

Venice Area Orchid Society News

September 2016

**Next Meeting: Wednesday,
September 7, 7:00 pm
Venice Community Center
(doors open at 6:30 pm)
Speaker: Mac Rivenbark
Topic: Introduction to the Orchid
Species of the Philippines**



Mac Rivenbark and his wife, Helen, opened Mac's Orchids in Fort Lauderdale, FL., in 2002, specializing in Asian orchid species and have been members of the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society since 1999.

He is a Chemical and Hygiene Specialist by profession and served a tour in the US Marines. His passion for orchids grew after many fascinating trips to the Philippines and other parts of Asia and he was inspired to grow and collect different varieties of Asian species. As of today, Mac has over 300 varieties of different Asian species that thrive here in Florida. Mac's goal is to propagate these species and to help educate and inform others on the passion and ease of orchid growing.

Mac and his wife have belonged to many organizations and orchid societies including Mac serving as a past president of the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society. Mac's Orchids is a welcome regular at most of the shows here in Florida and the quality and selection of his plants is hard to match. Mac's program will consist of an educational and entertaining PowerPoint program and will also include many of Mac's culture tips highlights of his travel adventures as well as many beautiful photos.

His passion is infectious and he's looking forward to answering your questions. He'll be bringing a great selection of his outstanding orchids for sale.

A Message From Your President

As September arrives, we are nearing the end of one of the hottest and wettest summers on record. Continue to take extra precautions to protect your orchids with added air circulation, watering and drainage monitoring, and fungicides. One more hot month to go and then our weather will start to turn cooler - hang in there!



I'd like to thank our members who stepped up to help at our August 3rd meeting when several of our regular officers and volunteers were out. Thank you! Several members stepped in to staff our busy Membership Table, our bountiful Raffle Table and to serve refreshments as we hosted our friends from EAOS. I am always pleased to see the enthusiasm and camaraderie of our members, the pride they take in showing their orchid plants and their obvious delight when their number is drawn at the Raffle Table.

While many orchid societies are struggling to survive the emergence of online resources and forums for orchid growers, ours continues to thrive with a steady membership of 300+. Your board of directors works to provide expert and interesting speakers and innovative programs such as the monthly Growers Clinic and our Mentor program. Many events are organized throughout the year to provide social venues for our members - our annual holiday party, annual spring picnic, bus trip to Redland Orchid Fest, the fall members' plant sale and our spring and fall members' growing area tours. Our newsletter is one of the best. Our annual orchid show in February

Continued on page 7

Here's what's coming up this month:

Wednesday, Sept 7th - Monthly meeting,
Mac Rivenbark, Orchid Species of the Philippines

Thursday, Sept 8th

- Growers Clinic - Hands on repotting clinic

Sept 17 - 18th - Ridge Orchid Show,
Bartow FL.

Get your blooming plants ready for our display!

WWW.VAOS.ORG

Venice Area Orchid Society, P.O. Box 443, Venice, FL 34284-0443

**Officers 2016 – 2017
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Cynthia Vance, Plant Table

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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:

Steve Vogelhaupt, csec@vaos.org

• Written submissions are appreciated.

Minutes of the August 3, 2016 Meeting

Carol Wood called the meeting to order at 7 pm by welcoming the visiting members from The Englewood Area Orchid Society and all our new members.

Announcements:

- We are retiring our mobile library and many of the books are for sale tonight. Any leftovers will be put on the Raffle Table during future meetings.

- Copies of the Growers Clinic presentations will be placed on the VAOS website under the publications tab. As we downsize our paper library, we will increase our online resources.

- The Growers Clinic on Thursday August 11th will be part 2 of Orchid Pests and Diseases. We will cover fungal, bacterial and viral illnesses and how to deal with them. We will emphasis some simple solutions and take the emphasis off the heavy duty chemicals.

- We collected food donations for the All Faiths Food Bank's annual campaign against summer hunger. This is to provide meals for hungry children who are no longer receiving meals at school. It is estimated that 40,000 children go hungry during the summer in Florida when school meals are not available.

- Judy Loeffler is out this month because of a motor vehicle accident. She is doing well after suffering a fractured sternum and will return soon.

- On September 7th, our next meeting, Mac Rivenbark of Mac's Orchids will present "Orchids of the Philippines". The following night, September 8th, will be the Growers Clinic on repotting.

- The first show of the season is coming up! The Ridge Orchid Show in Bartow, Florida will be Sept 17th and 18th. Jay Loeffler and his display team will travel 1.5 hours to set up our display. We will need anyone who has blooming plants to consider lending them to us to put into the display. We will transport them to and from the show for you. More info will be forthcoming.

- The Community Center has a new policy of locking the outside

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Treasurer's Report

August - 2016

Checking Account

Starting Balance		
7/1/16	\$	26,516.71
Income	\$	6,760.25
Payments	\$	10,014.15
Closing Balance		
7/31/16	\$	23,262.81

Cash Account

Starting Balance		
7/1/16	\$	40.00
Closing Balance		
7/31/16	\$	40.00

Money Market Savings

Starting Balance		
7/1/16	\$	25,057.82
Income	\$	0.6
Closing Balance		
7/31/16	\$	25,058.42

Total Assets

7/31/16	\$	48,361.23
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Submitted by Mary Amos

Newsletter Culture Supplement

For those members who receive their monthly newsletter by email, be sure to check out the Culture Supplement.

Included are culture articles and handouts from our monthly Growers Clinics.

This supplemental information will only be available in our full color email edition of the newsletter.

Plant Table Awards July 11, 2016 Joint EAOS/VAOS Meeting

The **First Place Blue Ribbon** and **Speaker's Choice**

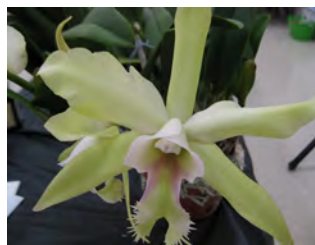
Award were won by Joanna Shaw for her Miltoniopsis (Mps.) Rene Komoda 'White Cloud'. Both the closely related Miltonia and the Miltoniopsis, also known as the 'pansy orchid', share a reputation as being difficult to grow, especially by beginners. Joanna's beautiful specimen, with its multiple pendant inflorescences and graced by the white and gold blossoms, certainly showed what a skilled grower can accomplish. Native to Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, they enjoy indirect light, between a phal and a cattleya, daytime temperatures not over 80 degrees and relatively high humidity. Great growing! Thanks for sharing your tips with us.



Mps. Rene Komodo

Rick Belisle earned the **Second Place Red Ribbon**

and tied for the **Members' Choice Ribbon** with his Rhyncholaliocattleya (Rlc.) Hemlock Pass x Cattleya (C.) Ann Follis. The plant featured multiple inflorescences and several large, light green blossoms with pink tinged frilly lips that seem to indicate a *dibyana* background. Hemlock Pass has less than 10% *dibyana* in its background while Ann Follis, also with slightly fringed lips, has 50% *granulosa*, so the influence of both is evident in this beautiful orchid. Congratulations, Rick.



Rlc. Hemlock Pass x
C. Ann Follis

Carol Nissen was awarded the **Third Place Yellow Ribbon** for her Rlc. Waianae Leopard (right), a spectacular spotted specimen. Definitely not a window sill orchid, the inflorescences can reach more than two feet, with a cluster of multiple 4 inch flowers with a spicy fragrance. The green petals are waxy with purple spots at the fringe

and contrasting purple and yellow lips. Blooming once a year in the summer, the orchid has received three HCC awards from AOS and is ideally suited for our growing conditions. Definitely a standout, Carol!



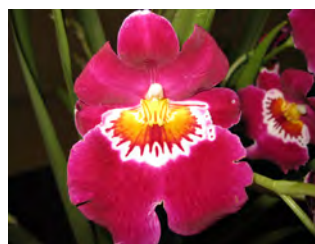
Rlc. Waianae Leopard

Carol Wood received the **Best Species Ribbon** for her Encyclia (Enc.) *diurnia*, an epiphytic species from S. America that is a very vigorous grower under cattleya-like conditions. One of the largest species in the genera, it blooms from multiple inflorescences that may reach five feet, producing fragrant 1-2" long-lasting flowers during the summer months. A lovely plant from a great grower!



Enc. diurnia

Nancy Hoy shared the **Members' Choice Ribbon** with her entry of Miltoniopsis (Mps.) Edie Brown 'Jackpot', a colorful contrast to the white miltoniopsis that garnered first place. Both parents, Mps. Hajime Ono and Mps. Arnold Linsman, have received AM/AOS awards and their influence is certainly evident in this marvelous offspring. The yellow, red and white 'butterfly' on the rosy red lip petal is a peculiarity of the Miltoniopsis group of orchids. Janet brings the orchid indoors during the hottest days of our summer and it thrives on the relatively high humidity, cooler temps and filtered light. Thank you, Janet, for such a stunning plant.



Mps. Edie Brown

*-Narrative by editor and photos provided by
Englewood Area Orchid Society*

Plant Table Awards August 3, 2016 Joint VAOS/EAOS Meeting

The **First Place Blue Ribbon** was captured by Debi Wolfe for her spectacular Dendrobium (Den.) Blue Fairy x Blue Twinkle. The volunteer judges also noticed how the "clean leaves" and her staking the plant enhanced its presentation. Originally having 5 blooming spikes, we enjoyed its last 3 for our meeting. Debi grows it on her bright lanai near the screen because it "loves the sun". It was in a small pot compared to the size of the plant for



Den. Blue Fairy x Blue Twinkle

most Dens like their roots tightly packed into small pots. Amazing specimen, Debi!

The **Second Place Red Ribbon** and **Members' Choice Ribbon** went to Judy Russell for her alluring Rhyncholaeliocattleya (Rlc.) Angel Lace (next page). Its mellow rose-pink and cream-yellow colors work perfectly together and our plant table presenter this month, Joanna

Continued on next page

Plant Table Awards (continued from page 3)

Shaw, noted that “there is probably some *C. digbyana* in there” as she showed us its feathery lip. Indeed, Carter & Holmes created it in 1987 from *C. Little Angel* x *Rl. digbyana*. Thank you, Judy for such a lovely plant!



Rlc. Angel Lace

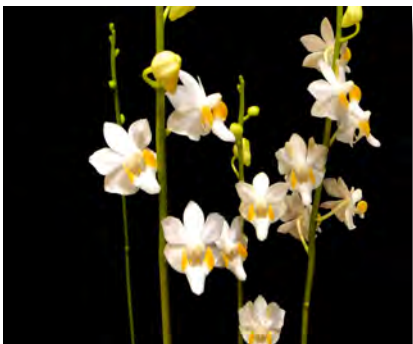
The **Third Place Yellow Ribbon** was awarded to Sally Bonnell for her gorgeous spotted Cattleya (*C.*) Tripp Johnson x Netrasiri Beauty. Our speaker, Alan Koch, noted that “this hybrid probably originated from Brazil” and it certainly is a hybrid of 7+ Brazilian species. Those species love high- warm and also cool temperatures, plus 50% humidity, making it tolerant of all our Floridian weather conditions. Yet, to grow it successfully, mature plants must dry out between watering.



C. Tripp Johnson x Netrasiri Beauty

Congrats, Sally for your stunning orchid!

The **Best Species Purple Ribbon** went to Judy Russell for her stately, yet dainty, *Doritis (Dor.) pulcherrima*.



Dor. pulcherrima

Formerly named ‘phalaenopsis’, this species hails from NE India through SE Asia and grows as terrestrials in the shade of bushes. It is found in situ with yellow-white flowers or with pink and white coloring. What is striking are the tall and erect inflorescences with flowers that open in succession over a long period of time – a wonderful advantage of having this plant. Congrats, Judy!

The **New Member Growers Pink Ribbon** was granted to Annette Ballou for her lovely *Brassocattleya (Bc.) Hippodamia*. Since its registration in 1908 by Charlesworth Ltd., it remains a popular star-shaped hybrid -- 50% *B. nodosa* and 50% *C. aclandiae*. Annette purchased it from grower Jeff Higel at Honey Bee Nursery, Englewood, where many of us buy orchids and supplies. Having thin leaves, it thrives in very high dappled light and needs to be dried out between watering. We’re so glad you’ve joined VAOS, Annette. Good growing!



Bc. Hippodamia

The **Speaker’s Commendation Ribbon** was awarded to Carol Wood for her beautiful *Vanda (V.) White Crane* with 30 pink flowers and roots 3 feet long! Carol says it has been “free blooming for 4 years”, pushing out flowers continuously year-round. She says that hanging it outside high up where it receives lots of sun and rain seems to keep it happy. *V. White Crane* was registered in 2006 by Michael Blietz of Exotic Orchids of Maui. It’s a hybrid of 2 species, *V. sanderiana* and *V. falcata*. Wonderful specimen, Carol!



V. White Crane

-Narrative and photos by Cynthia Vance

Culture Tip of the Month

This time of the year, heat stress can take a toll on even our healthy, mature plants. Because many of us continue to re-pot throughout the summer months, some precautions will help to ensure our freshly potted plants get off to a good start. Soak your media before repotting. Use pot clips to ensure the plant is firmly secured in its new pot. Placing a thin layer of damp sphagnum moss on top of the media will encourage new roots and will protect them from snails. Drench the plant with fungicide and

place it in a well ventilated area out of direct sunlight. Reduce watering for the first two weeks.

Please join us at the next Growers Clinic, Thursday, **September 8th, the day following our monthly meeting**, for our popular hands-on repotting clinic. See the article in this issue for instructions. Bring your problem plants for expert advice. All members and guests are welcome.

-Submitted by Carol Wood

Support the Campaign Against Summer Hunger

Thank you to the many generous members who brought food donations to our August meeting to support the Campaign Against Summer Hunger. **We will have our last collection of this year at our September meeting.** Please continue your generosity with direct donations and contributions to the All Faiths Food Bank.

When summer vacation begins, an estimated 40,000 children in our area face daily hunger. They no longer get meals at school and young families are often stressed with the end of seasonal jobs and lower wages.

All Faiths Food Bank's annual Campaign Against Summer Hunger works to provide meals for these hungry children. The most needed items are:

- Cereal, fruit bars, kid-friendly snacks and canned goods with pull-tab tops
- Peanut butter & jelly, canned tuna, chicken or salmon, rice, beans and powdered milk
- Canned fruit or fruit drinks - look for 100% juice, light syrup and pull-tab tops
- Canned veggies, stew and soup with pull-tab tops

Bring your food donations to our September 7th meeting for collection and delivery to the All Faiths Food Bank. Financial donations are also appreciated.

Info: AllFaithsFoodBank.org.

-Submitted by Carol Wood

Fact or Fiction?

As a new grower, it can be difficult when asking for advice, as you will receive much competing advice. Many times the advice given simply doesn't make sense. Some of it doesn't take into account that we all have somewhat different growing conditions. Advice given based on greenhouse conditions many times do not apply to a windowsill grower. But some advice is simply repeated by people, without being questioned or applying common sense. Two of the recurring myths that seem to come up repeatedly are explained here.

Dendrobiums need "tight shoes", or Dendrobiums must be underpotted to bloom

To begin, any single piece of advice that applies to an extremely large genus, such as Dendrobium, is suspect. There are Dendrobiums that grow at the base of the Himalayas, and there are Dendrobiums in constant hot and humid environments. Some Dendrobiums do grow best with a short wet/dry cycle. Some Dendrobiums grow best when they are kept evenly moist. No one cultural practice could ever fit all Dendrobiums.

I suspect the idea that Dendrobiums need to be underpotted originally came from the classification sections that need a short wet/dry cycle, and one way to achieve this is to underpot them. But it is not the only way, nor does it apply to all Dendrobiums. Other ways to achieve a short wet/dry cycle is to mount them, or use very quick draining media in clay pots. I've grown over one hundred

different Dendrobiums; none of them were underpotted, and they do grow and bloom.

As a final note to think about, there are thousands of Dendrobiums growing and blooming in trees around the world. There are no pots in trees.

Calcium deficiency causes black rot

We know black rot is a fungal infection. So how can a nutrient deficiency cause a fungal infection? It can't. As calcium is an important part of cell walls, it is true that calcium deficiency can contribute to an orchid being less than healthy on new growth; therefore, more susceptible to an infection, but it is not a direct cause. Black rot can and does destroy healthy plants without any nutrient deficiencies.

I suspect that this idea came about because calcium deficiency can look similar to black rot to an inexperienced person. If calcium is not constantly available to a growing plant, the new growth will suffer cell collapse, and the new growth will then turn black. But this does not move throughout the whole plant as is the case with black rot, nor does it kill an existing plant like unchecked black rot can. If you do have a black rot infection, simply adding more calcium will not stop the infection.

-Submitted by Renee Bynum, Director at Large

Ridge Orchid Show September 17th - We Need Your Blooming Plants!

VAOS will participate in our first orchid show of the season on September 17-18 in Bartow, FL. The Ridge Orchid Society will host their annual orchid show and sale. Their display design theme is "Over the Rainbow" Here is the schedule:

Set Up: Friday Sept 16th 10am - 5pm
Show: Saturday Sept 17th 10am - 5pm
Show: Sunday Sept 18th 11am - 4pm
Take Down: Sunday Sept 18th 4pm

The show location has changed this year to the University of FL Polk County Extension building, 1702 US Highway 17 So, Bartow, FL.

Jay Loeffler and his team will travel to Bartow to put in the VAOS display. We need your blooming plants to create a winning display! We will collect and transport your plants to the show and ensure their safe return to you on Monday following the show. Bring your plants to one of two locations by Thursday Sept 15th, 6pm:

South Venice: Carol Wood, 4941 Bella Terra Dr.,
Venice (Venetia) 497-4995
Venice Island: Jay & Judy Loeffler, 833 Guild Dr.,

Venice 485-9569

All plants must be registered in advance via email by Thursday noon, September 15th. Email your plant name with flower size and color description (or photo) to Renee Bynum at PlantReg@VAOS.org.

We will email you back with the plant registration number - please label your plant pot with this registration number. This will facilitate identification and labeling of plants during show set up.

Plants should be cleaned, staked, free of pests and disease and labeled with the plant name, the registration # and the owner's name. Flowers should be in prime condition to last through the weekend show.

If you would like to participate in setting up our display, help with take down on Sunday, help transport plants and materials to the show, or need further information, contact Jay Loeffler, VP Displays, at 485-9569

-Submitted by Jay Loeffler

Fall Social Calendar Preview

We are planning our Fall Greenhouse Tour for a Saturday in October and are looking for additional members willing to open up their growing areas and share their growing tips with their fellow members. No matter whether your collection is large or small, it's a great opportunity to exchange ideas and maybe even sell a few of your plants. If interested, please contact Sharon Kahnoski at social@vaos.org.

Jim Roberts, Florida SunCoast Orchids, in scenic Myakka City, is planning on having another Fall Greenhouse Sale and we'll provide details as soon as available. Jim is a great grower, speaker and hybridizer and has developed and registered many outstanding crosses over the years. Our society is planning a Greenhouse Ramble when the dates are available, so keep an eye out on your newsletter and email blasts.

We'll be having our Annual Members Plant Sale at the Gazebo in Centennial Park, downtown Venice, on Saturday, November 12th, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. We'll be located adjacent to the Farmers Market which attracts a lot of interested buyers. Members may sell a variety of items pertaining to gardens and not exclusive to orchids. In addition to plants, pots, growing supplies and decorative items will be available. Vendors are expected to donate 20% of receipts to VAOS. Anyone interested should contact Sharon at social@vaos.org.

In December, we'll be having our famous Holiday Dinner Dance and Orchid Auction at the Boca Royale Golf and Country Club on SR 776, Englewood Road. The date this year is Friday, December 9th, 2016, so please mark your calendar and don't miss out. Details will follow.

-Submitted by Sharon Kahnoski

Minutes of the August 3, 2016 Meeting (continued from page 2)

doors at 8pm. If you need to go outside for any reason after 8, please make sure someone is available to let you back in.

Bruce Weaver then introduced the speaker for the evening, Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids in California. Alan has been growing orchids since 1969. Originally the topic was scheduled to be Mini Cattleyas, but Alan realized he had given this presentation to us two years ago and switched his talk to Brazilian Cattleyas. He discussed many different species and described their

growing conditions. The takeaway message was that because of Brazil's variable climate, Brazilian cattleyas tend to be hardier and more adaptable than some of the other cattleyas, making them easier to grow for us here in Florida. As always, Alan had a great selection of affordable plants for sale.

Joanna and Kristin Shaw presented the Plant Table and John Kahnoski announced the Raffle Table

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00pm

-Submitted by Joanna Shaw, Recording Secretary

Hands-on Division and Potting Clinic

Thursday, September 8, 2016

Doors open at 6:45 pm for social;
presentation begins promptly at 7:00 pm

Jay Loeffler, Joanna Shaw and their team will present a combined Hands-on Orchid Division and Repotting session at the Venice Community Center at 7:00 p.m. They'll explain the supplies, tools and planting media, demonstrate basic procedures and share their tips of the trade. Participants will then divide/repot their own orchid with the assistance of several experienced growers and helpers. We'll work in teams of 4 or 5 around a table with each person bringing an orchid that needs division/repotting or simply repotting, as well as a suitable pot to replant the orchid and a sterile pair of shears. If you do not have an orchid to repot, check the Raffle Table the night before for suitable divisions. Jeff Higel, Honey Bee Nursery, has a great selection of seedling orchids just begging for a new home in a larger pot.

With only two hours available and a large turnout expected, it's critical that everyone adhere to the instructions below:

1. Only one plant per person. All plants must be removed from their pot and all old planting media and dead roots must be removed prior to the clinic. A jet of water from a garden hose will help in removing old media. Please make sure your plant is free from pests or diseases.

2. Media and supplies for Phalaenopsis, Cattleya alliance, and Dendrobiums will be provided. Please contact Judy at memb@vaos.org or (941) 485-9569 NOT LATER THAN Monday, September 5th if you are planning to bring other orchids. This is not a Potting without Pots or mounting clinic.

-Submitted by Judy Loeffler

President's Message (continued from page 1)

draws more than 4000 and is considered one of the top three orchid shows in FL. Every year our members turn out in record numbers to work our show and contribute to its success.

Our latest initiative, the Venice Orchid Project (VOP), was founded to promote interest in the orchid hobby, to support orchid conservation and to delight our residents and visitors when they discover the orchids placed in our parks and public areas. With strong support from the

Venice City Council and Mayor and great articles in the local press, this project continues to grow thanks to plant division donations from our members.

As we work to expand our programs for our members we welcome your feedback. What do you like? What would you like to see more of? We truly have a strong and sustainable orchid society that we can all be proud of.

-Carol Wood, President

Please Support Our 2016 Show Sponsors

- Herald Tribune Media Group • Costco Wholesale
- Dr. Tibbils - Hearing Clinic of Venice
- Gettel Hyundai • Hoskins Pest Control • New Dawn Travels
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- Gardens of Venice - Retirement Residence
- Kennedy-White Orthopedic Ctr. • R.A.V.E • Silverstein Institute
- Southgate Animal Hospital • Stanley Dean State Farm • Youthful Aging
- Classic Creations in Diamonds & Gold • Crow's Nest Restaurant
- Edgewood Nursery • Orchid Envy • P.S. Printing
- SunBulb • Thai Bistro

Support Our Local Growers

• **Honey Bee Nursery**
2383 Englewood Road (Rt. 776),
Englewood, FL (941-474-6866)

• **Palmer Orchids**
22700 Taylor Dr.,
Myakka City, FL 34251(941-322-1644)

• **Plantio La Orquidea**
3480 Tallevast Rd,
Sarasota (941-504-7737)

• **Orchid Envy**
339 Venice Ave. West,
Venice, FL (941) 266-6351

• **Florida SunCoast Orchids**
8211 Verna Bethany Rd.,
Myakka City, FL (941-322-8777)

Venice Area Orchid Society News

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

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 7, 2016, 7:00pm
at Venice Community Center
(Doors open at 6:30pm)

- **Speaker:** Mac Rivenbark
- Bring your blooming orchids for the Show Table
- Bring orchids for the Raffle Table
- Bring your friends and treats to share.

Upcoming Events

September 7 (1st Wednesday):

VAOS monthly meeting in Venice Community Center, Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm, **Speaker:** Mac Rivenbark, Mac's Orchids, **Topic:** Introduction to the Orchid Species of the Phillipines

September 8 (2nd Thursday):

VAOS Growers Clinic, Doors open at 6:45 pm, clinic starts at 7:00 pm, Venice Community Center, **Speakers:** Jay Loeffler, Joanna Shaw, and team, **Topic:** Dividing and Repotting (hands-on). See Page 7. Bring your problem plants and questions for advice from our experienced growers

September 10-11: Florida West Coast Orchid Society Show, Pinellas Park, FL, info: Stuart Fraser, (727)742-0461, sfraser0326@aol.com

September 17-18 (Sat/Sun):

Ridge Orchid Society Show. See article on page 6 for details.

September 24: Central Florida Orchid Society Annual Auction, Orlando, FL, info: Teri Scott, 407-463-0274; teriscottfla57@aol.com

Sept. 30-Oct. 2: South Florida Orchid Society Show, Coral Gables, FL, info: Dan Christensen, (954)252-8116, damorchid@aol.com

Oct. 5, (1st Wednesday): VAOS monthly Meeting in Venice Community Center, Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm, **Speaker:** Roy Tokunaga, H&R Orchids, **Topic:** Hawaiian Culture and Production.

Upcoming

October 21 – 23: AOS Fall 2016 Members' Meeting, San Marino,

CA. Details in Culture Supplement Section.

Ongoing

Mentor Program: help for beginning growers, contact Pauline Adam, Mentor@vaos.org

Orchid Judging takes place at **Christ the King Catholic Church, Mc-Loughlin Center – Room C, 821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa, FL 33609.** at 6:30pm on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Info: <http://www.fncjc.shutterfly.com/>

V.A.O.S. On FaceBook



"Join Us" and Share
your Orchid Photos
Search for us as
"VeniceArea OrchidSociety"

VAOS Meeting and Clinic Schedule (2016)

September 7, 2016 – **Meeting**, Mac Rivenbark, “Introduction to the Orchid Species of the Philippines

September 8, 2016 – **Clinic**, Jay Loeffler and Joanna Shaw, Hands-on Potting Clinic

October 5, 2016 – **Meeting**, Roy Tokunaga, “Hawaiian Culture and Production”

October 20, 2016 – **Clinic**, Renee Bynum and Richard Amos, Dendrobiums

November 2, 2016 – **Meeting**, Fred Clarke, “Mini-Catts, New Introductions”

November 10, 2016 – **Clinic**, Renee Bynum and Richard Amos, Other Orchids for Your Collection

December 9, 2016 – Holiday Dinner Dance and Orchid Auction, Boca Royale Golf and Country Club

No December Meetings or Growers Clinics

AOS Events and Programs



Elegant Orchids
2nd Annual International Orchid Show
and Sale at The Huntington

October 21-23, 2016

Presented in conjunction with
the American Orchid Society
Fall Members Meeting

Register at
www.AOSFall2016.com

Friday: Noon-4:30 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

- Exhibits by Southern California orchid societies and international growers
- Orchids and supplies for sale from vendors from around the world
- Lectures for beginners and experts alike

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Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens

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More information: huntington.org/OrchidShow

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Fall 2016 Members' Meeting

The American Orchid Society is holding its Fall 2016 Members' Meeting at the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in beautiful San Marino, California on October 21-23, 2016. The meeting will include presentations by internationally renowned speakers and is being held in conjunction with the Huntington Botanical Gardens International Orchid Show where some of the best orchids in Southern California will be on display along with vendors of orchids and supplies from around the world.

Check out the schedule of events and speakers you will find on the AOS website. Also, take a look at, “Like” and follow the AOS Fall 2016 Members' Meeting Facebook Page where you will learn more about our host location and be able to follow the preparations being made leading up to the meeting. Along with access to all the Botanical Gardens, registrants will have the rare opportunity to visit the ‘off-exhibit’ orchid collection greenhouses. It’s sure to be an event you won’t want to miss.

Upcoming webinars

AOS has many excellent webinars available on their website, www.aos.org. Many are available to members and non-members while others are restricted to members. You can register for future webinars as well as view previous webinars at the site.

American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton

Thursday, September 8, 2016 @ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT. Everyone is invited

Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education, for a Q&A session on how to grow and care for your orchids. If you have a question, please submit your questions by September 6 to stillisch@cox.net.

Wonderful World of Phragmipediums by Jason Fischer

Wednesday, September 21, 2016 @ 8:30 PM EDT. Members only

Join Jason Fischer of Orchids Limited in Plymouth, Minnesota, as he discusses some of the wonderful phragmipediums and how to grow them.

Culture notes from First Rays July 2016

Pesticide Use

As more and more of our business is in the "chemicals" end of horticulture, we'd like to take an opportunity to discuss their proper use, so that you may get the most effect, without overuse or in a way that leads to the development of "super-bugs". The first part of that is choosing the right treatment for the job.

Recently, on several forums, I have seen posts in which people ask about using insecticides for mites, bactericides for insects, or want to mix products that negate each other. It is very important that you select the appropriate treatment for the "battle you are fighting". For example, if you are trying to keep algae at bay, or try to knock down the accumulation of ubiquitous fungal spores, a topical disinfectant like Physan or Biosafe Disease Control is a good choice. Neither, however, is of any value to a plant with rot, nor as an insecticide or miticide.

For plants with systemic bacterial or fungal rots, copper sulfate (generic Phyton 27) and thiomyl (generic Clearys 3336) are good, as is a treatment with the biological product, Inocucor Garden Solution. However, the use of either chemical will kill the beneficial microorganisms in the Inocucor product, so they cannot be used together. If you use the Inocucor product regularly, you may never need the others!

If you have an insect or mite problem, the first thing you must do is get an insecticide OR miticide, as most products don't kill both; azadirachtin, the active ingredient in AzaMax does, but it is a rarity.

Once you have gotten the right insecticide or miticide, HOW you apply is important. Always read the label, and use it at the specified concentration - never more, never less - and apply it thoroughly, wetting all plant surfaces and the potting medium. It is important to repeat the application of the same product in the same manner, as most pesticides only kill adults. I have found that three applications, spaced one week apart, seems to be the "sweet spot", killing any immature bugs before they have an opportunity to reproduce.

Then there's the need to rotate products in order to reduce the likelihood of breeding pesticide-resistant "super bugs", but that's a subject for next time.

Courtesy of Ray Barkalow, First Rays – www.firstrays.com

Editor's note: The use of copper based products should be avoided for dendrobiums.