

# Orchid Society News

March 2010



The Venice Area Orchid Society is an affiliate of the American Orchid Society. It was founded in 1962 to foster and preserve orchid growing, to provide a forum for orchid exhibition, and to share the knowledge and experience of growers and hobbyists.

Its mission is "to encourage, organize, and support educational activities among its members, to develop and extend knowledge of the cultivation and hybridization of orchids, and to promote the conservation and protection of native species."

VAOS is one of the largest orchid societies on the west coast of Florida, and maintains a strong awareness of community responsibilities. In February 2010, the VAOS proudly marked its 44th continuous annual orchid show, attracting nearly 4,000 attendees. These visitors contribute to the local economy in numerous ways, including dining and entertaining.

The VAOS Scholarship Program grants \$3,000 annually to Venice High School students specializing in science.

The Venice Area Orchid Society meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Venice Community Center, 326 South Nokomis Avenue, Venice, Florida.

Orchid Growers Clinics are informal question and answer sessions addressing questions from new orchid growers or growers with problem plants and are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Venice Community Center.

Guests are welcome.

Visit the Venice Area Orchid Society on the web at:

[www.vaos.org](http://www.vaos.org)

## A Message from Your President:

I'd like to use my final President's column to say thank you to many. A thank you to all VAOS members for the support you have shown the society and myself. A thank you to Ellen and Tony Nacinovich who have worked hard in so many ways, the newsletter, brochure, directory, advertising, in addition to the corresponding secretary work. To Carol Liddy, who has worried about protecting our resources while learning computer applications to maintain the fiscal records. To Carol Wood, who wrote almost all of the new Orchid Resource Guide and convinced others to complete their tasks of this project. To Jane Hyde who has provided sound advice only available from a prior President, and enthusiastically supported our scholarship program. To Bob Wallace, who claimed he didn't know what he was doing and keeps winning exhibit prizes. To Cynthia Vance for planning our programs, and not saying 'no' when asked if she would succeed me. To Noreen Chervinski for keeping the refresh-



Ted Kellogg

*continued on page 2*

THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW TROPHY  
FOR THE MOST OUTSTANDING EXHIBIT  
AWARDED TO VENICE AREA ORCHID SOCIETY  
FEBRUARY 6, 2010

## Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m.

**Speaker: Bill Fender**

### Topic: What Did I Buy? And How Do I Grow It?



Bill Fender

Bill Fender and his wife Susan are celebrating 41 years of orchid growing. Their first orchid plant, Bc. Binosa, received as a gift in 1969 from Susan's parents, is still thriving and blooming in the Fender's greenhouses!

Bill and Susan started their nursery business in 1974. Fender's Flora, Inc. was a wholesale nursery business for 25 years, growing Boston fern in Apopka, Florida (known as the foliage capital of the world). Bill and Susan's orchid web site, [www.fendersflora.com](http://www.fendersflora.com), has been on the internet for more than 14 years. The Fenders have received over 12 awards from the American Orchid Society. Bill has expanded his love for orchids into a unique breeding program using selected cattleya-type orchids that have been collected over the years. His emphasis in breeding is to produce frequent bloomers with fragrant flowers. He breeds both standard and compact cattleya-types, many with spots.

Bill would like for VAOS members and guests to bring their new orchid purchases from the recent orchid show and he will discuss how to grow them. Bill will emphasize a basic, simple KISS (Keep It Simple, [formerly] Stupid-[now] Sweetheart) method of orchid survival.

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## Officers 2009-2010

### President

Ted Kellogg  
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[tmkellogg@gmail.com](mailto:tmkellogg@gmail.com)

### Vice President – Programs

Cynthia Vance  
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### Vice President – Show Displays

Bob Wallace  
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### Vice President – Social Events

Noreen Chervinski  
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[pgifolks@yahoo.com](mailto:pgifolks@yahoo.com)

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### Recording Secretary

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### Corresponding Secretary

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[tnacinovich@verizon.net](mailto:tnacinovich@verizon.net)

### Membership

Carol Wood (info above) &  
Don Levine  
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[donguns@hotmail.com](mailto:donguns@hotmail.com)

### Librarian

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941/ 485-0979  
[jaybushell@earthlink.net](mailto:jaybushell@earthlink.net)

### Raffle Table

Charlie & Margaret Cullen  
[charliehc@verizon.net](mailto:charliehc@verizon.net)

### Director at Large

Barbara Wagner  
941/ 923-7706  
[barbjwag@comcast.net](mailto:barbjwag@comcast.net)

### Immediate Past President

Jane Hyde  
941/ 966-7303  
[gshyde@aol.com](mailto:gshyde@aol.com)

## Plant Table Awards: February 3, 2010

Monthly meetings include a show table of members' plants. Six ribbons are awarded each month: four awards are selected by an alternating team of VAOS member judges. These awards are: one for Best Species, and a First, Second and Third place award to any plant, a Speaker's Choice, and a Members' Choice (determined by vote of VAOS members). Plants from commercial growers are not eligible for ribbons.

In February, eleven plants from 5 exhibitors were shown. Photographs are by Richard Amos.

### First Place: *Miltassia* Charlie Loo

#### Grower: Bill Timm

A young plant with only a couple of blossoms was selected as first place by a new member for the shape and color of the flower. *Miltassia* Charlie Loo is a cross of *Miltassia* Charles M. Fitch by *Brassia* Edvah Loo registered in 1997.



### Second Place and Members' Choice:

#### *Paphiopedilum* Eureka

#### Grower: Ross Moore

Several members selected this *Paphiopedilum* for its ribbon because of its dark color and upright stem. The hybrid was registered in 1924 and the plant exhibited is likely a remake using dark colored forms of the parents.



### Third Place: *Cattleya percivaliana*

#### Grower: Bob Wallace

While Bob purchased the plant as named, there was some question as to whether it was the species or a hybrid from the species. Either way, it provided a great display of color.

### Speakers Choice: *Liparis condylobulbon*

#### Grower: Bill Timm

Selected because it is a species not frequently seen on our show table. Close up the small flowers are green, white and yellow and intricately shaped. The species grows in Southeast Asia.



### Best Species: *Rhychnostylis gigantea*

#### Grower: Carol Liddy

Purchased by Carol labeled as a peach form of the species, it turned out to be a deep wine color. This species is sold in small plant sizes and requires several years to grow into a large plant with several long, foxtail inflorescences.

## A Message from Your President: *continued from page 1*

ment table going, and to Aiko Anderson who has provided so much help. To Barbara Wagner, our great Show chairperson and event planner. To Don Levine, for his new member recruitment skills. To Jerry Manegold, for his assistance with the plant table. To Charlie and Margaret Cullen for the raffle table. These are a just a few of the many people who keep the society going – Thanks to you *all*.

A final comment. As you know, I was 'dragged' into the President position. I've enjoyed it, but I believe the viability of the society depends on our ability to continually develop members into leadership roles. It is our society: it requires the efforts of all of us to keep it viable. Please help the new leadership in any way you can.

–Ted Kellogg

## On A Roll... Another Winning VAOS Exhibit



If you listened at the February meeting to the murmurs and complaints about the cold weather and lack of blooming orchids, you'd have expected a pretty lackluster society exhibit at our annual show. Despite the odd weather this winter, members gathered the best they had and those plants, arranged by Bob Wallace and his artistic team, became not only an outstanding society exhibit (2nd place) but garnered the American Orchid Society Show Trophy. This award is named at the discretion of the A.O.S. judges (there were 28 A.O.S. judges at this show!).



Many members received ribbons. The following members and grower members who won trophies were:

The V.A.O.S. Trophy – awarded to the most outstanding Orchid Plant exhibited by a hobbyist member of the Venice Area Orchid Society – *Angraecum sesquipedale* – Richard and Mary Amos

Most outstanding *Cattleya* alliance plant – *Eplc. Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall'* AM/AOS – Richard and Mary Amos

Most outstanding *Phalaenopsis* or *Doritis-Doriteanopsis* plant of the show – *Dtps. Leopard Prince 'Sogo F-611'* – Ted Kellogg

Most outstanding art or craft entry—Orchid Wood Carving with Hummingbird – Harold Buckwalter

Trophy awarded to the SPECIMEN SPECIES plant at the discretion of the judges – *Den. (Dockrillia) wassellii* – Venice Orchids

The Donald Mitchell Trophy for most outstanding *Dendrobium* plant of the show – *Den. (Dockrillia) wassellii* – Venice Orchids

Trophy will be awarded to the SPECIMEN HYBRID plant at the discretion of the judges – *Blc. Morning Glory* – Orchids Etcetera.

Margarete Traver Memoria Trophy for best *Oncidium* alliance plant of the show – *Onc. Singh Gold* – Orchids Etcetera

Barb Wagner and Bob Wallace heartily thank all members who worked so hard to produce another quality show.

## Thirty-two New Members Signed Up at Annual Show

Please welcome the following new members when you see them at the March meeting:

Jack Guotkin  
Ellie Spigelmyer  
John Levins  
Peggy Sporer  
Nancy White  
Glenn & Oma Petrine  
Jane Mason  
Tim Ivins  
Suzanne Havens  
Susan McKinnon  
Pat Sasanecki  
Dee Gomber  
Marian "Mim" Artzt  
Vickie Lucas  
Ali Dickson  
Micki Kirlin  
Frank "Sonny" Gada  
Steve Knight  
Sandra Brookshire  
Rachel, John & Sarah Kost  
Dick & Linda Wallace  
Joe & Nini Lisy  
Don & Christel Lacey  
Jane Christensen  
Karen & Hank Irvine  
Sharon King  
Kit Sheen  
Harrison & Lynn Fox  
Sandra Price  
James Thomas  
Lise Mills  
Elizabeth Jett (returning)

### Grand Opening June's Orchid Estate

Saturday, March 6  
Sunday, March 7

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Plant Specials, Orchids &  
Orchid-related Merchandise,  
Guest Speakers

11901 Fort King Hwy.  
Thonotosassa, FL

[www.junesorchidestate.com](http://www.junesorchidestate.com)

~Memberships Expire~  
This Month  
Pay Your Dues Now—  
Only \$15 per household  
per year

Renew your membership now in order to be included in the Membership Directory. Mail your check, payable to VAOS, before the next meeting, to:  
Ms. Ali Hicks, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 443  
Venice, FL 34284-0433

## Minutes of the February VAOS Meeting

- President Ted Kellogg called the Venice Area Orchid Society meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Carol Wood and Ellen Nacinovich presented the slate of new VAOS officers:  
President—Cynthia Vance  
VP-Programs—Jerry Manegold  
VP-Shows—Bob Wallace  
VP-Social Events—Noreen Chervinski  
Recording Secretary—Carol Wood  
Corres. Secretary—Tony Nacinovich  
Treasurer—Ali Hicks  
New officers will be elected and installed at the March 3rd meeting.
- Barbara Wagner, Show Chair, provided final status updates and identified areas where help was needed for the annual show and sale February 6-7.
- Bob Wallace requested volunteers and member plants for the VAOS exhibit at the annual show.
- Ted Kellogg was the program speaker and presented a slide presentation and overview on orchid judging.
- The meeting was adjourned following the raffle.

*Respectfully submitted, Carol Wood*

## Orchids of the World

A great website to visit:  
<http://www.orchidspecies.com/index.htm>

Check out the Glossary page.

## Bylaws Revisions

The following letter and a copy of the VAOS Bylaws were sent via email on February 9th to those members who have an email address. If you did not receive a copy, there will be copies available at the March 3rd meeting.

Dear VAOS Members,

During the last two years the Board has reworked the existing Bylaws to try to bring more consistency to the document, clarify the terms of board members and duties, and make other adjustments. We are submitting this to you for approval.

At the March meeting I will be asking that this be a simple yes or no vote – without amendments. I hesitate to have us try to edit the document from the floor of the meeting. I do ask that if you have ideas that should be in Bylaws, or changes that you think should be made, please submit them to the Board for consideration in the next revision—preferably in writing.

Thank you for your consideration of the By-Laws. I'd like to leave the new President the revised Bylaws so that some of the ambiguity about responsibilities of Board members will be resolved.

Ted Kellogg, President VAOS



## Tasks for March

- Watch out for mites
- Spray for Thrips
- Repot genera emerging from dormancy: catasetums, calanthes, soft cane dendrobiums
- Continue general re-potting of cattleyas, oncidiums, hard cane dendrobiums etc.
- Make top cutting of teretes, semi-teretes and reed stem epidendrums
- Move Landscape plants gradually to brighter light
- Apply time release fertilizer

*Source: Florida Orchid Growing: Month by Month by Martin Motes, PhD.*

## Bill Fender

*continued from page 1*

He will tell how water, temperature, light, air circulation, fertilizer, pests, diseases and Mother Nature all affect our orchid addictions. Bill says “new growers fret too much over little things and frequently miss the big picture. THIS IS A HOBBY!!!”

Bill is a Florida native, born in St. Petersburg. He is a VAOS member. Read about the Fender’s Sale on page 7.



## Patronize Local Growers

- **Orchids Etcetera Inc.**  
(Jeff Higel, Walter Perrin)  
.....941/ 921-9138  
5130 Honore Avenue, Sarasota  
(south of Proctor)
- **Plantio La Orquidea**  
(Tina & Rafael Romero)  
.....941/ 504-7737  
3480 Tallevast Road, Sarasota  
[www.plantiolaorquidea.com](http://www.plantiolaorquidea.com)
- **Venice Orchids**  
(Bob Hague) .....941/ 321-4691  
254 Keystone Road, Venice
- **Fender’s Flora**  
(Bill Fender) .....941/ 323-1593;  
(Susan Fender) .....941/ 323-1587  
Located at Venice Orchids  
254 Keystone Road, Venice.  
Please call before visiting.  
[www.fendersflora.com](http://www.fendersflora.com)

## Transporting Blooming Orchids

*By Susan Jones, former editor of Awards Quarterly and assistant editor of Orchids*

During this time of year unpredictable and often inhospitable winter weather makes transporting flowering orchids a tricky matter. A shock of cold, dry air can quickly damage and even blast an orchid bud or bloom, a particularly heartbreaking event if one is on the way to have the flower judged. When carrying your flowering plant to a show, home from a nursery, to judging or even to give as a holiday gift, taking a little bit of precaution against potential cold damage can prevent a lot of disappointment later on.

An orchid’s flowers and buds, as the most vulnerable parts of the plant, are easily damaged by environmental stress. Some of the more cold-sensitive varieties may even drop leaves if the exposure and shock is of sufficient severity. Phalaenopsis and vandaceous orchids (neofinetias are a bit hardier than most, but their blooms are still sensitive) are among the least tolerant of chills. Other orchids that are most often affected include those with flowers of more delicate substance. The thicker, heavier and waxier an orchid’s floral tissues are, the more resistant to cold damage they will be.

**Tips from a Pro** – Long-time orchid grower, Connecticut Orchid Society member and one of the technical editors of Orchids magazine, Ann Jesup provided the following savvy ideas for ways to minimize disaster en route to an orchid society meeting, show or judging at a presentation to the Society.

Start with a good quantity of packing materials, she advises. Have on hand a variety of boxes of different sizes, including some insulated styrofoam boxes to shelter your plants from inclement weather. Padding is also important. she suggests waxed floss paper (also known as “spaghetti”), shredded paper, polyester batting and styrofoam peanuts as useful materials.

For protection against brief exposure to the elements, the plastic bags in which newspapers are delivered make an ideal sleeve to slip over a smaller plant. Dry-cleaning bags supported by wire hoops can help protect larger plants or those with tall inflorescences from freezing or drying out in winter weather.

**Insulating Plants** – Newspaper is an effective, easily available and inexpen-

sive insulation material. If plants must remain in an unheated area for any length of time during inclement weather, a cardboard box lined with newspaper will help retain heat around the plant. Foam packing peanuts may be added to stabilize and protect the plant in the box, but provide little in the way of insulation or heat retention.

For extreme situations in which prolonged exposure is anticipated, a heat pack can be placed under protective insulation in the bottom of the box. Disposable chemical heat packs are available in different lengths of effectiveness — the most commonly available last six to eight hours, but other durations are available. They can be ordered online (enter “disposable heat packs” into a search engine to find a vendor). Some orchid vendors who use them for shipping may also be persuaded to sell some of their stock.

Another consideration is staking your plant’s inflorescences. This can not only improve the overall appearance of the blooms, but will also help keep the spike and flowers stationary and less susceptible to injury during transportation. The proper time to stake an inflorescence is when the flowers are beginning to develop. This helps ensure that the buds are oriented properly once they open. For aesthetics’ sake, Jesup suggests attempting to keep the stake unobtrusive. Placing the thinnest stake possible as close to the foliage as is practical helps to avoid distracting attention from the blooms themselves.

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**The Venice Area**

## Orchid Society News

P.O. Box 443, Venice, FL 34284-0443

Published monthly.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the prior month.

Please direct comments to:  
Ellen and Tony Nacinovich  
email: [enacinovich2@verizon.net](mailto:enacinovich2@verizon.net)  
[tnacinovich@verizon.net](mailto:tnacinovich@verizon.net)

Written submissions are appreciated.

© E&T Nacinovich February 2010

**Next meeting:**

Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.  
"What Did I Buy? And How Do I Grow It?"

Speaker: Bill Fender

- Bring your new plant purchase
- Show table entries welcome
- Raffle Table
- Refreshments

## Upcoming Events

**February 26-28** – Miami International Orchid Show, Doubletree Hotel & Convention Center, 777 NW 72 Ave., Miami, FL.

**March 3** – VAOS monthly meeting, 7 p.m. VCC, 326 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice, FL. Speaker: Bill Fender, "What Did I Buy? And, How Do I Grow It?".

**March 5-7** – Martin County Orchid Society Show, Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy., Stuart, FL.

**March 8** – Englewood Area Orchid Society monthly meeting, 7:30 p.m. Christ Luthern Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave., Englewood, FL.

**March 10** – VAOS Orchid Growers Clinic, 7:30 p.m. VCC.

**March 11-14** – Orchid Society of Coral Gables Show, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Rd., Coral Gables, FL.

**March 12-14** – Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show, Port St. Lucie Community Center, 2195 SE Airoso Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL.

**March 18** – Setup.

**March 19-20** – Englewood AOS Annual Orchid Show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St., Englewood.

**March 19-21** – Naples Orchid Society Show, United Church of Christ, 5200 Crayton Rd., Naples, FL.

**March 20-21** – Jacksonville Orchid Society Show, Garden Club of Jacksonville, 1005 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville, FL.

**March 27-28** – Central Florida Orchid Society Show, Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL.

**April 2-4** – Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show, Egypt Shrine Center, 4050 Dana Shores Dr., Tampa, FL.

**April 17** – Florida West Orchid Society Annual Orchid Auction, Southwest Recreation Complex, 13120 Vonn Road, Largo, FL.

