

# Orchid News



The Acadian Orchid Society

July 2010

## President's message...

### Summertime tips:

By now, we've all changed our watering regimen for the summer. Higher light usually means higher temperatures. This will require more frequent watering as your plants will dry out more quickly. Since we live in a very humid area, our orchids may be able to go longer without water than in a drier climate. If it rains frequently, you may not have to worry about your plants very much at all. However, if it rains continuously for several days, you'll need to watch your plants to make sure they do not get waterlogged or are preyed upon by bacterial or fungal diseases.

Orchids that require constant moisture are probably at most risk of drying out. Many orchid growers will keep their moisture-loving orchids, such as paphs and phals, inside the house or greenhouse, rather than risk their plants totally drying out, which can be fatal. Orchids with pseudobulbs such as cattleyas or brassias will do a far better job in weathering any dry spells, as they have the capacity to store water to tide them over. In summary, be prepared to watch your orchids more closely and to pay more attention to their watering needs when they are outside. Try to water your plants early in the day so that they are dry by nightfall.

The more air movement there is, the happier and healthier your orchids will be. Place them where the foliage actually rustles gently in the breeze. Air movement helps keep leaves cool (reducing the chances of leaf burn) and also reduces the incidence of fungal and bacterial attacks. It is one of the most frequently overlooked factors in growing healthy orchids.

*Barbara*



**July's Meeting & Program**  
**Monday, July 19th 7:00 p.m.**  
**Bobby Gianelloni will present a 'photo travelogue' of the members' greenhouses, and we will find out how they grow and manage orchids.**  
**Cheryl Gonsoulin, Rosie Leonpacher and Nancy Anne Rowe have offered to provide snacks for the meeting.**

*celebrate* July birthday celebrants include:

Noorjahan Merchant - July 3rd  
Mary Castille - July 7th  
Ann Cornell - July 29th  
*Wishing you all a great day and many flowers!*

## Reminder!

Acadian Orchid Society nametags are available at AwardMaster  
3219 Johnston St. \* 984-1414  
Our template is on file, and you have a choice of magnetic or pinback, with a pink cattleya or green slipper orchid

## Highlights from June...

We put the final touches on plans for our show, and chose our favorites from among the beautiful blooming plants brought for display. These were described by Harold Letz.

### **Vanda:**

1st - Vanda Mimi Palmer x denisoniana - Bill Adams  
2nd - Asca. Motes Burning Sands - Gwen Williams  
3rd - V. Aura-yangera x Asca. DOUNGCHAI PUSAVAT - Bill Adams (hope this is close!)



### **Cattleya:**

1st - BC Binosa - Janet Gianelloni  
2nd - C. (schilleriana x leopoldii) - Rosie Leonpacher  
3rd - Epi. conopseum - Harold Letz

### **Phalaenopsis:**

1st - Phal. Tianong Glory - Bill Adams  
2nd - Phal. Mem. Betty Scheidner - Bill Adams  
3rd - Dtps. Courtney Bowers - Bill Adams  
sweeps the category! Awesome growing!



### **Miscellaneous:**

1st - Den. aggregatum - Genny Albarado  
2nd - Milt. Burfield 'Eileen' - Bill Adams  
3rd - Paph. purpulanum 'aureum' - Burt Kidder

## Big News from our June show:

Three AOS awards were presented at our show, two of these to Acadian Orchid Society members!

Meta Flanagin brought home an award for her stellar Dtps.

Laurel Lea Baldan 'M. Flanagin' with a total of 77

points for an HCC.



Harold Letz picked up his very first AOS award for Myc. Memoria Louise

Fuchs 'Crimson' with an HCC of 78 points.

Harold's plant was also awarded both of our Society's plaques - for best overall plant as well as best flower.

Kudos to both of these fine orchid growers! Additional thanks and congratulations and gratitude to many other members - Ted Joubert supervised set-up of a truly beautiful display, as well as acting as "clerk wrangler" - and thanks to the members who acted as clerks for the AOS judges. Joe Firestone and Janet Gianelloni acted as show chairs; Pat Huval managed the vendors as well as arranging for the trophies; Yvonne Blanchard and Bobby Gianelloni did a wonderful job in the hospitality room (and thanks to all those many members who provided foods and beverages); and Gwen Williams prepared and served up a meal for the judges that had them groaning with pleasure for hours afterwards.

It was a beautiful show, fun for all. Many, many thanks to all who contributed.

# Member Spotlight

**Harold Letz**

Our society's "perfect man" had a big, big month in June by anyone's standards: Harold won his first AOS award at our June show, as well as being awarded the society's plaques for best-grown plant and best flower. Top that off with being chosen "member of the month" - it doesn't get any more exciting than that! Harold says this about his long and winding orchid journey:



*"The first orchid I ever remember seeing, long long ago when I was a child, was a large purple cattleya given to my Grandma for Mother's Day. But when I*

*saw a small collection of blooming orchid plants displayed by Mr. Lea at his restaurant in Lecompte, I was hooked. I bought my first plant not long after.*

*"To some degree, I've raised orchids ever since. Through trial and error (LOTS of error) I've devised my method of culture so that I don't kill as many plants as I once did, but I still manage to kill a plant now and then.*

*"I've been involved with the Acadian Orchid Society since 1985, and have shown plants in numerous orchid shows, occasionally winning ribbons and trophies. Imagine my surprise when one of my plants was recently awarded the HCC. WELL!!!, that certainly was a thrill and an honor!!! Maybe that experience will be an inspiration to do even better -- maybe I'll get busy and do some much needed repotting.*

*"The orchid society is great fun!! It is a great source of information about plant culture, and all things "orchid". I also enjoy all the friendship and camaraderie!!"*

## Upcoming Orchid events

**August 6-7 - Houston Orchid Society Workshop**, St Thomas University, Crooker Center, 3900 Graustark, Houst, TX. Contact: John Stubbings, 3701 Coral Reef Dr., Seabrook, TX 77586; (832) 693-8140; [jdstubbings@comcast.net](mailto:jdstubbings@comcast.net)

**October 1-3 - Central Louisiana Orchid Society Show**, Best Western Inn & Suites, 2720 North MacArthur Dr., Alexandria, LA. Contact: Al Taylor, PO Box 545, Leesville, LA 71496; (337) 424-9689; [alant@krok.com](mailto:alant@krok.com)

**October 29-31 - Alamo Orchid Society Show**, San Antonio Garden Center, 3310 N. New Braunfels, San Antonio, TX. Contact: Tom Davis, 570 Blaze Ave., San Antonio, TX 78218; (210) 650-9720; [ted1016@aol.com](mailto:ted1016@aol.com)

**December 4 - Acadian Orchid Society**

### Baton Rouge Show report



Acadian Orchid Society's display at the Baton Rouge show was lovely: with 17 plants we were awarded 16 ribbons - quality, not quantity!

Bobby and Janet Gianelloni were awarded the trophy for best overall plant as well as the SWROGA

show trophy for BLC Prada Green Deluxe.

Those who attended the show as well as the open house at John and Tin's LAorchids

enjoyed both - the company as well as the visual delights.

Thanks to all who sent plants.

