



VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at www.vaos.org

June 2019



June General Meeting

Wednesday June 5th at 7pm

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

Speaker: John Budree

Topic: *Growing Better Orchids in South Florida*

Ramnarine John Budree, was born in Trinidad and migrated to Florida about fourteen years ago. In Trinidad he grew many different types of orchids and took part in collecting and showing at many shows, but there was always something more. He wanted to learn more about orchids, wanted more of a challenge. He wanted to grow and flower them, of course. So when he came to Florida, he got involved with orchids on a different level. Here he was able to grow all of those types of plants he could only read about and even meet all of those people that grew and wrote the articles that he had read in AOS magazines. So he started on his journey/adventure.

He started to go to many of the shows and what you do when you go to a show, YOU BUY ORCHIDS, which you know nothing about, in the hope you can grow or flower it [yea right]. He always liked Paphiopedilum but he was told he couldn't grow them. This became a challenge to John and he found these plants very interesting as well. He met some of the biggest and the best at growing orchids, Jack Schendowich, Warren Kelly {Orchid World}, Bob Skully {Jones & Skully}, Mr. Frank Smith {Krull-Smith} and Sheldon Takasaki {Carmela Orchids}. These people really know how to grow orchids but not just orchids, Paphiopedilum, Cattleya, Phalaenopsis, Dendrobium, and Oncidium, e.g.. Krull Smith has more AOS awards than any other orchid grower past or present. At the 19th WOC in Miami, in 2008, John had an opportunity to work with Frank Smith, a excellent grower and very experienced Paph grower. He tried to absorb as much of Frank Smiths knowledge as possible, and did an exhibit on his own. After that, he started to grow many types of Paphs and today he owns over 1750 as well as about 2000 other types of orchids. Of course, he says, he has also lost count of the ones he killed. In short he has been growing Orchids for about 35 years, from flask to flower, and has accumulated about 45 AOS awards.

John will have plants for sale.

June 2019 Events

Wednesday June 5th
Monthly meeting 7pm
Speaker: John Budree
Topic: *Growing Better Orchids in South Florida*

Thursday June 13th
Growers Clinic 7pm
Venice Community Center
Room F
Topic: *Dividing Plants: Presentation and Demonstration*

Newsletter Quick Links

[VAOS 2018 - 2019 Officers](#)

[Orchid Resources](#)

VAOS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



We started out this year with about 370 Members in the Venice Area Orchid Society. At the 2019 Orchid Show, we had a banner year with recruiting new Members. We added 148 NEW Members at the Show!

Let me say....this is a GREAT group of people! Our meetings have reflected a wonderful turnout, and the Grower's Clinics are full! They are energetic, interested, and eager to learn (they also like

winning ribbons for the orchids they bring to each meeting, and to win at the raffle tables!)

As is customary, there are always Members from the previous year that don't renew with their Membership dues. However, through the May 9th Grower's Clinic, we currently have "421" Members in our Society.

We look forward to getting to know each other, sharing information on keeping our orchids healthy and blooming, and enjoying our time together at meetings & functions!

PLEASE NOTE: The 2019 Membership Directory was emailed to all members on Wednesday, May 8th. If you haven't received your copy please let me know so we can verify your information on file.

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.



VAOS Finalist in New AOS Award for Displays

At our May 1st meeting we watched a video announcement made by Nancy Burke, member of VAOS and Sandpiper Orchid Society of South Jersey, and former Assistant Director of the Academic Laboratories at Stockton University. She helped Waldor Orchids, of New Jersey, with their displays at the Philadelphia Flower Show, where Walter Off, of Waldor Orchids, had many beautiful exhibits. Walter Off passed away several years ago. Through donations, a Walter Off American Orchid Society award was established; this was the first time an AOS award was established for a display of orchids. The 2017 Walter Off award nominations were posted in early 2019, with one display exhibit nominated in each of the 16 different judging areas. Jay Loeffler and VAOS were nominated for the 2017 AOS award for Walter Off Best Display Exhibit; a great honor for Jay and for VAOS! The winner will be announced later this year. Congratulations Jay Loeffler and the VAOS display team!



Description of VAOS February 2017 Display:

“Our display was a wonderful follow up to last year’s AOS awarded display. Last year’s Italian Villa was reconstructed 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.”

Submitted by Kate Burda

GUARDIANS OF THE GLADES

Premiers May 28th



Tune in to the Discovery Channel on Tuesday, May 28th at 10pm for Dusty Crum's new series "Guardian of the Glades". Dusty Crum and his partner Natalee McKinney are owners of Orchid Envy in downtown Venice and members of VAOS. Natalee is a vendor at our annual show and provides blooming plants for our monthly raffle table.

Here is a description of the new series from the Discovery Channel website:

Florida has a snake problem – and snake hunter Dusty Crum has assembled the team to tackle it. The Everglades, considered the largest subtropical wilderness in the US, is a wetland paradise in the southern tip of Florida that is home to hundreds of unique species of wildlife. Once brimming with an abundance of life, today this swampy utopia and the native wildlife who call it home, is in grave danger. There is a new predator in town – the Burmese Python – which has already decimated more than 90 percent of certain mammal and bird species in parts of the Everglades. Now, one man has made it his life's calling – and business – to save the Glades from these foreign predators and total destruction.

In an all-new Discovery Channel series, GUARDIANS OF THE GLADES, Dusty "The Wildman" Crum and his devoted crew fight to save the land they know and love, one snake at a time. **GUARDIANS OF THE GLADES premieres Tuesday, May 28 at 10 pm ET/PT on Discovery Channel.** In addition, viewers can watch new episodes each week on *DiscoveryGO*. Viewers can join the conversation on social media by using the hashtag #GuardiansoftheGlades and follow Discovery on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for the latest updates.

In 1992, Hurricane Andrew introduced a foreign and invasive breeding population of giant constrictors known as Burmese Pythons to the Southern Florida wilderness. In the wake of the destructive storm, the state began a python bounty program in a desperate attempt to regain control over the Glades and to protect the fragile and dwindling animal populations.

Dusty Crum, one of the most prolific snake hunters in the Everglades, has now taken the problem into his own bare hands. He has assembled an eclectic team of fellow snake hunters, experts and survivalists, including swamp guru Jay, wildlife expert Gary, survivalist Tom, and Riley, the #1 Python hunting Beagle in the state of Florida. Each has a purpose and a common goal: to stop the area's python takeover and save their beloved home and the diminishing wildlife who inhabit it.



Guardians of the Glade Premier, continued....

Despite the danger of tracking down and capturing these deadly creatures, some of which can measure upwards of 18-feet in length, Crum and his gutsy crew understand the reward is worth the risk. Over the last decade, severe mammal declines have been directly linked to the pythons—including full-grown deer—which end up in the stomachs of these snakes.

Crum, the fearless and charismatic leader of the pack is fast and in-tune with these slithering invaders and chooses to go without shoes during his missions through the Everglades because "... if you have a rubber sole between foot and Earth, you can't absorb what nature is telling you."

Following Crum deep into the mangroves of the Everglades and beyond, GUARDIANS OF THE GLADES spotlights the environmental crisis gripping the Florida wilderness and offers a thrillingly up-close look at what happens when the hunters become the hunted – complete with harrowing wrestling matches in the treacherous swamps.



GUARDIANS OF THE GLADES is produced for Discovery Channel by Parabolic Films in association with 3 Ball Entertainment. For Parabolic Films, Seth Sherman, Rick Sasson, Ross Weintraub, Jonathan Goldman and Brent Henderson are executive producers. For Discovery Channel, Joseph Boyle and John Slaughter are executive producers and Jessica Mollo is associate producer. (Discovery Communications, Inc. 2019)

Congratulations and best wishes for a successful show Dusty!

Repot Your Plants

Ray Barkalow

originally published in AOS ORCHIDS June 2014

Like my earlier Water Your Orchids article (January 2014), this topic may seem to be awfully basic and pretty obvious, but I believe that if we understand some of the “why” behind the “what” or “how to” information we learn, it puts us way ahead in our efforts to become reliable caregivers to our orchids. The question of “when” to repot is another that arises frequently, and we’ll address that, too. First, a little bit about our favorite plants.

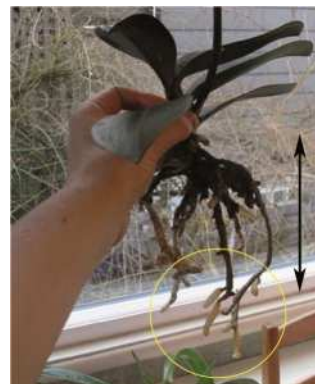
Many of you may have heard that “healthy roots means a healthy orchid” — again pretty obvious, but do you know why that is? Terrestrial plants, with their roots buried in the soil, do the vast majority of their gas exchange processes through openings (stomata) in their leaves. Orchids, on the other hand, have adapted to having far fewer leaf stomata as an apparent evolutionary strategy to minimize water loss. Those that remain are concentrated on the bottom of the leaves, and in some cases, the plants have developed a thick, waxy “cuticle” layer, all of which shifts much of the gas exchange burden to the root system. If we stifle that, we cause stress and even death to the root cells.

Let me add a bit more about those root cells. As roots grow, they “tailor” themselves to the environment into which they are growing so that they can function optimally to support the plant, and once those cells have grown, they cannot change. We can see the implications of that with the following scenario:

A plant is potted up in nice, fresh medium, and gets great care, so it grows big and strong, sending its roots deep into the moist, airy medium. Those roots have “tailored” themselves on a cellular level to function optimally in that particular environment. Time marches on, and that potting medium starts to decompose, breaking down into smaller particles and becoming more and more compact, holding lots of water and starting to restrict air flow to the roots. Plus, minerals from your water and fertilizers, as well as plant waste products have been accumulating in the medium as well. The environment has definitely changed, but the roots have not and cannot.

The black, vertical arrow in the image mark the nice depth to which the roots grew originally, but judging by their color and condition, they are failing in that changed environment. You will note, though, that there are new roots that look entirely different (see the yellow circle) that have grown from the ends of those old roots. Those nice, plump roots have grown with their cells optimized for that environment, even if it is an environment that is bad for the original root system.

One might speculate that the plant will therefore be okay, as it now has well-functioning roots, but unfortunately, while those newly grown root segments may be fine for that environment, the older root system is not, so will continue to deteriorate, ultimately completely separating those new roots from the plant, leading to its demise.



That is why, when considering repotting a plant, it is best to do so just as new roots are emerging from the base of the plant, and not when the plant is dormant. Otherwise, root growth will resume only on existing roots. Those new, emergent roots will grow optimized for the environment and support the plant, while the old ones are expected to eventually fade away.

Keep in mind that the greater the difference between the “old” and “new” root zone conditions, the less optimal the old roots will be, so the more critical is the timing. One can avoid such setbacks by using good quality potting media components and repotting frequently, before the medium can significantly decompose and become compressed.

— Ray Barkalow is an engineer and scientist, and has been a hobby orchid grower for over 40 years. He has owned and operated First Rays Orchids since 1994. He can be reached at raybark@firstrays.com. Website: www.firstrays.com

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Redland International Orchid Festival

Bus Trip - May 17, 2019



At dawn May 17th excitement arose as cars pulled into the Venice Community Center parking lot. Everyone filled with anticipation of a day shopping for orchids and supplies. When the big white bus pulled in we loaded up and traveled to our orchid "Happy Place". We arrived and began the hunt. As we met each other during the day we compared our treasures and heard Martha Stewart was among us shopping. We loaded up the bus and departed at 4pm happy to leave the driving to George our driver. Our day ended feeling fulfilled with comradery and beautiful orchids. It is because of the assistance of many fellow members assisting me that the day went so well and I am very grateful!

Respectfully Submitted Janet Keown VP Social



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- ◆ 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

May 9th Growers Clinic Recap

Seedling Competition Kick Off

At our May Grower's Clinic we shared some Ctna. Why Not seedling plants with 35 members to pot up and take home to grow. We asked each member to sign up and commit to come back next year with their seedling. At that time, we will award three prizes for the best grown seedlings.

Ten members did not receive seedlings – please see Carol Wood at our June 5th meeting to pick up your cattleya seedling, plastic pot and bark mix. Good luck to all!



June 13th Growers Clinic

At our June 13th Growers Clinic Jim Thomas will present: Dividing Plants: Presentation and Demonstration. This is a demonstration only and not a hands on session – please do not bring your plants to divide.

Venice Community Center, Room F. Enter left side of building. 7pm. Bring your problem plants for expert help. Guests are welcome.

The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.

It is with deep sadness to let you know of the passing of member John Roche. He lived by this words. Friend to so many, loving Husband, Father, Grandpa, Mentor and Gentleman. A big part of his life was dedicated to nature. John always shared his knowledge and enthusiasm with us. His orchids without any doubt loved him very much. Endless growing awards and many orchid society's recognitions speak for themselves.

Our deepest condolences to the family and wife Amy.

John, you will be missed. But you are not gone. You are in our thoughts, our prayers and in all the beautiful orchids that you loved sharing with us.

Rest in Peace our dear Orchid Professor



Celebration of Life for John Roche

Saturday June 8, 2019 2pm-5pm
Oscar Scherer State Park
1843 South Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL

Service will be held in the Nature Center at Lake Osprey. Admission fee waived with the mention of the celebration.

A pot luck meal will be served. Please bring a dish to share.

May 2019 Meeting Plant Table Awards

Narrative and photos by Cynthia Vance



First Place and Blue Ribbon was captured by Ted Kellogg for his Cattleya (C.) mossiae semi alba -- a magnificent species having a classical cattleya line with broad ruffled sepals and a ruffled lip. So entrancing and aromatic! Hailing from the Venezuelan forests and described in 1836 by William Hooker, C. mossiae is one of the most cherished members of the genus. Due to its popularity, it is the national flower of Venezuela. C. mossiae comes in a variety of color forms ranging from pure albas (whites) to dark purples. When discovered, Hooker described it as "the most magnificent of all orchideous plants" and many would agree. Beautiful specimen, Ted!

Second Place and Red Ribbon was awarded to Bernard Pasquier for his majestic mini-phalaenopsis (NOID) with 3 branching inflorescences having 12+ flowers a piece, making it a spectacular display. The iridescent flowers were awesome! Bernie carefully staked each stalk as they grew, so they now all stand upright – making it a striking balanced display. Though it's a NOID, Bernie purchased it 3 years ago at the Sarasota Farmers Market (Saturday, 7AM to 1PM) at the Awesome Orchids booth. They also have a cute shop in Sarasota but were not able to identify the plant. Great presentation, Bernard!



Third Place and Yellow Ribbon was granted to Joanna Shaw for her lovely Cattleya (C.) Hazel Boyd 'Apricot Glow'. This compact plant with 15 bright orange flowers made for a very satisfying display. It's a hybrid of C. California Apricot x Cattlianthe Jewel Box which was developed by Rod McLellan Company, California; it was registered as "Sophrolaeliocattleya SLC Hazel Boyd" with The Royal Horticultural Society, London, in 1975. Now called Cattleya, it's a favorite with hobbyists, not only due to the bright apricot-color but also because it often blooms for 6 weeks. Fine growing, Joanna!

May 2019 Meeting Plant Table Awards, Continued...



Best Species and Purple Ribbon was presented to Stephanie Luburger for her *Ascocentrum* (Asctm.) *miniatum* which had 10 small spikes of gorgeous orange flowers. What a delight! This rust-red *ascocentrum*, is a species of orchid found in Assam, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, Java, Malaysia, Philippines, Sumatra -- of the genus *Ascocentrum* of epiphytic monopodial orchids. The plants resemble miniature vandas and are now officially included in the genus *Vanda*. The *Ascocentrum* is derived from the Greek words for "bag" and "spur" denoting the distinct spur at the base of the lip. Congratulations, Stephanie!

New Member Grower and Pink Ribbon was awarded to Vicki Fisher for her *Brassia* (Brs.) *NOID*, perhaps a *Brs. Maculata*. Vicki's plant had 4 lovely inflorescences draping down from the pot. A lovely specimen! *Brassia* orchids are often referred to as the "Spider Orchid" because the flowers blooms are elongated, narrow, and spiky and resemble a spider's legs. This orchid's native pollinators are spider wasps and when the female approaches the plant to 'go for the kill' (to mate!), instead it picks up pollen, and takes its confusion to the next target, another *Brassia* flower which is then pollinated. Great job, Vicki!



Member's Choice and Green Ribbon was awarded to Nancy Morrison for her *Phalaenopsis* (Phal.) *japonica* an orchid species found mostly in Japan (hence called 'japonica') Nancy's mounted plant had 10 blooms which is typical for a fine full flowered specimen. *P. japonica* is a compact miniature with soft green flowers accented with magenta barring on the lips. It has a lovely scent -- a coconut creamy sweet lemon yogurt or tart. Like most phals it likes low light and prefers between 60-80 degrees. As a cold growing plant, it can manage our low winter temperatures but it should be kept cool or be brought indoors during our hot summers. Fine cultivation Nancy!

Speaker's Choice and White Ribbon was given to Ted Kellogg for his *Rhyncattleanthe* (Rth.) *New York Imny* x *Brassolaeliocattleya* (Blc.) *Island Girl*. It is a lovely compact plant with gorgeous flowers. Ted chose its parents and had a lab make this cross six years ago and it first bloomed in March of 2018. Now it is blooming again. It has nice flat flowers, one that produces regularly, and takes little space in one's greenhouse -- making room for other orchids. BTW, *Imny* is a retail clothing store in New York. Beautiful hybrid, Ted!



Venice Area Orchid Society Minutes from May 1, 2019

Carol Wood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Carol welcomed all new members and guests and went over the meeting format.

Announcements

- ♦ We appreciate Dr. Michael Kane being here to speak tonight about Orchid Conservation in the Everglades.
- ♦ On May 9th we will have our Grower's Clinic Seedling Competition. All participants will receive a gift seedling of Ctna. "Why Not", a pot, media and expert instruction on how to grow the seedling. After 1 year the best growers will be awarded prizes.
- ♦ Wednesday, June 5th our monthly meeting will highlight John Bundree. He will speak about Growing Better Orchids in South Florida.
- ♦ Plantio La Orquidea will host their Annual Mother's Day Sale on May 9 – May 11. You will find more information and a coupon on their website and on the VAOS Facebook page.
- ♦ Sue Grimmer needs contact information for several members.
- ♦ The Redlands Bus Trip to the Redland International Orchid Festival is May 17th. We look forward to an exciting trip.
- ♦ We are currently planning a July or August Ice Cream Social where we will make our own sundaes. Look for information to follow in the newsletter and at our next meeting.
- ♦ Our VAOS Oktoberfest is scheduled for October 10th at the Venice Community Center. Cost is \$5.00 to reserve your seat and includes \$5.00 in raffle tickets toward our evening raffle. Geiers Sausage Kitchen will cater the event with traditional German food, beer, wine and music.
- ♦ Carol Wood extended a special **Thank You** to 2 officers for completing 2, 4-year terms as of March 2019. Joanna Shaw as Recording Secretary and Jay Loeffler as VP, Displays. We thank you for all your contributions. They also received a gift. All members clapped in appreciation for their tireless work.

Natasha Romero Contreras and Stephanie Luburger stepped up to speak to members about the VAOS Facebook page. They informed members that all pictures from the Meeting Orchid Table would be on our Facebook page. Facebook is a great way to interact with the VAOS and encouraged members to be active on the page. Enjoy the page, "like" items of interest to you, and share them with friends, family and other members.

Natasha Romero Contreras introduced the speaker of the evening to much applause. Dr. Kane is a professor in the Environmental Horticulture Department at UF Gainesville. His technical accolades are numerous and we are honored to welcome him to speak before our members.

After Dr. Kane's presentation Carol Wood presented him with a VAOS Award check of \$1500.00 to continue his research. We all appreciate the ground- breaking work you continue to do.

Venice Area Orchid Society Minutes from May 1, 2019, cont...

A "Surprise Video" was shown prior to the presentation of the Meeting Plant Table. Nancy Burke, a VAOS member, spoke on the video. She explained that the American Orchid Society had recently established a new award, in honor of Walter Off of Waldor Orchids, for orchid displays. The VAOS 2017 show display created by Jay Loeffler was one of the 16 finalists. This is a great honor and we are so proud of Jay! The room broke out in excited applause at the great news.

Joanna Shaw presented the plant table with an assist from Kristin Shaw.

John and Sharon Kahnoski presented the raffle table.

Orchid Envy had a large selection of beautiful orchids for sale.

Submitted by Kathryn Jeske, Recording Secretary

Treasurer's Report April 2019

Operating Fund Starting Mar. 30, 2019	\$27,242.87
+ Income	\$ 1,448.07
- Payments	\$ 1,588.51
Closing Balanced April 30, 2019	\$27,102.43

Petty Cash	\$ 75.00
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Total Operating Fund April, 2019	\$27,177.43
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Reserve Fund

Starting Balance March 30, 2019	\$24,923.03
- transfer	\$ 100.00
+Interest Income	\$ 21.80
Closing Balance April, 2019	\$24,844.83

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

June 1 – 2 – Central Florida Orchid Society Show, National Guard Armory, Orlando. Info: teriscottfla57@aol.com

June 5 (1st Wednesday) – Monthly Meeting. Venice Community Center. 6:30pm. Speaker: John Budree Topic: Growing Better Orchids in South Florida.

June 13 (2nd Thursday) – Growers Clinic. Venice Community Center 7pm. Orchid Plant Dividing: presentation and demonstration.

July 3 (1st Wednesday) - No VAOS meeting at Venice Community Center

July 8 (Monday) – Joint EAOS/VAOS meeting in Englewood. 6:30pm. Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave. (Rt. 776). Speaker: Bill Thoms Topic: Bulbophyllum Culture.

July 11 (2nd Thursday) – Growers Clinic. Venice Community Center 7pm. Hands on Repotting Clinic.

July 9 – 20 –International Phalaenopsis Alliance (IPA) Symposium. Highland Manor, 604 E. Main St., Apopka. Info: www.phal.org

Save the Date

October 10 (Thursday) – VAOS Octoberfest! Venice Community Center, 5pm. Catered by Geier's Sausage Kitchen. Traditional German food, beer & wine, music, dancing, door prizes and more. \$5. pp

December 15 (Sunday) – VAOS Annual Holiday Party. Boca Royale Country Club, Englewood. 11am. Fabulous holiday brunch, music, door prizes. More details to follow.

Ongoing

Mentor Program: help for beginning growers, contact Rick Belisle 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 June 5th

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

Contact Us

Venice Area Orchid Society

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President

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Membership

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Visit us on the web at

www.vaos.org