

Orchidelirium!



Newsletter of the Port St. Lucie Orchid Society
December 2025, Volume XXXVI Issue 4

Editor: Diane Bryant, email: pslosdiane@gmail.com

Visit us on the Web at: www.pslos.org — Join our FaceBook group!
Email: pslorchidsociety@gmail.com



Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Annual Holiday Recognition Luncheon

December 8, 2025 -- 11:00 a.m.

We are looking forward to our Annual Holiday Recognition Luncheon at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens.

Attendance at the luncheon is limited to members who have already signed up and paid in advance. Unfortunately, we are not able to allow walk-ins. Only members who have paid for the luncheon and are in attendance will receive orchids.

There will be no gift exchange this year. We ask, however, that you bring an unwrapped children's gift to be donated to the Salvation Army Angel Tree program.

We will have a Holiday Centerpiece competition with prizes awarded in three categories: the most Creative, Whimsical, and Traditional. We also will play Bingo and Trivia for prizes as well as the "quarter under the chair" game.

The recognition luncheon is the time each year when the Board recognizes those who have maintained continuous membership for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 years. Members who will receive pins and certificates this year are identified on page 5. If you are one of the honorees and you will not be attending the luncheon, your award will be available at the January meeting.

In addition, installation of our Board Members for calendar year 2026 will occur at the recognition luncheon.

*Seasons Greetings to you and your families
from the
Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Board*

MEETINGS, EVENTS, & SHOWS

Fort Pierce Orchid Society ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW AND SALE

**"How The Grinch
Stole
Orchids"**

**DECEMBER
13 & 14, 2025**

Saturday 9 am to 5 pm

Sunday 9 am to 4 pm

Admission \$4

At the River Walk Center
600 N. Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce, FL

Text Rita at 772-418-7426 or
email at rita2zfp@gmail.com

NLT 5 pm Wednesday, December 10 -

Email Andrea (tazette55@gmail.com) the names and photos of any orchids (to include NOID orchids) you wish to place in the display. All orchids must be in bloom and healthy.

Friday, December 12 - SHOW SET UP. Bring your orchids to the show location by 9:00 am or drop them off at the Botanical Gardens NLT 8:30 am. (If you will be dropping them off at the Botanical Gardens, let Andrea know beforehand.)

REMEMBER to put your name on the pot of the orchid for display.

Sunday, December 14 - If picking up your orchids from the show location, you must be there Sunday NLT 3:30 pm.

OR

Monday, December 15 - To pick up your orchids at the Botanical Gardens, be there between 8:00 am - 9:00 am.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me tazette55@gmail.com or call me at 772-528-1955.

PSLOS MEETINGS

December 8

Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens
Annual Holiday Recognition Luncheon

January 19

Jurari Kori's Presentation on
Rynchostylis: Foxtail Orchid Overview

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fort Pierce Orchid Society
Show and Sale

December 13 - 14, 2025

River Walk Center, Ft. Pierce

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society's
"Orchid Magic"

January 9 - 11, 2026

Pembroke Pines, FL

Sarasota Orchid Society Show and Sale
January 10 - 11, 2026

Sarasota, FL

January 16-18, 2026

Miami Orchid Society's

"Tamiami International Orchid Festival"
Miami-Dade County Fair & Expo Center
Miami, FL

 **Port St. Lucie Orchid Society**

ORCHIDS AND LADYBUGS HARMONY IN NATURE

Saturday, April 11, 9:00am to 5:00pm

Sunday, April 12, 10:00am to 4:00pm

- Orchid Vendors
- Free Classes
- Beautiful Raffle Baskets
- Orchid Raffles
- Spectacular Orchid Displays

Admission \$4.00 per person

\$1.00 off with this coupon!

Location: Polish American Social Club

343 NW Prima Vista Blvd., Port St. Lucie

For further information, contact
Andrea Heitfeld, Show Chair,
tazette55@gmail.com



NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING



Although our guest speaker could not make it due to a family emergency, we still managed to have a great meeting.

Diana Lenartiene pitched in by presenting two online videos, and both Jet Tanner and Maureen Kerr sold orchids in anticipation of their forthcoming moves from the state.

In show and tell, we were introduced to some beautiful orchids thanks to Karlene Burey, Lisa Denlea, and Diane Bryant. Good growing, ladies! Diane also reminded members that they could send pictures of their blooms for inclusion in the newsletter if they were unable to bring them to the meetings.

Standing in for Jeff Rothschild, Laurie McCarty requested nominations from the floor for the 2026 Board. As three members expressed interest in running only for the one vacant Trustee position, an election was conducted for this position with the elected candidate being Barbara Lynn. The remaining slate consisting of the 2025 Board members were elected by acclamation. The 2026 Board will be installed at the December recognition luncheon.

Once again, we had a member, Jet Tanner, offering orchids to members via raffle drawings at the end of the meeting. Needless, to say everyone enjoyed this event. And -- wow -- we had an outstanding turnout for the Orchid Exchange! Great way to expand your orchid collection.



Karlene Burey



Diane Bryant



Lisa Denlea



Orchid Exchange

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



Master Gardeners' Fall Festival

Thanks to Eileen Storck, Ena Vilabrera, Jessica Benford, and Anne Menassian for representing our Society at this year's fall festival. They provided visitors with information about orchids and our Society. Thanks ladies!

And, of course, we included an orchid as one of the festival's raffle prizes.



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



ST. LUCIE COUNTY
FLORIDA



CONGRATULATIONS! ST. LUCIE COUNTY 4-H PSL ORCHID SOCIETY & SPONSOR SCHOLARSHIP



Recipient

Isabella Saldivar

4H truly made a positive difference in my life by helping me grow in confidence, leadership and responsibility. Through hands-on projects, community service and public speaking opportunities, I was encouraged and supported to step out of my shell and be my best self, as well as being able to work both independently and with any team. One of the most valuable lessons that I gained was the importance of perseverance. Success does not happen overnight but with dedication and effort, anything you set your mind to is truly achievable. 4-H taught me that learning by taking action is not just a motto but a mindset; never giving up on your passions and being open to exploring things is something so very important.

Isabella was the recipient of one of our \$500 scholarships. Isabella attends the University of Florida.



Laurie Wade
Treasurer

Hi members!



Unbelievably, it is the end of November/beginning of December again. Here is a brief summary of our finances. I was out of town for several weeks and am still getting caught up and preparing for Thanksgiving, so this will be short and sweet.

Our current bank balance is \$12,757.01. There is no income to report for the November raffle because we didn't have one. There was a generous donation made to help cover the extra cost of our facility rental for our 2026 show, and my thanks go out to Nan and Jeff. Membership income was \$535.00. Our expenses include our storage space which was \$123.00 but increasing to \$140.00 beginning in December. We also paid \$407.76 for two years for our GoDaddy.com website.

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS



Eileen Storck
Membership Chairperson
pslosmemberships@gmail.com



The Holiday Season is officially upon us! Seventy-three members attended the November PSLOS meeting. That's an attendance record! Five new membership applications were received at the November meeting. Join me in welcoming the following new members:

Individual Membership

Perry Curry
Julian Holzschal
Jessica Kadie-Barclay
Melisa Sunshine
Janet Warren (returning member)

Our total membership is now 161!

Longevity Recognition: At our upcoming Holiday Luncheon, the following members will be recognized for their longstanding membership in the Port St. Lucie Orchid Society.

5 yrs. - Margaret Lee-Havison 10 yrs. - Anne Menassian 25 yrs. - Anita Shellman

Join me in congratulating these dedicated members of our Society!

Perfect Attendance Recognition: I would also like to thank and recognize the following members who were able to support the Port St. Lucie Orchid Society through their regular and consistent attendance every month when meetings were held in 2025. I hope every member will take advantage, as often as possible, of all the Society has to offer.

<i>Karlene Burry</i>	<i>Maureen Kerr</i>	<i>Donn Kilburg</i>
<i>Beatra Zych</i>	<i>Laurie McCarty</i>	<i>Anne Menassian</i>
<i>Dawn Reich</i>	<i>Mary Ann Ronay</i>	<i>Joyce Schneider</i>

Attendance is based off the sign-in sheets at the check-in table at every meeting. Make sure **YOU** are counted. Accurate attendance numbers are essential for our use of the garden facilities for our meetings. These numbers get reported to the PSL Botanical Gardens staff. Thank you for always signing in!

Just a friendly reminder: PSLOS membership runs annually, from January to December of the current year, regardless of when you initially joined. All current Memberships are valid through the end of 2025. Members should plan to submit renewal fees at the January 2026 meeting but no later than the February meeting.

Individual dues are still an affordable \$20.00/yr. Family dues are \$25.00/yr.

Happy Holidays Everyone!

ORCHID CULTURE & CARE



Orchid-abulary

Brought to you by
Nan Rothschild
2nd Vice President



Scale

PESTS -- WHO WANTS THEM?

SOME SAFE WAYS TO GET RID OF “PESTS “

1. Check before you buy a plant that it is not infested. I isolate new plants for awhile to make sure. Long ago I bought a vanda from a sale table at a reputable seller, and it killed a lot of my other plants.

2. Practice effective sanitation:

- A. Health of plant may be affected by a medium breaking down.
- B. A robust plant is more likely to resist predators.
- C. Keep plants clean - free of dust
- D. Remove old sheaths when they have died and dried out - pests love to hide there.
- E. Pick up dead flowers.
- F. Check undersides of the leaves.

3. Watering requirements vary by type of orchid, the medium it is grown in, and the quality of the water used. Overpotting may lead to overwatering.

4. Isopropyl rubbing alcohol - Use a cotton ball or swab soaked in alcohol, change frequently, repeat after 7 to 10 days. Some growers have used alcohol, Lysol or Original Listerine sprays: information is spotty on this.

5. Neem oil - It is made from the seeds of a tree from India. Mix with hot water and dish detergent to form a milk-like solution and apply to plant. (Caution - recent research may show that bees are negatively impacted by neem oil so be careful.)

6. Cinnamon- Use on cut areas to kill bacteria.

7. Hydrogen peroxide 3% - Treats bacteria.

8. Diatomaceous earth - It's available at pool and hardware stores. It forms a barrier to insects as they get fatal cuts caused by its sharp edges and dries them up.

There are some relatively safe 3-in-1 sprays available in hardware stores that are from companies like Bioadvanced and Safer. Use caution when using any chemical and strictly follow label directions.



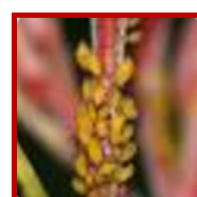
White flies



Mites



Mealy bug



Aphids

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"

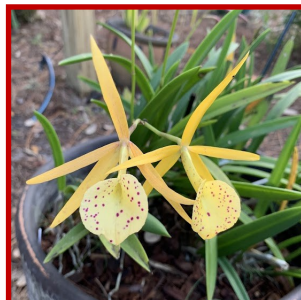


1. Water judiciously - early in the day so plants have as many hours as possible to dry and allow longer intervals between watering to dry plants thoroughly.
2. Reduce fertilizer as most sympodial orchids are resting in December. Provide extra potassium and magnesium. Biweekly or even monthly applications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

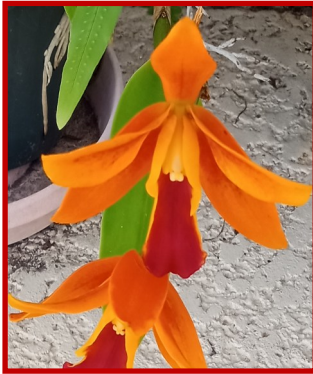
PSL BOTANICAL GARDENS - BLOOMING IN THE ORCHID ROOM



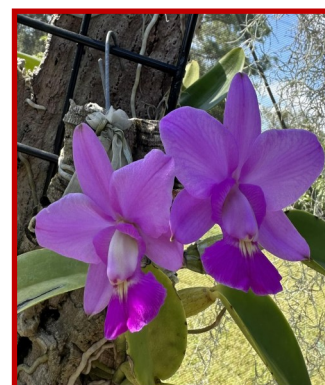
A big thanks to the Orchid Room Committee for all their hard work in maintaining our Orchid Room.

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

WE LOVE OUR ORCHIDS - FROM OUR MEMBERS' GARDENS



Gail Bird



Jet Tanner



We would love
to see
your orchids.
Just email a
picture to:

pslosdiane
@gmail.
com

Nancy Lyman



Diane Bryant

Port St Lucie Orchid Society 2025 Officers and Volunteers:

President - John Erickson
1st Vice President - Andrea Heitfeld
2nd Vice President - Nan Rothschild
Recording Secretary - Diana Lenartiene
Corresponding Secretary - Dana DeMarco
Treasurer - Laurie Wade
Membership - Eileen Storck
Immediate Past President - Pam Scholey
Trustee - Diane Bryant - 2027
 Barbara Lynn - 2025
 Jessica Benford - 2026
AOS Representative - Laurie Wade
Show Co-Chairs - Andrea Heitfeld and John Erickson
Orchid Room - John Erickson
Orchid Exchange - Dana DeMarco
Meeting Lunch Organizer - Jackie Young
Newsletter - Diane Bryant
Website - Diane Bryant
Annual Retreat - Barbara Lynn
Annual Holiday Awards Luncheon - Barbara Lynn

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 Gardens
Speakers, Classes, Show and Tell, Raffles,
Orchid Exchange, and more
April and December
Special Meetings
Times & Locations to be Announced

Board Meeting

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




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



**Providing Peace of Mind to
Absentee Home Owners**
info@completecarehomewatch.com
772-208-3216
completecarehomewatch.com