VENICE AREA Orchid Society OS NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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 at the monthly meeting.

JANUARY 2022

January Events

January 5th meeting will be held at the Venice Community Center

Newsletter Quick Links



VAOS 2020-2021 OFFICERS



ORCHID RESOURCES

SHARE PHOTOS OF YOUR BLOOMING ORCHIDS ON OUR FACEBOOK GROUP





A MESSAGE FROM YOUR

PRESIDENT Hi Everyone! Show season is upon us! The most wonderful time in an orchid lover's year. Please take a look at your plants, start staking your buds, double check your labels and get your plants ready to help us make prize winning displays! You don't have to be the best grower in the world to enter your plants

for display, just make them look nice and bring them in.We love all flowers, the more the better! There is a plant drop off info later in this newsletter and in a recent email to members.

Also, since we have three shows coming up including our own in February, consider signing up as a volunteer to help us out. The time slots are short and there is a great feeling of accomplisment when you see what are group achieves with your help. We have sedentary jobs and active jobs, whatever you can do is fine. Come meet new friends,too! Friends you may make working on a show together may turn out to be the best friends friends you have. And we can all use more friends!

Looking forward to seeing everyone amidst a sea of flowers!

Joanna Shaw - President

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



By now your catasetinae should be in full dormancy and you should have stopped watering by now. So you may be wondering what do I do with them now. The short answer is nothing; this is the time of year you ignore them...but not really.

There are several different things you can be doing right now:



1. If your plants still have green leaves, cut them off to force dormancy.

2. If you repotted last year, you can leave them in the same pot/media as long as the plant has not outgrown the pot. Catasetinae should be repotted every two years to refresh the media. This does not include any seedlings you may have received from SVO this year. Those need to be repotted in the next pot size up which would be a 4" pot.

3. You can unpot them and leave them bare root until you see new growth. You can either cut off all the roots or leave the roots on. Some people cut off all the roots and put the bulbs in a box. I personally leave the roots on and place them in an empty pot. Leaving the roots on helps with stabilizing the bulb in the new media when repotting, but I also stake up the bulb until new roots of the new growth take hold of the media.

4. Place the bulbs in a protected area where they will receive no rain/water. I leave mine outside on the covered back patio as long as the temps don't go below 50

If the temps are predicted to go below 50 degrees for an extended period of time, I will bring them inside. If you leave them outside below 50, you run the risk of the base of the bulb dying. This doesn't mean you killed your bulb, it just means that you may get new growth higher up on the bulb and may have to plant the old bulb sideways.

5. Now you watch them for new growth. This can happen slowly or quickly depending on what you have and, of course, weather conditions. Last year, mine took a long time before I saw new growth

as we had a cool Spring. If we have a warm Spring (fingers crossed), then new growth may emerge sooner. I have found that cycnoches are a little more persnickety and require warmer temps for new growth to emerge, so they may take longer.

6. Another thing that needs to be watched is shriveling of the bulbs. If you find last years new growth is starting to shrivel badly, you can place the bulb in a pot above a jar of water to provided extra humidity. Make sure there is a tight seal between the jar and the pot and ensure no water is touching the bulb.

7. Now for the exceptions, aren't there always exceptions, geez; and the exceptions are mormodia. SVO had a lot of mormodia on their list this year and I bought quite a few and thinking they are like most catasetinae, but that thought was shattered when Fred mentioned at our meeting that he waters his a little bit longer, than the catasetinae. I emailed him and asked if he could explain further. He stated that he continues to water his, at a reduced rate, about a month to eight weeks longer than the Christmas cut off for watering. He said that he has found this helps the mormodia a little bit in carrying them through dormancy.

I hope this helps regarding dormancy of catasetine. Happy Growing.



Submitted by Vicki Fisher





I began attending meetings in November 2018. Sitting there listening to the speaker at that first meeting, I felt overwhelmed and totally out of my league. What am I doing here? I had just begun buying a few orchids that past Spring. After the Speaker and the break, someone started describing the plants on the plant table. They knew so much, often identifying and talking about the various plants without looking at the tags. Again, I thought, what am I doing here? I was seriously thinking of not attending any more meetings (I would only waste \$20) and playing with my few orchids on my own.

But I guess I was intrigued and attended January's meeting and then the orchid shows, Sarasota and Venice. I was hooked. I spoke with a few of the vendors. I bought a few more plants. I can do this I thought. I'm a good student and I've been growing things all my life in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Why not orchids now that we live in Florida?

I read about the Mentor Program and told Rick Belisle I was interested. If I am going to do this orchid thing, I better learn as much as I can. Meetings and speakers are great, but I am a handson type. He said great but first you need to attend at least two Grower's Clinics. I attended the next two. They were perfect for me, hands-on, repotting and planting media, I believe. I applied to the Mentor Program and was accepted and became a mentee of Donn Smart. I may have been overwhelmed at my first meeting back in November but seeing Donn's collection and listening to him was humbling, but I was learning. Listening to speakers at meetings, the plant table, hands-on Grower's Clinics, a mentor - learning, learning.

Late that Spring some of my plants began to rebloom. I've had many beds of perennials and flowering shrubs in the past, but I can't remember ever being as excited as I was with my first orchid rebloom. Now that some are reblooming, I am going to bring them to the plant tables whenever I can - learn, learn, learn. Looking at the tag, the plant table person asks, Ian Kennedy? Where are you? My hand is up, proudly.

From bringing my plants to the plant table in 2019, to posting on our Facebook page, to writing these silly monthly pieces, to telling Judy and Carol that I am theirs for the entire show weekend this coming February, I am energized and enthusiastic about our society and I hope my example encourages others to be more involved.

Enjoy the Holiday Season and Happy New Year, Ian <u>lanbkennedy47@gmail.com</u> I happily respond to emails.



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 or-chid-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.





Sharon and John Kahnoski



Welcome to a **New Feature** of our newsletter! The Venice Area Orchid Society has always been blessed by a group of wonderful volunteers willing to help with all the little things that make us successful. Each month, I will focus on a different member and give you some background about them. My hope is that this will give us all an opportunity to get to know each other a little better.



This month the focus is on **Sharon and John Kahnoski**. You know them best as the friendly faces behind the raffle table, but there is a lot more to tell. Sharon and John joined the VAOS in approximately 2005. Sharon says the first time they entered a plant for a show display, they won a trophy and they were "sucked in" from there! They currently have about 60 orchid plants growing in their carport and trees around their yard. One year, they entered a Vanda in our display that had been "neglected". Not only did it win a trophy, Krull Smith bought a piece of it from them for \$500 so they could clone it!

Sharon and John run the raffle table at monthly meetings. Sharon was Vice President of Social Activities for 4 years and planned all our social events. She took a few years off, and just agreed to do the job again! In addition, she and John

coordinate the Show Host/Security group of our Show volunteers so everyone knows where to go and what to do when the big weekend comes. Sharon preps our show plants before they go into the display. She cleans them up, covers the pots, and organizes them by flower color so the display coordinator can visualize a prize-winning display. She and John assist as needed with set up and take down.

Sharon and John are from Michigan, they have 2 kids, and they live here in Florida full time. Their favorite sports team is the University of Michigan and anyone that Tom Brady plays for. John was a Firefighter and also maintenance overseer for a group of condos. Sharon ran her own cleaning business, worked at McDonalds, and helped John wash hundreds of windows in those condos. Sharon describes herself as Type-A busy!

It does take a village to make an orchid society successful. Not all of our volunteers do this much, nor are they asked to. Sharon and John really go above and beyond and deserve a round of applause!

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR PLANT FOR THE SHOW

Groom Your Plant:

Remove dead or brown leaves and pseudobulbs from the plant. Clean the pseudobulbs and leaves (water helps to soften the dry papery covering around pseudobulbs so that you can gently rub it off). Trim dead areas from leaves. Cut following the basic shape of the natural leaf ending if possible. Wipe the top of the leaves (vinegar, lemon juice, sprite, 7 up, etc.) to remove residue. Do not use commercial spray to shine the leaves. Make sure the media in the container is clean. Remove trash, debris, dead leaves or stems and weeds from the pot.

Pests or Diseases:

While prepping orchids for a display, check for pests and disease. Check the leaves and pseudobulbs for a white cottony substance, an indication of mealybugs. Hard, whitish bumps may mean scale and if any are found remove them with alcohol and a Q-tip. If there is a bad infestation, do not bring the plant to the show. Check for other pests such as snails, slugs and ants. Inspect the flowers for thrips and other damage. If a flower is marred by spots it is better to leave the plant at home.

Stakes:

Carefully stake the spike that will present the flowers to their best advantage. If you can plan ahead of time, it is best to stake the spike as it emerges ;an older spike is harder and can break off easier.

These are often needed to support the flower spike but should not distract the eye. Keep them looking as natural as possible. Stakes should not protrude beyond the top of the last bloom flower, but should allow the flowers to be kept away from the foliage. It may also protect the flower spike from damage during travel to the show.

Remove any wire hangers, hoops, etc. Water each plant thoroughly before bringing to the show. If the plant is in a plastic pot, drop it into a clay pot for stability. Place each plant carefully in a large box or container for transport. To keep the plants from moving around you can put rolled newspapers around the pots.

Labels:

Ensure your plant has its name tag. Also tape a piece of masking tape with your name on it to the side of pot. This is how the Team knows the plant owner so it will be returned to you.

All plants must be registered in advance via email 8:00pm, two days prior to setup day

Email your plant name with a photo or bloom size and color description to



2022 VAOS ORCHID SHOW & SALE FEBRUARY 4-6, 2022 SIGN UP NOW TO VOLUNTEER FOR OUR SHOW

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 <u>ShowChair@VAOS.org</u>. 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
Set Up Coord: Jerry Daenzer 284-5001	Friday 2/4/22 11am - 2pm	Set up the hall for exhibits. Lay plastic, assist vendors in bring- ing in plants and greenery. Some strong backs needed.	3
Take Down 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
Clerks 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 learn- ing experience as the judges share their knowledge of what makes a quality plant and flower!	15
Front Door Admissions 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
Show Hosts 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.	40
Orchid Boutique Coord: Karen Mann 203-232-6056	Saturday 2/5/22 9:45am - 5pm Sunday 2/6/22 9:45am - 4pm	Sell floral arrangements and accessories at the Orchid Boutique. Sell raffle tickets for the orchid basket raffle	14
Food Servers	Fri, Sat, Sun Lunch Time	Serve food in dining room buffett	12
Hospitality/Food 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

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



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





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Education. Conservation. Research.





Access to the American Orchid Society Website and all of the following valuable information:

Orchids Magazine - A glorious world of orchids and information delivered right to your door or digitally and members-only access to over 350 back issues.

Free AOS-Sponsored Webinars - A great way to learn about all things orchids from the experts! OVER 100+ Webinars.

 Culture Sheets - Learn from experts how to grow your orchids better!

 BEGINNERS' NEWSLETTER - Great, easy to follow tips.

AOS Show Listings - Find AOS sanctioned shows.

Discounts - Garden passes and discounts free or discounted admission to many botanical gardens, arboreta and conservatories.

Supplies - Find orchid suppliers and vendors for all your needs and save with a member discount.

CLICK HERE TO JOIN



Thousands of Blooming Orchids, Orchid art and Supplies CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



Support Our Local Growers and Vendors!

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, FI (941-266-6351)

Florida SunCoast Orchids

8211 Verna Bethany Rd., Myakka City, FL (941-322-8777)

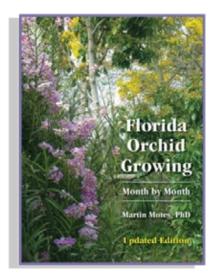
Joanna's Orchid Pottery www.orchidpottery.com orchidpottery@gmail.com

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 833 Guild Dr. Venice, FL 34285

Carol Wood–South Venice. 941-497-4995 Email: <u>cwood12@msn.com</u> 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.



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.

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.



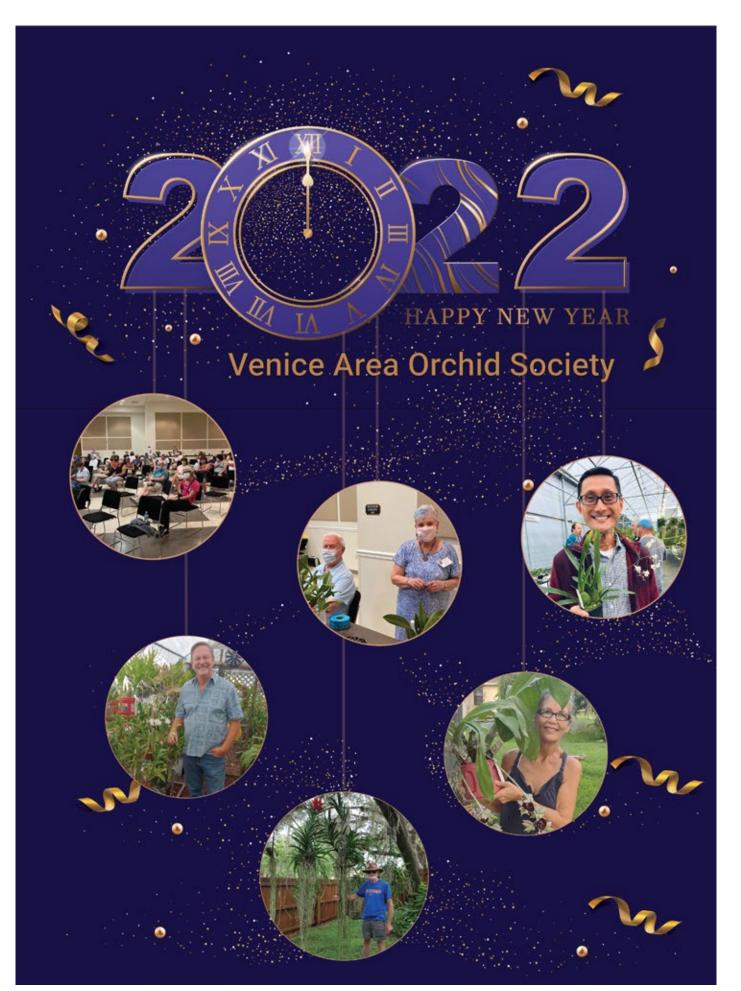
JANUARY 14-16, 2022

orchid festival international

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WWW.ORCHIDFESTIVAL.COM

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



UPCOMING EVENTS



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

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

January 13 (2nd Thursday) - Growers Clinic. Venice Community Center. 7pm. Monster Plant Division demo by the Growers Clinic Team. See article in this newsletter.

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

February 2 - (1st Wednesday) - Monthly Meeting, Venice Community Center. 7pm. Speaker: Bill Kuntz Topic: Encyclia's and Their Hybrids

February 4-6 - VAOS Annual Show & Sale. Set up Friday February 4th. Show February 5-6. See articles in this newsletter

February 10 (2nd Thursday) - Growers Clinic. Venice Community Center . 7pm. Orchid Basics presentation and Orchid Repotting Workshop

PLAN AHEAD

March 3-5 - EAOS Annual Show & Sale

ONGOING

Mentor Program: help for beginning growers, contact Rick Belisle Mentor@vaos.org

AOS Orchid Judging - Florida North Central Judging Center - Click <u>HERE</u> to check website for schedule.



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

President Joanna Shaw pres@vaos.org

Membership Sue Grimmer memb@vaos.org

Visit us on the web at www.vaos.org