

VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at www.vaos.org

May 2022

May General Meeting

Wednesday

May 4

Doors Open: 6:45pm
Venice Community
Center

**Speaker: Dr. Tatiana
Arias**

**Topic: Research in Orchids, Including the Topics of
Evolution and Conservation**

Award-winning botanist Dr. Tatiana Arias joined the staff of Selby Gardens in November 2021 as an orchid researcher. An innovative scientist who earned a Ph.D. at the University of Missouri, Arias comes to Sarasota from her native Colombia, where she has been leading a research lab focused on orchid genomics, horticulture, and conservation.

Dr. Arias is a classically trained botanist who has kept up with modern methods. Her interest in pursuing novel approaches to science is refreshing. Tatiana brings to us a passion for orchids as well as broad connections to the botanical world and to the Andes, where the greatest region of orchid diversity is found.

Dr. Arias has more than 15 years of experience working in plant sciences. She has been honored by the World Academy of Sciences and The Colombian Academy of Sciences, among other professional achievements. "I am passionate about and committed to diversity in academia," Tatiana said. "This position presents an exciting opportunity to do top-notch orchid science research in an environment of other accomplished scholars."

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens provides 45 acres of Bayfront sanctuaries connecting people with air plants of the world, native nature, and regional history. For more information visit selby.org.



May Events

**May 4
Monthly Meeting**

**May 12
Growers Clinic**

**Newsletter Quick
Links**

[VAOS 2021 - 2023](#)

[Officers](#)

[Orchid Resources](#)

**Share photos of your
blooming orchids on
our Face Book Group**

[https://
www.facebook.com/
groups/VAOS.org](https://www.facebook.com/groups/VAOS.org)

Behind the Scenes of the VAOS



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 focus this month is on Judy Loeffler. Judy joined the VAOS in 2011 along with her husband, Jay. Jay will be the focus of his own article soon. Judy says she joined the VAOS in the month of March and by June she was already working on the Board of Directors!

Judy was Membership Director for 6 years and is now currently the Treasurer. She has also been the Show Co-Chair with Carol Wood for 10 years. This means Judy is doing much of the arranging and planning for one of the best orchid shows in the state of Florida! Judy was also active on the display team for 8 years, helping set up our displays for all the shows we participate in. She kept and maintained the greenery (ferns and other foliage plants) that we used to fill in the empty spaces in our display.

Judy was the very first graduate of the VAOS mentorship program and she says she was very lucky to be mentored by both Jim Thomas and Rich Amos. Because Jim Thomas was doing much of our education and outreach at the time, Judy became involved with the Grower's Clinic and also community teaching. She and Jim gave presentations at local Garden Clubs and the Community Center Expos to help people learn about growing orchids and hear about our Orchid Society.

Judy is originally from Indianapolis and she moved here in 1969. During her working career, she sold new and used cars and managed several travel agencies. She has a strong background in sales which makes it easy for her to talk to people and to encourage them to get involved with our Orchid Society!

Currently, Judy and Jay have more than 500 orchids in 2 greenhouses and a shade house, including many she inherited when her mentor, Rich Amos, passed away. She says she loves all different kinds - "there's not one I don't like", although she says the "oddball ones" and dendrobiums are her favorites.

Judy also loves all different kinds of crafting -- she loves to create things and she loves to collect Christmas decorations. Each year her house is decorated floor to ceiling with multiple Christmas trees of all different themes including one that is just decorated with ribbons and trophies she has won with her orchids! She loves the way the spirit of Christmas makes her feel.

Because of her involvement in the Orchid Society, Judy says she has met some wonderful lifelong friends. She is thrilled to see new people coming along and starting to fill into some of the roles she has filled in the past. It makes her proud to see people she previously encouraged to now step forward to become new leaders! She feels like a Mama Bird watching her babies take off! Lots of thanks to Judy for all her energy and enthusiasm!

Joanna Shaw, President

Venice Area Orchid Society

Meeting Minutes

Date: **April 6, 2022**

Joanna Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. She welcomed all Society members and guests. She explained the format of our meetings and encouraged members to enjoy our speaker of the evening.

Judy Loeffler was welcomed to the front for our annual election to elect new officers and directors to our board. The VAOS board is composed of 8 officers who serve 2 to 4 year terms. Other board members are Directors, appointed by the President and approved by the board. They include Show Chairs, and Directors At Large.

Last month we announced the candidates to succeed Bruce Weaver, V.P. Displays and Jay Loeffler- V.P. Programs who are completing their terms and Judy Loeffler as Treasurer.

The candidates are the following:

Vicki Fisher nominated for V.P. Displays
Kristin Shaw nominated for V.P. Displays
Sharon Kahnoski for V.P. Social
Stephanie Luburger for Director, Communications
Judy Loeffler will be the acting Treasurer until we find a qualified candidate.

No other nominations were made from the floor. The candidates were approved for the positions and will start immediately.

Please consider helping us to fill these volunteer positions:

Refreshment Team—2 to 3 volunteers needed to set up and take down refreshments at our monthly meeting.
Tech Team-- 2 to 3 volunteers needed to set up laptop computer, projectors and mics before our monthly meeting and some Grower's Clinics.
Website Maintenance/ Back up-- volunteers needed. We use WordPress.
We are already looking for committee chairs for our 2023 annual show.

There are many more opportunities to become more involved with our society through volunteer positions and future board positions. If you are interested please contact Judy Loeffler. Members showed their support with applause.

Speaker for the Evening: Joanna Shaw introduced Arthur Chadwick, our speaker for the evening. We are fortunate to welcome Arthur of Chadwick & Son, Richmond's premier orchid supplier, to speak for our Society tonight. The Topic is Large Flowered Cattleya Species. He received excited applause in welcome.

The Plant Table was filled once again with beautiful orchids grown by our members. Joanna Shaw, Kristin Shaw and Vicki Fisher presented the Plant Table.

The Raffle Table, presented by Sharon and John Kahnoski, was full and enjoyed by our members.

Respectively Submitted by Kathryn Jeske, Recording Secretary



Ian's Corner BEGINNER'S LUCK

I think it must have been beginner's luck. Every orchid I bought stayed healthy looking and rebloomed. The number of flower stalks, buds and eventually flowers were many. In 2018, 2019, 2020, even part of 2021 I thought, WOW I'm pretty good at this. Bruce Weaver came to pick up some Dendrobiums I was donating to the Blalock Park park project on the Island. Some of the nicest plants I've seen, he said. I enjoyed bringing my plants in for the plant table every month. Getting a gift certificate for being the top vote getter one meeting last Spring was the highlite.

It was probably happening before I was aware or I was making excuses, being optimistic or just had my head in the sand but it seemed that suddenly I wasn't getting as many blooms on plants that had been reliable, consistent bloomers. Some didn't bud at all. None of my three Paphs. bloomed again. Some plants had one bud where there had been four or five previously. Some budded but the buds fell off. They felt mushy like rotten fruit. Some flowered but the flowers were blotchy and didn't last as long as they had in the past. I found myself for the first time looking at a plant that I had once loved and was proud of and tossing it. One of my Paphs. went in the bin.

I rationalized my tossing plants by remembering what a speaker had said during his presentation at a monthly meeting, "If it doesn't make you happy, why keep it. A hobby should bring you joy." The joy in this hobby was leaving me. Now, in reality this was not total devastation. Non orchid friends and neighbors and my wife Karen marveled at the beauty of the ones in bloom. But they didn't notice the ones that are gone or the ones that are not blooming but maybe should be.

Do I stick with this hobby or is it time to move on to something else? No. I'm sticking with it. As I wrote in a previous article, I have been a grower all my adult life. It's just that this hobby is turning out to be more challenging than it had been in the first 3 years. I guess that's part of the deal though for us growers, isn't it? Growing orchids like perennials, trees, and vegetables presents the grower with challenges. Real growers figure out how to deal with those challenges.

I won't go into details around how I am meeting the challenges. Suffice to say that I now realize that our VAOS meetings, workshops and Facebook site are not just places to show off our blooming beauties but valuable resources to help us find answers to questions around the issues affecting our plants. We are fortunate to not be alone in this hobby. There is lots of care information on our VAOS website. https://www.vaos.org/?page_id=3521

Cheers, Ian

ianbkennedy47@gmail.com, (203) 241-4793,

VAOS Member Plant Sale/Swap



The VAOS Member Plant Sale/Swap, held Saturday, April 23rd, was a big success! Many members joined us as well as an estimated 50+ people from the general public stopped by. Rick Belisle's demonstrations were well attended and funds were raised for VAOS through the sale of excess show greenery. Thanks to Sharon Kahnoski, Bruce Weaver, Rick Belisle and Judy and Jay Loeffler for making this a success. We will definitely do it again!

CULTURE TIPS

Notes from April Growers Clinic re: Repotting Your Orchid

Presenter: Rick Belisle, Director of Education and Training

Here is some information I gleaned from Rick Belisle as he led the Growers Clinic. We enjoyed his humor and he sure looked great in his Orchid Apron! VAOS members enjoyed interacting with each other and appreciated the advice from experienced roving growers. The room was abuzz!

Rick's Plastic Tool Box for Repotting an Orchid:

Propane Torch -- to sterilize equipment i.e., clippers, scissors etc.

Putty knife --to help scrape pots.

Screw driver -- to break apart clumps of LECA, Aliflor or pebbles that sometimes stick together.

Clippers -- to clip off dead roots.

Heavy duty scissors -- to cut off dead roots etc.

Electric little 'saw' -- actually an electric serrated knife (to saw/divide plant)

Pliers -- for bending wire to make clips to hold plant in pot.

12-gauge wire -- to make clips; 50 feet lasts for many years

Hydrogen peroxide solution in his handy little Equate spray bottle from Walmart – to sterilize plant wounds and places that you cut.

Ground cinnamon -- to sterilize wounds on roots, leaves or pseudo bulbs to prevent deadly pathogens entering your plant.

Green plastic soft ties – to wind around 2-3 stems so they stand up straight which saves shelf room, and also to tie plant stem to a vertical stick (if clip doesn't fit on a particular orchid container).

Name tags (white plastic) – to use with #2 pencil to write orchid name on it. Most come with a hole in it to attach, with plastic wire, to a plant stem.

Media on Front Table

LECA, (Light Expanded Clay Aggregate) also called Aliflor, Hydroton or Viagrow (all the same) are slightly porous clay pebbles. You can order online 10 liters (22lbs) from Home Depot and then pick it up at the store. Only \$15.00!! Rick said that If you repot with moistened pebbles, it's easier for the roots to grab on to them.

Spagham moss: Rick reminded us that when purchasing Phalaenopsis orchids (which are packed tightly in Spagham moss so they don't die in the store) – that we should immediately remove all the spagham, remove any dead roots, and repot in the LECA – with some bark in a layer and/or some spagham at top to keep the phal roots moist.

Rick says he pots Catasetums in layers of LECA and Coconut Husk, with a tsp of time-release Dynamite (Red Can) in each layer.

Rick had other media available for the group to use: perlite, corn husk, sphagnum moss, bark etc.; he advised people personally on their plants by suggesting using and/or mixing some of these options for their particular plant, their "watering regimen", and growing area.

Tips for Repotting:

The day before repotting, fill a 5-gallon container with LECA and water. The LECA retains water but the water runs through them so roots don't rot. Remember orchids are epiphytes and grow on trees or rocks. We grow them in pots for our convenience.

When dividing a plant, make sure there are 3-4 pseudobulbs in each division – then the division has enough roots to continue growing well and enough bulbs to continue to produce blooms.

Rick keeps old pseudo bulbs in the pot for if they are still green they continue to have energy to feed the plant. Also, another bloom may emerge from an older pseudobulb.

Wherever you cut the plant, spray the wound with hydrogen peroxide and then pour a bit of cinnamon on the cut. This will close the wound and seal it; cinnamon is a natural antifungal and antibiotic.

When placing the plant or a plant division in a pot, place the older pseudobulbs next to the backside of the pot and the newer ones towards the center – so the new bulbs have a lot of space to grow.

Most all of Rick's 100 plants are grown under a pool cage, which I believe is the ideal place to be most successful in Florida. His plants receive 6-10 hours of sunlight; they receive sun from East & Southeast which makes them grow straight up. During the very cold days, some of us bring our orchids indoors or run heaters in our orchid house But since Rick's orchids are around his pool – due to the warm ambient temperature, they stay moist, warm and happy! I wish all of us had an enclosed pool to grow our orchids!

This is Rick's watering regimen – for his growing area.

Rick waters 1-2x a week depending on the heat. In the summer he waters 2x a week.

When he waters on Sunday, he waters with fertilizer first. Then he goes around and waters them again, then waters them a third time. All this takes about 30 minutes!

Why does he go around 3 times.? This is so that the velamen, the sponge surrounding the thin root that holds the water, slowly gives it back to plant as it needs. When most velamen is thoroughly wet it turns green.

Sometimes, Rick puts bark in bottom of pot, then LECA to the top after that.

If you grow a plant in a basket water 3x week; if a plastic pot -- put holes in it and water 1/week or once every 2 weeks. If your medium has bark in it more water is absorbed, so you should water less.

You know it's time to water if you stick your finger in the pot. If it is a little damp Don't water it. If dry, water it.

You can water too often. But when they need water, you can't water too much. Most orchids, except Phals, Paphs and a few others, like to dry out between waterings.



Rick Belisle is about to divide an orchid using the electric serrated knife. He made sure to sterilize the knife with the propane flame before starting.



Jay Loeffler advising a member on repotting her orchid

GROWERS CLINIC – THURSDAY MAY 12TH

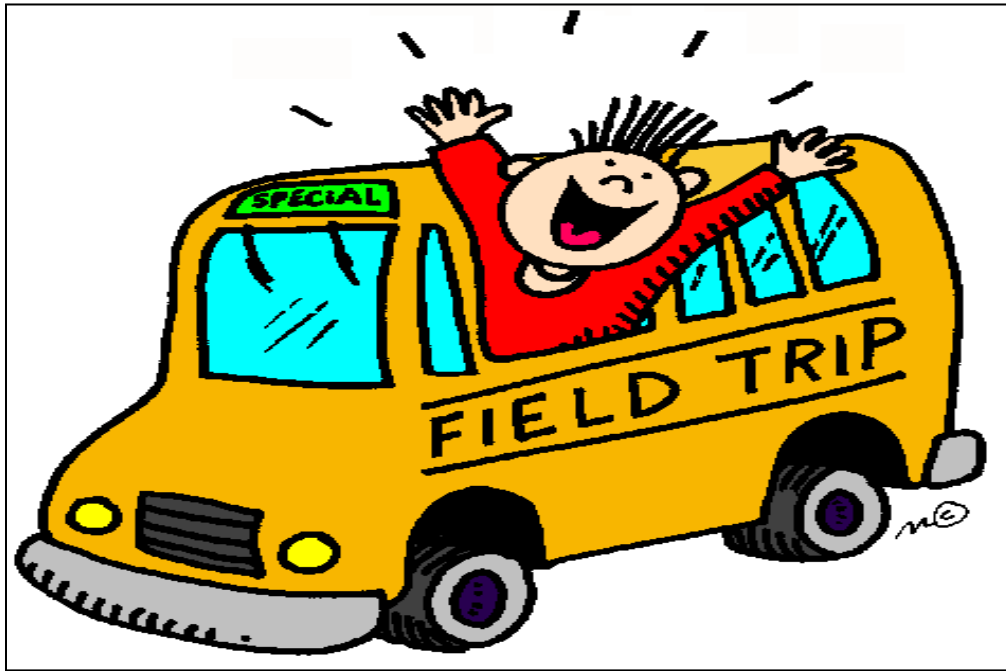
On Thursday, April 14, Rick Belisle and the Growers Clinic Team put on our popular Dividing and Re-Potting class. It was attended by 39 members and guests. Topics included the necessary tools, proper preparation for, and division of, orchids as well as various media types and the processes used to achieve a successful re-potting. Stephanie Luburger and Joanna Shaw provided large plants that were divided, shared with, and potted by the class. As such, attendees were able to see, hear and perform the actual steps of this fun activity. Class members were provided a take-home “cheat sheet” for use in their future dividing and re-potting endeavors. The “cheat sheet” will be available on our VAOS website in the near future!

The May Growers Clinic will highlight a slide presentation on “**Orchid Pests and Diseases**” and will include a handout. Learn to identify common pests and diseases and how to treat them.

Growers Clinics are held the second Thursday of the month, 7:00PM, at the Venice Community Center. Enter at the front of the building. You may also bring problem plants for expert help and suggestions. Guests are always welcome.



VAOS Bus Trip to Tamiami International Orchid Festival



Friday, May 13, 2022
Limited Seating

Departs Venice Community Center 7am

\$40 pp

Includes bus trip, driver tip, \$15 admission fee, \$5 discount coupon, and entry into \$1500 grand raffle. What a deal!

Sign up at our March 2nd or April 6th meeting and give your \$40 check (to VAOS) to Treasurer along with your phone number.

Info: Sharon Kahnoski Social@VAOS.org

SIGN UP NOW

TAMIAMI INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FESTIVAL BUS TRIP

FRIDAY MAY 13TH

LIMITED SEATING

The annual **Tamiami International Orchid Festival** will be held in the Miami Dade County Fair Expo Center May 13 – 15, 2022. Sign up now to secure a seat on the bus for only \$40 pp. This includes bus trip and driver gratuity, the \$15 admission fee, a \$5 coupon and entry into the \$1500. grand raffle. Water will be provided on the bus, bring your own lunch or snacks for the bus trip.

Departure is 7am from the Venice Community Center South Parking Lot on Friday May 13th. Plan to arrive 15 minutes early. This is the only pick up and drop off point for the bus.

Estimated arrival time is 10:30 - 11am. For return, the bus will leave the festival at 4pm sharp. There is room under the bus to keep your orchid purchases. We suggest you bring boxes or bags to carry and store your plants. Please label them with your name. One rest room stop is planned for each leg of the trip. We suggest you bring a jacket or sweater (bus A/C) and bring cash as many foreign growers do not accept credit cards.

More than 45 orchid vendors from around the world will sell orchids. There will also be free classes available. For more info visit their website. <https://tamiamiorchidfestival.com>

Make your \$40 check payable to VAOS and mail to:

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

Or

Sign up at our March or April monthly meetings

Include your phone number on your check and note: Tamiami Orchid Fest Bus Trip in Memo. Seating is limited so do not delay. Contact Sharon Kahnoski at social@vaos.org or 616-581-9131 for more information.

Submitted by Sharon Kahnoski, VP, Social Affairs

April Meeting Plant Table Awards

Photos and Narrative by Cynthia Vance



First Place Blue Ribbon was awarded to Mike Mayers for his striking Coelogyne (Coel.) South Carolina. Coelogyne is pronounced: 'see-LODGE -eh-nee. Mike shared the following about his plant (slightly edited): "It is special due to its green color and a lip with an intricate black pattern. This hybrid originated by Carter and Holmes in 1996 and is a cross of Coel. Burfordiense x Coel. pandurata. They are a bit difficult to cultivate outside of their native lands -- India, Indonesia and the Fiji Islands. Sprays of flowers generally reach 11-13 blossoms and last 3-4 weeks with subsequent sprays blooming over 2 months. Dividing this orchid set its blooming cycle back 3-4 years so after dividing it 5 years ago we decided to keep moving it to a larger basket when necessary and using a medium of bark with charcoal and perlite. It needs to be brought inside during cooler winter temperatures and kept well shaded from the summer sun." Thanks, Mike for your growing tips and congratulations! Excellent



Second Place Red Ribbon was awarded to Judy Mulligan for her delightful red Dendrobium (Den.) Goldschmidtianum. Many orchid devotees love this plant because it's easy to grow and it puts on a showy display every Christmas. Even better than that, it follows that December blooming with a slightly lesser blooming phase 6-8 weeks after that and can push flushes of flowers throughout the year. Flower color ranges from intense purple-violet to red and then to soft pink. Since this plant is a lowland species found in southern Taiwan and the Batan Island of the Philippines, it's a perfect choice for growing in Venice! Thanks for introducing this delightful orchid to VAOS and congratulations Judy!



Third Place Yellow Ribbons -- a TIE

– given to Judy Chisolm and Cecile Gelb!

Judy presented *Rhyncholaeliocattleya* (**Rlc.**) **Hsinying Williette**, an eye-catcher with its 8 blooms standing straight up -- having both bright yellow petals and sepals and a radiant crimson lip. This hybrid (C. Tokyo Magic x Rlc. Williette Wong) was created in continuing honor of Williette Wong, now 91, who for years has been the driving force of the annual Honolulu Orchid Show. (I contacted her years ago thinking our members might want to attend the show and visit Hawaiian growers there; I was wrong!) Hybrids that carry Rlc. Williette Wong produces magnificent orchids to be found at many nurseries, even in Florida, for your collection. Congrats to Judy for her beautiful specimen.



Cecile exhibited a hearty and handsome orchid she named **NOID (no identification) Brassia (Brs.)**, commonly called a 'spider orchid'. The beauty of her Brassia is that its sepals next to the lip were extremely long and graceful and the dots on the lip matched those appearing on those lower sepals. Now, it bothers me to see a beautiful orchid plant with no name. After reviewing several hundred photos of Brassias, I suggest that her plant with those small dots on lip and lower sepals is *Brassia longissimi*, a commonly grown species -- or perhaps a hybrid of 'longissimi'. Now why is it called 'Brassia'? Well, Robert Brown introduced the genus in 1813 in honor of William Brass, Esq., a botanical illustrator who collected plants for Sir Joseph Banks in Guinea and South Africa. Congratulations to Cecile for your well grown spidery orchid!



Speaker's Choice White Ribbon was awarded to Bob Milner for his multiflorous species with 20+ beautiful white flowers mounted beautifully on cork -- Guarianthe (Gur.) skinneri s/a (semi-alba). Guarianthe is pronounced: Gwar-ee-ANTH-ee. This genus was segregated from Cattleya in 2003 based on several structural plant features and by recent molecular DNA analyses. Guarianthe skinneri extends from south Mexico into Costa Rica where it is the national flower. Plants are found in humid forests at moderate elevations growing on trees or rocks. Bob's orchid is called 'semi-alba' (or semi-white) because it has a touch of red in each flower's center. He also commented that at its peak in March, this plant had 45 flowers – which we'd all like to see in our collection. Congratulations, Bob for cultivating and introducing Guarianthe

Treasurer's Report March 1, 2022

	\$53,118.81
Operating Fund Starting Mar. 1, 2022	
+ Income	\$ 190.00
- Payments	\$ 831.25
+ Interest	\$ 0.29
+ Petty Cash	\$ 75.00
Total Operating Fund Mar. 31, 2022	\$52,552.85

Submitted by Judy Loeffler, Treasurer

IN MEMORIAM



Dale Hoy, long time member of VAOS, has passed away. He is survived by his wife Janet. Dale and Janet have been members of Jane Camarota's Orchid Boutique Team for many years. He will be remembered for his warm smile and friendly demeanor. Our condolences to Janet and his family. Dale will be missed.

CULTURAL NOTE
Orchids - the "Goldilocks" of the Plant World
By Ray Barkalow, FirstRays.com



We all know the story of Goldilocks – the little girl who stumbled upon the three bears’ cabin, where she sampled Papa’s, Mama’s, and Baby Bear’s porridge, chairs and beds, trying to find the one that was “just right”. It turns out that orchids are the “Goldilocks” of the plant world.

As one of, if not the most highly evolved groups of plants on earth, orchids are “niche plants”. Each has needs that are quite specialized, whether that is hot, rainy, humid conditions in deep shade, bright sun with definite dry spells, or cool, high altitudes with plenty of fog – and just about any other combination of conditions you can probably think of.

With species, we can do some research to identify the climatological data for the plant’s range, and with hybrids, we can “take a stab at it” by estimating based upon the species in the plant’s background, but it doesn’t end there! Once we have identified the conditions under which the plant will grow and bloom the best, we then have to take into consideration how our choice of substrate, container, and watering and feeding strategy affects that. Let’s look at the natural variables:

- Temperature:
 - cool/intermediate/warm/hot
 - diurnal variation – none/slight/moderate/great
 - seasonal variation – none/slight/moderate/great
- Light levels
 - deep shade/mottled/indirect/part day/full sun
 - seasonal variation due to deciduous host trees
- Rainfall
 - frequent/infrequent/rare (but foggy)
 - seasonal variation
- Humidity
 - low/medium/high/condensing
 - diurnal variation
 - seasonal variation
- Air movement – stagnant/breezy/windy

Using *Phalaenopsis bellina* as an example, we can determine that, being native to Borneo, in nature it will experience very hot conditions (lows in the mid-70’s and highs approaching triple digits), low light levels (never direct sunlight), and lots of moisture, with very little variation in any of them, diurnally or seasonally. Those variables constitute the “demands” of any plant, and we must try to achieve the “Goldilocks point” for each individual, if we wish to grow and bloom it well.

A beginning grower will often ask “what is the best potting medium”, but there is no standard answer and how we achieve that might vary, as we have an entire set of variables we introduce to the equation:

- Potting medium
 - organic/inorganic
 - packing density – very open to very dense
 - particle size – fine/medium/coarse

Continued on next page

- particle uniformity – same size or mixed sizes
- pore size & airiness – fine/medium/coarse
- water absorption – almost none to sponge-like
- drying rate – quick to very slow
- Container
- material – plastic/clay/glazed/glass
- openings – none/bottom/sides/slots/basket
- aspect ratio – short & wide/tall & narrow
- Water
- purity
- temperature
- frequency of application
- Fertilizer
- formula
- concentration
- frequency of application
- duration of availability
- additives
- Growing conditions
- light
- temperature
- humidity
- air movement

Personal tendencies – do you want to “mess with” your plants a lot, or are you a “behold from afar” type?

In general, we should try to acquire plants that need what we can easily provide, but often try to match our growing conditions to the needs of the plant. By manipulating the “introduced variables”, it is possible to meet those requirements in any number of ways. All you have to do is think about how certain combinations might get you to the “Goldilocks point” for a particular plant, experiment a bit and be observant, and over time you’ll mature into an expert grower.

Until next time... Good growing!

Visit Ray’s website at FirstRays.com for products, occasional plant sales and a wealth of excellent

VAOS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE FOR APRIL 2022



As you can see, our April Monthly Meeting was well attended!

We also signed up 9 NEW Members... Welcome All!

Karen Benning Diane Bittner

Jeannette & Nancy Davis Jan Desjardins

Mark & Kelly Fagoh David Gress

and Diane Holmes

(We also Welcomed Back 7 Renewals!!)

As of this article, for the month of April, we now have **317 Members.**

Considering the last two years – We are glad to be back together!

Do you have a Friend or Neighbor interested in Orchids???

Bring them along to the May 4th Monthly Meeting! See You There!

Suzanne Grimmer – Membership Director

**New edition released and
now available!**

**Dr. Martin Motes -
Florida Orchid Growing**

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

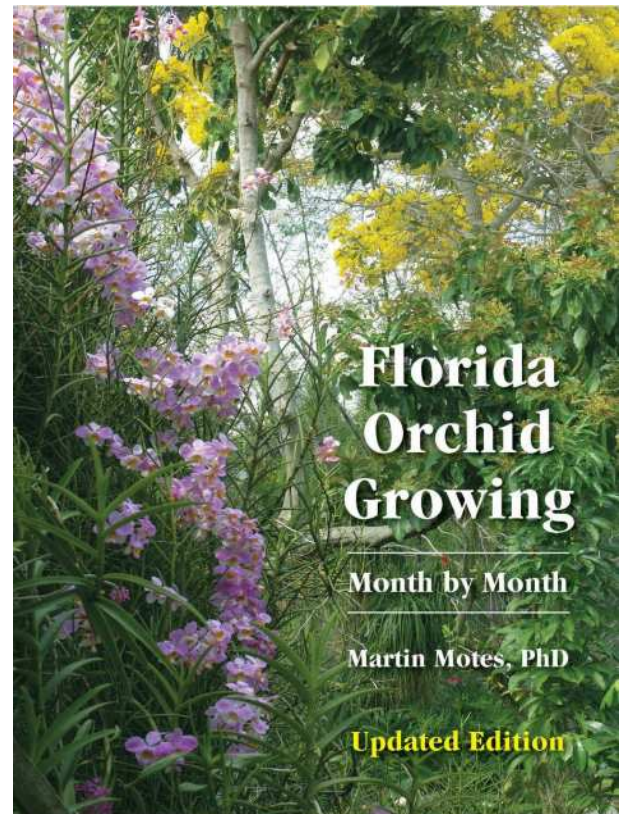
833 Guild Dr. Venice, FL 34285

Carol Wood—South Venice. 941-497-4995 Email:
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.



JOIN THE VAOS FACEBOOK GROUP TODAY!

Join our VAOS Facebook Group at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/VAOS.org/>

- ♦ Provides an interactive environment for members
 - ♦ Share photos of your blooming plants
 - ♦ Ask questions, solve plant problems
 - ♦ Share your ideas and techniques
 - ♦ Show us how you grow
- ♦ Sell, swap or give away plants and divisions



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

Join the American Orchid Society and receive:

- ♦ 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 worldwide today by joining the AOS.

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, FL (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



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4 - (1st Wednesday) - Monthly Meeting, Venice Community Center, doors open at 6:45pm, Speaker: Dr. Tatiana Arias, Topic: Research on Orchids Including Evolution and Conservation

May 12— (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic. Topic: Presentation on Orchid Pests & Diseases

May 13-15 - Tamiami International Orchid Festival. Bus trip on 13th. See article in this newsletter.

June 1 - (1st Wednesday) - Monthly Meeting, Venice Community Center, doors open at 6:45pm, Speaker: Brett Ullery Topic: Dendrobiums

June 9 - (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, 7pm. Topic: Potting Without Pots

PLAN AHEAD

October 7-9—2022 Redland International Orchid Festival

ONGOING

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

AOS Orchid Judging—Florida North Central Judging Center. Check Website for Schedule: Info: <http://www.fncjc.shutterfly.com/>

Next meeting:

May 4

**Venice Community
Center, Doors open
at 6:45pm**

Contact Us

Venice Area Orchid Society

PO BOX 443

Venice, FL 34284-0443

President

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Membership

Sue Grimmer memb@vaos.org



Visit us on the web at

www.vaos.org