occasional flushes of blooms.

The bulbos are probably the largest and most diverse groups of orchids. They range...
from miniatures well under an inch in height with flowers too small to be clearly viewed by the naked eye; up to Bulbo phaleanopsis, which can have leaves over 6 feet long and Bulbo echinolabium whose flowers can be over 15 inches from top to bottom.

Bulbos have two complaints commonly levied against them: they have an unruly rambling growth habit that doesn't allow them to be grown in pots easily and they have weird foul smelling flowers.

It is true that some bulbos have a rambling growth habit just like other groups of orchids such as some Cattleyas but this can be handled in a number of ways. You can choose the bulbos that don't have a gap between the pseudobulbs. These include a number of species and hybrids in the levanae group, echinolabium, carunculatum among others. If you do choose one of the rambling types you can pot them in a large bulb pan or basket and just keep wrapping the growths around the inside of the pot. You can also grow them mounted, which is a more natural way to handle them but requires frequent watering.

It is also true that some bulbo flowers are foul smelling but some do smell nice. Besides, the foul smelling ones don't smell up a greenhouse. You have to stick your nose all the way up to the flower if you're curious about how bad it smells. The smell is to attract their pollinating insect, which is a fly. The worst smelling ones that I know of are burfordiense (ripe Bourbon Street garbage truck), levanae (rotten shrimp heads), nymphopolitanum (barnyard droppings). I had a macranthum in bloom off and on for a couple of months in the greenhouse and it filled up a quarter of the greenhouse with a wonderful fragrance. Also, the flowers have so many intricate features that you really have to study them to notice everything. Most have a hinged lip that swings up and down when the flower is moved by the wind or something touches it. And some have filaments extending from the dorsal sepal and petals that may appear to be tassels fluttering in the wind.

The bulbos are most commonly split into 2 groups: Bulbophyllum and Cirrhopetalum. The Cirrhopetalums were split from the rest of the bulbos because the flowers are arranged in an umbel. This is sometimes called the Daisy Chain type because the umbel resembles a daisy if you look down at it.

Bill Thoms' mantra “More Water Longer” appears to be the key to having success growing bulbos. Bill Thoms' theory is since their natural habit gets copious amounts of rain and it rains almost daily, the plants have adapted to taking water up slowly since it is available for a long time. This would indicate that they need to be watered often or planted in a medium that stays moist for a long time.

I've been successful growing bulbos in pots using my Phalaenopsis mix, which is 67% bark mix and 33% peat based potting mix. The bulbos need even moisture around the roots just like phals and this mix seems to accomplish that. Another way to grow them is in baskets filled with sphagnum moss. I've been growing many in these baskets next to my vandas during the warm months and have not had any rot problems even though they get watered at least once a day in the summer. And the vandas love it too. You should see all of the vanda roots that develop over the summer that reach for the bulbo baskets. It looks really weird seeing horizontal vanda roots but the vandas don't seem to mind. I'm even breaking all of the rules we always heard about proper drainage for orchid roots by growing some in shallow bulb pan pots filled with sphagnum. These pots only have a few holes but that doesn't seem to bother the plants at all, in fact they thrive growing like this. Of course, a more natural way to grow bulbos is mounted but that is just more work for you since they will require more frequent watering. If do you decide to try growing them mounted make sure you place a pad of sphagnum moss under them to retain some moisture around the roots and water them like a vanda, the more water the
better during the hot summer.

There have been a couple of excellent books published devoted to bulbos. Emily Seigerist’s Bulbophyllums and Their Allies published in 2001 is an excellent reference book. A more practical book for beginners and people interested in growing tips for bulbos is Bulbophyllums The Incomplete Guide; From A to Why? Self published by Bill Thoms in 2009.

**Central Louisiana Show Recap**

Wow what a show. Ian managed to put 30 plants into a table top exhibit. Only 4 plants were awarded at the show and 3 of them were in our exhibit. Carol & Arne Stauder got a HCC/AOS of 75 points for Vanda Sri-Siam 'Charles Arne Stauder'. Molly Prokop got a HCC/AOS of 77 points for Vascostylis Vanita 'Susie'. And Larry Hennessey got an AM/AOS of 81 points for Phal Corona 'Lemon Bomb'. We also brought home 4 trophies. Carol & Arne Stauder's Vanda Sri-Siam 'Charles Arne Stauder' got both best flower and best grown trophies for Vandas. Carol & Arne's Alcra Ablaze 'HOF' got the best grown Oncidium trophy. Larry Hennessey's Phal Corona 'Lemon Bomb' got the best grown Phal trophy. Finally, there were 8 Blue ribbon winners, 6 Red and 1 Yellow.

*Vasco. Siri-Siam 'Charles Arne Stauder'*

HCC/AOS, 77 points

*Exhibited by Carol Stauder*

*Vasco. Vanita 'Susie', HCC/AOS, 77 points, Exibited by Molly Prokop*

*Phal. Corona 'Lemon Bomb' AMAOS*

81 points *Exhibited by Larry Hennessey*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibitor</th>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>Ribbon/Trophy/Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Galvez</td>
<td>Phal. violacea ('Peek-A-Blue' x 'Mademoiselle Bleu')</td>
<td>Blue</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phal. violacea ('Pimlico v. alba' x 'Valley Mist')</td>
<td>Red</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phal. violacea ('Rachel's Blue Eyes' x 'Gulfstream Blue')</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Sander</td>
<td>Epc. Plicaboa</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phal. micholitzii</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molly Prokop</td>
<td>Vasco. Vanita 'Susie'</td>
<td>HCC/AOS 77 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol &amp; Arne Stauder</td>
<td>Vanda Sri-Siam 'Charles Arne Stauder'</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alcra. Hilo Ablaze 'HOF'</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phal. cornu-cervi v. chattaladae</td>
<td>Trophy best grown Oncidium</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phal. hainanensis</td>
<td>Red</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Hennessey</td>
<td>Phal Corona 'Lemon Bomb'</td>
<td>Blue</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phal Tassanee Jongdamkerng</td>
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<td>Phal Penang Moonbright</td>
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<td>Den. Enobi Purple 'Splash' AM/AOS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bulbophyllum Dancing Angels</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phal venosa</td>
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