

# SAOS HAPPENINGS

**Tuesday, August 7 Monthly Meeting**

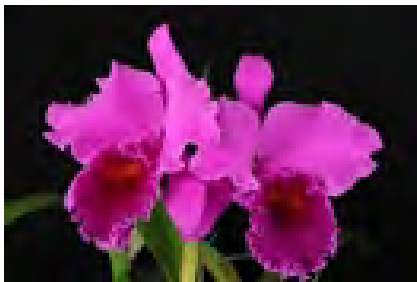
## **CATTLEYAS**

**Steve Hawkins, The Orchid Specialist**



Of the thousands of orchids that exist, it's usually the fabulous and dramatic cattleya that stops most of us in our tracks. They are perennial favorites and tend to show up frequently on our show table – often walking away with the Members Choice Award.

Our featured speaker, Steve Hawkins, will talk about growing these beauties - about their particular needs as to watering, fertilizing, light, air and repotting. He will be able to answer any questions you have, so come prepared for an “everything you always wanted to know” meeting.

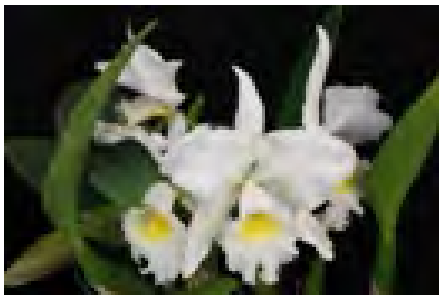


Steve's career began at age 15 with a few “household pet” orchids being grown on a windowsill. After graduating from college with a degree in horticulture, Steve started at Rod McLellan in San Francisco, first as a grower and later as a hybridizer and sales manager. He opened and ran his own nursery, The Orchid Specialist, in Apopka, until relocating to St. Augustine earlier this year.

Members are invited to bring healthy plants for sale at the meeting. They don't have to be in bloom. Bring your flowering orchids to exhibit on the Show Table. We will have our normal raffle at the end of the meeting. Friends and guests are always welcome.

**Where: Watson Realty, Conference Room by Back Parking Lot 3505 US 1 South, St. Augustine**

**When:** We normally meet the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. The meeting begins with a plant sale and closes with a plant raffle where members can expand their collections. It's fun and informative for beginners and experienced growers. Join us, visitors and guests are always welcome.



**Plant Clinic** The first Saturday of the month from **February through October**, SAOS members will be at Ace Hardware on US 1 South to talk with you, answer questions and help you repot orchids.

 [Here's a video of a repotting clinic!](#)


**Date and Time: Saturday, August 4, 2018 9am-1pm**

**Where: Ace Hardware, 3050 US 1 South St. Augustine 32086**



# KEIKI CLUB ON SUMMER VACATION

Keiki Club is on summer break. Keep watering and fertilizing your plants, and watch for pest and disease issues. If you have any questions or problems, SAOS members are available at the repotting clinics at ACE Hardware on the first Saturday of the month all summer long. The Keiki Club will reconvene in October to talk about fall preparations and the winter cold hardiness of different types of orchids. We'll have field trip opportunities to the Gainesville Orchid Society Show and EFG Orchtobefest. Then it will be time for our orchids to rest while we celebrate the holidays.

Keiki Club is for our beginning orchid growers. Meetings start with a short presentation on a timely orchid culture topic and then it's open for discussion on any and all thoughts and questions. Lots of hands-on experience under the watchful eyes of more experienced growers. Check our website for more Keiki Club information.  [Here's a video of one of our get togethers.](#)

## KEIKI KORNER - from Orchid Mentor Suzanne Susko

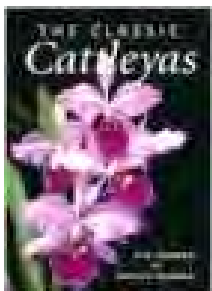
Just a short note on watering for this month's orchid tip.

There are some gorgeous orchid pots out there. Some have a tray attached to the bottom of the pot. It is a very attractive way to display your orchids. If you choose to grow your orchids in a pot with a bottom tray, it's extremely important to manage your watering. When watering, remove the pot from the tray and let the water run heavily through the pot. Put the pot back on the tray only *after* it has completely stopped draining and dripping or any remaining water will fill the tray. If the pot is sitting in a tray filled with water, the media at the bottom (and any orchid roots) will quickly rot. So let those pots drip dry! Happy growing.



## In the SAOS Library

SAOS members have access to orchid books, videos and equipment to help inform and educate. Select your desired material from the [current library list](#) and let SAOS librarian Penny Halyburton know. She'll bring your selection to the next meeting. [info@staugorchidsociety.org](mailto:info@staugorchidsociety.org)



## The Classic Cattleyas - Arthur E. & Arthur A. Chadwick

In 1818, William Cattley succeeded in flowering one of the first species of the genus that would bear his name. Each classic Cattleya species is described in fascinating detail, and its role in breeding programs is elucidated. Cultivation, humidity and watering, fertilizing, propagation, and diagnosing and treating problems are detailed. Beautiful photographs throughout.

## St. Augustine Month by Month

### August in St. Augustine

August is the hottest month so be prepared to work diligently to ensure sufficient air circulation. Spray water on the floor, benches and outer surface of clay pots one or more times every day during the hottest times. Continue watering and using a dilute fertilizer. The warm temperatures also cause fungal and bacterial problems as well as an increase in insect populations. Observe your plants carefully and spray for both insects and disease when first noticed. It may be necessary to move unsheltered plants into an area protected from torrential rains....[continue reading](#).