



# VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at [www.vaos.org](http://www.vaos.org)

September 2017

## September General Meeting

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 6th at 7pm**

**Location: Venice Community Center (open at 6:30pm)**

**Speaker: Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids**

**Topic: Spotted and Splashed Cattleyas**



Fred Clarke has been growing orchids for 35 years and has been hybridizing for 25 of those years. With over 28 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery; Sunset Valley Orchids, located in San Diego, California.

He is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Although developing Cattleya hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new Australian Dendrobiums and Paphiopedilum hybrids plus some others to be named if they work out!

His pioneering work in Catasetum intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, Fredclarkeara After Dark, which produced "the blackest flower ever witnessed". This grex has received eight FCC's and over 41 awards worldwide.

Fred is an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region. His plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society.

Fred's topic will be "Spotted and Splashed Cattleyas". He will have plants for sale and is accepting pre-orders up to September 1st.

**Fred Clarke - Sunset Valley Orchids Inc.- Vista, CA 92081  
(760) 310-0778 - [fred.clarke@att.net](mailto:fred.clarke@att.net) - [sunsetvalleyorchids.com](http://sunsetvalleyorchids.com)**

## September Events

**September 6th  
VAOS monthly meeting  
Fred Clarke Topic:  
"Spotted and Splashed  
Cattleyas"**

**September 14th  
VAOS Growers Clinic  
Orchid Pests and Diseases,  
Part 2, Fungal, Bacterial and  
Virus Diseases**

## Newsletter Quick Links

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# Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids Pre-Order Instructions

We're pleased that Fred Clarke will once again be speaking at our monthly meeting on the 1st Wednesday, September 6, 2017. Fred's topic will be: Spotted and Splashed Cattleyas. He's internationally known for his informative and entertaining presentations as well as the outstanding quality of his plants.

Fred will be accepting pre-orders from his website, [www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com](http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com), for delivery to members at the meeting. You'll be getting the best plants in the best condition while saving the shipping costs and receiving a 10% discount from prices on website. The deadline for orders is Friday, September 1, 2017 and orders should be sent to Fred at [fred.clarke@att.net](mailto:fred.clarke@att.net) and must include:

"ADVANCE ORDER FOR DELIVERY TO VAOS MEETING ON September 6, 2017"

SVO number (from website)

Full name of plant ordered and price

Number of plants ordered

Your name, address and email.

Payment in full is due at the time of pick-up at the meeting in the form of cash, check or credit card. Should you be unable to pick-up your plants at the meeting, please make arrangements with another member or you will be charged for the order. Orders are filled first come, first filled and Fred's plants are always in high demand.

Fred is available to answer questions and may be contacted at his email address or at cell (760) 310-0778 or home (760) 639-6255.

## John Roche Plant Sale

VAOS member John Roche is downsizing his extensive orchid collection. He grows a variety of orchids including Dendrobiums, Bulbophylums, Oncidiums, Cattleyas, Encyclias, and Vandas as well many other interesting species. He is also selling pots, baskets, wood for mounts and Bromiliads.

You should contact John at 941-726-7889 or email him at [rochejjat@aol.com](mailto:rochejjat@aol.com). His address is 16650 Prairie Creek Blvd, Punta Gorda, FL 33982, located between Punta Gorda and Arcadia, about 44 miles from Venice.

Visit his Facebook page, "The Roche Ranch" to view many of his plants.

# A Message from Your President



It is hard to believe we are into September.... Where did the summer go? Still hot and humid but we are looking forward to October, one of our favorite months, and to our “autumn” in Florida. Cooler days are coming. We are starting to look forward to our northern friends returning and to the winter orchid shows. Our orchids are in active growth and thriving with all this pure rain. Watch for fungal infections this month and consider preventative fungicide sprays to avoid problems. Some of us are still repotting (me!) but are focused on those seedlings that are ready to move up to the next pot size or those

orchids badly in need of division and repotting. Remember that the best time to repot is when the new roots are about 1” long.

We are looking forward to hosting Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids, California, on September 6th. Fred is an internationally acclaimed speaker and orchid hybridizer and one of our favorite speakers. He is famous for creating the “black orchid” Fredclarkeara After Dark and for his catasetums and interesting cattleya hybrids. His topic will be on Spotted and Splashed Cattleyas. I enjoy perusing his website late at night with a glass of wine – his descriptions of his crosses are mesmerizing! Fred will accept pre-orders until September 1st – 10% discount, no shipping fee, pick up and pay at our meeting. See order instructions at the top of page 2.

At our August Growers Clinic we presented “Orchid Pests” and hope that our attendees left with the knowledge to both identify and treat the most common orchid pests. A copy of our presentation is available on our website – [www.VAOS.org](http://www.VAOS.org) – Resources, VAOS Publications. At our September 14th Growers Clinic we will present “Orchid Diseases – Fungus, Bacterial, Virus and Other Problems.

Three of our local growers plan to hold fall sales events – see details in this newsletter. At our August meeting many members expressed an interest in organizing road trips to these sales events. As the Asian orchid mass-production companies swallow up the market it is so important to support our local vendors. Many of the species and quality crosses/hybrids we love are only available from our U.S. growers. Make them first when you consider new purchases.

*Carol Wood, President*

## SEPTEMBER CULTURE TIP – FUNGUS CONTROL

September continues to be a hot and humid month in Venice and our plants are prone to fungus. Quaternary ammonium compounds (sold as Southern Ag SA-20, Physan 20, Consan 20 or Greenshield) are disinfectants. They can be helpful to avoid fungal infections. Follow label directions.

Preventative spraying for fungus and bacterial infections is effective (whereas preventative spraying of pesticides is not recommended – builds resistance). Fungicides prevent disease but do not cure it.

Disinfect your growing area monthly with SA-20/Physan or a 10% chlorox bleach solution.

# Orchid Society Business

Minutes from August 2, 2017 - Carol Wood called the meeting to order at 7 pm by welcoming members of the Englewood Orchid Society to our joint meeting. She reviewed the format for our meeting and thanked Englewood for an excellent joint meeting last month.

## Announcements:

- The next Grower's Clinic will be August 10th and we will be covering Orchid Pests.
- Our next general meeting will be September 6th and will feature Fred Clarke from Sunset Valley Orchids in California.
- We have decided to discontinue our participation in the Ridge Orchid Society annual show in September. It is a long way to travel and this year they are only doing a table-top display. We will participate in a total of 3 shows this year, our own, Sarasota, and Englewood.
- We are already working on planning our own show, the theme will be announced at the next meeting.
- We are thinking of organizing some fall road trips to the open houses hosted by several of our local orchid growers/vendors. Carol asked for a show of hands to gauge interest in this, the response was positive. More info will be forthcoming when we get dates.

Carol introduced special guest Samantha DeMott. Samantha is one of two students to whom we awarded \$1000 scholarships. She will start school at the University of Florida in the fall with a dual major in Zoology and Wildlife Ecology/Conservation. Samantha gave a brief thank-you speech.

Bruce introduced the speaker for the evening, Jeff Higel of Honeybee Orchids. The topic was "How to Grow Better Orchids".

Joanna and Kristin Shaw presented the plant table. Jerry and Kathy Beck did the raffle table.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15. *Submitted by Joanna Shaw, recording secretary.*

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## Treasurer's Report—July 2017

Operating Fund Starting Balance 07/01/17.....	\$ 18,478.90
+ Income .....	\$ -0-
- Payments.....	\$ 3,126.00
Closing Balance 07/31/17 .....	\$ 15,352.90
 Petty Cash .....	 \$ 40.00
 Total Operating Fund 07/31/17 .....	 \$ 15,352.90

## Reserve Fund

Starting Balance 07/01/17 .....	\$ 25,065.36
+Income .....	\$ 0.64
Closing Balance 07/31/17 .....	\$ 25,066.00

*Submitted by Mary Amos*

## Here is our 2018 Orchid Show schedule

Sarasota in January, our show in February and Englewood's show in March. **Please cut and save and mark the dates.** We will need your blooming plants for all three shows to create a winning exhibit and of course we will hope to have "all hands on deck" to support our own show in February.

### 2018 VAOS ORCHID SHOW SCHEDULE

#### **Sarasota Orchid Society Show (January 2018)**

Saturday Jan 6th - 9am - 5pm

Sunday Jan 7th - 10am - 5pm

Set Up: Friday Jan 5th - 9am - 5pm

Location: Sarasota Municipal Auditorium: 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota

#### **Venice Area Orchid Society Show (February 2018)**

Saturday Feb 3rd - 10am - 5pm

Sunday Feb 4th - 10am - 4pm

Set Up: Friday Feb 2nd - 1pm - 8pm

Location: Venice Community Center: 326 So. Nokomis Ave., Venice

#### **Englewood Area Orchid Society Show (March 2018)**

Friday March 2nd - 10am - 5pm

Saturday March 3rd - 10am - 5pm

Set Up: Thursday March 1st - 10am - 5pm

Location: Englewood United Methodist Church: 700 E. Dearborn St., Englewood, FL

### NEXT GROWERS CLINIC

Please join us at the **September 14<sup>th</sup>** (Thursday night) Growers Clinic when we will present: Orchid Diseases – Fungus, Bacteria, Virus, and Other Issues. The clinic is held in the Venice Community Center Room F, the left rear room of the center. 7pm.

All members and guests are welcome.

Park in the left rear parking lot and enter through the side door-Room F. Request attendees refrain from perfumes/fragrances as many of our members are sensitive. Thank you.



# August 2nd 2017 Plant Table Ribbon Awards

*Attention New Members:* Please bring in your blooming plants. We'd love to see them! If you have been a VAOS member for less than 2 years you just might be awarded The New Member's Ribbon!



**First Place and Blue Ribbon** was captured by Rick Belisle for the most multiflorous Oncidesa (Oncsa) Sweet Sugar 'Angel' ever presented at our VAOS meeting. It was registered in 1990 by M. Sato as a cross between Oncsa. Aloha Iwanaga and Gomesa varicose and it's still found under its former classification, Oncidium Sweet Sugar. It's a favorite among collectors for its flowers are larger than most yellow oncidium blooms and now Rick has proved we can all grow such a magnificent specimen here in Venice. Great growing, Rick!



**Second Place and Red Ribbon** was bestowed to Steve Keller for his striking orange Vanda (V.) Mokara Thai Sunspots. The 'Mokara' Vanda is a hybrid of a Ascocentrum, Arachnis and Vanda orchid and was first grown in 1969 in Singapore. Flower petals are similarly shaped as a vanda but are more star-like with reduced columns in the center. They acquire their bright color from the Vanda and the rapid growth potential from Ascocentrum. The blooms last 2-3 weeks and if grown with roots hanging they need no 're-potting' and often bloom 2x a year -- doubling our joy! Kudos to Steve!



**Third Place and Yellow Ribbon** was awarded to John Roche for his gorgeous Laeliocattleya (Lc.) Sayarik Wax 'Chia Lin'. Now classified as Cattlianthe (Ctt.) Sagarik Wax, it's a hybrid of C. Summerland Girl x Ctt. Chocolate Drop. John's plant had two clusters of 8-plus flowers each and 6 more clusters on the way -- such a hearty plant that he grows outdoors at his Punta Gorda ranch. If you 'have to have' this plant now, contact Palmer Orchids of Bradenton one of VAOS preeminent show vendors. Fantastic specimen John!



**Members Choice Ribbon** was won by Donn Smart for his Procatavola (Pcv.) Golden Peacock. Originally called Bpl. Golden Peacock, it's another wonderful hybrid of the famous Bl. Richard Mueller. (Bl. Richard Mueller is now Bc. Richard Mueller {B nodosa x C milleri} - L milleri having been reclassified as C milleri now. Whew!) The other parent is Prs. vitellina, originally Epi. vitellina, which gives this hybrid the bright orange color and the high bud count. This is still a very young plant with 6-7 flowers per stem. It will eventually produce 10-20 per stem and we'd love to see it then! Fine growing, Donn!



**Best Species Ribbon** was granted to Donn Smart for his precious beauty -- Habenaria (Hab.) Radiata also known as the White Egret Flower for it resembles the Snowy Egret bird. It's one of Japan's most famous terrestrial natives found in mountain bogs and moist seeps. At maturity, the plant's stalk holds 1-8 flowers, each 1&1/2 inches wide. During the summer, new bulbs will form on short underground stems while the old bulb slowly dies away. A healthy bulb can produce up to 3 replacement bulbs (!) and collectors can order the pea-size bulbs online. Congratulations, Donn!



**Speaker's Choice Ribbon** was given to Donn Smart for his tiny and pretty species -- Vanda (V.) (Christensonia) Vietnamica, commonly called The Vietnamese Christensonia since it is the only species of Christensonia (Chri.) It is a hot to warm growing, monopodial epiphyte with a stem of dainty flowers that are 1&1/4 inches each. It has a very pleasant sweet and fruity smell some comparing it to either orange or strawberry Pez candy. In a few years this plant can become a giant with 40-50 flowers. Thanks Donn for introducing us to one of the smallest Vandas . . . and we look forward to you turning it into a huge specimen!

*-Narrative and Photos by Cynthia Vance*



# Our Donations at Work

7/30/2017

Dear the Venice Orchid Society,

My advisor, Dr. Kane, and I would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your generous donation of \$2,000 towards our research on the Ghost Orchid at the University of Florida. Your contribution has certainly made a difference, allowing us to further our research with materials and travel expenses that we would have otherwise not been able to obtain. The Scholarship of \$1,000 that you provided for me personally helped me travel and present an aspect of my research at the Society for In Vitro Biology where I received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the oral competition.

Our research into the Ghost Orchid is producing very promising results. We have created successful plans to grow and flower plants in the greenhouse as well as restoring plants in their native environment. Above all else, we now have a much better understanding of the plant, and the ability to now share that with others who love this orchid as much as we do.

Once again, thank you for your donation. We really appreciate your support!

Sincerely,

Jameson Coopman





# Local Orchid Vendors Fall Sales Schedule

Three of our show vendors and local growers are planning fall sales events. Please come out and support them.

If you are interested in joining a caravan out to these events, possibly including a lunch stop, please contact Sharon Kahnoski, VAOS VP Social Affairs, [Social@VAOS.org](mailto:Social@VAOS.org)

**September 23 (Saturday), 9am – 4pm.** Florida SunCoast Orchids Fall Sale. 8211 Verna Bethany Rd., Myakka City, FL 34251. [www.floridasuncoastorchids.com](http://www.floridasuncoastorchids.com)

**November 3-4 (Saturday-Sunday), 9am – 4pm.** Plantio La Orquidea Fall Sale. 3480 Tallevast Rd., Sarasota, FL 34243. [www.plantiolaorquidea.com](http://www.plantiolaorquidea.com)

**November 17, 18, 19 (Friday – Sunday), 9am – 4pm.** Palmer Orchids Fall Sale. 22700 Taylor Dr. Bradenton, FL 34211. [www.palmerorchids.com](http://www.palmerorchids.com)

## Florida Orchid Shows

Can't wait until the winter orchid shows? Up for a road trip? Here is a list of upcoming Florida shows in September and October.

### SEPTEMBER

**9-10—Florida West Coast Orchid Society Sale & Exhibition**, Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center, 4951 78th Ave. North, Pinellas Park, FL; Contact: Stuart Fraser, 727-742- 0461; [sfraser0326@aol.com](mailto:sfraser0326@aol.com)

**16-17—Ridge Orchid Society Show “Orchid Jamboree,”** IFAS Stuart Center, 1702 US Highway 17-96 South, Bartow, FL; Contact: Glen Gary, 863-686-3590; [glengary54@yahoo.com](mailto:glengary54@yahoo.com)

### OCTOBER

**13-15—South Florida Orchid Society Show “Melody of Orchids,”** University of Miami Watsco Center, 1245 Dauer Dr., Coral Gables, FL; Contact: Dan Christensen, 954- 252-8116; [damorchid@aol.com](mailto:damorchid@aol.com)

**21-22—Gainesville Orchid Society Show “Orchids in the Garden,”** Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, 4700 SW 58th Dr., Gainesville, FL; Contact: Candace Hollinger, 352-682-4695; [drahcir7@bellsouth.net](mailto:drahcir7@bellsouth.net)

**27-29—Delray Beach Orchid Society Show “Orchids on the Square,”** Old School Square Fieldhouse, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, FL; Contact: Annette Jackson, 561- 573-2422; [aajax@comcast.net](mailto:aajax@comcast.net)

**27-29—East Everglades Orchid Society Show & Sale**, 28100 SW 182 Ave, Homestead, FL; Contact: Valerie Leonard, 305-903-0630; [valda\\_900@hotmail.com](mailto:valda_900@hotmail.com)

The Ridge Orchid Society  
Presents  
Its 55th Annual

# **Orchid Jamboree Show and Sale**

*"An Orchid Explosion"*



**Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM**

**Sunday 11 AM – 4 PM**

**September 16th & 17th, 2017**

**The Stuart Center**

**1702 US 17 South, Bartow, FL**

**Orchid Vendors & Beautiful Orchid Society Displays**

**1,000's of Orchids for Sale**

**Growing Supplies & Re-potting Services**

**Admission \$3.00**

**Call (863) 602-0778 for more information**



# **FLORIDA SUNCOAST ORCHIDS FALL OPEN HOUSE SALE**

*with*  
**Miranda Orchids**  
*-guest vendor-*

**SATURDAY ONLY  
SEPTEMBER 23**

**9 TO 4  
(NO EARLY SALES)**

**NEW HYBRID SEEDLINGS GALORE.  
FIRST OFFERING OF CLONED SEEDLINGS  
FROM OUR AWARDED PLANTS!  
2 SALES TENTS FULL OF BENCH CLEARING  
BARGAINS**

**CHOOSE FROM 1000s OF ORCHIDS!  
CATTLEYS, BRASSAVOLA,  
BROUGHTONIA HYBRIDS,  
ENCYCLIA SPECIES, EPPICATTS,  
DENDROBIUMS, VANDAS, PHALAENOPSIS  
AND CYMBIDIUMS.**

**8227 VERNA BETHANY ROAD • MYAKKA CITY, FL**

[www.facebook.com/FloridaSunCoastOrchids](https://www.facebook.com/FloridaSunCoastOrchids)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 6 (Wednesday):** Monthly meeting, Venice Community Center, doors open at 6:30pm. Speaker: Fred Clarke, Topic: Spotted and Splashed Cattleyas

**September 14 (Thursday):** VAOS Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center Room F, 7pm. Presentation: Orchid Pests and Diseases, Part 2, Fungal, Bacterial and Virus Diseases

**October 4 (Wednesday):** Monthly meeting, Venice Community Center, doors open at 6:30pm. Speaker: Dr. Carol Uthus Topic: Japanese Orchids, The Small and the Mighty

**October 12 (Thursday):** VAOS Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center Room F, 7pm. Hands On Dividing and Repotting Clinic

**Florida Orchid Shows** – September and October 2017 – see details inside

## ONGOING

**Mentor Program:** help for beginning growers, contact Kathy Toth, [Mentor@vaos.org](mailto:Mentor@vaos.org).

**Orchid Judging** takes place at Christ the King Catholic Church, McLoughlin Center – Room C, 821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa, FL at 6:30pm on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Info: [www.fncj.shutterfly.com/](http://www.fncj.shutterfly.com/)

## SAVE THE DATE

**December 8 (Friday):** VAOS Annual Holiday Dinner Party, Boca Royale Country Club, Englewood. Details to follow

## Contact Us

Venice Area Orchid  
Society  
PO BOX 443  
Venice, FL 34284-0443

President Carol Wood,  
[pres@vaos.org](mailto:pres@vaos.org)

Visit us on the web at  
[www.vaos.org](http://www.vaos.org)