#### Plan Now to Exhibit Your Plants at the Englewood Show



## Editor & Publisher's Farewell

Four years ago we created the Venice Area Orchid Society newsletter you've come to know. This is our last issue. We committed to providing you with a professional quality publication. We sought to keep members informed of activities, events, and orchid culture with visual and graphic appeal. Prospective members would want to join VAOS after seeing our vitality. It's our belief that the newsletter serves as the adhesive that pulls the membership together. Our goal was to make things "sticky" and thereby increase participation while keeping everyone informed. Now it's time to redirect our energies.

Aloha.

Ellen & Tony Nacinovich

www.vaos.org

#### A Message from Your President

Our Annual Show, "Enchantment" was a wonderful success! Congratulations to our 115 members who donated their time – more than 3/4 of our membership! What a record! Our members trooped out Thursday night until Sunday afternoon sweeping the floor until the end! Bravo to our Co-Chairs Barbara Wagner and Carol Wood for computerizing the task timeline and getting everything done on time. Also 43 members donated as Show Patrons, our sponsors increased in number and our beautiful PR by Tony Nacinovich wowed both our regional area and graced the Show stage.



Cynthia Vance

Our vendors left "very happy" so a colleague said. The kitchen did a fantastic job by first keeping our judges filled up early Friday morning. Congrats to the Hahns and their team. Our member's tasty dishes kept everyone energized. One judge says he always comes for "Barbara's meatballs". Mary Ann DeGrazia did a superb job organizing the VAOS Clerks who helped the judges. Ted also had most of the entries computerized before the Show which helped us finish set-up on time Friday.

No doubt, "Kiss me, I'm Enchanted", our individual orchid exhibit was delightful – especially with Bill Timm's horned lizard and "Peggy's Princes" – charming photos of a frog continued on page 2

#### Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Bill Fender, Fender's Flora "Bloom, Baby, Bloom!"



Bill Fender

Bill Fender and his wife Susan are celebrating 43 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! And their greenhouses are now right here in Venice at 254 Keystone Road, Venice, FL 34292.

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, has been on

the internet for more than 15 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's presentation, entitled "Bloom, Baby, Bloom!" will include information on how we can assist Mother Nature in encouraging our orchids to bloom. Producing more and better flowers is up to us. How do we do that?

If VAOS members and guests would like to bring their new orchid purchases from the recent orchid show, he will be glad to discuss how to grow them and answer questions.

Bill is a Florida native, born in St. Petersburg. Bill and Susan are VAOS members.



#### March Garden Tour

When: Saturday March 3, 2012 (rain date Saturday March 10, 2012)

Time: 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Where: 6312 Ravenwood Way, Sarasota, FL 34243

Who: The Garden and Yard of Sidney and Lucey Finkelstein

Sid and Lucey Finkelstein have graciously offered their garden for viewing for the enjoyment of VAOS members. The following is how their VAOS friends, Richard and Sybil Levien Bushell, have described the garden:

"We think they have a beautiful garden with orchids in trees and in the ground. In the front yard they have bletillas, spathoglottis, epidendrum, and other ground orchids. All are now in full bloom and it is truly a vision in loveliness. In trees there are cattleyas, dendrobiums, cymbidiums, phals and paphs, many of which seem to be in bloom whenever we visit. Sid has set up an ingenious watering system, using water from the canal, which his plants seem to love."

#### Directions:

[Read to end before beginning travel!]
Take I-75 to exit 213 (University Parkway)
Turn west onto University Pkwy for 1.9 mi
Turn left (south) onto Longwood Run Blvd.
Continue straight onto Del Sol Blvd S
Continue onto Desoto Rd
[Note: Longwood Run Blvd. becomes Del Sol Blvd. S. which becomes Desoto Road]

Turn right onto Ravenwood Drive for 0.7 mi Turn right onto Ravenwood Way #6312 will be straight ahead on the cul de sac.

[Note: This is one of those neighborhoods with confusing street names of Ravenwood Drive, Ravenwood Way, Ravenwood Court, and Ravenwood Place]

#### President's Message

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who lives in Peggy Fahrenback's orchid collection. Jerry and his team guarded all doors and halted a forgetful buyer.

Our new space arrangement gave customers more room. The Front Door teams worked very fast during the morning rush. Thanks Elaine! Our VAOS Display team took second place which makes us very proud. Thank you Bob, Ken, Linda and Debra – you always come through. And congrats to Sylvia for receiving the top award for Best Specimen.

Our Orchid Boutique team created elegant designs thanks to Jane Camarota, Karen Mann, Toni Marie and others. Our trophy winners

continued on page 6

#### Plant Table Awards: February 1, 2012

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 February, 21 plants were shown. Judges were Lynn Mintz, Roberta Williams, and Linda Zehner.

## First Place: Cattlianthe Gold Digger 'Orchid Jungle' HCC/AOS Grower: Dale Richter.

An attention-getting plant with its red lip and yellow sepals and petals attracted the judges. A cross of *Ctt*. Red Gold and *Ctt*. War Paint, it was registered in 1974. This clone and other members of the grex are very good growers and have earned 13 AOS cultural awards. The plant grows multiple leads and averages 6 flowers per stem.



### Second Place: *Paphiopedilum* Magic Leopard 'Midnight Magic' Grower: Ruth Lilienkamp



One of the nicest single-flowered *Paphiopedilum* hybrids to appear on the plant table in a long time. This hybrid has a complex background that involves seven species and represents 6 generations of breeding. The breeding line is referred to as vinicolor – single flowered callosum-type Paphs that have a dominant red color. Its parents are *Paph*. Ruby Leopard x Voodoo Magic.

#### Third Place and Speaker's Choice: Epicatanthe Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall' AM/AOS Grower: Janet and Dale Hoy.

The cross Butterfly Kisses was made to introduce more hardiness into the Cattleya lines. One parent, *Epidendrum magnoliae* (*conopseum*) grows naturally as far North as North Carolina. The clone 'Mendenhall' was propagated by Carter and Holmes and is grown by many in the area. It is a vigorous grower and has long lasting flowers on a relatively small plant. No offspring have been registered – an indication that the breeding line may not be fertile.



### Members Choice: Rhyncholealiocattleya Haw Yuan Gold 'YK#2' Grower: Carol Wood



A cross of Rlc. Lemon Tree x Rlc. Tassie Barbero the clone is described by, and is available from, Norman's Orchids: "Grand Champion of the 16th World Orchid Conference in Vancouver, Canada. This clone set the standard for all yellow cattleyas. If you only have room for one yellow this should be the one. Huge flowers with near perfect shape plus amazing color. Flowers opening with a nice bright yellow and maturing to a fantastic apricot-orange color with concolor lip. Highly Recommended."

Photos and commentary - Ted Kellogg

#### **New Board Installation**

We are happy to announce that with members' approval, the following people will serve on our board for 2012. At our March meeting will be the installation of officers. We have made changes to our board roster. We are changing the title "Corresponding Secretary" to "Communication Officer." That position will handle internal communication from the Board to the members. Recently we have noticed that corresponding from the VAOS to outsiders is usually done by the person leading a project, hence the name change and function of this position.

We have added another Director to the board for Promotion and Advertising. This role is critical for our Society for handling media PR for our Meetings, Plant Sales, and Annual Show. The amended VAOS Bylaws will be available in March so that they may be <u>voted on at our April Meeting</u>. At that time we will install the two members for these positions.

We announce the time and place of our Board meetings at every monthly meeting. Members are welcome to come to the VAOS board meetings if they so desire.

Below is the new board and also nonboard members. New persons or positions have an asterisk.

President:.....Cynthia Vance

#### Non Board Positions:

Librarian: ......Sybil Levien-Bushell Raffle Table:Charlie & Margaret Cullen President's Assistants:

Newsletter Editor: ....Michael O'Brien\*

Membership: .....Jim & Gerry Thomas

Jerry Manegold ..Meeting Technology\*

Judy Russell ......Plant Table\*

- Cynthia Vance

#### Thank You, 2012 Show Patrons

Pauline Adams Richard & Mary Amos John & Gale Barton Jacqueline Bell Harold Buckwalter James & Elinor Burton Rich & Anita Cervi Tom & MaryAnn Digrazio Ken & Patricia Dolan Peg Fahrenback Allan & Susan Farstrup Edwin & Elaine Fox Harrison & Lynn Fox Frank & Helene Gabry Sally Glanz Dee Gomber Frank & Bonnie Henderson Bryan Herd Shirley Hoffman Glenn & Jane Hyde Ted Kellogg Marilyn Kilbride Don Levine John & Carol Liddy Pat & Don Macleod Chuck & Karen Mann Beverly Manypenny Carol Marcus John & Linda Masters Debra Mattar Lynn Mintz Arnold & Patricia Rapoport Yvonne Renzi Dale Richter Judy & Skip Russell Margaret Schneider Linda Shaller Ed Soentgen Bill Timm Cynthia Vance Barbara Wagner Carol Wood

Gerald & Mary Zwers

# **Congratulations!**Trophy and Ribbon Award Winners

#### 2012 VAOS Show Trophy Winners

Most outstanding Society Exhibit 2nd place Venice Area Orchid Society

VAOS Traveling Trophy (Most outstanding plant by VAOS member) Ted Kellogg – Den. Silver Bells

Most outstanding Cattleya alliance plant Bob Wallace – Rly Red Stella 'Carmela'

Margarete Traver Memoria Trophy for best Oncidium alliance plant Sybil Levien-Bushell – Oncidium maculatum

Best Specimen Species
Sybil Levien-Bushell – Oncidium maculatum

Most outstanding Cymbidium alliance plant Ted Kellogg – Cym. Bob Quick

Most outstanding seedling blooming for first time Ted Kellogg – Paph. Mustache x sanderianum

Most outstanding art or craft entry Susan Fender – Quilt

#### 2012 VAOS Show Ribbon Awards

VAOS Member Ribbon Awards totaled 31 for plants and 11 for Arts and Crafts

Blue=First, Red= Second, Yellow=Third"

#### 

# Arts and Crafts Jane Carmarota 1 Red Noreen Chervinski 1 Blue Mary Anne DeGrazia 1 Yellow Susan Fender 1 Blue Toni Marie 1 Blue Carol Marcus 1 Blue, 1 Red, 1 Yellow Tony Nacinovich 2 Blue, 1 Red



## WELCOME! New VAOS Members

Charles J. Alexander Leanne Beach & Keven Kimmel Mary Lou & Rick Belisle Nora & Fred Berger Sandy & Tom Brown Betty Carlile Janey & Denny Danoho June & Don Gaulitz Laura & Gitch Grigore Diane Hager Elizabeth Hawthorne & Karl Klee Debbie & Bill Hoffman Catherine Kennedy Millie Lake Ingrid Lehmann Sally Lopez Evelyn Luckey Lillian Marinich Steven McBee Pat Milone Vigdis Naur Murray Jerry Nauman Marla Oppenheim Paul Romley Joyce Roth Janet & Dirk Van Oppen Lois Weeks

#### President's Message

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were thrilled with the imprinted paperweight of the spectacular cultivar, Susan Fender 'Cinnamon Stick' AM/AOS.

We had fewer customers but they purchased more! New sponsors, VAOS patrons, the big raffle, vendor fees, book and magazine sales were a great help in making up the income gap. Thus, we reached our financial goal which will allow us to have quality speakers, field trips and Society events over the coming year

Most important – we had 25 households join our Society! Our thanks go to Jim and Gerry Thomas, Ali, our treasurer, and especially to Don Levine who has moved but continues to return to recruit new members at our Show membership table. Again we have proved to ourselves that — We are an incredible Society!

-Cynthia Vance

#### VAOS Meeting Minutes: February 1, 2012

President Cynthia Vance opened the meeting, suggesting that members vote on Plant Table orchids and purchase raffle tickets. She directed attention to the slide show being displayed on the Big Screen. Tony Nacinovich created the beautiful color video with a slide show of each corporate sponsor who contributed \$250 or \$500 to the Show. It will be seen on the Big Screen throughout each day of the Show.

Cynthia presented a colorful advertisement for the Show, printed in the *Herald Tribune*. Additional color ads will be in other issues of the *Herald Tribune* and the *Sun Gondolier* She asked members if they noticed the many signs posted throughout Venice and thanked Jay Koth and Bill Morris who put them up early Monday morning before the show.

VAOS received 30 awards at the Sarasota Show. Members applauded those who participated in that show and those who won awards. Cynthia asked members to contribute to our upcoming Show in a variety of ways. Becoming a Show Patron begins at the \$25 level.

Cynthia cited upcoming changes in the Board and Committee Chairs. She reported that Bryan Herd is nominated for VP Programs. Donn Smart will be Communication Officer for internal communications: and Mike O'Brien will be Newsletter Editor (his wife Karen will assist). For our monthly meetings, non board positions are: Jerry Manegold will be Technical Assistant to the President; Judy Russell will be in charge of Plant Table, Margaret and Charlie Cullen will handle the raffle table and Sybil Bushell Levien will return to the position of Librarian. Many others will stay on the Board. Nominations were requested from the floor, but none were offered. Member voting for the Board will take place at the March 7th meeting.

Carol Wood and Barb Wagner presented information about the annual Show. All aspects for the Show are on schedule. Volunteers are still needed for many tasks. Committee chairs presented the openings and members volunteered for the jobs. Tony Marie requested cut plant material needed for the Boutique. Many have worked extensively on Show prepa-

rations; Tony Nacinovich, Carol Wood and Barb Wagner have been working 40-50 hours a week lately. Members applauded their effort and dedication.

Bill Fender introduced the speaker, Greg Allikas, saying that he is both an "artist and a writer." In addition to having photographs in AOS publications regularly, he has authored articles and books on orchids. Greg's power point presentation on Pedilonum Dendrobiums included beautifully photographed orchids and information of native habitat, growth habits and culture.

Cynthia presented two books from the library and encouraged members to enjoy the books. Sybil Levien-Bushell presented information about an upcoming garden tour in March.

Greg Allikas and Ted Kellogg presented orchids from the Plant Table and cited awards.

The meeting was adjourned following the raffle.

Respectfully submitted, Peg Fahrenback

## Treasurer's Report January 2012

Balance of the cash and savings accounts, Jan 12, 2012 \$29.945.63

# Income \$4.88 2012 Membership Dues 850.00 Other Income 40.00 Raffle 81.00 Show Proceeds 1,130.00 Total Income \$2,105.88 Expense 58.50

Dues & Subscriptions	58.50
License & Permits	61.25
Postage & Delivery	7.92
Program - Speaker Fees	200.00
Program Expense - Other	43.52
Show Expense	2,087.63
Locker Rental	40.00
Total Expense	2,498.82

Balance of the cash and savings

accounts, Jan. 31, 2012

Net Income

Respectfully submitted, Ali Hicks

-392.94

\$29,552.69

#### Growing Tips by Dr. Courtney T. Hackney

During the past year, I have subjected most of my orchid collection to a largescale experiment regarding fertilizers and media. How much fertilizer does an orchid actually need to grow well and produce large flowers? For the entire year of 2011, fertilizer was applied at very low levels and only during the growing season, March-September. Fertilizer was applied (0.07 teaspoons/gal) weekly for three weeks followed by a week of just water to flush any mineral buildup.

My water is fairly high in dissolved solids and on the basic side. Peters Excel 15-5-15 Cal-Mag provides additional magnesium and nitrogen in the form of nitrate and ammonia, both of which are immediately available to plants. This fertilizer also decreases the pH, which is ideal for my water. Most fertilizers add nitrogen in the form of urea, which requires bacteria and decomposing media before it is available to orchids. Because I grow mostly in lava rock, urea is useless.

What I learned this year is that applications of fertilizer much lower than recommended at a much greater frequency can

produce excellent growth and large flowers if there are adequate roots. During my experiment, cattleyas well established in pots with a large root system bloomed with as large and as many flowers as they did with higher nutrients. They also produced nice new pseudobulbs at least at large as previous bulbs.

However, cattleyas that were recently repotted or those that had less developed root systems, often did not bloom or produced smaller flowers. Recently repotted cattleyas grew new roots under this fertilizer regimen, but not nearly as many as cattleyas that had large root systems. This is problematic for newly repotted cattleyas because new roots are important if the orchid is going to regain its previous flowering characteristics.

There were a few cattleyas in the collection that were still in organic media, albeit mostly old decomposing media. In general, these were doing OK as long as the medium was not soft and holding water. Several of these were bifoliates that are poor candidates for repotting unless they are in the process of getting new roots.

Occasionally, I miss that period and leave them in the old medium.

This year begins a new experiment. One issue with using lava rock is the space within that allows large "Cucaracha" (roaches) to live in the pots. They emerge at night and eat new roots, flowers and even new growths. The latest experiment is to cover the lava rock with a thin layer of Aliflor. Aliflor is a round artificial rocklike medium. I still have a totally inorganic medium, Aliflor and lava rock, but roaches cannot move to the pot surface where new roots are found. This allows the addition of Nutricote fertilizer because the small Nutricote pellets do not fall through to the bottom of the pot. Over the years, Nutricote has provided a well-balanced and continuous level of nitrogen and other nutrients.

Repotting has begun early this year as warm conditions have caused new roots and growth earlier this year. The sun is already getting stronger so new growth now will just allow an orchid to grow more this year.

Dr. Courtney T. Hackney is with the Dept. of Biology, Univ. North Florida. He writes a monthly column and is a contributing writer for several Florida orchid societies.

Email: hackneau@comcast.net February 2012

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.

Guests are welcome.

You are invited to our ~ ANNUAL SPRING OPEN HOUSE & SALE ~ March 2 and 3, 2012 (Fri. and Sat.) 9 a.m. − 3 p.m. Fender's Flora, Inc. & Venice Orchids 254 Keystone Rd., Venice, FL 34292

Thousands of potted Orchids, bare-root Orchid Divisions, Cactus & Succulents

Discounts, Specials, and Closeouts. All plants locally grown!

Please visit www.FendersFlora.com to check out our orchids and sign up for our email newsletters and sale notices.

> Bob Hague: veniceorchids@gmail.com Bill & Susan Fender: orchids@fendersflora.com Office 941-412-1355

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

> COUPON 20% OFF of ONE ORCHID, Valid March 2 & 3, 2012

Receive a 20% discount off of one regularly-priced orchid. Fender's Flora only

FREE ORCHID FOR EVERY \$50 YOU SPEND! Choose your free orchid(s) from our select grouping. Fender's Flora only. Valid March 2 & 3, 2012.

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 <vaos.newsletter@gmail.com> <tnacinovich@verizon.net>

Written submissions are appreciated. © E&T Nacinovich February 2012



Next Meeting:
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7 at 7 p.m.
Speaker: Bill Fender, Fender's Flora
"Bloom, Baby, Bloom!"

Show table entries welcome
Refreshments

#### Upcoming Events

- March 2-3 Annual Spring Open House & Sale. Fender's Flora and Venice Orchids. See ad p. 6
- March 2-4 Key West Orchid Society Show, West Martello Towers, Key West.
- March 7 VAOS monthly meeting. 7 p.m. Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice, FL. Speaker: Bill Fender, Fender's Flora.
- March 8-11 Orchid Society of Coral Gables Show, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Rd., Coral Gables, FL.
- **March 14** VAOS Orchid Growers Clinic, 7 p.m. VCC.
- **March 15** *Setup for:*
- March 16-17 Englewood Area Orchid Society Show, United Methodist Church, 701 East Dearborn, Englewood, FL.

- March 16-18 Naples Orchid Society Show; Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Drive, Naples, FL.
- March 31-April 1 Central Florida Orchid Society Show; Maitland Civic Center, 641 S. Maitland Ave., Maitland, FI
- **April 4** VAOS monthly meeting. 7 p.m. VCC, 326 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice, FL. Speakers: Paul and Mary Storm, "SCHOMBO-LOVE 101"
- **April 18** VAOS Orchid Growers Clinic, 7 p.m. VCC.

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Orchid Judging takes place at the Tampa GardenCenter, 2629 Bayshore Blvd., Tampa, FL at 7:30 pm on the fourth Wednesday of every month.



Visit VAOS on the web at: www.vaos.org

~Area orchid show listings can be found on the American Orchid Society site, www.aos.org; Events page~