

VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at www.vaos.org

October 2023

October 2023 General Meeting

Wednesday October 4th

Doors Open: 6:30pm

Venice Community Center

Speaker: Bill Nunez

Topic: How to Grow Specimen Cattleyas

Bill began growing orchids in the late 60's after several years of tagging along with his father to visit friend's greenhouses. Some of these growers were prominent growers in the area and some of you may remember them: Jack Sweet, Cliff Curry, John Matthews, John & Gloria Naugle, Gladys Whitesell, Richard Bates, and a few others.

He began to receive a few back bulbs from some of these folks and a few of them lived. He was off to the races after that. He built his first flask box when he was in high school. He grew up on 1800 acres of family- owned ranch land and started working on cattle ranches in the 70's, becoming familiar with Florida cypress swamps. He greatly enjoyed his adventures into these wonderful swamps. They became his refuge and always had the sense of traveling back hundreds of years in time when he entered one of these untouched places. He was able to find many of the Florida orchid species along with native ferns and a variety of wildlife.

He has been growing orchids most of his life and gets great pleasure now when he is making new hybrids mostly in the Cattleya alliance. He has been fortunate enough to receive several AOS awards and register several of his own hybrids. The greatest satisfaction for him is to have one of his hybrids awarded.



October Events

**October 4
General Meeting**
Joint meeting with
EAOS & Ice Cream
Social

**No October
Growers Clinic**

**October 12
Pot Luck Dinner**

Quick Links:

[VAOS Officers](#)

[Orchid Resources](#)

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

[https://](#)

[www.facebook.com/](#)



[groups/](#)

Continued on next page

Bill Nunez Continued

Now he is older than dirt and is still fascinated with orchids. Somewhere back in his memory he is still a young man on an afternoon adventure in a pristine Florida cypress head, oak hammock or creek bottom.

Bill Nunez 'AKA' Rhizome Cowboy

Bill will have plants for sale.

September Growers Clinic Rec

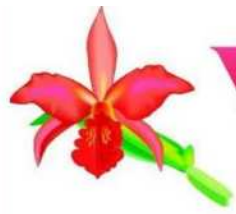


Thursday night, September 14, we were treated to a wonderful and detailed presentation by Vicki Fisher on those strange and very different orchids of the Catasetum Alliance. Vicki brought in examples of the different types from her own collection, along with samples of the pots and media she uses in successfully growing her plants. Approximately 30 members attended. Many great and poignant questions were asked and answered, which could indicate a growing interest (pun intended!) in this interesting orchid group. The Catasetum "Cheat Sheet" is available for downloading at our VAOS website under VAOS PUBLICATIONS.

The Orchid ER had several plants for discussion, a few of which, brought in by newer members, were perfectly fine. It would seem that the new members merely wanted affirmation that they were doing the correct things for their plants. And who hasn't been there, right?? Input from Jay & Judy Loeffler, Vickie Fisher, John Masters and Shelli Diamond led to some lively and different recommendations. Lastly, Irene Thimm surprised the group by bringing in 7 Catasetums, as well as many various potting containers, to be given away. A raffle was held to distribute the items. Thank you, Irene!

NOTE: Remember, there will be NO GROWERS CLINIC in October! Instead, we have our October Fest Pot Luck Dinner on October 12th. The next Growers Clinic will be on November 9. Topics will be Preparing your Orchids for Winter and Preparing your Orchids for Up-Coming Shows.

Submitted by Rick Belisle, Director, Education & Training



VENICE AREA Orchid Society

WELCOMES THE ENGLEWOOD
AREA ORCHID SOCIETY

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

**Build your own
sundae**



Monthly VAOS Meeting
Wednesday October 4, 2023
7:00pm-9:00pm

Treasurer's Report

August 31, 2023

OPERATING FUND July 31, 2023	\$5,833.63
+ Income	0.00
- Expenses and Payments	(51.87)
OPERATING FUND August 31, 2023	\$5,781.76

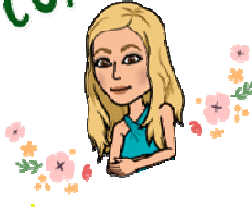
Reserve Account August 31, 2023 - \$39,534.38

Petty Cash on hand \$75.00

Submitted by Ian Kennedy, Treasurer

Save the Date

VAOS SOCIAL
CORNER



October 4, 2023 Monthly Meeting Make your own Ice Cream Sundae Social as we welcome & host Englewood Orchid Society

October 12, 2023 Annual Pot-Luck Dinner in place of the growers clinic. We ask all members who attend to bring their favorite pot-luck dish to share. 5:00pm-9:00pm Dinner and Orchid Bingo with great prizes. Sign up no later than October 4, 2023. Final Head count and menu will be completed on October 8, 2023. All Members are encouraged to participate for fun, food, friendship and great orchid related prizes during our Orchid Bingo game.

November 1, 2023 Monthly meeting Bake your favorite holiday type cookie to share with our members. Those who bring a baked item for the meeting will receive a free raffle ticket.

November 4, 2023 Saturday, Krull Smith Bus Trip 7:00am-7:00pm Sign up & details are available via attached flyer. Payment is due to Ian Kennedy; Treasurer to save your seat. The bus is filling fast so please sign up NOW! Sign up at Social@VAOS.org , payments must be received by check or Zelle to hold your seat. Deadline is October 25, 2023 FIRM.

December 9, 2023 Saturday, Holiday Party at Plantation Golf & Country Club 5:00pm-9:00pm Sign up & details will be available at our October Meeting.

Submitted by Denise Langman, VP Social



Fall Festival Potluck

Join us for a fun evening with your fellow orchid lovers.

Thursday October 12, 2023

5:00 – 8:00 PM

Venice Community Center



Sign up to bring an appetizer, salad, main dish, or side dish.
VAOS will provide dessert, water, soda, coffee/tea and place settings.
Members may BYOB beer or wine

Orchid BINGO: Play to win great gift cards to local orchid growers.

Raffle Table- Blooming plants & Orchid Items.

(Members are welcome & encouraged to bring donations for the raffle table 😊)

Sign up no later than our October 4th meeting or contact Denise by October 8th so that we will have an accurate head count and food list.

Denise M Langman VP Social social@vaos.org

VENICE AREA ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 6, 2023

President Joanna Shaw opened the meeting at 7:00pm, welcoming everyone to the meeting. She admired the newly refinished floor at the Community Center. She exclaimed It is good to be back after the recent closure of the Venice Community Center. Joanna introduced our speakers, Jim and Melana Davison of Jim-N-I Orchids. They specialize in Catasetinae, Florida natives and collectable species and hybrids. Jim and Melana have orchids for sale on the back table for members who wish to take some home.

Joanna drew attention to nametags offered at the Membership Table. Members are to use them tonight, then take them home. Please return with them to use at the next meeting. She then directed members' attention to the Plant table and Raffle table.

Announcements:

Joanna Shaw introduced Denise Langman, VP Director of Social Activities. Denise referred members to the monthly VAOS Social Corner of the recent Newsletter. It provides detailed information about all upcoming events. She cited October 4th, when we will be hosting Englewood members here at the Venice Community Center. Refreshments will be a "make your own" Ice Cream Sundae Social. On October 12th we will enjoy our Annual Pot Luck Dinner in place of the Growers Clinic. Starting time is 5pm. All attendees are asked to bring a dish to share. We will play Orchid Bingo with great prizes. November 1st is our Monthly meeting. Those who bring refreshments to share will receive one free Raffle Table ticket. November 4th is the bus trip to Krull Smith in Apopka. Details are on the VAOS website. Members and guests must sign up and pay by October 25th. The VAOS Holiday Party will be at the Plantation Golf and Country Club on Dec. 9th. On behalf of Show Chair Judy Loeffler, Denise reported that many volunteers will be needed for the February, 2024 Orchid Show. Sign up opportunities will begin during October and November. Members applauded as Denise concluded her report.

Rick Belisle was introduced. Rick gave an enthusiastic greeting to members. He reported the next Growers Clinic will be held on September 14th, the second Thursday of the month. It will be at 7:00pm in the Venice Community Center. Rick said Vicki Fisher will present information on Catasetums as a follow up to our program tonight.

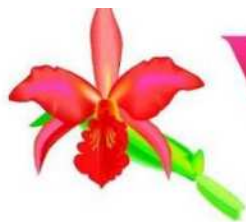
Program

Vicki Fisher introduced Jim and Melana Davison, saying they brought a large variety of orchids that are for sale. They own Jim-N-I Orchids, a retail nursery. They also have an extensive and diverse orchid collection at their home in Homestead, FL. Both Jim and Melana are AOS Accredited Judges. They are also actively involved in several South Florida orchid societies. Melana is the current President of the Orchid Society of Coral Gables and past President of the South Dade Amateur Orchid Club. Jim is the past President of both the Orchid Society of Coral Gables and the East Everglades Orchid Society. Their topic was Catasetums in Florida. Their extensive power point presentation offered many photos and detailed culture information.

Vicki Fisher presented the Plant Table. Her orchid, which won, was a beautiful example of the type of orchids presented by Jim and Melana.

Natasha Romero presented the Raffle Table, calling out winning numbers for each orchid and orchid related item.

Submitted by Peggy Fahrenback, Recording Secretary



VENICE AREA Orchid Society

VAOS Road Trip to Krull Smith Fall Festival, Apopka, FL

Limited
Seating

Saturday November 4, 2023

Sign Up
NOW

Departs Venice Community Center 7am promptly.

\$40 pp

Includes bus trip, driver tip, snacks, and water. What a deal!

Food trucks are available at the venue.

Bring your own containers for storing your purchases.

Sign up with name and phone # by contacting Denise

Social@VAOS.org

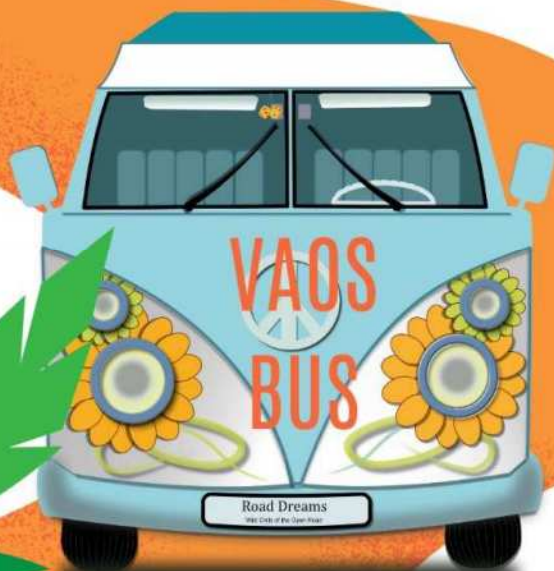
Payments via check please note "bus trip" made out to: VAOS

Sent to: PO Box 443, Venice, FL 34284-0443

or

Pay by Zelle: VAOSMoney@gmail.com

Deadline for all payments is October 25, 2023 firm.



www.vaos.org



social@vaos.org

IN MEMORIA



Ken Dolan, a longtime member of VAOS, passed away July 23rd at the age of 67. Ken was a resident of Englewood. He worked as a respiratory therapist at Venice Hospital and served 24 years as a Venice Fire Department firefighter. He was a key member of our show display team for more than 10 years, taking off from work to help us set up our society show displays in Sarasota, Venice and Englewood. He had a calm presence and a big smile. He loved his orchids and was an integral part of our team. We will miss him.

Our condolences to his wife Patty and his family.

VAOS 2024 SHOW TEAM UPDATE

Our 2024 VAOS Show & Sale is just five months away! Our 57th annual show will take place on February 3-4, 2024 “*Peace Love & Orchids*”. Your show team has been busy. Our show poster and postcards have gone to print. Trophies and t-shirts for show volunteers have been ordered. This year we will have tie dye t-shirts and encourage our member volunteers to add their own accessories – bell bottoms, frayed jeans, midi skirts, chokers, headbands, scarves and jewelry. We are working on our show advertising schedule. Every year we advertise in AOS Magazine, Herald Tribune, Venice Gondolier and on ABC Channel 7. We are expanding our advertising to local communities such as Wellen Park and encourage you to provide suggestions for advertising and promoting our show in your community. Next month we will be sending out vendor contracts for our grower vendors, artists and suppliers.

At our October 4th general meeting we will start signing up volunteers for our show. We will have about 120 volunteer slots to fill for our show and we encourage all of our members to participate. We'll need help with:

- Facility set up and take down
- Front door admissions
- Show hosts
- Judging Clerks
- Hospitality
- Food donations
- Orchid Boutique
- VAOS Exhibit
- Membership Table
- Signage

Please save the dates:

- Friday show set up February 2nd – 1 – 7pm
- Saturday show February 3rd – 10am – 5pm
- Sunday show February 4th – 10am – 4pm
- Sunday show take down February 4th – 4pm

On the following page we provide the complete 2024 show schedule for Sarasota Orchid Society, VAOS and Englewood Area Orchid Society.

Judy Loeffler & Carol Wood, Show Co-chairs

2024 ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW SCHEDULE

Sarasota Orchid Society (January 2024)

Friday Set up Jan 5th – 9am – 4pm

Saturday Show Jan 6th - 9am - 5pm

Sunday Show Jan 7th - 10am - 4pm

Sunday Take Down Jan 7th – 4pm

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

Theme: Orchids in Paradise

Show Chair: Larry Desiano LarryDesiano@sarasotaorchidsociety.org

Venice Area Orchid Society (February 2024)

Friday Set Up Feb 2nd – 1pm – 7pm

Saturday Show Feb 3rd - 10am - 5pm

Sunday Show Feb 4th - 10am - 4pm

Sunday Take Down Feb 4th – 4pm

Location: Venice Community Center: 326 So. Nokomis Ave., Venice

Theme: Peace Love & Orchids

Show Chairs: Carol Wood & Judy Loeffler ShowChair@vaos.org

Englewood Area Orchid Society (February 2024)

Thursday February 22nd Set Up – 10am – 5pm

Friday Show February 23rd - 10am - 5pm

Saturday Show February 24th - 10am - 5pm

Saturday Take Down February 24th – 5pm

Location: Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park, 6961 San Casa Dr., Englewood (tentative pending hurricane damage repairs)

Theme: Orchids by the Sea

Show Chair: Mary Anne DiGrazia tommmaryanne@centurylink.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 4 - (1st Wednesday) General Meeting, Venice Community Center. Speaker: Bill Nunez Topic: How to Grow Specimen Cattleyas. Joint meeting with EAOS. Ice cream social

October 12 - Pot Luck Dinner in place of Growers Clinic. Venice Community Center, 5pm- 8pm. See flyer to sign up

November 1 - (1st Wednesday) General Meeting, Venice Community Center. Speaker: Francisco Miranda Topic: Cattleyas walkeriana & nobilior

November 4— Krull Smith Bus Trip. See flyer to sign up

November 9 - (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic , Venice Community Center, 7pm. Topic: Preparing Orchids for Winter. Preparing Orchids for Shows

SAVE THE DATE

December 9 - Holiday Dinner Party
January 6-7 - SOS Annual Orchid Show
February 3-4 - VAOS Annual Orchid Show
February 23-24 - EAOS Annual Orchid Show

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:
October 4th

Contact Us

Venice Area Orchid Society

PO BOX 443

Venice, FL 34284-0443

President

Joanna Shaw pres@vaos.org

Membership

Ian & Karen Kennedy
memb@vaos.org

Visit us on the web at

www.vaos.org

Visit our Facebook Group at

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

