

Venice Area Orchid Society News

September 2010

Member's Plant Sale Saturday, Sept. 11th in Venice

The annual VAOS member's plant sale will be held on Saturday, September 11, 2010 from 9 to 2 at Centennial Park, Venice Avenue & Nassau Street (near the information kiosk). The event is scheduled in conjunction with Venice Main Street Sidewalk Sales and the Saturday morning Farmer's Market, so traffic should be brisk.

Any member of the society may sell plants or related plant material and items at this sale. Orchids will predominate but all types of plants may be sold.

If you are interested in participating, please sign up at the September meeting or register with coordinator

Mary Anne DiGrazia

phone: 941-697-9237 or email:

tommaryanne@peoplepc.com

More info on page 3



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. They 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:

When I walked into the room at our August meeting I was overwhelmed at the number of plants on the raffle table. Special thanks go to Carol Wood, Ted Kellogg, Roy Klinger, Jeff Higel, Robert Hague, Susan and Bill Fender, and Michael Sinn. You are all so generous and our Englewood colleagues were most grateful also. Marv Regan gave an excellent presentation on the breeding and judging of Encyclias specifically how and why points are awarded. Indeed it's a complicated task! His slides were wonderful and we all learned so much.

Our plant sale is coming up soon! On Sept 11, from 9-2:00 VAOS members will be selling their plants in downtown Venice. We expect lots of traffic because it is also a Venice Sidewalk Sale day. Isn't it time to "quality-size" your collection?

I was reminded of this when reading Ortho's *All About Orchids* – "Don't overcrowd. One of the most fundamental rules for success in developing an orchid collection is one you may rarely, if ever, read anywhere but here. You must be disciplined about the number of plants you try to house in your accommodations. More collections have been spoiled by overcrowding than almost any other practice or condition. There are basically two ways to end up by having entirely too many orchids: One is to buy indiscriminately until push comes to shove, especially at the moment of truth in fall, when all our frost-tender plants must come inside. (How we all know that!) The other is that you cannot bear to discard any division or keikis that appears on your potting bench when repotting or in the process of staking and grooming. If you want to have a truly beautiful and soul-satisfying collection, you must dis-

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Cynthia Vance

Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st at 7 p.m.

Speaker: Jim Roberts

Topic: Summertime and the Growin' is Easy

Jim Roberts, owner of Florida SunCoast Orchids, is a leader in the growing orchid industry of Florida, operating throughout the state of Florida as well as supporting national market demands.

He has been growing orchids for more than 25 years, in climates ranging from cold Minnesota to hot SW Florida (Jim moved to our region in 2001). He has traveled extensively in search of orchid treasures to Hawaii, South America, and Europe, seeking the plants that will grow and bloom best for his clients.

Jim has had careers in mortgage banking, retail management, teaching, and music. He now leads Florida SunCoast Orchids in its quest to become one of the prime growers and suppliers to the retail hobbyist market for quality orchid plant selections. The company "crew" is his wife Mary and their children, who regularly help out with the daily chores of watering, cleaning, and repotting.

Jim will bring plants to sell.



Jim Roberts

Officers 2010-2011

President

Cynthia Vance

facilitationfla@aol.com

Vice President – Programs

Jerry Manegold

gmanegold@gmail.com

Vice President – Show Displays Co-chair Annual Show

Bob Wallace

bob@flgulfhomes.com

Vice President – Social Events

Noreen Chervinski

pgifolks@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Ali Hicks

alihicks61@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Carol Wood

cwood12@msn.com

Corresponding Secretary Newsletter Publisher

Tony Nacinovich

tnacinovich@verizon.net

Newsletter Editors

Ellen Nacinovich &

Tony Nacinovich

enacinovich2@verizon.net

Membership

Carol Wood (info above) &

Don Levine

donguns@hotmail.com

Librarian

Sybil Levien Bushell

jaybushell@earthlink.net

Raffle Table

Charlie & Margaret Cullen

charliehc@verizon.net

Director at Large

Co-chair Annual Show

Barbara Wagner

barbjwag@comcast.net

Immediate Past President

Ted Kellogg

tmkellogg@gmail.com

Plant Table Awards: August 4, 2010

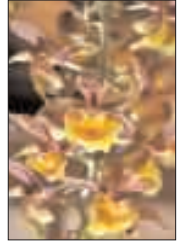
Monthly meetings include a show table of members' plants. Six ribbons are awarded each month, four of which are selected by a random team of VAOS member judges. These four awards are Best Species, and a First, Second and Third place award to any plant. VAOS members vote on a plant for the Members' Choice award and there is a Speaker's Choice award. Plants from commercial growers are not eligible for ribbons. Plants are named as presented with minor editing corrections.

In August, fifteen plants from 7 exhibitors were shown. Judges were Genevieve Trump, Lynne Pedlar, Wilda Meier, and Cindy Kalik.

First Place and Speaker's Choice: *Catasetum* Spotted Dragon

Grower: Hank Irvine

This *Catasetum* hybrid was registered by JEM Orchids of Florida in 1983. It is a cross of *Ctsm. fimbriatum* x *Ctsm. Orchidglade*. The grex has received 7 awards. The exhibited plant had two inflorescences in full flower.

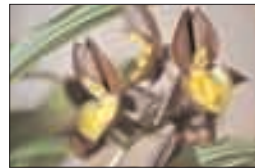


Second Place and Members' Choice:

Catasetum Black Knight

Grower: Bill Timm

A *Catasetum* hybrid registered by W. Neptune in 1996. It is a cross of *Ctsm. expansum* x *Ctsm. tenebrosum*.



Third Place: *Cattleya* Robert Strait 'Blue Hawaii' JC/AOS

Grower: Bob Wallace

This cross of *C. walkeriana* and *C. Wayndora* was registered in 1990. It has produced seven AOS award winners. The JC/AOS was awarded to this clone for the unusual color. The plant displayed had multiple heads of flowers.



Best Species: *Gastrochilus japonicus*

Grower: Bill Timm

A miniature species from Asia that blooms in the late summer. The color maybe predominately green, yellow or orange. The flowers form a dense ball and are held close to the stem of the plant.



Photographs and commentary by Ted Kellogg.

November 6 Member's Greenhouse Tours 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If you are willing to share your orchid growing methods with society members by opening your home for a tour on Saturday, November 6, please contact Jerry Manegold, VP Programs at gmanegold@gmail.com.

President's Message

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cipline yourself to buy only those plants without which you cannot be happy. Don't acquire one more plant unless you have a place where it will have the chance of growing it to perfection."

To this end I've thrown out goners, held some funerals, divided and given away plants. Now, I'm ready for some more beauties. Our members will bring some wonderful divisions of hearty orchids and other plants to the Sale. And remember, 20% of the profits go to VAOS for the Show fund. I'll be there and hope you will come too.

—Cynthia Vance

9/11 Plant Sale Details

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Any member of the society may sell plants or related plant material or items at this sale.

It is required that participating member must spend at least part of the sale time assisting in selling plants or helping to collect sale proceeds.

Each participating member is responsible for properly tagging and pricing their plants or items. Each plant must have two (2) pot tags or labels.

1. One with the proper name of the plant to be sold.
2. Your initials or identifying number or mark and the price of the plant.

Please – No stickers for I.D.!

All prices must be clearly marked and must be to the nearest dollar (no cents).

Plants must be clean and free of insects. The society reserves the right to withdraw plants which do not conform.

Twenty percent of the sale proceeds will be retained by the society for the show fund. The society treasurer will send participants a check during the week following the sale.

Participants need to bring tables, stands and/or hanging racks. Also helpful are plastic bags and boxes for buyers to transport plants.

The sale will be canceled only if a hurricane warning or severe thunderstorm warning is issued.

*Visit the newly updated
www.vaos.org*

Members will receive a personal username and password by email soon.

These are not necessary for viewing the site, but will be required for posting a message.

VAOS Will Exhibit at The Ridge Orchid Society Show September 18 & 19

All members are encouraged to submit plants for the display.

Bob Wallace, VP Show Displays, needs volunteers to help with the VAOS exhibit at the Ridge Orchid Society Show on Saturday, September 18 and Sunday, September 19, in Lakeland, FL. This show is one of four annually in which our society participates with a display.

Volunteers are needed to transport orchids and props to the site, to record and keep track of plant entries, to make labels for each plant, and to help with setting up the display.

Setup is scheduled for Friday, September 17 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

It will be necessary to supply our own greenery, so please let Bob know if you have plants to loan.

Plants may be dropped off on Thursday, September 16 at the Venice homes of either Carol Wood or Bob Wallace. (see page 2 for contact info). More information will be announced at the September meeting and by email notices.

The Colorful World of Orchids

Orchid Vendors
Supplies
Beautiful Orchids
Orchid Society Displays
Repotting Table

Saturday:
Sept. 18th, 2010
10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Sunday:
Sept. 19th, 2010
12 P.M. to 5 P.M.

Lake Mirror Center
127 S. Lake Avenue, Lakeland, FL.

49th Annual Orchid Show
Sponsored by The Ridge Orchid Society
Admission: \$2.00

Help is especially needed on Sunday afternoon at 5 p.m. to dismantle the exhibit, load cars, and return plants.

There are jobs that can be accomplished by members with little experience, so don't be shy! It's always fun and an opportunity to learn when working on a team.

Tips for Grooming Your Orchids For Home or Show

The following are some tips for preparing plants for exhibiting, whether at home or for a show (notes from Mike Polen's presentation to VAOS last November).

- Prep your plant with the thought that you want the blossoms at eye level of the judges
- Strip dried sheathing
- Shine leaves with club soda or rubbing alcohol to leave a natural, matte finish. This will wash away calcium or fertilizer deposits.
- If blossoms are cramped, use a styrofoam peanut or cotton ball to separate
- Stake your plant, preferably using brown or black ties, or make a bamboo stake with a floral wire hook.
- Hide colored pots by setting into a green plastic pot.
- You can also hide unsightly pots with packing tape and sheet moss (run a strip of packing tape around the pot; then reverse it and cover sticky side with sheet moss)

Getting involved with your local society's orchid show can be fun! Working on an exhibit or even submitting a plant for exhibit and judging can be a tremendously gratifying experience. And you will certainly learn a lot!

Growing Tips for August

By Courtney T. Hackney

Repotting should be done by now, but keep an eye on those oddball species that like to grow roots as they flower. Many bifoliate cattleyas need to be repotted just as they come into flower. Some like C bicolor with 3 foot pseudobulbs are particularly frustrating since buds emerge about the same time as new roots. It is not unusual to see this same characteristic in their offspring.

Insects are cold-blooded, which means they grow faster when greenhouse temperatures are warm. This is true for both scale insects and mobile pests such as roaches. Roaches, mealybugs, and other mobile animals that live in pots can reduce all your carefully protected root tips to little white nubs. Unfortunately, this mostly happens at night so there is always some uncertainty as to the identity of the offending culprit. If you are a night owl, a quiet visit with your flashlight to your growing area at night may get you a quick view of the culprit. If you are having this problem, mix up a 5 gallon bucket of liquid Sevin, 1 teaspoon per gallon and dip the entire orchid pot for a minute or two and see what comes out. Roaches will make themselves known, but many smaller animals such as snails & slugs will just die in the pot. Either way, problem solved. For hobbyists who place their orchids outdoors in summer and bring them inside in winter, remember this treatment to avoid importing pests.

There are a few orchids in my collection that should love the heat of summer, but Angraecum hybrids and species often develop rots in their new leaves as they emerge. Keep a bottle of household hydrogen peroxide in the growing area. After you water, put a few drops in the crown of angraecums or any other monopodial orchid (phals, vandas, etc) that grow on a vertical stem and the rot problem will disappear.

Summer is a time of both heat and humidity. If you are growing outdoors

don't forget last month's watering advice. Always keep in mind that cool weather will require a reduction in watering frequency. There is always the possibility here in the Southeast of a tropical system lasting for days. Tropical systems import fungal and bacterial spores. The heat and humidity that accompany these storms encourage their growth. These disease-causing organisms are always around and there is nothing that can be done.

If you grow outside and your orchids are naturally watered by the rain, it may be necessary to provide some shelter if several days of tropical rain is expected. In my greenhouse, I also spray down all surfaces under benches, on walls, etc with a strong anti-biotic. Copper Sulfate (Kocide) works well as can a solution of Clorox. However, these products can damage orchids if they get on leaves. If orchids are wet there is less danger or a less toxic product can also be used.

Kocide, used in a more dilute form is safe to use on some orchids, but only if the water you mix it with is on the basic side of the pH scale, i.e. above 7. Even then, there can be damage on tender new phal leaves as well as to other sensitive orchids. There are other products such as Phyton 27, approved for direct application to orchids. It is easier to prevent infections than cure them.

Once the tropical system has passed it is wise to treat your orchids with some type of anti-fungal or anti-bacterial agent. Some hobbyists that have small collections use the same hydrogen peroxide noted above, place it in a spray bottle and spray their plants.

Remember to keep air moving around your orchids. Once the rain stops and humidity drops it is also a good idea to let your orchids dry thoroughly.

Courtney T. Hackney writes a monthly column and is a contributing writer for several FL orchid societies.

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net

Minutes of the August 4, 2010 VAOS Meeting

- President Cynthia Vance called the Venice Area Orchid Society meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Cynthia welcomed Englewood Orchid Society members. We were pleased to have a nice turnout at our joint meeting.
- More than 60 plants were donated for the raffle table. Cynthia thanked Fender's Flora, Venice Orchids/Bob Hague, Orchids Etc. and Canaima Orchids/Michael Sinn and several VAOS members for their plant donations.
- The annual VAOS Members Plant Sale will be held Saturday 9/11/10 from 9am to 2pm in downtown Venice Centennial Park. The sale is being coordinated by Mary Ann DiGrazia. Mary Ann provided an update on the sale and is seeking more members to sell plants as well as to post flyers for the sale.
- Cynthia invited members to visit the newly designed VAOS Website. Bob Wallace, Webmaster, designed the new site using Word Press blog format. Members can post pictures of their orchids, provide culture tips and submit questions using the blog format. Bob is in the process of emailing user names and passwords to all VAOS members.
- The next Growers Clinic is 8/11/10 at 7:30pm, Venice Community Center.
- The next VAOS board meeting is 8/18/10.
- Marv Ragan, MAJ Orchids, was our speaker for the evening, presenting "The Breeding and Judging of the Genus Encyclia". His slide program covered a variety of Encyclia species. Marv grows his plants in clay pots with tree fern that lasts 5-6 years, and only repots when new roots are developing.
- Marv Ragan and Nancy Logsar presented the plant table. The meeting was adjourned following the raffle.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Wood

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Monthly Raffle Table



Margaret and Charlie Cullen

Margaret and Charlie Cullen are the most popular members at the end of our meetings because they draw the winning raffle tickets. This past meeting, there were over 60(!) orchids and related items that were won by participants. Did you know that the proceeds from the monthly raffles benefit the society by keeping our costs down?

Charlie and Margaret's efforts are really appreciated and they promise to try to draw your number next time... The more you play, the greater your chances of winning!



One Bus Trip Planned for Saturday, October 16 To Two Orchid Growers!

A Fall bus trip is being planned for Saturday, October 16 to two commercial growers, Krull Smith in Apopka (photo above) and Ritter's Tropic 1 Orchids in Kissimmee.

Krull-Smith began over 30 years ago when Frank Smith and Jim Krull started a small orchid nursery in Apopka, Florida. Since then, they have been providing exceptional quality orchids to hobbyists and commercial growers and have become the leading orchid hybridizer in the world for award-quality show plants. Krull-Smith has received over 700 quality and cultural awards from the American Orchid Society.

The cost of the trip is \$26, which includes bus and gratuities for driver. This price is based on 40 people, so

please sign up as soon as possible if you are interested in going. Don't delay. Other area clubs are being informed of this trip.

It is suggested that you bring a small cooler with lunch and a light jacket for the bus. The bus will not be stopping for lunch. Please carry Barb's cell number with you (941/705-3329) also.

Bus Pickup Locations:

Punta Gorda Wal-Mart 6:30 a.m.;
bus departs 6:45 a.m. sharp.

Venice Community Center (south parking lot) 7:15 a.m.;

bus departs 7:30 a.m. sharp

Sarasota Gulf Gate Drive, Bank of America 7:45 a.m.;

bus departs 8 a.m. sharp

Sign up with Barb Wagner:

941/923-7706

Please make check payable to VAOS with a notation of your name and phone number. *Deadline for payment is Wednesday, October 6th.*

Expectation for arrival home is approximately 7 p.m. to Gulf Gate dropoff.

First come – first served!

ANNUAL FALL OPEN HOUSE & SALE Fender's Flora & Venice Orchids Friday & Saturday, Oct. 1 and 2, 2010 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Potted Orchids, Specials & Closeouts
plus hundreds of bare-root divisions

Please visit www.FendersFlora.com and bring your list!

~ Bring this ad and receive a FREE ORCHID
for every \$50 you spend! ~

You may choose from our selected group of vigorous, quality orchids.
Spend \$50, choose one free orchid. Spend \$100, choose two free orchids..

~ Valid Oct. 1 and 2 at Fender's Flora only ~

254 Keystone Road, Venice, FL 34292
Bill & Susan Fender, office 941-412-1355
Cell: 941-323-1587 (Susan); 941-323-1593 (Bill)

Directions: From Interstate 75, exit 191 (River Rd.)
Then Right on Venice Ave., Right on Keystone Rd.
We are second to last driveway on Right.

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
tnacinovich@verizon.net

Written submissions are appreciated.

© E&T Nacinovich August 2010

Next meeting:
WEDNESDAY, September 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
• Speaker: Jim Roberts
 "Summertime and the Growin' is Easy"
• Show table entries welcome
• Refreshments

Upcoming Events

September 1 – VAOS monthly meeting. 7 p.m.
Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.,
Venice, FL. Speaker: Jim Roberts of Florida
SunCoast Orchids.

September 8 – VAOS Orchid Growers Clinic, 7:30
p.m. VCC.

September 11 – VAOS Members Plant Sale, 9 a.m. to
2 p.m., Centennial Park, Venice.

September 18-19 – Ridge Orchid Society Show,
Lake Mirror Center, 121 S. Lake Ave., Lakeland,
FL.

October 1-3 – Florida West Coast Orchid Society
Show, Minnreg Hall, 6340 126th Ave, Largo, FL
33773.

October 2-3 – Gainesville Orchid Society Show,
Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, 4700 SW 58th Dr.,
Gainesville, FL.

October 6 – VAOS monthly meeting. 7 p.m. VCC.
Speaker: William Hill, Orchid Island Orchids,
“Growing Oncindiinae Intergenerics”

October 13 – VAOS Orchid Growers Clinic, 7:30
p.m. VCC.

October 16 – VAOS Bus Trip to Krull-Smith and
Ritter’s Tropic 1 Orchids. (Details p. 5)

October 29-31 – Delray Beach Orchid Society Show,
Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray
Beach, FL.

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