

Orchidelirium!

Newsletter of The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society
May 2024 Volume XXXV Issue 9

Co-Editors: Diane Bryant, email: pslosdiane@gmail.com
Anne Menassian, email: amorchidnews@gmail.com

Visit us on the Web at: www.pslos.org — Join our FaceBook group!



President's Message

John Erickson

I became a member of the PSLOS in March 2013 and have volunteered for each subsequent orchid show. After our most recent show, I reflected back and came to the conclusion that this year's show was the best in the last 12 years. I have four reasons for making that statement.

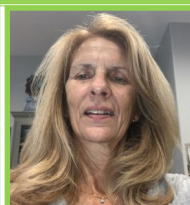
REASON #1: LEADERSHIP. I estimate that Andrea Heitfeld put in over 200 hours planning and preparing for the show. She was also in charge of every aspect at the show.

REASON #2: LOCATION. The Polish American Club has several advantages over other recent venues. (a) There is no need for security. If we had held the show at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, we would have had to pay \$900 for police security on Friday and Saturday nights. (b) The show can't be affected by the heat or bad weather. In 2019, it rained one afternoon, affecting both attendance and sales. (c) Vendors don't need to bring tents, tables, and chairs.

REASON #3: MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION. Volunteers stepped up to: (a) donate a record 51 raffle baskets which surpassed the previous record by 19%; (b) enter a record number of niche displays which was made possible by the addition of a new large (12 inch) niche box; (c) donate/prepare food for breakfast/lunch for three days. Barbara Lynn has been preparing her chicken casserole since 2019, and it continues to be the hit of the show.

REASON #4: VENDOR SATISFACTION. Vendors agreed that sales exceeded expectations, and they were eager to participate again in the future.

The membership participation at the Orchid Show this year was **OUTSTANDING, THE BEST EVER!**



1st Vice President Message

Andrea Heitfeld

Spring has sprung! Our show Orchid Beez's was a complete success! Thanks to all of our members who donated trophy sponsorships, raffles, Bee displays, time, and orchids at the show. We definitely have a rock star group!



And not to let the grass grow under our feet, we are already planning our 2025 show! Our theme will be Enchanted Orchid Fairy Tales. Stay tuned for more updates as time goes on.

Our picnic was a lot of fun thanks to all who attended, and those who were not able to come maybe we will see you next year!

At our May meeting we will have a noon class given by Diane Bryant who will talk about mounting orchids, and our speaker will be Bill Nunez who will speak on Encyclias and their hybrids. We have never had a presentation on Encyclias, so it should be a very interesting presentation.

Did you know Orchids in Japanese culture are symbols of love, beauty, and elegance? Also, the Japanese also have a practice called "Hanami" which involves admiring the beauty of flowers, including orchids, during the spring season.

The May orchid quote: "As a symbol of beauty the orchid inspires us to pause and reflect on the exquisite artistry of nature."

MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SHOWS

PSLOS May Meeting - **Monday, May 20, 2024**

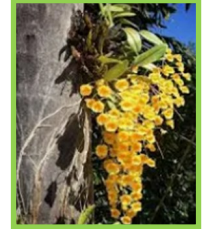
12:00 Noon: Mounting Orchids Speaker: Diane Bryant



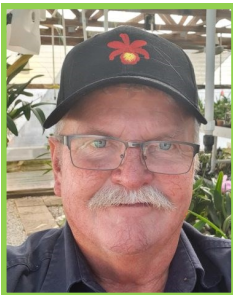
What orchids can be mounted?
What type of mount can I use?
How do I mount?

Are there special watering & light requirements?

Diane will provide answers to these questions and provide suggestions for mounting your orchids.



1:00 pm: Encyclias & Their Hybrids Speaker: **Bill Nunez, AKA 'Rhizome Cowboy'**



I have been growing orchids most of my life and have been fortunate enough to receive several AOS awards and register several of my hybrids. The greatest satisfaction for me is to have one of my hybrids awarded.

I began growing orchids in the late 60's after several years of tagging along with my father to visit his 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, etc. I began to receive a few back bulbs from some of these folks, and a few of them lived. I was off to the races after that. I built my first flask box when I was in high school.

I grew up on 1800 acres of family-owned ranch land. I started working on cattle ranches in the 70's and became familiar with Florida cypress swamps, greatly enjoying my adventures in these wonderful swamps. They became my refuge, and I always had the sense of traveling back hundreds of years in time when I entered one of these untouched places. I was able to find many of the Florida orchid species along with native ferns. Now I am older than dirt and I am still fascinated with orchids. Somewhere back in my memory, I am still a young man on an afternoon adventure in a pristine Florida cypress head, oak hammock, or creek bottom.

REMEMBER THE ORCHID EXCHANGE: The Orchid Exchange is a great opportunity to expand your orchid collection!

PSLOS MEETINGS

June 17, 2024
Candice Klee, C.R. Orchids

July/August 2024
Summer Break

September 16, 2024
Florida Orchid House

October 21, 2024
PSLOS Auction

November 18, 2024
J&J Orchids

December 2024
Holiday Party

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Platinum Coast Orchid Society's
"Welcome to the Orchid Jungle"
May 3 - 5, 2024, Merritt Island, FL

Miami Beach Orchid Society's
"Orchids and Arts Festival"
May 4 - 5, 2024, Miami Beach Botanical Garden

Volusia County Orchid Society's
"Down the Rabbit Hole
(Because We're Mad About Orchids)"
May 11 - 12, 2024, Volusia County Fairgrounds

Redland International Orchid Festival
May 17 - 19, 2024, Redland Fruit & Spice Park

APRIL AWARDS RETREAT



Thanks to our chefs!



Checking out the raffle prizes!

We appreciate our volunteers! Thanks to everyone for our great show, and thanks to Elly and Dawn for our BEEZ!



Raffle & bingo prize winners!



Bingo time!



Time for cornhole!



Lots of good eating, laughs, and comradery!



Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show - 2024

Congratulations to all the PSLOS members' trophy and ribbon winners!



Jennifer Margolis
 1st Place - C. Taida Swan 'Polar Bear'
 Best in Show Cattleya Alliance 5" & Greater
 2nd Place -- Phal. Tropic Ocelot-Pink
 2nd Place -- Den. Kyle Quintal



Gail Matthews
 1st Place -- C. intermedia var. alba
 1st Place -- Paph. philippinense
 1st Place -- Paph. philippinense 'Live Oak'



Laurie McCarty
 1st Place -- Caul. Tom Miranda
 2nd Place -- Odcdm. Catatante 'Pacific Sun Spots'



Diana Lenartiene
 1st Place -- Blc. Golf Green 'Hair Pig'
 2nd Place -- Vnra. Jairak Kiss



Anita Shelman
 1st Place -- Maxillaria tenuifolia 'Hawaii Coconut'
 2nd Place -- Maxillaria tenuifolia 'Haupia'



Ann Mygatt
 1st Place -- Den. Little Atro
 Best In Show

Andrea Heitfeld
 1st Place -- Den. Love Memory 'Fizz'
 Best in Show



Patricia Davis
 1st Place -- Rlc. Hunabu Esmeralda

Jet Tanner
 2nd Place -- C. Aurantiglossa



Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show - 2024

Congratulations to all the PSLOS members' trophy and ribbon winners!

Bee Habitat



Laurie McCarty
Blue Ribbon &
Best in Show

Blue Ribbon:
Pierre Heitfeld
Andrea Heitfeld
Dawn Reich

Bee Creation



Nan Rothschild
Blue Ribbon &
Best in Show

Blue Ribbon:
Jennifer Margolis
Dawn Reich

Red & Yellow Ribbons:
Diana Lenartiene, Laurie McCarty,
Anne Menassian, Diane Bryant

Red & Yellow Ribbons:
Andrea Heitfeld, Diana Lenartiene,
Margaret Lee-Havison, Theresa Lyden



Orchid Niches



Anita Gagnon
Blue Ribbon &
Best in Show



Anne Menassian
Blue Ribbon &
Best in Show
Mini Niche

Red & Yellow:
Gladys Velez
Andrea Heitfeld
Maureen McGill
Pam Plumstead
Patricia Davis
Illona Christie
Dianne Jenkins
Jennifer Margolis

Blue Ribbon Winners:
Large Niche
Anita Gagnon
Pam Plumstead
Linda Druck
Maureen McGill

Mini Niche
Anne Menassian
Illona Christie
Pam Plumstead
Dianne Jenkins
Elsie Freiheit
Jennifer Margolis

Red & Yellow:
Jennifer Margolis
Illona Christie
Linda Druck
Maureen McGill
Pam Plumstead
Patricia Davis
Elsie Freiheit
Anita Gagnon
Jessica Benford
Diana Lenariene

Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show - 2024



PSLOS Best in Show Winners.
(Missing: Anne Mygatt)



This year we conducted hourly raffles of donations from our vendors which was very popular!

Mrs. Robinson was recognized for her dedication to PSLOS and our Orchid Room.



Our members and friends donated over 50 raffle baskets!

Thank you for your generosity.



This year we also recognized our trophy (bronze, silver, and gold) and show sponsors!
We thank you all for your support!



Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show - 2024

Fantastic show thanks to a lot of teamwork from volunteers!



What a wonderful surprise! Mrs. Robinson visited our show. Check out the YouTube video created by Vicki's Likes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tchZlFrj-FU>



Thanks to our many volunteers (many of whom are not pictured here), we had a fantastic and successful show!



Thanks to all the members who volunteered to clerk!



As always, John's workshops were a big success!



A BIG thanks to Andrea for planning & organizing a fantastic show!



Look at those BEES! Thanks to Dawn Reich and Elle Conn.

Some of the great exhibits as well as some of our fantastic vendors!



Vero Beach Orchid Society Show - 2024



We won the Best Society Exhibit. Thanks to John Erickson, Dana De-Marco, and Diana Lenartiene for helping with the display and to all the members who provided orchids for the display.

“Success is best when shared.”
— Andrea Heitfeld



The “Oscar’ Winners! Congratulations Anne and Dana!

Vero Beach Orchid Society Show - 2024

Pictures of some of our
Blue and Red Ribbon winners!
Congratulations!



Dana DeMarco
1st Place - Ctt. Trick or Treat, Best Cattleya Alliance
1st Place - Onc. altissimum, Best Oncidium Alliance
3rd Place - Ctt. Wolteriana



Anne Mygatt
1st Place - Den. Little Atro, Best Dendrobium Alliance,
Considered for AOS Judging
1st Place - Zygo. Maculatum 'Trozy Blue'



John Phillips
1st Place - Paph. Hawaiian Flush 'Superwide Petal' x
Paph Jaeger 'Double Power'
1st Place - Osp. Brazilian Sun 'Samba'



Andrea Heitfeld
1st Place - C. intermedia var. alba 'Penn Valley' AM/AOS
1st Place - Den. Spring Dream 'Apollon'



Diane Bryant
1st Place - Maxillaria tenuifolia 'Yamada' AM/AOS
1st Place - Maxillaria tenuifolia

Diana Lenartiene
1st Place - Vnra. Jairak Kiss
2nd Place - Den. Love Memory 'Fizz'



Grace Beausejour
1st Place - Den. griffithianum
2nd Place - Den. Chanthaboon Sunrise
3rd Place - Den. unicum '4588' x Den. 'Stardust Firebird'

Jackie Young
2nd Place - Pcv. Key Lime Stars



A big thanks to these members who provided orchids.
Not only did they win ribbons, but their orchids
also helped us build a winning display.



OTHER ORCHID NEWS OF INTEREST



Seth Solomon donated his orchids and wooden planters to the PSLOS. Really a nice surprise!

Seth decided that growing orchids was too time consuming and too hard -- we've all been there!

His donated baskets have already been put to use in the Orchid Room -- another display for orchids!

Thank you, Seth!



The May repotting workshop for new members was a success. It looks like our new members enjoyed the workshop.

For more information on the New Member Repotting Workshop, talk to John Erickson, the PSLOS President.



We moved into the new storage area in February. It took exactly two hours to empty the old storage and move into the new (cheaper and smaller) storage.

Amazing job done by Andrea Heitfeld, her husband Pierre, John Erickson, Laurie Wade, and Dana DeMarco!

Thank you!

Orchidelirium!

Did you know?

Orchidelirium, also called orchidomania or orchid fever, is the name given to Victorian era's flower madness for collecting and discovering orchids. Wealthy orchid fanatics of the 19th century sent explorers and collectors to almost every part of the world in search of new varieties and species of orchids.

Orchidelirium is seen as similar to Dutch tulip mania. Today there still exists some levels of orchid madness.¹

Are you inflicted with this disease? Watch out -- it might be contagious!

¹<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orchidelirium>

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS



Anne Menassian
Membership Chairperson
P O Box 8421
Port St Lucie, FL 34985
pslosmembers@gmail.com

Hello Members,

Happy May!! We have one new member who joined during the show, Welcome Judi Kamsler of Port St Lucie. With Judi's membership we now have 121 members. Please feel free to bring your friends to our May meeting to introduce them to all the great things PSLOS does. I sent out the latest update of the PSLOS Member List. If you find an error with your entry let me know.



Laurie Wade
Treasurer

What a busy month April was! Our show was an INCREDIBLE success. We took in \$8,428.01 and spent \$4,566.60 (most of the expense was due to the facility rental), giving us a profit of \$3,861.41. Compared to 2023, income was \$5,958.00 and expenses were \$4,593.59, giving us a profit of \$1,364.41. What an incredible difference a year makes! Our raffles and admissions did so much better as did our trophy sponsorship.

Other business; we received an anonymous donation of \$1,000.00. Our picnic income was \$357.00 (includes \$112.00 raffle), and our expenses were \$162.41 (includes facility rental).

I won't be at the May meeting but will have everything at the June meeting. You may contact me if you have any questions.

ORCHID CULTURE & CARE

Tasks for May

May Climate Data

- Average high: 87.2
- Average low: 72
- Average mean: 79.6
- Average rainfall: 5.52"



- Water heavily when you water; then dry hard to encourage new growths.
- Fertilize with up to 2 tsp. of 15-5-15 per gal of water every week or so. Alternate with Epsom salts and potassium nitrate at 1 tbs. each per gal. Do not "water before fertilizing" as it's a recipe for over watering.
- Continue all your repotting this month. Recently acquired plants in sphagnum MUST be repotted annually. Choose a more durable media such as rock, red wood chips or various mixtures to avoid this annual ritual.
- Re-set vandaceous orchids whose baskets have deteriorated or that have grown too tall to be easily managed. Keikies (off-shoots) can be most safely removed now.
- Follow good cultural practices: adequate spacing, brisk air movement, the strongest possible light, combined with careful watering to minimize fungi.
- Use systemic fungicides when necessary for black rot and crown rot.

From Dr Martin Motes' monthly newsletter and book, Florida Orchid Growing Month by Month.

ORCHID CULTURE & CARE



Orchid-abulary

Brought to you by
Nan Rothschild
2nd Vice President

DECODING TAGS

When you are decoding the information on the tag of an orchid:

1. All orchids belong to the family **Orchidaceae** (pronounced “or-kid-DAY-see-ee).”
2. Within the family are many **genera**. In an orchid name, the genus comes first (ex. - Cattleya, Dendrobium, Phaleanopsis, and many more). The genus is capitalized.
3. Then comes **species**. A species is a member of a genus. There are many species within each genus.

Species - may also refer to plants that originated in nature, even if they are now propagated in cultivation. It can be found in the wild and was not created by humans. A species is always indicated by a lower case letter (Ex. Cattleya triana).



Hybrids - may be made by nature but most have been created by humans. This name also occurs after genus, if it isn't a species, but is indicated with a capital letter (ex. Cattleya Doris and Byron). This name applies to every seedling that results from this particular cross and all future crosses of the same parents. There are bigeneric and multi generic hybrids.

Clonal names - can be given by a hybridizer or another owner to a plant and all of its divisions. (ex. *Paphiopedilum* Jim Kie 'Springwater').



The originator who produces and first flowers a new hybrid may name and register it with the Royal Horticultural Society, London, the International Registration Authority for Orchids.

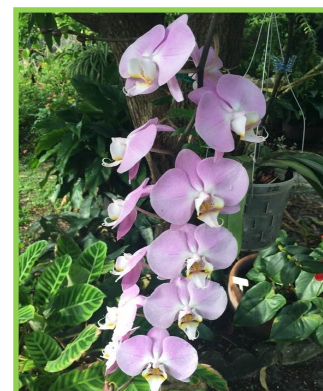
A **specimen** plant is a mature plant that carries a spectacular number of flowers, preferably so uniformly distributed that the plant is covered with blooms.



WE LOVE OUR ORCHIDS -- FROM OUR MEMBERS' GARDENS!



Gilda Gomez



Scott Huff



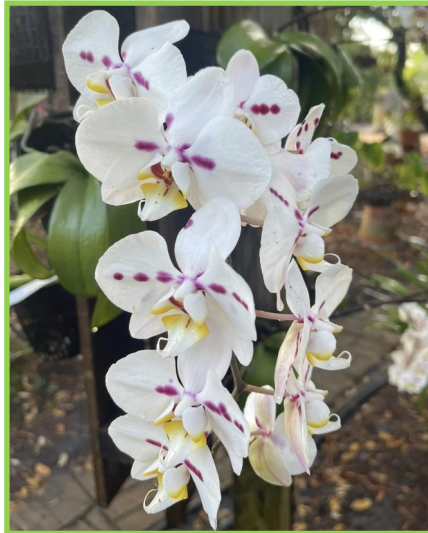
Joan Schiller

Andrea Heitfeld



Jett Tanner

PSL BOTANICAL GARDENS - BLOOMING IN THE ORCHID ROOM



For further information about the Orchid Room,
contact John Erickson at Erickson_236@bellsouth.net.



Port St Lucie Orchid Society 2023 Officers and Volunteers:

President - John Erickson
1st Vice President - Andrea Heitfield
2nd Vice President - Nan Rothschild
(Interim VP - Barbara Lynn)
Recording Secretary - Diana Lenartiene
Corresponding Secretary - Dana DeMarco
Treasurer - Laurie Wade
Membership - Anne Menassian
Immediate Past President - Pam Scholey
Trustee - Diane Bryant - 2024
Barbara Lynn—2025
(Interim -Jackie Young)
Jessica Benford -2026
AOS Representative - Laurie Wade
2024 Show Co-Chairs - Andrea Heitfield & John Erickson
Orchid Room - John Erickson
Orchid Exchange - Maureen Kerr
Newsletter - Diane Bryant & Anne Menassian
Website - Diane Bryant (Primary)
Diana Lenartiene (Alternate)
Annual Retreat - Barbara Lynn
Annual Holiday Awards Luncheon - Barbara Lynn

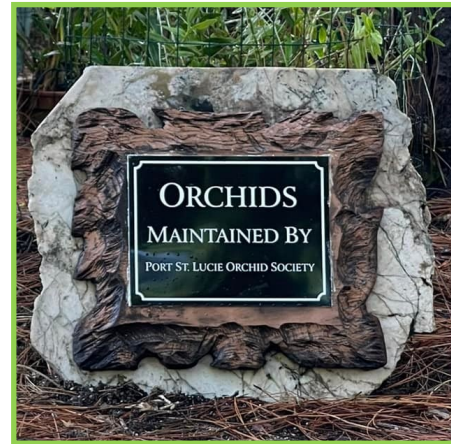
Join us for Monthly Meetings September—June

General Meeting

3rd Monday 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
April, October, & December—Special Meetings
Times to be Announced

Board Meeting

2nd Monday 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>



GROW YOUR BUSINESS!

Advertisements in this newsletter are available for \$50/year for 10 issues.

This is a great way for businesses to make their products and services known.

For more information, contact:
PSLOS Newsletter Editor at
pslosdiane@gmail.com
or
PSLOS Treasurer at
mrmush@comcast.net.