

# Mobile Area Orchid Society

March 2017

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society since 1950.

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Meeting Location is Christ United Methodist Church 6101 Grelot Rd. Mobile room A201 at 6:30PM 09 March. See last page for link to map and directions.

## Up coming orchid shows

Atlanta Orchid Society Show March 10-12.

Atlanta Botanical Garden, 1345 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta, GA

Houston Orchid Society Show & Sale April 1-2.

Houston Museum of Natural Science, Lobby, 5555 Hermann Park Dr., Houston, TX

The following article is from argus orchids 'orchid care' ([http://www.argusorchids.net/spring\\_orchids.htm](http://www.argusorchids.net/spring_orchids.htm))

**ORCHIDS IN BLOOM ALREADY?** Lucky you! Many cattleyas, phalaenopsis, and slipper orchids bloom in the spring. Be sure to keep plants in bud or bloom well watered and do not allow them to dry out. This also includes orchids that generally like to dry out a bit, such as cattleyas. You'll get nice full flowers that last for their full potential-for phals this may be three months, for cattleyas this could be three weeks.

**GETTING READY TO GROW.** Once your orchids have bloomed, or if you know they are not spring bloomers, this is a good time to repot your orchids in fresh mix. Spring is an excellent time to repot as it gives the orchid time to get established before the more stressful heat of summer. It also allows the plant to get established so it can get on with the work of growing once warmer brighter weather arrives.

Basically, you want to repot your orchids about every 12-18 months, or sooner if the potting mix is mushy, stays wet, or is smelly. This will be most noticeable with a bark mix. While cattleyas and paphiopedilums can be repotted at any time, wait until you see new growth emerging on cattleyas and other orchids before repotting. If the mix is broken down, always repot as soon as you can.

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## OUT FOR THE SUMMER?

Many growers summer their orchids with great results! The brighter light, and plentiful fresh air will rejuvenate your orchids and help them grow faster and better than they might indoors. Remember though, it is only spring. Do not move orchids outside until a few weeks past the last frost free date in your area. Cymbidiums and other cooler growers may be the exception, but if the weather is going to be cloudy and wet for days on end, you're better off keeping your orchid inside for now. There'll be more on this in our summer care guide. For now, enjoy your flowers.

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## From the President's Desk

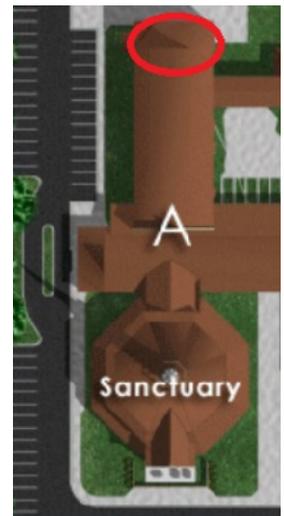
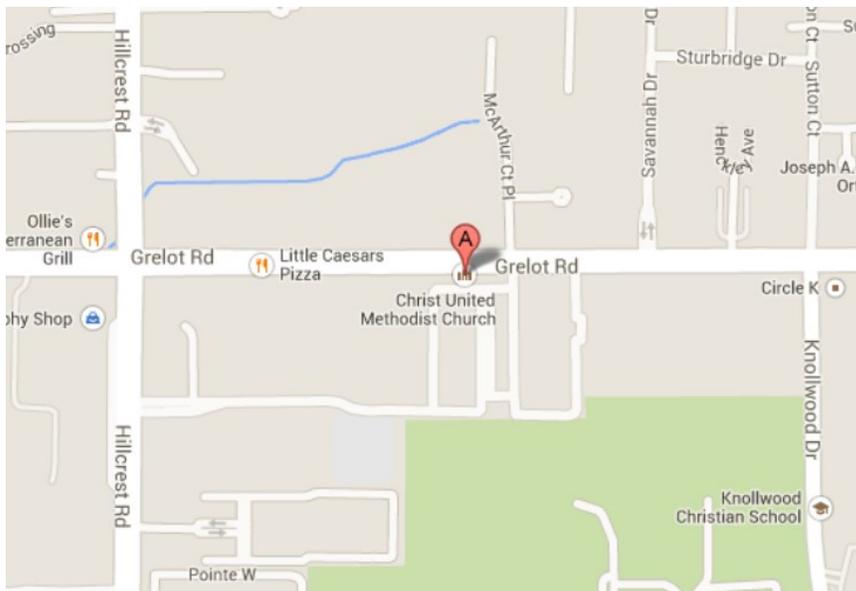
### Thanks

Many thanks to each of you who worked to make our 40<sup>th</sup> annual show a great success! Joe, thanks for your leadership and your willingness to stand in the gap and do what none of the rest of us got around to. We each have busy lives and sometimes it seems there is not enough of us to go around to all the places we hope to be. Thanks to those of you whose health problems were slowing you down this year but you did your best all the same. To those of you who were unable to join us, you missed a treat. Hope you can join us next time.

### Officer Nominations

New officers begin serving at the June meeting, which means it is time to consider what each of us can do for the society during the coming year. I will be appointing a nominating committee of three people in the next few days. If you would like to participate a little more in the process, consider who you would like to see in each office, write the name and the office on a small piece of paper and we will collect those to pass on to the committee. Your name will not in any way be associated with the nomination you make then the committee will use our suggestions at their discretion.

Map to Christ United Methodist Church Room A201 directly behind the Sanctuary. If the door on the east side of the Sanctuary is locked the door at the south end of the building will be open (red circle).



See last page for pictures of our 2017 show.



The middle picture (to the left) is the exhibit for Orchids Plus, this is the last year we will see Pat as she has decided to retire and enjoy the good life!



Don't forget to send me pictures of your orchids or favorite article for our website and newsletter.

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