

# Orchidelirium!

Newsletter of The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society  
January 2023 Volume XXXIV Issue 5

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## President's Message

John Erickson

Happy New Year! I am honored to be your new President and am looking forward to working with such a strong and supportive Board of Directors. Please show them we appreciate their hard work by volunteering where the opportunity presents itself throughout the year. Together we will strive to make the society even bigger and better in 2023.

We closed out 2022 with our annual holiday luncheon. Everyone enjoyed the good food, fun gift exchange, and beautiful orchid gift from the Florida Orchid House. A shout out goes to Barbara Lynn and her volunteers for arranging the event.

Our First Vice-President, Andrea Heitfeld, has already begun getting vendors to fill the Polish American Club for our Orchid Show on April 1-2, 2023.

By the way, I hope you all have heard that Andrea was the Volunteer of the Month for the Port St Lucie Botanical Gardens. You can read the article in the December issue of "The Garden Gate" magazine or the December issue of the PSLOS newsletter.

I hope to see everyone at the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. I suggest you arrive a little early so you can enjoy the Orchid Room and the many changes that have been made.



## 1st Vice President Message

Andrea Heitfeld

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and weathered the cold front with your orchids.

John, Dana, Lynn Forte, Diane Jenkins, and I wrapped the orchids in our Orchid Room the Friday before Christmas to protect them from the frigid weather. Again, a big thanks to our members for helping take care of our Orchid Room.

I obtained an artificial Christmas tree donated by Walmart which I donated on behalf of the Orchid Society to the Botanical Gardens. John and I set it up in the Serenity Garden.

Don't forget we have Tony Millet (AOS judge) speaking at our meeting in January!

Well, 2023 is here, and hopefully this year will be a busy productive year for our society.

Please give a warm welcome to our new President John Erickson. He will be a great asset to our club.

Just think our show is only 3 months away!



# MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SHOWS

## PSLOS January Meeting - January 10, 2023

**NOTE:** Although not required, masks are encouraged to be worn. Also, we will not be serving lunch, but you may bring a snack if you wish. We will be offering bottled water.

There will be no workshop prior to this meeting.

Doors will open at 12:30. Orchids will be available for sale.

1:00 pm: Cattleya

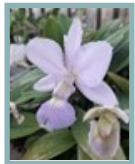
Speaker: Tony Millet, AOS Judge



Tony's mom started his growing career at a very young age in Brooklyn NYC, growing everything from seed. He also had a mentor who started teaching him about orchids when he was about 9 years old.



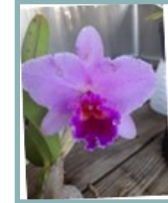
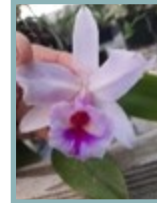
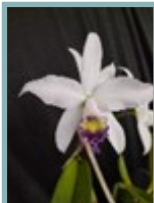
During his orchid growing career, he has delved into cool, intermediate, and warm growing types of orchids. The early childhood experience of growing from seed also set the tone for his own orchid hybridizing program, which he has been doing for more than 25 years.



He breeds and grows unusual hybrids in the large Cattleya alliance and also performs all hybridizing and flasking activities. Many of Tony's hybrids have been AOS awarded! He also lectures to societies and teaches.



Tony will have plants for sale. Don't miss this opportunity!



### PSLOS MEETINGS

February 14, 2023  
Orchid Mounting Workshop

March 14, 2023  
How Orchids are Judged at Shows

April 1-2, 2023  
PSLOS Annual Orchid Show & Sale  
"Hoot Loves Orchids"

April 11, 2023  
To Be Determined

May 9, 2023  
PSLOS Annual Picnic

### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

"Orchids in Paradise"  
Sarasota Orchid Society  
January 7-8, 2023  
Sarasota Municipal Auditorium

"Tamiami International Orchid Festival"  
Miami Orchid Society  
January 13-15, 2023  
Dade County Fairgrounds

"Sea of Orchids"  
Florida West Coast Orchid Society  
January 28-29, 2023  
Seminole Recreation Center

West Palm Beach Judging Center  
Orchid Auction, February 26  
Flamingo Gardens Learning Center

## MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SHOWS



The West Palm Beach Judging Center is planning an auction for Sunday, February 26, 2023 @ 1:00 pm to be held at the Learning Center at Flamingo Gardens, Davie, Florida. This is a fund-raising event for their center to raise money to cover ongoing expenses for their Judging Center which includes rent, photographer's fees, speaker fees and travel expenses as needed, etc.

As an Affiliated Society Member they are inviting our members to attend this auction and bid on some exciting orchids from some of their judges' private collections, grower donations, orchid books, orchid supplies, memorabilia, etc., to support their Center. They are not subsidized by the American Orchid Society and any funds raised will be restricted to the use by the WPBJC for expenses mentioned above.

They are looking forward to seeing everyone on February 26 at 1:00 pm. Additional information will be sent out closer to the date.

# DECEMBER PSLSO HOLIDAY LUNCHEON



Checking the list to see who's naughty or nice!



Leading the blessing.



Installing the 2023 officers.



Good food and good fellowship!



Thanks to all the PSLSO members who were generous with gifts for the Salvation Army Angel Tree.



Lots of fun with the gift exchange!



# DECEMBER PLSO HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

## Membership Longevity Awards

Every year at the Annual Awards and Holiday Luncheon, the Port St Lucie Orchid Society recognizes members who have reached certain membership milestones. Those who have maintained continuous membership status for 5, 10, 15, 20, or 25 years are awarded pins to commemorate their achievement.

Because of the Covid pandemic, longevity awards have not been presented since 2019. Therefore, at this year's luncheon we recognized all members who reached a membership milestone during the years of 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Commemorative pins will be presented to honorees at the January 2023 General Meeting.

	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years	20 Years
2020	Anne Menassian Lee Stradley Dave Moody	None	None	Susan Spring
2021	Christine Rodic Marion and Tessara Shetty Joan Schiller	Barbara Lynn Nanette and Jeff Rothschild Karen Rutkowski	Jessica Benford Elizabeth Harrison Ena Villabrera Michael Ortseifer Hellen Wagner	None
2022	Diane and Mel Bryant Pam and Mike Scholey Judy and Ken Russ	Laurie Wade Dana DeMarco Lillian Cruz Sonia Hernandez	None	None



5 Year Pin



10 Year Pin

# TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS



Anne Menassian  
Membership Chairperson  
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772-497-4371 (texts only)

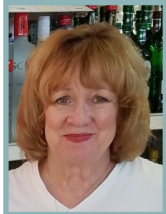


Happy New Year Friends!!

Hard to believe it is January already. January is the start of our fiscal year which means that the dues for 2023 are now payable. You can pay your dues by cash, check, or credit card at the January General Meeting or by check through the PSLOS Post Office Box.

Individual Dues are \$20/year. Family Dues are \$25/year.

Checks are payable to PSLOS.



Laurie Wade  
Treasurer



Here is the latest Treasurer's report.

- Our current balance is \$7,044.88.
- Our income and expenses are as follows.
  - Our Holiday luncheon income was \$2,067.78, and expenses were \$2,675.40. The orchids presented at the luncheon cost \$1,375.00 and Gator Trace cost \$1,300.00.
  - We took in \$80 in 2023 dues.
  - Our monthly storage fee is \$162 and total annual GoDaddy is \$213.05.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the January meeting.

# ORCHID CULTURE & CARE

## Tasks for January



- Average high: 76.5
- Average low: 59.6
- Average mean: 68.1
- Average rainfall: 1.88
- Be prepared to protect outdoor plants from freezing temperatures.
- Spray for mites; spray again in 7-10 days.
- Many genera are entering or are in flowering season. Stake for better displays.
- Flush excess fertilizer salts from Cattleyas and other sympodials.
- Watering, fertilizing, and re-potting should be kept to a minimum.
- Water early in the day.

*From Dr Martin Motes' monthly newsletter and book, Florida Orchid Growing Month by Month, (<https://www.motesorchids.com/fogblog/2022/1/5/january-in-your-orchid-collection>)*

For further information specific to different orchid genera: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/january-february-checklist.aspx>

# ORCHID CULTURE & CARE



## *Orchid-abulary*

Brought to you by  
Nan Rothschild  
2nd Vice President

## THE DANCING LADIES ONCIDIUMS



**Oncidiums** are the “dancing ladies” of the orchid world because their flowers look like skirted dancers. They hail from the “New World,” ranging from Mexico to Peru. The name is taken from the Greek word “onkos” meaning torso, referring to the pad-like growth that appears on the upper lip of each flower, forming the torso of the “lady.”

**Repotting oncidiums** - Oncidiums almost always look like they need to be repotted because they are constantly climbing out the pots with their roots all over. A good way to tell if they really need repotting is to check and see if the roots are entering the potting medium as they cascade from the point of new growth. If they are, things are fine for now. If the new roots are avoiding the medium, this tells you that the potting medium has rotted or soured and the plant should be repotted.



Oncidiums are divided into roughly four groups:



**Bulbous** - These have definite pseudobulbs but varying leaves. Ex. *Onc. sphacelatum*

**Rattail** - These have pendulum terete leaves; plants grow in dry conditions. Ex. *Onc. cebolleta*

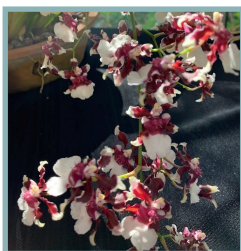


**Mule ear** - These have very heavy, pointed, wide leaves that top small, squatty bulbs. Ex. *Onc. splendidum*.

**Variegata** - These are also called “equitant.” Plants of this group have their little leaves arranged like fans. Ex. *Onc. variegatum*



**Tip for reblooming** - The primary cause of oncidiums failing to rebloom is insufficient light.

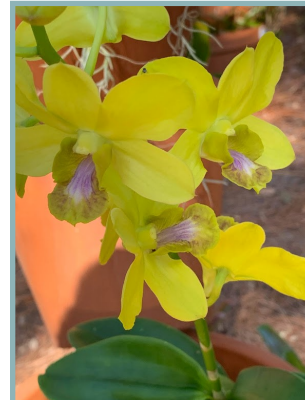


**Oncidium Sharry Baby** is one of the most popular orchid hybrids; 1 1/2 inch red and white flowers, famous for it’s chocolate scent.

**Oncidium varicosum** best exemplifies the “dancing lady” title



# PSL BOTANICAL GARDENS - BLOOMING IN THE ORCHID ROOM



Thank You Volunteers

## Protecting against the cold

Visitors to Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens walk past the orchid display that volunteers covered with cloth on Friday, to protect from near-freezing temperatures expected on the Treasure Coast Saturday through Monday mornings. Volunteers covered the sensitive plants to protect them from frost as temperatures were expected to dip into the mid to low 30s with wind chills in the 20s.



Bonsai trees are covered to protect against cold weather as guests visit the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens on Friday.



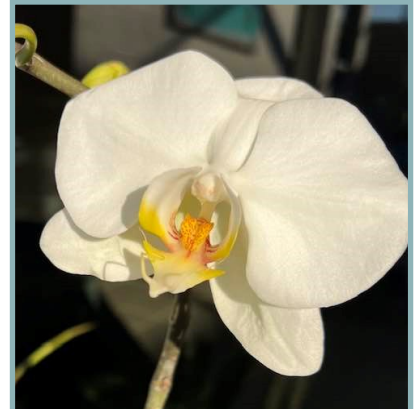
We made The Stuart News. A big thanks to those members who helped protect our orchids from the cold.



# WE LOVE OUR ORCHIDS—FROM OUR MEMBERS' GARDENS!



From Andrea Heitfeld's Collection



Pamela Plumstead



Diana Lenartiene



Jennifer Margolis



Michael Ortseifer



From Nan Rothschild's Collection



We love to see our members' orchids, especially if you can't bring them to "Show and Tell".  
Send pictures to [pslosdiane@gmail.com](mailto:pslosdiane@gmail.com).

## Port St Lucie Orchid Society 2023 Officers and Volunteers:

President - John Erickson  
1st Vice President - Andrea Heitfield  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Nan Rothschild  
Recording Secretary - Diana Lenartiene  
Corresponding Secretary - Dana DeMarco  
Treasurer - Laurie Wade  
Membership - Anne Menassian  
Immediate Past President - Pam Scholey  
Trustee - Jessica Benford - 2023  
Diane Bryant - 2024  
Barbara Lynn—2025  
AOS Representative - Laurie Wade  
2023 Show Co-Chairs - Andrea Heitfield & John Erickson  
Noon Workshop - Vacant  
Orchid Room - Jessica Benford & John Erickson  
Orchid Exchange - Maureen Kerr  
Newsletter - Diane Bryant & Anne Menassian  
Website - Diane Bryant (Primary)  
Diana Lenartiene (Alternate)  
Annual Retreat - Diana Lenartiene  
Annual Holiday Awards Luncheon - Barbara Lynn

## Join us for Monthly Meetings September—June

### General Meeting

2nd Tuesday of the month, 1:00 PM  
(Educational Class 12:00 PM)  
Port Saint Lucie Botanical Garden  
Speakers, Classes, Show and Tell, Raffles,  
Orchid Exchange, and more  
May and December—Special Meetings  
Times to be Announced

### Board Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the month, 12:30 PM  
Port Saint Lucie Botanical Garden



Orchid Room

## Important Links for the Orchid Lover

Our Society:

<http://pslos.org/>

Our Facebook Page

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/PSLOS>

Florida Orchid Growing

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/fl.orchid>

American Orchid Society

<http://www.aos.org>

Martin Motes FL Orchid Care Website

<https://www.motesorchids.com>

You can advertise in this newsletter for  
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If interested, contact PSLOS  
Newsletter Editors Anne Menassian at  
[amorchidnews@gmail.com](mailto:amorchidnews@gmail.com)

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