

Key West Orchid Society

Newsletter

Jay Pfahl, President

Liza Bray, Editor

Sunday, 24 April 2022 – 1:00 West Martello

KWOS Meetings 2022

24 April 15 May
19 June 18 Sept.
16 October 20 Nov
18 December

KW Garden Club

Meets Mondays from 9:00 to noon for potting, rooting, weeding. Stop in to help anytime you have a free Monday morning

KW Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden

Volunteers meet at the nursery every Wednesday and Saturday from 9 to 12 for propagation and to clean up the Garden. Come in and help anytime you can.

Tamiami 2022

International Orchid Festival is scheduled for 13-15 May at Miami-Dade County Fair Expo Center Grounds.

The KWOS will hold its April meeting on Sunday, 24 April. Our speaker will be John Romano, with a program on the genus *Dendrobium*. The native range spans from India to New Zealand but they grow well in south Florida and are very popular.

John started growing orchids in 1979 at the age of 13. He worked at Waterloo Gardens in Exton, Pennsylvania, and Gilbert's Garden Center in Delaware County, PA. In 2002 he joined JEM Orchids in Delray as their grower and worked there until 2005. He is a member of Coalition for Orchid Species, Florida Orchid Growers (FOG), and newbie FOG group on Facebook. He specialises in the *Sobralia* group, the *Dendrobium* species as well as *Catasetinae* and other unusual orchids. He hosts the Let's Talk Orchids group. He also hosts a YouTube show and specialises in the *Nobile Dendrobiums*. He is co-owner of J & J Unique Orchids. He has had several orchids awarded, and is in the AOS judging program.



Jay Pfahl presenting Ann Esquinaldo the plaque for her *Vanda Wirat x Robert* which was voted Best in Show.

We held our first Orchid Fair in three years on March 12 and 13th. There was a lovely display of members' plants as well as a great variety of plants for sale from our faithful vendors: Quest, Mac's Orchids, Soroa, and Carlos of OFE. The weather was kind in that there was no rain but the wind was fierce. Attendance was about 1500. KWOS is looking at various ways to increase attendance in the future, by offering workshops given by growers, as well as 'how-to' seminars. We will be exploring new ideas throughout the year and welcome all your input.



Notices

KWOS has made a donation to the Key West Garden Club for the restoration of the Gazebo. To fund this effort, the Garden Club is running a capital campaign and asking for donations from members.

Long time member Florence Bousquet has had a hip replacement and is in a rehab facility in Tavernier: Crystal Health and Rehab, 48 High Point Road, Tavernier, Fl 33070. I'm sure she would appreciate hearing from any members.

February Meeting

Rochelle Eannarino, our Plant Chairman, gave a presentation on repotting cattleyas and separating vandas, which was fascinating. Rochelle was brutal in manhandling an in-bloom cattleya, and made everyone rethink everything ever heard about leaving blooming plants alone.



Elections

The May meeting will include ballots for board elections. If anyone has an interest in serving on the board of the KWOS, please make yourself known to any of the board members at the April meeting.

