

ORCHIDELIRIUM!

Newsletter of The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society
March 2010 Volume XXII Issue 7

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Visit us on the Web at: www.pslos.org

President's Message

GOALS for PSLOS:

MOVING AHEAD !
NOT LOOKING BACK !
THE PAST IS OVER !
MOVING FORWARD !

KUDOS, GREAT WORK!

At last! Our 501c3 status was approved by the IRS. Thanks to all who worked so hard on such a great project. Your hard work and shortened summer vacation has paid off. Now we must learn how to use it so that it will be a benefit to the society.

Our fantastic show has grown and now we have expanded to the outside front Patio. We have acquired vendors for garden plants, jewelry and music. The committees are still open to any volunteers.

South Florida Leadership committee's name has been changed to South East Council of Orchid Societies, or SECOS. They have been very involved with the American Orchid Society and have been the number one force in keeping the AOS gardens open. They have also been instrumental in getting the societies to communicate and work with each other. They have been working to get societies to combine resources to obtain new innovative speakers.

SECOS will be moving their meeting throughout Florida, to have more interaction with societies. Their next meeting is in Jupiter at the community center hall. Feel free to contact Laurie for any information, if you wish to attend.

What an honor to have our own Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens. The Botanical Gardens will be opening some time in March. As with any new projects and the current economy there have been setbacks. Laurie Hart, Hellen Wagner, Shirley Melachrinoudis, Robbie Robinson, Mike Bond and Michael Ortseifer have been attending meetings every 2nd Monday of the month at 5.30 PM. Hopefully the next meeting will be at the gardens.

Looking forward, in the future, we would like to be involved with the orchid garden on site. Feel free to give us any ideas or suggestions that you may have.

PSLOS is Springing forward with Spring !

Jessica Benford
President

Display Time!

It's a call to arms, folks! We are installing a table top display for the Martin County Show, and we need plants! We know the timing is tough, with our own show coming up, but we still need to do this.

Set up is Thursday, March 4th at 11AM at the Martin county Fairgrounds on South Dixie Hwy in Stuart. Please send your list of plants to Hellen at hellenwagner@aol.com so she can get them registered and make labels. If you can't be there, we will try to transport them for you.

Pitch in, folks!

Minutes of the January 2010 General Meeting

Jessica Benford called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. She introduced new members and four members of the Fort Pierce Orchid Society who came to visit.

Toby Trapkin introduced Eve and Lou Bartos, who were presented with a crystal dish in honor of their 20th year of membership. Toby also spoke about needing volunteers for various show committees.

Laurie Hart talked about coming events in February and March, including a plant sale at the PSL Botanical Gardens and a demo on orchid design at AOS.

Patrick McClintock explained how to mount or frame our orchid photos for the show display. Photos need to be turned in no later than our March meeting.

Shirley Melachrinoudis discussed the upcoming cruise to Honduras. Michael Ortseifer did a demonstration on how to install a table top display. Barbara Robotti and Laurie Hart did a mock judging and clerking demo.

After show & tell, door prizes, raffle and 50/50, Jessica closed the meeting at 3:15pm.

Renee Skalet
Recording Secretary

Coming Events

March 2010

- 5th-7th: Martin County OS Show, Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy, Stuart. Ben, 287-9447; twobnees@aol.com
- 11th-14th: OS of Coral Gables Show, Fairchild Tropical Gardens, 10901 Old Cutler Rd., Coral Gables. Claire Sidran, (305) 238-8762 or cbsidran@bellsouth.net

12th-14th: Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show, PSL Community Center, Airoso Blvd, Port St. Lucie. Hellen Wagner, (772) 879-0401 or hellenwagner@aol.com.

- 19th-20th: Englewood Area OS Show, United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St., Englewood. Pam Bombardieri, (941) 828-0153 or pbombardieri@comcast.net
- 19th-21st: Naples OS Show, United Church of Christ, 5200 Crayton Rd., Naples. Frank Ginocchio (239)403-7155 or f.ginocchio@comcast.net
- 20th-21st: Jacksonville OS Show, Garden Club of Jacksonville, 1005 Riverside Ave, Jacksonville. Harriet Wright, (904) 696-7729 or wrig0567@comcast.net.
- 27th-28th: Central FL OS Show, Central FL Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando. Jerry Steele, (407)880-5150 or jsteele1234@cfl.rr.com.

April 2010

- 2nd-4th: Tampa Bay OS Show, Egypt Shrine Ctr, 4050 Dana Shores Dr., Tampa. Patricia Cartwright, (813) 989-9357 or pjcartwright@earthlink.net.
- 17th-18th: Tallahassee OS Show, Doyle Conner Bldg., 3125 Conner Blvd, Tallahassee. Pam Stevens, (850)510-5528 or pamstevens08@comcast.net.
- 24th-25th: Vero Beach OS Show, Riverside Park, Vero Beach. Doug Mew, (772)778-6625 or instedof@bellsouth.net
- 24th-25th: OS of Highlands County Show, Bert Harris Agricultural Center, 4509 George Blvd, Sebring. Bill Hart, (863) 471-2290 or hwilliamb@msn.com.

Ask Dr. Laurie!

Dear Dr. Laurie: I have an orchid I would like to display at our show but I have never done this before and I need some help.

Dear Reader: It is exciting and a little nerve racking to enter your first plant. You like the flower and are proud that under your care this orchid plant has flowered. Yet you are placing it in front of certified orchid judges who may not love your plant as much as you do. However if you come home with a ribbon, the anxiety will be worth it. You will also have learned a lot from the experience.

Choose a blooming plant that is in its prime. Take this plant to the orchid beauty parlor. Examine the whole plant, not just the beautiful flowers. Look for pests such a mealy bugs or ants. Check for scale. If any of these conditions exist spray your plants with the proper solutions. Your plant and the show chair will be most grateful. Remove all old and yellow leaves, take a soft toothbrush and warm soapy water and clean your pseudobulbs. Next get out the cotton balls and a small saucer of milk and polish your leaves. If necessary, stake your flowers and get a name label (your name and address) and place it on the side of your pot.

Now check for your plant label. Place it inside the pot where it is not visible but first write the name on a piece of paper and bring it with you to the registration room. To register the plant you must have its official name. If the label is a little worn and you're not sure of the spelling, go to your computer. Google the name as closely as you can and you most likely will be taken to the proper spelling of the orchid.

In the registration room there are experienced members who are there to help you. They will have stakes and black labels and silver pens. They will help you fill out the registration forms and the proper labels for the plant and direct you to the individual table.

I have noted that if the plant is placed in a decorative pot or basket with some mosses it is very visually appealing.

Be proud of what you have raised and share its beauty with the people of the Treasure coast.

“Dr.” Laurie Hart

Private Sale!

Judy Wagner, a long time orchid connoisseur, is putting her orchid collection up for sale. There will be about 500 orchids available for purchase at reasonable prices. Judy has many wonderful orchids, and it would be worthwhile to attend.

Date: Saturday, March 6th, 8AM-4PM.
Address: 1045 19th Ave SW, Vero Beach.
Phone: (772) 569-0080.

Sunshine Corner

We are sad to report that long time member and dear friend Dotty Hull has passed away. Our deepest sympathy goes to Hank Hull and the rest of the family.

Thought for the Month:

If you try to fail and succeed, which have you done?



Time again for our annual orchid extravaganza! Our show will take place Friday through Sunday, March 12th -14th. If you are new to our Society, you are in for a treat, and it's not too late to get involved. There are openings on several committees, and you can sign up at our March meeting.

On Thursday, March 11th, it's all hands on deck for setting up for the vendors and societies that participate. You don't need experience for this! There is plenty to do, and you will learn as you go.

There will be free classes throughout the show, so check the schedule and plan to attend. You can also sponsor a trophy, alone or with someone else, for \$30, and door prizes are always needed.

Remember, there is a photo exhibition! If you would like to enter a photo for judging, bring it to the March meeting and give it to Patrick McClintock. Photos must be either matted or framed.

The show is a great time to get to know your fellow members and to learn a lot about orchids. But perhaps best of all is the pride of ownership that we all feel when the hall is set up and the fragrance of orchids is overwhelming!

Don't miss this event!

March Early Class

This month we will begin discussing "the growing season" and how to maximize your orchids' potential in the coming months.

The class meets at noon in room E, and is open to all without charge. I would appreciate knowing if you plan to attend.

Diana Kulaga
diandfrank@bellsouth.net or 873-0663

Welcome to Our New Members!

John & Judy Delaney
6001 NW Wolverine Rd.
PSL 34986
873-8546
delaney924@bellsouth.net

Burt & Beckie Henry
654 SE Crescent Ave.
PSL 34984
878-7659
dogsmother@bellsouth.net

Edward & Melissa Hawley
607 NW Grenada St.
PSL 34983
446-7300
wittleraccoon@gmail.com

Membership
Toby Trapkin, Chairwoman

There were 59 people in attendance at the February meeting. 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@bellsouth.net or call (772)468-0057.

American Orchid Society Events

Join other orchid lovers for Wine and Jazz in the Gardens!

Third Thursday of the month, January through April, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. What better setting for music than the gorgeous gardens of the AOS?



AOS Headquarters.

AOS Classes for March 2010
Something Different!

3/13: Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Hibiscus
Eddie Griffith, Pres. American Hibiscus Society
For Information on the classes:
(561) 404-2011 or email swayman@aos.org.

Visit the fabulous AOS web site! www.aos.org

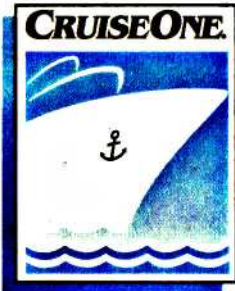


A Table Top Display at Our 2009 Show!

The Library is Open!

Our library is open! Librarian Lin Smith will have a great selection of material for you to borrow. There are books, videos and more. Visit Lin at the next meeting!

Our library list is now online. Go to www.psls.org to view it.



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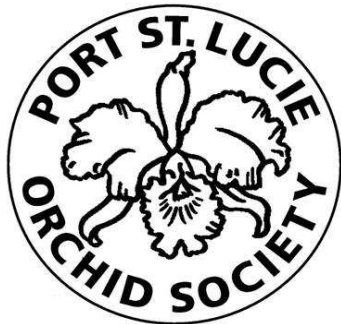


Robinson's Collection

Orchids & other Exotic
Plants

Vivian (Robbie) & Barbara Robinson

Port St. Lucie (772) 871-2841



March Meetings
General Meeting

Tuesday, March 9th, 1:00

Presentation of an unusual fertilizing
method

Member sale table; door prizes, show & tell
and raffle

Early Class, 12:00, Room E

Maximizing your orchids' potential during
the growing season

Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 16th, 1:00 PM

at the Police Station next to City Hall

All members are welcome at Board Meetings

2009-2010 Officers

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

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

2nd Vice President: Lara Amyx
lara102@bellsouth.net 337-6377

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

Corresponding Sec: Susan Spring
spring@bellsouth.net 337-1713

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

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

Trustees

Class of 2010: Diana Kulaga
diandfrank@bellsouth.net 873-0663

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

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



From our 2009 Show! Top, a fabulous floor display.
Above, a vendor's display.