

CLUB NEWS

**Courtney Hackney****May 3 SAOS
Meeting**

by Janis Croft,
secy@staugorchidsociety.org

Welcome and Thanks.

President Bob Schimmel opened the meeting at 7:15 pm with approximately 50 attendees. Bob thanked Jeannette Smith, Shirley Browning and Sue Bottom for the refreshments while reminding all to drop a dollar in the jar. Bob held

up the St. Augustine Record from March that had a photo by Terry of one of Sue's orchids.

Our Sunshine Coordinator, Linda Stewart recognized our April and May birthday people with a free raffle ticket. Bob informed all that we were moving the refreshment break to between the Show Table discussion and the Program. He encouraged all to remember to vote for their favorite orchid on the show table then.

Club Business. The next Keiki Club will be on May 15, at Leslie and Chip Brickell's Home, 1319 Wentworth Avenue, Jax 32259. The topic will be Watering and Fertilizing Your Orchids.

The Ace Repotting Clinic will be on May 7 from 9 am — noon.

Email Sue.Bottom if you need potting supplies, special quantities or different items and she will bring them to the next meeting for purchase.

SAOS Librarian Penny Halyburton brought in Courtney Hackney's book, American Cattleyas along with a couple of other cattleya books. Check out the club's library collection on the website and email Penny your request and she will bring the book(s) to the next meeting.

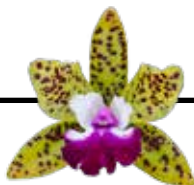


Orchid Events. There are two orchid shows in Florida this month: The Volusia County OS Show May 7-8 and The Big One, Redland Orchid Festival on May 13-15. Check out our SAOS website for dates and locations.



Show Table Review. Courtney Hackney noted that our club's show table continues to grow in quality and numbers. He started with the Florida native terrestrial, Scarlet Ladies' Tresses (*Sacola lanceolata*) which Christie Peppard brought in. It was originally grown wild around Gainesville and saved from interstate 75 construction. They are easy to grow from seed and like acidic soil. Check out the Florida Native Orchids site for more information. There were many Phalaenopsis varieties on the table. The Doritaenopsis (Dtps.) is a moth orchid hybrid, a cross between the very popular Phalaenopsis orchid and a Doritis orchid, now both lumped together into the Phalaenopsis genus. Courtney discussed how these hybrid crosses have offspring that often produce multiple flowering spikes. The Dtps. OX Lottery on the table was a prime example. Next he moved to the Phal. equestris hybrid, a miniature and told us that to see their full potential, one must let it grow up to ten years without dividing to see their true size and magnificence. Moving on to the Ascocentrum miniatum, Courtney told us how Ascocentrum was bred with Vanda to achieve intense color, reduce the size of the Vanda plants and produce Ascocendas, now all lumped together into the Vanda genus. The plant tends to branch and flower on short inflorescences. There were many more plants that he discussed, too numerous to describe here. He did point out a Neofinetia falcata (now also lumped into the Vanda genus) that was grown in a plastic net pot and recommended using them particularly if you grow outside. Check out the photos of our show table examples at the end of the newsletter.

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CLUB NEWS



Upcoming Orchid Events

May

- 7 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 7-8 Volusia County Society Show
Volusia County Fairgrounds
- 13-15 Redlands International Orchid Festival
Fruit and Spice Park, Homestead
- 15 Keiki Club for Orchid Beginners, 1 pm
Watering & Fertilizing Your Orchids
Leslie and Chip Brickell's Home
1319 Wentworth Avenue, Jax 32259

June

- 4 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 7 SAOS Meeting, 7 pm
Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids
Catasetums
- 12 Keiki Club for Orchid Beginners, 1 pm
Growing and Repotting Phalaenopsis
Sue and Terry Bottom's Home
6916 Cypress Lake Ct, St Aug 32086
- 14 JOS Meeting, Topic TBA, 7 pm
Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids

July

- 2 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 5 SAOS Meeting, 7 pm
George Hausermann, EFG Orchids
Landscaping with Orchids
- 12 JOS Meeting, Topic TBA, 7 pm
Louis Del Favero, Del Favero Orchids
- 17 Keiki Club for Orchid Beginners, 1 pm
Orchid Pests and Diseases
Mark and Kathy Young's Home
160 West Genung St, St. Aug 32086

August

- 2 SAOS Meeting, 7 pm
Managing Your Orchid Collection
Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids
- 5-6 Sixth Annual Cattleya Symposium
Sponsored by Odom's Orchids
Indian River Research & Education Ctr
Fort Pierce
- 6 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 9 JOS Meeting, 7 pm
TBA
- 14 Keiki Club for Orchid Beginners, 1 pm
Photographing Your Orchids
Mark and Kathy Young's Home

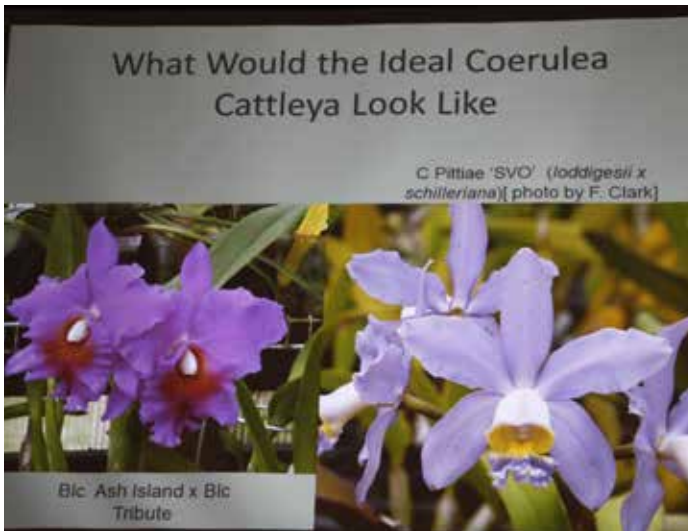
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CLUB NEWS

Continued from page 1



SAOS Program. Our evening program was an Exploration of the Color Blue in Orchids by our own Courtney Hackney. This topic has been one of long interest and study for him. Achieving the coerulea color which is in the violet to indigo spectrum is very difficult as he has learned from many attempts. He has researched what others have done and has developed his theories on why some attempts succeed and why other attempts fail. There are a number of species that are important in achieving blue orchids. In the 60's, Carson Whitlow was actively involved in breeding Blue Cattleyas and acquiring Blue Cattleya parental stock. He had trouble finding coerulea flowering plants that actually produced seeds to use in his hybridizing efforts. Due to his efforts and others, we now have better starting stock with which to experiment.

It is difficult to comprehend the true value of "blue". Courtney said the best demonstration would be to take the plant outside in the sunlight and look at the petals to see a slight cast of coerulea color. When brought inside under fluorescents, the color is much darker. Now with

digital photography, you get an entire range of color so it is very difficult to actually tell if an orchid is truly a blue orchid unless you see it in person. Flowers also darken with age and it is possible to get bluer flowers if irrigating with acidic water and adding supplemental magnesium in your fertilizer program.

The experimenting to achieve true coerulea crosses has been very frustrating. One can take two plants with coerulea in them genetically and produce a coerulea hybrid but the plant does not always produce seeds. This is the most common problem. Courtney then discussed the work done by Joe Grezaffi, Ervin Granier and Fred Clarke; all of whom have successfully produced coerulea hybrids but with different methods.

Their work has confirmed much of Courtney's hypothesis of there being two genetic mistakes that lead to coerulea forms. There are the Type A plants that are crossed with each other and produce coerulea flowers and the Type B plants that when crossed with each other produce coerulea flowers, but crossing Type A and Type B coerulea plants together most likely will produce lavender flowered orchids. Now he is developing a hypothesis to figure out why this is so and will work on verifying his working assumptions.

Coerulea coloring is found in many genera including Cattleyas, both labiates types and bifoliate, Vandas and Phalaenopsis. In cattleyas, the rarity of the coerulea form in nature means the flowers don't necessary have the best size or shape. He then shared slides of some large flowered blues including Ctt. Blue Boy 'Gainesboro', Granier 'Blue Terri', Rth. Lois McNair 'Ace' and C. Mem. Jerry Reifeld. He ended the program with examples of other approaches and we were all aware that his research and hybridizing efforts are not over yet.

Meeting Conclusion. Harry McElroy announced the Member's Choice Award as the beautiful white oncidium alliance plant *Trichopilia hennisiana* grown by Linda Stewart. Thanks to the few that volunteered to stay and clean up the room.

Reminder. There is a new way for our members to support the club. If you are an Amazon shopper, log onto **Smile**. Amazon.com, select St. Augustine Orchid Society as your favorite charity and start shopping. This is a mirror site to Amazon and they will donate 0.5% of your purchase to the club—remember the **Smile** part!

Thanks to Watson Realty
and Jeanette Smith for the
use of their meeting space
at 3505 US 1 South



Shop at Smile.Amazon.com, Help the SAOS

You can name the St. Augustine Orchid Society as your favorite charity using the AmazonSmile program and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the St. Augustine Orchid Society. Here's a link to [register SAOS](https://www.smile.amazon.com/register) as your favorite charity. Don't forget to log into [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) (rather than amazon.com) when making purchases so the club is credited.



CLUB NEWS

May 15 Keiki Club Watering and Fertilizing Your Orchids

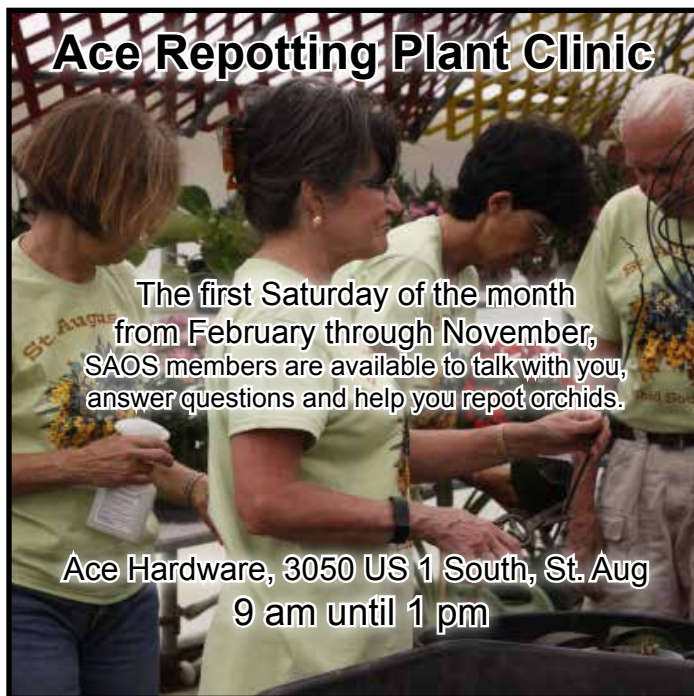


We're meeting up in Jacksonville at Leslie and Chip's home, so you'll get an opportunity to check out Leslie's new greenhouse. Rumor has it that there have been many packages containing orchids arriving at the house since Chip finished building the greenhouse. We'll talk about how to water and fertilize your orchids during each of the four seasons, handy devices for watering and fertilizing your plants and how to select a fertilizer based on your water quality.

Moderator: Sue Bottom

When: Sunday May 15 from 1 to 3 pm

Where: Leslie and Chip Brickell's Home
[1319 Wentworth Avenue, Jax 32259](#)



Ace Repotting Plant Clinic

The first Saturday of the month
from February through November,
SAOS members are available to talk with you,
answer questions and help you repot orchids.

Ace Hardware, 3050 US 1 South, St. Aug
9 am until 1 pm

June 7 Monthly SAOS Meeting Catasetums

Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids will talk about the Catasetinae, which includes catasetums, cycnoches, mormodias, clowesias and their hybrids. These winter dormant orchids grow like mad during the summer and will reward you with many mostly pendulous flowers, some are beautiful and others downright weird. Fred



is an accomplished speaker who will entertain you with the amazing world of Catasetinae, with lots of amazing pictures including the 'blackest orchid ever seen', Fredclarkeara After Dark. Fred's talk includes a thorough review of plant culture. Preorders should be sent to Fred by May 30 and you will receive a 10% discount on your order, delivered at the meeting. Orchids will be available on the sales and raffle table. Friends and guests are always welcome.



Clowesia Jumbo Circle 'Claire' AM/AOS

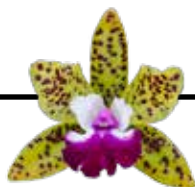


INSPIRATION



Lc. Alpine Sky

© Terry B. '16



CULTIVATION



Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@hotmail.com

Q1. I bought this plant for a friend at the Jacksonville show 5 or 6 years ago. There were 2 plants at that time. When I repotted it about 4 years ago, I could only see 2 plants in

the pot. Now there are 4 blooming spikes from 4 different sets of monopodial leaves. There are 2 and maybe 3 sets of leaves that do not have spikes. I do not know if phals branch or 'fork' on same set of roots so I don't know for sure how many plants are in pot. Roots that are visible look great. I am challenged with the decision to repot and separate or leave it be. Obviously my friend has taken great care of it.



A1. I would leave it all in the same pot, so as to get the best show of flowers possible. If it needs to be repotted, you can just leave the plant together when you situate it in its new home. Phals are monopodial as you know so they grow upwards rather than horizontally along a rhizome so they don't fork or branch. Some easily form new plantlets from adventitious tissue in the stem of the plant, called basal keikis. This plant looks like a very fertile Myrtle and should reward with tons of flowers.

Q2. Please look at the photo of leaves on a Schomburgkia Wellesley. New leaves are quite clean with a few tiny black spots. Old leaves have black areas. Perhaps they started out as spots and grew into bigger areas. The flowers have no deformities. The old leaf looks like your photos of Guignardia and Cymbidium Mosaic Virus. Which one do you think that it is?

A2. To know that the two images are from the same plant is kind of amazing. From the first image, I



would say virused and the second image makes me think not so much. I really think there are times when you just have to bite the bullet and get the test strips so you can be sure. I test some and throw away about \$10 on plants I know are virused and then there are those that you think are virused and they test clean. Courtney's advice is really the most practical. If there is color break, toss the plant. If it has a poor growth habit and you can't make it grow better, toss it whether it tests positive for virus or not. If it is virused and perhaps ugly but the flowers are not impaired, you may decide to keep it, just make sure you practice good hygiene when handling plants. Those plants with ORSV are the ones that most often show color break, and many times those with just CyMV show no defect in the flower.

I'd say it's unlikely that it is guignardia, very possible that it is virused. Then you have to make the philosophical decision whether you want to test to be sure and then whether you're willing to toss or keep virused plants in your collection. Best of luck deciding which way you want to go!

Q3. I bought this Epc. Charlie Brown last September. He bloomed but didn't have many roots. I repotted and sprayed the roots weekly as they started to grow at the top. I didn't water thoroughly since there were not many good roots, if any, in the medium. Once in a while I watered the pot. Now I see that the older pseudobulbs have turned a dark purple or black. Is this black rot and was it caused by overwatering? Is there anything I can do to save this plant, I really love this orchid.



Q3. I don't think that's black rot, it's not soft is it? I'm guessing the discoloration is a response to sun and/or cold. Try adding a little Epsom salts when you're watering and fertilizing, maybe add 1/4 tsp Epsom salts/gallon. That will provide extra magnesium and improve greening.

After you repot you can top dress with a little sphagnum moss to provide a extra moisture around the new roots, this is more effective than misting the roots. Spraying is no substitute for a thorough watering. When you water, water heavily so the media is wet through and through.





Spring Checklist Courtney's Orchid Growing Tips

Got Milk? – For many years there has been a rumor that milk was an effective agent for killing viruses on tools used to repot orchids. It turns out that firms in Europe have been using this method exclusively in their everyday work with plants. Now, a 2004 scientific paper

published in the journal *Plant Disease* confirms that a 20% (wt/vol) solution of non-fat dry milk, killed 100% of the viruses on contaminated cutting instruments if soaked for 1 minute. This is great for both metal tools and tools, such as potting sticks, which do not respond well to flaming. Milk was superior to heating with a propane torch and worked as well as a concentrated solution of Tri Sodium Phosphate (cleaning agent) or a 10% Clorox solution. Mom was right! Milk is good stuff. It does not, however, kill bacteria.

Spring Checklist. Spring is the busiest time of the year for orchid growers. Given the recent weather in the Carolinas it may be difficult for us to tell that spring has indeed arrived, but your orchids know. Cattleyas have begun to put out new growths and roots in response to increasing day length. Vandas too are starting to grow because high daytime temperatures convince them that they are at home in the tropics. What you do in the next month will have a lot to do with your success as orchid growers for the next year. Much of this is just common sense, but that is what we usually forget.

1. Clean Growing Area – Greenhouses have been cramped, as have windowsills and space under lights. Remove orchids from your growing area and remove all dead material as well as algae. Some hobbyists spray growing space with a 5% Clorox solution to kill bacteria, fungi, and just about everything else. Physan or RD-20 will work as well. Repair benches or replace surface if it is needed while you have the area clean and open.

2. Organize - Straighten growing space by moving some plants outside or by eliminating non-performing plants. Remove weeds and ferns from pots.

3. Plant Inspection – If your collection is small, future problems can be avoided by carefully examining each plant. Use 10x-reading glasses even if you do not need them for reading. Look for scale, mites, or any signs of damage to leaves or roots. If you find damage on an orchid look for the culprit that caused it. Tiny nicks on roots or

under Phal leaves suggests snails while large chunks and slime trails indicate slugs. These pests have been relatively dormant during winter, but will now feast in summer's warmth. Repotting will eliminate snails and help you find slugs. If you find only minor damage try stale beer for slugs and snail bait for bush snails.

4. Clean Plants - Remove dead tissues around cattleya bulbs and/or dead leaves. Check the base of dead tissues for sign of scale, especially if leaves died but did not fall from the plant. If scale is found use a soft tissue to wipe them off and then spray with insecticidal soap or light oil. If a major infestation is found the plant should be repotted. When the plant is out of the pot, use a fine jet of water to clean the underside of rhizomes in cattleyas and around the base of phals. If you find heavy infestations on many plants, you may have to resort to harsher pesticides. Bayer's Rose and Garden spray (blue bottle) is very effective and available at Lowes.

5. Straighten Plants – Orchids tend to lean towards the light in winter. Some growers prefer to tie plants up with either wire rings or bamboo stakes if they have fallen over because erect plants are easier to spray and water, and take up less room. In addition new growths and leaves will grow better.

6. Repot – Repot all plants whose media has decomposed and those that have reached too far from the pot. Rapid summer growth will quickly replace lost and damaged roots. Newly damaged roots are also less likely to be infected by fungi and bacteria in your now clean growing area in the less humid air of spring. Fungi and bacteria will become a problem in mid-summer. Newly repotted orchids need a convalescence period while they recover. Accomplish this simply by giving them a little extra shade and humidity.

7. Water More – Orchids will use more water in the next month than they will in the heat of summer because of the lower humidity. Water thoroughly when you water and review the moisture requirements of the different groups of orchids that you grow. In general, cattleyas and dendrobiums need to dry thoroughly before being watered, while phals and paphs like to dry some but need constant moisture. Phrags and bulbophyllums crave moisture while most of the Vanda group wants high light, abundant water, and lots of air movement. Air movement is just as important for orchids in summer as during the winter, but for different reasons. Now it is important to keep leaves from overheating while in winter it was to keep bacteria and fungal infections at bay.

8. Fertilize - Now is the time to apply Nutricote (sold as Dynamite at Home Depot). If you prefer liquid fertilizer this is the time to liberally apply your favorite brand.

Note: Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years, we're reprinting some you might have missed, this one from May 2006.



CULTIVATION

Fusarium in Phalaenopsis

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@hotmail.com

I wish I were at the point in my orchid growing career where I've made all the mistakes and learned the hard lessons. Alas, apparently there are still more mistakes ahead of me. It all started in January when we got back from the Tamiami Show late and I went out to check the greenhouse, smelled gas and saw the furnace repeatedly try to start up and then poof a flame and shutdown. I went into the house and told Terry "Houston, we have a problem" and of course he figured out a quick fix setting up a propane heater and electric heater for the rest of the night. But the damage had been done, the temperatures had dropped into the mid 40's which was not a happy event for the phalaenopsis. Shortly afterward I noticed sunken spotting on some of the phalaenopsis that I attributed to damage from cold water caused by condensation. Prior to that, the phal leaves had been beautiful, better than they ever had been before. Well, there is always next year.



These flowers were a lot prettier and would have lasted a lot longer if they could have been left on the plants for another two months. The flower were spikes were cut so the plants could recover their strength rather than expending all that energy holding the flowers.

That's not the mistake I regret though. As the weeks passed, the sunken cold water damage spots spread into larger areas of leaf discoloration and the problem spread to adjacent plants. When people came into the greenhouse and saw the phals, they said shouldn't those plants be moved to prevent spreading the problem and I would blithely say, oh that's just cold damage I'm waiting for the new leaves to grow out. Denial, that is the mistake you cannot afford to make. Perhaps it started with cold water damage, but a secondary disease invaded the damaged tissue and was causing much more severe damage.

The final straw was the discoloration on the flower spikes that lost their strength, bent easily and dropped their flowers. Searching around for information, the discussion and pictures of Fusarium stem and root rot on the German website hark-orchideen.com answered a lot of questions:

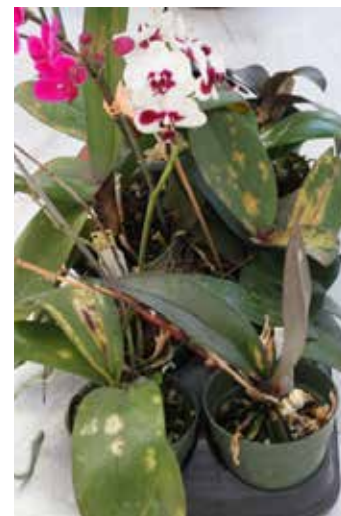
The time for action was long overdue. Some plants had to be discarded, they were simply too far gone where the infection had clearly entered the growing heart of the plant. Others required radical surgery removing severely damaged tissue. The hardest part was removing all the flowers, knowing the plant would need all its energy to grow fresh new roots and could not afford to hold the flowers any longer.

The survivors were repotted. The more severely infected plants had the most root rot, damage that was not evident during the early part of the disease cycle. If the aerial part of the plant had less damage, the roots were likewise not as severely compromised. Regardless, the majority of the roots and basal stems were removed until the tissue was clearly healthy. The plants were dropped in pots about half filled with Styrofoam for extra aeration and then backfilled with potting mix and a top dressing of Purely Organic fertilizer and cypress mulch. Then for the chemicals, a protective Banrot drench was applied followed by a second drench with the biogungicide Cease to introduce some good microorganisms (*Bacillus subtilis*) to the root zone. Then the plants were sprayed with the easily available and very effective fungicide Daconil, while awaiting delivery of the specialty fungicide Switch recommended by Hark-Orchideen.

So what lessons do you take away from a experience like this? First, when your plants have been subjected to stress, they are more susceptible to disease pressure. If they get too cold, get sunburned, are subject to uncontrolled rainy weather, get mechanical damage, are repotted, etc., they have been stressed. Think about using a protective fungicide and/or bactericide effective for a variety of orchid



Maybe it started with cold water damage, but the sunken spots are starting to enlarge and merge.



When the problem could be ignored no longer, plants were gathered for repotting or memorial services

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CULTIVATION

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Hard to believe this Phal. schilleriana had perfectly beautiful leaves two months earlier.



No sunken spots from the cold, but the fusarium must have spread to adjacent plants from splashing water.



Top and bottom of a leaf showing the sunken depressions and enlarging chlorotic streaking.

diseases to handle their post traumatic stress disorder. Second, once a month take a critical look at your plants. Assume your most respected orchid guru is coming over to walk through your growing area and look at your plants through his (or her) eyes rather than your own. If you see one you'd be embarrassed for your guru to see, you're also seeing a plant that may not be around next year unless you take care of whatever problem is ailing it. You could probably take a third lesson away from this experience, have a backup plan in the event of equipment failure. My back up plan is Terry, who seems to always have the right tools and equipment on hand to respond to any mechanical problems that might occur.



Sunken spots coalesce and merge, and some leaf reddening occurs.



The tissue at the base of the plant turns black with dry rot and the roots in the mix are severely rotted.



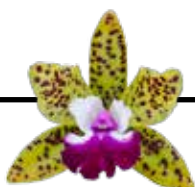
The flower stems have dry sunken spots that eventually lead to spike collapse or early flower drop.



The Fusarium moves up the flower spike from the stem of the plant and the roots rot below the stem.



The plants don't look great, but maybe they will survive this cultural error and return to their former glory.



CULTIVATION

Some Orchids with Predominantly Blue Flowers

Blue orchids are the holy grail of the orchid hybridizer. Some growers rely on blue dye to produce the desired colors in orchids, others search for the rare varieties of different species that carry this often recessive trait. Some of the species coerulea forms are vibrant and vigorous growers while others are weak sisters that can be difficult to bloom well.

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

all cattleya alliance pictures courtesy of Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids



C. labiata var. *coerulea* 'Nice Lip'



C. mossiae var. *coerulea* 'Blue Moon'



C. trianae var. *coerulea* '#1'



C. leopoldii var. *coerulea*



C. schilleriana var. *coerulea* 'SVO'



C. walkeriana var. *coerulea* 'SVO'



C. Pittae
(*C. loddigesii* x *C. schilleriana*)

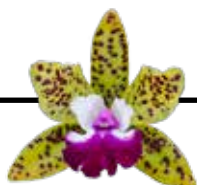


C. Claesiana var. *coerulea* 'Haneda'
(*C. intermedia* x *C. loddigesii*)



C. Leoloddiglossa 'Dark Blue'
(*C. Loddiglossa* x *C. leopoldii*)

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CULTIVATION

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VANDACEOUS ORCHIDS



V. coerulea 'True Blue' AM/QOS
photo courtesy of the Queensland Orchid Society



Rhy. coelestis 'Del-Or' CCA/SFOS
photo courtesy of South Florida Orchid Society



Darwinia Charm
(*Neof. falcata* x *Vasco. Tham Yuen Hae*)
photo courtesy of Lynn O'Shaughnessy

PHALAENOPSIS ORCHIDS



Phal. violacea 'Hilltop's Sapphire'
photo courtesy of Craig Plahn



Phal. equestris 'Roman Holiday' JR/SFOS
photo courtesy of South Florida Orchid Society



Dtps. Kenneth Schubert
(*Dor. pulcherrima* x *Phal. violacea*)
photo courtesy of Lois Cinert

OTHER BLUE FLOWERED ORCHIDS



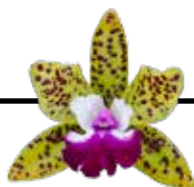
Den. Victoria Regina
(unknown parentage)
photo courtesy of Ed Cott



Zygonisia Cynosure
(*Agn. cyanea* x *Z. Skippy Ku*)
photo courtesy of Lynn O'Shaughnessy



Zygopetalum Memoria Lottie Lehmann
(*Z. Blue Eye* x *Z. Titanic*)
photo courtesy of Loren Batchman



SAOS PICNIC



SAOS Picnic and Orchid Swap First Annual Celebration

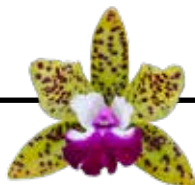
It was a cold evening at the St. Augustine lighthouse when local orchid growers met in February of 2006 and decided to form an orchid society. We've come a long way baby! We decided to have a club picnic to celebrate our ten year anniversary and thought an orchid swap event would be icing on the cake. About 3 dozen SAOSers met at the Memorial Lutheran Church on a cool and blustery day for a picnic lunch and fellowship.

Dianne Batchelder, our hostess with the mostest, organized the event. She put her husband Drake and Bob Schimmel to work at the barbecue pit to cook the burgers and dogs. Members brought sides, salads, sodas and desserts for general consumption, as well as liquid libations for personal consumption. Suzanne and Robert Susko brought a red velvet cake to commemorate the event.

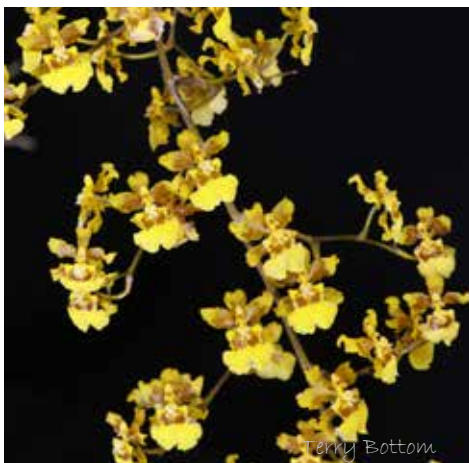
Joanna Shaw came up from Venice with girlfriend Kathy and her sis to introduce us to her fantastic orchid pots, baskets and mounts. We brought home lots of her clay beauties to try and many have said they wished they had bought more when they had the opportunity.

Members were also invited to bring plants to swap with other members. Some of the fun of gardening is sharing divisions, and this was a great way to get some new plants while sharing extras.

We had so much fun, we're going to do it again next year. We'll try to schedule around the Rhythm and Ribs Festival, EPIC Flower and Garden Expo, Easter and all the other events competing for our attention in April. Hope to see you next year!



SHOW TABLE



Grower Linda Powell
Onc. sphecelatum



Grower Suzanne Susko
Den. Little Green Apples



Grower Suzanne Susko
C. schilleriana 'Select'



Grower Linda Stewart
Pleurothalls {Specklinia} grobyi



Grower Sue Bottom
Bulbophyllum maximum



Grower Yvonne & Bob Schimmel
Dtps. Ox Lottery



Grower Sue Bottom
Eplc. Golden Sunburst



SHOW TABLE



Grower Courtney Hackney
***C. Dolosa* var. *coerulea* 'Gold Country'**



Grower Linda Stewart
Trichopilia* (*Trpla.*) *hennisiana



Grower Sue Bottom
Asctm. curvifolium



Grower Suzanne Susko
Gastrochilus* (*Gchls.*) *retrocallus



Grower Harry & Celia McElroy
***C. skinneri* 'Cherokee'**



Grower Joanne Stygles
***Neofinetia falcata* 'Rain-No-Hikari'**

