

# ORCHIDELIRIUM!

Newsletter of The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society  
June 2011 Volume XXIII Issue 10

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Join our Facebook group!

## President's Message

Hello members and friends,

My heart breaks, as this is going to be my last newsletter as President.

I thank all of our members and friends who have worked with me to make the past 2 years a success.

We have been over some hills and down some valleys, but the road has been enjoyable and a wonderful experience for all involved.

I now have the honor of passing the baton on to Kerry Begley, Ilona Christie, and Laurie Hart. I know that they will do an outstanding job with the continued support of our members.

Thank you all!

Jessica Benford  
President



## June Speaker

We are pleased to announce that our June speaker will be none other than our own Jamie Lawson. His topic:

### *Orchids in Love!*

This will be a lively and informative discussion of how orchids use nature to propagate themselves.

Jamie is as entertaining as he is knowledgeable; plan to be there!



## A Note from the Editor.....

In her final message, our outgoing President stays true to form! I asked her if she might like to enumerate some of her (many) accomplishments, but she demurred.

The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society has been fortunate; we have had a succession of terrific officers. But we would be remiss if we didn't mention Jessica's tenacity when working toward a goal; her ambition; and her ability to bring members together to accomplish many things that had been "on hold" for a long time.

Thanks, Jess!

## June Early Class

### Paphiopedilums

Should time allow, we will also discuss ways to maximize your orchids' growth during the summer months.

*Paph. Lemonade*



Editor's Note: The May gathering was our Annual Awards Retreat. There are no minutes.

## Coming Events

July

29th-30th: 1st Annual Cattleya Symposium, Fort Pierce.  
For information and registration, go to  
www.odoms.com .

As usual at this time of year, there are few events to report. I will email information on any that come up.

DK

### *The Little Keikis!*

Become a PSL Botanical Garden Keiki  
for children ages 6-12.



Come learn about different plants in the Garden. You will discover what plants need to grow, participate in activities, and plant a seed or keiki of your own. Classes will be conducted by Master

Gardeners and PSL Orchid Society members on June 18, July 23, Aug. 6 and 20 from 10-11:30. Snacks will be provided.

Registration mandatory - call the PSLBG at 337-1959 to sign up.

### *Your Newsletter!*

That's right. "Orchidelirium!" is *your* newsletter.

While I try to include items of interest every month, I would like to hear from you. Are there features that you would like to see added? Do you have an idea for a column that you'd like to write? Or one that you'd like someone else to write?

Please let me know your thoughts. Constructive criticism is always welcome. Since we don't have a newsletter in July or August, it's an ideal time to work on any changes that might make this newsletter better.

Speak up!

Diana Kulaga: diandfrank@bellsouth.net or 873-0663

### *Member News*

Walter Hartwell is recovering from a stroke.

Jean Scadden is once again battling cancer.

We wish the very best to these fine people.

### *Ask Dr. Laurie!*

**Dear Dr. Laurie:** I bought an oncidium two years ago. It has never bloomed. What do I need to do to make it bloom?

**Dear Reader:** I had a similar problem with oncidium sphacelatum that I purchased at one of our society auctions. It was growing well and twice the size it was when I purchased it but had not bloomed for several years.

In the meantime, a fellow Master Gardener called me with an orchid problem. She had recently purchased a home that had an orchid on a tree in her yard and it was overtaking the tree. She was new to the area and did not have any orchids.

I asked her to e-mail me a picture and I was amazed. There was this magnificent sphacelatum in full bloom and it was enormous. I advised her to leave it alone for it would not hurt the tree and to enjoy it. She had never fertilized or watered it.

I took my sphacelatum and attached it to a wooden basket which I then mounted on a tree, providing the orchid with abundant filtered light. It bloomed the following year.

Now, you may not have a suitable tree, and therefore a west or south window is recommended. They are high light orchids. They like to be in small pots. Note they have pseudobulbs like cattleyas and therefore follow a similar watering pattern even though their roots are very fine.

These New World orchids come from many different habitats. So ask the dealer if they are warm growing. The sphacelatum and the wonderful smelling Sharry Baby love our south Florida climate. Two years ago I purchased a Twinkle, which is a miniature oncidium which gets covered with small sweet smelling flowers. It stays in bloom for about eight weeks and is a joy to have on your kitchen table in February.

Enjoy the summer and your orchids. Remember that several PSLOS members are at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens every Thursday morning. Come visit us, ask questions of some of our expert growers and any orchid donations are always welcomed.



*"Dr." Laurie Hart*

*Seen at Our Annual Awards Retreat in May!*



*Patrick & Jessica with their AOS Awards!  
Photos: Laurie Hart*



*Up that lazy river before lunch!  
Photo: Patrick McClintock*



*Some fun and Games!*

*Photos by Donna Zutter*



## ***Membership***

**Toby Trapkin, Chairwoman**

There was a great turnout for our Annual Awards Retreat in May! 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 [traptoby@comcast.net](mailto:traptoby@comcast.net) or call (772)468-0057.

## ***Time for Dues!***

Membership dues are payable in June. Dues are \$20/single membership or \$25/family. If you joined at our March show or later, you are not liable for dues this year.

For others:

**Regardless of when you paid your dues last time, to keep current you MUST pay this year's dues in a timely manner!**

Bring a check or cash to the June meeting, or send a check to:

Toby Trapkin  
7323 Marsh Terrace  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

**Thank you for your cooperation!**

*Welcome to returning member Ginger London! Glad you're back.*

## ***Volunteers Needed!***

As you know, we have a new batch of Officers being sworn in this month.

Incoming President Kerry Begley will need volunteers in many areas, and we'll be asking you to step up to the plate.

There are lots of opportunities to get involved, and you'll get to know your fellow members in the process.

Think about where you might be able to help!

## ***The Library is Open!***

Our library is open. Librarians Kerry and Larry Begley have a great selection of material for you to borrow. There are books, videos and more. Visit the library at the next meeting! Our library list is now online. Go to [www.pslos.org](http://www.pslos.org) to view it.



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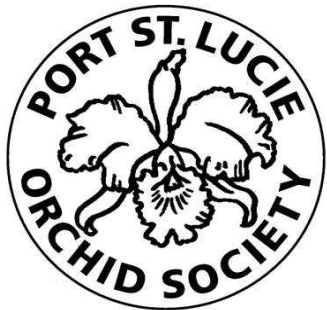
## Robinson's Collection

Orchids & other Exotic  
Plants

Vivian (Robbie) & Barbara Robinson

Port St. Lucie

(772) 871-2841



### June Meetings

Tuesday, June 14th, 2011, 1:00 PM

"Orchids in Love"

With Jamie Lawson

PSL Botanical Gardens

Early Class: Paphiopedilums

Sorry, no member sale table this month

Show & Tell, Raffle, Door Prize

### Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 21st, 1:00 PM

Incoming Officers should attend!

Port St. Lucie Police Station, Airoso Blvd.

All members are welcome at Board meetings

### Elected Officers

2010-2011

**President:** Jessica Benford  
der1jess2@aol.com 408-0811

**1st Vice President:** Laurie Hart  
paddy Laurie@bellsouth.net 337-2126

**2nd Vice President** Jamie Lawson  
jimorchids@aol.com (772) 664-6453

**Recording Sec:** Renee Skalet  
fsurenee@bellsouth.net 878-9223

**Corresponding Sec:** Ena Vilabrera  
evilbrera@yahoo.com 343-7268

**Treasurer:** Shay Morton  
Shaymorton@comcast.net 337-6578

**Membership:** Toby Trapkin  
traptoby@bellsouth.net 468-0057

### Trustees

**Class of 2011:** Barbara Robinson  
Vivian.robison@comcast.net  
871-2841

**Class of 2012:** Hellen Wagner  
hellenwagner@aol.com 879-0401

**Class of 2013:** Diana Kulaga  
diandfrank@bellsouth.net 873-0663

Two of our members, Jamie Lawson and Jim McGoogan, had great stories to share in the last week. Here is Jims!



*Schombolaelia Paul Storm 'Bessey Creek'*

In his own words:

"I bought the plant from Paul Storm in April. The cross was made by Sea God Nursery, which was owned by Raymond Burr, the actor who played Perry Mason. When my plant bloomed yesterday, I sent a picture to Paul Storm asking what the color form was. Paul wrote back, saying it was the best he had ever seen of this cross, and he contacted Sea God, now owned by Raymond Burr's life partner, to see if there were any clonal names. The response was that there were no clonal names on a flower this nice, and they gave me the privilege of naming it. It is hereafter known as Smb. Paul Storm 'Bessey Creek'."

Jim McGoogan

*And here is Jamie's story!*



*C. Tripp Johnson 'Judy Wagner'*

*In his own words:*

"Here are my C Tripp Johnstons' which got awarded yesterday at West Palm. C. Tripp Johnston 'Judy Wagner' AM/AOS 86 points and 'Isabella Lawson-Park' AM/AOS 83 points. Bob Fuch's said "exquisite, FCC potential!" Greg Alikas said "Stunning!"

Jamie Lawson

*Editor's note: Hmm! Think he's happy?!*

*On this page, more photos from our Annual Awards Retreat, courtesy of Larry Begley*

