



VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at www.vaos.org

October 2018

October General Meeting

Wednesday October 3rd at 7pm

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

Speaker: Alan Koch

Topic: Unusual Species for the Cattleya Grower



Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids is an internationally known speaker with 40 years experience growing quality miniature and compact cattleyas and species. Starting his business in 1978, he now grows his orchids in 16,000 sq. ft of green houses with three climate zones in Lincoln, CA.

His presentation will focus on unusual orchid species that will grow well in cattleya culture. Alan will have plants for sale and also offers a 10-20% discount on pre-orders.

October Events

October 3rd

Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Alan Koch

Topic: "Unusual Species for the Cattleya Grower"

October 11th

(2nd Thursday)

Growers Clinic

Venice Community Center

Room F, 7pm.

Topic: Hands on Repotting Clinic

Newsletter Quick Link

[VAOS 2018 - 2019 Officers](#)

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A Message from Your President

All of this pure rain has been beneficial to our orchids. Those members returning home from the summer are amazed at how well those orchids they left behind in their trees have prospered. Daily showers are starting to diminish and we look forward to some relief from the heat and humidity in October.

Now is the time to apply time release fertilizer (Dynamite recommended) for the fall. See the culture tip in this newsletter for details. Examine your orchids carefully and stake them now to ensure the best presentation of the flowers for the upcoming orchid shows.

We look forward to having two of our favorite speakers in October, Alan Koch, and Fred Clarke in November. We are fortunate to have such top quality speakers willing to travel from California to Florida to speak to our society!

Our October Growers Clinic, Thursday the 11th, will host the popular Hand's On Repotting workshop. See instructions in this newsletter.

Three of our local growers and annual show participants will be holding their fall sales events. Florida SunCoast Orchids on October 13th, Plantio La Orquidea on November 9-10 and Palmer Orchids on November 16,17 and 18. We hope that our members will plan to come out to support their sales events.

I'd like to thank our show committee members for their hard work and dedication as we approach our annual show in February. We will be getting our volunteer sign up lists out soon and look forward to a great turnout of our member volunteers to work our show. I continue to be proud of the enthusiasm of our members and their active involvement in and commitment to our society.

October Growers Clinic

Hands-on Orchid Repotting Clinic
Thursday, October 11th at 7p
Venice Community Center Room F

Joanna Shaw, Jim Thomas and the Growers Clinic team will lead a Hands-on Orchid Repotting session at the Venice Community Center at 7:00 p.m. They will explain the supplies, tools and planting media, demonstrate basic procedures and share their tips of the trade. Participants will then repot their own orchid with the assistance of several experienced growers and helpers. We will work in teams of 4 or 5 around a table with each person bringing an orchid that needs repotting as well as a suitable pot to replant the orchid and a sterile pair of shears.

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

- **All plants must be removed from their pot and all old planting media and dead roots must be removed prior to the clinic**
- **Only one plant per person**
- **Bring your pot and shears**
- **Please make sure your plant is free from pests or diseases.**

Media and supplies for most orchids will be provided.

Note: Attendees are requested not to wear perfume as this is a small room and many of our members have allergies. Thank you.

Note: Park on the left side of the building and enter Room F at the side entrance.

Lost a Plant Label? Need Culture Info or Parentage?

If you've lost the label from your orchid, we may be able to help you identify it. Email a photo of the bloom and the plant to Pres@VAOS.org. I'll share it with the Growers Clinic team and we'll try to ID it for you. Wondering what your plant's parentage is or looking for culture advice for a special orchid? Send an email to me with your plant name and question and our group of experts will help.



October Culture Tip



Now is the time to apply time release fertilizer to your plants, if you have not already. We recommend “Dynamite” (13-13-13) sold at Home Depot in the red container in the garden section.

Apply at the rate of 1 tbsp. per 6” pot. Sprinkle around the perimeter of the pot and push down into the media. This ensures that a small amount of fertilizer is released with each watering and supplements your regular fertilizing routine.

For mounted plants you can wrap this fertilizer in a small damp piece of coconut husk fiber and push down between the plant and the mount. Do not use on those plants requiring a “dry winter rest” such as nobile dendrobiums.

Treasurer's Report August 2018

Operating Fund Starting August 1, 2018	\$ 13,585.93
+ Income	\$ 651.00
- Payments	\$ 1,522.49
Closing Balanced August 31, 2018	\$ 12,692.44

Petty Cash	\$ 75.00
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Total Operating Fund August 31, 2018	\$ 12,767.44
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Reserve Fund

Starting Balance August 1, 2018	\$ 25,082.88
+ Deposit	\$ -
+Interest Income August 31, 2018	\$ 0.64
Closing Balance August 31, 2018	\$ 25,184.18

Submitted by Judy Loeffler, Treasurer

Show us how you grow your Orchids

Over the past few months the growing of orchids has been a bit easier. We have had great sunshine with good summer rains. Our orchids can be grown outdoors, under trees, in screened lanais, pool cages, shade houses and greenhouses. We would like to ask VAOS members to send in pictures of their summer and winter growing areas which will be put into a presentation to be used at our Growers Clinic.

Most of our members have small collections and have wonderful ideas and ways to grow all the great orchids we use in our show displays. You may have 5 orchids that you grow indoors on a window sill or under lights, or you may have 20 orchids that you grow around your yard. Many of the orchids that won at the last few orchid shows were from newer members that they entered for the first time.

Please send your photos and other information you can share with our members to disp@vaos.org.

Thank you for all the wonderful display orchids you keep bringing and making VAOS proud of our members.

Jay Loeffler



Photos of Spring Member Orchid Garden Tour



VAOS Annual Holiday Dinner Party

Friday December 7, 2018

Boca Royale Country Club
1601 Englewood Rd. (Rt 776)
Englewood

*5:30pm Happy Hour with Cash Bar
Dinner 6:30pm
Followed with an Orchid Auction
and dancing to the music of George DeJong*

\$25pp

Dinner options: Prime Rib, Chicken Picatta, Grouper,
Vegetarian/Vegan: Vegetable Stir Fry

RSVP: to social@vaos.org

Make check payable to VAOS
[note your menu choices on your check]
mail to: **PO BOX 443**
Venice, FL. 34284-0443

Or sign up at our
October 3rd or November 7th meeting

Venice Orchid Project Update: Fall 2018



The Venice Orchid Project is doing OK so far, 60% of the orchids we have mounted in trees have survived and 10% of them have started blooming. *B. nodosa*, *C. bowringiana* and *Enc. alata* have been the best bloomers, but several other types have enough new roots that they may start next season.

Plants mounted in June seem to do the best, but if they are regularly irrigated, can be mounted at almost any time of year when they aren't blooming. Unfortunately, plants mounted in trees in city parks receive no regular care and we're really trying to see if they will truly "naturalize" in our fair town. So far, we have a good start.

Blalock park has been the most successful, and some in Heritage Park, along West Venice Ave., have done OK as well. About 12 new plants were placed there this Summer, and we'll concentrate on more sections of this well-used area next year. Look for them in Centennial Park as well, and if you have small plants to donate, or a good public spaced tree to use, call Bruce Weaver at 941-800-7804.



Venice Area Orchid Society Meeting Minutes from September 5, 2018

Janet Keown called the meeting to order at 7 pm by welcoming new members and guests. She reviewed the meeting format for the new members. Carol Wood and Natasha Romero Contreras were ill and not present.

Announcements:

- ◆ The next Grower's Clinic will be Thursday September 13, and will cover Orchid Diseases including different types of fungus and bacteria and how to treat them.
- ◆ Our meeting next month will feature Alan Koch of Sunset Valley Orchids in California. His presentation will be Unusual Species for the Cattleya Grower and he will have a nice selection of plants for sale.
- ◆ Our October Grower's Clinic will be our popular hands-on repotting clinic. There will be some specific instruction in the next newsletter.
- ◆ There are upcoming fall open houses at our 3 nearest local growers.
 - October 13 will be at Florida Suncoast Orchids owned by Jim Roberts in Myakka City. It will include other vendors Bredren Orchids, Miranda Orchids, and our own Joanna's Orchid Pottery
 - November 9-10 will be Plantio La Orquidea in Sarasota
 - November 16-18 will be Palmer Orchids in Bradenton
 - November 3rd will be the EAOS annual member plant sale-we will be participating in this sale as well. Details in the newsletter for anyone who wants a table to sell some plants or other related items. Any plants are fine, not just orchids.
 - On October 20th, in Jupiter FL, there will be an orchid auction to benefit Alexis Solly and her husband Jim who has advanced cancer. Alexis is very active in the Florida Orchid Growing community, and is the administrator for the Florida Orchid Growing Facebook page which provides a wealth of information for growers and hobbyists throughout Florida.

Janet introduced Emmanuel Diaz, a student at Venice High School. Emmanuel will be a freshman at the State College of Florida where he will major in Marine Biology. He received a \$1000 scholarship from the Orchid Society and briefly introduced himself and thanked us for our generosity.

Janet introduced the speaker for the evening, Brian Monk of Naples Florida. In addition to being a fulltime veterinarian, Brian is an avid orchid grower, hybridizer and photographer. Brian presented "How to Successfully grow Paphiopedalums in Florida"

Joanna Shaw presented the plant table. John and Sharon Kahnoski did the raffle table.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 pm

Submitted by Joanna Shaw, recording secretary.

September 2018 Meeting Plant Table Awards

Narrative and Photos by Cynthia Vance



First Place and Speaker's Choice

Ribbons were both presented to *Rick Belisle* for his stunning floriferous plant -- *Dendrobium* (Den.) *Burana Jade*. Here's a real stand out for those who want a bright green orchid that is usually in bloom more often than not. This is great for the hobbyist who wants an "easy to care for" robust plant with wide fleshy oval leaves that tolerates heat and direct sun quite well. Also, the flowers are long lasting for 3-4 months at a time!

Something many of us may not know -- *Dendrobium* orchids are named for the Greek word "Dendros" (meaning tree) and "Bios" (meaning life) because they are naturally epiphytic and can grow without soil or on trees. Hence, don't worry if yours grow out of your pots for they love to do this. Kudos, Rick, for your magnificent specimen!

Second Place and Red Ribbon was won by *Sharon Miles* for her gorgeous ruby-colored *Vanda* (V.) *Kulwadee*. As many do, Sharon grows her vanda in a hanging basket. Thus, it needs water daily for the roots have no water storage device such as *Cattleyas* or *Dendrobiums*. If hybridized with *Ascocentrum*, as Sharon's plant is, they will bloom 2-3 times a year! Vandas are also greedy feeders and bloom better if fed regularly. Many growers use dilute fertilizer weekly or even tiny doses for every watering to create huge plants. For more info., check out Dr. Martin Mote's book, "Vandas, their Botany, History and Culture." Currently the World Monocot Checklist recognizes 52 species and 3 natural hybrids all which hail from India, Southeast-Asia and their islands, South China and North Australia. Thanks Sharon for inspiring us to grow beautiful vandas!



September 2018 Meeting Plant Table Awards Continued....



Third Place and Yellow Ribbon was awarded to *Janet Keown* for her beautiful and eye-catching *Brassolaelia Cattleya* (Blc.) *Windward Flare 'Hawaii'*, a hybrid of *Brassavola Nodosa* x *Lc. Memoria Robert Strait*. *Nodosa* gives it its large lip and *Robert Strait* gives the lip the purple color and also the 'flare' -- the subtle stripe down the center of the petals and sepals. Believe it or not, this plant often can be found at *Lowes* or

Home Depot – as a bag baby cultivated by *Robert Palmer*, a top Florida grower, who produces plants under the label of *Better-Gro / Sun Bulb Company Inc.* for the big stores. Having grown in *Arcadia* and accustomed to living in *Florida*, you can count on these affordable plants thriving in *Venice*! Great growing of a splendid plant, *Janet*!

Best Species and Members Choice Ribbons were both captured by *Kristin Shaw* for her lovely and adorable *Phalaenopsis* (Phal.) *equestris*, a native from the *Philippines* and *Taiwan*, known for having as you see, many flowers. *Kristin's*



purchased it at our *VAOS* show and cultivated it to be a perfect first-bloom specimen! This species is highly variable in the color of its flowers and *Kristin's* plant resembles the *Phalaenopsis equestris* var. *leucaspis* — small flowers with pink petals and sepals; mid-lobe of the lip is purple with a white or yellow callus. It's a darling plant to place in the middle of one's dining table! As an "easy to grow" monopodial, water should be reduced in the winter to give the plant some rest so it will grow spectacularly in the summer as *Kristin's* plant has proved! Exquisite work, *Kristin*!!

Thank you to all the members who brought in their beautiful plants!

Everyone is encouraged to bring in their plants for judging!

VAOS 2018 Show Sponsors

Please support our generous show sponsors and thank them for their support!

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Asaro's Ristorante
Dr. Davis & Beyer
Radiology Associates of Venice & Englewood
James Griffith Salon
Popi's on the Isle
Sarasota Orthopedic Associates
Family Dermatology
Regions Bank
Daiquiri Deck

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)



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 or need a ride, please contact Janet Keown, VAOS VP Social Affairs, Social@VAOS.org



2018 Fall Tent Sale

Florida SunCoast Orchids
8227 Verna Bethany Road
Myakka City, FL 34251

Guest Vendors:
Bredren Orchids
Miranda Orchids
Joanna's Orchid Pottery

Only Saturday October 13, 2018 ***Open: 9-4***

Plantio La Orquidea Fall Sale

November 9-10 Saturday and Sunday 9am – 4pm

3480 Tallevast Rd., Sarasota, FL 34243. www.plantiolaorquidea.com

Palmer Orchids Fall Sale

November 16, 17 & 18 Friday – Sunday 9am – 4pm

22700 Taylor Dr. Bradenton, FL 34211. www.palmerorchids.com

Other Upcoming events

Team Solly Orchid Auction

October 20, 2018

11 am - 4 pm

Jupiter, Florida

*Hosted by Cherie Blickenstaff
and Paul Price*



Jim and Alexis Solly
(TEAM SOLLY)

Please help support Team Solly so that Jim can continue his journey to get better. All proceeds will go directly to help with medical care and financial needs while they fight cancer.

Here are some samples of orchids that will be auctioned off



Aerth grandiflorous



Ple Pendiculata



Vandopsis

If you would like to donate orchids for the auction please contact Paul Price at pdprice772@gmail.com or Facebook



EAOS Annual Members Plant Sale

VAOS members are invited to participate in the Englewood Area Orchid Society Annual Plant Sale.

November 3rd

9am – 12pm

Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave. (Rt. 776), Englewood
Orchids, other plants, orchid related
arts and crafts can be sold

Tables provided but bring your own
plastic table cloth

20% of your sale proceeds goes to
EAOS

Contact Mary Anne Digrazia, President,
EAOS, if you would like to participate.

tommaryanne@centurylink.net 941-
697-9237



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 3 (1st Wednesday) – Monthly Meeting, Venice Community Center, 6:30pm. Speaker: Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids. Topic: Unusual Species for the Cattleya Grower.

October 5-7 – East Everglades Orchid Society Show and Sale, R.F. Orchids, Homestead, FL. Info: concept22@aol.com

October 11 (2nd Thursday) – Growers Clinic – Hands On Repotting Clinic, Venice Community Center Room F, 7pm

October 13 (Saturday) - Florida SunCoast Orchids Fall Sales Event, one day tent sale. Several guest vendors. 9am – 4pm. See flyer in this newsletter.

October 27-28 – Florida West Coast Orchid Society Show “Orchids in Wondedland”. See flyer in this newsletter.

October 31 – November 3 – AOS Fall Members Meeting held in conjunction with the International Slipper Orchid Symposium, Apopka, FL. Info: www.aosmembersmeeting.com

November 3 – EAOS Annual Members Plant Sale, 9am – 12pm, Christ Lutheran Church, Englewood (see article in this newsletter)

November 7 – (1st Wednesday) – Monthly Meeting, Venice Community Center, 6:30pm. Speaker: Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids. Topic: Recent Trends in Catasetums

November 8 (2nd Thursday) – Growers Clinic – Member’s Growing Areas – Presentation and discussion. Venice Community Center Room F, 7pm

November 9-10 – Plantio la Orchidea Fall Open House/Sale. Details to follow

November 16 – 18 - Palmer Orchids Fall Sales Event. Details to follow.

December 7 (Friday) – VAOS Annual Holiday Dinner Party. Boca Royale Country Club, Englewood. See details in this newsletter.

ONGOING

Mentor Program: Help for beginning growers, contact Kathy Toth, Mentor@vaos.org

Orchid Judging: Takes place at Christ the King Catholic Church, McLoughlin 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/>

Next Meeting October 3rd

**Bring a friend
Bring a treat to share
Donate plants for the Raffle Table**

Contact Us

Venice Area Orchid Society

PO BOX 443

Venice, FL 34284-0443

President

Carol Wood pres@vaos.org

Membership

Kathy Beck memb@vaos.org

Visit us on the web at

www.vaos.org

SAVE THE DATE!

VAOS 2019 Orchid Show & Sale

Feb. 2 & 3, 2019

Set up Friday Feb. 1st