Central Jersey Orchid Society Newsletter

April 2021 Issue

April 2021 President's Message

As many of you know, I was not available last month to join the April meeting - - my fully-vaccinated parents came to visit and I enjoyed every moment of their company. Nevertheless, I heard great things about **Rachel Lemke**'s presentation on the "P.E.T Method" for Catesetum culture." I wish I could have attended.

And, wow… I'm truly amazed about how quickly time goes by. Indeed, these have been difficult times with both meetings and shows cancelled throughout the country. Although there has been an effort to continue with meetings in the shape of ZOOM, and the CJOS Board has continued to meet on your behalf, there is no substitute for the 'real thing.' Hopefully, those times will return later this year.

This month, we welcome **Carrie Buchman** as our guest speaker. Carrie has been growing orchids for almost 40 years and, currently, has a collection of over 300 orchids in a converted sunroom. The title of her presentation is *Restrepia*: The Easy Pleurothallid. And, when I reached out to her, she said, "I hope to make you all love these little aliens flowers as much as I do."

Our next ZOOM meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday**, **May 5, 2021** at **7:00pm** (just realized its Cinco de Mayo). As always, the virtual meeting room will be open at 6:45pm for our monthly "Show & Tell."

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Jaymie

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David and Joan Rosenfeld's
Pot. Louise Clarke
(Golden Circle 'OPRL' x Renanthera monachica Rubescence 'SVO') AM

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Meetings and Events 2021

Meetings, 7:00pm, Zoom Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month.

May: **Speaker:** Carrie Buchman / Topic: Restrepias

CJOS Monthly Zoom Meeting / Join Zoom Meeting

Topic: CJOS Monthly Zoom Meeting / Carrie Buchman: Restrepias
Time: May 5, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83814029262?pwd=Mkpyc1FTcno1bWlyYUVYUkR1Wk1YZz09

Meeting ID: 838 1402 9262
Passcode: 644178

Sept: Greg Griffis – Tolumnia
gregorygriffis.com

Oct: Wayne Hollenbach
Catasetums
http://www.wadesorchids.com/

Nov: Richard Ho - Novelty Phal's
North Jersey Orchid Society

Dec: David Rosenfeld "Who Were These Guys"

Jan: Kim Feddersen Fair Orchids – Paph's
fairorchids@aol.com

Feb: George Wallace 'A Night With George'. A talk on how I grow with automated setups, terrariums, and LED lighting (with DLI).

March: Speaker: Peter Lin / Topic: **Mini-Catts: Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature**

April: Speaker: Rachel Lemcke / Topic: P.E.T Method

May: Speaker: Carrie Buchman / **Topic: Restrepias**

June: Business Meeting / Nominations and Budget

Officers and Committees:

President - Jaymie Santiago
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Editor Newsletter - Ed Frankel
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Members Virtual Show Table

David and Joan Rosenfeld

Lc Tokyo Magic '6-1'AM x
Pot Circle of Love 'Diamond Orchids' FCC

Phrag Claude Marcoux 3N
(Hanne Popow x Sunset Glow)

Pot. Louise Clarke
(Golden Circle 'OPRL' x Rubescence 'SVO') AM

Renanthera monachica

Tobie

Paph Village Green 'Camira' x Magic Mood Alan Napper

Jeff Tyron

BLP Golden Peacock Orange

Dendrobium Micro Chip

Epidendrum NOID

Jeff Tyron (cont.)

Epidendrum NOID

NOID

Rynchostylis gigantea 2

Howeara Lava Burst

Rynchostylis NOID

Paph Hilo Key Lime
Summer Green
x Hilo Green Perfection

Ed and Pam Frankel

NOID

Ctna. Golden Eye Jamaica red x Mahale Jack 'Red'

Pot. Love Passion 'Dogashima' x Blc. Hawaiian Discovery 'Fluorescent orange' HCC

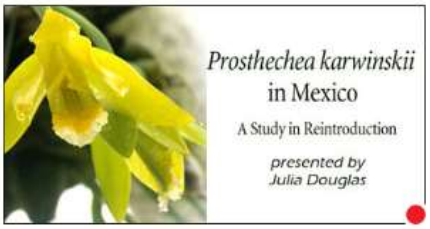
C. Jewel Box ‘dark waters’

Pot. Mem. Jim Nikou 'James' HCC/AOS x Blc. Love Sound 'Dogashima' AM/MOS

Lc Pink Treasure 'Chalice of Life' x C Harrisoniana 'Volcano Queen' mutation

Upcoming AOS Webinars for AOS Members

Greenhouse Chat May 2021
Ron McHatton
Tuesday, May 4th, 2021
8:30 PM EST
Orchid Q&A
REGISTER NOW LEARN MORE



Prosthechea karwinskii in Mexico
Julia Douglas
Thursday, May 13th, 2021
8:30 PM EST
Orchid conservation in Mexico
REGISTER NOW LEARN MORE
Sign In to Register/ Watch Now

AOS in Person Judging Resumes

The American Orchid Society Northeast Judging Center in-person monthly judging will resume in East Hanover, NJ on May 15th. Judging takes place every third Saturday of the month, in NJ. We are still adhering to NJ pandemic safety rules. Please read the details below if you plan on attending and exhibiting a plant.

Judging takes place at Parish Hall of the First Presbyterian Church of Hanover, 14 Hanover Road, East Hanover, NJ 07936.
9:30AM - doors open
10:00AM - all plants must be checked in by this time
10-11:30AM - judging education and plant research begins
11:30AM short lunch break
12:00PM - 3:00PM (latest) AOS plant judging

This event will adhere to all current local and state social distancing guidelines during the pandemic, as safety is our priority https://covid19.nj.gov/search.html?query=gathering+restrictions.
-All attendees are required to wear a non-vented face mask at all times
-Please limit plant drop-off to one person
-Please follow directions regarding the use of hand sanitizer when filling out paperwork upon arrival
-Depending on the number of attendees on the day, you may be asked to leave your plant and come back at a specified time to pick it up after it is judged; current NJ general gathering limit is 25
-All attendees (judges, visiting judges and exhibitors) please send an email before 5pm ET, Thursday, May

13th, to northeastjudgingcenter@gmail.com to let us know you are coming. If you do not let us know ahead of time and we exceed the safe limit of attendees (currently 25), we cannot admit you to the event.

Please check subsequent FB postings up to the time of the event just in case there is a need for a last-minute cancellation
American Orchid Society: Northeast Judging Center

Deb
201-316-3085

Please support the AOS and join. AOS.org

How Do You Grow?

Each month, I would like to show a members growing methods/conditions. We started with ours. Please send me pictures of your growing conditions (summer/winter) **edsharkf@yahoo.com** No submission this month. Let's get some pictures of your growing space.

The following is reprinted from the St Augustine Orchid Society

CULTIVATION

Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@gmail.com

Q1. I think this damage on my phal is due to mealy bugs but I never see any critters. I see white stuff on the under side of leaves and in crotches. Could it be something else?

A1. Those are definitely mealybugs, and your phal has them bad. Drench them with the imidacloprid product, which means pour the solution through the pot to wet the roots, which will take up the chemical and move it to where the mealybugs are feeding. At a concentration of 1.47%, the label rate is 6 teaspoons per gallon, you might even consider using it double strength the first time to knock out the infestation. You might also consider drenching all your surrounding plants in case the mealybugs have moved into them.

Q2. I have noticed yellowing spots on my cattleya orchids recently along with a few spots on the back of some leaves. Does this look like scale to you? I have a systemic insect control liquid that I use on other plants with the active ingredient acephate. Can I use this on scale?

A2. That is scale alright. Acephate is the active ingredient in Orthene, and can be used on your orchids to control scale. Good luck!

Q3. These are leaves from a Blc. Lily Marie Almas a bifoliate cattleya. It receives various fungicides throughout the year but I am concerned it is a fungus. The marks are not as dark as they appear in the photos as I was trying to highlight them with backlighting so you could see the areas better. Please let me know if I should remove any leaves or treat with any chemicals.

A3. It's hard to tell, but my best guess would be it is bacterial rather than fungal, particularly if it happened quickly. The longitudinal streaking makes me think of bacterial brown spot, which in younger, tender cattleya leaves looks like that. The backlit photo really shows the infection well. If you have some copper, you can spray the leaves, although the bacterial problem is inside the leaf. As long as the discoloration doesn't get larger, the leaves will still help support the plant. On the other hand, if you don't want to look at that discoloration anymore, you can remove the leaf. The plant looks nice and healthy, it should be a minor setback.

CULTIVATION

Repotting Cattleyas
by Dr. Courtney Hackney

In case you were not paying attention, the equinox has come and gone, which means that days are now more than 12 hours long. Indoor growers need to adjust lights now so that their orchids will begin preparing for next year's flowers. One of the most frequent misconceptions among indoor growers is that their lights should match the day length outside. If you remember that most orchids we grow are either tropical species or have tropical ancestors, it will be obvious that day length should not be as long in summer as in the temperate zone, nor should nights be as long in winter.

A good pattern is to provide 13 ½ hours of light during midsummer and 13 ½ hours of dark in mid-winter. The key is to change the length of day or night with the season, which requires a three-hour change every six months. Most timers are in 15-minute increments, so increase the time by 30 minutes every month from December to June. Then subtract 30 minutes each month thereafter until December.

Many orchids will flower in response to increases or decreases in day length, so flowering can be controlled to some extent with many orchids. Remember though, there may be other important cues as well. The growth cycle is also dependent on day length. This is most critical for growth and survival of roots as growth may only occur during one time of year. If an orchid is repotted after root growth is completed, there may not be enough roots remaining to bloom well. Cattleyas are especially susceptible to poorly timed repotting. Old geezers (like me) pay close attention to when new roots are produced.

There are essentially three patterns, 1) new roots are produced before flowering, 2) new roots are produced after flowering, and finally 3) species that are each a little different. Most species and hybrids fall into one of the first two groups. For many unifoliate cattleya species, such as mossiae, trianaei, percivaliana, and schroederae, rooting occurs as the pseudobulbs grow with flowering following soon after. Some bifoliates, including C aurantiaca, bowringiana, intermedia, and skinneri follow the same pattern. Flowers usually are produced during winter-spring. Repotting in winter or early spring means that new roots fill the pot before flowering. This "root before blooming" group and hybrids with the same characteristic are generally considered easier to grow.

A second pattern is the "root after blooming" group. These have the reputation of being hard to bloom and flower, but that is largely because of the time when most growers repot. In this type, new leads emerge in the late winter, spring or summer and bloom as the bulb matures. Only after flowering does the plant get new roots. Repotting as the new growth begins deprives the new bulb of the nutrients required to grow and bloom because there are no new roots produced until after blooming. If repotted, cattleyas in this group will often forgo flowering and grow new roots instead.

The root after blooming group contains a number of unifoliate Cattleya species with a hard-to-grow reputation such as dowiana, lueddemanniana, warscewiczii, and warneri. Bifoliate cattleyas in this group have the added problem of producing only a few thick roots with each growth, so repotting at the wrong time often leads to a slow decline and ultimate death in species such as schilleriana, leopoldii, bicolor, and granulosa. Better timing of repotting often solves the undeserved reputation of being hard to grow.

There are Cattleya species that produce new growths and roots several times during the year, such as C. aclandiae and walkeriana. These species produce new growths and then new roots almost immediately.

If you are interested in learning more about Cattleya culture, including the details of each species and their rooting cycle, consult the article by William Rogerson in issue 4 of the Orchid Digest in 2004. Rogerson grows his cattleyas to perfection because he understands the growth cycle of his cattleyas.

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 April 2005.

CULTIVATION

Blooming Characteristics of Cattleya Species

By R.E. Post, Jr., courtesy of the AOS

There can certainly be nothing more rewarding to the serious "dyed in-the-wool" Cattleya grower than to see the culmination of his efforts represented by the magnificent blooms that crown his modern, complex hybrids. By like token, there is nothing which will assure that each plant will produce flowers representative of its highest capabilities and potential more than good culture, and good culture demands that we understand the particular characteristics of the separate species used to build our present-day hybrids. For this reason, we should pause long enough in our consideration of the Cattleya species to delve more intimately into the separate lives and habits of these plants.

Occasionally there appear in literature references to certain plants of the Cattleya species as behaving like plants of the *"mossiae group"* or *"warscewiczii group."* These statements represent no idle grouping afforded them, as nearly every one of the species do exhibit growth or flowering characteristics similar to other plants which fall into one or the other of these so-called "groups." Many phases of culture, such as probable bloom time, best repotting time, etc., can better be understood if we are thoroughly familiar with the peculiarities and characteristics common to the plants.

First, let us consider the plants exhibiting behavior which likens their culture to the *"warscewiczii group."* The species which more nearly fit into this grouping are: *C. warscewiczii, C. gaskelliana, C. skinneri, C. dowiana, C. intermedia, C. warneri, C. dowiana aurea, C. loddigesii* and *C. granulosa*. These plants exhibit one or more of the following characteristics or habits:

C. warscewiczii var. alba 'Leo Holguin' FCC/AOS
The warscewiczii group roots after blooming. The new lead grows, matures and flowers and only then do new roots emerge. Repot immediately after they bloom.

C. mossiae 'Alayon'
The mossiae group roots before blooming. Roots emerge as a new lead grows and blooming occurs after the new lead and roots are mature. Repot when they begin to send up new growths.

1. These plants are usually long-day bloomers, producing their blooms in the late spring or summer months. Most require long days with maximum light to bloom.

2. They are usually dormant after blooming and remain so during the late summer and fall months.

3. The new lead breaks in the winter. (Under ideal conditions, new leads sometimes break after short rest periods, following the blooms.)

4. If there are multiple growths, each blooms independently of the others, with buds appearing shortly after the lead matures.

5. Once buds are initiated, they develop very rapidly and appear sometimes even before the new lead is quite mature.

6. Roots appear either simultaneously with blooms or shortly after blooming. (Repotting should be done at first appearance of roots!)

7. At time of bloom, the outer sheath of the pseudobulb is still alive and green.

8. Bloom time may vary somewhat from year to year, depending on the general condition and health of the plant.

Probably one of the most important things to remember when dealing with plants in this grouping is that the flowering lead is not yet rooted. Therefore, if repotting is done after the roots are established on the recently flowered lead, the plant must go through the complete growth and bloom cycle on a root system which has not become well established.

This can be disastrous to the plant, even to the point of causing its death. (The first shipment of *C. dowiana* plants brought to English greenhouses are said to have been lost directly by having been repotted at the wrong time.)

Now let us consider some of the habits of Cattleya species which exhibit behavior similar to what we might call, for these purposes, the "*mossiae* group." The plants *C. schroederae, C. labiata, C. mendelii, C. trianaei,* and *C. percivaliana.* The distinguishing characteristics of the plants in this group are:

1. These plants bloom, or their buds are initiated, during the short days of fall.

2. New leads break shortly after flowering, with very little or no dormant period.

3. Plants develop several new leads during the growing season: each one roots as growth is about half matured.

4. Buds, once initiated (whether by photoperiodism or temperature), develop very slowly. Flowering time can be controlled rather precisely either by day-length or by temperature manipulation. (Buds can be made to develop more quickly at higher temperatures or held back with lower temperatures.)

5. All leads which have grown during the year flower at the same time. Plants of this group have a consistent natural bloom period year after year.

6. Flowering growths are well rooted. (Repotting can be done when new lead breaks, as roots will soon appear.)

7. The outer sheath of the flowering pseudobulb is dead and dry at bloom time. Often the bloom sheath is dry also, but this does not necessarily mean the blooms are lost.

8. The plants of this group lend themselves to bloom-time control and are thus extremely important economically, as commercial growers can bring whole blocks into bloom at times when the flowers are in highest demand.

Many times, hybrids between these groups will exhibit some characteristics of both groups. Some will bloom two or more times a year. Plants with natural fall blooming periods can be made to delay the bloom time by breeding them with plants of the *mossiae*-type behavior, or blooms may be delayed till late spring or summer when bred to those of *warscewiczii* behavior.

When Cattleya species or hybrids are bred with the Brassavolas, particularly *B. digbyana*, the characteristics appear to be intermediate between the two Cattleya groups in many respects. One particular characteristic worth noting is that the new lead matures, then the roots appear, then the bloom follows after roots are established. This allows for repotting shortly after the new lead matures.

Logical use of our knowledge concerning the characteristics of the Cattleya species, plus systematic and careful observation of the resultant hybrids, will help us to attain the level of culture which assures the grower of the ultimate enjoyment as a result of his efforts.

This article appeared in the American Orchid Society Orchids magazine in July 1965 (Vol.34:7, pp.593-596). A more comprehensive list of the cattleya species rooting and blooming habits was compiled by Bill Rogerson and is available on the Culture by Genus page of the SAOS website.

Growth and Flowering Cycles of the Cattleya "Groups"*

Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
warscewiczii Group			
New lead continues to grow	New lead matures. Buds initiate	Blooms appear. New lead roots after blooming (Desirable repotting time)	Rest or dormant period, or plant may break new lead and bloom again	New lead breaks in late winter or early spring
mossiae Group			
Year's growths mature. Plant soon will or has already flowered	New leads begin to break	Roots appear on half mature lead (Desirable repotting time)	Leads all matured and roots established	Buds initiate and form slowly; blooms a month or two off
Brassocattleyas (Bloom season can vary, but growth and flowering cycle are in the same sequence.)			
New lead breaks	Lead matures and roots appear (Desirable repotting time)	Buds develop on mature newly rooted lead.	Blooms appear	Dormant or rest period

*These represent typical cycles. Individual plants could possibly vary somewhat, but all will generally follow these typical patterns.

Tips to increase humidity **(Thank you Chris B)**

Carpet Padding Tip:

As most of my fellow home growers are aware, keeping adequate humidity around our orchids is a constant struggle within a home. Without expensive enclosures or terrariums it can be a headache. Some of the ways to aid your orchids in raising humidity are the trays with pebbles or hydro-ton beads. But what if I told you that there was something cheaper that works just as well and increases humidity for the orchids that is not rocks? It is carpet padding ...yes carpet padding the stuff you can get from your local big box store. Through my experience with it has been wonderful to say the least, its lightweight, aids in humidity and evaporative cooling around the orchid's roots. The evaporative cooling helps with growing cooler growers like Masdevallias.

The downsides to the padding are it tends to grows algae, moss, and the orchids roots will often get into it, but it does not get moldy being exposed to air. I have also found that keiki's will find their way into it as well…. but who doesn't like donor orchids? The cost of the padding varies anywhere from .55 cents a square foot on up but once you buy a decent amount you will never run out of the stuff. You can also keep your eye out for friends or neighbors getting carpets installed and just ask for the cut offs.