

VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at www.vaos.org

July/August 2019

July General Meeting

Joint meeting with EAOS



Monday July 8th at 6:30 pm

Location: Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave, Englewood

Speaker: Bill Thoms

Topic: *Bulbophyllum Culture*

Internationally recognized speaker, orchid hunter, breeder and grower extraordinaire Bill Thoms will be presenting a talk on *Bulbophyllums*. This program covers everything you need to know to grow and bloom these fascinating plants, including super pictures of easy-to-grow species and the latest hybrids.

Be prepared to learn more about this fascinating group of plants than you ever dreamed! Bill Thoms and Doris Dukes have been growing orchids around Central Florida for more than 45 years and have received almost every award granted by the AOS as well as more Awards for Culture than anyone else in the world, (105 in over 29 genera, including 48 in the *Bulbophyllum* alliance and 13 CCEs plus 4 others 90 points or above before they had the Cultural Excellence award.

Many of his crosses are winning awards around the country and the AOS has recently added a yearly award named for him for the best *Bulbophyllum* exhibited.

The talks are spiced with funny stories and funny associations so whether you grow thousands of orchids, only a few, or none at all, you will have a wonderfully entertaining time and be able to grow anything better. Many of the most important requirements for growing world-class plants are made easy to understand and remember.

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn how to grow these fascinating plants and to hear one of the most knowledgeable, interesting and funny speakers in the orchid world.

Bill will have plants for sale!

July 2019 Events

Monday July 8th

**Monthly meeting 6:30pm
Joint EAOS/VAOS Meeting in
Englewood**

**Speaker: Bill Thoms
Topic: *Bulbophyllum Culture***

Thursday July 11th

**Growers Clinic 7pm
Venice Community Center
Room F**

**Topic: *Hands On Repotting
Clinic***

Wednesday August 7th

**Monthly meeting 7pm
Joint EAOS/VAOS Meeting in
Venice**

**Speaker: Donna Goodwin
Topic: *Vanda Culture***

Thursday August 8th

**Growers Clinic 7pm
Venice Community Center
Room F**

**Topic: *Hands On Mounting/
Potting without Pots Clinic***

Newsletter Quick

Links

[VAOS 2018 - 2019 Officers](#)

[Orchid Resources](#)



August General Meeting
Joint meeting and Ice Cream Social
with EAOS

Wednesday August 7th at 7 pm (doors open at 6:30p)

Location: Venice Community Center

Speaker: *Donna Goodwin*

Topic: *Vanda Culture*

With a major in English while minoring in Political Science and Business, Donna Goodwin was ready for a career in...*growing orchids*? Well, not exactly. Her path to this career began with three years of management followed by three years of technical writing, and finally four years of program coordinating. Near the end of that period, she married her college sweetheart and was finally ready for a family. Her husband, Duane, had always had his career in landscaping or horticulture. He grew up with his father tinkering in orchid culture, and finally becoming commercial with his orchid endeavors after retiring. But, Duane's father, John Goodwin, had made greenhouses that were a bit rudimentary requiring manual labor for heat or cold protection. Basically, that meant Duane was stapling on plastic for cold nights, and removing it when the days warmed up, and then back on for cold nights, and back off for warm days, etc. Duane never wanted to be a part of this kind of operation, ever.

But, when their first of two sons was born just months after his father dying of cancer, Duane had second thoughts. He and Donna bought out his brother and sister's share of the estate and built a greenhouse that is state of the art to grow vanda orchids. They moved back to the old homestead, and Donna quickly learned how to grow vandas and run a retail greenhouse nursery. Their second son was born, and the greenhouse became a big playpen in which the boys could play and have fun.

A second and third greenhouse have since been added and Goodwin Orchids has grown into the premiere source in Central Florida for vandaceous orchids. Donna is so thankful and blessed that she has had a home-based business that allowed her to be home with her children during those crucial early years, and to have her children with her after school in the greenhouse or around the grounds. In her estimation, there could not be a more satisfying career that gives the grower the joy of the beauty of the flowers, and the customer the same joy. And we all know that caring for plants is the oldest occupation known to man.

In September, the Goodwins will have a Centennial celebration in honor of Duane's great grandparents, grandparents and his parents. Yes, that is 100 years at the same location on the west side of Leesburg. Our children are 5th generation. Duane has now been to Thailand seven times to visit nurseries and continue to obtain the finest vandas in the world! We supply vandas to Universal Studios in Orlando, the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in NYC, and we have sold plants to the New York Botanical Garden and to the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History.

Donna's presentation will be on the culture of vandaceous orchids. She will bring plants for sale. Visit her website, www.GoodwinOrchids.com for a virtual visit to their nursery in Leesburg.

Mineral Buildup in Potting Media

We often hear the recommendation to “flush the pot” periodically in order to remove mineral buildup and the accumulation of plant wastes in potting media that occurs as your fertilizer solution evaporates. We are told to irrigate with fresh water only to accomplish that, so we merely suspend our feeding regimen once a month, every other watering, or however we feel comfortable.

Unfortunately, that may not be particularly effective in removing waste products. Let’s look at the mechanics of why that might be, as it applies to all media:

Start with a “virgin” particle that is saturated with a fertilizer solution – the mineral ion distribution is uniform throughout. As the water evaporates from the surface, in order to stay in solution, those ions migrate toward the center of the particle, increasing their concentration in the remaining liquid. Eventually the driving force to stay in solution loses out, and those ions will precipitate as the mineral salts in a highly concentrated “core”.

Now you flush the dry pot, watering with clear water only. The particle absorbs from the outside, in, and once the water reaches that “core”, it starts to dissolve that outermost part of the concentrated mineral precipitates. Some of those minerals will be moved to the surface for extraction, but unless you continue to flush heavily, subsequent evaporation will “push” it right back to the middle. To truly “flush” the medium, long-term soaking in a large volume of water is needed, which allows the minerals to migrate into the liquid.

Every time you fertilize your plants, that same process unfolds, with more and more minerals depositing within the particles, but each time closer and closer to the surface. Ultimately, the accumulation reach a point where the particles become toxic and your plants will begin to decline.

That scenario is true for both organic- and inorganic media particles, but with organics, if you repot appropriately, you throw the problem away! With inorganic media, because of their long (essentially unlimited) life spans, the tendency is to go longer periods of time without repotting, which exacerbates the problem.

So how do we avoid, or at least minimize the inevitable problem?

We must feed our plants adequately in order to get them to grow and bloom well, but it is infrequent watering and the use of concentrated fertilizer solutions that favor buildup, and as we can see, clear-water flushing is not particularly effective in reversing it. If, on the other hand, we water more frequently, using lower levels of fertilizer additions when we do, we reduce the evaporative “driving force” and keep the mineral concentration low to begin with.

Semi-hydroponic culture minimizes such accumulation, as by keeping the medium constantly moist and at a very low fertilizer content, evaporation has a hard time concentrating the solutions leading to precipitation. Note that I did not say “preventing” buildup, as all media components will accumulate minerals and plant wastes over time.

Until next time... Good Growing!

Ray Barkalow, First Rays Orchids FirstRays.com

July Growers Clinic

Hands-on Orchid Repotting Clinic

Thursday, July 11th, Venice Community Center Room F, 7pm

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.

Bring your problem plants for expert help. Guests are welcome.

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



August Growers Clinic

Hands-on Mounting/Potting Without Pots

Thursday, August 8th, Venice Community Center Room F, 7pm



Steve Vogelhaupt and the Growers Clinic Team will present a Hands-on Orchid Mounting Clinic at the Venice Community Center, Room F, at 7:00 pm. Following a short presentation and a few tips of the trade, participants will then mount 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 they plan to mount, as well as a suitable mount and a sterile pair of shears. The necessary tools and supplies, as well as coconut fiber and New Zealand sphagnum moss, will be provided.

With the exception of terrestrial orchids, almost any orchid may be mounted. Common mounts include tree fern plaques, pots, and totems; cedar and cypress slabs and driftwood that has been soaked to remove salts. If you do not have an orchid to repot, check the Raffle Table at our monthly meeting. A great selection of mounts is available at Honey Bee Nursery on Englewood Road, SR 776.



- ♦ **With only two hours available and a large turnout expected, it's critical that everyone adhere to the instructions below:**
- ♦ **Only one plant per person.**
- ♦ **All plants must have all old planting media and dead roots 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.**

Bring your problem plants and questions for expert advice from our Growers Clinic Team. Guests are welcome.

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

Odom's Orchids 2019 Cattleya Symposium



Odom's Orchids, Inc., would like to welcome you to join us for our **9th Annual Cattleya Symposium** on August 1st through 3rd. Our Symposium is recognized as one of the premier orchid events of the year. Attendees will be treated to a slate of world-class speakers discussing topics including Cattleya history, hybridizing, taxonomy and conservation.

This year's lineup will include:

Jeff Bradley (Texas) Rarest of the Rare

Ron Midgett (New Earth Orchids, New Mexico) Breeding with Cattleya Horace 'Maxima' AM/AOS

Frank Smith (Krull-Smith Orchids, Florida) Bifoliate Cattleyas

Kouji Degawa (Japan) Premier examples of *C. trianae* and *C. eldorado*

Bill Thoms (Hilltop Orchids, Florida) Growing Specimen Cattleyas

Francisco Miranda (Florida) Conservation of Brazilian Laelias

Dr. Dean A Kopsell (Department Chair of Horticulture at the University of Florida) Plant nutrition

Carol Holdren with Judy Bailey (Florida) AOS Awarded Cattleyas

This year our Symposium will conclude with AOS Orchid Judging.

You may bring plants for an AOS Judging team to evaluate. Symposium volunteers will help you to register your plant beginning Thursday evening at check-in at the Hampton and up until judging Saturday afternoon.

If you have any questions directly related to judging at the Symposium, please contact Carol Holdren at cjholdren@gmail.com

The cost of the Symposium is \$175.00 per person and our seating is limited to 140 attendees, so please register as soon as possible so you don't miss out. We need everyone registered by **Monday, July 22nd** in order to prepare for each attendee.

Odom's Orchids 2019 Cattleya Symposium, continued....

Check-in is Thursday evening, August 1st at the Hampton Inn lobby starting at 3pm so everyone can get their name tag and Symposium booklet containing the schedule and other important information. Please plan to remain for an informal get-together for attendees and speakers with pizza delivered around 5:30.

The Symposium lectures will be held on Friday August 2nd and Saturday August 3rd at the University of Florida Indian River Research and Education Center in Fort Pierce, Florida from 8 am - 5pm. Lunch will be provided at the facility by Wild Thyme Catering.

Friday evening at 7:30 in the Hampton lobby we will have an auction of Cattleya divisions. This is a great opportunity to add some classics to your collection and have a lot of fun outbidding your friends so don't miss this!

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) center has been very kind to allow us to host our Symposium with them every year. As some of our previous attendees know, there are some things we cannot control. It is usually cold in the building so please bring a sweater or jacket just in case. Also, we have no control over the overhead emergency lights – we cannot dim them. Lastly, they request that no food or drinks are brought into the auditorium. It is not up to us, this is a rule that we must abide by so that we may keep our privilege of using this facility. Please help us with this.

The Hampton Inn & Suites is our host hotel for this year's Symposium, and we have made arrangements for special pricing for our guests. You will have a choice of \$70 for a double queen or \$90 for a king suite. They have guaranteed to hold 60 rooms for us under Odom's Orchids until **July 12th**. The sooner you sign up, the more likely you will be guaranteed a room in the host hotel.

We also have arrangements with **Comfort Inn and Suites** with a choice of double queens or king suites for \$65. They are holding 20 rooms for us.

Group code: Orchid Symposium

Hampton Inn & Suites: 1985 Reynolds Drive, Fort Pierce, FL 34945
(772) 828-4100

Comfort Inn & Suites: 6505 Metal Drive, between I-95 & FL Turnpike,
Fort Pierce, FL 34945 (772) 409-1420

IFAS Address:

2199 S Rock Rd, Fort Pierce 34945

Odom's Orchids, Inc.: 1611 S Jenkins Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34947
(772) 267-9459

<http://www.odoms.com/cattleya-symposium-august-2-3-2019/>

Thank you and looking forward to seeing you in August!

John and Louise Odom

June 2019 Meeting Plant Table Awards

Narrative and photos by Cynthia Vance



First Place and Blue Ribbon was captured by Janet Keown for her magnificent Encyclia (Enc.) NOID (No identification). Though thought to be Enc. Tampensis, the mark on the lip wasn't exactly what is expected of Enc. Tampensis, but perhaps close enough, according to the photo! Encyclias love to grow in the tops of live oak trees in our nearby Myakka State Park and other reserves and it's fun to search for them in the spring. Janet's plant had more than 400 flowers making it a most spectacular and thrilling display. We're inspired, Janet!

Second Place and Red Ribbon was awarded to Stephanie Luburger for her Epidendrum (Epi.) Green Hornet. This fragrant and hardy flower is also commonly called the Prosthechea Green Hornet. The Green Hornet orchid is a result of crossing a Lancifolium orchid with an Epidendrum (Encyclia) cochleatum or Prosthechea cochleata -- hence the name confusion. Many Green Hornet orchids are cultivated as house plants not only for their beauty but also their lovely fragrance. Great presentation, Stephanie!

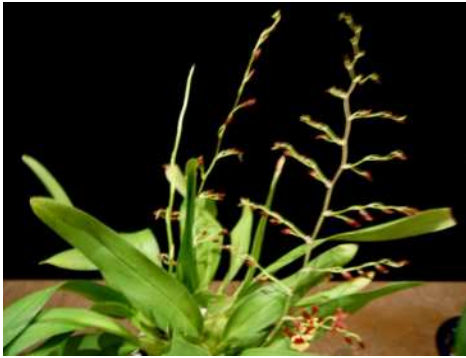


Third Place and Yellow Ribbon was granted to Ed Murphy for his elegant white Cattleya (C.) Pulcherrima (Laelia lobata x L. purpurata). Ed's compact plant had a beautiful gossamer quality with 11 flowers making for an exquisite and lovely display. The whiteness of these flowers indicates some 'alba' also in its background. As with most Catts, fertilizer should be applied weekly and weakly to give it energy to deliver so many blooms at once. Fine growing, Ed!

Both Best Species and Members Choice awards were presented to Suzanne Grimmer for her grandiose Grammatophyllum (Gram.) elegans. This magnificent 6-foot wide plant had 4 inflorescences, each 3 feet long. What a show stopper! Suzanne won this plant at a VAOS meeting raffle 2 years ago -- donated by Jim Roberts, our speaker that evening (SunCoast Orchids, Bradenton). Gram. elegans hails from the Philippines, loves maximum sunlight and in warm areas does well hanging under a tree. But after Suzanne's plant "took over" her tree, she moved it to her outdoor lanai. LOL! Congratulations, Suzanne!



June 2019 Meeting Plant Table Awards, Continued...



New Member Grower and Pink Ribbon was awarded to Ian Kennedy for his handsome Oncidium NOID (No identification) – the ‘dancing lady’ orchid that shimmers in the breeze! As a new member, it’s clear that Ian grows hearty plants, for this orchid, though not fully in bloom, will soon deliver 50 fabulous blooms in the next 2 weeks. Ian must grow it with sunlight coming from all directions for it stands up very erect – a quality judges favor. Oncidiums enjoy loose media, bright light, repotting every other year, and when dividing it’s good to have at least 6 bulbs for each division. Great job, Ian!

Speaker’s Choice and White Ribbon was given to Joanna Shaw for her gorgeous Cattleya (C.) Janice Evans ‘Sweet Sixteen’. This orchid hybrid was originated by E. Seeburg in 1993; it’s a cross of C. Claesiana x C. Prospector. Joanna specializes in growing cattleyas. She said that this plant is so special to her (and hard to find) that when it decided to grow out of the pot, she attached a ‘kiddie car’ for it to grow into, for she didn’t want its possible fragileness to impede it from blooming this year. When the new growth becomes strong, then she’ll repot it. Now, that’s a good idea! Beautiful hybrid, Joanna!



Thank you to everyone who brought in plants!

Congratulations to all our winners!

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.



Venice Area Orchid Society Minutes from June 5, 2019

Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, speaking for Carol Wood as she was unable to attend. He welcomed everyone and expressed his excitement over the excellent speaker we have for tonight, Mr. John Budree speaking about Growing Better Orchids in South Florida. He went over the format for tonight's meeting.

Announcements

- ♦ John Budree has a nice variety of plants to sell tonight.
- ♦ This month's Grower's Clinic will be on June 13th at 7:00 pm in Room F. Jim Thomas will be showing us how to divide orchids for repotting.
- ♦ Our July meeting is a joint meeting with the Englewood Orchid Society and takes place on Monday, July 8th at 6:30 p.m. at the Christ Lutheran Church in Englewood. The speaker is Bill Toms, speaking on "Bulbophyllum Culture."
- ♦ Our August meeting is a joint meeting with the Englewood Orchid Society when they come to the Venice Community Center on August, 7th at 7:00 p.m.
- ♦ Sue Grimmer handed out the seedling plants from May's Grower's Clinic for those who attended and did not receive one.
- ♦ Stephanie Luburger expressed her gratitude for a great Bus Trip to Redlands.
- ♦ Bruce Weaver will be in Heritage Park at 8:00 a.m. this Saturday working to place orchids on trees. Join him in the Park to learn how to staple orchids to trees.
- ♦ This Saturday, June 8th is a Celebration of Life For John Roche at Oscar Scherer State Park. Please see newsletter for details.
- ♦ We would like to acknowledge the good work of Kate Burda, Natasha Romero Contreras and Stephanie Luburger for the great job they have done with the Facebook Page.

Social Affairs/Upcoming Events

- ♦ Janet Keown thanked everyone for the wonderful snacks on the hospitality table and encouraged members to enjoy them.
- ♦ The August 7th joint Englewood/Venice Monthly Meeting here at the Community Center will feature an Ice Cream Social during the meeting. Come and enjoy mingling with Englewood Orchid enthusiasts, listening to a great speaker and eating ice cream.
- ♦ October 10th is our Oktoberfest celebration. Please see the newsletter for more details.

Natasha Romeras Contreras introduced our speaker for the evening. Mr. John Budree speaking on "Growing Better Orchids in South Florida." John was born in Trinidad and has been growing Orchids for 35 years. He was welcomed to the front with loud applause.

Joanna Shaw with an assist from Kristen Shaw presented the plant table. The table was brimming with a wonderful display of the talents of the Venice Orchid Society members. Look for pictures on Facebook. Don't forget to "like" and share the great pictures and other topics of interest.

Sharon Konowski presented the raffle table, assisted by Natasha Romero Contreras.

Submitted by Kathryn Jeske, Recording Secretary

Treasurer's Report May

| | | |
|--|----|-----------|
| Operating Fund Starting May 1, 2019 | \$ | 27,102.43 |
| + Income | \$ | 100.00 |
| - Payments | \$ | 5,317.67 |
| Closing Balance May 31, 2019 | \$ | 21,884.76 |
| Petty Cash | \$ | 75.00 |
| Total Operating Fund May, 2019 | \$ | 27,959.76 |

Reserve Fund

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Starting Balance May 2019 | \$ | 24,844.83 |
| - transfer | \$ | 100.00 |
| +Interest Income May 31, 2019 | \$ | 21.05 |
| Closing Balance May 31, 2019 | \$ | 24,765.88 |

Submitted by Judy Loeffler, Treasurer



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

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

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. See instructions in this newsletter.

July 19 – 20 –International Phalaenopsis Alliance (IPA) Symposium. Highland Manor, 604 E. Main St., Apopka. Info: www.phal.org

August 1-3 – Odom's 9th Annual Cattleya Symposium. Fort Pierce, FL. See article in this newsletter. Info: www.odoms.com

August 7 (1st Wednesday) – Monthly Meeting. Venice Community Center. 6:30pm. Speaker: Donna Goodwin Topic: Vanda Culture.. Joint VAOS/EAOS meeting and ice cream social.

August 8 (2nd Thursday) – Growers Clinic. Venice Community Center 7pm. Potting Without Pots – Mounting Orchids – hands on clinic. See instructions in this newsletter.

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

July 8th

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

Sue Grimmer memb@vaos.org

Visit us on the web at

www.vaos.org