



NEW ORLEANS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2026

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President's Message

I don't know if it's the heat, but we've had a vigorous email exchange this past month about our refreshment's situation! I think it's time to reassess the monthly refreshment plan. There are lots of suggestions being shared, and just in case you didn't partake in the email exchange, I'll get you caught up. Traditionally, we pass around a sign-up list, and the chair of the refreshments committee follows up and makes sure it's all set up for each meeting. However, I think I've been a bit remiss and not put focus on this during our meetings and we're lagging in volunteers. (I actually realized this yesterday while visiting with one of our members.) But that aside, there have been suggestions from members that we make room in the budget, remove refreshments completely, include a sweet item only, include gallons of water but no cups and many other thoughts.

Considering this, I'd like to open the floor to suggestions from you, our members. Between now and our next meeting please email the Board with your ideas at nolaorchidsociety@gmail.com, and we will also be taking your thoughts for a brief time during our next meeting. When the Board meets next, we'll work on solving this. I love having refreshments for the break because it makes it more social. I also love it for new and potentially new members. It's a more welcoming environment when food is included. But I want to hear from you. I know we can come up with a happy medium for us all.

-Selah

Meeting Notice

Date: 8/18/26

Orchid Basics Class 6:15pm

General Meeting 7pm

Program: Speaker AnnaMaria Ball The ever-expanding class of Vandas and the inclusion of Ascocentrums and miniatures

Location:

Lakeview Presbyterian Church
5914 Canal Blvd, New Orleans, LA

Resource of the Month

The resource this month is shared by Larry Hennesey.

The 12-minute video is from **Stephen Van Kampen-Lewis** and he teaches how to grow seedling Cattleyas. Stephen always gets right to the point and gives from his vast knowledge. Thank you, Larry, for sending this in! If you find a resource that we should check out, email the link to nolaorchidsociety@gmail.com.
<https://tinyurl.com/48pc2vyc>



Additional Resources

My Instagram Account got discovered by the orchid world. If you want more orchid content while you scroll, check out these five reels that were instant Insta saves for me. One of them even features one of our speakers from 2025 who drove in from Florida, Rusty from Rusty's Exotics. For a chance to win an orchid gift, at the August meeting, come let me know which Instagram reel you liked best.

Rusty's Exotics, orchid seeds
<https://tinyurl.com/3rvx9yr5>

Orchid Hunt
<https://tinyurl.com/3ja739bh>

Leafless Orchid
<https://tinyurl.com/yav2vsme>

Orchid growing on a clay pot
<https://tinyurl.com/33y2h3ae>

NOID Table

We will be continuing to have our NOID table for your plants that don't have parentage or who lost their tag. If there's no identification, there's no problem! Bring your beautiful bloomers! NOID plants will be voted on based on beauty alone. The winner will receive a raffle ticket for the drawings at the meeting.

Upcoming Events

September 27
NOOS Birthday Party

October 9-10
Central LA Orchid Show & Sale

October 20
General Meeting

Supply Swap

If you've been into orchid growing for any length of time, you probably have extra supplies sitting around you don't need or want. For our August meeting let's do a supply swap!

Bring your unused items, leave them on the Swap Table, and take home from someone else anything that you might need. One orchid grower's trash is another orchid grower's treasure. There's no money exchange, just a chance to clean out that greenhouse!

Speaker Spotlight

NOOS's very own AnnaMaria Ball will be speaking about the ever-expanding class of Vandas and the inclusion of Ascocentrums and miniatures. AnnaMaria is a student judge working her way towards becoming an accredited American Orchid Society Judge. Her presentation for our meeting this month is part of her requirements towards becoming a judge. AnnaMaria has been a NOOS member for more than 18 years. Her topics are always very well researched and interesting.



The Louisiana Judging Center held its monthly judging at the Rapides Parish Library – Westside Branch in Alexandria on June 27, 2026.

Seven accredited judges (Alan Taylor, Mary Mancini, Larry Hennessey, Jackie Bravo, Randy Johnson, Frank Zachariah, John Schwarze), one emeritus judge (Lena Parker) and three students (AnnaMaria Ball, Alena Cerri, Darwin Jimenez) were in attendance.

Two teams of judges researched the seven plants entered for judging and awarded the following three plants AOS flower quality awards:



Phalaenopsis Blaine's
Magic Sunset 'Louisiana'
was awarded an AM of 80
points, exhibited by Al Taylor



Phalaenopsis Mituo
Doodlebug 'Doodlebug'
was awarded a HCC of
78 points, exhibited by Mary Mancini



Catyclia Envy
'Greenwit'
was awarded an AM of 80 points,
exhibited by Anna Maria Ball

MINUTES OF 7/21/2026 MEETING THE NEW ORLEANS ORCHID SOCIETY

Vice-President Margaret Flannery called the meeting to order at approximately 7:25 pm.

Treasurer Larry Hennessey gave a brief treasurer's report.

Program: Guest speaker Francisco Miranda presented a program on Catasetums.

Carol Stauder presented the table judging results.

Door Prize

Birthday Raffle

Plant Raffle

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 pm.

Monthly NOOS Winners June 16, 2026		
Award	Member	Plant
BG - 1	Carol & Arne Stauder	B digbyana
BS - 1	Carol & Arne Stauder	B digbyana
B -Vanda -1	Ann Ebert	Van. Mary Chee Bee Kiang (Van. Pine Rivers x Van. Sasicha)
Just as a reminder, not all categories have a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place. In order to receive Award Points a plant must have at least 4 votes.		

Monthly NOOS Winners July 21, 2026		
Award	Member	Plant
BH-1	Patricia Sander	Phal Prince Blue Dance
BS-1	Donna Rasch	Paph lawrenceanum v hyeanum x sib
BS-2	Carol Stauder	Phal cornu-cervi v. flavum v. peloric
B-Vanda- 1	Carol Stauder	Aranda Arne Stauder 'Charles Arne' HCC/AOS
B-Vanda- 2	Pat Herbert	V. SW Siam Dotty (V. Thai Spots x V. Charles Goodfellow)
B-Vanda- 2	Pat Herbert	Prra Thai After Glow
B-Vanda- 2	Carol Stauder	Van Sri-Siam
Just as a reminder, not all categories have a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place. In order to receive Award Points a plant must have at least 4 votes.		