



VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at www.vaos.org

April 2023

April 2023 General Meeting

Wednesday
April 5th

Doors Open:
6:45pm

Venice Community Center

Speaker: Ti & Henry of Florida Orchid House

Topic: Soft Cane Dens



We are a certified nursery located in Central Florida with focal points set on distinctive, uncommon species and new hybrids. We founded Florida Orchid House with a goal in mind - growing exotic beautiful plants and providing a reliable way to make our plants accessible to hobbyists and growers across the States. Our passion has driven us from the beginning, and continues to drive us into the future. We know that every plant counts, and strive to make your entire shopping experience as rewarding as possible!

23820 69th Ave E

Myakka City, FL, 34251

April Events

April 5th
(Wednesday)
General Meeting

April 13th
Growers Clinic

Quick Links:

[VAOS 2021 - 2023](#)

[Officers](#)

[Orchid Resources](#)

Share photos of
your blooming
orchids on our Face
Book Group

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

VENICE AREA ORCHID SOCIETY MENTOR PROGRAM

The Mentor program is intended to help beginning orchid growers. It pairs an experienced grower with a VAOS member who is a beginner grower, or is struggling with an orchid growing issue. Mentors may help new growers learn about orchid watering, potting, sun exposure, pest control, fertilization, etc. Mentors share their orchid experiences and discuss growing techniques; they provide printed information, internet websites, and support to new growers. Mentors and Mentees may visit one another's homes to view orchids and growing conditions.

****To receive Mentoring, you must be a member of VAOS and have attended a minimum of two grower's clinics.**

For information to become a mentor or mentee
contact Rick Belise@ mentor@vaos.org



VAOS ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION

This April our society will holds its annual election. We elect new officers and thank those board members who are completing their terms.

At our March meeting we presented the nominees and took nominations from the floor for open board positions.

Here are the nominees:

Denise Langman, VP Social, to succeed Sharon Kahnoski

Ian Kennedy, assisted by Karen Kennedy, to succeed Suzanne Grimmer, Membership Chair

Peg Fahrenback, to succeed Kathryn Jeske, Recording Secretary

There are many opportunities to become more involved with our society, volunteer positions and current and future board positions. If you are interested, please contact Judy Loeffler for more information.

JudyVAOS@gmail.com

Joanna Shaw, President

Venice Area Orchid Society Meeting Minutes

Date: March 1, 2023

Joanna Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Joanna welcomed all the new members who signed up at the Show. She went over the meeting format and emphasized that this Orchid Society is for encouraging all to enjoy their flowers and to help others enjoy theirs.

Announcements: Next Thursday at 7:00pm Rick Belisle will host the Grower's Clinic and speak on the Topic: Orchids 201. Members were encouraged to come and to bring their problem plants and questions.

We have an outstanding Plant Table today. Members were encouraged to vote for their favorite. Most of the plants are headed to the Englewood Area Orchid Society Show this weekend. Normally at the monthly meetings the Plant Table is used for members to show off your blooming orchids.

We have a great vender tonight with many beautiful orchids. Shop and enjoy the plants.

The Englewood Area Orchid Society Show set up is tomorrow and the Show is March 3rd and 4th. Joanna encouraged all members to attend.

Show Announcements: Joanna welcomed Judy Loeffler and Carol Wood to the podium to recap the Show.

We had 3700 people attend the Show.

Joanna stated that we made our yearly income at this year's Show. The money will go toward AOS support, donations to orchid related non-profits, Society expenses, social events and dinners, and subsidizing bus trips. Our Show profit after expenses was \$23,000.

Applause erupted as Judy and Carol Thanked all the wonderful volunteers that helped make the Show a success. Without the volunteers and all their hard work, we would be unable to host such a wonderful event. Individual members received a special thank you from the Show Committee Chairs for their contributions to the Show.

We had a wonderful assortment of delicious food donated by our members. Many thanks to all who donated.

Kristen Shaw and her Display Team created a beautiful display winning 1st place at the Show.

We signed up 144 new members at the Show.

Judy and Carol will be back next year as Show Co-Chairs. The announcement garnered much applause by our members.

Nominations for board positions are the following:

Karen Kennedy to take over for Sue Grimmer as VP Membership. Karen and her husband Ian Kennedy (Treasurer) will work together in this membership role.

Denise Langman to take over for Sharon Kahnoski as VP Social.

We are still looking for a member to take over for Kathryn Jeske as Recording Secretary. Please see Joanna if interested.

Voting in of the new Board Members will take place at the April 5th Meeting.

Vicki Fisher was called to the podium to introduce the Speaker of the evening, Rafael Romero, Plantio La Orquidea in Sarasota. The topic is: Vandas, Species and Hybrids with Culture Notes. Vicki talked about Rafael's many accomplishments and background in growing orchids. Members welcomed him with excited applause. Members were encouraged to visit his nursery.

Joanna Shaw and Vicki Fisher presented the overflowing Plant Table filled with beautiful orchids resembling an orchid show display!

Janet Keown and Vicki Fisher presented the Raffle Table much to the raffle winner's delight.

Submitted by Kathryn Jeske, Recording Secretary

VAOS SHOW TEAM SETS UP A DISPLAY AT EAOS SHOW

EAOS had their show facility cancel due to Hurricane Ian damage and were forced to move to a smaller facility. We supported our sister orchid society by putting in a nice 6' x 6' table top display at their show. Kristin Shaw and her team transported plants and display materials to the show "Bewitched By Orchids". They spent the day setting up with orchids from our members. The VAOS display was staged between the EAOS and SOS displays with a nice balance and blend of our members orchids. The VAOS display was awarded First Place Society at this show, so everyone was a winner helping EAOS with a very successful show.



Treasurer's Report

February 28, 2023

OPERATING FUND January 31, 2023	\$7,797.65¹
+ Income	29,847.00
-Expenses and Payments	(5,191.88)
- Transfer to Reserve Fund	(20,000.00)
+ Petty cash on hand	75.00
OPERATING FUND February 28, 2023	\$12,527.77

¹Starting with the February Treasurer's Report, the Operating Fund will reflect only true operating items. The Reserve Fund (balance of \$49,932.25 on February 28) has been removed

March Growers Clinic Recap

Growers Clinic March 9, 2023

A lively, spirited and nearly full house group of new, seasoned, prospective members and guests attended Thursday night's, Growers Clinic. The evening started with the usual Orchid ER session, which was, due to the relatively small number of "patients", EXPECTED to be a rather short session. However, in reality, many of the diagnoses spurred further and deeper discussions and morphed into other areas resulting in some excellent teaching and, more importantly, learning opportunities! After all, isn't that the focus of the Growers Clinics? To learn? The evening concluded with the Orchids 201 presentation, delving a bit deeper into specifics on pots and potting, media, and the tools required to continue down the path to becoming "orchid growers". Overall, the team of Rick Belisle, Richard Ho, John Masters, Vicki Fisher, Jay Loeffler, Janet Keown and Naoki Kawamura had their "A" Game on resulting in another fun and successful evening!





April Growers Clinic

April 13th

Hands-on Orchid Repotting

This month is our popular Demonstration of Dividing and Repotting an Orchid. Rick Belisle and the Growers Clinic Team will lead a Hands-on Orchid Repotting session. An orchid will be “unpotted” and divided. Shown will be potting in different types of media including bark, LECA, Lava rock and coconut husks. The Growers Clinic Team will explain the supplies, tools and planting media, demonstrate basic procedures, and share their tips of the trade. Then the REAL fun starts!

Participants will re-pot their own orchid with the assistance of several experienced growers and helpers. We will work in teams of 4 or 5 around a table with each person bringing an orchid that needs repotting as well as a suitable pot to replant the orchid and a sterile pair of shears. With only two hours available and a large turnout expected, it is critical that everyone adhere to the instructions below:

- All plants must be removed from their pot and **all old planting media and dead roots must be removed prior to the clinic**
- Only one plant per person
- Bring your pot and shears
- Please make sure your plant is free from pests or diseases

Media and supplies for most orchids will be provided. The meeting starts at 7:00PM and is held in Room F of the Venice Community Center. Park on the left (south) side of the building and enter through the side door.

The April Growers Clinic will end with our Orchid ER, as usual. Members and guests can bring in their problem plants and the team will diagnose and make suggestions as to how you should proceed. Attendees always hear new and important information for their own knowledge!

Submitted by Rick Belise

How To Have Color Year Round!

When I joined the VAOS, it was largely because of a luncheon meeting of the Venice Newcomers Club way back in 2008. Carol Wood, then President of the VAOS, was our Guest Speaker. Carol had a wonderful Powerpoint presentation outlining the VAOS, our goals, the wonderful people, some awesome photos... an excellent presentation! What caused my eye, or ear, truth be known, was her statement, "...and you can have color year round!"

Oddly enough, just a short time before, my wife, Mary Lou, and I were sitting on our lanai, enjoying our "adult beverage" of choice, when, looking around at the shrubs, palms, etc., I said to my wife, "Ya know? With all this green, it'd be nice to have some color, year round!". She agreed. Just a few months later came the Newcomers lunch!

Well, it's taken a while, but, with a little research, it can be done! Recently, one of our VAOS Guest Speakers provided a "color wheel" that indicated which months a number of Cattleyas would/should be in bloom. I found it a bit difficult to manipulate so I transposed it to an Excel spreadsheet (some of you might be thinking, "of COURSE you did!"), which, in my simple mind, made it easier to understand. And, sure enough, it turns out that just 4 plants can give year round color. Then I said to myself, "Hmm. I wonder if there is a list of Dendrobiums and the months they bloom?" More research and, Yes! I now have an Excel spreadsheet that gives a sampling of various plants, by section, that will provide you with color year round. It can be done, due to their long blooming seasons, with just three plants, two Latouria and 1 Spatulata, Oddly, so far, December is void. But, I'm still working on it! I hope to share those lists with others in the future. And, who knows...Encyclias? Oncidiums?

Sure adds another dimension to the "Just One More" mantra and now it's "Just One More for December!" Good growing, all!

By Rick Belisle

A promotional poster for the Orchid Festival at Sunken Gardens. The poster is framed by a light blue border and features a central white rectangular area with text and images. The background of the poster is a lush green foliage. The text is in various colors and fonts, including green, blue, and black. The central image is a large yellow orchid flower. The Sunken Gardens logo is in green with a stylized plant above it. The contact information is at the bottom in black text.

Orchid Festival
Sunday, April 2, 2023
10:00am ~ 4:00pm
Thousands of Orchids for Sale
❖ Orchid Lectures ❖ Ric & Swiffer's Hoyas
❖ Jungle Gym Bromeliads ❖ Orchid Art/Pottery/Supplies



1825 4th St. N. ❖ 727.551.3102
Festival FREE with Paid Admission or Membership

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5th - (Wednesday) - General Meeting, Venice Community Center. Speaker: Ti & Henry of Florida Orchid House Topic: Soft Cane Dens

April 13th - (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, 7pm. Topic: Dividing and Repotting. Hands-on potting clinic

May 3rd - General Meeting, Venice Community Center . Speaker: Elfie, All Around Orchids Topic: Hard Cane Dendrobiums

May 11th - (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, 7pm. Topic: Pests & Disease

ONGOING

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

AOS JUDGING

AOS Orchid Judging—Florida North Central Judging Center. Check Website for Schedule: Info:

<https://aosfncjc.wixsite.com/aos-florida-north-ce>

Next meeting:
April 5th

Contact Us

Venice Area Orchid Society

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Venice, FL 34284-0443

President

Joanna Shaw pres@vaos.org

Membership

Sue Grimmer memb@vaos.org

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