

ORCHIDELIRIUM!

Newsletter of The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society
January 2012 Volume XXIV Issue 4

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President's Message

Hello to all PSLOS members and friends!

If you missed our Annual Recognition Luncheon on December 20, 2011, you missed a fabulous event. In the spirit of the season, good food and fellowship, recognition of long time members, an orchid for each and fun and games were had by all in attendance. A job well done and a special thank you to board members Hellen Wagner and Jessica Benford for organizing this very special event.

I hope family and friends were part of your Christmas or Hanukkah experience, and all of you had a chance to reflect on the past year of our Orchid Society's success. We should be proud of our accomplishments this year: expanded membership (119 paid members), well attended membership meetings with exciting speakers bringing new information and education about orchids, our orchid auction, annual show, our orchid plant sale, our orchid garden room at the Botanical Gardens and more. All of our success is because of you!!!

We will continue with new orchid experiences in 2012, starting with our January Meeting, and our Tamiami bus trip on January 28th. Both events will involve fun, sharing orchid knowledge, and making new friends. Hope to see you all there!!!
I hope your New Year brings you peace and prosperity and, most of all, new orchid experiences.
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

Bill Manning
President

Orchid Tasks for January, per Martin Notes

Hat tip to Roy Williams for suggesting this feature!

- Water judiciously and early in the day
- Keep plants on the dry side; if the weather is cold, you may need to irrigate for warmth
- Flush excess fertilizer salts from Cattleyas and other sympodials
- Spray for mites if needed; spray a second time in 7 days



January Speaker!

Fred Clarke
Sun Valley Orchids, Vista CA

Fred has spoken at a meeting before, and this time his topic is Cattleyas.

Fred has a wealth of information to share, and we are fortunate to have him.

Plan to be there!

An Invitation to All Members

The January Executive Board meeting will be an organizational session for our March show.

There are many volunteer opportunities available! This would be an excellent occasion for you to learn more about our show, and see how you can help make it an even bigger success this year.

All members are invited to attend the meeting. Please take advantage of this! You have no idea how much fun the show is until you get involved.

The Board will meet at 1 PM, Tuesday, January 17th, at the Police Station on Airoso Blvd. across from the Community Center.

Amendments to Bylaws

The Executive Board has made some changes to our bylaws. These now need to be approved by the general membership in January. Please note the yellow shaded areas; those are the changes. In the case of the aqua shading, those are sections that were already approved and are simply being included in the body of the document.

If you are receiving this newsletter by mail, you have an insert. If you are looking at this on line, you will receive a separate email containing a pdf.

Coming Events

January 2012

- 3th: Orchid Society of Coral Gables Judging Symposium, Fairchild Gardens, Miami. Jill Sidran, cbsidran@bellsouth.net
- 7th-8th: Sarasota Orchid Show, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Momroe Kokin, (941) 586-7795 or orchidpix@comcast.net
- 20th-22nd: Ft. Lauderdale OS Show, War Memorial Auditorium, 800 NE 8th St, Holiday Park. Chris Crepage, (954)563-3548, crisbil@att.net
- 21nd-22nd: Manatee River OS Show, Manatee Convention and Civic Center, 1 Habon Blvd., Palmetto. Barbara Fuhlbruck, (941)751-1599 or bavwfuhlbruck@tampabay.rr.com
- 28th-29th: Tamiami Orchid Festival, Dade County Fair Expo Center, 10901 Coral Way, Miami. Martin Motes, martin.motes@gmail.com

*The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society's
20th Annual Show and Sale!
March 9th, 10th and 11th*

Society Shirts

You may have noticed the embroidered shirts that many of our members wear. You can have one, too!

Take a shirt of your choice to Burns Embroidery, 1970 SW Bayshore Blvd. They have our logo, and will help you choose the colors you like. The phone number there is 807-5775.



Member News

Gail Barlow and Linda Kinyon were both hospitalized in December. Jeanne Scadden is experiencing ongoing health problems.

George Grenier passed away in late December. Our sincerest condolences go to Patty.

Ask Dr. Laurie!

Dear Dr. Laurie: I am a new member of the PSLOS and truly enjoyed the celebration we had at Gator Trace. I need information on how to keep my new Phalaenopsis alive and well.

Dear Reader: Many books state that these are one of the easiest orchids to care for and give you years of beautiful flowers. Most of these articles are written by hobbyists living in the north where they keep the plants on windowsills or under artificial lights in their homes. The humidity levels in those homes is low. After many years of killing beautiful Phalaenopsis I have the following recommendations to make:

- Keep on the patio or shade house where they receive bright light but not direct sunlight
- Water in the morning, do not overwater, and place them where they will be protected from summer rain. Watering in the afternoon can allow moisture to collect in the crown of the plant and cause crown rot. If they are mounted, they do not seem to mind our summer showers.
- Fertilize weekly with water soluble fertilizer early in the day during spring, summer and fall. Do this early in the morning so the leaves have a chance to dry out before night fall.
- I pot mine in sphagnum moss and coconut chips. When repotting I use clear pots. Recent studies suggest that the roots of these plants benefit from receiving light.
- Repot at least every other year. Many articles that I have read suggest yearly. When you repot will depend on the medium you use.
- If you develop black spots on your flowers, you most likely are dealing with botrytis. In the future you can prevent this by improving air circulation around the plants. This is disfiguring but will not destroy the plant.
- Pseudomonas is a killer. You will note soft brown spots on the leaves. It is necessary to isolate this plant. The disease can spread rapidly from one plant to another. This disease is usually noted in August and September when the temperatures and humidity are high.

Phalaenopsis have become one of my favorite plants. They bloom for long periods and bring much color and joy to the novice grower. They have also become inexpensive compared to many other orchid plants. Enjoy your new plant and welcome to the world of orchids.

“Dr.” Laurie Hart

Show Time!!

Our 20th Annual Orchid Show and Sale will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 9th, 10th & 11th. Set up is on Thursday, March 8th.

Hellen Wagner is chairing the show, and as always, much help is needed.

There are opportunities for everyone, experienced or not. At the January meeting, Hellen will be asking for people to chair committees. This may sound daunting, but stop to think about it. For example, If you are in charge of the admissions table, all you need to do is have folks sign up to man the table for a couple of hours at a time, and then remind them the day before. There are other little details, but that's the biggest part of it.

So you see, these jobs are not hard, but they need to be done. We need someone to solicit sponsors for our program, too, and we'll have literature at the January meeting.

If you have not participated in a show before, you have no idea how much fun we have. And watching the big empty hall transformed into an orchid wonderland is a real treat.

So when Hellen asks next week, say "Yes, I will!". You'll be glad you did!



Membership

Carol Donahue, Chairwoman

There were 65 members at our Annual Recognition Luncheon. Please remember to wear your name tags to the meetings in order to be eligible for door prizes. If you are interested in becoming a member, email cadinpsl@aol.com or call (772) 201-7913.

"Orchid Wiz Express" Auction

Once again this year, Alex Maximiano of Orchid Wiz has donated a copy of the program for us to auction.

This year, it is Orchid Wiz Express, his new program for those who want a smaller version of the original.

We will have a silent auction for it in February. It's a great chance to have this wonderful tool!

Tamiami Trip Details

For those who are going to Tamiami with us, the trip is on Saturday, January 28th. The bus leaves from The parking lot behind the St. Lucie Draft House. The cross street is Kitterman Rd.

The bus will leave promptly at 7:30 AM. We will return to Port St. Lucie at approximately 5:30 PM.

Should you get lost, my cell phone number is 359-8296; you can use that number on the morning of the trip.

No refunds will be made for cancellations after January 20th.

Diana Kulaga
(772) 873-0663
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New Library System

Our new Librarian is Sonia Manning. We have decided to alter the way the Library operates. The Librarian will no longer bring all the materials to every meeting. Instead, members may reserve materials in advance. A list of all materials available can be found on our web site:

www.pslos.org

In addition, a list is included with this Newsletter. If you do not have access to the Internet, please keep the list for future reference.

To reserve materials, contact Sonia at: bill.manningbill8@gmail.com or 873-8256

Thought for the month.....

Why is "phonics" spelled that way?

*Seen at our Annual Recognition Luncheon
December 20th, 2011*





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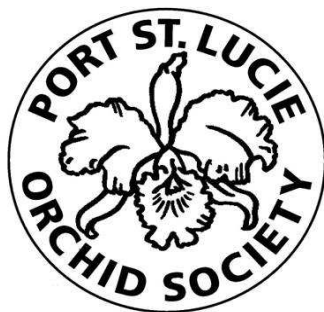


Robinson's Collection

**Orchids & other Exotic
 Plants**

Vivian (Robbie) & Barbara Robinson

Port St. Lucie (772) 871-2841



January Meetings

General Meeting
 Tuesday, January 10th, 2012, 1:00 PM
 PSL Botanical Gardens
 Fred Clarke, Sun Valley Orchids
 "Cattleyas"

Door Prize, raffle, Show and Tell. Sorry, no member sale table this month.

Early Class, noon: Phalaenopsis staking

Board Meeting
 Tuesday, January 17th, 1:00 PM
 Police Station, Airoso Blvd.

Organizational meeting for our show!
 All members welcome.

2011-2012 Officers

President	Bill Manning	bill.manningbill8@gmail.com (772) 873-8256
1st VP	Illona Christie	illonachristie@gmail.com (772) 335-7930
2nd VP	Laurie Hart	paddy Laurie@bellsouth.net (772) 337-2126
Secretary	Donna Zutter	dmzfla@aol.com (772) 418-1287
Treasurer	Shay Morton	shaymorton@comcast.net (772) 337-6578
Corr. Secty.	Toby Trapkin	traptoby@comcast.net (772) 468-0057
Membership	Carol Donahue	cadinpsl@aol.com (772) 201-7913
Past President	Jessica Benford	der1jess2@aol.com (772) 408-0811

Trustees

Class of 2012	Hellen Wagner	hellenwagner@aol.com (772) 879-0401
Class of 2013	Diana Kulaga	diandfrank@bellsouth.net (772) 873-0663
Class of 2014	Barbara Robinson	vivianrobinson@comcast.net (772) 871-2841



**Happy
 2012!!**