

VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at www.vaos.org

September 2022

September General Meeting

Wednesday
September 7

Doors Open: 6:45pm

Venice Community
Center

Speaker: Alan Koch

Topic: The Genus Paphiopedilum

Alan Koch owns and operates Gold Country Orchids where he specializes in miniature and compact Cattleya's. Alan started growing orchids in 1969 with 3 Cymbidiums given to him by an aunt. While in college, he became interested in other orchids and discovered many would grow outdoors in Southern California.

He has moved five times as his orchid obsession has led to the need for more growing space. With the last move, he purchased 10 acres of land in Lincoln, California for his 300,000 orchids.

He is recognized as an expert in the Brazilian Cattleya alliance and a trend setter in miniature Cattleya breeding. Alan has been published in the Orchid Digest, and the American Orchid Society magazines. He has also been published in the proceedings of the World Orchid Conference. He is an internationally known speaker.

He is a past member of the AOS Judging Committee, and the Research Committee, as well as an Accredited Judge and is Vice-chair and Training Coordinator for the California Sierra Nevada Judging Center.

Alan also served two terms on the Orchid Digest Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and is one of the current directors, as well as a Trustee for the AOS.



September Events

September 7
Monthly Meeting

September 8
Growers Clinic

Newsletter Quick Links

[VAOS 2021 - 2023](#)

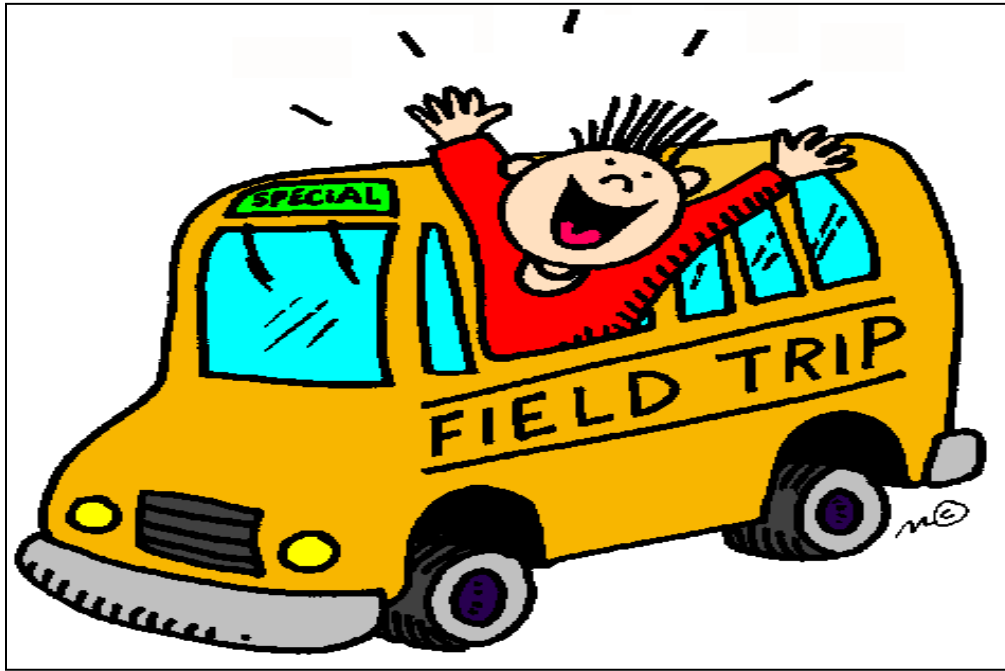
[Officers](#)

[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)

VAOS Annual Redland Orchid Fest Bus Trip



Friday, October 7, 2022

Departs Venice Community Center 7am prompt

\$50 pp

Includes bus trip, driver tip, \$10 admission fee, \$5 discount coupon and water.
What a deal!

Your payment must be received no later than September 21st to reserve your seat. Sign up at our September 7th meeting or mail your check to VAOS, P.O. Box 443, Venice, FL 34284-0443

Members of EAOS and SOS are welcome to join us!

Information: Sharon Kahnoski, VP Social 616-581-9131, social@vaos.org

VAOS FALL FESTIVAL POTLUCK



Please join us!

Thursday October 13, 2022

5:00 – 8:00 PM

Venice Community Center

Sign up to bring an appetizer, salad, main dish, side dish, bread or rolls. VAOS will provide dessert

VAOS will provide water, ice tea, sodas and coffee and place settings. Members may BYOB beer or wine

Raffle—blooming plants and custom pots

Sign up no later than our October 5th meeting or contact Sharon so that we will have an accurate head count and food list

Info: Sharon Kahnoski, VP Social

Venice Area Orchid Society

Meeting Minutes

Date: August 3, 2022

Joanna Shaw called the meeting to order at 7 pm and welcomed the members of the Englewood Area Orchid Society to our joint meeting. She reviewed the format of the meeting and welcomed new members.

Joanna announced that the format of the newsletter will be changing beginning this month as we move from an in-depth newsletter to a more streamlined version. We will still include upcoming events such as monthly speakers and bios, growers clinic topics, upcoming social events, meeting minutes and treasurers report. Plant table photos and write-up will move to the Facebook group page, and feature articles and cultural tips will move to the Facebook group page and/or website.

Sharon Kahnoski announced plans for a Redland International Orchid festival bus trip as well as Octoberfest and Holiday Brunch plans. See details in the newsletter.

Joanna introduced the speaker for the evening, Carlos Cahiz from OFE Orchid Supplies in Homestead FL. Carlos gave a great talk about orchid growing basics. Joanna presented the plant table and John Kahnoski and Janet Keown presented the gigantic raffle table.

Submitted by Joanna Shaw

Treasurer's Report

July 2022

OPERATING FUND starting June 30, 2022	\$48,893.40
+ Income	110.00
- Payments	-304.99
+ Interest	.28
OPERATING FUND July, 29, 2022	48,698.69

General Meeting Treats Needed



Now that we are resuming some sense of normalcy, we would like to offer our meeting attendees something more than bottled water. In the past many of our members have brought in delectable home-baked goods, snacks and treats. Starting with our September 7th meeting we encourage you to resume your generosity. Sharon and her team will continue to provide coffee, sodas and water for our meeting refreshment break. Thank you!

VAOS Membership Directory



Our Membership Chair, Sue Grimmer, is gearing up to compile and publish our 2022 VAOS Membership Directory. It will be distributed via email to all active members. If you would like to opt out or limit your information published in the directory please contact Sue at memb@vaos.org by September 15th.

September 8th Growers Clinic

Many of you have seen the gorgeous and truly different plants in the Catasetum genus that have been featured at our shows, our Plant Table and on our VAOS Facebook pages by Vicki Fisher. Well, Vicki, who is VERY well versed in this strange and unique species (some refer to Vicki as the “Guesser of All Things Catasetum”!), will be presenting a program on them at our September 8, 2022 Growers Clinic. Come and prepare to be AMAZED!



The left photo is Catasetum Red Dragon 'Dragon Scales' and the right photo is Clowesetum JEM's Speckled Russ 'Oh My!' - two of Vicki Fishers' award winners

September Culture Tip

September 9th is generally considered to be the “mid-point of the hurricane season”. By now, we would have experienced those frequent afternoon thunderstorms, perhaps a rain-laden Tropical Depression, but, hopefully, not a hurricane! Things are just damp and soggy! That dampness creates PRIME harborage for bacteria and fungus, especially the dreaded “crown rot”, that often signals the demise of a plant. One way to combat this is to religiously (every 2 weeks!) spray your plants (yes, flowers, blossoms, leaves, pseudobulb's, pots, etc.) with a good fungicide made for orchids. There are a few, and Physan 20 is one of them. The key ingredients to watch for are the “quaternary ammonium chlorides” which should add up to 20%, hence “Physan 20” or “RD 20”, etc. At that strength, they're used at 1 teaspoon per gallon for maintenance, and 2 tps per gallon if you are treating confirmed cases of crown rot. A word to the wise... Unlike interest rates, the number of orchids in our collection, or the number of grandchildren we've been blessed with, using MORE than the RECOMMENDED DILUTION is NOT better, and can actually be deleterious to your orchids! These products are available at most garden centers and, of course, from Amazon. A pint (16 oz) bottle makes 96 gallons for “maintenance”, and, as they are liquids, are easily dispensed in your hose-end sprayer.

The VAOS Mentoring Program

We have, as of March, 2022, over 300 members in our “little” club!. Our General Membership meetings and Growers’ Clinics provide lots of valuable tips and tricks to grow beautiful plants, as evidenced by the number of entrants on the plant tables. But sometimes these meetings are just not conducive to asking those individual questions and concerns our “newbies” might have and a more “personalized” session is required. Hence, in 2012, our Mentoring Program was developed. It is one of only four that I could find in all of FL! Currently we have 10 Mentors & 5 Mentees in the program. How does it work? Well, first of all, a prospective Mentee has to be a current VAOS member and they must have attended at least 2 Growers Clinics. They then complete a short Mentee Application Form, available at the Membership Table of all General Meetings or on-line on our VAOS.ORG website by following the links under the Welcome to VAOS tab. A Mentor is then assigned and will meet with you at your home for 1-2 sessions lasting maybe an hour or so and you get personalized assistance with orchid types, placement, general growing questions, etc. In some cases, you may even get to see your mentor’s growing area for ideas and suggestions. Once you’ve become comfortable with your knowledge, which can take up to a year, but is usually far less, you “Graduate” and are awarded a really cool VAOS Pin, shown below. To date, we have 96 graduates! As for the perspective Mentors, you might ask, “What’s in it for me?????” Meeting new members, the joy of sharing your knowledge and seeing the fruits of your labor blossom (pun intended!!) in the plants your mentees produce!!! You may also get some ideas for your collection! For more info visit our WEBSITE at VAOS.ORG or email me at

MENTOR@VAOS.ORG.

Thank you, Rick Belisle



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 7 - (1st Wednesday) - General Meeting, Venice Community Center, Speaker: Alan Koch Topic: Paphiopediums

September 8 - (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, 7pm. Speaker: Vicki Fisher Topic: Catasetums

September 17-18 - Ridge Orchid Society Show, Bartow, FL. Info: dkemig@gmail.com

September 30-1 - Tampa Orchid Club Expo, USF Botanical Gardens, Tampa Info: ents4me@aol.com

October 5 - (1st Wednesday) - Meeting, Venice Community Center Speaker: Fred Clarke Topic: Aussie Dendrobiums

October 7-Redland International Orchid Festival Bus Trip. See flyer this newsletter

October 13 - Fall Potluck Dinner, Venice Community Center 5pm See flyer this newsletter

October 13 (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic,
No Growers Clinic this month

November 4-5 Vanda & Slipper Orchid Symposium, Apopka. Info: www.slippersymposium.com

ONGOING

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

AOS JUDGING

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

Next meeting:
September 7th

Contact Us

Venice Area Orchid Society

PO BOX 443

Venice, FL 34284-0443

President

Joanna Shaw pres@vaos.org

Membership

Sue Grimmer memb@vaos.org

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