

Orchidelirium!

Newsletter of The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society
December 2022 Volume XXXIV Issue 4

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President's Message ~

Pam Scholey
Your President

This is my last message as President. I want to say thank you to those of you who attended our meetings and shared your beautiful orchids and your extensive orchid knowledge. You generously gave of your time and donated items to our "extra" activities. You welcomed new members with open arms, making them feel like they belonged. Thank you for helping to make Port St Lucie Orchid Society so successful! I'm sure you will be welcoming John Erickson, with open arms, as your new President. He will make an outstanding President!

Last but not least, I want to remind you of the new schedule for our general meetings beginning in January when we have out of town speakers (so they do not have to sit through the whole meeting should they choose not to and can leave for home a little earlier):

— Prior to the general meeting Jamie will share some of the knowledge he has acquired in his 32 years of growing orchids. His 12:00 to 12:45 classes are invaluable and filled with much needed advice to keep our orchids thriving. Along with his orchid knowledge Jamie's sense of humor makes sure there are a few laughs during this class. Don't miss the fun!

— At 1 PM the speaker or program will begin.

— After the program there will be the general meeting. Show and Tell follows the general meeting. And then the Raffle & Orchid Exchange.

May all your orchids be blooming!

Pam



1st Vice President Message

Andrea Heitfeld
1st Vice President

It's official. Christmas  is around the corner!

I want to send a big THANK YOU on behalf of our society to Dave Moody for stepping up as our auctioneer at our annual orchid auction. Dave, you did a great job! Bravo! We also must not forget to applaud Lee Stradley for his assistance in our auction as well.

Our annual Holiday party is December 6th at Gator Trace; mark your calendars. Unfortunately, attendance is limited to members who have already signed up and paid in advance.

At the January meeting, our speaker is Tony Millett (AOS Judge); the presentation will be on Cattleyas. You don't want to miss his presentation; he is a vibrant speaker! You all will enjoy his presentation immensely.

Come January 2023 "Boots On The Ground" to start preparation for our orchid show, April 1st and 2nd, (Hoot Loves Orchids).

May this Christmas season fill your home with warmth, light and joy.



2023 President's Message

John Erickson
2023 President

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I am excited to be your new President and am looking forward to the upcoming year.

In 2022 we had hands on workshops for repotting orchids and kokedama's. Everyone who (Continued on page 2)

MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SHOWS

(Continued from page 1)

participated enjoyed them immensely, so we will continue them starting with an orchid mounting workshop.

We will also bring back the Master Orchid Grower (MOG) award which was a COVID victim. For a nominal cost, each participant will receive a small bag containing the same orchid genera/specie. The first grower whose orchid blooms will get their name added to the MOG's plaque. The 2020 winner was Gail Mathews.

Our Orchid Show will be on April 1-2, 2023, at the Polish American Club. This will allow us to charge admission and use their kitchen to prepare food for vendors, judges, and society members.

This year we combined with the PSLBG Garden Center to co-sponsor "Hat's in the Garden." It was a huge success, but next year it will be bigger and better as it will be held on May 6, 2023, in conjunction with the Kentucky Derby.

Finally, I'd like to thank Pam for her presidency. She led us through difficult times in 2021 and 2022 and gave of herself in an unselfish manner. Few realize the amount of time and money she put forth for the betterment of the society.

PSLOS MEETINGS

December 6, 2022
Annual Holiday Awards Luncheon

January 10, 2023
Tony Millett (AOS Judge)
Cattleyas



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Mid-Lakes Orchid Society
Fall Orchid Auction
December 3, 2022
Venetian Gardens, Leesburg, FL

Orchid & Plant Festival
December 3-4, 9:30 am to 4:00 pm
#000 Sportsplex Drive, Coral Springs

PSLOS December Meeting Annual Holiday Awards Luncheon December 6, 2022 12:00 p.m.

We are looking forward to our Annual Holiday Awards Luncheon at Gator Trace Golf and Country Club, 4302 Gator Trace Dr, Fort Pierce, FL 34982.

Attendance at the December 6 luncheon is limited to members and their guests who have already signed up and paid in advance. Unfortunately, we are not able to allow walk-ins. Orchid gifts are for paid members only.

Please remember the \$5 wrapped gift exchange, and if you can, bring an unwrapped children's gift for the Salvation Army's Toy Drive.

For further information, call Barb Lynn, 772-873-9098.



Looking forward to seeing you there!

Barb Lynn



NOVEMBER MEETING – AUCTION TIME!!



Lots of preparation activity!

- Signing up for paddles
- Making sure IDs are on plants
- Getting set up to record sales

Look at all these orchids to be auctioned!



Great job done by Dave Moody in serving as the auctioneer! A big thanks to him for stepping in at the last minute.

Thanks to all who make this auction such a success and so much fun. A BIG thanks to Nan for all her planning and coordination.



MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SHOWS

Botanical Gardens Holiday Festival



Our raffle prizes were really popular and a great fund raiser.

Starter orchids were also a big attraction with John explaining the “do’s and don’ts” of growing orchids.



A big thank you to Pam, Dana, Andrea, and John for representing PSLOS at the Gardens Holiday Festival.

Hurricane Ian Cleanup at Jamie's

One of the great things about our society is our members' willingness to help out others when there is a need! (Not pictured are Lee Stradley and Barbara Lynn)

Thanks to all the members who helped!



MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SHOWS

Fort Pierce Orchid Society Annual Orchid Show and Sale Congratulations to all the ribbon winners!



Jamie Lawson

1st Place:

Paph. Satchel Page x Phyllinense 'Alford' AM/AOS
Rlc. Hsinying Drean 'Violet Queen' AM/AOS
Rlc. Joe's Red Suncoast

2nd Place:

Rth. Carolina Golden D' Or x Rlc. Mount Anderson



Jennifer Margolis

1st Place/Best Phalaenopsis Alliance:

Phal. Soho Yenlin 'Varigate' Sogo Vivien x Sogo Berry

1st Place:

Vanda Udomchal Red

2nd Place:

Brassovola Nodosa 'Mas Mejor' AM/AOS
Blc. KuWate Gem 'White Sword Cattleleya'



Susan Spring

1st Place/Eddie Egers Memorial Award: Epidendrem
difforme

1st Place: Rlc. Pratum Green "Holly"



Laurie Wade

1st Place: Blc. Hawaii Island Pride

2nd Place: Rhy. Fu Shu Glory (Rth Varut Feastful x Ctt
Laui Starbright)



Dana Demarco

1st Place: Blc. Kuwal Gem 'White Sword'

2nd Place: Blc. Sanuung Ruby 'Wilson'



Margaret Lee Halverson

1st Place/Best Dendrobium Alliance: Den. Alien '395'

3rd Place: Blc. Sanyung Ruby



Andrea Heitfield

1st Place/Best Oncidium Alliance: Onc. Wildcat
'Garfield'

3rd Place: Onc. Sherry Baby



Barbara Lynn

1st Place: Laelia Moronii

3rd Place: Trigonidium egertonianum

Photographs: Best of Show and 2nd Place
Craft: 2nd Place



Diane Bryant

1st Place: Blc. Chia Lin 'New City' AM/AOS

3rd Place: Blc. Florida Girl



Diana Lenartiene

1st Place: Bc. Gulfshore's Beauty x C. Amrthysto-
glossa

2023 PSLOS OFFICERS

As required by the PSLOS bylaws, officers were elected by acclamation at our October meeting. Our thanks to those members who have volunteered to serve.

Meet your officers, chair persons, and volunteers for the year 2023.



John Erickson
President
2022 Show Co-Chairman



Diana Lenartiene
Recording Secretary



Andrea Heitfield
1st Vice President
2023 Show Co-Chairman



Pam Scholey
Immediate Past President



Nan Rothschild
2nd Vice President



Jessica Benford
Trustee 2023



Laurie Wade
Treasurer
AOS Representative



Diane Bryant
Trustee 2024
Newsletter Co-Editor



Dana DeMarco
Corresponding Secretary/
Sunshine Lady



Barb Lynn
Trustee 2025
Holiday Party Coordinator



Anne Menassian
Membership Chairperson
Newsletter Co-Editor



Maureen Kerr
Orchid Exchange



Jamie Lawson
Chair, Noon Class



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS



Anne Menassian
Membership Chairperson
P O Box 8421
Port St Lucie, FL 34985
pslosmembers@gmail.com
772-497-4371 (texts only)



Hello PSLOS members. Hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving.

The holiday season finds our society 136 members strong. Looking forward to a new year of comradery and fun.

Annual membership dues become due January 1, 2023. They can be paid in either cash, credit card, or check (made out to PSLOS). Dues can be paid at the January General meeting or by mail to the PSLOS P.O. Box listed above. Individual dues are \$20.00 and Family dues are \$25.00.



Laurie Wade
Treasurer



Here is the latest Treasurer's report.

- Our current balance is \$8,491.42.
- We had 119 member plants at the auction plus the phalaenopsis which sold for \$4 each at the end. Total sales was \$2,380.20; members received checks in the amount of \$1,909.80, so our profit was \$470.40.
- Other income includes \$623 total in cash/credit card raffle and plant sales at the PSLBG Holiday Sale, \$40 membership dues, and \$1,785 for the holiday luncheon.
- Our expenses include \$1,375 for holiday luncheon member orchids, \$162 for our storage unit, and \$213 for one year website maintenance.

ORCHID CULTURE & CARE

Tasks for December

December Climate Data

- Average high: 77.5
- Average low: 62.2
- Average mean: 69.9
- Average rainfall: 2.18"



1. Water judiciously - early in the day so plants have as many hours as possible to dry and allow longer intervals between watering to dry plants thoroughly.
2. Reduce fertilizer as most sympodial orchids are resting in December. Provide extra potassium and magnesium. Biweekly or even monthly applications of a balanced fertilizer or 15-5-15 are still desirable.
4. Segregate dormant genera in bright dry area.
5. Keep those vandae, phalaenopsis and hard cane dendrobiums as warm as you can.

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

For further information specific to different orchid genera, go to <http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/november-december-checklist.aspx>

ORCHID CULTURE & CARE



Orchid-abulary

Brought to you by
Nan Rothschild
2nd Vice President

TERMS ASSOCIATED WITH FERTILIZING



Fertilizing - means systematically feeding your orchids

How often? The general advice is “**weakly, weekly.**”

What do the numbers on fertilizer mean?

N	P	K
NITROGEN	PHOSPHORUS	POTASSIUM
greens up plants	reaches down to the roots and helps produce blooms	promotes all around wellbeing
JUST THINK: ↑ UP ↑	↓ DOWN ↓	↔ ALL AROUND ↔
NITROGEN	PHOSPHORUS	POTASSIUM

What do the numbers on a fertilizer mean? (N-P-K):

- The first number indicates the nitrogen content. A high nitrogen food (example, 12-10-10) is used to promote growth at the start of the growing season.
- The second number indicates the phosphorus content. A higher “P” number fertilizer encourages flowering, often referred to as a bloom booster. (Example- 0-10-10)
- The third number indicates the potassium content which promotes all around wellbeing.

Many growers prefer a balanced fertilizer, for example an N-P-K of 10-10-10.

Trace elements - There are about 17 micro-nutrients plants need in very small amounts. These include: calcium, magnesium, boron, chlorine, cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum, sodium and zinc.

Sample label on Peters Professional Bloom Booster (with trace elements):

Peters Professional Bloom Booster 10-30-20 1 Lb.
Professional grade bloom booster. 1-3-2 ratio of N-P-K. Supports healthy growth & vigorous blooms. No Urea.

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS:

Total Nitrogen (N).....	10%	Boron (B).....	0.0125%
5% Ammoniacal Nitrogen		Copper (Cu).....	0.0125%
5% Nitrate Nitrogen		Manganese (Mn)	0.025%
Available Phosphate (P2O5)..	30%	Molybdenum (Mo)	0.005%
Soluble Potash (K2O).....	20%	Zinc (Zn).....	0.025%
Magnesium (Mg).....	1.3%		



Slow release fertilizer, or granular fertilizer, is sprinkled on the base of the plant; the nutrients are released slowly over time when the plant is watered.



Signs of overfertilizing

1. A white residue (excess fertilizer from and salts) on the leaves; flush with water and don't fertilize for a month.
2. Normally green root tips are browned and dead-looking.



PSL BOTANICAL GARDENS - BLOOMING IN THE ORCHID ROOM



ACE Volunteer of the Month

Volunteer Spotlight

Andrea Heitfeld

Our December 2022 ACE Volunteer of the Month is ANDREA HEITFELD, who was nominated by board member John Erickson. John can not say enough good things about Andrea. Andrea volunteers in the Orchid Room with John and Dana DeMarco every Monday morning.

Along with being Vice President of the Orchid Society, Andrea was also the creator of our very successful HATS IN THE GARDEN event last September. Along with the Garden Center, Andrea created a memorable and fun event for the more than 100 people who attended. She conceived of the luncheon, arranged for councilwoman Carraballo as speaker, set up the HATS parade, and coordinated the raffle baskets. This HATS event was so successful, that she will repeat the event next May at The Gardens during the Kentucky Derby.

Andrea has also been the 'idea person' behind the improvements in the orchid room, including the palette display, the lattice fence displays, the tower display, and the driftwood displays. Andrea was also the driving force behind this years Orchid Village at Botanica, but since The Gardens will not be able to have Botanica next year, Andrea is planning the Orchid Societies spring show at the Polish American Club for next April 1st and 2nd. Andrea spent her working life as an engineer with FPL, and as if she weren't busy enough, she spends many hours every week volunteering with the Salvation Army.

The Gardens is lucky to have Andrea and her indefatigable spirit working for the betterment of The Gardens. THANK YOU ANDREA and CONGRATULATIONS!

By Laura Mehr

Congratulations, Andrea! A well deserved recognition! Thanks for all your hard work in the Orchid Room and in representing the Port St. Lucie Orchid Society.

This article and others can be found in the Botanical Gardens' December issue of The Gardens Gate.

WE LOVE OUR ORCHIDS—FROM OUR MEMBERS' GARDENS!



From Carol Farmer's Collection



Jennifer Margolis



Laurie Wade



Michael Ortseifer



Andrea Heitfeld



Maureen Kerr



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

**Port St Lucie Orchid Society
2022 Officers and Volunteers:**

President - Pam Scholey
1st Vice President - Andrea Heitfield
2nd Vice President - Nan Rothschild
Recording Secretary - Diana Lenartiene
Corresponding Secretary - Carol Farmer
Treasurer - Laurie Wade
Membership - Anne Menassian
Immediate Past President - Dana DeMarco
Trustee - Barbara Lynn -2022
 Jessica Benford - 2023
 Diane Bryant - 2024
AOS Representative - Laurie Wade
2023 Show Co-Chairs - Andrea Heitfield & John
 Erickson
Noon Workshop - Jamie Lawson
Orchid Room - Jessica Benford & John Erickson
Orchid Exchange - Maureen Kerr
Newsletter - Diane Bryant & Anne Menassian
Website - Diana Lenartiene (Primary)
 Diane Bryant (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>

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If interested, contact PSLOS

Newsletter Editors Anne Menassian at
amorcidnews@gmail.com

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