

BROS ORCHIDS

Baton
Rouge
Orchid
Society



The Newsletter Of
The Baton Rouge
Orchid Society



**7 PM, Wed
May 19, 2021**

Bob Fuchs

'Vandas Culture'

A Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Meeting

Choose how you wish to attend.

- 1. Burden Museum and Gardens
[Info on next page]**
- 2. Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87823051907>

Bob Fuchs



Yes, we are finally able to meet again!

Bring some plants to show us what you're growing.

7 PM Wed, May 19

Burden Conference Center. 4560 Essen. [Corner of I-10 exit]

[\[Or Join us by Zoom.\]](#)

Bob always gives a great talk. He is one of the premiere breeders of Vandas in the US, has one of the best orchid nurseries in south Florida. And, ... oh yes ..., he's also the 2021 President of AOS!

Bring your mask.

Bob Fuchs' Bio

Robert Fuchs is a third-generation orchid grower, and president of R.F. Orchids, Inc., in Homestead, Florida, USA. The nursery was founded in 1970, the year he graduated from Florida State University. Also in that year, he began a 15-year career as a teacher at Homestead Junior High School.

He has been a member of AOS since 1960, when his grandparents Fred and Louis Fuchs gave him the membership as a gift.

In 1983, when the South Florida Orchid Society moved the venue of the Miami International Orchid Show in preparation for the 11th World Orchid Conference the next year, Robert was the first show chairman for the event in the new location, the Coconut Grove Exhibition Center. And the 11WOC, the next year, was also a major success. The R.F. Orchids exhibit at 11WOC won a Silver Medal, and V. Deva 'Robert', a plant he had grown from seedling size, was named Grand Champion.

Robert is an accredited South Florida Orchid Society judge and was elected President of SFOS in 1985, the year after 11WOC. He was elected as an AOS Trustee in 1987 and served through 1993. During his tenure he served on Lena Parker's Affiliated Societies Committee, becoming Vice Chair of that Committee. He also served on the Library and Historical Committee, expanding his horizons about orchid art through the guidance of Mary Noble McQuerry, and is Vice-Chair of this Committee today.

In 1992, R.F. Orchids, like most of South Florida, was devastated by hurricane Andrew. The nursery was almost totally destroyed by the storm, but through hard work and dedication, and help from many AOS members (especially members of the Atlanta Judging Center), Robert and staff rebuilt the business. It is even more successful than ever. R.F. Orchids is the recipient of more than 1,200 AOS plant awards, including 104 CCM/CCEs for excellence in orchid culture, and 42 FCC/AOS, the highest recognition for flower quality. For exhibits, R.F. Orchids has won 53 AOS Show Trophies, 31 Gold Certificates, and 17 Artistic Certificates. As well, the nursery has received a number of the AOS's annual awards, including the Fukumura, Butterworth, Miyamoto and Huntington Awards.

In 1997, Robert organized the first AOS judging on the African continent, bringing AOS expertise and standards to the South African Orchid Congress. He participated in a number of SAOC shows and events after that, and received the SAOC Gold Medal for Service at 21WOC in Johannesburg. SAOC has since adapted AOS judging practice to its own awards program.

As part of his commitment to AOS, he has been instrumental in the move from the old Delray Beach facility to new headquarters at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. He resigned as a Trustee of the World Orchid Conference Trust in order to focus his energies on the AOS's new home in South Florida. He has been working with the Library and Historical Committee to move the AOS's extensive collection of archival books and materials out of storage and into the new library at Fairchild.

Robert is also Chair of the AOS's Centennial Committee, which will celebrate the AOS's first hundred years, at the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables. The 2021 event will also look ahead to the society's next 100 years.

Currently, he is the President of the American Orchid Society, and looks forward to carrying on the hard work of his predecessors Frank Smith, George Hatfield and Susan Wedegaertner. He has enjoyed a lifetime dedication of promoting orchids around the world.

Message from President Frank McMains

Hello, fellow BROS!

We are fortunate this month! Bob Fuchs, the American Orchid Society President, is going to be our monthly speaker. He will share his abundant knowledge with us. Specifically, he will discuss vandas. Learn more about those fascinating, dangling orchids from a deeply knowledgeable source this month.

Our monthly meeting will be held on May 19th, we will be meeting in-person at Burden, but a Zoom link will be sent around before hand for those who cannot or who prefer not to attend.

Work at the conservatory continues. Frank Z needs help there on many Saturday mornings. He will address volunteer opportunities during this month's meeting. The BROS are also trying to participate in more events that take place at Burden. If you are able and willing to spend a few hours at the conservatory during events, then please let me know.

There are some great deals on beautiful orchids right now. Check our webstore for more information.

Please bear with us while we all adjust to the post-vaccine world.

Frank McMains

225-603-4861

www.frankmcmains.com

We will be selling these 5 orchids from Taiwan at our meeting.

They are \$15 bare root.

Rlc. Chunyeah 'Good Life' Am/AOS



Rth. Fu Shu Glory 'Happy Holiday'



Blra. Marfitch 'Howard's Dream' AM/AOS



Den. spectabile



Arachnis flosaeris



Minutes from the Mar Meeting

Growing Cymbidiums in the Deep South

The BROS April meeting featured guest speaker Harry McElory talking about how he grows his cymbidiums. He first recommended a book titled Heat Tolerant Cymbidiums as a good how to book. Success begins with selecting the right cymbidium for your climate. Harry shared many pictures of cymbidium crosses and what parents to look for to make sure you have a warm growing orchid.

He recommends a not soggy but a not completely dry media that is long lasting. His mix is composed of 3 parts pure cypress mulch, then the other 1/4 is 3/4 perlite, 1/4 crushed oyster shell, and 1/10 diatomaceous earth.

He fertilizes with a time release of 13-13-13 and uses 18-6-12 in the fall, with completely stopping the addition of nitrogen in September..

His talk was recorded if anyone would like to hear it.

Contact Jim Morrison.

In other Society news Kathy reported the we sold all of the extra orchids for sale during the Master Gardener plant sale. We also had a steady stream of visitors walking through our orchid greenhouse wondering why those weren't for sale also.

Join us May 19th to hear Bob Fuchs talk about growing vandas.

Patty Granier, Secretary

LSU Conservatory Notes by Frank Z

A very productive work day for our First Sat in May.

Thanks to everyone that helped.

95% of the offensive cypress mulch is discarded. Most of the plants are now in haydite and Styrofoam but we are trying other media to see which has best results.

Spring growth has emerged on most everything.



Membership News

It seems like a very long time since we have been together at a meeting and thankfully that will change this month. During the past year I have changed BROS hats. I now work with Membership and feel I need to retire as the Hospitality Committee chair. I know we can get someone to step up and resume the role of Hospitality when LSU gives permission for refreshments to be served again. It is my understanding that at this point, LSU is not allowing food & beverages to be served.

Zoom has been a wonderful way to expand our membership rolls. We have had a number of new members join since we last met. As Membership Chair, I would like to introduce some of our new members. Please help me welcome these new members when we meet.

Robert Duncan – Joined March 19 of this year and has grown Phals of and on for 10 years and would now like to try other varieties. He lives in Baton Rouge.

Russel Deroche – Joined March 14 of this year and lives in Gramercy. He has been active in the New Orleans Orchid Society and would like to share knowledge on orchid growing.

Geoffrey Frost & Michael Gurjack-Frost joined January 24 of this year and currently live in Austin. Geoff tells me they will be moving to Baton Rouge sometime this year and looks forward to meeting members.

Jodi Morton – Joined in January as the winner of a Burden Raffle which included a free BROS membership. Jodi lives in Zachary and wants to be an active member.

Mary Cash – Joined in December of 2020 and is from New Braunfels, Texas. She is a regular attendee of our zoom meetings.

Richard and Cindy Schmidt – joined last September and are from Beeville Texas. Richard is another zoom BROS follower. Richard also gave a nice donation as well. Thank You.

Ken Bosso – Joined in September of 2020 and is well known around the Burden Grounds. Ken is past president of the EBRMG association and is also known for growing succulents. Wants to support BROS.

Ann Levy and Johnny Gordon – Joined in August of last year and live in Baton Rouge. They like so many of us are looking for orchid growing education.

Kathy and Chris Lopiparo – Joined in June of 2020 & immediately built a greenhouse. Kathy and Chris live in Baton Rouge

Welcome to all new members since we last met in person and hope you send a 'selfie' soon so we can add it to our Member Directory.

Anyone with suggestions on how we can improve our membership outreach please let me know.

Nancy Morrison

Ncm6383@msn.com

LSU Orchid Conservatory

Photos by Hal & Pat Canning



Orchid Conservatory

Photos by Glenn Gawarecki



Orchid Conservatory

Photos by Peter Grant



Photos by Lata Johnson



Bob Lank holding the orchid Wrn. (Myc.) Bob Lank (Rby. Hawaiian Leopard (alba) X Mcp. exaltata # 3).

This is a cross by James Jeansonne. He flasked the seeds on Nov 21, 2008. The first flower opened April 17, 2015.

Photo by Nancy Morrison.



**Dee Grant gazing at the flower stalk of Myc. John's Passion,
a Myr-Catt hybridized by James Jeansonne.
The actual plant is on the bench next to her (red circle).**

Photo by Peter Grant.



**These 4 orchids were given an AOS
award last month in Alexandria at our
Louisiana Orchid Judging Center.**



**20216564 Paph. Macabre
Mothra 'Louisiana' AM 80
Grower: Al Taylor**



**20216563 Den. Kaila Quintal
'Nancy Marie' HCC 75
Grower: Nancy Dempsey**



**20216566 Sarcochilus
(provisional) 'Catahoula
Charm' HCC 79
Grower: Eron Borne**



**20216567
Paph. Wassner
Black Wings
'Louisiana' AM
82
Grower:
Al Taylor**

Hal, becoming one with a Myrmecophila



2021

BROS OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Frank McMains

VICE-PRES Bob Lank

SECRETARY Patty Granier

TREASURER Jim Morrison

SHOW CHAIR

**LSU ORCHID
CONSERVATORY**

[Task Master]

Frank Zachariah

NEWSLETTER

Editor Frank Zachariah

Co-Editor Jim Morrison

BOARD MEMBERS

Glenn Gawarecki (thru 2021)

Hal Canning (thru 2022)

Lata Johnson (thru 2023)

SWROGA REPS

Lata Johnson

Kathy Conerly

AOS REP

Tin-Wein Yu

ORCHID DIGEST

Frank Zachariah

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program ♦ Lata Johnson

Publicity ♦ Kim Kensill

Membership ♦

Nancy Morrison

Baton Rouge Orchid Society

7925 Director Dr

Baton Rouge, LA 70817-5336

Email: info@batonrougeorchidsociety.org

Facebook: Baton Rouge Orchid Society
LSU Orchid Conservatory

Web: www.batonrougeorchidsociety.com

Instagram: [baton_rouge_orchid_society](https://www.instagram.com/baton_rouge_orchid_society)

