

# **VENICE AREA Orchid Society** **NEWSLETTER**

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2021

**January General Meeting**  
**Wednesday January 5th at 6:45pm**

**Speaker: Courtney Hackney**  
**Topic: Unappreciated Cattleya**  
**Species in Modern Hybrids**



Our January meeting will feature Courtney Hackney, Ph.D. from Jacksonville, Florida.

Dr. Hackney will discuss the major lineages found in today's Cattleya hybrids. In his talk, he will trace breeding trends and specific clones which have contributed to some of the best-known hybrids of today. His talk is based on the decade of research and interviews which went into his 2004 excellent book 'American Cattleyas', detailing in old photographs and new text how the modern cattleyas came to be. The book also contains useful insights about Cattleyas and Cattleya hybrids, how to grow them, and what to expect from modern hybrids.

Dr. Hackney is Emeritus Professor of Biology at North Florida University, and is a prolific author. He has researched coerulea Cattleyas, culminating in an excellent article in the November 2018 issue of ORCHIDS. Other useful columns on breeding and culture can be found on his website.

Courtney grows a variety of hybrids and species in Jacksonville, Florida, but his favorites are the great Cattleya hybrids. He has about 500 mature Cattleyas in his shade house, including some classic clones which appeared in collections over 100 years ago. He makes 10 to 15 hybrids as well as sibling species crosses per year and periodically offers them for sale.

Courtney will have plants for sale. Watch for an email blast with pre-order instructions.

## December Events

No Public Meeting in  
December



## Newsletter Quick Links



VAOS 2020-2021  
OFFICERS



ORCHID  
RESOURCES

SHARE PHOTOS  
OF YOUR  
BLOOMING ORCHIDS  
ON OUR  
FACEBOOK GROUP



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## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Hi Everyone,

It's wonderful to have two nicely attended in-person meetings under our belt—definitely a successful reopening! Check out the show article later in the newsletter for show plans— we are in full planning mode now for our annual event which happens to be one of the top 3 orchid shows in Florida! We generate all of our yearly operating expenses from income from the show. We were lucky to have some reserve funds since we missed last year's show due to Covid, but we are really hoping to keep the good momentum moving forward into show season. If you love orchids, make it a point this fall, winter and spring to support your local orchid vendors, attend some orchid shows around the state, and of course volunteer a little of your time for our show. Now that we are regaining our confidence to be out and about again, we can all use a laugh, a smile, and some good times with our old and new friends. There's nothing like working on a team to make you feel reconnected and purposeful after the doldrums of the Covid shut down. Plus when you look out at all those flowers the day our show opens, you'll be amazed and proud to be part of it. The smile in your mind will last for days. We really do put together a spectacular show and I can hardly wait!

Thanks and see you soon!

Joanna Shaw, President

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## DIVIDING ORCHIDS

At our **January 13th** Growers Clinic Team VAOS will Present **"Dividing Orchids"**

This will be a Presentation and Demonstration. This is a demonstration only and not a hands-on session. Please do not bring plants to divide.

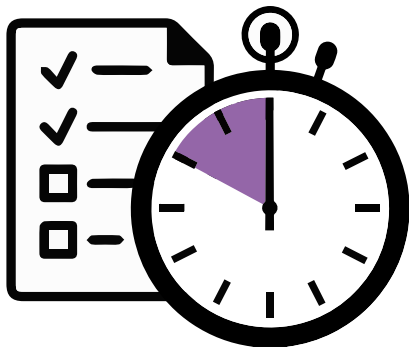
Venice Community Center, Room F. Enter left side of building. 7pm. Bring your problem plants for expert help. Guests are always welcome.



VENICE AREA ORCHID SOCIETY  
MEETINGS

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

LOCATION:  
VENICE COMMUNITY CENTER  
326 Nokomis Ave S, Venice, FL 34285



# MEETING MINUTES

DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2021

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Joanna Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Joanna thanked everyone for wearing their masks and welcomed the members to the meeting. Joanna went over the format for our meetings.

## Announcements

- We have changed our plant table. We will award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons. Members are encouraged to view the plants and vote on their favorite orchid. The votes are counted and ribbons awarded.
- We are exploring having a plant sale on December 4 in Blaylock Park. In addition to the plant sale we will have a couple "Monster Plants" that we will divide and give the parts to members.
- The Englewood Plant Sale is November 6th from 9-12 pm at the Christ Lutheran Church in Englewood.

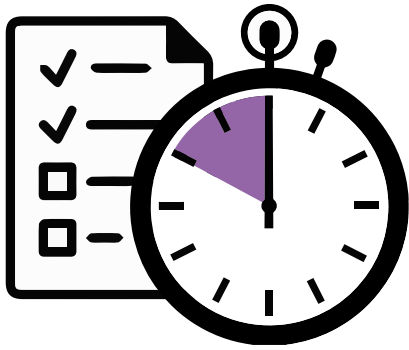
Carol Wood and Judy Loeffler, Co-Chairs of the Annual Orchid Show in February were welcomed to speak to members about the upcoming Show.

There was no Show in 2021 due to the pandemic. Our 2022 Show will be the 1st weekend in February and will be our 55th Annual Show. This Show is our primary fundraiser for our Society. Funds raised go toward paying our rent for our meetings, to pay speaker fees, subsidize social events as well as to support the AOS.

It takes an Army to put on a successful Show and we have 150 volunteer spots to fill. Volunteers receive a t-shirt, free admission to the Show, great food, and an opportunity to learn more about orchids. All committee chairs have been selected.

Show Changes this year include efforts to reduce congestion and open traffic flow during the Show. We will have 3 Society Displays. We are not asking Vendors to set up individual displays. Instead Vendors will pool their plants to set up one vendor display.

The Sarasota Orchid Society Show is January 8 and 9th. We will need your blooming plants and some volunteers for this event.



# MEETING MINUTES

DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2021  
(Continued)

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## Show Volunteer opportunities:

- Help with the Display
- Pick up and deliver greenery for the display
- Take down display after the Show
- Show set up on Friday
- Sunday take Show down
- Clerking- working with the AOS judges
- Front door admissions—selling tickets and collect money
- Show Host/Security- Keep people out of the displays
- Membership Table—Sue Grimmer, sign-up new members
- Arts and Crafts- Enter homemade works of orchid inspired art
- Orchid Boutique Sales- Design of orchid bouquets
- Sellers for Raffle Tables
- Blooming Plants—Need blooming plants for the Show Display
- Hospitality and Food for Friday, Saturday and Sunday- Donate food to be shared for volunteers and Show Vendors.

Overall we need 130-150 Volunteers. Sign-up Sheets are at the back table or check our newsletter for further information.

Joanna introduced tonight's speaker, Fred Clarke with Sunset Valley Orchids, located in San Diego, California. Members welcomed Fred Clarke with applause and enjoyed his presentation on Cycnoches, Mormodes, Catasetums—Recent Trends. Fred is well known for hybridizing orchids and members were encouraged to buy the plants he brought for sale.

Joanna Shaw, Kristin Shaw and Vicki Fisher presented the abundant plant table.

John and Sharon Konowski ran the raffle table always a favorite of members.

Submitted by Kathryn Jeske, Recording Secretary



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# 2022 VAOS ORCHID SHOW & SALE

## FEBRUARY 4-6, 2022

### SIGN UP NOW TO VOLUNTEER FOR OUR SHOW

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The Venice Area Orchid Society (VAOS) will present our 55th annual show and sale at the Venice Community Center in beautiful downtown Venice, FL on February 5-6, 2022. Our show theme this year is **"Happy Days Are Here Again"**. Fifteen vendors will exhibit and sell 1000's of blooming orchid plants as well as orchid floral arrangements, artwork, jewelry, accessories and supplies. The show is widely regarded as the most popular orchid show on Florida's west coast and comes just before Valentine's Day.

The Venice Area Orchid Society is one of the largest and most active orchid societies in the U.S. with more than 400 members. Our mission is to foster orchid growing, to provide a forum for orchid exhibition, to promote orchid conservation, and to share the knowledge and experience of growers and hobbyists. We are an affiliate of the American Orchid Society. Our annual show is our major fund raising event and is always held the first full weekend in February at the Venice Community Center in downtown Venice.

**Please volunteer to support our show!** We count on our army of member volunteers to produce a successful show! See the following volunteer list for where we need help. Sign up at our monthly meetings or email [ShowChair@VAOS.org](mailto>ShowChair@VAOS.org). Call Judy Loeffler, Show Co-chair at 941-485-9569 for more information.



# Volunteer for our 2022 Show

Friday February 4th 11am -8pm **Set Up**

Saturday February 5th 10am - 5pm

Sunday February 6th 10am - 4pm

SHOW COMMITTEE	WHEN	JOB DESCRIPTION	# VOLUNTEER SLOTS
<b>Set Up</b> Coord: Jerry Daenzer 284-5001	Friday 2/4/22 11am - 2pm	Set up the hall for exhibits. Lay plastic, assist vendors in bringing in plants and greenery. Some strong backs needed.	6
<b>Take Down</b> Coord: Ed Soentgen & Carol Wood 497-4995	Sunday 2/6/22 3:45pm - 6pm	Show take down and clean up. Assist Removal of plants and displays. Dispose of trash, sweep floor. Fresh/rested volunteers needed.	9
<b>Clerks</b> Coord: Mary Anne Digrazia 697-9237	Saturday 2/5/22 7:30am - 10:30am	Work with AOS judges finding and pointing out plants in the exhibits and placing ribbons. A great learning experience as the judges share their knowledge of what makes a quality plant and flower!	16
<b>Front Door Admissions</b> Coord: Elaine Ortt 485-5313	Saturday 2/5/22 9:45am - 5pm Sunday 2/6/22 9:45am - 4pm	Sell admission tickets. Cashier skills required. A sit down job. Sign up for a 2.5 hour slot Saturday or Sunday.	15
<b>Show Hosts</b> Coord: Sharon & John Kahnoski 616-581-9131	Friday 2/4/22 1pm - 7pm Saturday 2/5/22 9:45am - 5pm Sunday 2/6/22 9:45am - 4pm	Monitor entrances and exits. Ensure visitors don't step into displays. Serve as Show Host for AOS judges, other societies and vendors. Sign up for a 2.5 hour slot Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Some sit down jobs.	38
<b>Hospitality/Food</b> Coord: Linda & Bruce Hahn 408-7646	Friday , Saturday and Sunday	Bring your favorite dish Friday, Saturday or Sunday: hot or cold main dishes, casseroles, pastries, platters, desserts, etc. Bring to kitchen by 11am each day. Sign up your dish and what day. Help with clean up Saturday or Sunday	ALL





## LET THERE BE LIGHT

In a previous Corner I wrote about my tendency to over water and how I deal with it. My other hurdle in this new hobby of mine is light. I read the descriptions of plants before I buy them and see many references to the light needed: "bright light", "some sun", "morning sun", "never mid-day sun" and other descriptions. Again, I'm a retired accounting/operations person. I like specifics and the orchid recipes are short on specifics, i.e., 3 tablespoons of sun or a ½ cup of bright light. What is bright light exactly? I read care instructions on the AOS website and see references to "foot candles" and "lumens" and the numbers preferred by each orchid type. I buy a light meter so I can measure foot candles and lumens. The light meter is in one of our junk drawers. The other part of this light challenge is that I don't know where geographically the author of the orchid's needs either lives or is referring to. Bright light in Wisconsin is not the same as bright light in Florida. Which bright light is it? Does it matter?

Five years ago, we bought what we felt was the best lot available in the new community in which we decided to retire. Our only requirement was that it had to be on water. I didn't own an orchid, didn't even think about orchids, so orientation to the sun wasn't a consideration. I have no control over the direction the sun travels relative to the position of the pool cage in which I house my orchids. It is what it is. As I've written before, I have no space in which I can put up a shade house or greenhouse and don't have any mature trees in which to hang plants. I do have a Sabal palm that now hosts a few air plants, a Vanda and two Phals, but that's it. Everything else is in the pool cage. I have a pole along one end of the cage from which hang my other Vandas and a few Cattleyas. I have two shelves on one wall and three shelves on another. The only area that gets any sun is the area in which the pole is located. Those plants get enough light because the blooming of the Cats. and Vandas is consistent. The other two growing areas get good light although on the low side. The plants seem healthy enough, but the blooming is not consistent and usually only one bloom, rarely multiple blooms.

For readers who have been with me since I started this series, you notice a theme. Few if any of us grow our orchids in ideal conditions and yet the conditions we have are often good enough to reward us with a few flowers. That is what is so neat to me. I get great pleasure watching my plants grow, send out new roots, adapt to their homes on my shelves and reward me with flowers. What remarkable plants that they can bring us so much joy even if they would prefer a few more lumens.

Cheers, Ian

[ianbkennedy47@gmail.com](mailto:ianbkennedy47@gmail.com)

I will happily respond to your emails and if you would like to see my set up, let's find a time.

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# 2022 ANNUAL DUES

We have started collecting 2022 annual dues in October, with December 31st the last date to maintain your membership.

Dues are \$20 per household. If you join or renew on or after October 1st, 2021, you are paid through 2022. Mail your check, payable to VAOS, to:

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

You may also renew at our monthly meetings.

This is also the time to make sure we have your current contact information - address, phone and email address. If your contact information has changed, please notify Sue Grimmer at: [memb@VAOS.org](mailto:memb@VAOS.org)



## TREASURER'S REPORT OCTOBER 2021

Operating Fund Starting Sept. 1, 2021	\$38,365.23
+ Income	\$ 1,200.00
- Payments	\$ 774.98
+ Interest	\$ 0.28
+ Petty Cash	\$ 75.00
<b>Total Operating Fund Oct 29, 2021</b>	<b>\$38,865.53</b>



Submitted by Judy Loeffler, Treasurer





# American Orchid Society

*Education. Conservation. Research.*

## Join the American Orchid Society and receive:



**CLICK HERE  
TO  
JOIN**

- Instant access to hundreds of back issues of the award-winning Orchids magazine 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 world wide today by joining the AOS.



Join us on  
**Facebook**

**JOIN THE VAOS FACEBOOK GROUP TODAY**

### BENEFITS OF JOINING THE VAOS FACEBOOK GROUP

Provides an interactive environment for members

Ask questions, solve plant problems

Share your ideas and techniques

Show us how you grow

Sell, swap or give away plants and divisions



**CLICK HERE TO ACCESS  
OUR FACEBOOK GROUP**



# VAOS Mentor Program

Are you fairly new to growing orchids? After the last 18 months of no “in person” VAOS meetings do you have some questions or are you looking for some guidance that you feel pertains only to your particular growing situation? Are you an experienced grower looking for a rewarding opportunity to share your knowledge and skills and help new members? With over 400 members in the VAOS, it’s probably a good idea to review the details of our Mentor Program and how you might benefit from it!

Our Mentor Program, one of only a handful of such programs in Florida, began in 2012 with an idea brought forth by Peg Fahrenback. The concept is quite simple. Match knowledgeable, experienced growers (the “mentors”) with newer members (the “mentees”) who might need a little personalized “jump start”, over and above what might be gained by attending our meetings and Growers Clinics.

The mentor often supports their mentee by visiting the mentee’s home, in a more social setting, for an hour or so, to gauge growing conditions, placement, specific plant requirements for light, watering and feeding, potting, pests, etc., and to discuss one of our favorite topics, orchids! Mentees, on the other hand, should be active VAOS members, are required to have attended at least two Growers Clinics, and of course have a genuine interest in improving the results of their orchid-growing endeavors. Graduates of the program gain the additional knowledge and skills they need to improve their results and receive an attractive VAOS Pin to commemorate and celebrate their achievement. We currently have 11 Mentors (HINT: We need more!) and have “graduated” almost 100 “mentees”. Many have gone on to produce award-winning plants and to become mentors themselves!

If you would like to volunteer to join our team of mentors, which is a fun and rewarding way to share your orchid-growing skills, meet new orchid aficionados, and requires only a minimal amount of time or, if, in turn, you are struggling with your orchid collection and feel a mentor would help you with your “learning curve”, complete the appropriate section of the Mentor/Mentee application, located [HERE](#), or send an email to [mentor@vaos.org](mailto:mentor@vaos.org).





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November 3, 2021  
Plant Table Awards

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CATTLEYA (C.) WALKERIANA

**First Place Blue Ribbon** was awarded to **Joanna Shaw** for her large and magnificent Cattleya (C.) Walkeriana. It was beautifully hanging on a strong stand. Who found C walkeriana? George Gardner, an English botanist and orchid collector in 1893 during a trip to Brazil who afterwards named it after a fellow collector friend, George Walker. The word 'walkeriana' is not capitalized so we know it is a species! The plant is referred to as Queen of the Brazilian Savanna – found growing on rocky limestone or giant old or small trees along streams at elevations up to 6500+ feet – yet it thrives in Venice even though some species are difficult to grow here. It differs from most Catt species by having inflorescences which arise from the rhizome instead of from the apex of the pseudobulb. We love its vanilla to cinnamon scented flowers with such a striking lip and every year we see how much larger Joanna's plant has become! Exquisite cultivation, Joanna!

Photos by Kristin Shaw and Narrative by Cynthia Vance



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November 3, 2021  
Plant Table Awards (cont.)

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Beallara (Bllra.) Marfitch 'Howards Dream' AM/AOS

**Second Place Red Ribbon** was presented to **Janet Keown** for her beautiful and multiflorous Beallara (Bllra.) Marfitch 'Howards Dream' AM/AOS, a hybrid of Bratonia Charles M. Fitch x Oncidium Fremar. (New name is Aliceara (Alcra.) For those members who are new, AM/AOS means 'Award of Merit' from the American Orchid Society. (\*\*See note re: judging below at the end of article) Now Janet's plant is mericlone (an exact copy) of one of the best intergeneric Oncidium hybrids! The large, deep grape/purple-colored flowers decorate its tall flower spikes which make for an exceptionally showy plant. It's a 'must-have' for a new grower for with basic care, yours too, can soon become such a specimen as Janet's. Thanks for bringing your plant in, Janet, and -- Great growing!

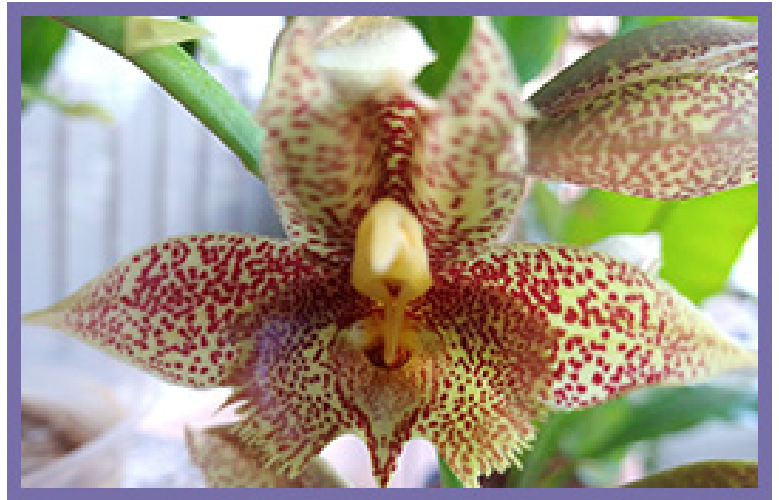
Photos by Kristin Shaw and Narrative by Cynthia Vance



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November 3, 2021  
Plant Table Awards (cont.)

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Catasetum (Ctism.) Red Dragon

**Third Place Yellow Ribbon** was awarded to **Vicki Fisher** for her gorgeous dark red Catasetum (Ctism.) Red Dragon. As Vicki wrote, "Catasetums were some of the first orchids I started growing back in 2017. I grow Catasetums because of their weird, wild and unusual looking flowers. One day I was perusing Ebay looking for different types of orchids to buy and I kept seeing Catts, Dens and the other mainstream orchids, and then the Red Dragon popped up. I bought it and the rest is history! I currently have over 100 catasetinae in all and my collection keeps growing at every chance I get." Beautiful job, Vicki!

Photos by Kristin Shaw and Narrative by Cynthia Vance





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## November 3, 2021 Plant Table Awards (cont.)

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**Marmodes (Mo.) Painted Desert  
'Rogue Red' x Ctsm. Dragon's Teeth**

**Speaker's Choice White Ribbon** goes to again to **Vicki Fisher** for her eye-catching Marmodes (Mo.) Painted Desert 'Rogue Red' x Ctsm. Dragon's Teeth. It is an unregistered hybrid. Vicki added, "Catasetums are some of the easiest to grow. They start new growth in the Spring, grow profusely through the late Spring and Summer, start to go dormant in the Fall and are dormant in the Winter, when you don't have water them until the new growth is at least 6" in the Spring. I purchase my plants from various places: Ebay, different vendors, individuals and especially Sunset Valley Orchids of which Frank Clarke, owner/hybridizer of catasetinae and speaker at this recent November meeting. Vicki, congratulations again!!

Photos by Kristin Shaw and Narrative by Cynthia Vance





# Orchid Show & Sale

Venice Area Orchid Society Presents

*"Happy Days Are Here Again"*

**February 5 - 6, 2022**

**Saturday 10am - 5pm**

(displays open at 11am)

**Sunday 10am - 4pm**

**Venice Community Center**

326 S. Nokomis Ave.

Venice, Florida

**Admission \$5**

(under 10 free)

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

**Thousands of Blooming Orchids, Orchid  
art and Supplies**

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION**



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## 2022 Sarasota Orchid Society Show and Sale **Orchids in Paradise** January 8th & 9th, 2022

### Your Blooming Plants Are Needed! Sarasota Orchid Society Show

Saturday Jan 8th - Sunday Jan 9th  
Set up: Friday January 7th, 9am – 4pm

Location: Sarasota Municipal Auditorium: 801 N. Tamiami Trail Sarasota

Our first orchid show of the season, the annual Sarasota Orchid Society (SOS) Show and Sale.

Show hours are Saturday 9am - 5pm and Sunday 10am - 5pm.  
Setup is Friday, January 7th, 2022, 9am - 4pm.

Your blooming plants are needed to create our display. We will collect and transport your plants to the show and ensure their safe return to you on Monday following the show. **Bring your plants to one of two locations by Thursday January 6th no later than 6pm:**

**South Venice:** Carol Wood, 4941 Bella Terra Dr., Venice (Venetia), 497-4995 (Leave on front porch)

**Venice Island:** Bruce Weaver, 328 West Bay Dr., Venice, 800-7804 (leave by front door)

Or bring them to the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium on Friday January 7th at 9am

**All plants must be registered in advance via email by Wednesday, January 5th, 8pm:**

**Email your plant name with a photo or bloom size and color description to [PlantReg@VAOS.org](mailto:PlantReg@VAOS.org).**

Plants should be cleaned, staked, free of pests and disease and labeled with both the plant name and the owner's name. Flowers should be in prime condition to last through the weekend show. Please water your plants thoroughly and place in a box or container for transport to the show.



## Support Our Local Growers and Vendors!

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### 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)

### Joanna's Orchid Pottery

[www.orchidpottery.com](http://www.orchidpottery.com)  
[orchidpottery@gmail.com](mailto:orchidpottery@gmail.com)



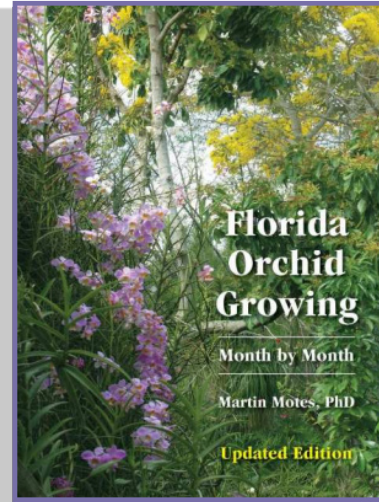
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## NEW EDITION RELEASED AND NOW AVAILABLE!



Dr. Martin Motes

### FLORIDA ORCHID GROWING MONTH BY MONTH



VAOS has received our shipment of the new edition. They are available to members for \$20 and may be ordered and picked up from:

Judy Loeffler—On Venice Island. 941-485-9569 Email: [judyvaos@gmail.com](mailto:judyvaos@gmail.com)  
833 Guild Dr. Venice, FL 34285

Carol Wood—South Venice. 941-497-4995 Email: [cwood12@msn.com](mailto:cwood12@msn.com)  
4941 Bella Terra Dr., Venice, FL 34293

Call or email Judy or Carol to order and pick up your copy at one of their homes.

We regret we cannot mail the books at this time.

The BEST and Best Selling Book on growing orchids in Florida!

Martin Motes, a native Floridian, has been growing orchids south of Miami for over fifty years, man and boy. His guidance and advice come from a deep knowledge and practical experience of the local, subtropical world. Monthly guides lead the aspiring orchidist through the intricacies of the changing climate and growing conditions of the Florida year: its benefits and its dangers. Practical solutions to problems and to control and prevention of pests and diseases are offered. Growing materials and tools are suggested and their local sources are provided.

Written in a humorous and easily accessible style, Florida Orchid Growing will make everyone an expert. This Florida-specific guide will prove invaluable to subtropical and tropical growers everywhere.

In addition to updates on the latest in disease and pest control, the new edition contains an extensive chapter on control of Thrips giving growers the tools needed to control this ubiquitous pest. Over sixty years' experience has shown that controlling Thrips consistently yields control of scale, mealy bugs and all other insect pests, including the wily cucaracha. A new chapter on "Advice for Snowbirds" helps our winter visitors leave their beloved orchids behind with more confidence that they will be fine upon their return. Finally, in the 12 years that have passed since the first edition of Florida Orchid Growing was published, molecular research has led to numerous name changes in genera. The new and proper nomenclature for many plants is incorporated in the new book.



JANUARY 14-16, 2022

tamiami



# orchid festival international

MIAMI DADE COUNTY FAIR & EXPO CENTER  
10901 SW 24TH ST, MIAMI, FL 33165

**[WWW.ORCHIDFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.ORCHIDFESTIVAL.COM)**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



## Orchid Conservation Alliance

### Conserving Orchids by Conserving Orchid Habitat

The OCA conserves orchids by funding habitat preservation. Since inception in 2005 we have helped with the purchase of over 3000 acres of orchid habitat, protecting hundreds of orchid species in Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia. Many species of rare birds, trees, frogs, mammals also find refuge in these reserves.



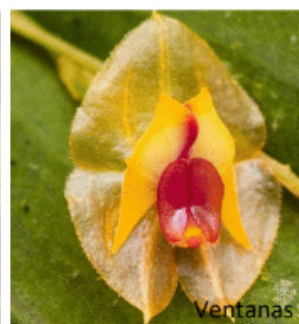
Dracula gigas



Dracula trigonopetala



Dracula lemurella



Lepanthes escifera

We hope you will join us in promoting this important work. We invite you to become a member of the OCA, to make a donation, to take a trip with us to see Orchids in the Wild®, and to purchase merchandise through our website. Since we have no paid staff, all proceeds support orchid conservation. The OCA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. more info: [www.orchidconservationalliance.com](http://www.orchidconservationalliance.com).

HAPPY

HOLIDAYS



FROM THE VENICE AREA ORCHID SOCIETY



# UPCOMING EVENTS



No monthly meeting or growers clinic in December

**December 4** - Member plant swap/sale at West Blalock Park. **CANCELED**

**December 12**—Holiday Brunch canceled due to Covid

**December 12**—East Everglades Orchid Society Holiday Orchid Event, R.F. Orchids Homestead, FL.  
Info: [concept22@aol.com](mailto:concept22@aol.com)

**January 5th (1st Wednesday)** - Monthly Meeting, Venice Community Center. 7pm. Speaker:  
Courtney Hackney

**January 8-9**—Sarasota Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale. Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801  
N Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Set up January 7th. See article in this newsletter

**January 13th (2nd Thursday)** - Growers Clinic. Venice Community Center . 7pm. Monster Plant  
Division demo by the Growers Clinic Team

**January 14-16** - Tamiami Orchid Festival International. See flyer in this newsletter

## PLAN AHEAD

**February 4-6** -VAOS Annual Show & Sale

**March 3-5** - EAOS Annual Show & Sale

## ONGOING

Mentor Program: help for beginning  
growers, contact Rick Belisle

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

**AOS Orchid Judging** - Florida North  
Central Judging Center - Click [HERE](#) to  
check



## CONTACT US

Venice Area Orchid Society  
PO BOX 443  
Venice, FL 34284-0443

**President**  
Joanna Shaw [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)