



## CLUB NEWS



Claude Hamilton

### March 4 Meeting

By Janis Croft

#### Welcome and Thanks.

Tom Sullivan opened the meeting at 6:57 pm with 67 attendees. He then thanked Dianne, Dottie, Ann, Cheryl, Sue, Celia and Christine for the treats and reminded all to remember to "Drop a Dollar" if you enjoyed them. Tom reminded all to bring their plants to the next repotting clinic of the year at SE Branch Library on April

5th. He announced that the Jacksonville Orchid Society Show is on the 15th and 16th, and the other shows are in Naples, Savannah and Sebring later this month. Check out the website for more information,

**Club Business.** Linda Stewart thanked her assistant Rachel Biello for covering her unexpected absence last month and handling everything so well. Then Rachel welcomed our guests and new members Rob and Margie Jacobs. Annual memberships are now due. See Rachel at Welcome Table to pay dues or you can send via Zelle, Venmo or PayPal. If you know of anyone in need of a cheering up or a get-well card, let Maria Sands know by emailing her at [info@staugorchidsociety.org](mailto:info@staugorchidsociety.org). Rachel then asked our March birthday people to raise their hands for their free raffle ticket

**Show Table Voting.** Christine reminded all to vote for Members Choice during the break.

**Virtual Show Table.** Dave Off will conduct the Virtual Show Table starting at 7 pm on Wednesday, March 12th. An email invitation will be sent with links and details.

**Supplies**—Potting supplies and fertilizer were available on the back table, plus calendars at a discounted rate. Email [info@staugorchidsociety.org](mailto:info@staugorchidsociety.org) if you need supplies.



**Library** – Since it is the beginning of spring, Howard brought in Orchid Pests & Diseases. He also brought in two

DVDs, Greg Allikas' The Potting Workshop and Francisco Miranda's on Brazilian Orchids. If you would like a book or magazine from the Library list on the website, send Howard a request to [info@staugorchidsociety.org](mailto:info@staugorchidsociety.org) and he will bring the item(s) to the next meeting.

**Show Table.** Courtney Hackney started the Show Table (with Sue and Tom's helping hands) with the Cattleyas. C. Suzanne's Hallelujah is a semi-alba that is fast growing and blooms quickly so a good plant for beginners. Next was an Epic. Marmalade, which has 4-5 genera in the background. C. Princess Buttercup grows like a weed. It is a cross between Beaufort and aurantiaca. Courtney commented that this is the time of year that the orange and yellow flowering plants display their aurantiaca background. Courtney displayed C. intermedia alba 'Breckenridge Snow' which is a "true" intermedia. Another primary hybrid, Bessho, is a cross between B. nodosa with L. tenebrosa.



Then he moved on to the other side table and started with the V. Bitz's Heartthrob. Courtney commented that he has found that growing his Vandas in cooler winter temperatures, has produced brighter, more brilliant flowers. Next, he commented that we always seem to have a Catasetums at every meeting, this one was Clowesia Grace Dunn. He then held up Coelogyne Unchained Melody orchid stating it is a hybrid orchid between the cooler growing cristata and warmer growing flaccida that produces fragrant white flowers in the late winter. Schoenorchis juncifolia is a smallish purple and white flowering orchid with terete leaves and grows best mounted so it can hang down and bloom. Courtney then held up a Stenorrhynchos speciosum, which is a terrestrial orchid that blooms in the

Continued on page 3



# CLUB NEWS



## Upcoming Orchid Events

### March

- 8 FL North-Central Judging, 1 pm  
Clermont Garden Center, 849 West Ave
- 11 JOS Meeting, Show Update, 7 pm  
JOS Show Chairman
- 12 Virtual Show Table  
Dave Off Zooms into Cyberspace  
Invitation Will be Sent by Email
- 15-16 Jacksonville Orchid Society Show  
The Garden Center of Jacksonville
- 21-23 Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Show  
North Collier Regional Park, Naples
- 22-23 Orchid Society of Highlands County Show  
Agri-Civic Center, Sebring
- 22-23 Deep South Orchid Society Show  
Georgia Botanical Gardens, Savannah
- 29-30 Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society Show  
Flamingo Gardens, Davie

### April

- 1 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm  
Sue Bottom, SAOS  
Orchid Pests and Diseases
- 5 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 10 am til noon  
Southeast Branch Library
- 5-6 Port Saint Lucie Orchid Society Show  
Port St. Lucie Polish American Club
- 5-6 Englewood Area Orchid Society Show  
Englewood Sports Complex
- 5-6 Deep South Orchid Society Show  
Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens
- 8 JOS Meeting, Topic TBA  
Luis Ortiz
- 9 Virtual Show Table  
Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace  
Invitation Will be Sent by Email
- 11-13 Apopka Int'l Spring Orchid Show  
Krull Smith Nursery, Apopka
- 12 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 10 am  
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.
- 12-13 Nature Coast Orchid Society Show  
St. John of Arc Church, Spring Hill

- 19-20 Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society Show  
Flamingo Gardens, Davie
- 25-27 South Carolina Orchid Society Show  
Garden Clubs of Greater Columbia
- 26-27 Vero Beach Orchid Society Show  
Riverside Park
- 27 SAOS Orchid Swap and Picnic, 4 to 6 pm  
Memorial Lutheran Church  
3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086

### May

- 2-4 Platinum Coast Orchid Society Show  
Kiwanis Island Park Gym, Merritt Island
- 3 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 10 am til noon  
Southeast Branch Library  
6670 US-1 N, 32086
- 3-4 Nature Coast Orchid Society Show

## St. Augustine Orchid Society Organization

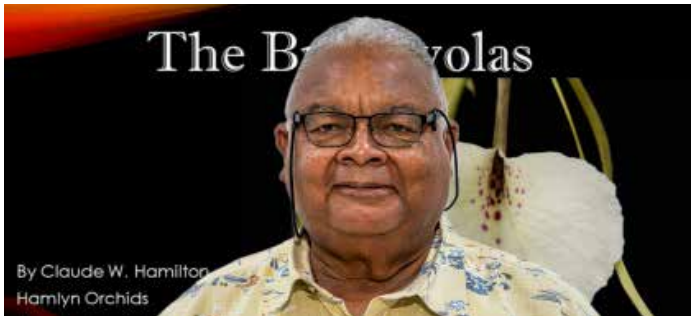
President	Tom Sullivan <a href="mailto:tomjs91@gmail.com">tomjs91@gmail.com</a>
Vice President Communications	Janis Croft <a href="mailto:croftie1984@gmail.com">croftie1984@gmail.com</a>
Vice President Events	Dianne Batchelder <a href="mailto:ladydi9907@aol.com">ladydi9907@aol.com</a>
Vice President Membership	Linda Stewart <a href="mailto:bindstew@hotmail.com">bindstew@hotmail.com</a>
Vice President Programs	Sue Bottom <a href="mailto:sbottom15@hotmail.com">sbottom15@hotmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Cathy Mayo <a href="mailto:allatoonalady@gmail.com">allatoonalady@gmail.com</a>
Directors	Judie Armstrong, 2025 <a href="mailto:judiearmstrong@yahoo.com">judiearmstrong@yahoo.com</a> Rachel Biello, 2025 <a href="mailto:rachelbiello28@gmail.com">rachelbiello28@gmail.com</a> Kay Payne, 2025 <a href="mailto:paynekay113@gmail.com">paynekay113@gmail.com</a>
Exhibit Committee Chair	Janis Croft <a href="mailto:croftie1984@gmail.com">croftie1984@gmail.com</a>
Librarian	Howard Cushnir <a href="mailto:hscushnir@gmail.com">hscushnir@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editors Webmasters	Sue and Terry Bottom <a href="mailto:sbottom15@gmail.com">sbottom15@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:bottom406@gmail.com">bottom406@gmail.com</a>



# CLUB NEWS

## Continued from page 1

winter and has a bright orange red central upright flower. He then moved on to the Australian Dendrobiums starting with the smallish *Den. canaliculatum* with many twisty flowers. The Australian *Den. speciosum* (also known as the rock or cane orchid) grows compact and upright and when mature can have up to 100 creamy white flowers on a spray. *Den. speciosum* var. *pedunculatum* is a smaller variety, and the typical larger variety was also shown. The last plant was the hybrid *Den. Specio-kingianum* with its large number of pink and white flowers on many inflorescences. Remember to bring your blooming orchids to the Show Table next meeting.



**SAOS Program.** Sue introduced our distinguished guest speaker, Claude Hamilton, founder of Hamlyn Orchids in Jamaica. He has been growing orchids for over 50 years and is well known as a breeder of *Broughtonias*, *Encyclias*, *Myrmecophilas* and other *Cattleya* alliance plants. Tonight he spoke to us about the Stars of the Night, the Brassavolas. His first slide stated that the genus, Brassavola, was established in 1813 and named in honor of Antonio Musa Brassavola. All Brassavola species are fragrant at night and pollinated by moths. The species flowers are primarily white so they are visible to their pollinators. Brassavolas are comprised of two large groups based on floral characteristics and geographic distribution. The first group share a conspicuous prolongation of the base of the lip, found from Mexico to the north of South America and some Caribbean islands. The second group has a sessile lip and an inconspicuous base, found in South America, with most species occurring in Brazil.

Claude's next slide listed the current 14 species which has been pared down from KEW's original 25 species. He proceeded to go through each species, showing pictures of the plant and listing the number of registered hybrids generated from each. Some species grow at higher altitudes such as the *B. acaulis* that is found in the rainforests of Central America. Some species are rare in cultivation, the most commonly seen are *appendiculata*, *nodosa*, *perrinii* (also known as *tuberculata*) and *subulifolia*.

*Brassavola appendiculata* is a species that has been confused with *B. cucullata*. It grows from northern Mexico to

Nicaragua in dry tropical sub-evergreen forests. Unlike all the other *B.* species, it has twelve pollinia (separate sacks of pollen). *B. appendiculata* also has 96 primary hybrids, e.g. *B. Yaki*. He then showed a side by side comparison of *B. cucullata* vs *B. appendiculata* which demonstrated the drastic difference in lip and sepal length of the two flowers.

*Brassavola nodosa* is the best known species in the genus. *B. nodosa* has a big heart shaped flower with some spotting on lips. It has been frequently used in hybridizing and currently there are 516 registered hybrids. Claude showed slides of the crosses he has made with the dwarf growing *B. nodosa* subspecies *rhopalorrhachis*. The more common subspecies is *Brassavola nodosa* subsp. *nodosa* which is synonymous with *B. grandiflora*. He then showed a slide displaying other orchids bred with *nodosa*.

*Brassavola subulifolia* is endemic to Jamaica and is identified by its long semi-terete to conduplicate leaves. The plant has more flowers per inflorescence than any other Brassavola species – typically 12 -15 or more. While driving in his country, he saw a very large *B. subulifolia* growing on a short palm tree trunk. It was so impressive he stopped to take the photo, and was immediately surrounded by armed guards who were protecting the home of a local drug dealer. He had to convince them that he only wanted to take a photo of a plant. This species has 69 registered hybrids and he next showed slides of some more popular ones.

In closing, Claude stated that the Brassavola species are quite easy to grow in a tropical climate, grow well mounted on wood, tree fern root, etc., and seem to grow best with their roots exposed to sunlight. If the foliage is broken or bruised they are very susceptible to rot so let the injury heal before exposing them to moisture. Brassavolas like to dry out thoroughly between waterings and most species will flower multiple times each year. They make very hardy, attractive, easy to grow hybrids.



Meeting Conclusion. Christine announced that the Members Choice was Sue Bottom's *Den. Specio-kingianum*. The evening concluded with the Raffle table. Thanks to the helpful hands that stayed to help clean and store the tables, chairs and room.



# CLUB NEWS



## Culture Notes

### March in St. Augustine

Signs of spring abound with an abundance of emerging flower spikes and buds. The flush of spring growth will follow soon so plan your repotting program that should begin in earnest this month. The best time to repot is right before the new roots start growing so the plants will reestablish quickly. Watch for signs of mites, particularly on thin leaved orchids like the catasetinae and grammatophyllums, and treat any problems promptly.

## Renew Your Membership

Thanks to the many of you who have renewed your membership. We try to finalize renewals in March so we can clean up our email lists. If you wish to remain a member, the dues are \$20 for an individual or \$30 for a family if paid by Zelle (904-501-0805), Venmo (staugorchidsociety, under charities) or check (mail c/o Linda Stewart, 1812 Diana Drive, Palatka 32177). For an extra dollar, use the PayPal link on our website.

## American Orchid Society Corner

### Webinars

March 5, 8:30 pm, Everyone Invited

Greenhouse Chat - Ron McHatton

February 12, 8:30 pm, AOS Members Only

Inorganic Potting Media - 2 – Harvey Breneisse

### Orchids Magazine this Month

Saving that Special Orchid - Birute Vileisis

Dendrobium section Crumenatum - Jim Cootes

Amesiella monticola - Judith Rapacz-Hasler

## April 1 Meeting

### Orchid Pests and Diseases

Sue Bottom, St. Aug Orchid Society

Sue will talk about the different kinds of problems you may occasionally have with your orchids, from cultural issues to pests and diseases. Many times you might suspect the problem is disease or pest related, when in actuality a slight change in your cultural habits can eliminate the problem.



Terry built Sue her first greenhouse in the mid-nineties while they were living in Houston. That's when the orchid obsession began. Now she grows her orchids in two greenhouses and a shadehouse, and still revels in the sight of new roots growing. Sue also writes a quarterly article for the AOS magazine Orchids about some of the different aspects of growing orchids.

**When:** Tuesday, April 1, 6:30 til 9 pm

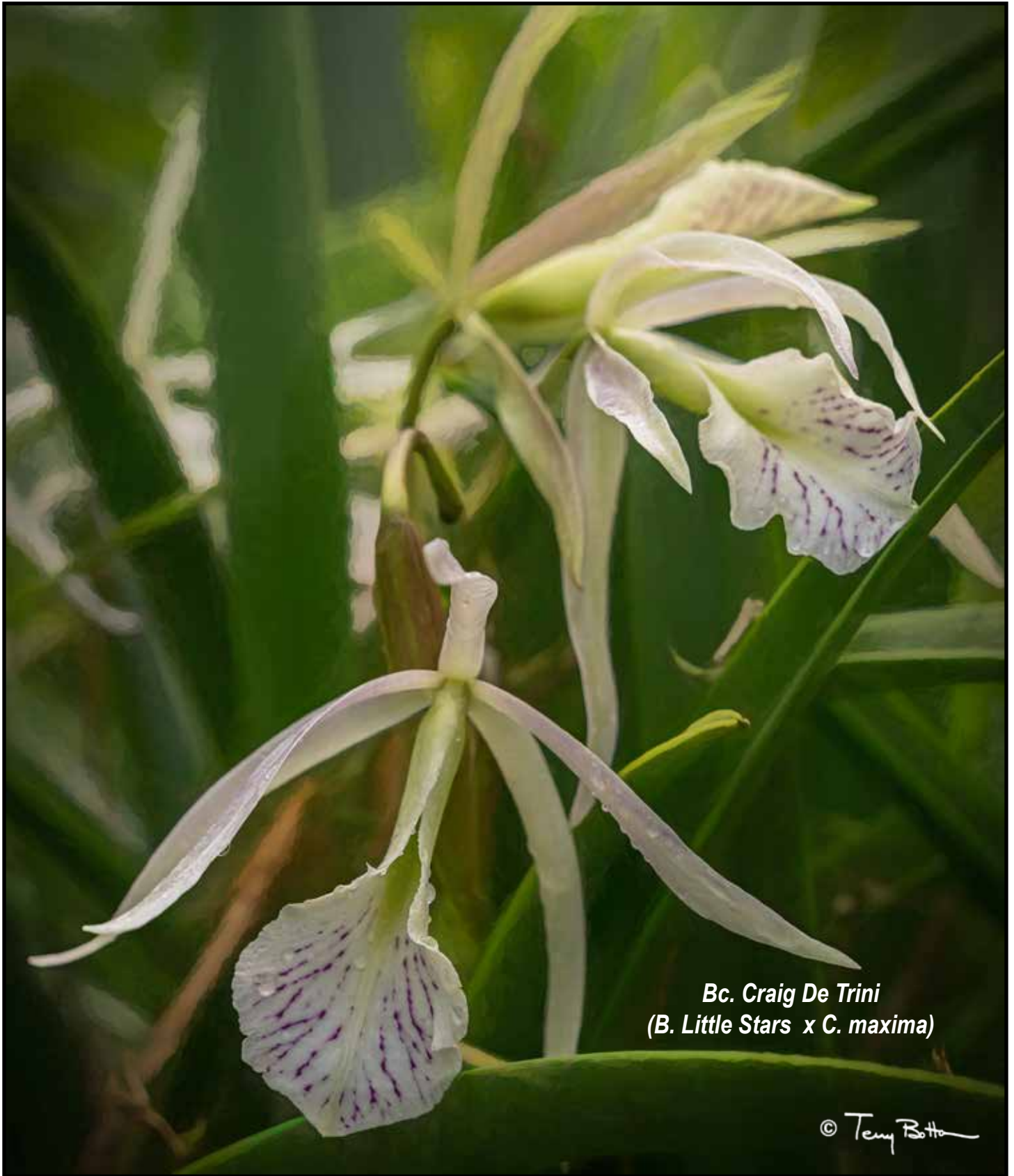
**Where:** Memorial Lutheran Church

3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086



# INSPIRATION

---



*Bc. Craig De Trini*  
(*B. Little Stars* x *C. maxima*)

© Terry Botta



# CULTIVATION



## Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,  
sbottom15@hotmail.com

**Q1.** I have this huge *Trichoglottis* that has grown well for years in a tree fern nest pot, but it got so thick that I put it in a metal basket. Now it has buds throughout and I'm trying to think of a way to lift

all the growths so the flowers will display well. Do other growers trim them throughout the year so that the air has a chance to get to all of them? How do they train the new growths?



**A1.** I suggested raising all the growths up using zip ties, putting several zip ties together to make them big enough and get a couple of friends to hold up the plant while the plant is being reoriented. Ellen sent another pic showing a plastic ring she had slid down the chain, as a first attempt at lifting some of the growths. She decided to attach more wires with the aid of some helping hands to make a great floral presentation.

**Q2.** I have a small growing *grammatophyllum* with ugly stuff on the leaves as well as a sticky residue. My humidity this winter has been very high, above 80%, so I don't think it's mites, or could it be?



**A2.** *Grammatophyllums* are mite magnets. If you have some Avid or one of the generic abamectin products, spray the upper and lower leaf surfaces. You'll probably have to do it 2 or 3 times to get the problem under control.

**Q3.** What do you think is causing the discoloration on these flowers? In a collection of over 100 orchids, I have 4 orchids in the *Cattleya* alliance that have recently bloomed with discolored flowers. No others at this point seem affected. I have been growing orchids on Cudjoe Key near Key West for 20+ years. My collection is organized/inventoried by taking a photo of every bloom. In review over several years I have not seen this issue with any of my blooms until now. The orchids live in an outdoor shade house. The flowers in one pot are perfect and the other division is discolored.

My care has not changed in the past 10 years, as I successfully have more than 10% of my collection in bloom. I scout them regularly. They receive regular watering from a mister system that goes every other day and is turned off when it rains. They receive fertilizer alternating 15-5-15 Cal-Mag formula with 13-0-46 Potassium Nitrate at a rate of 1/2 T per gallon every week in the summer and every 2 weeks in the winter. I also put on fertilizer "balls" with a slow release 14-4-14 Nutricote from March through October. At appropriate times I use fungicides and insecticides.



**A3.** It sounds like you are doing everything right. I would be very fearful of virus, it looks like color break on the second *cattleya*. Sometimes thrips damage or chemical burns can cause damage similar to color break. The only way for you to be sure is to test them, and with the beautiful *cattleyas* you are growing, it is worth the expense of the test strips.



# CULTIVATION



## Annual Spring Repotting

by Dr. Courtney Hackney

It may not feel like it yet, but spring is just around the corner and it is time to think about repotting. For many new to the hobby of orchid growing, the thought of repotting can be terrifying. For those of us that have been growing for a while, it is a lot of work, made much easier if all the supplies

needed are ready when the orchids are.

Many new growers are anxious to repot so they can divide their orchids. The real question should be, "Does this plant need to be divided?" If the medium is degraded, the orchid should be divided. Orchids that have 3 or more bulbs out of the pot are likely candidates too. However, if grown in some type of inorganic medium, e.g., aliflor, one can simply cut the 3 bulbs that are out of the pot off and leave the remainder in the pot.

Determining whether or not the medium is degraded can be tricky, even for experts. This was discussed in the [January 2010 column](#). If growing in some type of bark, shove a finger into the medium. If it is easy to push through the medium or if the medium feels mushy, then it is time to repot. If some of the bark feels hard, but there are mushy spots jet some water through the pot or hold the pot upside down and then jet water into the pot. If the orchid falls out it is ready to repot. If not, you can get another year in this pot by adding a handful of new bark as a top dressing.



**This potting mix is long overdue for repotting, the roots in the pot have been suffocated.**



***If you have several pseudobulbs growing out of the pot, simply cut the new growth off and repot in fresh mix.***

Paphs and phals usually need to be repotted each year unless grown in large bark or rock. Typically, most phals are purchased in a soilless mixture or sphagnum, both of which seldom last more than a year. Paphs are especially prone to root death unless repotted frequently or top dressed with dolomite lime.

Treat intergeneric oncidiums and dendrobiums as you would cattleyas with respect to both timing and frequency of repotting. Dendrobiums prefer to be in pots into which they just barely fit, making large plants prone to tipping over. Just place the small pot into which your newly repotted dendrobium was just potted, into a larger clay pots to prevent tipping. Never over-pot a dendrobium, no matter how large the plant.

Early spring is usually the best time to divide because most orchids are going into a growth mode and will be able to replace roots damaged during repotting. Most orchid hybrids and species have or are about to initiate new growths, so care needs to be exercised so that these fragile green nubs are not damaged. There are some exceptions to this rule, notably with species. Some bifoliate (two leaves per bulb) cattleyas should only be repotted when getting new roots even with the risk of damaging the new root tips. Repotting before or after this time will severely set the plant back or even result in its death.

Repotting assumes that you have everything you need, which should be done now if you have not already done so. Do not wait until the last minute to purchase what you need since supplies can often be hard to find once all of the growers in the U.S. begin repotting. Always overestimate what you will need. If stored properly, unused supplies will last for years.

Be sure to keep track of each plant's name. That is critical, not just for exhibiting, but also so that you can check the growing requirements, if needed.

*Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from March 2010.*



# CULTIVATION

## Brassavola

by Tom Mirenda, reprinted with permission

Lacking a pool, lake or nearby beach to plunge into this summer, the average person will just stay inside in the air conditioning and possibly venture out in the evening when it is less scorching. The same is true in many of the warmer habitats in the world where going out at midday puts you at risk of overheating or dehydration. Many plants that flower in these torrid climates evolved to take advantage of the insects and other creatures of the night shift. Brassavolas fall into this category, with their delicious nocturnal fragrances and their elegant pale colors that signal pollinators best in the moonlight. To survive the heat, plants such as these, including many cacti and succulents, also have developed an amazing physiological strategy known as crassulacean acid metabolism (CAM). They transpire at night. If their stomata open during the day, they would shrivel up. By respiring at night, they avoid losing excessive moisture to evaporation in the intense heat.

Named for Venetian nobleman and physician Antonio Musa Brassavola, (b. 1500 in Ecerrara, Italy), *Brassavola nodosa* was probably one of the first orchid species grown in Europe. Imported to Holland from Curaçao in 1698, this species has a long history of cultivation. With its tough, succulent, coriaceous leaves, it was easily able to survive the long overseas voyage by ship. It will grow and bloom in warm or intermediate conditions as long as it is given adequate light, such as that given cattleyas.

The genus currently circumscribes 20 accepted species and two varietal forms of *B. nodosa*. All the species have their charms, and most are easily grown and bloomed, often forming large and impressive specimen plants in just a few years. Aside from the *B. nodosa*, there is *Brassavola subulifolia* (*cordata*), a floriferous subject with its apple-green sepals and petals and heart-shaped white lip. Although the



*Brassavola appendiculata* 'Triple Threat', grown and photographed by Allen Black



*Brassavola Little Stars*, a hybrid between *B. nodosa* and *B. subulifolia*, grown by Sue Bottom and photographed by Terry Bottom

Continued on page 9



# CULTIVATION

Continued from page 8

flowers are smaller than those of *B. nodosa*, there will often be more than a dozen per inflorescence. Their hybrid, *Brassavola* Little Stars, is intermediate between the two, and easy to grow.

Many hybrids have been made with these two species and colorful members of the *Cattleya* Alliance. The results are usually shaped like brassavolas, but with the colors of the other parent, curiously often with amazing spots such as those seen on many cultivars of *Brassavola*



*Brassavola nodosa*, grown and photographed by Janis Croft



*Brassavola flagellaris*, grown by Sue Bottom and photographed by Terry Bottom

Hoku Gem (*Cattleya* Tangerine Jewel x Richard Mueller). Newer hybrids of brassavolas have proven to be really spectacular and popular thanks to the efforts of many modern breeders such as Allen Black.

Other species are trickier but worth the effort. *Brassavola acaulis* is an outstanding Central American beauty with fascinating and incredibly long, terete and pendent growths. Said to be found on the north side of trees, these leaves would be shaded most of the day. In cultivation, this plant should be grown cooler and shadier than most of the other species. The lovely flowers cluster on a short peduncle emerging from the newest growths.

*Brassavola martiana* from Brazil shares the torrid habitat of *Cattleya violacea* and should be grown warm with nights around 65 F and days of 85 F. Its flowers have fringed lips. Other species with long whip-like leaves include *Brassavola tuberculata* and *Brassavola flagellaris*, both of which grow into spectacular specimens.

My favorite of all these species is *Brassavola appendiculata*. This species has long been available in cultivation under the incorrect name *Brassavola cucullata*, a very different Caribbean species. For me, the elegantly formed spidery flowers of *B. appendiculata* are the essence of exoticism. More colorful than many of the other species, freshly opened flowers are sometimes flushed or rimmed with red, orange or yellow shades that eventually fade to ivory as the flower ages. Combine the lovely flowers with their strong nocturnal perfume and strange, pencil-thin foliage, and you have a most unusual and striking orchid. So much so that a portrait of this species was used as the logo for the 2007 Smithsonian Orchid Exhibit

This article appeared in the *American Orchid Society Orchids* magazine in August 2022 (Vol. 81:8, pp 577-578), reprinted with permission.



# CULTIVATION

## Brassavola Culture

by Marianne Matthews

Hardy Brassavola hybrids are among the easier Cattleya relatives to grow. There's no reason that they cannot be everyone's orchids. Just adhere to a few basic principles.

**TEMPERATURE** Brassavola hybrids can tolerate a wide range of temperatures. They are happy in the hot, humid summers of the south, but can handle cooler climates as well. Growth will be slowed when the thermometer falls, but will accelerate again with growing warmth and humidity. If you want them to grow well, keep them above 55 F in winter, and below 95 F in summer. If they are to endure temperatures in the 90s during the summer, provide plenty of ventilation.

**LIGHT** Like their species parents, Brassavola hybrids need quite high light in both winter and summer to bloom well. They will bloom most heavily in the spring and autumn, but usually more than once a year. These hybrids can also be grown indoors under lights, but in these circumstances, they probably will not perform their best as flowering goes unless the grower hangs them outside under the eaves of the house during the summer.

**WATERING** Brassavola hybrids want generous watering when they are actively growing. Watch the roots and adjust your watering accordingly. During the dark, cool days of winter, cut back on the water. During the summer months of rapid growth, you can water greenhouse plants twice a week and mist in between. If you can hang them outside under the trees, as we do in summer, you can water them every day. The bright light and constant air movement will make them grow and bloom like crazy.

**FERTILIZING** I use a balanced 20-20-20 fertilizer all year round, but apply it less frequently during the winter. Do not overfertilize in the winter.

**POTTING** Avoid overpotting young plants. Brassavolas are not like Phalaenopsis, which grow best when provided with elbow room. Brassavolas do not mind close quarters. Pot firmly into the medium of your choice. It's better to repot every year than to overpot



*Brassavola Yaki 'Black's Best' (appendiculata x nodosa)*  
Grown and photographed by Allen Black

and have the medium around the roots get soggy. Once the young plants get past a certain growth point, they will quickly fill up a 6- or 8-inch pot with roots and multiple growths. Mature plants will soon reach the stage of blooming several times a year. Specimen plants can be nurtured on slabs of cork bark or wood branches. At this stage, they require little more than admiration.

*Excerpted from an article that appeared in the American Orchid Society Orchids magazine in May 2003 (Vol. 72:5, p 354), reprinted with permission.*



*Brassolaelia (syn. Bc.) Morning Glory (B. nodosa x C. purpurata)*  
Grown and photographed by Leasa Codner



# CULTIVATION

## The Species Behind Standard Cattleyas, Part 11

*Laelia* (now *Cattleya*) *purpurata* by Don Herman

*Laelia purpurata* is often referred to as the “Queen of the Laelias.” Francois Devos sent plants that he had collected in southern Brazil to Ghent, Belgium in 1847. The species is found in a very large number of color variations, so much so that shows are held in Santa Catarina, Brazil, where only the various color forms are exhibited. Flowers can be very large, up to 10 inches. The number of blooms per

spike varies from three to eight. Background colors vary from white to cream to lavender to light blue. The lip is the exciting feature of the flower and it can range from dark lavender to dark blue to “carnea” pink to white. For the hybridizer, the positives for using *L. purpurata* as a parent are the spectacular lip color, flower size, great vigor, spring blooming season and a delightful licorice fragrance. The negatives would be the generally poor shape and the fact that plants need to be quite large to flower.

*Extracted from an article that appeared in the American Orchid Society Orchids magazine in March 1997 (Vol. 66:3, pp 234-243), reprinted with permission.*



*Laelia purpurata*  
Grown and photographed by Roberta Hicks



*Laelia purpurata* var. *carnea*  
Grown by Courtney Hackney and photographed by Terry Bottom



*L. purpurata* var. *flammea*, Grown by Sue Bottom, photographed by Terry Bottom



# CULTIVATION



## SAOS Repotting Clinic

People of all ages stop by to see what we're doing at the SAOS repotting clinics. Some are terrified of repotting an orchid, unsure how to prepare the plant, decide on a potting mix or select a pot. For those that are interested, we offer to show them how we would re-pot the plant and then talk them through the repotting process so they get hands on experience. Others have questions about their plants, not sure if they have a pest or disease issue, or some cultural problem.

The repotting clinics were originally started as a community outreach program, a way to help the general public grow and bloom their orchids and maybe turn some into orchid addicts like the rest of us. We find many of our club members also enjoy the clinics, some bring in plants while others like to watch and listen. We'd love to see you, we're there the first Saturday of the month from 10 til noon!



# SHOW TABLE



**Grower Sheila Nathanson**  
*Phrag. La Vingtaine*



**Grower Suzanne Susko**  
*Lepanthes telipogoniflora*



**Grower Leasa Codner**  
*Lysudamuloa Red Jewel 'Hilo Girl'*



**Grower Suzanne Susko**  
*Blc. (syn. Rth.) Monilani Rainbow 'Waldor'*



**Grower Joe Sayers**  
*Paph. Kowloon*



**Grower Keith Davis**  
*Pot. Dream Circle 'Fordyce' AM/AOS*



**Grower Sue Bottom**  
*Coel. Unchained Melody 'Mendenhall'*



# SHOW TABLE



**Grower Deborah Fox**  
**Bc. George King 'Southern Cross' AM/AOS**



**Grower Allen Black**  
**C. lueddemanniana 'Neon'**



**Grower Leasa Codner**  
**Diaca. Spring Fragrance 'Paradise'**



**Grower Courtney Hackney**  
**Bc. Doctor Joe Walker 'Cotton Candy'**



**Grower Sue Bottom**  
**Bc. Digbyano-Schroderae**



**Grower Deborah Fox**  
**Paph. Sunlight Serenade 'Elation' HCC/AOS**

Link to all Submissions: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjC4vAJ>

