

# New Orleans Orchid Society's Newsletter



## January 2019

### Officers:

President: J. D. Breaux  
Vice-President: Randy Johnson  
Secretary: Ann Ebert  
Treasurer: Peggy White  
Past President: Randy Johnson  
Newsletter Editor: Larry Hennessey  
Website Editor: Debbie Dinwiddie  
Board of Trustees: Pat Herbert  
Molly Prokop  
Gary Crozat

### Meeting Notice:

Tuesday, January 15, 2019  
Lakeview Presbyterian Church  
[Google Maps: 5914 Canal Blvd](#)  
7:30pm

### Program:

12 Months of Orchids – Building a collection with blooms every month of the year.  
Peter Lin 7:30pm

### Orchid Basics Group Program:

TBD 6:45pm

***This Month's Program***  
***12 Months of Orchids – Building a collection with blooms every month of the year.***

Peter Lin will be presenting his newest talk on: 12 Months of Orchids. This fast paced PowerPoint presentation will show you how to build an orchid collection to have blooming plants for each month of the year.

Peter started growing orchids over 30 years ago, but then stopped due to school and starting a career. It wasn't until about 11 years ago that the orchid "bug" came back and he is now heavily involved once again. He is an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society and a hybridizer of mini-catts. He enjoys meeting with other orchid enthusiasts, and can often be found at various orchid shows and societies around the country. He also has hundreds of photos of his orchids that he maintains on Flickr. You can view them by typing this address into the internet:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/minicatt/collections/>

Due to limited growing space, Peter likes to specialize in miniature orchids, both species and hybrids, and has received numerous AOS awards. His other interests in orchids include Dendrobiums, Angraecoids, and Neofinetias. He maintains a collection of a thousand or more orchids at his home in Southern California in 3 small greenhouses, as well as an offsite greenhouse.

***Dues are now past due***

Dues were due January 1, 2019. Please plan on bringing a check to the meeting. Otherwise you will need to send a check to the society's P.O. Box, so the secretary can have you current with your dues for 2019. It makes the secretary's job a lot easier if they don't have to remind people to pay their dues month after month as the new year starts.

## ***Upcoming Orchid Shows & Events***

### **Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show & Sale**

January 25 thru 27, 2019  
Gautier Convention Center  
2012 Library Lane, Gautier, MS

### **Mobile Area Orchid Society Show and Sale**

March 1 thru 3, 2019  
Bellingrath Gardens, AL

## ***Upcoming AOS Webinars***

Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 7:30 – 8:30 PM

Growing Cymbidiums

Cultural Techniques for Growing Award Winning Cymbidiums by legendary grower George Hatfield.

## ***Refreshment Committee***

Thank you Carol Stauder, Carol Molero, and Ann Ebert for the delicious cakes that you took to the meeting in November. We all really enjoyed them!

Gayle Dellinger, Alice Bordelon, Randy Johnson, Nancy Click, and Debbie Dinwiddie have kindly volunteered to provide snacks for the January meeting.

I still need a volunteer for cheese and crackers and another for fruit for the February meeting. I will pass around the refreshment sheet at the meeting if no one has volunteered before then.

Please remember that the cakes do not have to be homemade. Not all of us are great bakers (me).

See you soon,

*Diane Siedemann*

**Flowering now**  
**Rhynchostylis gigantea**  
*reprinted from AOS Collector's Items*



**Rhynchostylis gigantea 'Jo Ann's Valentine' AM/AOS**

Rhynchostylis gigantea has definitely become a collector's item in recent years with ever more unusual color forms being introduced into the marketplace. The unmistakable spicy fragrance is consistent across this genus, whether the species blooms in the winter or summer. One species, Rhy. retusa, is referred to as the "fox tail" orchid because of its long tapering inflorescence. The inflorescence of Rhynchostylis gigantea is somewhat shorter, the actual length being determined by genetics and culture of the individual plant. There is something exotic and magical about walking into a winter greenhouse and encountering the warm fragrance of Rhy. gigantea. It leaves a lasting impression one looks forward to year after year.



**Rhynchostylis gigantea 'Movella Spots' AM/AOS**

This orchid prefers the warm humid climate of Southeast Asia and ranges from Hainan, China through Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Viet Nam, Malaysia and into the Philippines. Rhy. gigantea was discovered in Burma (Myanmar) by Wallich and described as Saccolabium giganteum by Lindley in 1833. Ridley transferred it to Rhynchostylis in 1896 (J. Linn. Soc., Bot. 32: 356). Over the years there have been numerous varietal names applied to different color forms but they are all of horticultural use only. At this time, the Kew Monocot Checklist recognizes only two subspecies with Rhynchostylis gigantea subsp. violacea (Lindl.) Christenson, being endemic to the Philippines.

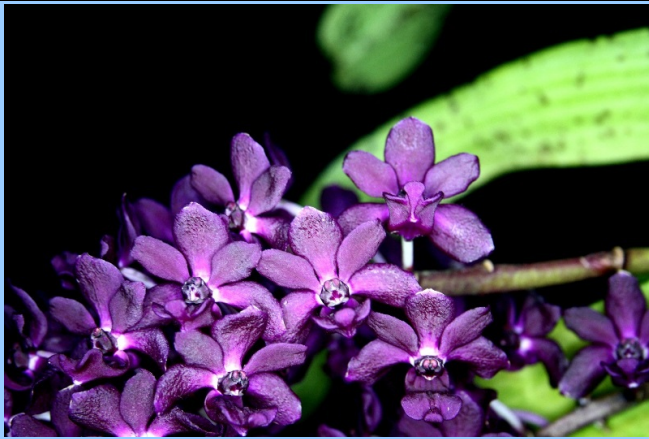
Although this is indeed a warm-growing orchid, it is tolerant of a wider range of light conditions than other Vandaceous orchids making it more accessible to hobbyists. We like to grow it less bright than our vandas and ascocendas...about 2000-2500 foot candles is a good range if you are measuring. I have also seen some people growing Rhy. gigantea under lower light like a Phalaenopsis. The leaves will be a dark green but it does not seem to diminish flower production. Most growers in warm climates grow the species in empty teak

That is why a wooden basket is popular because it is limited only by the life of the wood. The culture regimen fits within that of your other orchids; fertilize once a week during warm months and every other week in winter. You will need to adapt watering practice based upon potting. These orchids appreciate frequent watering but do not like to stay wet.

Rhynchostylis gigantea blooms in January-February. Choose blooming plants now at your nearest local orchid show.

*Editors note:*

*All pictured orchids were awarded at previous Gulf Coast Orchid Society shows and belong to Jo Ann Vaz. Pictures courtesy AOS Orchids Plus Online.*



*Rhynchostylis gigantea* 'Tony Jo' AM/AOS

## ***AOS Monthly Checklist for January and February***

### **Cattleya**

Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions and bloom at their best.

### **Cymbidium**

We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30 F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

### **Paphiopedilum**

The standard *Paphiopedilum* *insigne*-derived hybrids, which are called "bull dogs" and "toads," are at their peak. Unlike most other orchids, they can even be potted while in bud. There really is no wrong time to pot a *paphiopedilum*, and no other orchid responds so favorably to fresh mix and a cleanup. Keep an eye on watering until roots begin to grow.

### **Phalaenopsis**

Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of *phalaenopsis* at orchid shows and sales.

### **Zygopetalum**

For the most part, the flowering season will have ended for this group, providing the grower a chance to do some repotting. The plants will then have a chance to become well established before the hotter months of summer arrive. Most growers use bark mixes, but some exceptional results have been seen lately using rock-wool blends. You may want to try this mix, but do not change your whole collection over to this new media until you are sure it is right for you. First, experiment with a few plants to see how they respond.



## *Minutes of November 20, 2018 Meeting*

President Randy Johnson called the meeting to order. He thanked everyone for coming.

### **Reports:**

- Treasurer – Peggy White gave a brief report.
- Secretary – Ann Ebert asked any new members joining tonight to see her at the break to fill out a membership form and pay dues. She also reminded current members that dues for 2019 are due by the end of 2018.
- Newsletter – editor Larry Hennessey asked for ideas for the newsletter.

### **Announcements:**

- Randy reminded members to sign in to be eligible to win the door prize and to purchase tickets for tonight's plant raffle .
- Randy thanked NOOS members who assisted with our exhibit at the Calcasieu Orchid Society Show. Carol Stauder and Marian and Jim Prigmore set up the exhibit and Sara Duarte and Pat Herbert took it down.
- Diane Seidemann, refreshments coordinator, spoke about how we will handle refreshments for upcoming NOOS meetings. She asked members to sign a list she will be passing around for the months of January through June 2019. She requested that 4 members sign up to bring refreshments each month. She requested that we have 2 chocolate cakes, 1 cake with absolutely no chocolate, and a cheese and crackers snack each month. Each month, Diane will call the month's volunteers several days before the meeting to remind them to bring their refreshments.
- Molly Prokop asked members who wanted to order NOOS name tags or shirts to see her.
- Randy announced that the December meeting will consist of the potluck holiday social. It will be held at the usual meeting place at Lakeview Presbyterian Church at 6:00 pm on Sunday, December 2. Spouses are invited. Each member is requested to bring a dish that will serve 8 people.
- Randy announced that NOOS member Art Brizzolara recently passed away.
- The Acadian Orchid Society will be holding its short course on December 1 in Lafayette.
- The Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show will be the last weekend in January.
- Cindy Revisore has agreed to take over the job of tallying the monthly table judging results. Carol Molero has been doing this for several years.

### **Election of Officers for 2019:**

Peggy White has offered to continue as Treasurer and Ann Ebert has agreed to continue as Secretary. J.D. Breaux has offered to serve as President and Randy Johnson has offered to serve as Vice-President. Molly Prokop and Pat Herbert will continue as Trustees. Gary Crozat has offered to serve in the Trustee position vacated due to the death of Ian Hiler. The membership elected these officers by acclamation.

## *MINUTES OF 11/20/2018 MEETING continued*

### **Break and Plant Voting**

**Program:** Slide show on the genus Guarianthe presented by Randy Johnson.

Randy thanked Carol Stauder, Carol Molero and Ann Ebert for tonight's refreshments.

Larry presented the table judging results.

Plant raffle and door prize. Pat Herbert won the November birthday raffle

Our next meeting will be the holiday social: Sunday, December 2, at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned.

## *November 2018 Table Judging Result*

| Award            | Exhibitor       | Plant  |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Best Grown 1st   | Cindy Revisore  | Rth Thi-Ti 'Sweetheart'                      |
| 2nd              |                 |  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  |                 |  |
| Best Hybrid 1st  | Gary Crozat     | Dendrobium Sweet Iilyn 'ABS's Midnight Fire' |
| 2nd              | Cindy Revisore  | Rth Thi-Ti 'Sweetheart'                      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  |                 |  |
| Best Species 1st | Anna Maria Ball | Bulbophyllum echinolabium                    |
| 2nd              | Larry Hennessey | Cleisotoma filiforme                         |
| 3rd              |                 |  |
| Best 1st         |                 |  |
| 2nd              |                 |  |
| 3rd              |                 |  |
|                  |                 |  |
|                  |                 |  |