



Vero Beach Orchid Society

August 2025



Speaker – Phillip Hamilton

Phillip was born and raised in Jamaica where he inherited his dad's passion for orchids and grew up working in his parents' orchid nursery, Hamlyn Orchids. Although his dad's true orchid passion is with the Jamaican native Broughtonia's and their hybrids, Phillip's passion leaned heavily toward Phalaenopsis, which he has been growing and hybridizing since the age of eight.

He earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Environmental Horticulture at the University of Florida in Gainesville and is an American Orchid Society (AOS) Senior Judge.

Professionally, Phillip has worked for two major orchid production nurseries in Central Florida as a grower and grower/manager. In 2013 he formed his own business (part-time), Bredren Orchids, to facilitate the small-scale sale of some of the more unique Phalaenopsis and Broughtonia species and hybrids he grows and breeds. He now manages Bredren Orchids full-time since 2017, with the generous help of his wife, Liz. They are currently working on developing this business into more than just the mail-order only entity it now is.

Phillip's topic will be Novelty Phals, and he will be bringing plants for sale and providing our raffle plants. We hope you can all make it on August 21st.

Editor's Note

We're getting very close to the September Orchid Show with McKee Gardens. Some duties will be very different, and much easier, than the April show. There will be no tents to set up, no trash bags to throw in the trash. However, we may need to collect trash from vendors and put it in the trash cans available.

We will need some help on Friday helping the vendors get unloaded, and stay with their property until they've had time to park their vehicles off-site and return to proceed with the setup of their booth.

Also, through the weekend, we'll need "runners" to fetch water and/or sit at the vendor's booths while they have a chance to go to the rest room or get food.

Then, on Sunday, the vendors will need help disassembling their booths, and they'll need somebody to stay with their stuff until they bring their vehicles to load, and possibly helping load if they need it.

The folks at McKee Gardens will attend to a lot of the thing that we need to do at our usual show, but if anybody has questions about what to do, you can ask any of the VBOS officers, and we'll find out if we

don't immediately know.

At the meeting, Deb will let us know more specifics such as hours we need to be there and the kinds of things we'll be asked to do.

SO, if you don't have a currently membership card, you'll need to get one from us if you intend to either attend the show, or work at the show.

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Vero Beach Orchid Society

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DUES FOR 2025:

SINGLE MEMBER DUES \$20.00

FAMILY DUES: \$25.00

OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE AUGUST 21ST AT THE GARDEN CLUB OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, 2526 17TH AVENUE VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32960. THE MEETING WILL START AT 7:00 PM