

Orchidelirium!

Newsletter of The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society
FEBRUARY 2021 Volume XXXII Issue 2

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



President's Message ~

Pam Scholey
Your President

Well, I am hoping the really cold weather is gone for this year. Those of you who bring in all of your orchids during our cold snaps are to be greatly admired. I am looking forward to next month when I am able to start repotting and mounting many of my orchids. I am finding it easier to care for my plants when they are mounted. Am I the only one finding mounted plants easier?

The board will be meeting on February 16th at the Botanical Gardens, 12:30 PM. All members are always welcome, and we would love to see your smiling faces. Among topics to be discussed are

- when we might begin, once again, to hold general meetings, and if so, what COVID precautions should be taken. Maybe a zoom meeting?
- Fundraising and what organization are we going to support? The Food Bank is our current charity. Do we continue with the Food Bank? Any other suggestions?

Those of you with fundraising ideas or any ideas to make our club the best it can be, please e-mail me or call. pam@remaxofstuart.com 772-285-4795 I would love to hear from you!

If you are having orchid show withdraw, Martin County Orchid Society will be holding their show March 5th, 6th & 7th. Our board voted not to do a club display at this show. Hopefully, next year all shows will be back, and life will return to normal. Fingers crossed!

Hope this finds all your orchids blooming!

Pam



Treasurer's Report

Laurie Wade
Treasurer



Hello PSLOS!

Let's hope we can all be vaccinated soon, and we can resume meetings.

Here's what has been going on financially with our group:

- ♦ Our current balance is \$9,390.17.
- ♦ We had income of \$20, a new member fee.
- ♦ Our expenses were \$40 for the Botanical Gardens orchid room and \$61.25 to the State of Florida for our annual Sunbiz registration fee.

A great opportunity for an orchid lover!



If you love orchids and love learning more about them and their care and culture – and enjoy sharing this knowledge with others, then this opportunity is for you!

Our Society is looking for a volunteer to serve as our 1st Vice President. The 1st Vice President is responsible for the planning and presentation of programs for monthly general meetings of the Society as well as assisting the President as needed.

Contact Pam Scholey, your President, at 772-285-4795, for more information.

Happy Valentine's Day!!

MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SHOWS

PSLOS MEETINGS

PSLOS Board Meeting
February 16th, 12:30 PM
Botanical Gardens

Hopefully, regular membership meetings will resume March 2021.

If you are interested in ZOOM meetings, call or email Pam at 772-285-4795 or pam@remaxofstuart.com

Until meetings resume, check out the many resources on the American Orchid Society website. Their library contains many useful, how-to video clips on all aspects of orchids and orchid culture: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/aos-video-library.aspx> or watch a webinar: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>.

Also, check out resources available on other orchid society websites. For a list of some other societies, go to our website: <http://www.pslos.org/other-sites.html>

VIRTUAL ZOOM OPPORTUNITIES

In this day of technology, many orchid societies in the state are holding ZOOM meetings. Below is a partial list of some of the societies offering ZOOM meetings.

AOS Virtual Orchid Speakers Day
February 6th, 11:00 AM EST
The Cost? \$30

<https://www.aos.org/news-and-events/event-calendar/2021/2021-02/online-orchid-speakers-day!.aspx>

Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society
February 8 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Info: programs@flos.org or 954-553-1351

Delray Beach Orchid Society
Monthly ZOOM meetings
www.delraybeachorchidsociety.org

Tampa Bay Orchid Society
<https://tampabayorchidsociety.shutterfly.com/calendar>

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Due to COVID-19 concerns, many spring shows have been canceled or postponed. Check with events prior to making plans to attend.

The Apopka International
Valentine's Day Orchid Festival
February 12-14, 9:00 am -5:00 pm
2800 W Ponkan Rd, Apopka

Orchids in Bloom Sale
February 13-14
2001 Rock Spring Road, Apopka

Naples Orchid Society
Orchid Sale
February 19-21, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Naples Botanical Garden, Naples
(Register online for tickets)

Highlands County Orchid Show and Sale
"Mask-querade of Orchids"
February 27-28, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
4509 George Blvd, Sebring

Martin County Orchid Society
"Orchid Sock Hop"
March 5-7
2616 SE Dixie Hwy, Stuart

Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale
"Orchids - A Continuing Education"
March 6-7, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
5500 Memorial Highway, Tampa

Jacksonville Orchid Society
"A Walk in the Orchids"
March 20-21, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
2892 Loretta Road, Jacksonville

Orchid Island Show and Sale
March 27-28, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
18940 Drayton Street, Springhill



ORCHID CULTURE & CARE



Orchid-abulary

Brought to you by
Nan Rothschild
2nd Vice President

Potting medium - material used to physically support the orchid plant; can hold in nutrients, air, and water



Alifor or hydroton - a quick drying clay product



Charcoal - adds drainage; absorbs toxins



Lava rock - porous, inorganic alternative to alifor; fast-draining



Fir Bark - very popular, lasts several years; dries quickly when fresh; remains damp when it starts to deteriorate



Pine Bark - breaks down quicker than fir bark



New Zealand Spagnum moss - long fiber New Zealand variety is recommended; holds in a lot of water; some growers favor it to start young plants



Coconut Husk Chunks - more moisture retentive, spongy texture, easily packed



Coir - fibers of the coconut husk; easily tugged

Tasks for February

Average high: 77.7
Average low: 60.7
Average mean: 69.1
Average rainfall: 2.07"

- Spread snail bait lightly and frequently (every 7-10 days for several applications.)
- Morning dew and fog can lead to Botrytis. Spray using Florida recommended fungicides or Bicarbonate of soda.
- Time to start Spring potting.
- Treat for Mites if necessary

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

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

Caring for Orchids During Cold Weather, Marvin Motes, <https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/Alert-ColdWeather.pdf>

Cold Tolerance of Orchids, Sue Bottom, <https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/ColdToleranceofOrchidsbySueBottom.pdf>

ORCHID CULTURE & CARE

OVERGROWN CATTLEYA IN NEED OF REPOTTING

Steps posted by Eunice Walker, Florida Orchid Growing



Obviously overgrown cattleya needing repotting. Green tips on roots and new growths show the plant is actively growing and should respond well to repotting



First the soak to make roots pliable enough to remove from sides of pot



Pried out with shears, it came out with a good root system



Adding some velcro will protect the new tender growths during the repotting



Then into a tree to hold it during the blasting



Using a garden with a strong spray will help to remove the potting medium



A narrow screwdriver also helps to dislodge the old potting medium



After blasting with a strong spray, it is pretty clean



Then it is divided into two.

Continue →

ORCHID CULTURE & CARE

OVERGROWN CATTLEYA IN NEED OF REPOTTING (continued)



One division was further divided into three to donate to the GCOA sale on January 23rd. I will keep the larger division.



Cut rhizomes are painted with a mixture of Dithane, Thiomyd and alcohol mixed in a bottle cap with a toothpick



Leftover fungicide, gloves worn and newspaper worked on are discarded. The divisions will be left overnight to dry good before repotting tomorrow.



Blc. Goldenzelle 'Lemon Chiffon'

Thanks for sharing, Eunice!

What tips do you have for growing your orchids successfully? Share your tips with your fellow PSLos members by emailing them to pslosdiane@gmail.com.

FEBRUARY ORCHID



Jamie Lawson presents the February Orchid named for PSLSO Member Judy Wagner.



Cism Judy Wagner
'Jamie's Nuclear Midnite'



Cism Judy Wagner
'Jamie's Pomegranate Explosion'



Cism Judy Wagner
'Paul's Sweetie xoxo' AM/AOS

PSL BOTANICAL GARDENS - BLOOMING IN THE ORCHID ROOM



Share your love of orchids with the public!
Loan an orchid to the Orchid Room.

For further information, contact John Erickson at erickson_236@bellsouth.net.

Volunteers are always needed to help with routine chores in the Orchid Room.

Tasks include watering and general maintenance such as raking leaves and pine needles.

Monday and Thursday mornings from about 8-9 am.

If interested, contact:

Jessca Beneford at jessca10chb@gmail.com



John Erickson, Andrea Heitfeld, Jessica Benford and Dana DeMarco were busy wrapping orchids this morning in the orchid room in preparation for the coming cold weather.



Master Orchid Grower Gail Mathews



Tolumnia Jairak Flyer 'Super Red'

As the first grower to bring the equitant blooms to the MOG moderators' attention, Gail's name will be added to the MOG's trophy for 2020!

Congratulations, Gail!



Gail's Secret: We have been growing orchids for nearly 40 years in greenhouses until 3 years ago when we moved to Port St. Lucie. Outdoors is a totally different game. When we brought our tolumnia seedlings home, I primarily wanted to grow it better than my husband! He put his in a pot, so I decided to mount mine. I grabbed a piece of cork, put sphagnum moss around the roots, and stapled a piece of a berry basket on to hold it in place. I then put it outside where the sprinkler would water it, under a roebellinii palm. The only fertilizer it got was when my husband did periodic foliar sprays. I forgot it until I saw the red flowers one day. So I guess my secret is benign neglect.

WE LOVE OUR ORCHIDS—FROM OUR MEMBERS' GARDENS!



From Gilda Gomez' Garden



From Susan Spring's Collection

From Diane Lenartiene's Garden



From Barb Lynn's Garden

From Nancy Lyman's Collection



From Diane Bryant's Garden

From Gail Mathews' Garden

If you would like to share pictures of your orchids, send your pictures to pslosdiane@gmail.com or amorchidnews@gmail.com.

Port St Lucie Orchid Society 2021 Officers and Volunteers:

President - Pam Scholey
Vice President - Volunteer Needed
2nd Vice President - Nan Rothschild
Recording Secretary - Susan Hilowitz
Corresponding Secretary - Carol Farmer
Treasurer - Laurie Wade
Membership - Anne Menassian
Immediate Past President—Dana DeMarco
Trustee - Jamie Lawson - 2021
 Jessica Benford - 2023
 Barbara Lynn - 2022
AOS Representative - Laurie Wade
Food - Dorothy Moore
Newsletter Co-Editors - Diane Bryant, Anne
 Menassian
Website - Diane Bryant
Orchid Exchange - Maureen Kerr
Food Set Up/Picnic Coordinator - Diana
 Lenartiene

Join us for Monthly Meetings September—June

**Cancelled until future notice.
Stay safe!**

General Meeting

2nd Tuesday of the month, 1:00 PM
Port Saint Lucie Botanical Garden

Speakers, Classes, Show and Tell, Raffles,
Orchid Exchange, Refreshments and more

Board Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the month, 12:30 PM

PSL Police Station, PSL Municipal
Complex, corner of Airoso Blvd. and
Port St. Lucie Blvd.

All members are welcome at Board Meetings.

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>

Angraecum's Individual Culture Resource

<http://angraecums.blogspot.com/p/behind-clonal-names.html>

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Newsletter Editor Diane Bryant
at pslosdiane@gmail.com

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