



THE BULLETIN

A Publication of the Jacksonville Orchid Society.

August, 2016

jaxorchidsociety.org

Volume 73, Issue 8

President's Report For August 2016

I've had several people ask me in the past, "why don't you write more about the care of orchids or other related information about orchids".

My simple reason for this is that I think my responsibility to the members, is the overall operation of the club and details applying to that. It has always been my goal to improve the membership, involvement of members (especially new ones) in club activities and try to address problems or complaints that arise. I would hope that my efforts have accomplished some of these goals.

As some of you are aware, I will not be at the August potting clinic or meeting. Our esteemed 1st VP, Margie Johnson will conduct the meeting in my absence.

Harry McElroy will run the potting Clinic. At least one member has volunteered to help him but I know he could use more help. Three of our regular Potting Clinic people (besides Dorothy and I) will be out of town that weekend.

As we get towards the end of the year, I ask all members to consider a club position in which they would like to serve in 2017.

Contact any officer or board member to express your specific interest. Please give serious consideration to serving in some capacity.

We are very anxious to get new volunteers for a number of positions that will be opening up next year.

Have a great August. Dorothy and I will see you in September.

John

Jacksonville Orchid Society Minutes

July 12, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM, by our President, John Van Brocklin.

John called for standing committee reports.

Visitors are: Margaret Hendley (new member), John Oswalt, Mike and Sandra Thompson (new members), Sara Matthews, Laura Hood, Lawrence McKannley and Jamal Farrah.

John made special announcement regarding the August Repotting Clinic at Hagan Ace on San Jose. We are in a great need for volunteers to come out and help as a majority of those who attend the clinic will be on vacation or a symposium down south.

We broke for snack.

Our speaker for the evening was **Lewis Del Favero** from Tampa, Florida. His presentation was a show and tell. He advised that you should not be afraid to try growing new orchids (go outside of your box). He discussed that growing your orchids in smaller pots is better, and that you should not over pot your orchids. He stated that orchids don't want to bloom until their pots are full of roots. He stated that you can trim back roots when you repot your orchids to about 2 inches long. He stated that you can wet your foliage especially if you keep your orchids on a covered porch to help prevent the development of spider mites.

The show table was called by Harry McElroy, Judges were Karen and Craig Akers, Mary Malouin was clerk. The People's Choice was awarded to Victoria Ford for her Biodosa. The raffle table was called and then the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Stomfay-Stitz, Secretary

From all of us "Thank you Lewis" for the unique and informative presentation.

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2016 JOS Speaker Schedule

The 2016 Speaker Schedule is being constantly revised. Here's the current picture of the next couple of months:

Date	Speaker	Topic
9 August	No Speaker	Instructional video from Motes
13 September	Tom Kuligowski	Something on Angraecum
11 October	Roy Tokunaga	To Be Announced
8 November	Courtney Hackney	Blue Orchids
December 2016		<i>Christmas Party!</i>

A REMINDER – REPOTTING CLINIC!

- [We need help with the August Repotting Clinic!](#)
- Learn how to remove plant from old pot and ready for repotting
- Learn to determine correct medium for each plant
- Water - Fertilizer - insect/disease info.
- Long-term growers available for questions and advice
- Create friendships with other JOS members and with orchid growers/lovers who come to Hagan Ace
- (some growers/lovers bring in a plant (s) every month

Up-Coming Events and Florida Orchid Shows

Date	Event	Comments/Contact:
8-10	AOS.org/webinar - Greenhouse Chat	Open to all 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT
8-16	Judging Event-Florida North-Central Judging Center - Orlando will hold judging on the 2nd Saturday of the month .	Arthur Katz 407-870-3407 arthurkatz@me.com
9-10	Florida West Coast Orchid Society Show & Sale, Pinellas Park, FL	Stuart Fraser 727-742-0461 sfraser0326@aol.com
9-17	Ridge Orchid Society Show "Orchid Jamboree" Stewart Center, 1702 US Highway 17 South, Bartow, FL	Glen Gary 863-688-3590 glengary54@yahoo.com
9-21	AOS.org/webinar - Wonderful World of Phragmipediums	AOS members Only 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT
9-30	South Florida Orchid Society Show "Orchid Celebration" BankUnited Center, 1245 Dauer Drive, Coral Gables, FL	Dan Christensen 954-252-8116 damorchid@aol.com

Treasurer's Report - July 2016

Ending Balance June 2016	26,621.00\$
Income:	
12.50\$	Membership Dues
105.00\$	Raffle Tickets
7.82\$	Bank Interest Income
15.00\$	Donation - Society Snack Table
92.00\$	Potting Clinic
48.00\$	Silent Auction
Total Income	280.32\$
Expenses:	
July Speaker Fee	250.00\$
July Speaker Dinner	18.00\$
Deposit Stamp	44.32\$
Silent Auction	38.40\$
Society Snack Table Reimbursement	26.59\$
Garden Club of Jax - Meeting Rent (January - April 2016)	240.00\$
Garden Club of Jax - Meeting Rent (June 2016 - April 2017)	600.00\$
Total Expenses	\$1217.31
Ending Balance July 2016	25,684.01\$
Receivables	
Society Petty Cash Fund	25.00\$
Potting Clinic Petty Cash Fund	25.00\$
Raffle Petty Cash Fund	25.00\$

Report Submitted by
Stacey Schwab, Treasurer

Members Update

July was a good month for JOS as we gained five new members: Junaid Farood, Lawrence McNally, Margaret Hendley and Mike and Sandy Thompson. Some had previously visited with us and others joined on a first time visit. Junaid is also a member of the St. Augustine Orchid Society so those of you with dual memberships will be seeing him a little more often.

One thing I have noticed is that our society likes to laugh.....a good thing. Make it a point to be on the lookout for new members and/or visitors and share some of your ever present good will. It is nice to feel welcome.

On a not so happy note, Diana Burwell is moving south to Plant City to be near her son and his family. If you know Diana at all you know she "loves to pot", orchids that is. We will miss her at the meetings but she has promised to be back for the show next year – and I feel sure will be found in the vicinity of the Potting Table. She will be keeping up with us through our monthly newsletter, The Bulletin.

John and I will be out of town for the August meeting. Celia McElroy will be at the front desk. As you come in you may want to see if she needs some help. That table is feast or famine. Take it easy, stay cool and see you in September.

Dorothy Van Brocklin

Membership Chairman

AOS Questions and Answers

Here is a few unfamiliar question that might be helpful from AOS, I hope they are useful.

Question

Air Conditioning, my collection of orchids, including cymbidiums, cattleyas, dendrobiums and vandas, is situated in an area behind my home. Unfortunately, the air conditioning condenser unit is also in this area. My concern is that I live in Southern California and during the hot summer months when the unit is operating, it blows hot air around my orchids. My husband does not think this air is damaging but I fear that he is mistaken and it can harm or stunt their growth. What do you think?

Answer

I would try to shield the orchids from the blast of the air-conditioning condenser. Hot, and probably dry, air emanating from this source can do the orchids no good, especially in the already dry climate of Southern California's interior region. The additional stress that would place on the plants during the warm and dry summer months will result in poorer growth and flowering.

Question

Aquarium Water, what do you think about using aquarium water for orchid watering? I have too many hobbies; they include both orchids and tropical fish. I have lots of tanks and do lots of water changes so the water is not getting salty. The water should have a mild form of fertilizer in it from the fish ammonia, nitrite and nitrate plus some trace elements. It also should be biologically active. A couple of concerns of mine are that I treat the water for chlorine by adding a commercial product that binds with the chlorine. I believe the primary ingredient is sodium thioylsulfate, which also binds with metals and, therefore, could unbalance the water to the plants. Secondly, could this be a prime source of bacteria or fungus that could cause damage to the orchids?

Answer

I have spoken to Ann Jesup, an experienced orchid grower in Bristol, Connecticut, who sounds these notes of caution: Be sure to check the pH to make sure that it is in the proper range for orchid growing and start with a few plants to see how the water affects them before committing completely. This, incidentally, is good advice in any case of new techniques. Jesup also notes that the water should be especially useful if aquarium plants are growing satisfactorily in your tanks. As you have commented, the water should be full of nutrients beneficial to orchids, but do exercise caution. There should be no fungal or bacterial problems with the water.

Question

Dehydration, while my question concerns phalaenopsis in general, I have had this same problem with other orchids as well. It seems like when one of my phalaenopsis get a virus or scale, it stops taking up water and looks wilted. No matter what I do, it never recovers. I have had this same thing happen when I have under- or over-watered a phalaenopsis. What can I do?

Answer

Virus or scale probably has nothing to do with your problem; their occurrence is coincidental.

Both under- and over-watering can cause similar symptoms. If a plant is underwatered, two things can potentially happen: The roots stay healthy, but have no water to take up, or the roots die as a result of excess salinity caused by the concentration of the soil solution and cannot take up any water. The result is the same in both cases: dehydration. If the plant is overwatered, the roots die, and the plant cannot take up any water. The result is the same as option two above: dehydration. If the roots are healthy and the plant is dehydrated, the medium simply needs to be re-wet by several spike initiation.

Question

Back Cutting, I have been rereading an article by Allison and Mark Webb on the Dendrobium speciosum complex in the October 1994 AOS Bulletin (now Orchids) in which they say that "back-cutting the rhizome will make sure a plant puts out lots of new growths." Please explain how and when this should be done.

Answer

Back-cutting refers to the practice of severing the rhizome between older pseudobulbs to encourage the production of new growths. It can be considered analogous to pinching foliage plants and annuals, where the apical dominance of lateral buds is overcome by the removal of the growing tip.

Question

Black Growths, The new growth on some of my cattleyas turns black at varying stages, sometimes initially and sometimes later. The plants still looks healthy overall, and might still produce flowers later. I grow orchids well outdoors on the California coast in a protected patio.

Answer

This might have any one of several causes. Most probable, based on your description, is that you leave the lights on in your patio at night, and this interrupts the dark cycle, resulting in the burned tips. Otherwise, some sort of fungal or bacterial rot is the culprit, and this is best treated with a copper-based compound such as Kocide or Phyton 27 following label instructions.

Question

Coconut Husk, I am having good luck growing my orchids in coconut chips. Should I be using a balanced (with a 1-1-1 ratio) fertilizer or a high-nitrogen fertilizer (3-1-1 ratio) as for fir bark?

Answer

Coconut products are being used, both as chips and as a ground material that has a consistency like peat moss, as potting media for many genera. In discussions with several growers, notably Terry Root of The Orchid Zone, it seems that coconut-husk products are composed mainly, if not entirely, of lignin, rather than cellulose. Lignin requires many more steps to break down than cellulose, the main constituent of wood and bark products, and so would not appear to be subject to the same wood-rot bacterial action that is the reason higher-nitrogen formulas are required for bark culture. In other words, a balanced formula will be best. Coconut products have the added benefits of being a renewable resource as well as being the last remaining unused portion of the coconut. Coconut husk chips are usually soaked in several changes of clean water before use.)

Is Stalite Killing my Orchids?

By Harry McElroy

The accusation Stalite, used as a potting media leads to the death of our orchids is often heard at orchid society meetings. For a long time, the reason why anyone would blame the stalite was a mystery to me.

Stalite is formed when "Shale" is heated to 3500 degrees and the heated shale expands or pops much like popcorn. The resulting material is a porous lightweight material which is actually a form of ceramic.

It holds 30 percent of its weight in water, never breaks down, is completely inert and does not affect the pH or acidity around the roots in any way. After experiencing 3500-degree heat, is as sterile as anything you could pot in. It seems like it would be a perfect potting material.

I myself used it for many years without problems but suddenly seeming without warning, I began to have problems with root loss. So maybe it is or maybe it is not a good potting material.

The evaporative cooling system in my greenhouse may give us the answer. Water flows over cooling pads and evaporates into the airflow from the exhaust fan. As the water evaporates it leaves behind the minerals in the water from the water reservoir. Every 5 to six month the mineral load in the supply line gets so high that it begins to clog the distribution holes along the $\frac{1}{2}$ inch pipe along the pipe, and if left alone will clog the pipe completely. It is necessary drain and flush the system every two to three months and scrape out the barrel used as reservoir once a year.

Here is the important lesson from the cooling system: The water is so toxic that it kills the grass where I drain it.

The same thing happens inside the pots. Each time we water some minerals from our water in addition to fertilizer is left behind to collect on our potting material. It will at either a slow rate or very quickly depending on how much we flush when we water. Stalite lasted a long time before I had problems because I do flush or let water flow thru the pot for a while each time I water. It will last a short time if you do not flush and the minerals forming on the stalite will make it look like concrete. All inorganic potting material will eventually collect minerals from water but it may be that stalite has just the right size porosity to be less forging. The idea that it lasts a long time therefore repotting is not so necessary is probably wrong. It took years for me to have a problem because I flush often – but eventually I had a problem.

Is it a good or bad potting material? What are your watering habits? It may be a good material if your watering habits eliminate the mineral buildup and it is a good habit to have no matter what potting material, you use.

Show Table Results July 2016

Cattleya Alliance		
1st Place	<i>LC Loogtome "African Beauty"</i>	Margie Johnson
2nd Place	EPLC Vocano Trick Paradise	Art Whittier
3rd Place	Brassolaeliocattleya Quiet Canyon	Art & Jane Russell
Dendrobium Alliance		
1st Place	Little Green Apples	Frank Warnkens
2nd Place	Parisii	Art & Jane Russell
Oncidium Alliance		
1st Place	ENC Alata "Always"	Jerry Fowler
2nd Place		
Paphiopedilum Alliance		
1st Place	Armeni White	Brian Esterak
2nd Place	Paph Deperle	Margie Johnson
3rd Place	Ballatulum X Gratrikiah	Jerry Fowler
Phalaneopsis Alliance		
1st Place	Deliciosa	Victoria Ford
2nd Place		
Vanda Alliance		
1st Place	Neostylis Lou Sneary "Blue Bird"	Jerry Fowler
2nd Place	Ascda Krailerk White X V. Sanderi Na Alba	Jerry Fowler
Cymbidium Alliance		
Misc. Hybrids		
1st Place	CTSM Denticulatum "SVOLL" X Firm Briatum "Golden Horizon"	Margie Johnson
Species		
1st Place	B. Nodosa	Victoria Ford
2nd Place	Dendrobium Laevifolium X Sib	Art & Jane Russell
3rd Place	Ency. Ciliare	Billy & Beth Strate
Members' Choice Winner		
B Nodosa		Victoria Ford

Judges: Lois Rasmussen, Art Whittier, & Mary Malouin

"Thank You"

July 2016—Show Table



Laeliocattleya Loog Tone 'African Beauty'
Margie Johnson
1st Place — Cattleya



EPLC Vocano Trick Paradise
Art Whittier
2nd Place — Cattleya



BLC Quiet Canyon
Jane & Art Russell
3rd Place — Cattleya



Little Green Apples
Frank Warnken
1st Place — Dendrobium



Dendrobium Parishii
Jane & Art Russell
2nd Place — Dendrobium



Cat Denticulatum X Cat Fimbriatum
Marjorie Johnson
1st Place — Misc. Hybrids



Encyclia alata 'Always'
Jerry Fowler
1st Place — Oncidium

July 2016—Show Table—Continued



Paph Armeni White
Harry & Ceilia McElroy
1st Place — Paphiopedilum



Paph Bellatulum X Paph Gratitak
Jerry Fowler
3rd Place — Paphiopedilum



Paph Deperle
Bob Gaffney
2nd Place — Paphiopedilum



Brassavola nodosa
Victoria Ford
1st Place — Species
Members' Choice Winner



Paph Armeni White
Harry & Ceilia McElroy
2nd Place — Species



Paph Armeni White
Harry & Ceilia McElroy
3rd Place — Species



Neostylis Lou Sneary "Blue Bird"
Jerry Fowler
1st Place — Vanda



Phal deliciosa
Victoria Ford
1st Place - Phalaenopsis

Notes for Newcomers, New Members, and Novices

Hands-On Training. During the Spring thru Fall seasons, the JOS conducts “Re-potting Clinics” at the Hagan Ace Hardware on San Jose in Mandarin. This is a *de facto* training session for anyone wanting to learn how to repot their orchids. Older, er more experienced (!), members will be on hand to repot orchids for members of the public. More importantly, they are also there to help our new members, novices, and anyone interested learn how to report orchids of all types and descriptions. We do charge a nominal fee to recoup the cost of materials used in repotting, but other than that, there is no cost. More importantly, you can come by and “suck the experts’ brains dry” regarding orchid esoterica.

There is no better way to learn, than to learn by doing, so plan to come by and take advantage of our members’ knowledge, and learn how to repot orchids under their expert tutelage. The good news is that orchids are tough, and our members will help you learn about orchids from those that know—*Active Growers!*

American Orchid Society. Experienced growers know and recognize the value of the American Orchid Society (AOS). They are located on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.aos.org>. They offer information and expertise spanning the entire field of orchids. Locally, several of our members are practicing or past AOS judges. When you visit the AOS website, you’ll find references, resources of all types, and often an invitation to participate in an on-line seminar of topics of interest to all orchid growers. You might also notice that elsewhere I’ve included monthly-themed American Orchid Society Seasonal Orchid Care Checklists. A benefit of membership is that AOS resources are available for member use.

Another AOS benefit is training. The AOS trains and provides judges for Orchid Shows, judging of AOS member orchids, and other events. You are welcome to attend AOS training and their doors are always open.

Resources. Thinking of the World Wide Web; the Web offers near-endless resources. Of course, the difficulty is finding accurate resources. Several of my favorites include not only the AOS, but:

The Internet Orchid Encyclopedia — <http://www.orchidspecies.com>

The Orchid Wiki—http://orchids.wikia.com/wiki/Main_Page

The St. Augustine Orchid Society—<http://www.orchidspecies.com>

Show Table—For the Novice. Novice Growers and new members should not hesitate to display orchids on the monthly show table. There are several benefits, but the most important one is that you’ll get experience displaying your orchids in comparison to those of your peers, and also have an opportunity to learn about the process. Moreover, as a novice you’ll have an opportunity to display your orchids in your own category—Novice. But, here’s the thing, every one wants to see others’ orchids and are always pleasantly surprised when their own orchid places. So where are your orchids and why aren’t they on the Show Table?

Footnotes ...

On our Sponsors...

Please be sure to let our sponsors know that you are a member of the Jacksonville Orchid Society. It is important that we let them know through our patronage of our appreciation of their support.

In the Jacksonville area - Please visit the ***Williams Plant Nursery*** for your yard and greenery needs. The ***Williams Plant Nursery*** has supplied the Jacksonville Orchid Show with the greenery filling out the display spaces for the past several years. Let's make sure we support them as they have supported us.

On our Speakers...

Many of our speakers accompany their presentation with a selection of orchids, many of which relate directly to their presentation. Their sales of orchids is how they defray the true cost of traveling to make their presentation to the Jacksonville Orchid Society.

Please be sure to view their orchids and purchase the temptation they've brought your way... ***It may not be available later!***

Email Newsletter...

If you know of a JOS member that is not receiving the newsletter via email, please send their email address my direction. I'll add it to the list if we don't have it, or correct a bad email address.

Thanks - The Editor

2016 Jacksonville Orchid Show Vendors

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Florida Sun Coast Orchids

Odom Orchids

Krull/Smith Orchids

Hick's Orchid Supplies

Ritter's Tropic I Orchids

Springwater Orchids

E. F. G. Orchids

Footnotes Continued ...

Pre-Meeting Dinner Invatation !

A number of JOS members meet for dinner before the monthly meeting. We meet at “**The Derby House**” on Park Street. It’s just a few blocks from the Garden club, in the Riverside District of Jacksonville, at 5PM. Please feel free to join us—We look forward to seeing you.

See the link on GoogleMaps: <http://goo.gl/maps/VQzAI>

A note from your new Editorial Staff: (Jerry)

In the near future I am going to start a “Why did you start growing Orchids” article asking various JOS members this mysterious question. This should be a fun article that I hope will shine some light on us all, when asked the question “why”. I hope you enjoy it.

Thanks—***The Editor***

These are our sponsors & the folks who supply our raffle table.

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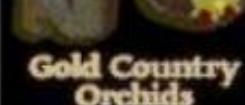
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