

Orchidelirium!

Newsletter of The Port St. Lucie Orchid Society
June 2023 Volume XXXIV Issue 10

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President's Message

John Erickson

I hope this newsletter finds you well. The last 2 1/2 months have proven to be a very busy time. It began in March with the Martin County Orchid Show and all the work associated with setting up a society display. Then, in April, came our orchid show at the Polish American Club. This was the first year at that venue, so there were several unknowns that had to be overcome, but in the long run we came out better than the previous year when we combined with the Port St Lucie Botanical Gardens (PSLBG) Botanica.

This was followed by the Vero Beach Orchid Show at which our society display was awarded the American Orchid Society Award of Merit. This is the second highest award achievable. To the best of anyone's knowledge, this is the first time that a Treasure Coast Orchid Society has received this prestigious award. Congratulations to Andrea Heitfeld for coming up with the new design and her set up committee.

This run of events ended with "Hats in the Garden" on Kentucky Derby Day. Our orchid society, in conjunction with the PSLBG Garden Center, sponsored the event that was well received and enjoyed by all. If you didn't attend, you might want to put it on your calendar for next year.

Speaking of a calendar, since the first of the year, members of the board of directors have attended six events where they have promoted membership in the PSLOS. You can play an important role also by inviting your friends



1st Vice President Message

Andrea Heitfeld

We had a very busy two months with back to back orchid shows and then the Hats in the Garden event, so now we get to enjoy the summer with our families and friends.

We are so proud of winning an AOS awarded display at the Vero Beach show. Just wanted to give a big thanks to John and Diane B. for the help with the display.

Hats in the Garden was a success, and everyone who attended enjoyed the food and games! On Monday, May 22nd, John, Dana and I gave a hands on class at Riverland on creating a Kokedama. The participants really had fun creating their moss ball.

Heads up when meetings return in September. Our speaker will be Florida Orchid House, and they will bring orchids to sell. Hope everyone has a safe full-filled summer.

"A beautiful orchid is like having a friend around the house"



and neighbors to attend an upcoming meeting.

Finally, remember our picnic on June 19th at noon at the park across from the post office off of SE Veterans Memorial Pkwy. The picnic also gives members the opportunity to buy/sell orchids. The society will also be selling cedar and gutter guard mounts for a nominal cost. We hope to see you all there!

Have a great summer vacation!

MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SHOWS



It's Picnic Time!



RELAXING BY THE BEAUTIFUL ST. LUCIE RIVER AT VETERAN'S MEMORIAL RIVERGATE. MONDAY JUNE 19th. FESTIVITIES WILL BEGIN AT NOON. WE WILL HAVE OUR ANNUAL RETREAT WITH FOOD, FUN AND GOOD COMPANY. BRING A LAWN CHAIR AND SET UP IN THIS LUSH AREA NEAR THE WATER. ENJOY OUR CORN HOLE GAME, BASKET RAFFLES AND OUR ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION WHERE YOU MEMBERS MAY SELL YOUR PLANTS WITH 20% OF THE HIGHEST BID DONATED TO THE SOCIETY. LIMIT OF FIVE PLANTS EACH, PLEASE.



WE WILL SERVE HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS. THERE WILL ALSO BE DRINKS AS WELL AS COVERED DISHES BROUGHT BY MEMBERS. WE HAVE TWO FREE RAFFLE TICKETS FOR EACH PERSON WHO PAYS \$5.00 TO ATTEND. SIGN UP AT THE APRIL AND MAY MEETINGS

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE RETREAT. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL OR TEXT DIANA LENARTIENE AT 772-812-7823.

PSLOS MEETINGS

July/August Summer Break

Sept 18 Florida Orchid House

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

June 3-4

Central Florida Orchid Society's
"Rainbow of Orchids"
Florida National Guard Armory,
2809 S Ferncreek Ave, Orlando, FL

MAY 19TH MEETING



Jamie had a full house for his workshop on how to protect our orchids from heat damage and heat stress.

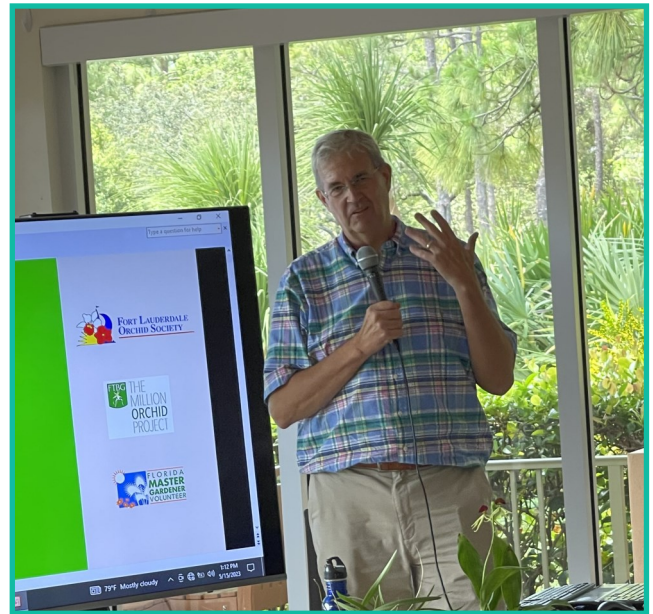
He provided a lot of great suggestions and practical advice to help our orchids make it through our summer.

Jamie's presentation:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jqxsksmo098&t=28s>

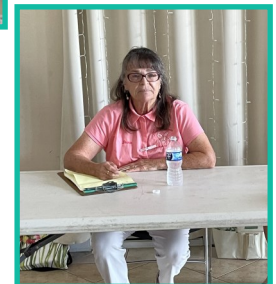
Everyone enjoyed Rich Ackerman's talk on Florida native orchids. He introduced our members to a variety of native orchids found in our environment. He also discussed the efforts of the Broward County Native Orchid Project in restoring native orchids in the environment which has been successful in installing more than 4,000 orchids around Broward County every summer.

For further information, check out this website: browardnativeorchids.com

Rich's presentation:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHWNvmaB5dA>



A big thanks to all those members who contributed to our fantastic lunch!



And a big thanks to those members who are always present to help with our meetings! Here's a few of them.

HATS IN THE GARDEN

This was really a fun event for all. As John said, if you didn't attend, you might want to put it on your calendar for next year.



The day started off with a presentation by Brad Keen, the Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Keen presented members a history of the Gardens.



Check out the day:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VohQR30QLeQ>

A terrific lunch was served and enjoyed by all!



The 2nd Annual Hats in the Garden event was great! The parade was led by John Erickson driving "Pearl" through the Gardens. It was lots of fun -- and, oh, so colorful. And it attracted a lot of looks



Sophisticated hats, wacky hats and garden theme hats! All shapes and sizes! It was hard for the judges to pick the winners.



The day included workshops (butterfly gardens and mounting orchids), games (bingo and "pinata challenge"), and raffles!



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS



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

Hello Orchid Lovers, As of June 1, 2023, we have 121 members. We had 4 new members join in May: Mary Nodelman, Maryann Ronay, and Lisa and Leo Denlea. Please welcome them to the group.

I look forward to seeing everyone again in the fall. Please bring a friend with you to the September meeting and start the new season off right.



Laurie Wade
Treasurer

Our current balance is \$10,380.82.

I am finalizing the Hats in the Gardens financial report as there were a few outstanding items I was waiting for. I have that info now but have not finalized the report yet.

Our income for the past month includes \$116 profit at our May meeting raffle table, \$20 new member, and \$220 income for the picnic. Our expenses include a \$500 scholarship to Amy Kutzler to help with her Junior year at UF, \$176 annual post office box rental, \$174 monthly storage fee, \$229 for membership brochures, \$175 May speaker fee, \$78 for our display at VBOS show, and \$161 for the orchid room at the gardens.

See you all at the picnic, and for those who haven't paid, please remember to bring your \$5 and see me when you arrive.

Meet Amy Kutzler!

She is the recipient of this year's PSLOS scholarship. Amy will be a junior this year at the University of Florida where she is majoring in Forestry and Wildlife Conservation.

Amy also volunteers at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens (and has since high school). At the Gardens, Amy is working a grant received by the Gardens which involves researching and classifying plants (to include orchids) and then creating signs for the plants.



DEAR MEMBERS OF THE PORT ST. LUCIE ORCHID SOCIETY,

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROUS DECISION TO GIVE ME THIS SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR. I AM GLAD TO HAVE SUCH A CARING AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY HERE IN PORT ST. LUCIE, EVEN WHILE I'M AWAY STUDYING IN GAINESVILLE.

I AM GLAD TO RECEIVE A SCHOLARSHIP FROM A NATURE-FOCUSED ORGANIZATION SUCH AS YOURS, AS I AM CURRENTLY STUDYING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION, AND I AM ALSO CONSIDERING A BEEKEEPING CERTIFICATE. I AM CONFIDENT THAT WITH THIS SCHOLARSHIP I WILL BE ABLE TO FURTHER PURSUE MY GOALS OF LEARNING ABOUT THE NATURAL WORLD AND CONSERVATION.

WITH MANY THANKS,
AMY KUTZLER

ORCHID CULTURE & CARE

Tasks for JUNE



June Climate Data

Average high 90
Average low: 75.2
Average mean: 82.4
Average rainfall: 8.54"

- With Florida's tropical climate, outdoor plants can get plenty of water from Mother Nature. Careful watering is especially important throughout the rainy season.
- Space plants amply. Good air circulation is essential across the coming months.
- Re-pot Phals and reset Vandas. Make sure that plants are firmly set in their new abodes.
- Begin or continue a disease prevention program with the prophylactic application of Thiophanate Methyl (Cleary's 3336) and Alliette or with Banrot.
- Clean up growing area and plants.
- Remove dead leaves from plants and the ground. Pull weeds.
- Prune trees and shrubs to increase light and air circulation.
- Apply snail bait lightly every two weeks.
- Set air conditioning thermostat at 80 and fan on high.

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

Tasks for JULY



July Climate Data

Average high: 90.9
Average low: 76.5
Average mean: 83.7
Average rainfall: 5.79"

- Enjoy the break in rainfall and let your plants dry "hard."
- After hard drying, saturate the pots, roots, and media by watering twice two minutes apart.
- Substitute fertilizer for water with a weekly application of a balanced fertilizer (20-20-20 or 18-18-18) at two tsp. per gallon. Alternate weekly with potassium nitrate and Epson salts.
- Never water before fertilizing. Roots saturated with water cannot absorb fertilizer, but the prolonged wetness can rot your plants.
- Finish up the repotting of sympodials and the top working of vandas – this is the 11th hour for both!

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

Tasks for AUGUST



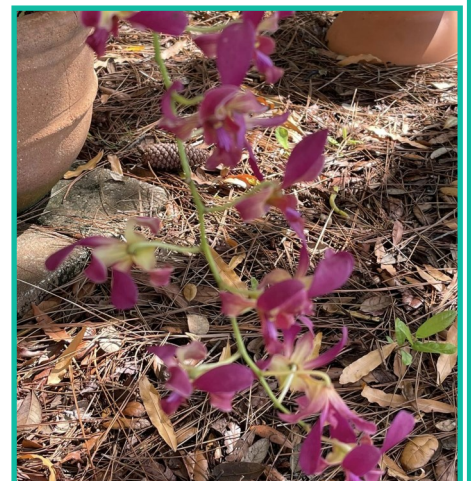
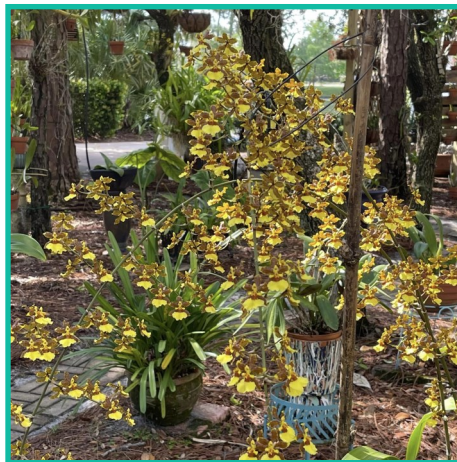
August Climate Data

Average high: 90.6
Average low: 76.5
Average mean: 83.6
Average rainfall: 8.63"

- Water as early in the morning as possible due to shorter days. If a vanda looks like it needs water, water it. If a cattleya or oncidium looks like it needs water, water tomorrow. If a paph or phal looks like it needs water, you should have watered it yesterday.
- Finish cutting teretes and reed stem epidendrums early in month.
- Reset strap leaf vandas early or not at all.
- Dry hard once or twice.
- Continue anti-fungal spray program.
- Apply snail bate lightly twice ten days apart.

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

PSL BOTANICAL GARDENS - BLOOMING IN THE ORCHID ROOM



Volunteers are always needed **Tuesday mornings** from about 8-9 am to help with routine chores in the Orchid Room. Tasks include watering and general maintenance such as raking leaves and pine needles. (Note: the day has changed due to our meetings now being held on Mondays.)

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

WE LOVE OUR ORCHIDS—FROM OUR MEMBERS' GARDENS!



Jennifer Margolis



Barbara Lynn



Diana Lenartiene



Diane Bryant



Maureen Kerr



Nancy Lyman

We love to see our members' orchids, especially if you can't bring them to "Show and Tell".

Port St Lucie Orchid Society 2023 Officers and Volunteers:

President - John Erickson
1st Vice President - Andrea Heitfield
2nd 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
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 Lenartiene

Important Links for the Orchid Lover

Our Society:

<http://pslos.org/>

Our Facebook Page

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

Florida Orchid Growing

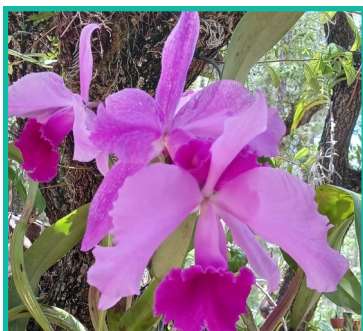
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/fl.orchid>

American Orchid Society

<http://www.aos.org>

Martin Motes FL Orchid Care Website

<https://www.motesorchids.com>



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

June and December—Special Meetings
Times to be Announced

Board Meeting

2nd Monday of the month, 12:30 PM
Port Saint Lucie Botanical Garden



Orchid Room

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

For more information, contact:

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or

PSLOS Treasurer at
mrmush@comcast.net.