



# VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

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

April 2019

## April General Meeting



**Wednesday April 3rd at 7pm**

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

**Speaker: Allen Black**

**Topic: Novelty Brassavola/**

**Cattleya Alliance Breeding Spiders and Stars**

Allen Black was exposed to the pleasures of horticulture at a very young age in central Pennsylvania. Early exposure to houseplants, flower beds, and vegetable gardening was common for Allen in his formative years. He is hobbyist orchid grower and breeder (i.e., non-commercial) living in Richmond, VA. He has been growing and breeding orchids for over 25 years. His main breeding efforts have been directed at Brassavola-Cattleya alliance novelty hybrids. He has just registered his 80th orchid hybrid! He performs his own orchid laboratory work, including flask media preparation, seed sowing, & replating. He has traveled throughout Central and South America to see orchids growing in the "wild". Some of the results of his Orchid breeding efforts can be seen on his web site: <http://www.ablackorchid.com/>

Are you growing weary of the meristem, more-of-the-same, big, round, beautiful, Cattleya alliance hybrids? Do you want something "different, unique, or exciting"? This presentation is for you! There's still hope in the orchid breeding world! Explore the breeding results of hobbyist orchid breeder, Allen Black. His breeding efforts have been directed at developing novelty flowers, something different, beautiful, & unusual. He approaches breeding as an art form. Breeding Brassavola/Cattleya alliance is his specialty.

The presentation includes lots of beautiful pictures and covers the following topics:

- Breeding goals.
- Brassavola species - My favorite parents.
- Brassavola primary hybrids.
- Brassokeria (Brassavola X Barkeria hybrids).
- Other wild & wonderful Brassavola/Cattleya alliance hybrids.

Allen will have plants for sale!

## April 2019 Events

**Wednesday April 3rd**

**Monthly meeting 7pm**

**Speaker: Allen Black**

**Topic: Novelty Brassavola/  
Cattleya Alliance Breeding—  
Spiders and Stars**

**Saturday April 6th**

**Annual Spring Garden Tour**

**Thursday April 11th**

**Growers Clinic 7pm**

**Venice Community Center  
Room F**

**Topic: Orchid Basics Part 2:  
Pots, Media, Repotting and  
Tools**

## Newsletter Quick Links

[VAOS 2018 - 2019 Officers](#)

[Orchid Resources](#)





# A Message from Your President

Hard to believe we are beginning spring, after a warm and mild winter and recent balmy and delightful weather. As I walk among my orchids, they are shouting out to me –Repot me! Oh my, so many of them need repotting! Hurricane Irma brought with it many weeds to our orchid plants – have you noticed? Never before so much weeding to be done. Spring brings many decisions to be made – repot or “pot up” to a larger pot. Divide or let it grow into a specimen. What about those overgrown plants in baskets? And, agonizing over those catasetums with 2” roots, begging to be watered, but no! Hold out for one more inch of roots!

Spring is a great time to purge your orchid collection. Renee Bynum and Ted Kellogg promote the need to purge your collection. Think Marie Kondo, the queen of decluttering – “keep only what brings you joy”. Give away those orchid plants that do not bring you joy. Hard to do with those plants you have given so much time and attention to, but, the job must be done!

Jay Loeffler completed his four- year term as VP, Displays with a big win at the EAOS show March 1-2, taking the 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy and AOS award for the spectacular exhibit he created. Thanks to all of Jay’s team and congratulations to our members who earned ribbons, trophies and AOS awards with their plants.

We held our annual election at our March meeting and welcome three new officers to the board: Sue Grimmer, Kathryn Jeske and Bruce Weaver. Thanks to Jay Loeffler and Joanna Shaw for their many contributions to VAOS over the past four years and we look forward to having you continue as Directors at Large on our board.

At our April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting we will host Allen Black as our speaker. I have been following Allen’s long career – check out his website for amazing photos of orchids [www.ablackorchid.com](http://www.ablackorchid.com). He lives in Richmond, VA and we are lobbying to get him to retire to Venice.

At our April 11<sup>th</sup> Growers Clinic Jim Thomas will present “Orchid Basics – Pots, Media, Repotting and Tools”. An excellent teacher, Jimmy will share his knowledge that will benefit our newer members.

April 6<sup>th</sup> is our annual Spring Garden Tour and we’ve lined up two spectacular growers for our members. Jane Camarota has been a VAOS member for more than 20 years, coordinating our Orchid Boutique at our annual shows. She and her husband Frank moved to Bay Village in recent years and led a project to establish an orchid garden on the premises. Bay Village volunteers will be available to guide the tour through the lush landscape and light refreshments will be served.

Donn Smart in Nokomis is one of our most successful orchid growers and has kindly agreed to open up his green houses to VAOS members to tour. Start at either location, Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 2pm. See details in this newsletter.

The Redland International Orchid Festival is coming up May 17 – 19 and we will once again be hosting our popular bus trip to Redland on Friday, May 17. See the article in this newsletter and sign up now to reserve your seat.



## VAOS DISPLAY Takes 1st Place at Englewood Show!

What a great way to end the show season! Jay Loeffler and his team took the 1st Place Trophy for Best Society Display along with the AOS Show Trophy for best overall display. In addition to the AOS trophy, VAOS members took five trophies and 42 ribbons as well as two AOS awards. Trophy winners were Judy Chisholm, Bill Fahrenback, Dale Richter, and Joanna Shaw (2). Ed Murphy earned a HCC/AOS award for his Ctt. Carolyn Reid and Joanna Shaw earned a CCM/AOS award for her Epc. Rene Marques. Congratulations to the display team and to the 20 members who entered 66 plants to make a beautiful display.

### Award winners were:

Richard Amos – 1 blue, 1 red ribbon  
Kathy Beck – 1 blue and 2 red ribbons  
Rick Belisle – 1 blue and 3 red ribbons  
Judy Chisholm – Trophy – Best Large Cattleya  
Jo Davis – 2 blue, 1 yellow ribbon  
Bill Fahrenback – 1 blue, Trophy – Best Small Cattleya  
Peg Fahrenback – 1 red ribbon  
Sharon Kahnoski – 1 yellow ribbon  
Naoki Kawamura – 1 blue, 1 red ribbon  
Courtney Miles – 1 red ribbon  
Ed Murphy – 1 yellow and HCC/AOS award, 79 pts. For Ctt. Carolyn Reid 'Donna Marie'  
Tony Nacinovich – 1 red, 1 yellow ribbon  
Dale Richter – 1 blue and Trophy – Best Phalaenopsis  
John Roche – 2 red and 1 yellow ribbon  
Natasha Romero – 1 red ribbon  
Joanna Shaw – 4 blue, 2 red, Trophy – Best Specimen Hybrid, Trophy – Best Cattleya Alliance and CCM/AOS award, 82 pts. For Epc. Rene Marques "Flame Thrower" (Congrats Joanna!)  
Donn Smart – 3 blue ribbons  
Carol Wood – 2 blue, 1 yellow ribbon  
VAOS Display – Blue ribbon, Trophy – First Place, Best Society Exhibit, AOS Show Trophy



Thanks to all of the display team members who helped with our exhibit. This involved constructing and transporting display materials, cleaning and prepping greenery, plant registration, plant labels, designing and setting up the display and take down on the last day. Thank yous include Bruce Weaver, Jerry Daenzer, Peg & Bill Fahrenback, Sharon & John Kahnoski, Natasha Romero, Linda Schaller, Donn Smart, Judy Loeffler, Steve Vogelhaupt, Carol Wood and Jim Thomas.

This was Jay's last show as VP Displays. Amazingly, he has won 12 1<sup>st</sup> place trophies for his displays as well as six AOS awards over his four- year term in office. Fortunately, for us, he will continue to work his magic as part of the display team going forward. Congratulations Jay and thank you!



## VAOS Show Winner Corrections

Some VAOS ribbon winners were inadvertently left out of our article that appeared in our March 2019 newsletter. Here is a corrected list. Congratulations to all the award winners!



Pauline Adam – 1 blue, 1 yellow  
Kathy Beck – 1 red ribbon  
Noreen Chervinski – 1 blue ribbon  
Dusty Crum – 1 red, 1 yellow  
Vicki Fisher – 2 blue, 1 red ribbon  
Laurie Houkes – 1 red ribbon  
Sharon Kahnowski – 2 blue, 1 red, Best Vanda Trophy and AM/AOS award (85 points) for *V. lamellata*. Congrats Sharon!  
Steve Keller – 1 red ribbon  
Ted Kellogg – 1 blue ribbon  
Karen Mann – 1 yellow ribbon  
Courtney Miles – 2 blue and Best Phalaenopsis Trophy  
Sharon Miles – 1 blue ribbon  
Nancy Morrison – 2 yellow ribbons  
Judy Mulligan – 1 yellow ribbon  
Ed Murphy – 1 blue, 3 red ribbons  
Ellen Nacinovich – 1 yellow ribbon  
Tony Nacinovich – 1 blue ribbon  
Charlie Rogg – 2 blue, 1 red ribbon  
Natasha Romero – 2 blue ribbons  
Linda Schaller – 1 red ribbon  
Joanna Shaw – 3 blue, 1 red, 2 yellow, Best Small Cattleya Trophy and AM/AOS award (82 points) for *C. Loddiglossa*. Congrats Joanna!  
Donn Smart – 10 blue, 2 red, Best Miniature Trophy, Best Dendrobium Trophy, Best Plant by VAOS Member Trophy and AM/AOS award (82 points) for *Cl. Rebecca Northen x Ctsm. Melana Davison*. Congrats Donn!  
Carol Wolfers – 1 red ribbon  
Carol Wood – 1 blue, 1 red ribbon



## April Culture Tip

Many of us use time – release fertilizer (Dynamite available at Home Depot/Lowe's) in March/April and September/October each year to supplement our fertilizing regime. Instructions are to sprinkle it around the perimeter of the pot at the rate of 1 tsp. per 6" pot and tap down 1" into the media. The question is how to apply time – release fertilizer to a mounted plant?



One approach is the 'Bird Nest' method. Dampen a small amount of coconut husk fiber and shape it into a bird nest. Fill it with 1 tsp Dynamite. Push it down into your mounted plant between the roots and the mount. This will provide up to six months fertilizer supplement to your plant.

## Next Growers Clinic – April 11th

The Grower's Clinic on April 11th will follow last month's presentation on orchid basics. This presentation, led by Jim Thomas, will focus on pots, media, repotting and tools. This is a great opportunity for our new growers to learn the basics of repotting orchids.



Growers Clinics are held the second Thursday of the month, 7pm, Room F, Venice Community Center. Enter at the left side of the building. Bring problem plants for expert help. Guests are welcome.



## Vanilla planifoli - The Vanilla Bean Orchid By: Jay Loeffler

Most everyone likes the taste of vanilla, and even the smell. But did you know that vanilla comes from an orchid that bears the fruit? From the thousands of orchids known to the world, Vanilla is the only orchid to produce an edible fruit.

This is the time of year when our Vanilla orchids bloom and we can try to pollinate them for the fruit we enjoy. The plants themselves don't even start producing vanilla beans until after three years. a mature vanilla orchid vine can grow to 300 feet or greater.



The Olmeca people on the Gulf Coast of Mexico were perhaps the first to use vanilla as a flavoring in beverages. Before that, vanilla was used as a fragrance in temples. The plant and the spice continue to be a sacred and important part of their culture as they consider it given to them by the gods.

In the 1520s, vanilla left Mexico on ships bound for Spain. It was originally imported as a perfume and later it was discovered to also be an excellent flavoring for beverages and sweets.

Over the next 300 years, no one in Europe was able to get the orchids to bear fruit. Then, in 1836, it was discovered that a tiny bee (Melipone) was the sole pollinator of the vanilla orchid.

The biggest advancement in vanilla happened in 1841, through a discovery by a slave named Edmond Albius. Albius watched how the flower was pollinated by the tiny bee and discovered a way by which the orchid could be pollinated using a small stick or blade of grass. Now practically all vanilla is produced by hand pollination.

Vanilla Orchid blossoms only live for one day before the next one on the stalk opens. So even though you have just a day to pollinate a flower before it dies, don't worry, there will be another opening soon. Once a flower has been successfully pollinated, the flower stem elongates into a 6-10" skinny green bean-like fruit. It then matures on the vine for the next 6-9 months. When the pods are firm and fully formed, they are picked and cured by letting the pods dry in the sun.

How to pollinate Vanilla planifolia, step by step

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RdoTcDD2EU>



## **SIGN UP NOW FOR THE POPULAR REDLAND ORCHID FEST BUS TRIP**

**FRIDAY MAY 17TH**

**LIMITED SEATING**

The annual **Redland International Orchid Festival** will be held in Homestead FL May 17 – 19, 2019. Sign up now to secure a seat on the bus for only **\$30 pp**. This includes bus trip and driver gratuity, the \$10 admission fee and a \$5 discount ticket for purchase of an orchid \$25 or more. Snacks and water will be provided on the bus.

Departure is 7am from the Venice Community Center South Parking Lot on Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>. Plan to arrive 15 minutes early. This is the only pick up and drop off point for the bus.

Estimated arrival time is 11am – 11:30am. For return, the bus will leave the festival at 4pm sharp. There is room under the bus to keep your orchid purchases. We suggest you bring boxes or bags to carry and store your plants. Please label them with your name. One rest room stop is planned for each leg of the trip. We also suggest you bring a hat, sunscreen, umbrella, a jacket or sweater (bus A/C) and as small cooler as we will not stop for dinner on the return trip.

More than 60 orchid vendors from around the world will sell orchids. There will also be lectures and international food available for purchase.

Seating on the bus is limited to 41 people. Payment is due by **April 19<sup>th</sup>** for VAOS MEMBERS with no refunds after April 19<sup>th</sup>. After this date we will invite SOS and EAOS members to fill the remaining seats. You may sell your seat but please notify Janet if you do so.

**Make your \$30 check payable to VAOS and mail to:**

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

Seating is limited so do not delay. Contact Janet Keown at [social@vaos.org](mailto:social@vaos.org) for more information. For festival information visit [www.redlandorchidfest.org](http://www.redlandorchidfest.org).



*Submitted by Janet Keown, VP, Social Affairs*



# **VAOS 2019 Spring Garden Tour**

## **Member Orchid Growing Area Tour**

**Saturday April 6th 10am – 2pm**

Our Spring Garden Tour this year features two excellent growers located just north of Venice, about 15 minutes apart. Start at either location beginning at 10am. Thank you Donn Smart and Jane and Frank Camarota for opening your growing areas to our members!

### ***Donn Smart***

***105 Magnolia Ave.***

***Nokomis, FL 34275***

***715-572-9548***

***[Dsmart2@comcast.net](mailto:Dsmart2@comcast.net)***

Donn Smart is one of our most successful orchid growers as evidenced by his VAOS show display awards: 10 blue ribbons, 2 red ribbons, three trophies and an AM/AOS award. He grows a variety of orchids in his two green houses and we appreciate him opening his growing area to our members to tour. If you want some specific advice on a particular type of orchid, ask Donn.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Venice, Rt. 41 North. Cross over Donna Bay bridge then 1<sup>st</sup> right on Magnolia Ave. to #105.

### ***Jane and Frank Camarota***

***8400 Vamo Rd.***

***Sarasota, FL***

***941-966-8433***

Jane and Frank Camarota have been VAOS members for over 20 years and Jane leads the Orchid Boutique team at our annual show. They moved to Bay Village in Sarasota in recent years and Jane coordinated the establishment of the Rock Orchid Garden at Bay Village. Nestled under the tall trees surrounded by lush landscaping, it provides a welcomed retreat to residents. There is a variety of 65-75 orchids in the garden. Walkways around a gazebo and lake add to the natural garden ambiance. Volunteers will be on hand to guide the tour and light refreshments will be served.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Venice, Rt. 41 North. Turn left on Vamo Rd. and Bay Village is the 2<sup>nd</sup> entrance on the right. Come to the gate and push button to announce arrival. Park in the guest lot on the left immediately after coming through the gate.



## Ready for a Road Trip?

Now that the show season is over, you may be thinking about a road trip. Here is a list of some popular Florida gardens you will enjoy. Most offer reciprocal admissions policy with an AOS membership card. We recommend that you call all gardens ahead of time. Each garden has its own unique admissions policy and some gardens have certain exclusions for special events, etc.

Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens  
633 Osceola Avenue  
Winter Park, FL 32789 (407) 647-6294

The American Orchid Society  
10901 Old Cutler Road  
Coral Gables, FL 33156 (305) 740-2010

Bok Tower Gardens  
1151 Tower Boulevard  
Lake Wales, FL 33853 (863) 676-1408

Botanical Gardens at Sanibel Moorings Resort  
845 East Gulf Drive  
Sanibel, FL 33957 (239) 472-4119

Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens  
829 Riverside Avenue  
Jacksonville, FL 32204 (904) 356-6857

Edison & Ford Winter Estates  
2350 McGregor Boulevard  
Fort Myers, FL 33901 (239) 334-7419

Everglades Wonder Garden  
27180 Old 41 Road  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135 (239) 992-2591

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden  
10901 Old Cutler Road  
Coral Gables, FL 33156 (305) 667-1651

Flamingo Gardens  
3750 South Flamingo Road  
Davie, FL 33330 (954) 473-2955

Goodwood Museum & Gardens  
1600 Miccosukee Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32308 (850) 877-4202

Harry P. Leu Gardens  
1920 North Forest Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32803 (407) 246-2620

Heathcote Botanical Gardens  
210 Savannah Road  
Fort Pierce, FL 34982

Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens  
1445 Millcoie Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32225 (904) 305-8148

The Kampong of the National Tropical Botanical Garden  
4013 South Douglas Road  
Coconut Grove, FL 33133 (305) 442-7169

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens  
811 South Palm Avenue  
Sarasota, FL 34236 (941) 366-5731

McKee Botanical Garden  
350 U.S. Highway 1  
Vero Beach, FL 32962 (772) 794-0601

Ormond Beach Memorial Art Museum & Gardens  
78 East Granada Boulevard  
Ormond Beach, FL 32176 (386) 676-3347

Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens  
2410 SE Westmoreland Boulevard  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 (772) 337-1959

Sunken Gardens  
1825 Fourth Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33704 (727) 551-3102

The Florida Botanical Gardens  
12520 Ulmerton Road  
Largo, FL 33774 (727) 582-2100

University of South Florida Botanical Gardens  
Pine and Alumni Drives  
Tampa, FL 33620 (813) 910-3274





# ORCHID & GARDEN TOUR

MARCH 30, 2019 9-1

TOM & MARY ANNE  
DIGRAZIA  
3058 MAUCK TERRACE  
(GULF COVE)  
PORT CHARLOTTE, FL  
941-697-9237

South on 776, turn left on Sunnybrook to  
Wilmington & turn right. Go to Jennings &  
turn left. Go 3+ miles to Quinlan & turn  
right. Cross Gillot, go 2 blocks to Holcolm,  
turn left & go 3 blocks to Mauck, turn right.

We are at the end at the street.

Bring a can for  
Helping Hands



## March 2019 Meeting Plant Table Awards

*Narrative and Photos by Cynthia Vance*

We had an explosion of more than 35+ plants on our VAOS table this March!!



**First Place and Blue Ribbon** was captured by Judy Chisolm for her magnificent Blc. Burdekin Wonder 'Lakeland' AM/AOS with its three showy 6-inch flowers standing tall. The beautiful white ruffled petals and sepals with the yellow in the lip prove it to be the classic white flower that hobbyists so desire. The plant is known to always flower consistently well and it has that large flat appearance of its petals and sepals that judges favor most in cattleyas. Congrats to Judy for growing such a beauty!!

**Second Place and Red Ribbon** went to Nancy Morrison for her huge Lysudamuloa (Lys) 'Red Jewel' plant with 32 flowers and buds. Nancy staked many of the blooms so they stood up straight making her presentation exquisite! Lysudamuloa belongs to the Lycaste family and this plant is a complex of (*Anguloa* x *Lycaste* x *Sudamerlycste*), producing dreamy triangular waxy flowers. The base color is cream to yellow. The sepals and petals are variously overlaid with dark red. The contrasting labellum was bright yellow to with a touch of a dark red spot. Kudos to Nancy for cultivating such a specimen plant!



**Third Place and Yellow Ribbon** was awarded to Kathy and Jerry Beck for their (NOID) 'no identification' Paphliopedilum (Paph). The Becks have more than 50 Paphs which they grow outside on tables under their Live Oak trees, placing them in the area with the most shade. They use mostly an inorganic media (charcoal, stones, clay pebbles etc.) with a touch of Orchinata bark, and larger rocks at the bottom of each pot to ensure drainage. They place a shallow saucer under each plant pot with a bit of water so that moisture surrounds the bottom of the plants; this saucer water does not touch the roots. However, when it rains, they remove the saucers. Congratulations to Kathy and Jerry – you've inspired us to grow Paphs!

**Both Best Species and Member's Choice Ribbons** were presented to Donn Smart for his lovely Dendrobium (Den.) aggregatum. It had 12 inflorescences and though each one only lasts a week, it gives him 2 weeks of blooms. In 2014/15 Donn purchased it at Lowes, under the 'Better Grow' label, that nearby Palmer Orchids uses at the big box stores. He says that it gains 2 spikes a year. Though most of us give this plant a rest in winter, He just places it a bit further from the sprinkler, but he keeps to his regular watering schedule. Donn attributes its increasing flower production to his weekly fertilizing regime. Great work, Donn!





## March 2019 Meeting Plant Table Awards, Continued...



**New Member Grower and Pink Ribbons** were given to Bob Storm for his luscious Brassolaeliocattleya (Blc.) Zul. Though Bob didn't have the plant tag, Joanna Shaw, our plant table presenter, and others suggested that was Blc. Zul and it certainly looks like the many photos of Blc. Zul on the web. Its flowers turn from yellow to pink so it shows many gorgeous colors all at once bringing us much joy. Named after a war craft and gaming location, the 'Empire of Zul' was a strong coalition of troll tribes which formed during the Aqir and Troll War 16,000 years before the First War. Surely the plant is more beautiful than the game! Kudos for a well-grown plant, Bob. We're pleased you joined VAOS!

**Speaker's Choice White Ribbon** was awarded to Peggy Butler for her Laeliocattleya (Lc.) Orlades Grand 'Tian Mu', (Lc. Mildred Rives x Lc. Persepols). Each of the 5 flowers showed a beautiful large crisp white bloom with a boldly marked and stunning magenta lip with a touch of yellow -- a stand-out beauty with a wonderful fragrance also! Lc. Orlades Grand 'Tian Mu' is a very popular mericlone so when it is purchased it will look exactly like this. There are many sellers of this magnificent hybrid, just ensure you are receiving the mericlone. Fantastic specimen growing, Peggy!



American Orchid Society  
*Education. Conservation. Research.*

### Join the American Orchid Society for just \$65 and receive:

- ◆ Instant access to hundreds of back issues of the award-winning Orchids magazine dating back to 1934
- ◆ A full year of additional magazine issues plus a much anticipated and valuable annual supplement
- ◆ Over 60 ready to watch webinar recordings on numerous orchid subjects
- ◆ Free and discounted access to hundreds of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta in the U.S. and Canada
- ◆ Discounts on orchids and supplies if they are inspired to start growing orchids
- ◆ Join thousands of members in supporting orchid education and conservation worldwide today by joining the AOS.

[www.AOS.org](http://www.AOS.org)



# Venice Area Orchid Society Minutes from March 6, 2019

Carol Wood called the meeting to order at 7 pm with by welcoming new members and guests. There was a round of applause for all the new members, and Carol reviewed the meeting format.

## Announcements

- The next Grower's Clinic is Thursday March 14th. Bruce Weaver will present Orchid Basics part 1 covering light, air, water, fertilizer and supplements.
- Palmer Orchids will have their spring open house this weekend March 8-10.
- At the next meeting in April, Allen Black will present his program Spiders and Stars as he describes small Brassavola orchids. Also at the next meeting we will present and celebrate our mentor program.
- The April Grower's Clinic will be Orchid Basics part 2. covering pots, media, repotting and tools
- On Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> Donn Smart and Jane Camarota will be hosting open houses for members to view their growing areas. Donn has a private greenhouse where he grows some amazing plants, and Jane lives at Bay Village and there is a community orchid garden. Everyone is welcome and info is in the newsletter
- May 17 we will have our annual bus trip to the Redland International Orchid festival in Homestead, info will be in the newsletter
- The Newsletter is also available on the website VAOS.org under the newsletter tab.
- Carol thanked everyone who volunteered to set up our display for the Englewood show. Jay Loeffler and his team took first place display and an AOS trophy. This was Jay's last display as leader of the team. Members who put in plants won 42 ribbons, 5 trophies and 2 AOS awards. Mary Ann DiGrazia, the EAOS President, thanked all the volunteers that helped make the show a success.

The annual elections were held to fill the open board positions. Bruce Weaver was voted Vice President of Displays, Kathryn Jeske was voted Recording Secretary, and Sue Grimmer was voted Membership Chair. In addition, Donn Smart will be helping Dick Lawson with tech support at the meetings.

Natasha Romero Contreras introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. Courtney Hackney from Jacksonville, Florida. Dr. Hackney did an excellent review of many common orchid genera and general trends in how to grow them. He also had a nice selection of plants for sale.

Joanna Shaw presented the plant table that included a large number of members' plants. Pete Lippa and Donn Smart managed the raffle table.

*Submitted by Joanna Shaw, Recording Secretary*



## VAOS Officers 2019 – 2020

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

**Vice President – Programs** Natasha Romero, [programs@vaos.org](mailto:programs@vaos.org)

**Vice President – Social Affairs** Janet Keown, [social@vaos.org](mailto:social@vaos.org)

**Vice President – Show Displays** Bruce Weaver, [disp@vaos.org](mailto:disp@vaos.org)

**Treasurer** Judy Loeffler, [tres@vaos.org](mailto:tres@vaos.org)

**Recording Secretary** Kathryn Jeske, [rsec@vaos.org](mailto:rsec@vaos.org)

**Communications Director & Newsletter Editor** Stephanie Luburger, [csec@vaos.org](mailto:csec@vaos.org)

**Membership Chair** Sue Grimmer, [memb@vaos.org](mailto:memb@vaos.org)

**Annual Show Chairs** Carol Wood & Judy Loeffler [showchair@vaos.org](mailto:showchair@vaos.org)

**Directors at Large** Richard Amos, Jay Loeffler, Joanna Shaw

### **Volunteers**

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

Sharon and John Kahnoski , Raffle Table

Joanna Shaw, Kristin Shaw & Cynthia Vance, Plant Table

Dick Lawson and Donn Smart, Technology

Sue Grimmer, Managing Editor – Annual Growers Guide

Rick Belisle, Mentor Coordinator [mentor@vaos.org](mailto:mentor@vaos.org)

### **Treasurer's Report February 2019**

Operating Fund Starting Feb.1, 2019	\$16,460.98
+ Income	\$ 30,895.51
- Payments	\$ 19,760.67
Closing Balanced Feb. 28, 2019	\$ 27,595.82
 Petty Cash	 \$ 75.00
 Total Operating Fund Feb., 2019	 \$ 27,670.82
 Reserve Fund	
Starting Balance Feb. 1 , 2019	\$ 25,087.34
- transfer	\$100.00
+Interest Income Feb. 28, 2019	\$ 15.87
Closing Balance Feb. 28, 2019	25,003.21

Submitted by Judy Loeffler, Treasurer



# 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)





## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

April 3 (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday) – Monthly Meeting.  
Venice Community Center 6:30pm. Speaker:  
Allen Black Topic: Spiders and Stars

April 6 (Saturday) – VAOS Spring Tour of  
Members' Growing Areas, 10am – 2pm. See  
article in this newsletter.

April 11 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) – Growers Clinic – Orchid  
Basics Part 2: Presentation and Demonstration -  
Pots, Media, Repotting, Tools.

April 12-14 – Pan American Orchid Society  
"Orchid Festival 2019", R.F. Orchids, Homestead.  
Info: [emailchoa@yahoo.com](mailto:emailchoa@yahoo.com)

April 20-21 – Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society  
Show, Davie, FL. Info: [jbamador@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbamador@bellsouth.net)

May 1 (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday) – Monthly Meeting.  
Venice Community Center. 6:30pm. Speaker: Dr.  
Michael Kane, UFL Gainesville Topic: Orchid  
Conservation in the Everglades

May 9 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) – Growers Clinic – Seedling  
Competition Kick Off

May 17 (Friday) – Redlands Bus Trip. 2019  
Redland International Orchid Festival, May 17 –  
19. See details in this newsletter.

### **Ongoing**

**Mentor Program**: help for beginning growers, contact  
Rick Belisle [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 33609. at 6:30pm on the  
fourth Wednesday of every month Info:  
<http://www.fncjc.shutterfly.com/>

## **Next Meeting**

### **April 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](mailto:pres@vaos.org)

### **Membership**

**Sue Grimmer** [memb@vaos.org](mailto:memb@vaos.org)

### **Visit us on the web at**

**[www.vaos.org](http://www.vaos.org)**