

New Orleans Orchid Society's Newsletter



January 2024

<http://neworleansorchidsociety.org/>
https://www.facebook.com/groups/600143828277322/?ref=share_group_link

Officers:

President: Denise Emmer
Vice-President: Susan Goss
Secretary: Ann Ebert
Treasurer: Gayle Dellinger
Past President: Molly Prokop
Newsletter Editor: Larry Hennessey
Website Editor: Debbie Dinwiddie
Board of Trustees: Carol Stauder
Pat Herbert
Ann Roth

Meeting Notice:

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 7:00pm
Lakeview Presbyterian Church
5914 Canal Blvd, New Orleans, LA

Program:

Caring for Orchids in the Winter

Orchid Basics

6:30pm



President's Message

Happy 2024! The New Year brings a fresh perspective, a blank slate and lots of well-meaning resolutions! I'm going to work towards reviving my little corner of the newsletter every month, so stay tuned for exciting news regarding upcoming programs, plant sales and field trips! Our goal for 2024 for the society is to get to know our membership, be more inclusive and active! During our January meeting, I'll be happy to share with you a little more about myself and throughout year, hope you'll do the same! We want to hear from the seasoned growers, the show winners, the armchair hobbyists and novices...there's a place for you in our society! As a truly lazy orchid grower, I look forward to January's program on winter orchid care—presented by three local experts!!

Happy Growing!! See you Tuesday!

Denise Emmer

January Program Winter Care Panel Discussion

Ann Roth will talk about Balancing Light, Water and Fertilizer in Winter.

Larry Hennessey will talk about knowing what kind of orchids you have to understand the care needed for different types.

2024 Dues were due January 1

Dues were due January 1, 2024. 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 2024. 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

Presents its Annual Orchid Show,
We Love Orchids
with a very special dedication to our own native orchids,

Gautier Convention Center,
2012 Library Lane, Gautier, MS 39553

February 2-4, 2024



Sales Open
Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 3:30pm

Exhibits Open
Friday 1:00pm - 6:00pm
Saturday noon - 6:00pm

Exhibit and sales set up starts 2:30pm Thursday Feb. 1
and continues Friday Feb. 2 from 8:00am until 3:00pm

Ribbon Judging starts 8:00 am Sat., Feb 3

Followed by AOS judging.

For more information call 601-530-8778. Like us on Facebook

Ann Roth - What's Going on in My Greenhouse?

I am lucky to have lots of family visitors during the Christmas holidays but my greenhouse has to go on survival mode. Luckily, I have a remote temperature reading which I check every night to make sure that the heater is working. When I managed to take a quick look and check, I was amazed to find a recently potted purpurata division in bloom. Mine only bloom in May or June. Only found two cymbidiums in spike, out of over 15 plants. Normally, they would be in some stage of spike development. Many cattleyas were in bud. A catasetum that lost its leaves two months ago has a new growth in December. But most surprising of all, is that my Brassavola digbyana is in full beautiful bloom. For over 50 years, that plant has ALWAYS, ALWAYS bloomed on June 6-8th!!!

I guess Larry is right. When I asked for advice on the catasetum, he said everything is on its own schedule this year.

We Invite You to Join Us
for the
MOBILE AREA ORCHID SOCIETY'S
45TH ANNUAL
ORCHID SHOW & SALE
February 23 - 25, 2024



Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Exhibit Set Up 8 AM	AOS Judging 8 AM	Show Open 9 AM
Orchid Sales 10 AM	Orchid Sales 9 AM	Orchid Sales 10 AM
Close 5 PM	Exhibit Viewing Noon	Close 3 PM
	Close 5 PM	

For More Information
info@baos.com 12511 205-1008

City Park Orchid Collection



NOOS Members (l-r) Sue Daube, Ilana Resin, Bettye Streyer and Mark Meunier, Horticulturist at City Park moving blooming plants from grow house to display in Conservatory for Celebration in the Oaks.

Conservatory Orchids: For and By the Community

by Frank Zachariah and Eron Borne

What can the AOS do to interest the youth of today in orchids? This question has been consistently addressed by the Education Committee of the AOS. For any orchid lovers who are involved in Girl or Boy Scouting, we have developed an Interest Project and an iron-on Patch. One excellent idea is to have Girl or Boy Scouts help with local orchid society projects to earn patches.

The latest Scout project comes to us from the LSU Orchid Conservatory in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Frank Zachariah, the Conservatory Chair, says it all began about four years ago when the Baton Rouge Orchid Society said "Let's start an Orchid Conservatory on the grounds of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge." Frank says "it was an ambitious undertaking with the goal of growing orchids that do well here (and attempting to grow those that don't)." The Conservatory now has a Memorial Collection to honor families' prized treasures, a dedicated Seedling Section for local enthusiasts that are trying their hand at hybridizing, and a potting bench for demonstrations so members can learn 'hands-on' how to grow these in their homes. They also have weekly volunteers that keep the Conservatory tidy and moving forward. Fortunately, the garden's Director and his staff have also actively been involved in maintaining the collection. The public is allowed to stroll through and see what grows there, and the Conservatory changes out flowers on display to make a visit to this already attractive Botanical Garden, an even more enjoyable experience.

The interest and donations to the Conservatory have been overwhelming! There are now several thousand orchids, from seedlings to specimens, of which 600 are in a special Mounted Display. The orchids are outside under shade cloth from late March to early November. Since south Louisiana is a subtropical rain forest, this creates many challenges -- from pests and tropical storms to weeds and sanitation.

One important group in our community that has helped keep the Conservatory maintained are the Boy Scouts. Frank says "We have a handful of Scouts that come three times a year to help out as fulfillment of their conservation requirement. It is also a way for the boys (and their dads) to spend quality time doing something fun and of value to the community."

There are about 30 boys in Troop 888 chartered under Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. The Scouts are always eager to help out wherever they are needed, no matter the task. A major undertaking was counting every orchid in the Conservatory, giving us our first accurate inventory. Grand Total: 3,421 plants! The boys printed up new labels for plants with smudged or broken tags. They deflasked and potted up members' hybridized seedlings. In addition, the Scouts also created mounts and added them to the Conservatory Mounted Display. Frank states "since orchids can take an interminably long time to bloom, these kids will certainly get to enjoy these flowers more than our senior members. Our hope is to keep them interested during those growing years." The AOS is providing every Scout a patch for their participation and each Scout receives a blooming *Phalaenopsis* to give to their mom. For most, we are sure it will be the first orchid they kill. But they are encouraged to come back and get another (and another) until they become successful.

Troop 888 schedules about three workdays a year and fifteen Scouts have helped out for the past three years. The goal is to expand to other local troops and other youth organizations. By inspiring in the next generation a stewardship and appreciation of the remarkable beauty of nature, we are hoping to keep our passion for the orchid family blooming for decades to come!

If you are interested in the Scout Interest Project, please contact the AOS Education Committee at education_committee@aos.org.

-Eron Borne and Frank Zachariah



PICTURES:



Scouts potting up crosses from Baton Rouge Orchid Society members



Scouts potting up crosses from Baton Rouge Orchid Society members



Replacing old and broken labels with new tags



Scouts ready to receive their marching orders



Scouts ready to receive their marching orders



Counting the mounts to update inventory

Minutes of October 17, 2023 Meeting

President Molly Prokop called the meeting to order.

Reports

- Vice President Larry Hennessey gave a brief report on the Alexandria show and announced several upcoming orchid events.
- Treasurer Gayle Dellinger gave a brief report.
- Secretary Ann Ebert reminded members that dues for 2024 are due by December 31, 2023.
- Special Activities Co-chair Susan Goss spoke about our November 11 field trip to Belle Danse Orchids. Co-chair Denise Emmer announced that we will be having an orchid-related Secret Santa game during our holiday social.
- Marian Prigmore announced that the social will be on Sunday, December 3 at 6:00 pm. She asked everyone to bring a dish that will serve 8 people.
- Refreshments: Chair Ann Roth stated that at the holiday social she will circulate a sign-up list for volunteers to bring refreshments for 2024 meetings.
- Molly presented the slate of officer nominees for 2024: Denise Emmer for President, Susan Goss for Vice-President, Gayle Dellinger for Treasure, Ann Ebert for Secretary and Pat Herbert, Carol Stauder and Ann Roth for Trustees. Molly asked for nominations from the floor and there were none. Since we will not be having our regular meeting in November, election of officers took place this evening. All nominees were elected by acclamation.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Program: "Everyone I know got ribbons at our Show. Why not me?" presented by Frank Zachariah.

Break and plant judging.

Plant judging results were presented by Nancy Dempsey.

Birthday raffle.

Plant raffle and door prize.

Our field trip on November 11 will take the place of our regular meeting for November. Our next meeting after that will be the social on December 3.

Meeting adjourned.