

# Venice Area Orchid Society News

March 2017

**Next Meeting: Thursday, Mar. 2, 7 pm**  
**Venice Community Center**  
**(doors open at 6:30 pm)**  
**Speaker: Stig Dalström**

**Topic: Orchids of the Himalayas**

Born and raised in Sweden, Stig became a US citizen in 2007 after having been considered “an alien with extraordinary ability” by the US Immigration Service in 1997. He has



degrees in civil engineering and horticulture, is a self-taught watercolor artist, botanical illustrator and experienced orchid taxonomist. He now resides in Sarasota, Florida and is the former Curator of the Orchid Identification Center of the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, specializing in the identification and classification of certain Andean orchid genera.

Although officially retired, he also focuses on studying the orchid flora of the Himalayas in general and of Bhutan in particular, where he assists the government in developing orchid research and conservation programs. A number of expeditions into isolated areas of the Kingdom of Bhutan have been organized in collaboration with staff from the National Biodiversity Centre (an independent branch of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests) in Serbithang, Thimpu.

These efforts have added more than 100 new orchid records for the country since 2002, and several species new to science. The Royal Botanic Garden has received a partial face-lift, an orchid display house has been created and a micro-propagation laboratory has been established.

A number of his much-appreciated orchid articles have been published and read by hundreds of scientists and orchid lovers. His latest work is “A Century of New Orchid Records in Bhutan”, dedicated to the new Crown Prince of Bhutan, and published on his 1st birthday this month.

Stig is a highly regarded speaker and will instruct and entertain you with tales of his latest travels, augmented by his great digital presentation. He will have a selection

## A Message From Your President

The consensus is that this was one of our best shows ever! From the exquisite displays, to the quality orchids for sale, to the mood and energy in the room created by so many orchid lovers coming in to enjoy our show. Just fantastic! What



sets our society apart from other orchid shows is our Army of Volunteers, or should we call them our “Happy Warriors” – about 120 of them, who worked to ensure smooth operations and a successful show. Thank you! Special thanks to our committee heads for coordinating our volunteer teams. They include: Ted Kellogg, Registration; Noreen Chervinski, Arts and Crafts; Janet Hoy, Orchid Boutique; Sharon and John Kahnoski, Security; Jerry Daenzer, Set Up; Ed Soentgen, Show Manager, Judy Loeffler, Membership Table; Mary Amos, Finance; Linda and Bruce Hahn, Hospitality; Jay Loeffler and team, VAOS Display and Educational Display; Mary Anne DiGrazia, Clerks; Elaine Ortt, Admissions; Jim Thomas, Training Classes; and Sue Grimmer and Cynthia Vance, Sponsors. Thank you! Special thanks to my Co-Chair, Judy Loeffler, who handled so many details and projects throughout the year leading up to a successful show.

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of his books, prints, and other related items for sale.

Jeff Higel, a longtime society member and one of our local orchid vendors, will have a great selection of orchids and media/supplies from Honey Bee Nursery for sale. With two hands-on Growers Clinics upcoming in the next two months, this will be the ideal time to stock up and get great advice.

## Important Date Changes

Our next monthly meeting is on  
**Thursday, March 2, 2017.**

Following March 2017, all of our monthly meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month. The Annual Picnic has been rescheduled to **Saturday, April 1, 2017 from 11 am- 3pm.** See article on page 6 for complete details.

[WWW.VAOS.ORG](http://WWW.VAOS.ORG)

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

## Officers 2016 – 2017

### President

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

### Vice President – Programs & Immediate Past President

Bruce Weaver, [programs@vaos.org](mailto:programs@vaos.org)

### Vice President – Social Affairs

Sharon Kahnoski, [social@vaos.org](mailto:social@vaos.org)

### Vice President – Show Displays

Jay Loeffler, [disp@vaos.org](mailto:disp@vaos.org)

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Mary Amos, [tres@vaos.org](mailto:tres@vaos.org)

### Recording Secretary

Joanna Shaw, [rsec@vaos.org](mailto:rsec@vaos.org)

### Communications Director & Newsletter Editor

Steve Vogelhaupt, [csec@vaos.org](mailto:csec@vaos.org)

### Membership Chair

Judy Loeffler, [memb@vaos.org](mailto:memb@vaos.org)

### Annual Show Chairs

Carol Wood

Judy Loeffler

[showchair@vaos.org](mailto:showchair@vaos.org)

### Director At Large

Renee Bynum, [RBynum@vaos.org](mailto:RBynum@vaos.org)

### Volunteers

Ted Kellogg, (Webmaster)

[tmkellogg@gmail.com](mailto:tmkellogg@gmail.com)

Kathy and Jerry Beck, Raffle Table

Joanna Shaw, Kristin Shaw &

Cynthia Vance (Plant Table)

Sally Bonnell, Dodi Sullivan,

Janet Keown (Refreshment Table)

Sue Grimmer, Gary Becker,

Dick Lawson, (Technology)

Kathy Toth (Mentor Coordinator)

### Newsletter Production

Barry Zack

### VAOS Printer

Creative Technology of Sarasota

## 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](mailto:csec@vaos.org)
- Written submissions are appreciated.

## Minutes of the February 2nd, 2017 Meeting

Carol Wood called the meeting to order at 7 pm by welcoming new members and guests. Coming up is a big weekend for us, our annual show. We have over 100 plants registered for the display already!

### Announcements

- Annual dues are due. They are \$20 per household; please pay Mary Amos, Treasurer.
- The next Growers Clinic will be next Thursday night, 2/9/17. We will be reviewing basic cultural requirements for different types of orchids. All members are welcome and are welcome to bring their problems plants for advice.
- Next month's general meeting will be on **THURSDAY**, March 2nd. In addition to our speaker, we will have our annual business meeting for election of officers. Fortunately, this year we have only one open position. Steve Vogelhaupt will be vacating the Director, Communications/Newsletter Editor board position. Robin Parsons has agreed to be nominated for this position. There was a request for any other nominations and none were made.
- There is only one volunteer position opening this year. Our current webmaster, Ted Kellogg, will transition the website to Jay Loeffler and Renee Bynum. Ted has been webmaster for 7 years and recently completed a major website update that looks wonderful.
- The Spring Picnic will be Saturday, April 1st at South Venice Yacht Club. This year we will have the mentor/mentee graduation party in conjunction with this event. The society will provide the picnic lunch and requests that everyone bring a dessert to share and BYOB.
- Friday, May 19th will be the Redland Orchid Festival bus trip. The Redland International Orchid Festival is a huge orchid festival in Homestead. It is outdoors at the Fruit and Spice Park, and there are orchid vendors from all over the world. We supply snacks and water for the trip, we do not stop for lunch but there are food vendors and picnic tables at the festival. It is a single day trip.

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Treasurer's Report		
February 2017		
<b>Operating Fund</b>		
Starting Balance		
1/1/17 .....	\$	24,347.67
Income .....	\$	4,825.00
Payments .....	\$	12,634.80
Closing Balance		
1/31/17 .....	\$	16,537.87
<b>Petty Cash</b>		
.....	\$	40.00
<b>Total Operating Fund</b>		
1/31/17 .....	\$	16,577.87
<b>Reserve Fund</b>		
Starting Balance		
1/1/17 .....	\$	25061.63
Income .....	\$	0.63
Closing Balance		
1/31/17 .....	\$	25062.26

*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 for February 2017

**The First Place Blue Ribbon** was captured by Jimmy Thomas for his fragrant and gorgeous *Ryncholaelio-cattleya* (Rlc.) *Pink Empress* 'Jur-Sen' AM/AOS, created by Mr. Moriyasu Akasuka, a prominent and respected grower of original *Cattleya* hybrids in Hawaii. The colors, and especially the size of the flower, were staggering. If you were enthralled by its beauty and must have it in your collection, check out Akasuka Orchid Gardens online and type 'pink empress' in the search box. Amazing specimen, Jimmy!



Rlc. Pink Empress

**The Second Place Ribbons** went to Carol Wolfers for her darling mini-phalaenopsis which had a *Cattleya* tag that 'jumped' from another plant. Many U.S. growers have stopped competing with the Taiwanese market in selling phals, but if you love the minis, they can be found at Lowe's or Home Depot. Remember, you must quickly repot your purchase due to overwatering in transit as many roots may be dead. Repotting during blooming will not hurt a phal and the minis make delightful table centerpieces. Thank you, Carol!



mini Phal

**The Third Place Yellow Ribbon** was awarded to Joanna Shaw's *Ryncholaeliocattleya* (Rlc.) *Young Kong* '#16'. It was a very healthy plant with three blooms and its apple green leaves, which most of our orchids should have due to bright light, indicating good blooms are on the way. The green and pink contrasting colors make this flower a favorite among hobbyists. It can be found at Plantio La Orquidea in Sarasota, one of our VAOS show vendors. Congratulations, Joanna!



Rlc. Young Kong

**The Best Species Ribbon** went to Donn Smart for his charming *Paphiopedilum* (Paph.) *venustum* x sib with its interesting lip design. This species originates from Bangladesh, the eastern Himalayas and east Asia. Orchid species have very particular needs to thrive and if you want this challenge, the species can be found at the trusted Ironwood Estate Orchids, NC. Or you may visit our nearby VAOS show vendor, Palmer Orchids, to view their various hybrid paphs which are easier to grow. Congrats, Donn for this amazing plant!



Paph. *venustum*

*Continued on next page*

## Plant Table Awards for February 2017 (continued from page 3)

**The New Member Growers Ribbon** was granted to Joanne Britton for her lovely Phalaenopsis (Phal.) Jiaho's Pink Girl #3, which had dreamy pink petals and sepals and a striking shaped lip. This mini-phal hybrid was created by Shining Orchids, Taiwan, which goes out of the way to develop specific new Phalaenopsis varieties by customer request, producing more than 1 million plants per year. Joanne grows it in an appealing coconut shell. Beautiful job, Joanne!



Phal. Jiaho's Pink Girl #3

**The Members Choice Green Ribbon** went to Joanna Shaw for her Epilaeliocattleya (Eplc.) Rene Marques 'Flame Thrower' with unusual and striking multi-colored flowers. It's a cross between Epidendrum (Epi.) *pseudo-epidendrum* x Cattleya Claesiana.



Eplc. Rene Marques

Joanna said that in the last few years it had 3 spikes, but this year it has 5 with more than 25 flowers and is 2 feet tall. If you didn't purchase it at our VAOS show, our vendors most likely will have more next year. Great growing, Joanna!

**The Speaker's Commendation Ribbon** was awarded to Donn Smart for his Paphiopedilum (Paph.) *philippinense* var *laevigatum*, another species. It is found at sea level up to 1600 feet primarily in the Philippines, hence its name. Donn's plant is a wonderful specimen with 12+ flowers! We love the long corkscrew sepals with the purple and white striped 'sail' at the top!

Check out our VAOS show vendor, Phelps Farm, Tampa, if you desire this species. Wonderful specimen, Donn!



Paph. philippinense

-Narrative and photos by Cynthia Vance

### 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](mailto:showchair@vaos.org)  
Ted Kellogg [tmkellogg@gmail.com](mailto:tmkellogg@gmail.com)

-Submitted by Carol Wood

## Culture Tip For March 2017

### Basic Treatments for Common Pests

At our Growers Clinic, many of our members are new growers or growers with small collections. We are often asked the best treatments for common pests in our area. Common pests are thrips, scale, aphids, ants and mealy bugs. We always recommend a non-chemical home remedy or commercially available contact pesticide first. Here is the basic home remedy we recommend with some variations:

- 50% alcohol (drugstore 70% isopropyl rubbing alcohol) + 50% water + a few drops Dawn liquid dish detergent to make 1 Qt.
- May add 1 tsp Neem Oil
- May add 2 cinnamon sticks (bacterial infections)

Spray every few days for 2-3 weeks directly on flowers,

buds and leaves to eliminate pests.

If you prefer to buy a pre-mixed pesticide, there are several commercially available contact pesticides available from the big box stores. They include Orange Guard (especially effective with ants); Neem Oil; All Seasons Oil; and Sevin (avoid oils during hot weather or direct sunshine). Spray once a week for 2 - 3 weeks.

Systemic pesticides such as Orthene WP 97 or Merit 75 are only recommended for large-scale infestations and require special precautions.

Please join us at the next Growers Clinic on March 9th when we will have the first of our Hands-on Dividing and Repotting Clinics. Bring your problem plants for expert advice. Guests are welcome.

*-Submitted by Carol Wood*

### President's Message (continued from page 1)

Our 17 show vendors this year included 10 quality growers, four member artists and a supply vendor, all of whom were pleased with their sales and the quality of our show. The displays were exceptional this year and included nine vendor commercial displays, four society displays and the VAOS educational display. Nineteen VAOS trophies were awarded. Our VAOS display took 1st Place Society Displays, Sarasota Orchid Society took 2nd place and Englewood Orchid Society took 3rd place. The Art Stone/Palmer display took 1st place among the commercial displays. The AOS Trophy, awarded at the discretion of the judges with 13 displays to consider, went to VAOS – congratulations, Jay Loeffler! VAOS members came away with 52 ribbons and six trophies and a record of 98 plants were registered by our members. Well done!

Show attendance was just under 4000 this year and net show proceeds will fund our society for the year. Show profit and membership dues provide our primary source of revenue to cover our ever-increasing expenses in facility rent, meeting and speaker expenses and society programs and social events. In years when our

budget allows, we increase our subsidies for social events (picnic, Redland bus, holiday party, etc.) to hold down our members cost. We also evaluate and increase our charitable donations to orchid conservation and local community organizations.

To our Army of Volunteers – if you enjoyed working the show, please do not wait until next year to join in! We invite you to join one of the several committees and projects that need your help. They include our Social Committee (monthly meeting refreshments, picnic, Redland bus and holiday party); our Welcoming Committee (greet and host new members at our monthly meetings); the Venice Orchid Project (prep and establish plants in our city parks and public areas); and our Growers Clinic Team (work with new members during repotting workshops, etc.). Contact Carol or Judy to sign up.

I am extremely proud to be a part of this Society. We will continue to thrive and grow from the active and enthusiastic participation of you, our members. Congratulations to all of you for a successful show!

*-Carol Wood, President*

## Redland International Orchid Festival

### Friday, May 19, 2017

### Here's the event you won't want to Miss!!

This International Annual Extravaganza is held at the beautiful Fruit and Spice Park in Homestead, FL.

More than 60 orchid vendors come from all around the world. During the bus ride, we will make sure everyone is comfortable and having a good time. Upon arrival, you'll have the a chance to participate in various orchid culture classes in A/C comfort, shop for orchids, supplies and

related items till you drop, have lunch at the international food area, and see a fabulous AOS judged orchid show.

**\$30 per person:** Includes \$10 festival admission, bus trip, gratuity for the driver, and a \$5 discount ticket for the purchase of an orchid of \$25 or more. Also a snack and water will be provided. on the bus What a deal!!!

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## Redland International Orchid Festival (continued from page 5)

**Departure Time and Location: 7:00 am – Venice Community Center South Parking Lot. (Make sure to arrive at least 15 minutes before departure time)**

**\*\*\*\*\*This is the only pick/up and drop/off point for the event \*\*\*\*\***

Arrival time at Festival: 11-11:30am

**Return trip: Bus will leave festival at 4 PM SHARP!!** (If all are ready, we will leave earlier). There is room under the bus to keep your new orchid purchases safe for the return trip. Also bring boxes or bags to carry and store your plants. Make sure that all your boxes, bags, purchases, etc. are clearly labelled with your name before placing in the under-bus storage. There will be a rest room stop going and coming back.

Bring a hat and sunscreen, umbrella, a jacket or sweater for bus with A/C and a small cooler since we do not stop for dinner on the way back. The weather will probably be

hot and humid, although an afternoon cloud burst is not unusual.

**Seating is limited as we have reserved a smaller bus holding only 41 people.**

**Payment by April 19th for VAOS MEMBERS with no refunds after April 19th.** After this date, we will invite SOS and EAOS members to fill remaining seats. You may sell your seat, but please notify Sharon Kahnoski @ 616-581-9131 if you do so.

-Make your \$30 per person check payable to VAOS and mail to:

**VAOS, P.O. Box 443, Venice, FL 34293-0443**

Seating is limited, so send your check ASAP.

**Need more info?** Contact Sharon Kahnoski at 616-581-9131 or [social@vaos.org](mailto:social@vaos.org). For festival information, vendors, etc, visit: [www.redlandorchidfestival.org](http://www.redlandorchidfestival.org)

*-Submitted by Sharon Kahnoski, VP, Social Affairs*

### **VAOS Annual Picnic** **Saturday, April 1, 2017** **11 am – 3pm**

Due to a late scheduling conflict, our annual picnic will now be held on the above date. There are no other changes.

VAOS members and families are invited to our annual Picnic for an afternoon of good food and friendship. We have again reserved the South Venice Yacht Club for our 4th annual spring gathering. The club is located at 4425 Yacht Club Drive, Venice, FL 34293. From US 41, turn west on Baffin Drive and continue until Baffin turns slightly right and becomes Yacht Club Drive. The club will be on your left. There is plenty of parking, sheltered picnic tables and restrooms, all with easy access. We are planning on having the picnic inside the club, although the outside area is available for games and to chat and enjoy a wonderful afternoon together.

VAOS will provide a catered picnic lunch including Pulled Pork, Chicken, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Lemonade and Ice Tea, with all the condiments and fixings. Members are asked to bring a dessert to share with your family and others as well as beverages of your choice.

We'll be celebrating the graduation of our mentees and recognize the outstanding contributions of our mentors. We'll have another Member Plant Sale/Swap Meet, so bring your orchids to sell or trade.

RSVP to Sharon: [social@vaos.org](mailto:social@vaos.org) no later than Saturday, March 18, 2017.

*-Submitted by Sharon Kahnoski, VP, Social*

### **Minutes of the January 4th, 2017 Meeting (continued from page 2)**

Bruce Weaver introduced the speaker for the evening, John Salventi. John has collected and done research on orchids all over the world. He has grown orchids commercially for 25 years. The topic for the evening was "It's All About the Roots, and how to keep them healthy and happy.

Joanna and Kristin Shaw presented the Plant Table,

followed by the Raffle Table, overseen by Kathy and Jerry Beck. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:10pm

*-Submitted by Joanna Shaw, Recording Secretary.*

**Editor's note:** The date for the Spring Picnic has been changed to Saturday, April, 1, 2017. Please see article above for complete details.

### **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)

## VAOS DISPLAY TEAM NEEDS YOUR BLOOMING PLANTS! EAOS PRESENTS “Orchids by Lemon Bay” APRIL 7-8

Members make it possible for us to participate in orchid shows. We would not be able to build our wonderful displays if our members did not grow beautiful orchids and allow us to show them. Your blooming plants are needed to create our display for the last show of this season.

The Englewood Area Orchid Society (EAOS) will hold their annual show and sale at:

Englewood United Methodist Church  
700 East Dearborn St, Englewood, FL

The church is just 8 miles past the Rt. 41 and Rt. 776 intersection. Directions: Travel south on Rt. 776/Englewood Rd for 7 miles. Turn left on E. Dearborn St. then 1 mile to the church on the left.

### Show Schedule:

Set up: Thursday April 6th 10am to 6pm

Show: Friday April 7th & Saturday April 8th – 10am – 5pm

Take Down: Saturday April 8th – 5pm

**Bring your plants to the EAOS Show site on Thursday morning at 10am.** If you are unable to bring your plants to Englewood, contact Carol Wood to make alternate arrangements. (Carol – [PlantReg@VAOS.org](mailto:PlantReg@VAOS.org) or 497-4995)

**PLANTS MUST BE REGISTERED IN ADVANCE BY EMAIL TO [PlantReg@VAOS.org](mailto:PlantReg@VAOS.org) BY Wednesday, April 5th, 5pm.** Email your plant name with a photo or flower color description and flower size (larger or smaller than 5”). Place a piece of tape on your pot with your last name.

Plants should be cleaned, staked, free of pests and disease and in prime condition to last through the show. Please water your plants thoroughly before the show.

**Pick up your plants Saturday evening at the show at 5:15pm, following display take down.**

Please contact Jay Loeffler, VP, Displays, for further information at 485-9569

*-Submitted by Jay Loeffler, VP, Displays*

### VAOS 2017 SHOW SPONSORS

#### PLATINUM

- Herald Tribune Media Group • Citrus Plumbing of Venice
- Costco Wholesale • Davis & Beyer, DDS
- Gettel Hyundai of Sarasota • The Heart Institute of Venice
- Indigo Pools & Outdoor Living • The Star Thai & Sushi Venice

#### GOLD

- Best Nails & T-Nails of Venice • Center for Sight
- Daiquiri Deck • Doggie Divine • Family Dermatology
- Garden of Eden Florist • Godfrey Remodeling & Repair
- Gulfside Mortgage Services • Hoskins Pest Control
- James Griffith Salon • Manasota Flooring • Murdock Stones Etc. • R.A.V.E
- Regions Bank • Richard’s Carpet Warehouse • Sarasota Orthopedic Associates
- Simplified Computing • Stanley Dean State Farm • Treasure Cove I

V.A.O.S. On FaceBook



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

## VAOS Display Takes 1st Place , AOS Trophy and 52 Ribbons

Congratulations to the VAOS display team for taking 1st Place Exhibit Trophy and the AOS Trophy for Best Exhibit. This was the display team's eighth consecutive 1st place exhibit win, dating back to when Richard Amos was VP, Displays; he certainly taught us well. In addition, congratulations to our 34 VAOS member exhibitors who took a total of 52 ribbons and six trophies! A record-breaking 98 plants were entered by VAOS members and 52% of those plants were awarded ribbons.

Here is a summary of ribbon and trophy winners for plants and arts and crafts:

Pauline Adam – 1 blue  
Rich Amos – 1 blue, 1 red and Trophy – Best Cattleya Alliance Plant  
Kathy Beck – 2 red, 1 yellow ribbon  
Jo Ann Britton – 1 blue ribbon

Donn Smart – 4 blue, 5 red, 1 yellow and Trophy – Best Cyripedium Alliance  
Jim Thomas – 1 blue, 2 red ribbons  
Cynthia Vance – 1 blue, 1 red ribbon  
Steve Vogelhaupt – 1 red ribbon  
Carol Wolfers – 1 red ribbon  
Carol Wood – 1 blue, 1 red and 2 yellow ribbon

VAOS member plants were exhibited in the VAOS Society Display, the Individual Table Display and the VAOS Educational Display. The Sarasota Orchid Society took the 2nd place exhibit trophy and the Englewood Area Orchid Society took 3rd place. The Art Stone/Palmer display took the 1st place Commercial Exhibit Trophy.

Our display was a wonderful follow up to last year's AOS awarded display. Last year's Italian Villa was recon-



Rick Belisle – 1 red and 2 yellow ribbons  
Nora Berger – 3 blue ribbons and Trophy – Best VAOS Member Plant  
Renee Bynum – 1 blue and 1 yellow ribbon  
Jane Camarota – 1 yellow ribbon  
Anita Cervi – 1 blue and 1 red ribbon  
Noreen Chervinski – 1 blue ribbon and Trophy – Best Arts & Crafts  
Judy Chisholm – 1 yellow ribbon  
Mary Anne Digrazia – 1 red ribbon  
Sue Dinger – 1 blue ribbon  
Peg Fahrenback – 1 red and 1 yellow ribbon  
Sharon Kahnoski – 2 blue and 1 red ribbon  
Steve Keller – 2 red ribbons  
Ted Kellogg – 1 blue, 1 red and 1 yellow ribbon  
Judy Loeffler – 1 red ribbon  
Karen Mann - 1 blue ribbon and Trophy – Best Oncidium  
Carol Marcus – 1 blue and 1 red ribbon  
Tony Nacinovich – 1 blue ribbon  
Dale Richter – 1 blue ribbon  
Gayle Rinella – 2 yellow ribbons  
John Roche – 3 blue, 6 red and 5 yellow ribbons  
Joanna Shaw – 1 blue, 1 yellow ribbon  
Kristin Shaw – 1 red ribbon

structed to be placed in the corner and covered with faux brick “3d” wallpaper. We even fooled the judges (they thought we did a real brick and mortar wall). With so many of our members orchids, the display had wonderful color flow that was blended with many ferns, palms and other greenery. The grass path that invited your eyes into the display led up to the front door and small stone porch. With 46 ribbon awarded orchids we had great quality of orchids!

Several VAOS members helped the team with our exhibit which involved constructing and transporting display materials, cleaning and prepping greenery, plant registration, plant labels, designing and setting up the display and take down on Sunday. Thank you to the following volunteers: Judy Loeffler, Bruce Weaver, Ken Dolan, Peg & Bill Fahrenback, John & Sharon Kahnoski, Renee Bynum, Linda Schaller, Donn Smart, Rich & Mary Amos, Steve Keller, Lou Kiesling, John Roche, Kristin Shaw, and Jim Thomas.

Congratulations to our ribbon and trophy winners and a “VERY Special Thank You” to all who worked hard to create a winning exhibit for VAOS!

*-Narrative by Jay Loeffler, VP, Displays,  
photo by Jo Ann Britton*

## **Hands-on Division and Potting Clinic, Thursday, March 9, 2017**

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

Joanna Shaw and her 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, or the vendor tables at our March 2 meeting for suitable divisions.

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 Joanna at [rsec@vaos.org](mailto:rsec@vaos.org) NOT LATER than Thursday, March 2nd, or at the monthly meeting on that date, if you are planning to bring other orchids. This is not a Potting without Pots or mounting clinic.

*-Submitted by Joanna Shaw*

### **Repotting Tips For Newer Growers**

With the Growers Clinic just around the corner, here are two tips that will go a long way towards ensuring that your newly potted plant will survive.

Your first question should be: "What Plant Should I Bring?"

In general, orchids should be repotted for two reasons. Either the plant is outgrowing the pot or there is evidence that the potting media is decomposing to the point that it interferes with proper growth. Once you've selected your orchid, consider these guidelines, some genera specific:

- Repot just as the new growth becomes evident and before the new roots appear.

Should you overlook this time point, carefully wrap a bit of sphagnum moss around the new roots to avoid damage while repotting. This holds true for most orchids with the exception of bifoliate cattleyas (pseudobulbs have two leaves), oncidiums and the catasetum alliance. Phalaenopsis orchids may be repotted at any time, even while blooming.

Bifoliate cattleyas should only be repotted after new growth has developed and new roots are just beginning. This is normally in late spring to early summer. Repotting at any other time will set them back significantly or even worse.

Oncidiums should only be repotted when the new growth has progressed significantly and new roots are evident. The time lag between new growth and the appearance of new roots may be as long as six or seven months.

Catasetum alliance plants may be repotted at any time they are dormant or even when new small roots are visible. The key is to withhold watering until the new roots are at least 3 to 4 inches long. Earlier watering increases the risk of root rot dramatically.

- If you recently purchased your plant from one of the big box stores, you should consider it a prime candidate for repotting. Many of the new plants are tightly packed with moss or similar material to retain moisture during

shipment and time on the shelf. In most cases, these plants will appreciate being properly repotted.

Don't bring any orchid for repotting that doesn't need repotting or is not at the proper stage of development. We will have plants available at the next Raffle Table as well as at the vendor tables from Jeff Higel, Honey Bee Nursery. Jeff has promised to bring both flowering plants and plants ideally suited for repotting, as well as a selection of pots, mounts, and assorted media.

The second question should be: "What Pot/Basket should I bring?"

Bring a pot or basket that will accommodate one or two years of new growth. It's better to err on the side of a little too small as much too big.

While there are many variations, the choices are between clay pots, plastic pots (usually translucent), and baskets (either wooden or plastic).

Consider the needs of the orchid by doing a bit of research as to how the orchid grows in the wild. The AOS website is great for this and covers most genera. If the orchid grows in a tropical rain forest and receives copious amounts of rain most of the year, plastic pots are best as they retain moisture better than clay pots or baskets and permit less frequent watering while retaining sufficient moisture. Plastic pots also allow you to see the roots and more accurately assess the need for watering. On the other hand, if the orchids receive frequent heavy rainfall followed by lengthy dry spells, clay pots and baskets retain less moisture and permit the more frequent heavy watering.

If you frequently forget to water until the leaves shrivel, pot in plastic! If you obsess over the welfare of your babies and water more frequently, clay or baskets are for you.

Ask lots of questions and have a great time!

*-Submitted by Steve Vogelhaupt*

# Venice Area Orchid Society News

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

## Next Meeting:

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

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

## Upcoming Events

**February 24-25 (Fri-Sat):** Plantio La Orquidea Spring Plant Sale; 9 am-4 pm both days, 3480 Tallevast Road, Sarasota, FL 34243

**March 2 (1st Thursday):** VAOS monthly meeting in Venice Community Center. Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Speaker: Stig Dalstrom, Topic: "Orchids of the Himalayas".

**March 9 (2nd Thursday):** VAOS Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, Doors open at 6:45 pm, clinic starts at 7:00 pm, Speaker: Joanna Shaw, Topic: Hands-on Dividing and Repotting Clinic ( See page 9) for information). Bring your problem plants for help from experienced growers.

**March 10 -12 (Fri-Sun):** Palmer Orchids Spring Open House; Friday 10 am-5 pm, Saturday 9 am-5 pm, Sunday 10 am-4 pm, 22700 Taylor

Drive, Bradenton

**April 1 (Saturday):** VAOS Annual Picnic, 11am – 3 pm, South Venice Yacht Club. See Page 6 for details

**April 5 (1st Wednesday):** VAOS monthly meeting in Venice Community Center. Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Speaker: Vern Bloch, Topic: "Brassavolas and related species".

**April 7 -8 (Fri-Sat):** Englewood Area Orchid Society Show and Sale. 10 am-5 pm both days. Set up Thursday, April 6, Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St., Englewood.

**April 12 (2nd Thursday):** VAOS Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center. Doors open at 6:45 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Speaker: Steve Vogelhaupt, Topic: Potting Without Pots/Mounting Orchids (Presentation

and hands-on). Bring your problem plants for help from our experienced growers.

### Upcoming

**May 19 -21 (Fri-Sat-Sun):** Red-land International Orchid Festival, Homestead Florida. VAOS will be sponsoring another fun bus trip on Friday, May 19th, so be sure to mark your calendar.

### 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, 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/>

# SPRING ORCHID SALE

Friday and Saturday | February 24 and 25, 2017 | 9 AM to 4 PM



- Browse through 10000+ sq ft of Orchids.
- Thousands of Orchids, species and hybrids to choose from.
- Advice on Orchid Growing from Experts. Free Parking.

Plantio La Orquidea, 3480 Tallevast Rd., Sarasota, FL 34243, Same driveway as Tropiflora

## PLANTÍO LA ORQUÍDEA

Palmer Orchids

## Spring Open House

FRIDAY, MARCH 10 FROM 10 AM - 5 PM  
SATURDAY, MARCH 11 FROM 9 AM - 5 PM  
SUNDAY, MARCH 12 FROM 10 AM - 4 PM

LOTS OF BLOOMING PLANTS  
AND BARE ROOT DIVISIONS!

22700 TAYLOR DRIVE  
BRADENTON, FL 34202  
PHONE: (941) 322-1644  
[WWW.PALMERORCHIDS.COM](http://WWW.PALMERORCHIDS.COM)

COME OUT AND SEE ALL OUR  
BEAUTIFUL PLANTS WE HAVE TO  
OFFER!

## **Additional Orchid Shows – late February and March 2017**

**24-26—Naples Orchid Society 2017 Orchid Show**, Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bayshore Drive, Naples, FL; Contact: Richard Phippen, 239-775-5220; [rpippen@comcast.net](mailto:rpippen@comcast.net)

**4-5—Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show “Orchid Obsession,”** Egypt Shrine Center, 4050 Dana Shores Dr., Tampa, FL; Contact: Eileen or Julio Hector, 813-368-7353 or 813-765-9271; [TampaBayOrchidSociety@verizon.net](mailto:TampaBayOrchidSociety@verizon.net)

**10-12—Orchid Society of Coral Gables**, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Garden Room, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL; Contact: Melana Davison, 760-212-8919; [orchidiva@att.net](mailto:orchidiva@att.net)

**18-19—Jacksonville Orchid Society Show**, Garden Club of Jacksonville, 1005 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville, FL; Contact: Art Russell, 904-215-6377; [russell\\_art@bellsouth.net](mailto:russell_art@bellsouth.net)

**18-19—Port Saint Lucie Orchid Show “Orchids in Paradise,”** Port Saint Lucie Community Center, 2195 SE Airoso Blvd., Port Saint Lucie, FL; Contact: Hellen Wagner, 772-599-3014; [hellenrwagner@aol.com](mailto:hellenrwagner@aol.com)

**24-26—Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Show**, United Church of Christ, 5200 Crayton Road, Naples, FL; Contact: Jim Longwell, 239-340-5520; [jlongwell1@comcast.net](mailto:jlongwell1@comcast.net)

## Notes from the AOS Corner

The event registration and hotel reservation link: [American Orchid Society Spring 2017 Members Meeting](#) is on the AOS website. It's being held at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, home of the AOS, in Coral Gables, Florida, on May 17-21, 2017. Also, note that it's being held in conjunction with Redland International Orchid Festival in Homestead, Florida, which is an event beloved by many orchid enthusiasts. Special hotel rates are being made available and quantities are limited, so book now before it's too late. Space is limited and filling quickly so we encourage you to make reservations.

Each month I await my copy of Orchids magazine, the Bulletin of the American Orchid Society. I always open it immediately and it's the one magazine that I actually read cover to cover. Whether it's technical knowledge, learning about what's up and coming in the orchid world, or simply appreciating the spectacular photos of newly awarded flowers of other orchid enthusiasts, it is always full of useful information.

There are 350+ past issues of Orchids magazine online and I often find myself on the AOS website looking for info on an orchid that I have just seen at a society meeting or show that I have been wowed by. It's the place I can always find accurate and complete information. It gives me a great appreciation for the individuals who have established, maintained and so generously contributed to the AOS to provide a wealth of what, for me, always brings joy into my life.

Check out the AOS website at [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org) to see how easily you can become a member and the tremendous benefits that are available.

### UPCOMING WEBINARS

#### **American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton**

**Tuesday, February 21, 2017 @ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST** *Everyone invited*

Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education and Science Officer, who will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions by Sunday, February 19th to [stillisch@cox.net](mailto:stillisch@cox.net).

**Register now using this link:**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9087761951054886147>

**American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton**

**Tuesday, March 14, 2017@ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST** *Everyone invited*

Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education and Science Officer, who will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions by Sunday, March 12th to [stillisch@cox.net](mailto:stillisch@cox.net).

**Register now using this link:**

**<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/7136953445473612291>**

*Note:* After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.