

# The Houston Happenings



May 2021 | Volume 51, Issue 5

## May 6: Brad Touts HOS Members' Orchids *By Sarah B*

After you have enjoyed the virtual presentation on May 3 with the Texas Orchid Speaker's Circuit (see page 2), be sure to tune in again on May 6 when Houston Orchid Society has its meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Brad Miller, our current vice president in charge of the plant table, will show and tell about the past few months of orchid blooms you all have shared in the newsletter. Brad is the dynamic young man who was chair of the raffle table the past couple of years. He is a local realtor who has a collection of orchids that

includes several vintage cattleyas.

Starting off with the spectacular photos submitted in the month prior to the Texas deep freeze, we will be viewing a panoply of blooms and sharing tales of loss and redemption. Be prepared to chime in if you have a story or information when your plant comes around on the screen.

Brad does have quite a few pictures, so we will cap the presentation if it runs too long. However, one of the special features of our Teams format is the ability to converse in real

time. I look forward to sharing the evening of May 6 with you all.



## President's Message *By Bill C*

The first month of spring 2021 has passed and has it been an incredible display of flowers and wonderful weather so far. All the plants blooming in the landscape seem extra vibrant and abundant.

We had the first HOS spring auction on April 10 in place of the show that had to be postponed. I want to thank all of you who participated in making the auction a safety-conscious, enjoyable and successful social

and fundraising event on a beautiful April day in Houston. I really appreciate the teamwork that went into setting up the area, getting the auction plants processed through the auction system, the accounting and the final cleanup. Of course a big thanks for all the donations of both cash and plants for the HOS and for bringing in plants for sale. There were a total of 83 items auctioned, which raised

\$2,200 for the HOS, \$500 for members. Wow! It appears there is interest in future auctions. Check out the photographs of the auction on page 4.

The Houston Judging Center had its first in-person judging meeting in more than a year on March 20 at the home of Don G. It's good to see folks are stepping out but still taking precautions and bringing plants to have

*continued on page 2*



A nonprofit organization established in 1945, HOS is a recipient of the American Orchid Society's Distinguished Affiliated Societies Service award.

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## President's, from page 1

judged. Three plants were awarded out of more than 20 entries. The judging for May is again planned at Don G's home. Thank you, Don, for opening your home to the HOS and HJC. See the photographs of the awarded plants on pages 6–8.

The May meeting will be an online meeting. Invitations will be emailed the week of the meeting. Hopefully, Covid restrictions will be lifted soon and we can meet at the FCC in June. Stay tuned!

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We welcome guests at our virtual meetings. If you would like to receive an invitation to join a meeting, please send an email to [info@houstonorchidsociety.org](mailto:info@houstonorchidsociety.org).

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## All Houston Orchid Society Members Invited . . .

**Texas Orchids Speaker's Circuit, Monday, May 3, 7 p.m.**

**Guest Speaker: Michael Coronado**

**Topic: Vandaceous Orchids**



Michael Coronado started out working in the R.F. Orchids greenhouses, repotting, staking, fertilizing, packing and shipping, later getting involved with exhibiting orchids and other facets of the business. In 1985, R.F. Orchids incorporated and Michael became Vice President. He currently serves as Vice President in charge of growing and hybridizing.

Mike has traveled extensively around the world to keep abreast of the newest trends in orchid hybridizing, including the nursery's specialty, vandaceous orchids. He has spent several months at the R.F. Orchids' growing facility in Thailand learning techniques for the propagation and production of orchids for the international market. In his career with R.F. Orchids, Mike has also participated in many domestic and international orchid shows including several World Orchid Conferences and the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show. He is an accredited American Orchid Society Judge. He has served on the Board of Directors of the South Florida Orchid Society and is a Life Member of the American Orchid Society.

One of Mike's favorite activities is the design of private orchid gardens. He has designed orchid gardens for many important South Florida properties, including the outdoor façade of the Christian Louboutin boutique in the Miami Design District. Mike has also designed interior orchid arrangements for South Florida notables including Cristina Saralegui, and he is manager of the flower shop at the Ocean Reef Club. He was also instrumental in developing R.F. Orchids' "Orchid Camp," a series of educational classes about orchid growing in South Florida." [www.rforchids.com](http://www.rforchids.com)

### Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81705020446?pwd=M2R-rVklkdnIzK1VnZ1FuWDJ4K2twdz09>

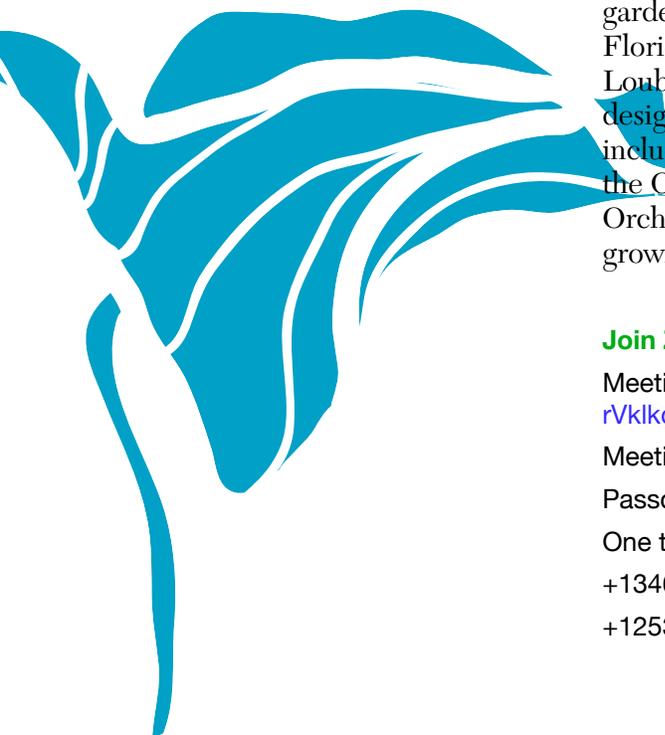
Meeting ID: 817 0502 0446

Passcode: 288965

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# Don G Hosts Houston Judging Center *By Marilyn H*

On April 17 Don G graciously opened his home to HJC for judging. It was an exciting day for the judges and growers to

participate in training, judging and fellowship. Eighteen beautiful orchids adorned Don's kitchen island. Three awards

were presented, one HCC and two AMs. Rick Helper's *Paph.* Hilo Black Eagle 'Dolly Dagger' earned an 82 AM. Sheila and Lauren Skov's *Paph.* Fred's Enchantment 'Graham's Shout' earned an AM 81. Derek Lowenstein's *Paph.* Calvert Sunrise 'Elaine' earned a 75 HCC. Congratulations to each of them!

Please consider joining us on May 15, 2021, for our next judging, which will be at the home of Don G, who has kindly offered his home at 14520 Westway Lane, Houston, Texas 77077, for judging again.

- 10:30 a.m. – Training with Linda Fries, Anita Aldrich, Derek Lowenstein
- 11:30 a.m. – Announcements, housekeeping
- 12 noon – Lunch is each individual's responsibility
- 12:30 p.m. – Regular judging activities to completion
- 11:30 a.m. is the deadline for entering plants for judging

We would love for you to join us. Bring your plants to show them off and hopefully earn an award.



## SPRING SALE

Orchids, bromeliads, ferns, aroids

SATURDAY, MAY 8

9AM-3PM

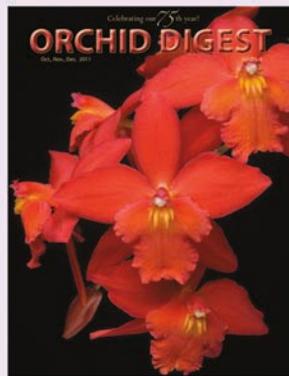
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# April 10 Auction— A Successful Social and Fundraising Event

*Photos by Malcolm M*



## From the Editor *By Donna D*

Last weekend, after having finally trimmed most of the deadwood out of my frost-bitten landscape and replaced much with Texas natives for birds and butterflies, I also repotted a half dozen orchids and reorganized my small indoor/outdoor collection. That felt like progress, and it included the four new beauties I brought home from the Auction on April 10. Everyone who worked the Auction deserves a deep vote

of gratitude. It was one of the most pleasant afternoons I have spent in a year. I was able to visit with my vaccinated daughter, and together we enjoyed the perfectly stunning April weather.

I hope you enjoy the gorgeous photos by Malcolm M of the gorgeous flowers awarded at the recently held in-person judging. Since “envy” is a sin, I’ll park my emotions on “admire.” Congratulations, with admiration, to the winners.





### Auction Results

83 items auctioned

\$2,200 raised for HOS, \$500 raised for members



**Bromeliad Society  
Houston  
meets on the  
third Tuesday of each month  
Visitors welcome  
[www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org](http://www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org)**



**Texas Gulf Coast  
Fern Society  
meets on the  
third Sunday of each month  
Visitors welcome  
[www.tgcfernsociety.org](http://www.tgcfernsociety.org)**

# Houston Judging Center April Awardees



*Paph. Fred's Enchantment 'Graham's Shout', AM 81  
Presented by Laurie S.*

Photo by Malcolm McCorquodale. © 2021 Malcolm McCorquodale, Houston, Texas.

# Houston Judging Center April Awardees



*Paph. Hilo Black Eagle, AM 82*  
*Presented by Rick H.*

Photo by Malcolm McCorquodale. © 2021 Malcolm McCorquodale, Houston, Texas.

# Houston Judging Center April Awardees



*Paph. Calvert Sunrise 'Elaine', HCC 75*  
*Presented by Derek L.*

Photo by Malcolm McCorquodale. © 2021 Malcolm McCorquodale, Houston, Texas.

## New Developments in Orchid Cloning *By Art Chadwick*



*The French firm, Vacherot & Lecoufle, was the first to pioneer cloning on a grand scale. Their Lc. Culminant 'La Tuilerie' AM/AOS from 1957 was sold worldwide and can still be found in collections today.  
Photo by Arthur Chadwick*

My father, A.A. Chadwick, is a collector of historical cattleyas—many of which are more than a century old. Over the years, a small number of these heirlooms have acquired a virus which is a disease that can adversely affect the flowers or foliage and is highly contagious. He quarantines these infected plants on a separate bench in his greenhouse where they can't come in contact with the rest of the collection.

He continues to keep the distressed orchids because they are a window into the past, when the earliest fine varieties of species were being discovered or the very first hybrids were being introduced. In most cases, the blooms can still be photographed and even pollinated for future generations of pedigree cattleyas. But what he has always hoped for is to return the heirlooms to their original condition—when they were vigorous and healthy—before the virus zapped their strength and tarnished their fine attributes.

There had always been rumors of a few sophisticated hobbyists who had managed to grow a clean plant from a virused plant but the stories could never be verified. And, every so often, an article would appear in an orchid magazine about a university or government researcher who had

achieved some success but the technique was far beyond the reach of the everyday enthusiast. Perhaps all this chatter was in the back of my father's mind as he diligently maintained his bench of infected orchids.

In 2014, I attended an orchid conference in Florida and heard a speaker give a lecture on removing viruses from ornamentals. She had a very high success rate with cloning on a small scale and was looking for important historic cattleyas for the next, bigger phase of her project. My father's special bench was volunteered.

Cloned orchids have been the bedrock of the industry for the past half century and millions of identical plants are now being produced. The process of creating exact duplicates began in 1960, with a clever laboratory technique developed by Dr. G. S. Morel. Soon after, the French firm, Vacherot & Lecoufle, pioneered the procedure on a grand scale and mass distributed clones worldwide.



*Flasks full of virus-free cloned orchids await planting at the nursery. It will be another four to five years before they bloom.  
Photo by Arthur Chadwick*

However, some mother plants were found to be difficult to clone, especially if they had a virus. It was also critical that a virus didn't get passed on to the offspring. As a result of these complications, many of the most famous cattleyas were not cloned.

Our speaker at the conference addressed these concerns. Beth Lamb operates a small business that propagates orchids from seed and tissue culture. She relies heavily on her degrees in plant pathology and virology as well as her experience as

an advisor to a large citrus producer and explains how cloning is performed:

*“Orchid tissue cultures are started by dissecting a tiny growing point less than 1mm from the mother plant. This apical meristem is often free of pathogens due to the uneven distribution of virus within the mother plant. This culture may be combined with other methods such as heat treatment, cryotherapy, and chemotherapy to improve the odds of recovering clean plants.”*

That’s easy for her to say. The cloning process is highly technical and requires advanced laboratory equipment and know-how. Lamb is, no doubt, on the cutting edge.

Just last week, the very first clones of my father’s diseased plants started to bloom at our nursery. Not only do the flowers and foliage look great, but the plants all test negative for virus. My father is ecstatic.

Lamb’s work has far-reaching implications for both industry and hobbyists. The rare historic cattleyas that have been relegated to a few private collections for so long may now return to the market as virus-free clones—a century or more after they were first introduced. These are the plants that people have only read about and may, one day, be coming to a floral shop near you.



*The very first blooming of a virus-free clone from the classic alba cut flower, Cattleya Alice B. DuPont ‘Waldor’, occurred this month and was the result of a new advanced cloning technique.*

*Photo by Arthur Chadwick*

*Article and photos reprinted with permission from Arthur Chadwick, Chadwick & Son Orchids, Inc., 1240 Dorset Road, Powhatan, VA 23139. [chadwickorchids.com](http://chadwickorchids.com).*



# Stay-at-Home Orchids



Phal. *Orchid World* 'Carmela' - Brad M



Cattleya *Jose Marti* - Brad M

Click Here  
to Submit Pictures to  
[share@houstonorchidsociety.org](mailto:share@houstonorchidsociety.org)

## Image Guidelines

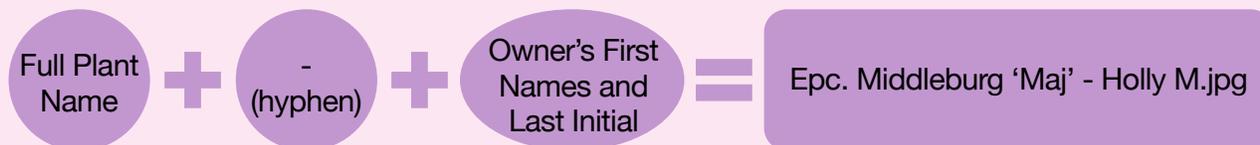
It takes a little time to prepare the images for the newsletter so we need your help. Here are some standards to follow to ensure your image makes it in the publication.

Your image should be at least 1024 pixels wide. Smaller images will be too blurry to be used. If in doubt, rotate your phone sideways (horizontal). Take your photo as close to the flower being photographed as possible, and make sure the flower is in focus.

Ensure that you are naming the image file following the guideline below before attaching it to your email. Basically it is the Plant Name + Owner First Name and Last Initial (see examples below).

Send any questions you may have before submitting to [info@houstonorchidsociety.org](mailto:info@houstonorchidsociety.org).

### Example 1



### Example 2



## Stay-at-Home Orchids



*Den. discolor 'H&R' x Den. gouldii* - Brad M



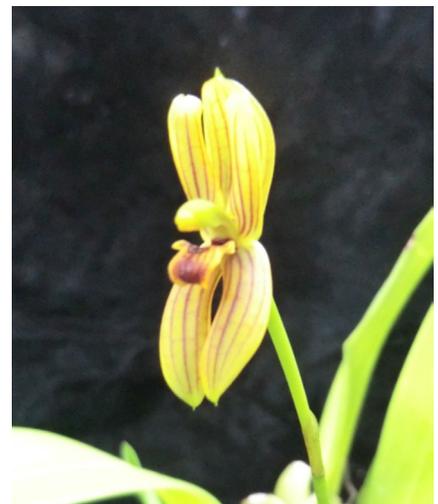
*Broughtonia ortgesiana* - Dave H



*Encyclia taurumana* - Dave H



*Cattleya intermedia acquinii 'Sebastian Farrell'* - Dave H



*Mormolyca ringens* - Dave H

## Stay-at-Home Orchids



*Bulb. cercanthum* - *Cristi C*



*Dendrobium kingianum alba* -  
*Dave H*



*Epidendrum parkinsonianum* -  
*Dave H*



*Cattleya schilleriana* - *Dave H*



*Phaius pulchra alba* x *Phaius*  
*tankervilleae alba* - *Dave H*

## Stay-at-Home Orchids



*Angraecum distictum* - Dave H



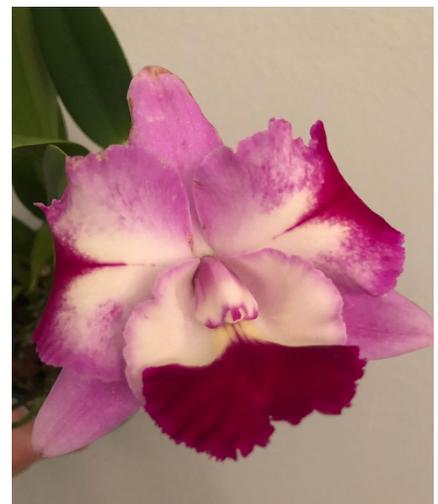
*Guarianthe (Cattleya) aurantiaca*  
"Lemon Drop" - Dave H



*Cattleya Carribbean 'Orange Bowl'* - Jenna Y



*Cattleya trianae* "Exquisite" - Dave H



*Cattleya Mari's Love 'Taka'* - Jenna Y

## Stay-at-Home Orchids



*Eplc. Yokosuka Story 'Wilson'* - Jenna Y



*Encyclia Nursery Rhyme* - Jenna Y



*Epicattleya Rene Marques* - Jenna Y



*Oncidium Twinkle* - Jenna Y



*Lc. Gold Digger 'Orglade's Mandarin'* - Jenna Y

# Stay-at-Home Orchids



*Epidendrum Miracle Valley - Jenna Y*



*Two different Complex Bulldog Hybrid Paphiopedilums - Jenna Y*



*Zygonesia Roquebrune 'Sea Foam' - Jenna Y*



*D. primulinum - Kar C*



*Zygopetalum Louisendorf - Jenna Y*

# May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 TOC meeting, 7 pm (online)	4	5	6 HOS meeting, 7:30 pm (online)	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Houston Judging Ctr, 10:30 am, home of Don G*
16 Newcomers Group (cancelled)	17	18	19	20	21 June newsletter content due	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

\*See article on page 3. Don G's address is 14520 Westway Lane, Houston, Texas 77077.

We welcome guests at our virtual meetings. If you would like to receive an invitation to join a meeting, please send an email to [info@houstonorchidsociety.org](mailto:info@houstonorchidsociety.org).



## AOS Greenhouse Chat

**Ron McHatton**

**Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 7:30 p.m. CDT**

Grow your knowledge and join AOS Education and Science Officer, Ron McHatton, for a fun filled hour of orchid questions and answers. Send questions by May 2 to [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org). [Register now.](#)



*Prosthechea karwinskii*  
in Mexico  
A Study in Reintroduction  
presented by  
Julia Douglas

## AOS Webinar:

***Prosthechea karwinskii* in Mexico  
(members only)**

**Julia Douglas**

**Thursday, May 13, 2021, 7:30 p.m. CDT**

Join Julia Douglas as she shows how populations of *Prosthechea karwinskii* (formerly *Encyclia citrina*) are being restored in Oxaca, Mexico. [Register now.](#)