



JANUARY 2022



MANATEE ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



January Meeting

First of all, we wish you all a happy, healthy 2022. It does seem obvious that this pandemic is not going away gracefully. If we each do all we can to stay safe, hopefully get vaccinated, wash your hands often, do what you can! We'll practice social distancing at our meetings and have masks available for those who want one.

Our next meeting: Make sure you have it on your calendar—January 11th is the second Tuesday and we'll meet at the Manatee Garden Club as we have in the past. For those who have recently joined us or are guests, the Garden Club is located at 3120 First Avenue West in Bradenton. You can find a map on our [website](#).

We'll have **"Culture Club" at 6:30 PM led by Roy Krueger.** We'll then have a short business meeting and snacks followed by a program **"Permaculture for epiphytes. How not to re-pot" presented by Micah Dault.** Micah is one of our members and is an excellent grower. He's a real proponent for mounting orchids and will likely bring a few of his beautiful plants. For those of us with limited shelf space, this is an ideal solution. Here are pictures of some of his orchids.



Upcoming Events



**This weekend—January 8th and 9th is the Sarasota Orchid Show
at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium.**

Hours are 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturday—10 AM to 5 PM on Sunday

This is always a great show with many vendors and lovely orchid displays from other orchid societies. We used to have a display and if we can garner enough interest plus blooming plants, we'll consider having a



Tamiami International Orchid Festival

**WHEN: Friday-Sunday January 14-16, 2022
from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily**

**WHERE: Miami Dade County Fair Expo Center
- 10901 SW 24th St, Miami, FL 33165**

TICKETS: \$15 at the door (Buy in advance to save) | Kids under 12 - Free [Get Tickets](#)
[Get Directions](#)

The Tamiami International Orchid Festival is Miami's largest, most diverse orchid show. Over the past twenty years, the Tamiami International Orchid Festival has not only become a great Miami orchid show, but a nationally and internationally recognized orchid event. The 2022 Tamiami International Orchid Festival will be the largest orchid show in the United States.

More local events...



Orchid Show & Sale
 Venice Area Orchid Society Presents
"Happy Days Are Here Again"
February 5-6, 2022
Saturday 10am - 5pm
 (displays open at 11am)
Sunday
10am - 4pm
www.vaos.org

**Thousands of Blooming Orchids,
 Orchid Art & Supplies • Venice Community Center
 326 S. Nokomis Ave. • Venice, Florida • Admission \$5 • (under 10 free)**

Venice Area Orchid Show & Sale—February 5th and 6th, 2022

Venice Community Center
 326 S. Nokomis Avenue—
 Venice, FL 34285

Judging is being held on February 5th, 2022 at 8 AM

Contact Carol Wood or Judy Loeffler for information

941-497-4995 or

showchair@vaos.org

What is the best potting media? This is an oft-asked question at almost every presentation.

A fresh, fast-draining, but water-retentive medium is essential to the healthy root system necessary for good growth. Whether a bark-based mix (which drains well, is forgiving of watering errors but breaks down rather quickly), a peat-based mix (which retains moisture well but requires more careful watering and frequent re-potting) or some inorganic, basically hydroponic method, orchids have been grown successfully in a variety of media



Aliflor, an expanded clay product, is popular on its own as a potting media, or used as an additive to mixes.

What to do with your orchids in January and February—reprinted from the AOS Magazine.



Cattleya: Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions and bloom at their best.

Cymbidiums: We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30 F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

Odontoglossums and their intergeneric hybrids offer a great splash of color now. Though once thought of as being difficult to grow and requiring cool temperatures due to the emphasis on odontoglossum breeding, the new intergeneric hybrids made using *Oncidium* and *Brassia*, for example, are just the opposite. These plants are quite content in more intermediate conditions. New growths generally emerge in the spring, later forming beautiful plump pseudobulbs. Look for the flower spikes to emerge from the inner sheath of the pseudobulb. If your plant's pseudobulbs are shriveled, then the plants have been kept too dry or too wet. Inspect the roots to determine which condition prevailed. If the lead pseudobulb is large, plump and green (and back

The standard **Paphiopedilum** insigne-derived hybrids, which are called "bull dogs" and "toads," are at their peak. Unlike most other orchids, they can even be potted while in bud. There really is no wrong time to pot a paphiopedilum, and no other orchid responds so favorably to fresh mix and a cleanup. Keep an eye on watering until roots begin to grow.



Phalaenopsis: Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of phalaenopsis at orchid shows and sales



Zygopetalum: For the most part, the flowering season will have ended for this group, providing the grower a chance to do some repotting. The plants will then have a chance to become well established before the hotter months of summer arrive. Most growers use bark mixes, but some exceptional results have been seen lately using rock-wool blends. You may want to try this mix, but do not change your whole collection over to this new media until you are sure it is right for you. First, experiment with a few plants to see how they respond.

Manatee Orchid Society

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MANATEEORCHIDSOCIETY.COM

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Check the website for current info. You can also find previous newsletters there on [our Members page](#). If you don't know how to access our "special members only page" for a member directory, be sure to ask.

MOS By-laws:



One of the topics you've heard discussed briefly at some of our meetings is the probability of updating our by-laws. We have not made any changes in more than five years. Within the next few months, we'll meet and go over our current by-laws and propose changes.

If you're interested in seeing what is in our current by-laws, you can view them on our website on the Member's Page. There's also a file showing some of the possible changes.

<https://manateeorchidsociety.com/members-page>

If you want to have your current bloomer on our newsletter or website, [send me a picture](#). You could also send any pictures to [Maureen Hirthler](#) and she'll post it into your album on Facebook.