

Orchid Society News

May 2008



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 our community responsibilities. In February 2008, the VAOS proudly marked its 42nd continuous annual orchid show, attracting over 5,000 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 7:30 p.m. at the Venice Community Center, 326 South Nokomis Avenue, Venice, Florida.

New Growers Meetings 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

A Message from your President:

What a great meeting last month – a large crowd, an exceptional plant table, a great speaker and plenty of food. Thanks to everyone who participated. Keep coming to the meetings, bringing plants and food.

Cynthia Vance is working on the programs for our future meetings. Cynthia will have a quick questionnaire at the next meeting – please take a moment to express your program interests. You don't have to wait till the next meeting to share ideas – Cynthia's email and phone contact are listed in this Newsletter.

The Board met last month to continue planning for the society. We developed a budget that shows our expenditures could slightly exceed our income. While we will watch this closely as the year goes on, I'd like to share information on our income expectations. First, dues account for only 15-20% of our income – not enough to pay for either the speakers or the rent for the Venice Community Center. We get a similar amount from the plant raffle and plant sales combined. We couldn't support society operations, add to our library, participate in shows, support scholarships and contribute to other orchid activities without the income from the show. Show income contributes two-thirds of the support for the society. To have a successful society, we must have a successful show. Help in any way you can.

Barbara Wagner is organizing a one-day trip to the Redlands Orchid Show and Sale, May 17th. It is the largest orchid festival in the country. Over 60 vendors, from the US, South and Central America and Asia will be there. Sign up with Barbara as soon as possible.

Finally, I received many positive comments for changing the order of the meeting. Thanks for the feedback. We will continue having the speaker before refreshments.

—Ted Kellogg

Next Meeting: May 7, 2008

Speaker: Bill Thoms,
Renowned orchid grower, world traveler and
nationally recognized speaker
Topic: Bulbophyllums—Bizarre and Beautiful
(the largest genus in the orchid world!)



Be prepared to learn more about this fascinating group of plants than you ever dreamed! Bill Thoms and his wife, Doris Dukes, have been growing orchids around Central Florida for almost 40 years and have received every award granted by the AOS, as well as more Awards for Culture than just about anyone else in the world—67 in over 20 genera, including 25 in the bulbophyllum alliance (capped off with a 95 point Certificate of Cultural Excellence for *Cirr. rothschildianum* 'A-doribil' FCC/AOS).

continued on page 2

Officers 2008-2009



President

Ted Kellogg
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tmkellogg@gmail.com

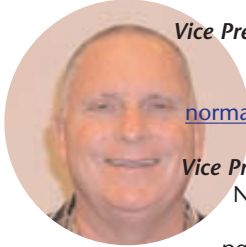
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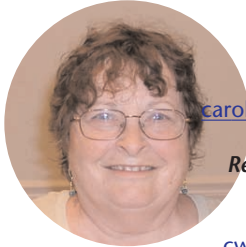
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jaybushell@earthlink.net



Raffle Table

Noreen Chervinski (info above)

Director at Large

Barbara Wagner
941/ 923-7706
barbjwag@comcast.net



Immediate Past President

Jane Hyde
941/ 966-7303
gshyde@aol.com



Bill Thoms *continued from page 1*

Bill is the only person to receive an Award of Quality for a *Bulbophyllum* hybrid (named for Doris), as well as receiving the hybridizer's dream—an Award of Distinction for a *Trias* hybrid. Many of his crosses are winning awards around the country. The AOS has just added a yearly award named for him for the best *Bulbophyllum* exhibited.

The talks are spiced with funny stories and funny associations, so whether you grow thousands of orchids, only a few, or none at all, you will have a wonderfully entertaining time and be able to grow anything better. Many of the most important requirements for growing world class plants are made easy to understand and remember.

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn how to grow these fascinating plants and to hear one of the most knowledgeable, interesting and funny speakers in the orchid world.

Plant Table Awards — April 2, 2008 Meeting

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 award and the VAOS members' vote on the plant for Members' Choice. The following are the awards presented at the March 12th meeting. (Plants are named as presented with minor editing corrections.)

First Place and Members' Choice: *Cattleya skinneri* 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS

Grower: Richard Amos.

Second Place: *Paphiopedilum* *Bel Royal*

Grower: Orchids Etc.

Third Place: *Cattleya intermedia* collection

Grower: Ted and Marty Kellogg

Species of the Month: *Dendrobium spectabile*

Grower: Joe Crook

Speakers Choice: *Beallara Marfitch* 'Howard's Dream' AM/AOS

Grower: Jackie Weber.

Judges were John Masters, Betty Ann Brumley, and Joni Harasymiw. 35 plants from 24 exhibitors were shown.

For photos of the winning orchids, visit our society's website at www.vaos.org. Thank you, Ted and Marty Kellogg, for keeping track of our plant table winners and posting the information on our website.

A volunteer to photograph the plants shown each month is needed as soon as possible. Please email Ted Kellogg for details.

Please bring your orchids to show at our monthly meetings. Orchids for the show table should arrive prior to 7 p.m.

AOS Monthly Checklist for May and June

The AOS thanks Ned Nash for this essay.

Cattleya

The last of the spring-flowering types — those that flower from a ripened hard pseudobulb — will be finishing, while the first summer-blooming types will be showing buds on their rapidly growing, soft pseudobulbs. Both may need potting, as signaled by deteriorating mix, this month. The spring bloomers present no problems, as you will be dealing with fully ripe, well-hardened pseudobulbs. They will be ready to root on the mature front pseudobulb and will establish quickly. The summer bloomers, will be brittle and may be in bud. Nonetheless, experienced growers know that unless potted now, they may not root later, as this type tends to be seasonal in its rooting behavior. Stake the lead growth to avoid breakage. May can still present some changing light conditions that can lead to burning of the foliage if the plants have not been properly acclimatized. Allow them to build up their tolerance to higher light gradually. Changing light and temperatures can also be the source of some frustration when trying to determine when plants need watering. While cattleyas will be entering into a period of rapid growth starting this month, they have still not built up sufficient momentum to be significantly slowed by your missing a day or two of watering owing to dark weather. As always, it is safer to err on the dry side than on the wet. It is important, though, especially to the summer bloomers. Too much shade will cause rapidly developing inflorescences to droop unattractively.

Paphiopedilum

The Paphiopedilum Maudiae types will be well into their season now, so a careful eye should be used toward staking. Do not be too anxious to stake, however. Many of this type, if staked too soon, will develop nodding flowers that do not face the observer. It is better to allow the flowers to ripen naturally, then support



the spike right below the ovary for best display. This is especially common in Paphiopedilum fairrieianum-derived hybrids. If you have to do something when you first see the emerging spikes, just put the stake in the pot next to the spiking growth. Not only will this help you, but you will be able to see where the spikes are, so you can continue to pay attention to their development. The multifloral types will be entering their most active growth phase, so lots of light, water and fertilizer are called for to mature their large growths. Many will be spiking in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for the emerging inflorescences. These may benefit from earlier staking than most, as the inflorescences grow so quickly in some cases that they can be quite soft. Again, best support is right below the ovary of the first flower. This will allow the most natural presentation of the blooms.

Phalaenopsis

Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for potting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior. The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant. This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on Doritis background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the summer season. Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne pathogens and viral contamination. Phalaenopsis are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

Bus Trip to Redlands Festival Saturday, May 17, 2008 Cost: \$40.

Cost includes fee for 55-passenger bus, entrance into park, tip for driver, discount coupons for the show, goodie bag, and games on bus.

There will be over 50 vendors from around the world.

Suggestions: bring a cooler, sun-screen, hat and sweater for bus. Food is available at the show. We will not stop for food on the way home.

Bus schedule:

7:00 a.m. Depart Sarasota
Pavilion (Bank of America)
7:30 a.m. Venice Community
Center
8:00 a.m. Possible Wal-Mart
Jones Loop Rd.

Return trip departure: 3:30 p.m.
Everyone getting to the bus on
time will be greatly appreciated.

No refunds after May 1, 2008. You
may sell your seat, but please
notify Barbara Wagner if you do.

Make check payable to VAOS and
mail to Barbara Wagner, 6843
Anchor Way, Sarasota, FL 34231
Need more info? Call 941/923-
7706.

STILL WANTED: A few good volunteers...

Photographer for the monthly Plant
Table (see Ted Kellogg).

Two or more to help set up, serve,
and clean up the **Refreshment
Table**. (see Noreen Chervinski)

Two or more to sell **raffle** tickets
and then enjoy selecting the winners
(see Noreen Chervinski)

Contact information is on page 2.

Refreshment Table

The VAOS provides coffee and sodas for the monthly refreshment table, but relies on its members to supply the usual great goodies. Always welcome and appreciated are baked goods, fresh fruit, crackers & cheese, and whatever sweet or salty snacks suit your fancy! Think lite!!!

Call Noreen Chervinski at 941/ 505-1304 if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help serve and clean up. *Thanks!*

**Bus Trip to
Krull-Smith (Apopka)
and
Ritter/Tropic 1 (Kissimmee)
Saturday, June 14, 2008**

Cost: \$25 (based on 40 people)

Many people have requested this trip to two growers who come to our show. There will be plenty of time to tour both of their greenhouses.

Tom Ritter will have a plant for everyone on the bus.

Cost includes bus, tip for drivers, goodies on the bus, and games (with prizes). Suggestion: bring cooler, sunscreen, sweater for bus.

No stopping for dinner.

Bus Schedule:

7 a.m. – Venice Community Center
7:30 a.m. – Sarasota Pavilion/
Bank of America. Other stops may be added.

You may sell your seat, but please let Barbara know.

No refunds after June 1, 2008.
Send check (payable to VAOS) to Barbara Wagner, 6834 Anchor Way, Sarasota, FL 34231

Need more info? Call Barbara at 941/ 923-7706.

Membership Dues

Check the cover below the mailing label of this newsletter for a yellow dot—if you find one, **your dues are outstanding** and you need to contact the treasurer, quickly. **Memberships in arrears will not be sustained.** The VAOS membership dues are only \$15 per household each calendar year. Please make checks payable to: VAOS.

Dues may be given to treasurer, Carol Liddy, at the May meeting or by mailing them to:

Ms. Carol Liddy
429 Circlewood Drive
Venice, FL 34293

Englewood Show Winners—March 21-22, 2008

Thirty plants in the VAOS exhibit at the Englewood Orchid Show won awards – 2 trophies and 20 ribbons (12 Blue, 4 Red, and 4 Yellow). Congratulations to all winners, especially our two trophy winners, Shirley Hoffman and Roy Klinger.

Other winners and their ribbons were: Ted Kellogg (4 Blue, 2 Red, and 1 Yellow); Jackie Weber (1 Blue and 1 Red); Linda Schaller (2 Blue); Roy Klinger (1 Blue/Trophy, 1 Red

and 1 Yellow); Shirley Hoffman (1 Blue/Trophy); Rich Amos (2 Blue, 1 Yellow); and Barb and Bob Wagner (1 Blue, 1 Yellow).

Many thanks to all who contributed plants and to exhibit helpers Steve and Peg Hartley, Norm Weber, Shirley Hoffman, Linda Schaller, Rich and Mary Amos, Cynthia Vance, and Barbara Wagner.

Monthly Newsletter by Email

Let us send your VAOS Newsletter by email. You'll get it faster and save our society money. With this issue, we're sending 25 copies by e-mail and saving approximately \$25. Doubling that number could save \$500—\$600 annually.

Send a request to www.venice.area.orchid.society@gmail.com and say "Yes, I Want to Receive my Newsletter by Email."

Patronize the local growers who have supported VAOS for many years:

- **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
- **Venice Orchids** (Bob Hague)941/ 485-5012
254 Keystone Road, Venice
- **Fender's Flora** (Bill and Susan Fender)941/ 484-6320;
941/ 323-1587
Located at Venice Orchids, 254 Keystone Road, Venice
www.fendersflora.com
Venice Orchids and Fender's Flora are open
Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.; closed Sunday.



Outgoing VAOS Officers Honored

The nominating committee, represented by Sybil Levian Bushell (left), honored outgoing VAOS officers with a floral bouquet of a dozen roses at the April 2nd meeting. L. to R.: Barbara Wagner, Shirley Hoffman, Noreen Chervinski, Ted Kellogg, Elinor Burton, Carol Wood, Don Levine, and Susan Fender. Absent: Jane Hyde, Peg and Dick Thompson.

Minutes of the April 2, 2008 Meeting

President Ted Kellogg called the Venice Area Orchid Society meeting to order. Sybil Bushell presented a dozen roses to each past officer and thanked them for their service. She then introduced the new officers.

Ted discussed programs planned for the coming year and encouraged members to give their suggestions for programs to our new VP of Programs, Cynthia Vance.

Ellen and Tony Nacinovich did an excellent job on their first newsletter published; input is due by the 15th of each month.

Barbara Wagner and Roy Klinger have agreed to co-chair the 2009 show. Ted Kellogg encouraged new participants in show planning that has already gotten underway.

Ted introduced new members.

Bill Fender of Fender's Flora gave an excellent presentation on "Breeding Cattleyas" and brought several of his hybrid plants to show.

Barbara Wagner thanked those members who helped with the VAOS exhibit at the Englewood orchid show that received many ribbons.

Barbara Wagner is planning a bus trip to Redlands on May 19th. The cost is \$40, please contact Barbara to sign up.

Ted Kellogg and Bill Fender presented the plants on the display table, one of the nicest displays we've had.

The meeting was adjourned following the monthly raffle.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Wood

Show Sponsorships

Carol Wood reminds us that our 2008 show sponsors contributed \$2,500 to underwrite the show. Patronize these sponsors and thank them for their contributions when you can.

- A.G. Edwards
- Ashton Gardens
- Drs. Davis and Beyer
- Knollwood Pool Service
- Friends of the Venice Community Center
- Valek Insurance & Bonds

Treasurer's Report 3/31/08

Checking Account

Starting Balance 2/29/08 \$2,701.41
 + receipts8,864.00
 - payments1,410.23
 Balance 3/31/08\$10,155.18

Cash Account

Starting Balance 2/29/08\$ 40.00
 + receipts394.00
 - payments394.00
 Balance 3/31/08\$ 40.00

Savings: CD\$11,672.45

Total Assets 3/31/08.....\$21,867.63

— Carol Y. Liddy

Volunteer! It's fun!

The Venice Area
Orchid Society News

Published monthly.

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

Please direct comments to:
 Ellen and Tony Nacinovich
 email: enacinovich2@verizon.net
 tnacinovich@verizon.net
 Written submissions are appreciated.

© E&T Nacinovich April 2008

Next meeting:

Wednesday May 7, 2008

- Knowledgeable and humorous Guest Speaker
- Plant table entries welcome...
- Don't forget refreshments, too!

Yellow means your dues are due



Upcoming Orchid Events

May 3-4 – Brevard County Orchid Society Show, Azan Shrine Center, 1591 W. Eau Gallie Blvd., Melbourne, FL. Contact: Julie Zepf, (321) 777-9837; jfzepf@aol.com.

May 7 – VAOS monthly meeting, Venice Community Center. Speaker: Bill Thoms “Bulbophyllums—Bizarre and Beautiful.” 7:30 p.m.

May 8 – VAOS Board meeting, Venice Community Center. 7:00 p.m.

May 10-11 – Volusia County Orchid Society Show, Hester Exhibit Hall, Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3100 East New York Ave., Deland, FL. Contact: Jennifer Reinoso, 58 Fernwood Tr., DeLand, FL 32724; (386) 738-7543; jenorchid@bellsouth.net.

May 14 – New Growers Meeting, Bring your questions and/or problem plants. Venice Community Center. 7:30 p.m.

May 16-18 – Redland International Orchid Festival, Redland Fruit and Spice Park, Homestead, FL. Contact: Robert Randall, 26505 SW 203 Ave., Homestead, FL 33031; (305) 245-5565; caribplants@att.net.

May 17 – VAOS Bus Trip to Redland Festival. \$40. Contact Barbara Wagner, 941/923-7706.

June 4 – VAOS monthly meeting, Venice Community Center. Speaker: Walton Ray “Tampensis—Our Local Orchid.” 7:30 p.m.

June 7 – Morning Car Stops Tour and Afternoon Hike with Wednesday’s speaker, Walton Ray.

June 14 – VAOS Bus Trip to Krull-Smith and Ritter/Tropic 1 nurseries. \$25. Contact Barbara Wagner, 941/923-7706.

Visit aos.org and click on “Events/Show Schedules” to see a list of shows in other states.