

Venice Area Orchid Society News

January 2017

Next Meeting: Wednesday, Jan. 4, 7 pm
Venice Community Center
(doors open at 6:30 pm)
Speaker: Ted Kellogg
Topic: Ribbon Judging: Putting
Your Best Plants Forward

Ted enclosed the photo of this 'blue ribbon' Cypripedium growing in Rhode Island. Of course, any orchid plant surviving in the wild and reproducing is a winner in Nature's Show. This plant, blooming in 2011, in a forest cemetery, was among many others of the same genus. No other species of orchid was in bloom at that time. It was the only one with the very dark colored pouch. If a team of orchid judges had been asked to place blue, red, and yellow ribbons on the best Cypripedium acule growing in this natural setting, the plant pictured would have received the blue ribbon.



But what if those judges were looking at an orchid show with many exhibits? If they had been at the Venice 2016 show, they would have seen 214 plants entered for ribbon judging. The registration committee had placed each of these plants into one of 90 groups (classes). The classes held from 1 to 13 plants each. A team of orchid judges looked at each class and awarded blue-1st, red-2nd, or yellow-3rd ribbons as they wished. What criteria did they use? Sometimes a class with 1 entry got a red or yellow ribbon, or maybe didn't get a ribbon. Why? Sometimes the judges decided two plants in a class each deserved a blue ribbon. What did the judges look for? Why was one plant awarded higher than another?

Ted will explain what the judges consider in ribbon judging and give suggestions for you to impress the judges that you have put your best plants forward. As always, Ted will be glad to share his many years' experience both as a grower and AOS judge to answer all your questions.

Orchid Envy, one of our own local growers here in Venice, will have a great selection of quality plants for sale.

A Message From Your President

Our thanks to Sharon Kahnoski and Mary Amos for planning and organizing a terrific holiday party for us at the Englewood Boca Royale Golf & Country Club on December 9th. Great food, fun and a lively plant auction.



As we close the year 2016, I want to take a moment to thank our VAOS board members and volunteers. I enjoy working with all of them and appreciate their time and dedication to our society. Thanks also to all members who have contributed their time to VAOS over the past year. It certainly has made my job easier so I thank you all.

Officers and Directors 2016:

Bruce Weaver – VP, Programs
Sharon Kahnoski – VP, Social Affairs
Jay Loeffler – VP, Show Displays
Mary Amos - Treasurer
Joanna Shaw – Recording Secretary
Steve Vogelhaupt - Communications Director & Newsletter Editor
Judy Loeffler - Membership Chair & Show Co-Chair
Renee Bynum – Director at Large

Volunteers 2016:

Ted Kellogg - Webmaster
Kathy & Jerry Beck, John Kahnoski – Raffle Table
Joanna Shaw, Kristin Shaw & Cynthia Vance – Plant Table
Sue Grimmer, Gary Becker, Dick Lawson - Technology
Pauline Adam & Kathy Toth – Mentor Program Coordinator

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Meeting Date Changes

Our February meeting will
be held on **Thursday 2/2/2017**

Our March meeting will
be held on **Thursday 3/2/2017**

Following March 2017, all of our monthly meetings
will be held the first Wednesday of the month.

Please mark your calendars

WWW.VAOS.ORG

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

Officers 2016 – 2017
President

Carol Wood, pres@vaos.org

Vice President – Programs & Immediate Past President

Bruce Weaver, programs@vaos.org

Vice President – Social Affairs

Sharon Kahnoski, social@vaos.org

Vice President – Show Displays

Jay Loeffler, disp@vaos.org

Treasurer

Mary Amos, tres@vaos.org

Recording Secretary

Joanna Shaw, rsec@vaos.org

Communications Director & Newsletter Editor

Steve Vogelhaupt, csec@vaos.org

Membership Chair

Judy Loeffler, memb@vaos.org

Annual Show Chairs

Carol Wood

Judy Loeffler

showchair@vaos.org

Director At Large

Renee Bynum, RBynum@vaos.org

Volunteers

Ted Kellogg, (Webmaster)

tmkellogg@gmail.com

Kathy and Jerry Beck, Raffle Table

Joanna Shaw, Kristin Shaw &

Cynthia Vance (Plant Table)

Sue Grimmer, Gary Becker,

Dick Lawson, (Technology)

Kathy Toth (Mentor Coordinator)

Newsletter Production

Barry Zack

VAOS Printer

Creative Technology of Sarasota

We're Counting Down to Our Venice Show
February 4-5, 2017

Show Volunteers Are Urgently Needed

Email Carol Wood today to sign up: [ShowChair@VAOS.org](mailto>ShowChair@VAOS.org)

Our annual show is rapidly approaching and we still need to fill 104 volunteer time slots. If you have not signed up, or if you can do more, please sign up now for a 2-3 hour time slot Friday, Saturday and Sunday, February 3-5. Here is a summary of where we still need your help.

Security Monitors- Here is where help is most needed! Monitor exit doors to prevent unauthorized entry or exit. Ensure visitors don't step into displays. A sit down job; 53 volunteer slots still need to be filled. Note that while we only need 10 security monitors each day, we break it down into 2.5 hour shifts Saturday or Sunday morning, mid-day or afternoon – therefore we have a total of 60 volunteer time slots to fill. Chair: Sharon and John Kahnoski

Clerks - Saturday 7:30am to 10:30am. Work with AOS judges finding and pointing out plants in the exhibits and placing ribbons. A great learning experience as the judges share their knowledge of what makes a quality plant and flower! Fifteen (15) more clerks needed. Chair: Mary Anne Digrazia

Front Door Admissions - Sell admission tickets and hand out programs Saturday and Sunday. A sit down job, cashier skills required. Six (6) more people are needed for Saturday and 14 more for Sunday – all 2.5 hour time slots. Chair: Elaine Ort

Food - Bring your favorite dish Friday, Saturday or Sunday: hot or cold main dishes, casseroles, pastries, platters, desserts, etc. Saturday is the most important day. Note what dish you will bring and on what day on the sign- up sheet for food or email to Linda Hahn, Chair. Email: Lindawfl@verizon.net

Show Take Down – Five (5) more volunteers are needed on Sunday afternoon. Arrive Sunday by 3:45pm for take down and hall clean up.

Continued on next page

Treasurer's Report

December - 2016

Operating Fund

Starting Balance		
11/1/16	\$	19,246.23
Income	\$	8,725.00
Payments	\$	7,667.20
Closing Balance		
11/30/16	\$	20,304.03

Petty Cash

.....\$ 40.00

Total Operating Fund

11/30/2016

\$ 20,344.03

Reserve Fund

Starting Balance		
11/1/16	\$	25060.36
Income	\$	0.62
Closing Balance		
11/30/16	\$	25060.98

-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.

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.

Please Sign Up to Volunteer (continued from page 2)

Some strong backs and fresh/rested volunteers will be sorely needed. Chair: Carol Wood

Classification/Registration - One volunteer is needed on Friday 2/3/17 from 12pm - 5pm to handle paperwork and respond to questions during plant registration. Chair: Ted Kellogg

Orchid Boutique – Twelve (12) volunteers are needed Saturday and Sunday, 2.5 hour time slots, to staff the sales booth, sell floral arrangements and accessories and help to sort flowers and organize the work area. Chair: Janet Hoy

All show volunteers receive the show collector edition t-shirt, free admission to the show, great food, fun

Get Your Plants Ready Now for Our Show Display on February 3rd

Stake and orient your plants that you expect to be in bloom to ensure the best presentation. Our display will be large - we'll need many blooming plants to create a winning exhibit! Plants for our show must be registered with Renee Bynum (PlantReg@vaos.org) by Thursday 2/2/17,

and camaraderie.

Sign-up Sheets will be distributed and finalized at our January meeting 1/4/17. Don't forget to mark your calendar. VAOS t-shirts will be distributed to all working volunteers by the committee chairs at the show. Members who volunteer their time, bring food or make a patron donation will not be charged admission at the door. We depend on our member volunteers to ensure a smooth operation and successful show! Thank you for volunteering!

*-Submitted by Carol Wood and
Judy Loeffler, Show Co-Chairs*

8pm, and should be delivered to the Venice Community Center on show set up day, Friday 2/3/17 by 10am or to our Thursday night meeting 2/2/17.

-Submitted by Carol Wood

Arts & Crafts Member's Exhibit

A reminder to get your arts and crafts ready for display at our show. Pre-register with Noreen and bring them to the Community Center on Friday 2/3/17 between 2 –

4pm. Chair: Noreen Chervinski,
email: pgifolks@yahoo.com.

-Submitted by Carol Wood

Please Support Our Raffle Table

Members are encouraged to support our Raffle Table by donating orchids, pots/baskets, planting media and related items at our monthly meetings as well as purchasing tickets for the raffle held at the conclusion of each meeting. A donation allows you to share your orchids with other members and gives you more room for new purchases

while buying raffle tickets provides the opportunity of inexpensively expanding your own collection and experimenting with new species and hybrids. Tickets are a bargain at \$1.00 each/\$5.00 for six tickets. While there, say "HI" to Kathy and Jerry Beck who volunteer to run our Raffle Table at each meeting.

Membership Dues Are Due Now

An easy New Year's Resolution to keep!! Now is the time to renew your Venice Area Orchid Society Membership. Dues are only \$20.00 per household each calendar year. Please pay Treasurer Mary Amos at the next meeting or mail your check, payable to VAOS, to:

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

Dues must be received by January 1st so that you can be included in the 2017 Membership Directory. This is also the time to make sure we have your current contact information- address, phone and email address. Please check your current Directory to see if your entry needs editing. Should your contact information have changed, please notify Judy Loeffler, Membership Chair, at: Memb@VAOS.org

-Submitted by Judy Loeffler

Have a Question?

Have a question about your orchid? Has my hybrid cross been named? Has my plant been awarded? What's its parentage? Several VAOS members subscribe to OrchidWiz and will be happy to look it up for you. Email

your orchid name and question to one of the following:

Carol Wood showchair@vaos.org
Ted Kellogg tmkellogg@gmail.com

-Submitted by Carol Wood

Culture Tip of the Month

We're blessed with a temperate climate in SW Florida, the only part of the U.S. where we can grow our orchids outdoors with little fear of cold damage. However, when the cold fronts sweep in and temps are forecast to drop below 55*, pay attention and take precautions to protect your plants. Cattleyas will take temps down to 45* but other genera are more sensitive to cold. Hard cane Dendrobiums (Spatulata and Phalaenanthe "Phal-type")

that bloom on long spikes are most sensitive to the cold, sometimes dropping their leaves at 55* and below. Phalaenopsis and Vandas need protection under 50* nighttime temps. Below 40*, consider bringing your plants indoors, into the garage, placed up against a lanai wall or covering them. Use old sheets and not plastic – plastic prevents air flow and if left on the next day, your plants may cook in the hot sunlight.

January 12th Growers Clinic - Seedling Competition

With the beginning of the New Year, we thought we would try something a little bit different for the first Growers Clinic of 2017, a seedling competition. We will provide a healthy seedling, pots, potting media and pot clips along with advice on the culture the seedling needs. All you need to do is come and join us on Thursday, January 12th, 7pm at the Venice Community Center, claim a seedling, pot it as you like and grow it. If you decide

to mount the seedling, please feel free to bring suitable mounting material with you.

Later in the year, we will have a clinic for you to bring the plants back for comparison (and judging). Yes, there will be prizes for the best grown plant. We hope to see you there!

--Submitted by Renee Bynum

President's Message (continued from page 1)

On February 4th, we will be having our annual show and sale. This major community event is expected to draw over 4000 attendees from the tri-county area. Nationally recognized growers from as far away as Hawaii will exhibit and sell orchids. Our show is our major fund raising event of the year and is always held the first full weekend in February at the Venice Community Center in downtown Venice. The VCC provides the perfect venue

for displaying the orchid exhibits and sales areas. We are fortunate to have a large and active society and I look forward to working with all of you to produce another spectacular show this year.

Wishing all of our members a happy holiday season with friends and family and a safe and happy New Year!

-Submitted by Carol Wood

Please Support Our 2016 Show Sponsors

- Herald Tribune Media Group • Costco Wholesale • Family Dermatology
- Stanley Dean State Farm • Dr. Tibbils - Hearing Clinic of Venice
- Gettel Hyundai • Hoskins Pest Control • New Dawn Travels
- Pamela Hogan - Realtor • Region Solar • Center for Sigh
- Daiquiri Deck • Davis & Beyer, DDS • Gardens of Venice - Retirement Residence
- Kennedy-White Orthopedic Ctr. • R.A.V.E • Silverstein Institute
- Southgate Animal Hospital • 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)

Season's Greetings and Holiday Wishes
For all our members



For the third consecutive year, the lovely Boca Royale Golf and Country Club hosted our annual Holiday Party and once again it was a rousing success. The decorations, meal and service were outstanding and our DJ entertained us throughout dinner and dancing.

The highlight of the evening was the orchid auction featuring a great variety of beautiful orchids from Palmer Orchids. Not only did the winners go home with great additions to their collections, but we all went home with

memories of fun and laughter galore. This year we also had a silent auction of specially selected books from our library and many members bid on beautiful and rare volumes.

All of our members and guests received a seedling orchid that we hope will remind everyone of the good fellowship and camaraderie.

-Submitted by Sharon Kahnoski

Angraecum sesquipedale

This gorgeous orchid is also known as the Christmas Orchid, Star of Bethlehem Orchid, easy to see why, and Darwin's Orchid. Native to the lowlands of Madagascar, this epiphyte was first discovered in 1798 by the French botanist, Louis-Marie Aubert de Petit-Thousars, but was not described until 1833

Preferring altitudes below 500 feet, the orchid is found on sparsely leaved trees and usually on those branches that are driest. This permits high light intensity as well as a great deal of air movement. Occasionally, the orchid grows as a litho-

phyte and sometimes even as a semi-terrestrial. The growing season is continuous with no dry periods, often totaling up to 150 inches. In the wild, the plants flower from June to September, with most wilting by August. In more intermediate climates, the plant flowers between December and January. Each

flower opens with a green coloration, but eventually turns white. The number of flower spikes is dependent on the number of leaf-pairs formed during the previous spring and summer and it is critical to provide the greatest light intensity between September and November. Usually, no more than five flowers open at a time and their spicy fragrance, detectable only at night, can easily fill a room or lanai.

The most distinctive feature of this orchid is the long green spur attached to the flower which can measure up to 17 inches from its tip to the tip of the flower's lip.



There was furious discussion as to how this orchid could be pollinated and Charles Darwin postulated that a yet undiscovered moth with an extremely long proboscis was responsible. Unfortunately, it was not until more than twenty years after his death that the moth was discovered and Darwin's conjecture was verified, thus the name Darwin's Orchid.

Should you be fortunate enough to obtain a plant, here are a few tips for success. Plant your orchid in a large pot or basket in a coarse long-lasting medium such as

fir bark, charcoal, perlite, expanded clay pellets, or similar as the plants are notorious for having sensitive roots. Young plants are not as susceptible but disturbing the roots of a mature plant can cause it to sulk for 2 to 4 years and even die. The plants should receive regular watering and fertilizer without a winter rest and flower best when they receive the

maximum amount of light without burning the leaves. This angraecum is reportedly a slow grower but can be expected to produce flowers even before it has reached an adult size.

This orchid, being an epiphyte, does well on a mount, preferably of a long-lasting nature and critically, large enough to accommodate a large adult specimen, even when planting a much smaller plant. Frequent watering and fertilization is mandatory and protection from low temperatures is required.

-Submitted by editor, photo courtesy of Kew Gardens

VAOS Orchid Boutique Needs Greens for Floral Arrangements

We're excited! Our show is just around the corner and we need your support. The Orchid Boutique has long been a popular component of our annual show, selling orchid floral arrangements, jewelry and accessories. To continue our past success, we need fresh greenery.

Bring in your greens to our 2/2/17 meeting or bring them in on Friday, February 3 from 9:30 - 3:00 (use the back entrance near the kitchen). The foliage should be in a container - bucket, gallon milk jug, etc. that has some water in it. We will return any container with a name on it. As always, thanks to all for your support. Last year, most of our proceeds went to the Venice Orchid Project

which adds natural beauty and promotes orchid conservation in this community.

What **foliage** do we need?

Types – Hardy, long-lasting greens such as: mini palm fronds, croton leaves, all kinds of ferns, dwarf philodendron, ivy, ti leaves, ginger leaves, papyrus stems.

Short to Medium stalks as most containers are 12" or less

-Submitted by Janet Hoy and Karen Mann

Your Blooming Plants Are Needed for the Sarasota Orchid Society Show January 7-8

Our first orchid show of the season, the annual Sarasota Orchid Society (SOS) Show and Sale, will be held at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, on January 7-8. Set up is Friday, January 6th, from 8am - 2pm. Show hours are Saturday 9am - 5pm and Sunday 10am - 5pm. Your blooming plants are needed to create our 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 our January 4th monthly meeting
- Bring your plants to one of two locations by Thursday January 5th, 6pm:

- South Venice: Carol Wood, 4941 Bella Terra Dr., Venice (Venetia), 497-4995 (Leave on front porch)
- Venice Island: Bruce Weaver, 328 West Bay Dr., Venice, 800-7804 (leave by front door)

• Or bring them to the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium on Friday January 6th at 8am.

All plants must be registered in advance via email by Wednesday January 4th. Email your plant name with a photo or bloom size and color description to Carol Wood at PlantReg@VAOS.org.

Plants should be cleaned, staked, free of pests and disease and labeled with both the plant name and the owner's name. Flowers should be in prime condition to last through the weekend show. Please water your plants thoroughly and place in a box or container for transport to the show.

We need help transporting plants to and from the show on Friday and Sunday. If you can help, please contact Jay Loeffler at 485-9569.

-Submitted by Jay Loeffler

VAOS 2017 GROWERS CLINIC SCHEDULE AND TOPICS

1/12/17	Success with Seedlings - Hands on Potting clinic and competition
2/09/17	Culture Basics for Specific Genera (Catts, Phals, Onc, Dens, Vandas, Paphs, other)
3/09/17	Dividing and Repotting Clinic (Hands On) (1 of 3)
4/13/17	Potting Without Pots /Mounting Orchids (Presentation and Hands On)
5/11/17	Orchid Basics Part 1 (Air, Light, Water, Fertilizer & Supplements)
6/08/17	Orchid Basics Part 2 (Pots, Media, Repotting, Tools)
7/13/17	Dividing and Repotting Clinic (Hands On) (2 of 3)
8/10/17	Pests & Diseases Part 1 Pests (Presentation)
9/14/17	Pests & Diseases Part 2 Fungus, Bacteria, Virus, Other damage (Presentation)
10/12/17	Dividing and Repotting Clinic (Hands On) 3 of 3)
11/09/17	Success with Seedlings Competition Follow Up - Results and prizes
	No December Growers Clinic Meeting

All Growers Clinics held the second Thursday, 7pm - 9pm, Room F , VCC

ALL GC's start with problem orchids /advice - Rich Amos

AOS Webinars

Just another reminder that the AOS website, www.aos.org, has a collection of past, current, and upcoming webinars, all available for viewing on your computer or tablet at your convenience. Some are restricted to members only, but many others provide great tips for novices and experts alike.

For those AOS members or future members who are interested in the orchids of Madagascar, including the

Angraecum sesquipedale, check out Ron, McHatton's webinar of 1/22/15, The Orchids of Madagascar: The Land that Time Forgot. Ron is the AOS Director of Education and hosts the frequent Greenhouse Chat webinars open to all. You can send your questions and photos to Ron at rmchatton@aos.org for a personal response or discussion at the next Greenhouse Chat.

-Submitted by the editor

Venice Area Orchid Society News

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

Next Meeting:

Thursday, February 2, 2017 7:00pm
at Venice Community Center
(Doors open at 6:30pm)

- **Speaker:** John Salventi
- Bring your blooming orchids for the Show Table
- Bring plants for the Raffle Table
- Bring treats to share.

Upcoming Events

January 4 (1st Wednesday): VAOS monthly meeting in Venice Community Center. Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm, Speaker: Ted Kellogg, Topic: Ribbon Judging: Putting Your Best Plants Forward

January 7-8 (Sat – Sun): Sarasota Orchid Society Show, “A Symphony of Orchids”, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL. See page 7 for details.

January 12 (2nd Thursday): VAOS Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, Doors open at 6:45 pm, clinic starts at 7:00 pm, Speaker: Renee Bynum, Topic: Hands-on Seedling Competition. (VAOS provides seedlings, plastic pots, media, clips & stakes.) Our experienced growers are available to answer your questions and help with problem plants.

January 13-15 (Fri – Sun): Tamiami International Orchid Festival, info: www.orchidfestival.com.

January 20-22 (Fri – Sun): Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society Show and Sale, info: www.flos.org.

Upcoming

February 2 (1st Thursday): VAOS monthly meeting in Venice Community Center. Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm, Speaker: John Salventi, Topic: Roots – Why and How.

February 4 -5 (Sat -Sun): Venice Area Orchid Society Show and Sale, ‘Orchid Bliss’, see page 2 for important information, info: www.vaos.org.

April 7 -8 (Friday and Saturday): Englewood Area Orchid Society Show and Sale. Christ Lutheran Church. Setup Thursday, April 6. Details to follow.

Ongoing

Mentor Program: help for beginning growers, contact Kathy Toth, 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”