



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



Please Welcome New Member

Priscilla Tolbert

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The Houston Happenings



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January Program: Latouria Dendrobiums by Linda Fries

Linda began growing orchids in graduate school with the purchase of a phalaenopsis-type Dendrobium from a Kroger in Bowling Green, OH. In 1993, she joined two orchid societies in the Washington, DC area, and joined the judging program the following year.

Linda is a geologist and science communications specialist at Rice University and is working part-time on her PhD at NASA on the next mission to Mars.

Linda's program will be an overview of the Latouria Dendrobiums - where they come from, their growing conditions, history, use in hybridizing with recent awards, what judges like about them and what they



don't, and current breeding trends.

Please join us Thursday evening, January 3rd, 2019 at

7:30 pm at the First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd, Houston, TX 77005.

President's Post By Rick Hepler

Welcome one and all to a new year of orchid fun! Growing, blooming and learning new ways of enjoying our wonderful passion.

One of the most rewarding ways of learning more about orchid is by volunteering for any one of the many openings that come up throughout the year.

Each month, tasty treats for the refreshment table are a way of volunteering your time and your contributions are greatly appreciated by the members. Sarah is always looking for volunteers to announce the plant tables each month, another great way to contribute and learn at the same time.

Each spring, the HOS hosts an orchid show and for me, this

was and is one of the most rewarding events to be involved in. I learn so much about side activities that go along with our hobby: staging a display, plant and flower presentation, classification of the vast variety of orchids and best of all, the many people all enjoying each other and the hobby.



The August workshop requires many of the same activities to put a great learning experience together as well. So, I am expecting many busy orchid folks each month and for our big events in order to have a fruitful 2019 orchid season!

Two other events we as a group host, the Fall picnic and the Christmas Party, are two ways we give ourselves a big thank you and a pat on the back for a great job done in 2019.

All in all when you "lend a hand" or help out in some way and have fun doing so, it really doesn't seem like you volunteered at all.

Paphiopedilum sukhakulii

Plant Table By Sarah Bentley

Happy New Orchid Year! 2018 was a great year for me at the Plant Table, I hope it was entertaining and enlightening for you all. I am always pleased to have the participation of our faithful long time members as well as seeing the plants of newer orchid enthusiasts in our group. FYI, anyone is welcome to bring a blooming plant as long as you have owned it more than 6 months.

In addition to presiding over the "Show and Tell" Plant Table every month, this past year, my duties were extended to make the HOS floor exhibit at the April Show and Sale - under the direction and cooperation with many others. This crew also presented our entry into the Galveston Orchid Society Show last spring.

Thank you to all you mentors. I will not go into those details in this article - just suffice to say I enjoyed working with everyone to represent HOS and the orchid to the general public and all our sister Orchid Societies. I hope those who bring plants each month will be available and willing to share your plants and help out at the shows coming in the new year. It is so rewarding!

Now I will drone on with the statistics from Plant Table participation for 2018. I was snowed out of Houston for January, so I do not have any numbers for that month. Over the remaining months, our members produced 298 blooming plants to grace the exhibit, so I can report there were more than 300 displayed over the year.

These people brought orchids in 2018:

Judith Neufeld: 39 orchids and one vote for favorite orchid (winner of a \$50.00 check of appreciation!)

Rick Hepler: 37 orchids, including one of special notice from Dr. Harold Koo-powitz

Jay Balchan: 26 orchids and winner of popular vote twice

Kar Chong: 26 orchids and winner of popular vote once

Marianne Canevaro: 20 orchids and three times winner of popular votes

Sandra Higham: 14 orchids with one vote winner

Lily Chang: 14 lovely orchids
Stephen Moffitt: 13 orchids with one winner of popular vote

Fred Robinson: 12 orchids and one vote winner

Troy Merchant: 12 orchids

Fr. Ted Baenziger: 12 orchids

Bill Caldwell: 10 orchids including some that grow wild on his property

Steve Fox: 9 orchids

Melissa Dwan: 8 orchids, with two winning popular vote

Trey Hotalen: 8 orchids

Tan Tran: 6 orchids with THREE popular vote winners

Brad Miller: 6 orchids with one popular vote winner

Bill Bartlett: 5 orchids with one vote winner

Amy Colville: 5 orchids

Tim Gallagher: 4 orchids with one popular vote winner

Don Ghiz: 4 orchids with one popular vote winner

Steve Gallagher: 3 orchids with two popular vote winners

Luke and Stacey Pauley: 3 orchids with one vote winner

Nina Rach: 3 orchids with one vote winner

Ivan Bernal: 3 orchids

Ken Whitmire: 2 orchids

Jacob Smelz: 2 orchids

Sarah Bentley: 2 orchids (actually the same plant two months in a row)

Yvonne and Jay Li: 1 orchid which won the popular vote

The following HOS members brought one orchid each to display on the plant table during 2018:

Derek Lowenstein
Alan Davies
Denny Haase
Matthew Polnater
Jean Schwenke

Thank you again for your participation in this endeavor. I take responsibility for any errors in the above list. Please let me know if you want to help with the plant table in 2019.

Houston Judging Center By Don Maples

The Houston Judging Center Judges have been very busy this month. First, we participated in the Acadian Short Course Workshop held in Lafayette, LA, on December 1st. Five awards were earned during the judging.

On December 15th, the judges met at the First Christian Church. We had four awards. The first award went to Stephen Moffitt for his Fredclarkeara After Midnight which scored an HCC of 76 points. Stephen had two more awards for the day. His Fredclarkeara Kelly Longley received an HCC of 77 points and his Cynoches Wild Sunsets received an AM of 82 points. Al Taylor from Leesville, LA., brought in another Fredclarkeara Kelly Longley which also received an AM of 82 points.

The Houston Judging Center will hold its bi-annual business meeting for 2019 on January 22 at the First Christian Church. Plants that are submitted will be judged after the meeting. The cut off time for receiving the plants is 11:30.

The new Chair of the Houston Judging Center beginning on January 1st will be Marilyn Holloway.

The monthly meeting of the Houston Judging Center is held on the third Saturday of each month at the First Christian Church, where HOS has their monthly meetings. See the next page for additional photos.



January Tips By Father Ted Baenziger

Resolved for the year 2019

- To observe my plants carefully for critters so I can stop them before they spread;
- To check for flower spikes and stake them before they get out of hand;
- To clean and bring flowering plants to monthly meetings;
- To repot on time to avoid too much shock;
- To water regularly, not too much, not too little;
- To fertilize weakly, weekly, when new growth begins;
- To turn plants to get more even growth;
- To clean up under the growing areas and check for snails and slugs;
- To plan ahead for helping out at meetings and shows on a regular basis;
- To take photos of my flowers to share with others;
- To donate money to worthy causes, especially the HOS and the AOS;
- To compliment others, being generous with time, advice, and extra plants;
- To be curious and do research, regularly;
- To take time to give thanks.

And here is a practical tip for all of us that I recommend. Save some of those plastic containers that are not colored (i.e., clear), in any size from 4 ounce to a half-gallon, very well-rinsed. Soaking in hot water is usually all I need to remove the label; and it is OK if it's not entirely clean on the outside.

I have a small knife with a sharp point and a slightly serrated edge. I punch into the plastic below the top (well before it curves in to form a dome or neck) and saw all around, making sure that the edge is clean and even. I can save the top to cover delicate seedlings from drying out. I then punch three or four holes around the side, from 1/2" to 3/4" from the bottom, for drainage, rounding them out so they are about 1/8 to 1/4 inch across. In the bottom of the new orchid pot, I place pebbles or small rocks above the holes. This forms a reservoir of water and humidity that permeates the medium above, and provides stability to the arrangement. (Some people call this semi-

hydroponics.) I then use fine bark mix to plant youngsters for a three-year stay, and in the big pots, I have some of my larger *Dendrobium*, *Paphiopedilum* and even a *Chysis bractescens*, a giant plant, which are all thriving in a courser medium. I can check the roots quite easily, and when I want to transport them, I use a cache-pot to avoid spillage or tumping them over. *Phalaenopsis* do OK in this type of environment, but I found that *Bulbophyllum* and other shallow rooted wandering orchid plants prefer shorter and wider receptacles.

Another method you can use for "twig epiphytes", like *Tolumnia* or *Rodrumnia*, uses metal Chinese noodle strainers, with or without medium (like coi, which is coconut fiber and must be rinsed thoroughly to rid it of salt, or sphagnum moss, both of which dry out rather quickly). Of course, watering must be frequent with this arrangement. The handle of the strainer can then be bent upwards to provide a ready-made hanger. See the December 2018 Orchids Magazine for some illustrations.

And a happy New Year from Fr. Ted.



Houston Judging Center Photos

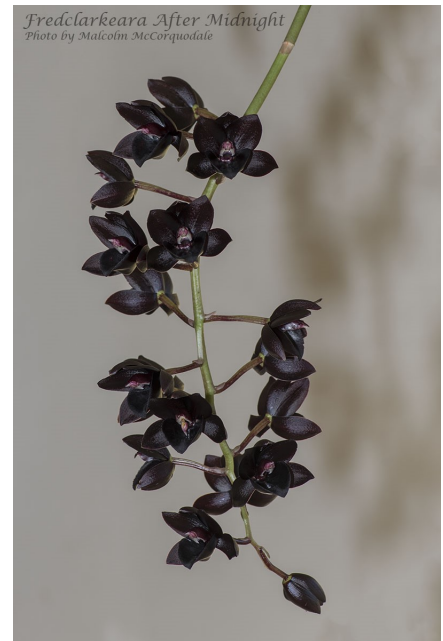
Cycnoches Wild Sunsets Presented by Stephen Moffitt

Cycnoches Wild Sunsets
Photo by Malcolm McCorquodale



Fredclarkeara After Midnight Presented by Stephen Moffitt

Fredclarkeara After Midnight
Photo by Malcolm McCorquodale



Refreshments By Melissa Dwan

A big THANKS to each of you for bringing such delicious and wonderful homemade food and refreshments to our HOS annual holiday party. I hope everyone had a good time! The Refreshments Chair for 2019 will be Lily Chang. I hope that you will support her as you did me this past year.



Stay-At-Home Orchids from Bill Caldwell

Stay-At-Home Orchids from Stacey Pauley

Spring in Bloom

Cattleya wittigiana 'La Dolce Vita'

Cattleya Hailstorm



Cattleya coccinea 'Mars'



Brassocatanthe Marlene Caldwell

Stay-At-Home Orchids from Stacey Pauley

Slc Momilani Rainbow



Slc Golden Wax 'Lonestar'



January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 <i>Content Due Date</i>	15	16	17	18	19 <i>HJC Judging</i>
20 <i>2:00 pm Newcomers</i>	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AOS Webinars



Thursday, January 10, 2019 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM CST
Cattleya Species Culture, Bill Rogerson
 For Members Only

[Register](#)



Tuesday, January 29, 2019 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM CST
Greenhouse Chat, Ron McHatton

[Register](#)

Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society

Meets the Third Sunday of each month
 2:00pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community
 Center, 2020 Hermann Drive

Visitors Welcome
www.tgcfersoc.org

Bromeliad Society Houston

Meets Monthly on the
Third Tuesday of the month,
7:00 pm
West Gray Multi-Service Center
Visitors Welcome
www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

Upcoming Events

January 11-13, 2019

**Miami Orchid Society
Tamiami International Orchid Festival
Dade County Fairgrounds Expo Center
10901 Coral Way
Miami, FL**

January 25-27, 2019

**Orchid Paradise
Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Show
War Memorial Auditorium
800 N. 8th Street
Ft. Lauderdale, FL**

February 9-10, 2019

**Boca Raton Orchid Society Show
Safe Schools Institute
1790 NW Spanish River Blvd
Boca Raton, FL**

March 22-24, 2019

**Alama Orchid Society Show
San Antonio Garden Center
3310 North New Braunfels Ave
San Antonio, TX**

April 6-7, 2019

**Houston Orchid Society Show
Memorial City Mall
Dillard's Court**

April 12-14, 2019

**Acadian Orchid Society Show
Ira Nelson Horticultural Center
2206 Johnston Street
Lafayette, LA 70503**

HOS Officers and Committee Chairs

Officers

President	Rick Hepler
VP - Speakers	Nina Rach
VP - Shows	Sarah Bentley
VP - Membership	Stacey Pauley
Treasurer	Winnie Yap
Recording Secretary	Sheila Skov
Past President	Don Ghiz

Chairs

Conservation	Nina Rach
Display Table	Sarah Bentley
Exhibits	Loren Neufeld
Guest Hospitality	Marianne Canevaro
Happenings Editor	Jay Balchan
Intermediate Group	Stephen and Tim Gallagher
Newcomers Group	Don Ghiz
Parliamentarian	Malcolm McCorquodale
Photography	Brad Miller
Plant Raffle	Lily Chang
Refreshments	Frank & Cherie Lee
Silent Auction	Jay Balchan
Spring Show	Derek Lowenstein
Summer Workshop	Tom Durrett
Webmaster	

Directors - One Year Term

Holly Miller	Steve Fox
Calvin Starr	Marianne Canevaro
Susan Dally	Stephen Moffitt
Ft. Ted Baenziger	Jay Balchan

Directors - Two Year Term

Representatives

AOS Representative	Jay Balchan
IPA Representative	Father Ted Baenziger
ODC Representative	Father Ted Baenziger
SWROGA Directors	Laurie Skov Don Maples