

BROS ORCHIDS

Baton
Rouge
Orchid
Society



The Newsletter Of
The Baton Rouge
Orchid Society



Wed, Nov 17, 2021



We are meeting at Burden!

Dr Hal Canning

'Phalaenopsis Culture'

followed by our 1st Annual Auction

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87194705308>

Hal Canning

**We will be meeting at the Burden Conference Center
Wed, 7 PM 4560 Essen Lane [Bring your mask]**

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87194705308>



Dr. Hal Canning is a retired Air Force Dentist. He spent 32 years on active duty, living on three continents. Upon retiring, he relocated to Baton Rouge to be close to his parents and brother.

His first encounter with orchids was during his early Air Force years in Shreveport, La. Out of curiosity about orchids, he attended a public seminar and, yep – you guessed it – he won the door prize – a phalaenopsis! Feeling the need to learn how to take care of it, he joined the local orchid society that expanded his interest in these beautiful plants. However, due to his frequent assignments to foreign lands, he was not able to pursue his new-found hobby until he retired.

He started growing phalaenopsis orchids about 10 years ago in his kitchen window. He immediately ran out of space, so he built a customized table to accommodate more plants in the family room. He has had reasonable success in reblooming phals indoors. In 2017, he finally built his dream greenhouse! Come by anytime to visit.

Bring \$\$\$

After Hal's presentation on Phalaenopsis Culture we will have our **1st Annual Auction** of special plants from Louisiana Orchid Connection.

Minutes from the Oct Meeting

The October B.R . Orchids Society start with a program by Frank Zachariah called "The Ultimate Guide for Growing Orchids". The following are some of his best tip for successfully growing your orchids:

Growing and caring for your orchids is a great stress reducer

Orchids need a certain light intensity to make flowers

Cattelyas need 3,000 foot candles (FC),

Duration is determined by taking readings from a phone app at 10:00am, 2:00 pm and 4:00pm and divide by 3 for your average

Water Orchids absorb water through the vellum covering their roots

99% of orchids killed are from too much watering causing root rot

Media if you think you have problems with your media make a dummy pot of it and see how long it takes to dry out

Organic media decomposes in three years making repotting necessary

Pseudobulbs store water - more American orchids have pseudobulbs than Asian orchids because Asia has a longer rainy season

AOS recommends a pH of 5-6 for most orchids

Frank uses 14-8-14 Peters Excel fertilizer

AOS recommended temperatures for orchids:

	Day.	Night
Cattleya.	85.	60
Dendrobium.	90.	65
Vandas.	95.	70
Phalaenopsis.	85.	65

Respiration takes place at night. High night temps interfere with optimum respiration and causes unhealthy growth.

Circulation of air in the greenhouse offsets heat, enabling the orchids to produce more flowers.

The following is a list of the 2022 BROS officers

President: Frank McMains, Vice President: Glenn Gawarecki, Secretary: Patty Granier, Treasurer: Pat Canning, Show Chair: Jim Morrison. The new board member replacing Glenn is Frank Zachariah.

We welcomed new visitor Lucille Babs.

Meeting adjourned

Patty Granier (Secretary)

Frank Zachariah's presentation can be viewed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qLDjPObpr4k&authuser=0>

Nov Membership News



Barbara Poynter is a new member that signed up online through wild apricot. Welcome Barbara.

We have a few Nov birthdays to recognize.

Happy Birthday to all!

- James Baldrige
- Samantha Foster
- Mary Jo Kellogg
- Daniel McNamara
- Shirley Neesom
- Gene Berg
- Thelma Berg.

Thank you to all that have paid their membership dues. To any that have not, it is \$20.00 for a single & \$30.00 for a family up to 3.

As Always,
Nancy Morrison
Membership Chair

LSU Conservatory Notes by Frank Z

Thanks to Bonnie Selby's family for a large donation in her memory. (See the next page in this Newsletter.)

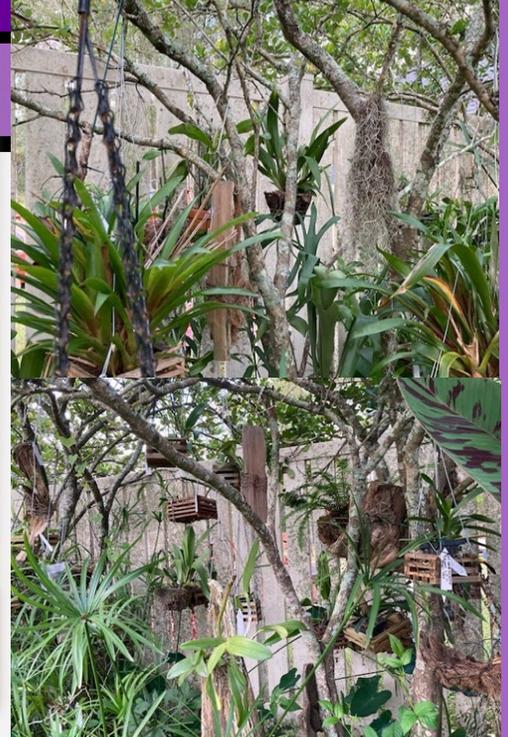
Continuing cleanup from our hurricane (and summer inattention).

I'm still amazed at the unique shapes and colors that orchids display.

Photos by Glenn Gawareski.



Bonnie Louise Bruce Selby



The Baton Rouge Orchid Society was honored by a local resident donating her beautiful orchid collection on her passing. We wish to offer our condolences and appreciation to the Selby/Ourso family for this donation. Bonnie's collection is now in the BROS Conservatory and marked with special yellow tags in her memory.

Bonnie Louise Bruce Selby, 70, a resident of Denham Springs, passed away Friday, October 1, 2021 after a long illness. Bonnie had a world-class talent for cultivating and growing orchids and left an extensive collection which has been donated, at her request, to the Baton Rouge Orchid Society.





The Baton Rouge, LA Orchid Society presented the Orchid Digest Diamond Award to James "Jim" Morrison. In 2014 Jim was required to do a presentation for Master Gardeners and chose orchids for his topic. His program was a big hit as he dressed in his orchid shirt and wore a safari hat. He was hooked on orchids!

Jim has served as Treasurer for three terms, making sure that -- even with our hurricanes -- our books stay positive. He was instrumental in beginning the LSU Orchid Conservatory.

During the pandemic he hosted 'Culture Club' to offer advice to beginners. Jim has moderated all of the Society's Zoom meetings during the pandemic.

Jim helped reclassify show classes for the SWROGA region so they are easier to understand. He created a comprehensive computer program for Orchid Shows to make AOS judging easier, to automatically print out show labels, and to keep track of show awards.

Recently he created a new web site for the Society <https://bros.wildapricot.org/> which includes a store where members can buy plants.

Jim even has an orchid blossom painted under the hood of his bright red Corvette!

Thank you, Jim for all that you do for our Society.

La Short Course

Sat, Dec 4, 2021

To register, go to: <https://bros.wildapricot.org/event-4527884>

Registration is free, whether listening thru Zoom or attending in person. Several host societies are contributing to the speaker fees to allow their members to participate at no charge. We are asking everyone to register to help us determine the size of the event.

Of course, we would love for you to attend in person!
It will be at the **Burden Gardens** (right off I-10 Interstate)

4560 Essen Lane

Baton Rouge, LA 70809

There will be a Sale Table.

Phragmipedium from Windy Hill Gardens

Phrag seedlings from Eron Borne

Hot loving Dendrobium from La Orchid Connection

(and on-line discounted plants from Jim Davison)

La Short Course
Sat, Dec 4, 2021

8:30 Meet & Greet [coffee & donuts]

9:00 **Phragmipedium — Slippers of the Americas**
Eron Borne

10:00 **Growing Phragmipedium in the Deep South**
Eron Borne

11:00 Lunch
& AOS Judging

1:00 **Latouria Dendrobium**
Jim Davison

2:00 **Lost Orchids of Papua New Guinea**
Phil Spence

Sales follows.

La Short Course

Sat, Dec 4, 2021

Eron Borne is a premier Phragmipedium grower in our region and has received several awards. He will be in Baton Rouge and tell us about this fascinating genus and give a hands-on demonstration of their care.

Jim Davison, his talk will provide an overview of the warm loving, strange and wonderous *Latouria Dendrobiums*, including which are best suited for hobby orchid growers and their culture and care. He will offer plants for sale at 15% discount.

Phil Spence (an Australian nurseryman) who will give a virtual program on his trek to Papua New Guinea to collect orchids.

AOS Judging, begin looking thru your collection to bring in some of your beauties!

If you have questions, email Frank Z [lousid8@gmail.com]

[Short Course]

Eron Borne



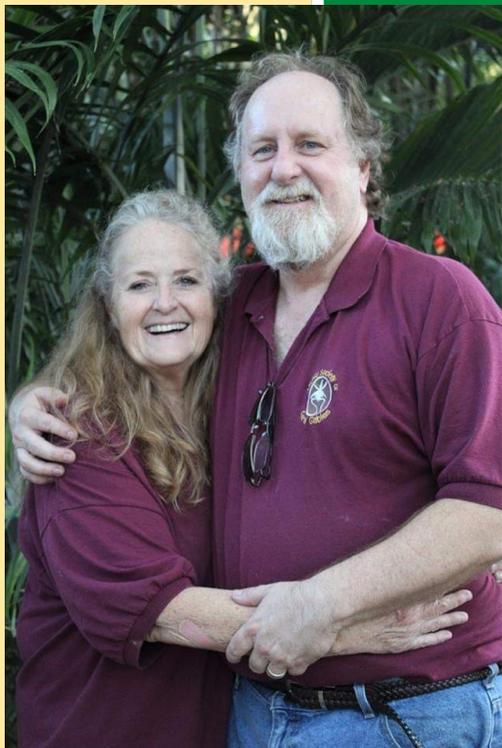
This year's short course will feature a two-part program on Phragmipediums by Eron Borne of the Central Louisiana Orchid Society. Professionally, Eron is a pilot, but he is also a very diverse orchid grower and breeder. One of his specialties are Phragmipediums which he has been growing in Louisiana for the past 14 years, and has even done his own hybridizing with them. He currently has about 150 Phragmipediums in his collection, successfully growing

most of the species here in the deep south. Before growing his Phrags in a greenhouse, he grew them under lights and on a windowsill. He has received AOS awards on 15 of his Phragmipediums to date. Eron has also won show trophies for Best Grown Plant and Best Flower in the Cypripedium Alliance with his Phragmipediums. Many of you know Eron from exhibiting at the various Louisiana shows, and he has served as the CLOS show chair on several occasions over the years. His Orchid Viruses presentation has been presented to almost all of the Louisiana orchid societies as well as the Houston orchid society.

Eron is the immediate past President and current Webmaster and board member for the CLOS, plus serves on the AOS and SWROGA Education Committees. He is also an AOS student judge with the Louisiana Judging Center in Alexandria. Eron has traveled and seen orchids in-situ in Colombia, Ecuador, the Caribbean, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Panama, as well as imported plants from Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Africa, Canada, Germany, and Asia. In addition to Phragmipediums, he has a large number of Cattleyas and Vandas, and is growing over 60 different genera in the same greenhouse, including Masdevallia, Dracula, Miltoniopsis, Restrepia, Zygopetalum, C. coccinea and many other intermediate to cooler growing orchids. Eron has also received numerous AOS awards on many different genera. He currently lives in Harrisonburg along with his wife Anna, and his twin daughters Elizabeth and Julia.

[Short Course]

Jim and Melana Davison



Jim and Melana Davison are AOS Accredited Judges. They have an extensive and diverse orchid collection that seems to be continuously growing. Not only involved in caring for their orchids, they are actively involved in several South Florida orchid societies. Melana is the current President of the Orchid Society of Coral Gables and past President of the South Dade Amateur Orchid Club. Jim is the past President of the Orchid Society of Coral Gables and the East Everglades Orchid Society.

Jim's appreciation for orchids stems from his scientific background. Before his recent retirement, he worked as a Nuclear Chemistry Manager at the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant. Melana is more interested in the aesthetic qualities of orchids, especially the ones that look strange and other worldly. She owns her own Orchid Maintenance business and is known as "The Orchidiva." They are currently preparing a new greenhouse and shade area and have opened their own retail nursery, Jim-N-I-Orchids. Together, Jim and Melana have 7 grown children and five grandchildren. They live in Homestead with their 2 dogs, four of the five grandchildren and 5,000 plus orchids in their own collection, many more in the nursery.

They offer a wide variety of collectible species and hybrids, specializing in *L. anceps* and *C. walkeriana*. *The Latouria Dendrobiums* presentation will showcase the diversity and culture of these long-lasting orchids from the Papua New Guinea region.



A Lump of Coal

by Pat Canning

Last month, I asked you to email me an item related to your love of orchids that you would like for Christmas. No one – that’s right – NO ONE – that means not one person responded to my request. So, either you don’t read the newsletter or didn’t have the time or inclination to participate in my little survey, or you just don’t want anything (really?). I must admit that I was being selfish and wanted ideas on what to get Hal; but, alas, no ideas dropped into my inbox as I eagerly opened my email each day. As days turned into weeks, I deleted countless spam messages, filed away PayPal and Amazon receipts from Hal’s online shopping, and responded to numerous emails regarding BROS treasurer duties. (Treasurer duties – that’s another article all by itself!)

But I will not let Christmas get the best of me this year. Start early, Pat (I preach to myself daily.) Shipping may take longer - who goes to the store anymore- and those ships are just floating around in the ocean waiting for the magical signal to dock so that our precious Christmas presents arrive on time to be under the tree for Christmas morning.

My first line of attack was to ask Hal what he would like for Christmas. This is dangerous. If he gets the notion that there is a little something that he wants, then he may just end up buying it! So, anything that he tells me now may be on the doorstep in a matter of days. Scratch that one off the list. Nevertheless, he came up with a few things that he would like.

A Lump of Coal (cont)



Hal's List:

- A label maker, like the one that Glenn uses to make the labels for plants in the conservatory.
- New pair of pruning shears.
- Lineman's pliers for wire bending.
- Miscellaneous supplies like a box of latex gloves, a squirt bottle (watch out you nasty mealybugs) or a bag of Orchiata.

Let's take a look at the list.

1 - A label maker – definitely no. Why you ask. Hal has fat finger syndrome. For some reason, his fingers land on the wrong keys. Cattleya would end up Ezssieua – two letters right out of eight. New genus of orchids in the green house! Therefore, guess who will get stuck with doing those labels? If I don't do it for him, it'll become an electronic dust collector.

2 – New pruning shears – hmmm, he already has several of them. They are just never within a 12-inch reach whenever and wherever he needs them. I doubt another pair will solve that problem but that's a maybe. (I just might order a pair for myself!)

3 – Lineman's pliers – I'm sorry but that just doesn't sound like a Christmas present. However, if it doesn't arrive at the house in the next few days, then maybe.

4 - Miscellaneous orchid supplies – REALLY – Oh how nice, a bag of potting media. Now isn't that just the perfect gift. Another no.

With no help from you and almost none from Hal, I take matters into my own hands. I ask my best friends to help me out – eBay, Etsy, and Amazon. What a plethora of stuff abounds! Some meet my search criteria and others have no relation at all to “orchid gifts for the man in my life.” However, there it was – in plain sight – the PERFECT gift. Two clicks and it was done. By the time you read this newsletter, it will have been received and safely hidden away in a spot where he won't find it. (I just hope that I can remember where I put it!) And no, I'm not going to tell what it is. And for the rest of you?

PLOP – there goes that lump of coal into your stocking.

**There was 1 award given
last month in Alexandria at
our Louisiana Orchid Judging Center.**

**V. Ratchabur Fuchs-Katsura
'Julia Katherine', AM/AOS
Grower: Eron Borne**



Some orchids can be pressed and dried into permanent mementos.

(contributed by Frank McMains)



2021

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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)

