

# BROS News

<https://bros.wildapricot.org>

[www.batonrougeorchidsociety.com](http://www.batonrougeorchidsociety.com)



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## MAY MEETING PRESENTER

Our May meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, at the Burden Conference center at 7pm. Our presenter is Mary Richardson, who will speak on the subject of Phalaenopsis Orchids. Phalaenopsis, or the moth orchid, is one many new growers begin with, and it sparks the desire to learn more about this beautiful plant. Remember to bring any of your “sick” Phals for discussion.

### A Little About Mary Richardson:

Mary says she should have been a great gardener early in life. She is the daughter of two master gardeners who created spectacular gardens in Minnesota. Sadly, she was “too busy” during her younger years to learn anything from her parents, so she became a gardener the hard way -trial and error. She does remember one thing her father taught her though. He



said, “When a person compliments you on your garden, don’t say, ‘Oh, there are so many weeds,’ or ‘Oh, we had too much rain and nothing is blooming like it should.’ Instead, say, ‘Thank you.’” So that is what she tries to do, even though her garden has a lot of weeds, and there was too much rain, plus two hurricanes, an Artic freeze, and a flood.

She came to orchids through Dr. Fred Sahlmann and the Calcasieu Orchid Society. She waited until after she retired as the Director of the McNeese Banners Series before she succumbed thoroughly. What had been a collection of five or six plants somehow morphed into more than 100. She is, she says, mystified. “I really don’t think I’m at fault here,” she claims. “I think the orchids did it.”



Mary’s favorite orchid is the most common – the Phalaenopsis. They’re common, they’re beautiful, and they have Mary’s heart. Mary recently won a blue ribbon, Best Grown Plant and Best Flower, plus an AOS Award of Merit (AM) at the Acadiana Orchid Show in Lafayette. The AM award is for one of her phals named after her granddaughter, Max. But she has two granddaughters, so now the pressure is on...

**We anticipate Wednesday’s discussion of the wonderful Phalaenopsis and Mary’s tips for keeping them alive and healthy.**

# Meeting Minutes & News Bits

## May Program Meeting



Meeting attendees pictured from left to right: Melissa Porter, Lata Johnson, Patty Granier, Nancy Morrison, Jim Morrison, Charles Dartez, Kathy Lopiparo, and Kim Kinsell.

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL at our program committee meeting led by Patty Granier and Lata Johnson this past Saturday, May 14. Not only was it a very productive meeting about future programs, but several other topics, concerns and questions related to orchids were discussed. Please note that our very newest member, Melissa Porter, joined us. Thank you, Alonzo Johnson for being our photographer. We are all happy that Alonzo is feeling much better after his recent illness.

-Nancy Morrison

**Program Meetings will continue to be held the Saturday before our monthly meetings.** Program Meetings will be held at Golden Corral, located at 13606 Millerville Greens Blvd located close to the interstate. We welcome anyone who would like to attend to tell us about some topics you would like to see covered in our future meetings.



## April Meeting Minutes

Our meeting started off with the introduction and welcoming of new members followed by our program introduction.

Our program this month was a YouTube video presented by Stephen Van Kampen-Lewis on repotting his castasetums using the PET method. He started out with a clear plastic container with the top cut off and a hole made one inch from the bottom of the container. He layered an inorganic on the bottom up to the hole an inch from the bottom. Next came a two inch layer of orchiat. Next he wrapped sphagnum moss thickly around the roots of the catasetum then added it to the container. Additional moss was stuffed around the bulb until it was secure in the container. You can watch the full video on YouTube by searching for Stephen's name or by using the link in our April newsletter.

The program committee will start meeting in person again on the second Saturday of the month. Its purpose is to provide topics for the monthly meetings that our members want to learn about. If you are unable to attend please let anyone on the board the subjects you are interested in.

Jim Morrison had an update on the July show. Volunteers are needed to begin set up on Thursday July 7th through the end of the show on Sunday the 10th. Sign up sheets for the different duties were available at the meeting. Please come to the May meeting and select an area to help with the show.

Frank Zachariah gave an update on the conservatory. Burden has given the society an outside area under cover across from the conservatory for all of the mounted orchids. This will help separate the watering system so that potted orchids aren't over watered. The Phals. have been moved to the glass greenhouse and will need to be hand watered. Pulse contact Frank if you can help in any of these areas.

The meeting ended with a discussion of the bloom table.

-Patty Granier



# PLANT SOCIETIES JAMBOREE MAY 7, 2022

BROS participated in the 2022 Plant Societies Jamboree on May 7 by providing a society information and sign-up table. Some of our members were there to answer orchid questions and advertise for our upcoming 2022 “Backyard Orchids” Show. Patty, Granier, Kathy Lopiparo, Marie, Williams, and Lata Johnson were all there to represent BROS and they brought some phalaenopsis, dendrobiums, oncidiums, and paphiopedilums in bloom to show off. Dayna Zrinski stopped by as well to take photos for the website, check out the plant sale, and chat for a while. It was a great turn-out, and lots of fun!



Patty Granier stops for a photo with Dayna Zrinski and Kathy Lopiparo. We want one of those cute I ♥ Orchids shirts too, Patty!



Patty Granier and Marie Williams provide valuable information on Orchid Culture and garner interest in our upcoming July 8-10 BROS orchid show.



# MAY MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## New BROS Members

**We gained a few new members during the month of April :**

Helen Mason

Helen recently moved back to Baton Rouge from Miami where she grew lots of orchids and would like to learn more about their care.

Victoria Dzananovic-Bergmann

Victoria is a master gardener who has been working in the conservatory and wants to learn more about orchids

Mark Mese

Several of you will have met Mark at the May 7 plant sale. He is an avid grower of lots of different plants but wants to learn more specifically about orchids.

Nicole Gagliano

Nicole and Jay Gagliano joined us at the March jambalaya meeting. Nicole was introduced to us through her friend, Kathy Lopiparo. She is interested in our foster orchid program, orchid shows, and hospitality committee.

Melissa Porter, PHD

Melissa joined us through [wildapricot.org](http://wildapricot.org). She has an interest in orchids, specifically Phalaenopsis. Hopefully, you can attend our May meeting—we have wonderful speakers on that very subject!

**Welcome to all of you!**

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

We have a few May Birthdays to celebrate this month:

**Ken Bosso  
Valerie Creehan  
Bob Danka  
Jay Gagliano  
Patty Granier**

**Alex Lejeune  
Jim Morrison  
Ray Schell  
Cindy Schmidt**

**Happy Birthday to all of you!**





**The 2022 Baton Rouge Orchid show and sale, “Backyard Orchids”, is just a couple of months away now and I want to thank those that have already volunteered to make our show work. The Annual Orchid Show is BROS main fund raiser for the year and an example of the Education BROS can provide.**

As a reminder, volunteers help with the following tasks for the show. If you don’t sign yourself up for a “job”, I will be asking you personally to do some part in the show. Experience is not a requirement. These are the general jobs and duties of members of the society.

**Hopitality- Lata Johnson**

**Logistics – Bob Lank**

**Clerking –Kathy Conerly**

**Exhibit – Kathy Conerly**

**Welcome and Raffle ticket sales**

***We hope you can see your way clear to volunteer for multiple days and jobs as you can see it does take a lot of teamwork to conduct a successful show...which of course is our goal. We will have a signup sheet at each meeting between now and show. We understand if you will be out of town for dates of our show but perhaps there would be assistance you might offer prior to or after the show. Please let me know if this is your case.***

Jim Morrison, BROS Show Chair

David Coco, Co-Chair



## LAST OUT OF TOWN SHOW!

Dear BROS Members,

The New Orleans Orchid Society Show and sale will be the last out of town show this year. The dates of the show are Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

We will be collecting blooming orchids at the Burden Conference Center on Thursday evening, June 2<sup>nd</sup> after 5 pm.

We could use your help in cleaning, classifying, and arranging these plants for the New Orleans show. No experience is necessary, and you will find the experience educational!

Jim Morrison

[jwmorrisoniii@msn.com](mailto:jwmorrisoniii@msn.com)

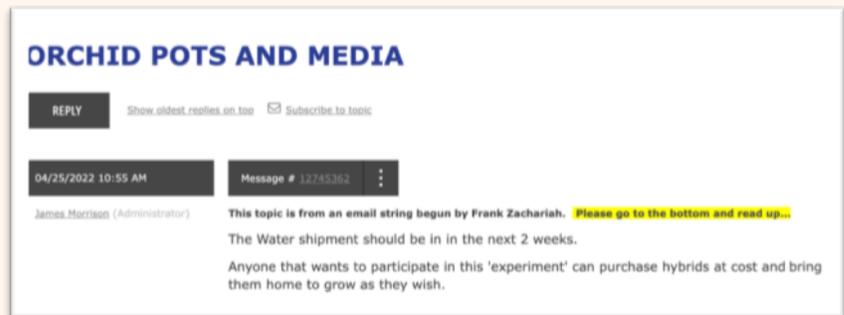
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## LET'S EXPERIMENT!

At our last meeting, there was a discussion on whether the nets or clay were better. Bob Lank suggested to Frank that we pot up some of the last Water Orchids order to determine which are better or worse. Frank used 2 hybrids, Taida Swan and Hey Song and potted 1 each in these combos for the experiment:

Clay/Trimix	Net/Trimix
Clay/Orchiata	Net/Orchiata
Clay/Styrofoam	Net/Styrofoam
Clay/Haydite	Net/Haydite

Frank extended the invitation to others who would like to participate, and we are replicating the experiment with water orchid hybrids. We are using a variety of media to grow and will label and bring them back sometime in the fall to compare the results from everyone.



Check out our new "ORCHID CHAT" blog on the [bros.wildapricot.org](http://bros.wildapricot.org) site for details and other great chat forums.

# Conservatory Notes by Frank Zachariah

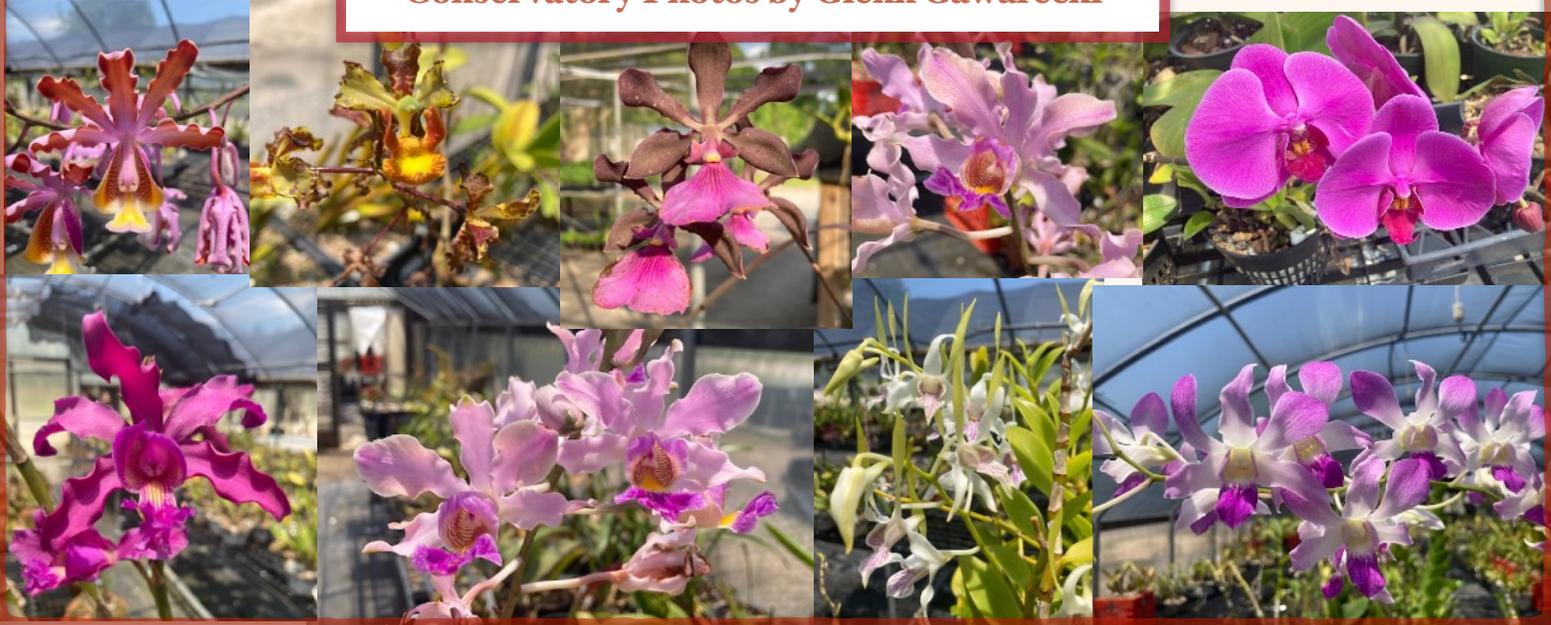
Someone needs to remind me to take pics! Hope I remember to have some for the next issue.

Things are rapidly changing at the Conservatory.

- The new benches in the Conservatory are sturdier and more attractive and have made tending the pots easier and more accessible. We spent the First Sat beginning to reorganize the plants into their respective alliances and pot sizes. (And we have a surprising number of plants!)
- The plastic is off the greenhouse. It has brought the temp down dramatically and has increased air flow. The orchids are responding with lots of new growth.
- Burden has given us the Glass Display House to grow our Phals so they will not suffer from the summer rain. Hal has them displayed -- and for store 'cast offs' they look really good. Once they go into flower, for the first few | weeks Burden gets to show them in the Conference Center and use for events -- and then they will be given away to Hospice patients.
- We have several racks of mountings in the Shade Structure. (This is between the Conservatory and the Glass Display House.) It is the largest public display with several hundred orchids. This has been our focus the last month. It's new. Check it out next time you're at Burden.
- We started a little experiment: Potting some orchids in different media and different pots to see which perform better. We'll bring them to our Wed night meetings so you can see the progress.
- Each Fri from 8:30-10:30 we have a Master Gardener Workday. We usually have 4-6 dedicated folks that are cleaning, rogueing, and -- hopefully -- learning a little bit about growing orchids. PS> We can always use extra hands if any of you are available.
- In a couple of weeks, we are going to have Boy Scouts come and put in some hours helping to conserve our collection.

And what went on during your month?

## Conservatory Photos by Glenn Gawarecki



# Conservatory Beauty

Photo and Identification by Glenn Gawarecki

We would like to use our newsletter to highlight some of our blooming Conservatory orchids monthly by name. This will be a great way for members to see and become more familiar with the names and characteristics of some of our beautiful blooms. Give us some feedback on this new newsletter feature



Lc. Tropical Pointer 'Cheetah'

## BROS NAME BADGES

**If you would like to order a name badge that looks like below, please let me know. They are \$12 & I will bring them to the June meeting.**



**I have name badges for:**

**Melissa Lejeune**

**Randall “**

**Shirley “**

**Alexander “**

**I will have these at the May meeting.**

**I have name badges on order for:**

**Charles Dartez**

**David Coco**

**Kathy Lopiparo**

**Nancy Morrison, Membership**

# AOS AWARDS FROM THE LOUISIANA JUDGING CENTER

## APRIL AWARDS



**Phragmipedium (Phrag.) Quintel Bang 'Dark Beauty' AM 81 Larry Hennessey**



**Cynorkis (Cyn.) calanthoides 'Frank Sr.' AM 82 Larry Hennessey**



**Guarechea (Grc.) 'Black Comet' Louisiana II AM 80 Al Taylor**



**Cynorkis (Cyn.) calanthoides 'Dark Beauty' AM 85 Larry Hennessey.**



**Guarechea (Grc.) 'Black Comet' Louisiana AM 80 Al Taylor**

## Eliza and Me

by Pat Canning



Sometimes I get so frustrated with myself. I can't think of a thing to write about. I've always been taught to write or speak about something that you know. Well, orchiding does not land on my *Something I Know Well* list. Although I live with an orchid aficionado, very little (well not enough) has rubbed off on me. I can't even pronounce their names. I've mastered vanda (two syllables), cattleya (three syllables), and yes, even a four syllable one - phalaenopsis! Past that, I am lost. So I decided to dig a little bit to learn why these lovely flowers have such difficult names and how in the world do you learn how to pronounce them.

St. Augustine Orchid Society has an EXCELLENT website. If you have never visited their website, [www.staugorchidsociety.org](http://www.staugorchidsociety.org), you are in for a treat! There is something for everyone - from beginners who just received their very first orchid to the very experienced who may be searching for how to treat some exotic disease. I figured, surely there would be something there to teach me about orchid names. Sure enough - right there - under Advice - is an article titled, "Understanding your Plant Tag." Thank you, Dr. Courtney Hackney. In his article, Dr. Hackney explains that all living things have two names. (Whew! I passed the test. Patricia Canning - I am a living thing.) Species names are difficult because they are derived from Latin and Greek roots. (I could make a joke here, but I'll pass.) He goes on to explain that rules for naming orchids are long and elaborate. From here, the orchid jargon gets murky and imparts more esoteric information than I will ever want to understand. But, if you are one to enjoy the scientific process of naming orchids, then be sure to read this short and informative article. I am just glad that rules for naming people don't follow the same protocol! Just think, you would have to go through a taxonomist and a mountain of red tape to name your next child.

Now that I recognize that I may not understand exactly how orchids are named, I do know that there is a definite process. Now, on to learning how to pronounce those strange words. I engage my know-it-all friend, Google. I type - How to pronounce orchid names. The first hit was [www.orchids.com](http://www.orchids.com). The page was an extensive list of orchids with their phonetic pronunciation - not bad. The second hit was [www.dummies.com](http://www.dummies.com). It was a page from the book, ***Orchids for Dummies***. It listed about thirty of the most common orchids along with their phonetic pronunciation and their abbreviation - it's a short list but better than orchids .com because it lists the abbreviation. Oh, and by the way, there's a link for you to order the book from Amazon. The third hit, (and why it wasn't the first, I'll never know) was [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org). It took me straight to an article titled, "The Basics of Orchid Names." Like Dr. Hackney's article, it talked about the parts of the name of orchids and, also, naming hybrids. The second half of the article talked about Pronunciation! The basic takeaway was that each letter is pronounced - the same as in those long Hawaiian words. The article suggests that one invest some time in studying and practicing by saying the names out loud. And, if you are still in need of more help, there is a link to Orchids A - Z. You click on the letter, then the orchid name for the phonetic pronunciation, and then, one more click will give you an audio of the spoken word!

(Continued on page 14)

## Eliza and Me (continued)

by Pat Canning

So here I am, sitting in front of my computer like Eliza Doolittle practicing my pronunciations. Just as she sat by the phonograph repeating, "The rain in Spain falls mainly in the plain," I am pronouncing out loud:

**Den-DRO-bee-um**  
**paff-ee-oh-PED-ih-lum**  
**an-GRAY-cum**

**cat-a-SEE-tum,**  
**frag-mi-PEE-dee-um**  
**bulb-oh-FILL-um**

I'm told practice makes perfect. I don't know if I have enough time to practice these words so that my tongue doesn't get tied by the third syllable. But I do know that mispronouncing their names will never stop me from going into the greenhouse to enjoy the beauty and to feel the calm that orchids offer. Who knows? Eliza Doolittle did it. Maybe one day, I'll be able to say, "the Dendrobiums and Catasetums played among the Angraecums while the Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums danced with the Bulbophyllums."



### **-Request from Pat-**

Who is the Orchid Whisperer in your life? Did you read my February article about the Wizard and the Whisperer. If not, go find it on Wild Apricot. I want to know who is your go-to person when you have a problem or a question about your orchids. Who is the person most willing and knowledgeable to help you? Send me an email naming that important someone and a brief explanation why that person fits the definition. [pcanning@bellsouth.net](mailto:pcanning@bellsouth.net) I surely hope I get numerous responses. Let's see where this goes!

# ABOUT OUR SOCIETY

## 2022 BROS OFFICERS

**President** - Frank McMains  
**Vice Pres.**- Glenn Gawarecki  
**Secretary** - Patty Granier  
**Treasurer** - Pat Canning  
**Show Chair** - Jim Morrison

**LSU Orchid Conservatory**  
Frank Zachariah

**Newsletter Editor**  
Kathy Lopiparo  
**Co-Editor** - Jim Morrison

## MEMBERS AT LARGE

**Hal Canning** (through 2022)  
**Lata Johnson** (through 2023)  
**Frank Zacariah** (through 2024)

## SWROGA REPS

**Lata Johnson**  
**Kathy Connerly**

## AOS REP

**Jim Morrison**

## ORCHID DIGEST

**Frank Zachariah**

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Program** - Lata Johnson  
**Publicity**- Kim Kensill  
**Membership** - Nancy Morrison



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Instagram: [baton\\_rouge\\_orchid\\_society](#)



**Please remember that we need all the help we can get for our own BROS Society Show!**

If you can assist in any way, please contact Jim Morrison at [jwmorrisoniii@msn.com](mailto:jwmorrisoniii@msn.com)

