



CLUB NEWS



Dotty Woodson

April Meeting

by Janis Croft

Welcome and Thanks.

President Tom Sullivan opened the meeting at 6:45 pm with 46 attendees. He then reminded all to "Drop a Dollar" for the coffee and supplies. He thanked Dottie Sullivan, Dianne Batchelder, Julie Smith and Charlie Bridgham for the delicious treats they brought.

Club Business.

Linda Stewart welcomed our two visitors, and new members Jane Shapiro and Brenda Jacobson. This month we'll be updating our membership list, so if you haven't renewed this will be your last newsletter. Linda then asked those with birthdays this month to raise their hands for their free raffle ticket. As our Sunshine Coordinator also, Linda asked that you let her know (by emailing info@staugorchidsociety.org) of anyone in need of a cheering up or a get-well card.

Culture Classes - Jerry Fowler, who is responsible for our beginners programs, conducts a culture class in the Pavilion from 6-6:30. He was unavailable this month but next month he'll talk about how to decide whether your orchid needs repotting. He will be there to answer your "newbie" questions about orchids and demonstrate growing skills.

Virtual Show Table - The virtual show table will be on the 2nd Wednesday, April 12 at 7 pm. Email invitations will be sent out with the Zoom link. Each month's Virtual Show Table is recorded and posted on our website. Please send in your photos for April's bloomers by 4/26.

Orchid Shows in Florida this Month - April 14-16 is the Spring International Orchid Festival in Apopka at Krull Smith. Many of our favorite vendors will be there. Check out the [SAOS calendar](#) for more details.



Repotting Clinics - Our monthly repotting clinics continue on the first Saturday of

each month from 10 am til 1 pm at the Southeast Branch Library, [6670 US-1 N, St. Aug 32086](#).

Supplies - mail info@staugorchidsociety.org if you need supplies.

Library - Librarian Howard Cushnir was away tonight. Remember to use the library collection listed on our SAOS website. If you would like a book or magazine, send a request to info@staugorchidsociety.org and he will bring the item(s) to the next meeting.



Show Table Review. Courtney and Sue started the Show Table with Cattleyas. The first was C. White Bridal 'Yuki', a smallish bifoliate white cattleya that Courtney suspected had walkeriana in it. Courtney said that these were developed for the cut flower trade back in the day. Next was an Yam. Redland Sunset, a compact plant with multiple orange and yellow flowers circling the plant. RI. Aristocrat 'Snowy Owl' was next and Courtney talked about the reddish leaves showing that this plant was grown in high light which it prefers and also produces high flower count. The reddish leaves were also apparent on the B. David Sander which loves high light. Courtney turned the plant around so we could see the pinkish red back on the petals also.

The second show table was filled with Phals and Paphs. Courtney talked about how Paph. delenatii was first discovered in Vietnam in Southeast Asia but was very rare in cultivation. In the 1980's paphiopedilums became very popular and more hybridizing was done. There were two summer blooming Phals which were fragrant, and a Phal.

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Upcoming Orchid Events

April

- 8 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 1 pm
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.
- 8-9 Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society Show
Flamingo Gardens, Davie
- 11 JOS Meeting, 6:45 pm
Hands On Meeting Mounting Session
- 12 Virtual Show Table
Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace
Invitation Will be Sent by Email
- 14-16 Apopka Int'l Spring Orchid Show
Krull Smith Nursery, Apopka
- 14-16 South Carolina Orchid Society Show
Garden Clubs of Greater Columbia
- 16 SAOS Orchid Swap and Picnic, 4 to 6 pm
Memorial Lutheran Church
3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086
- 22-23 Vero Beach Orchid Society Show
Riverside Park

May

- 2 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm
Habenarias
Nicholas Rust, Rusty Exotics Orchids
- 5-7 Platinum Coast Orchid Society Show
Kiwanis Island Park Gym, Merritt Island
- 6 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 10 am til 1 pm
Southeast Branch Library
6670 US-1 N, 32086
- 7 JOS Picnic, 12 pm
1658 Holly Oaks Lake Rd. E.9 JOS Meeting –
Picnic on 1st in Lieu of Mtg
- 10 SAOS Virtual Show Table
Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace
Invitation Will be Sent by Email
- 13 FL North-Central Judging, 1 pm
Clermont Garden Center
849 West Ave
- 13-14 Volusia County Orchid Society Show
Volusia County Fairgrounds
- 19-21 Redland International Orchid Festival

- Fruit and Spice Park
- 21 Keiki Club Greenhouse Tour, 1-3 pm
Leslie and Chip Brickell's Home
1319 Wentworth Avenue, Jax 32259

June

- 3 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 10 am til 1 pm
Southeast Branch Library
6670 US-1 N, 32086
- 6 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm
Unusual Mounts
George Hausermann, EFG Orchids
- 10 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 1 pm
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.
- 13 JOS Meeting, Vanda Breeding, 7 pm
Robert Fuchs, RF Orchids
- 14 SAOS Virtual Show Table, 7:00 pm

St. Augustine Orchid Society Organization

President	Tom Sullivan tomjs91@gmail.com
Vice President Communications	Janis Croft croftie1984@gmail.com
Vice President Events	Dianne Batchelder ladydi9907@aol.com
Vice President Membership	Linda Stewart lindstew@hotmail.com
Vice President Programs	Sue Bottom sbottom15@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Cathy Mayo allatoonalady@gmail.com
Directors	Leslie Brickell, 2022 lesliebrickell@gmail.com Charlie Bridgham, 2022 tech@burrindustries.com Jerry Fowler, 2023 jayinville@gmail.com
Exhibit Committee Chair	Janis Croft croftie1984@gmail.com
Librarian	Howard Cushnir hscushnir@gmail.com
Newsletter Editors Webmasters	Sue and Terry Bottom sbottom15@gmail.com bottom406@gmail.com



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Green Pixie 'Evergreen' that blooms with greenish flowers that turn white over time. This plant likes to branch and also produce keikis at its base. A beautiful mature Bulb. maximum was being grown in a bonsai pot and Courtney reminded all that if you tend to over water, grow bulbos because they love being over watered. Last was a large mature *Ascocentrum curvifolium* which becomes a large plant by producing basal sprouts.



SAOS Program. Sue introduced our guest speaker, Dotty Woodson, who is a retired Water Resources Program Specialist from the Texas A&M AgriLife Water Resources Team. She presents programs about landscape water conservation, rainwater harvesting, rain gardens and irrigation efficiency. She educates companies, nurseries, homeowners and others on the value of collecting rainwater. The pure water allows one to grow healthy lush plants and by collecting rainwater you can reduce stormwater damage and your water bill. For example, one inch of rainfall on a 2,000 sq. ft. roof generates 1,246 gallons of water. If one lives in an area that receives 32 inches of rain/year that same 2,000 sq. ft. roof generates almost 40,000 gallons of rainwater.

Dotty discussed what one uses water for in a greenhouse and if you need to use rainwater for all of the uses. She uses rainwater for irrigation, fertilizing, cooling and pesticide application. If you have a dual system, then you can use other water for humidity and cooling as this water is usually sprayed under benches. However, her system is big enough that she uses rainwater for all uses. The benefits of rainwater include free water, no salts which means no hard water spots on plants and it's slightly acidic which is good for fertilizing and good for your plants.

If you want to harvest rainwater, you need to consider the components of the system. You need to consider the supply (rainfall per year, seasonal dry periods), the demand (how many plants, frequency of watering), the

collection system (rain barrel or cistern), storage (above or below ground) and the delivery system (hand watering vs. pump for garden hose watering, drip irrigation, etc.). Dotty suggested filtering your rainwater before it goes into collection tank as well as before it goes into the pump. Most equipment is available at hardware stores or Tractor Supply. Your only maintenance will be to clean out gutters and filters on a regular basis. She suggested visiting <https://rainwaterharvesting.tamu.edu/rainwater-basics/> or search "rainwater catchment system" for further information or you can email her directly at dottywoodson@gmail.com.



Sue stated that she has extra 55 gallon drums that can be converted into rain barrels, all you need to do is pick them up at her house. Contact Sue at sbottom15@hotmail.com if you are interested. SAOS members that currently use rainwater include Linda Stewart, Steve Hawkins, Dianne Batchelder, Janis Croft and Tom Sullivan. Reach out to any of these members if you need help in setting up your system or want to discuss the benefits of rainwater to your orchids.

Meeting Conclusion. The evening concluded with the Raffle table. Thanks to the helpful hands that stayed to help clean and store the tables, chairs and room.



CLUB NEWS



May 2 Meeting Habenarias

Nicholas Rust of [RustyExotics Orchids](#) will talk about Habenarias, providing an overview of the basic breeding habits of the species. Nicholas operates a small orchid nursery based in Georgia, selling uncommon orchids such as Habenaria, jewel orchids, and Bulbophyllum as well as other unique plants like Amorphophallus. His background in biochemistry and molecular biology led to an interest in the entire growth cycle of orchids and the start of his own hybridization program. He uses rarely cultivated species and distinct variations of common species to create truly exceptional shapes and colors that will pave new directions for unique hybrids.



April 16 Picnic and Orchid Swap

Our annual SAOS picnic and orchid sale/swap is scheduled for April 16th. We will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs for all. Feel free to bring a side dish and adult beverage, and join the fun. Please let Events Veep [Dianne Batchelder](#) know if you plan on attending (954-560-6470, ladydi9907@aol.com) to ensure we have enough food.

Bring any extra plants or goodies you would like to swap with other members. If you do not have plants to barter with, cash works too! We may have some silent auction plants too!

Where: Memorial Lutheran Church
[3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086](#)

When: April 16, 4 to 6 pm

American Orchid Society Corner

Webinars

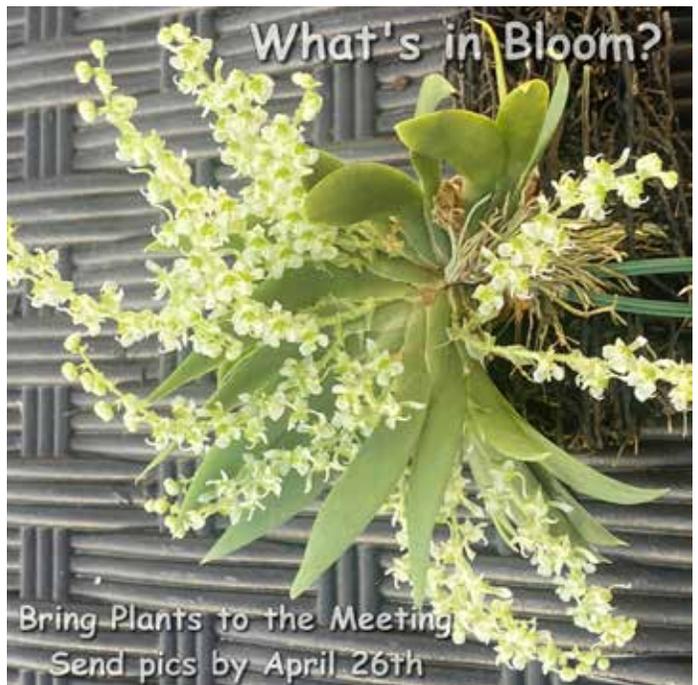
April 4, 8:30 pm, Everyone Invited
Greenhouse Chat - Ron McHatton

April 12, 8:30 pm, AOS Members Only
Heirloom Cattleyas – David Toyoshima

Orchids Magazine this Month

2021 Special Awards – Nile Dusdieker
First Class Certificates - Carol Klonowski
Organizing Your Growing Area – Sue Bottom

[Photos of Latest AOS Awards](#)

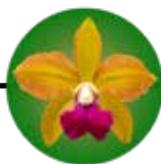


INSPIRATION



Dendrobium farmeri

© Terry Botta



CULTIVATION



Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@hotmail.com

Q1. Any thoughts on safe treatments to get rid of weeds other than mechanical removal?

A1. Those weeds are tough to get rid of, even mechanically, because they've got such a long root system. There is a product with the active ingredient diuron that can be sprayed on the weeds and not harm the surrounding orchids. It is sold under many trade names, including Parrot and Karmex. Here's a [link](#) to an article with some suggestions.

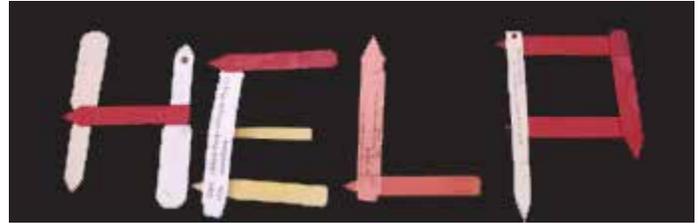


Q2. Could you comment on what might be the problem with my Miltoniopsis John Leathers? I have had it for 5 years, and then these chlorotic leaf markings showed up. I have flushed media, fertilized it and sprayed it with Physan 20.

A2. I asked what potting mix it is in, when was it last repotted, can it be picked up by the leaves without it being wobbly in the pot, and is the leaf yellowing happening on the newest or the oldest leaves. Amal checked the roots that were declining in the degraded mix, and repotted in fresh mix, removing dead roots and pseudobulbs as well as seriously discolored leaves and then gave it a fungicidal treatment. If you notice a plant declining, knock it out of the pot to take a look at the roots, that often will tell you what your next step should be.



Q3. My Encyclia grows what appears to be sheaths, which get 1/4" in length before drying up. The orchid is potted in a sphagnum moss with a bit of standard orchid mix, and is in



an east facing window with an overhead plant light. I let the potting mixture dry out to the point where moisture is barely noticeable before watering. I fertilize weakly weekly using a mixture of 1/4 tsp each of Epsom salts, liquid Cal/Mag and Jack's 30-10-10 in a gallon of reverse osmosis water. I have had the plant for 16 months. My question is why are the flower sheaths drying up?

A3. Encyclias don't form a large flower sheath like other cattleya alliance plants. You'll see flower spikes emerge from the top of the bulb, and if yours stop growing after 1/4 of an inch, the plant just may not have enough stored energy to bloom. When I have questions about a plant, I often knock it out of the pot and take a look at the roots. You could see how well it is established in the pot by trying to lift it by its vegetation, if it's wobbly in the pot, then the roots are not happy.



I have my encyclias potted up pretty tight in pots in a coarse, freely draining mix and they ultimately push their way out of the pot after 2-4 years. The pseudobulbs grow so closely together that you can accommodate several years of growth in what might seem to be too small of a pot. I wonder if that large pot and the water retentive mix you are using is too wet for the encyclias, and possibly that is why the bulbs started growing up and out of the mix?

The Jack's 30-10-10 fertilizer is an acid generating fertilizer, which will tend to become pretty acidic with reverse osmosis water that has no buffering capacity. We usually recommend that type of fertilizer for those watering with alkaline well water. For RO water, the 15-5-15 Peters Excel CalMag fertilizer works well. The Epsom salts should not usually be mixed with a CalMag fertilizer because the nutrients react (Epsom salts are compatible with the 30-10-10), but at the concentrations you are using you are probably not seeing that sludgy reaction.



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Repotting Phalaenopsis

by Dr. Courtney Hackney

As promised in the last column, this month's discussion will focus on repotting orchids that do not have rhizomes, specifically phalaenopsis (phals). Phals store water in their roots and so need moisture on a regular basis. This requires different culture than other orchids and a different

approach to repotting. Phals are generally repotted when they finish blooming, i.e. now, if they need it.

Phalaenopsis are the most common orchid around these days and often the first one new hobbyists try to grow. When purchased, they are usually in a plastic pot in sphagnum moss, but can be found in almost any medium. In nature, phals have roots more characteristic of cattleyas because they grow as epiphytes attached to trees, where roots dry out between rain events. Mounted or in a coarse bark medium, phal roots are hard and resistant to drying, unlike the nice soft roots found in peat or other wetter media.

Roots on phals grown in sphagnum will not easily adapt to epiphyte-like conditions, nor will roots grown in a coarse, dry medium adapt to sphagnum. Roots of both will die if the type of medium is changed, although new roots will grow and establish in any medium. This will, however, set the phal back.

Phals grow new roots to supply each new leaf with water and nutrients. The loss of roots from repotting will result in the loss of leaves near the base of the plant. The first step in repotting is to determine if your phal actually needs to be

repotted or can wait another year. If your phal has started losing its lower leaves then it likely needs to be repotted because roots have died indicating poor media. If the phal has been in the pot for a couple of years it needs to be repotted.

Phals will grow in just about any medium as long as you adjust the watering and fertilizing regimen to suit the new medium, but for best results, do your best to match the new medium with the old. Most of the big box stores sell small quantities of Sphagnum moss.



To begin, soak the medium and remove the phal from the pot. I prefer to leave the old flower spike on the plant so that there is something to hold during repotting. Often new roots are also emerging now at the base of the plant and holding pressure there could damage them. Gently shake or wash the old medium from the roots so roots that remain are nice and white. Use a gentle jet from your garden hose. Remove black or soft roots, which are dead. If most roots are white and thick it is possible to place the phal back in the same pot. Put some plastic peanuts right under the stem and then carefully work the sphagnum in and around the roots. Wet the sphagnum first and then squeeze water from it before packing around roots. The object is to secure the phal in the pot firmly.

If many of the roots are dead, use a sterilized blade and remove all but the white firm roots. You should cut the live roots off, 4-6" length if you are changing to a new medium. This will encourage new roots to grow in the environment of the new medium. Cutting off live roots is hard to do, but necessary if you change media. Sprinkle cut and damaged roots with cinnamon powder. It is a natural fungicide.

Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from April 2012.



CULTIVATION

Den. nobile and Its Hybrids

by Ned Nash, courtesy of the American Orchid Society



Den. Love Memory 'Fit' (White Rabbit x Sachi), by Terry Bottom

Unless they were somewhat of a challenge, most of us wouldn't have bothered with orchids. That the result of a challenge well met is so satisfying is certainly helpful, but the challenge aspect is still key to the hobby of orchid growing. One of the groups that present the greatest challenge is the *Dendrobium nobile* hybrids. Of course, when you do achieve the nearly perfect balance in your cultural practices that allow these plants to give their all, the rewards are commensurate with the challenge. To flower at their best, nobile dendrobiums need their canes fully finished under high-light conditions before the onset of the cool weather that will trigger profuse bud production. This is a simple enough concept, but not easily accomplished. I have rarely seen anyone do the job as well as Yamamoto Dendrobiums, the originator of modern nobile types. When successful, these plants are truly a sight to behold – fat, cigar-shaped pseudobulbs lined with clusters of hard-substanced blooms in glorious combinations of color.

Interestingly, this group is not particularly complicated in its species background. It is composed primarily of *Den. nobile*, with minor doses of *Den. aureum* (especially in the yellow hybrids), *Den. signatum* and *Den. regium*. A new line of miniatures being pursued in Japan has the native species *Den. moniliforme* involved. These miniatures are extraordinarily popular in Japan as potted plants, and are really one of the staples of the Tokyo Dome Show sales. They can have multiple flowering canes in 6-inch containers and the canes seem to be more willing to produce flowers at each node, giving an unparalleled display over a long period. The first of these are beginning to be seen in the United States and should prove to be worthwhile. Their culture should be a little easier, as well. The real

breakthrough in the standard types occurred in the 1950s and 1960s when tetraploids began to be discovered and utilized in breeding by Jiro Yamamoto. He had a vision of a new type of orchid and has pursued it with unusual zeal. Today's fantastic hybrids are the result of his dedication.

Cultural Needs. However, without the pursuit of cultural excellence as well, we wouldn't know of the potential of this group. Starting in Japan, and later on the big island of Hawaii, Yamamoto has perfected the culture of *Den. nobile* hybrids. Their production and flowering habits are so well known by Yamamoto Dendrobiums that the scheduling and supply of budded plants is as close to an industry as exists in the orchid world. Yamamoto's cultural techniques explain what needs to be done by the hobbyist to succeed. Both in Japan and in Hawaii, the plants are housed in the hotter lower elevations during their spring and summer growing seasons to ensure fat, ripe canes. The plants are then taken to higher, cooler growing areas a predetermined number of weeks before bud initiation is desired. The hot and bright growing season, coupled with cooling of properly ripened canes, gives the beautifully flowered plants we are used to seeing at retailers during the late winter and early spring show season.



Den. Sea Marian 'Snow King' HCC/AOS (Lovely Virgin x Cassiope), by Terry Bottom

Two Common Problems. Fortunately, the hobbyist can duplicate this regime (without having to go to the mountains). The two most common problems are insufficient light and overfeeding with a high-nitrogen fertilizer. First, the plants should be moved into the highest light possible immediately after flowering. Hung high in the greenhouse or with vandas

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wouldn't be too much light. With this exposure should come heat. Light and heat are vital in producing the fat, squatty pseudobulbs that will flower at each node. High light and heat necessitate lots of water and fertilizer.

Because *Den. nobile* hybrids do not like to be overpotted, they can almost be watered every bright day if the plants are

are simple, if not easy: hot, bright and wet during growth; cool and dry to set buds. Give the *Den. nobile* hybrids a try and see what happens.



Den. Yellow Song 'Canary'
(*Den. Midas Gold x Den. Santana*), by Terry Bottom



Den. Yukidaruma 'The King'
(*Shiranami x Pinocchio*), by Sheila Nathanson

well-established in their pots. Lots of water, light and heat means frequent feeding. Really pour it to them. With this regime, you should almost be able to see the bulbs grow. As they begin to reach their ultimate height of 18 to 24 inches in late July or early August, stop fertilizing with nitrogen. The goal is to finish the pseudobulb with a terminal leaf. If the terminal leaf isn't showing by late August, experienced growers will simply terminate the growth for the plant by pulling the top leaf, much like "pinching" a houseplant. With the fat pseudobulbs finished, the goal is to cool the plant, ideally into the lower 60s or, even better, the 50s. This can be done by hanging outside until almost the first frost. Recommended length of cooling is approximately one month. Cooling, coupled with a cessation of nitrogen fertilizer and a drying at the roots, will produce the floral display you are looking for with short spikes of two to four blooms appearing at most of the upper nodes. If really well done, spikes can appear at every node, up and down the cane. If keikis (Hawaiian for "baby") appear at the nodes instead of blooms, you have overfed. If the canes grow tall and spindly, and never terminate, you have not provided enough light and have probably overfed, to boot.

You have seen these at shows; you've probably even been tempted sufficiently to buy one or a few. You've probably been frustrated when the plants didn't look the same after you'd had them a year. The care instructions



Den. Angel Moon 'Love Letter'
(*Herios x Sweet Pinky*), by Steve Dorsey

Excerpted from an article that appeared in the *American Orchid Society Orchids* magazine in January 1996 (Vol.65:1, pp.54-56).



CULTIVATION

Learn During Repotting

by Sue Bottom

The annual repotting marathon is underway. It all starts when many of the slumbering orchids start to wake in the spring and start initiating new growth. New root growth is telling you to get your repotting supplies ready because this is the best time to repot your orchids. Repotting is a traumatic event as your orchid is yanked out of its home, but if it is growing new roots it will get acclimated to its new digs quickly.



Uh oh, that catasetum must have some rot inside it that I missed when I potted it up. Those keikis are a sure sign of a survival mechanism.

The freshly potted catasetum was unpotted and there it is, that black rot at the base of the pseudobulb. Mom is a goner.



Catasetums. Catasetums are the first group of orchids that start to rouse from their winter sleep, the catasetums first and the clowesias last, with all the intergenerics somewhere in between. As early as December, the catasetums are checked weekly looking for the newly emerging green growth to start peeking out at the base of the newest pseudobulbs. They are moved into a staging area for repotting, because there is still another week or two before roots will start growing from the tender new growths. Repot right when the new growth begins, and then keep them dry until the new growth is 5 inches or so tall. You can start watering when the leaves have unfurled and water won't be trapped in the new growth, with the potential to cause crown rot and the death of the new growth.

The last two years I have been struggling with rots in the catasetums. Last year I tried to overcome my rot problems by cutting away the old growths and then drenching the



After cutting through the pseudobulb halfway up, you can see the rot is moving up the vascular tissue. The keikis were removed and potted up.

plants with a systemic fungicide several times during the growing season. That apparently was not enough, because there was still a lot of rot discovered this year after the winter rest. I was even more brutal about cutting away all but the newest pseudobulbs and discarding any bulbs with any hint of rot. The catasetums that survived this process were potted up in clay pots with Styrofoam in the bottom third to half of the pot and then long fibered New Zealand sphagnum moss. I always interlayer timed release fertilizer with the moss, but this year I also interlayered a granular Heritage fungicide into the mix. This will be activated once watering begins later this spring and the plant will absorb the systemic fungicide into its tissues and hopefully overcome the problems with rot.



Plants are hung under the eaves after repotting so they won't be watered until the growths are 5 inches tall and the leaves unfurled.

Cattleyas. The cattleyas start rooting about midway through catasetum repotting. I keep a staging bench empty during the repotting season, and inspect each of the benches looking for plants that require repotting this year. The unifoliate are much more tolerant of repotting than the bifoliate, so I am very careful to hold off on repotting bifoliate until I see just the beginning of root growth. If a plant needs to be repotted, it is moved over to the staging bench. Once the staging bench is filled with overgrown cattleyas, the actual repotting begins.

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In the evening, potting benches are inspected for plants requiring repotting, which are put on the staging bench for repotting the next day.



Older leaves yellow and give the plant an unhealthy appearance, often these are attached to pseudobulbs deep in the pot

The cattleyas have responded very well to using the shallow slotted pots, lots of chunky Styrofoam in the bottom third of the pot, and the coarse mix of bark, sponge rock, clay pebbles and charcoal. As plants are pulled from their pots, it is clear the roots have grown happily around the Styrofoam and there is no mass of rotted mix in the bottom of the pot. The bark is starting to soften in many of the pots after three years or so, but not enough to cause root damage. Some of the leaves on the oldest pseudobulbs have yellowed and browned giving the plant an unhealthy appearance. As these are unpotted, it is apparent that most of those unhealthy leaves are attached to pseudobulbs deep in the pot and the plant has grown new bulbs over the old, sometimes two layers higher. These older, yellow growths and any leaves with fine dotting indicative of fungal spores are cut away from the plant before situating the remaining growths in the pot. The only other changes being made are replacing Orchata with Fred Clarke's #5 kiwi bark in the large 8 inch pots. The granular Heritage product is also sprinkled on top of the pot, and then it is top dressed with good cypress mulch to protect emerging roots. It's amazing how much better the plants look after repotting.

It will probably be May before all the cattleyas in the original greenhouse have been given the once over. Many of the bifoliate have been moved over into the whitehouse on shorter benches. It is much easier to monitor for new root growth on these shorter, more narrow benches, and repotting, if necessary, will happen as soon as the new green root tips appear.



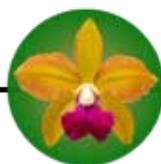
The roots grow into and around the Styrofoam, enjoying the airy reservoir. There is no rotting mass of decayed mix in the bottom of the pot.

Phalaenopsis. The Phalaenopsis are the next major group that will be repotted. The summer bloomers should normally be repotted by February so as not to interrupt their bloom cycle, while the spring bloomers will be mostly repotted in June. None were repotted last year, the prior year they were potted in high quality New Zealand sphagnum moss with varying amounts of Styrofoam depending on the pot size. All the phals were moved into the newly constructed whitehouse last August. After a brief period of letting the Halloween cool temperatures trigger the flowering process, the furnace was set so the minimum night time temperatures did not drop below 60F. It cost a fair chunk of change in propane, but the phals responded incredibly well to the warm temperatures with multiple spikes of gorgeous flowers.



After repotting, plants are replaced on the benches, with lots of space between pots. Plants look so much better after repotting.

You learn a lot about what you did right and what you did wrong during the repotting process. This is your opportunity to evaluate the health of the roots in the pot, telling you whether your potting materials are suitable given your watering habits. Keep your eyes and mind open while repotting, so you can tell what went right and what went wrong over the past growing season.



ORCHID ADVENTURES



Keiki Club – Growing Area Tour Repotting Madness at the Bottom's

We had perhaps 20 people at our annual repotting party and growing area tour at the Bottom's. We talked about how you prepare plants for repotting and mounting, and then the frenzy began. We had a variety of seedlings, divisions and keikis to choose from, and SAOS members were available to help guide the decision on whether to mount, pot or basket their orchids. Everyone dropped \$5 in the donation bucket and walked away with new plants, and had lots of fun!



SHOW TABLE



Grower Allen Black
Blc. Beautiful Morning 'Layla Black'
HCC/AOS



Grower Bonnie Armstrong
C. Schilleriano-Harrisoniae



Grower Leslie Brickell
Den. trantuanii



Grower Suzanne Susko
Mps. Edie Brown 'NYC'



Keith Davis 3-8-23

Grower Keith Davis
Blc. (Richard Star x Wanda's Fire)



Grower Sue Bottom
Bulb. falcatum



Grower Diane Winters
Cym. Via Verde Dawn



SHOW TABLE



Grower Suzanne Susko
Pot. Joy Sokabe 'Shinning'



Grower Sue Bottom
C. skinneri



Grower Leslie Brickell
Chysis limminghei



Grower Janis Croft
Leptotes pohlitinocoi



Grower Janis Croft
Galeopetalum Starburst 'Parkside' AM/AOS



Grower Keith Davis
Blc. Taiwan Chief Wine 'Van Gogh'

Link to all Submissions: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAyxP4>

