NAPLES Orchid SOCIETY since 1962

JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

Cover Worthy!

Bc. Kosh Wallis

This great bloomer of Marilyn Moser's is just right for the holiday's minus the snow and cold weather of course!!

NOS Events

Next Monthly Meeting

Thursday January 5, 2023

Moorings Presbyterian Church, Baker Gym

Meeting begins at 7:30 pm

Elaine Gates, NOS and GCOA Member

"Orchid Arrangements and Presentations"

See more information on page 3

Refreshments

RAFFLE and PLANTS FOR SALE

Next Board of Directors Meeting and Show Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday January 11, 2023

See more information on page 2

All Current Members are Welcome to Attend

President: Richard Davenport
davenport.richardalan@gmail.com

Submit articles for the Newsletter by the 15th of each month to: NOSNews@Naplesorchidsociety.org

***Newsletter Editors**: Kris Morton, Marilyn Moser and Bob Castonguay*

The Naples Orchid Society is a non-profit organization, devoted to the promotion of, interest in, and the appreciation of orchids and the preservation of our native orchids. It is also our aim to disseminate information pertaining to their culture and hybridization.

NAPLES ORCHID SOCIETY P.O. Box 7998 Naples FL 34101
www.NaplesOrchidSociety.org

President's Letter

December 2022

Richard Davenport
President, Naples Orchid Society, Inc.
davenport.richardalan@gmail.com

Chilly Greetings to all orchid lovers!

Cold, dry air will be forced down from northern climes just in time for Christmas weekend by what we native Floridians like to call "cold fronts". If you have heaters in your growing areas, make sure they are placed well and are in working order. Radiant heaters should not be too close to plants. We are trying to heat the air around all the plants. Leave your fans on to circulate the air to all plants. Many commercial growers flood the floor of the growing area to promote heat transfer to the air from the ground. Try not to wet the leaves or growing media while flooding the area as plants dry out much more slowly in cooler air and we do not want to encourage fungus and bacterial rot.

Many orchids do not like temperatures below 50-55 degrees very much. Other orchids can grow through snowbanks atop permafrost. Obviously, these very cold tolerant orchids are not found in South Florida because they cannot stand the heat. Check out the cold tolerance of your plants online or by talking with NOS friends. Some plants may require moving to the inside of your warm house to protect them on very cold nights. Cold damage takes many different forms, with reddish leaf discoloration, bud blast, delayed new growth and delayed future blooming the most common. Actual plant death is unusual and sometimes takes several months to occur.

We had a large and excited crowd at our December Holiday party. We all enjoyed the food (thanks, all you elves!) and a colorful orchid presentation by our President Emeritus, Dr. Richard "Dick" Pippen. Every member present received a gift orchid plant, many in full bloom or bud. We had a special raffle with beautiful orchid basket arrangements as prizes.

"Orchid Mardi Gras" at Naples Botanical Garden is a short two months away. Our January and February meetings will focus on preparations for this event. You're Board and Officers would like all members to consider entering blooming plants, tabletop and container displays, educational orchid or conservation displays, and cut orchid flower arrangements. Remember, plants must have been owned by the entrant for at least six months. Cut flowers can be grown at home, borrowed from friends or purchased the very same day as the American Orchid Society judges will be looking at color, presentation, scale, flower quality, ingenuity, and the imponderables that make an arrangement an award winner. Hopefully, one will be yours!

Just a week after the Orchid Mardi Gras Show and Sale, Saturday, March 4th will mark the start of our annual Orchid Culture Class series held in Buehler Auditorium in the FGCU campus on the north side of the Naples Botanical Garden. Register now at the NOS website online – just $99.00 for NOS members and $149.00 for non-members. The classes offer everything "newbies" need to know about starting their orchid journey. More experienced growers may enjoy the course as a refresher. Newbies or veterans, all will enjoy the multiple orchid plants given free to each participant along with an outstanding orchid handbook and other course materials. During the six classes, we believe every class member will learn new factoids, tips, tricks and valuable orchid culture guidance while making new friends and acquaintances.

Happy Holidays to all! Now I must go do some last minute shopping. Hope the stores have not sold out all the Madi Gras beads…

Richard Davenport
President

In-Person Board of Directors Meeting for JANUARY 2023

Date: Wednesday January 11 2023

All Current Members are Welcome

Time: 6:30 pm

Forest Glen Golf and Country Club
3855 Forest Glen Blvd
Naples, FL 34114 (at the Clubhouse)

This meeting will be held at Forest Glen Golf and Country Club and requires gate notification.
If you are interested in attending this meeting, please call Rae Jean Walker 815-791-2140 and leave a message.

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Holiday Gathering

December 1, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Lanelle Bishop, 2nd VP

- The Party was held in the Baker Gym and was decorated by many elves.
- Some delicious food was served to the 82 people who attended.
- Suzanne Fundingsland renewed Memberships.
- Raffle tickets were sold for hopes of winning one of the 4 beautiful baskets crafted by Marilyn Moser and Karen Davenport.
- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Richard Davenport and exits were repeated in case of emergency.
- A Life Member Award was given to a 24 year member of NOS, Marilyn Moser.
- Marilyn Moser, AOS Representative, bestowed a Service Award to Jim Rawson for all he does willingly for NOS.
- Dick Pippen presented the Checks to the Winners of the monthly ribbon judging.
  - 1st Place was Karen Davenport,
  - 2nd Place was Jim Longwell,
  - 3rd Place was John Erwin.
- Dick Pippen made a presentation on 'Orchids-Beauty is in The Eye of the Beholder'!
- Dick Pippen also took the opportunity to announce the Orchid Culture Classes in March and April 2023.
- Raffle Tickets were drawn and 4 happy people won noted below:
  - Jim Longwell,
  - Nancy Castonguay
  - Patricia Asencio
  - Denis Parker
- Total funds raised was $672.00.
- The Meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

January Speaker: Elaine Gates
Naples Orchid Society and Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Member

Our January speaker will be someone we are all familiar with: Elaine Gates. Elaine is a member of the Naples Orchid Society as well as the Gulf Coast Orchid Society (GCOA). Elaine is very well versed in Orchid Culture and is a great partner in helping us prepare for our annual event. This month Elaine will be discussing how to put Orchid arrangements together and preparing everyone on getting ready with ideas for their Orchid presentations.

December 2022 HOLIDAY GATHERING

Attendees: 82
Total Funds Raised: $672

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT

Submitted and presented by Suzanne Fundingsland, Acting Membership Chair

As of January 1st, 2023 We Have 225 Members

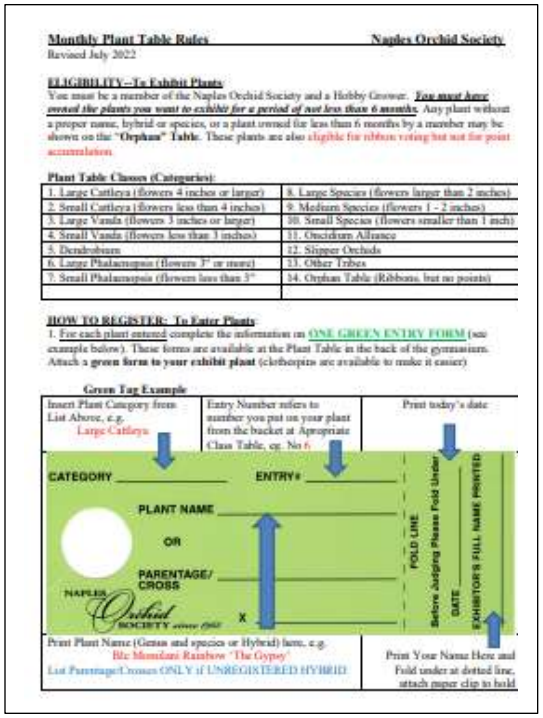
You may pay by **check** mailed to Naples Orchid Society, PO Box 7998, Naples, FL 34101,
or by **credit card** at https://naplesorchidsociety.org/join-us/
NEW RATES for 2023: Single membership $40, Family membership $50
Add $10.00 for a magnetic engraved nametag
Question about Membership?
Email **Membership@Naplesorchidsociety.org**

CARE AND CONDOLENCE

Get well cards were sent to NOS Members Chuck Ferber, Kris Morton, Carol Sweat, Angie Dunlap and Veronica and George Catrombon..

NOS Monthly Meeting Plant competition Rules and Instructions

See the Rules Document on our website here: **https://naplesorchidsociety.org/monthly-meetings/**



Monthly Plant Table Rules — **Naples Orchid Society**
Revised July 2022

ELIGIBILITY--To Exhibit Plants
You must be a member of the Naples Orchid Society and a Hobby Grower. ***You must have owned the plants you want to exhibit for a period of not less than 6 months.*** Any plant without a proper name, hybrid or species, or a plant owned for less than 6 months by a member may be shown on the "**Orphan**" **Table**. These plants are also eligible for ribbon voting but not for point accumulation.

Plant Table Classes (Categories):

1. Large Cattleya (flowers 4 inches or larger)	8. Large Species (flowers larger than 2 inches)
2. Small Cattleya (flowers less than 4 inches)	9. Medium Species (flowers 1 - 2 inches)
3. Large Vanda (flowers 3 inches or larger)	10. Small Species (flowers smaller than 1 inch)
4. Small Vanda (flowers less than 3 inches)	11. Oncidium Alliance
5. Dendrobium	12. Slipper Orchids
6. Large Phalaenopsis (flowers 3" or more)	13. Other Tribes
7. Small Phalaenopsis (flowers less than 3"	14. Orphan Table (Ribbons, but no points)

HOW TO REGISTER: To Enter Plants
1. For each plant entered complete the information on ONE GREEN ENTRY FORM (see example below). These forms are available at the Plant Table in the back of the gymnasium. Attach a **green form to your exhibit plant** (clothespins are available to make it easier)

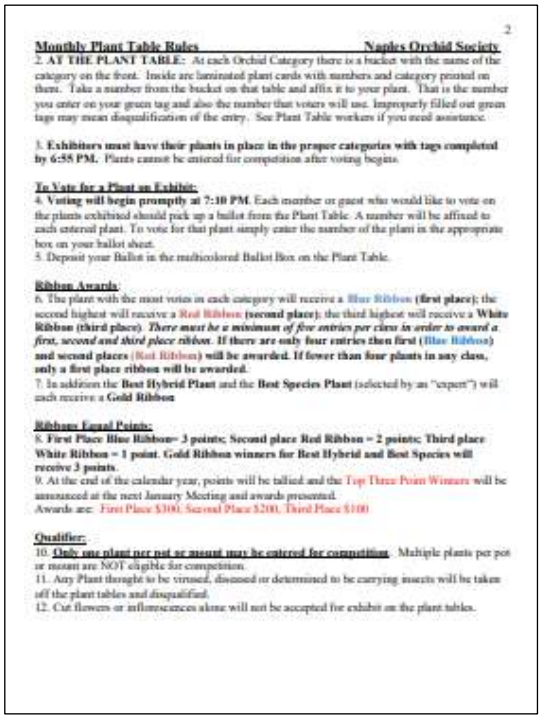
Green Tag Example

Insert Plant Category from List Above, e.g., Large Cattleya | Entry Number refers to number you put on your plant from the bucket at Appropriate Class Table, eg. No 6 | Print today's date

CATEGORY _____ ENTRY# _____
PLANT NAME _____
OR
PARENTAGE/ CROSS _____
NAPLES Orchid SOCIETY since 1960
X
FOLD LINE
Before Judging Please Fold Under
DATE
EXHIBITOR IS FULL NAME PRINTED

Print Plant Name (Genus and species or Hybrid) here, e.g. Blc Mondani Rainbow 'The Gypsy'
List Parentage/Crosses ONLY if UNREGISTERED HYBRID

Print Your Name Here and Fold under at dotted line, attach paper clip to hold



2

Monthly Plant Table Rules — **Naples Orchid Society**

2. **AT THE PLANT TABLE:** At each Orchid Category there is a bucket with the name of the category on the front. Inside are laminated plant cards with numbers and category printed on them. Take a number from the bucket on that table and affix it to your plant. That is the number you enter on your green tag and also the number that voters will use. Improperly filled out green tags may mean disqualification of the entry. See Plant Table workers if you need assistance.

3. **Exhibitors must have their plants in place in the proper categories with tags completed by 6:55 PM.** Plants cannot be entered for competition after voting begins.

To Vote for a Plant on Exhibit:
4. **Voting will begin promptly at 7:10 PM.** Each member or guest who would like to vote on the plants exhibited should pick up a ballot from the Plant Table. A number will be affixed to each entered plant. To vote for that plant simply enter the number of the plant in the appropriate box on your ballot sheet.
5. Deposit your Ballot in the multicolored Ballot Box on the Plant Table.

Ribbon Awards:
6. The plant with the most votes in each category will receive a Blue Ribbon **(first place)**; the second highest will receive a Red Ribbon **(second place)**, the third highest will receive a **White Ribbon (third place)**. ***There must be a minimum of five entries per class in order to award a first, second and third place ribbon.*** **If there are only four entries then first (Blue Ribbon) and second places (Red Ribbon) will be awarded. If fewer than four plants in any class, only a first place ribbon will be awarded.**
7. In addition the **Best Hybrid Plant** and the **Best Species Plant** (selected by an "expert") will each receive a **Gold Ribbon**

Ribbons Equal Points:
8. **First Place Blue Ribbon= 3 points; Second place Red Ribbon = 2 points; Third place White Ribbon = 1 point. Gold Ribbon winners for Best Hybrid and Best Species will receive 3 points.**
9. At the end of the calendar year, points will be tallied and the Top Three Point Winners will be announced at the next January Meeting and awards presented.
Awards are: First Place $300, Second Place $200, Third Place $100

Qualifier:
10. **Only one plant per pot or mount may be entered for competition.** Multiple plants per pot or mount are NOT eligible for competition.
11. Any Plant thought to be virused, diseased or determined to be carrying insects will be taken off the plant tables and disqualified.
12. Cut flowers or inflorescences alone will not be accepted for exhibit on the plant tables.

Members Only Holiday Gathering

Thursday December 1, 2022 7:00pm

Here is the link to more photos-- *https://naplesorchidsociety.org/gallery-events/*

Collier Harvest Foundation

Also, thank you to all members who donated to Collier Harvest Foundation!

The foundation appreciated our large donation!

As your American Orchid Society representative, I was honored and privileged to present the AOS Award for outstanding service and commitment to our society to Jim Rawson…a well-deserved award. – Marilyn Moser

Please volunteer to help at our monthly NOS meetings

- We need help with set up & take down. Please contact Richard Davenport or Jim Rawson if you would like to participate.
- Bring Snacks, Home Baked Goodies: Sweet or Savory! Bottles of Water! This will give you a chance to win an Orchid!!!! Each donor will get a raffle ticket and a separate drawing from the Main Raffle! Please email Lanelle Bishop at lbishop52@gmail.com to alert her you can contribute.

An Orchid Mardi Gras

With almost 2 months left before our annual Orchid Show, Jim Rawson, Richard Davenport, Lanelle Bishop, Carolyn Booker, David Orr and Stu Rubin met with the Garden folks to work out some of the plan. We discussed logistics for the vendors, their displays and storing of their Orchids. Also, the food for their breaks. We discussed where and how the Judges were going to have their space and their breaks. We reviewed the layouts for both Kapnick Center where the Orchid displays will be and how the vendors will be situated on the lawn.

Still working on gathering sponsors. There are 8 commitments so far and we have collected over $3000 in pledges. With the holidays approaching it has slowed somewhat but I am sure it will pick up again in January. Any support in this area would be greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to seeing your displays at the show!

Jim Rawson and Stu Rubin
2023 NOS Orchid Show and Sale

Upcoming Events

January 7-8, 2023: Sarasota Orchid Society's "Orchids in Paradise," Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N Tamiami Triail, Sarasota, FL; Contact: Larry Desiano, 941-724-6683; larrydesiano@sarasotaorchidsociety.org

January 12, 2023: - *Boca Raton Orchid Society Outreach Judging, Safe Schools Institute, 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd., Boca Raton, FL; Contact: Kathy Kersey, 954-802-3575; kathykbros@gmail.com

January 12-March 16, 2023: Thursdays, 10 AM – 11:30 AM, 2023 Educational Garden Workshop Series, hosted by UF/IFAS Collier Co. Master Gardeners. All lecture sessions will be held at the South Regional Library, 8065 Lely Cultural Pkwy, Naples, FL. 34113.
Complete series is $40 or $10 per lecture & open to the public. Info: 239-252-4800.

January 28-29, 2023: Florida West Coast Orchid Society's "Sea of Orchids," City of Seminole Recreation Center, 9100 113th Street N, Seminole, FL; Contact: Bill Nunez,
727-239-2700; biddison22@aol.com

WORD OF THE MONTH!
SECTION:
A taxonomic subdivision of a genus below the rank of a sub genus.

Jade Orchids of Collier, Inc.
285 Morgan Road
Naples, FL 34114
Tuesday to Saturday
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Owners:
Dave & Judy White
Email: JadeOrchids@embarqmail.com
Offering 10% discount on plants for NOS members.

Specializing in Orchids that 'THRIVES on NEGLECT'
6800 Appaloosa Trail,
Southwest Ranches FL 33330
Tuesday -Sunday 9:00 -6:00
PLEASE CALL OR TEXT before arriving
www.asianorchidspecies.com
ASIAN ORCHID SOURCE, INC.
Mac W. Rivenbark
Specializing Asian Orchids/Owner
(954) 410 -8580
(754) 308-9026
Please call/text before arriving

Dear WPBJC Affiliated Society Member,

The West Palm Beach Judging Center is planning an auction for Sunday, February 26, 2023 @ 1:00 pm to be held at the Learning Center at Flamingo Gardens, Davie Florida. This is a fund-raising event for our center to raise money to cover on going expenses for our Judging Center, which includes rent, photographer's fees, and speaker fees, and travel expenses as needed, etc.

As an Affiliated Society Member, we are inviting your members to attend this auction and bid on some exciting orchids from some of our judges' private collections, grower donations, orchid books, orchid supplies, memorabilia, etc. to support our Center. The American Orchid Society does not subsidize us and any funds raised will be restricted to the use by the WPBJC for expenses mentioned above.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on February 26 at 1:00 pm. Additional information will be sent out closer to the date.

Jacqueline A. Wood, Chair

West Palm Beach Judging Center

oca **Orchid Conservation Alliance**

Conserving Orchids by Conserving Orchid Habitat

The OCA conserves orchids by funding habitat preservation. Since inception in 2005 we have helped with the purchase of over 3000 acres of orchid habitat, protecting hundreds of orchid species in Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia. Many species of rare birds, trees, frogs, mammals also find refuge in these reserves.

Dracula gigas (L), *D. trigonopetala* (R)
Dracula Reserve, Ecuador

Dracula lemurella (L), *Lepanthes escifera* (R)
La Selva de Ventanas Reserve, Colombia

We hope you will join us in promoting this important work. We invite you to become a member of the OCA, to make a donation, to take a trip with us to see Orchids in the Wild®, and to purchase merchandise through our website. Since we have no paid staff, all proceeds support orchid conservation. The OCA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.

For more information: www.orchidconservationalliance.org

YOUR AOS REP
Marilyn Moser
Mm3purple@aol.com

AOS WEBINARS

January 04, 2023: When: 8:30pm EST, Wednesday; Topic: Greenhouse Chat, Orchid Q & A. ***Send in your Photos & Questions by January 02. Presenter: Ron McHatton, Chief Education & Science Officer.***

January 05, 2023: When: 8:30pm, Thursday. Topic: New Directions in Zygopetalinae. Presenter: Tim Culbertson, Historian, AOS Judge, Hybridizer for SVO, SOA Board Member.

RECORDED WEBINARS. Hobbyists, expert growers, AOS judges, conservationists and more. Check out the timeless collection of recoded webinars on the AOS website:
http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx

We digitize the webinars & they are available to view at your leisure. GREENHOUSE CHAT Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.
Topics: Species & Hybrids, Pests & Diseases, Culture, Judging, Greenhouse Chats & More.

SAVE THE DATE

- **THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY'S SPRING MEMBERS MEETING HELD IN CONJUCTION WITH THE SAN DIEGO ORCHID SOCIETY SPRING SHOW.**
- **MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA AT THE CASA *del* PRADO IN BALBOA PARK!**
- ***DETAILS WILL BE PUBLISHED TO WWW.AOS.ORG/MEMBERSMEETING AS THEY DEVELOP.***

Member Mark Hudak will be at the March meeting with a limited number of Myrtle cuttings. Moreover, in the spring Mark will have some Amaryllis (Candy Cane) bulbs for anyone who would like them. Please contact him at his cell or email if interested.
Cell: 239-682-4921
Email: mark.hudak@comcast.net

A Huge Thank You for A Huge and Successful Holiday Party

Thank you to ALL my helpers and all the people involved in making our Party A Success. The Gracious Labor of Love including Shopping for Supplies, making pasta salads, servers, decorators, raffle basket makers, raffling off the tickets, purchasing the Free Orchid gift for members, the making of Stars for table scrapes, Entertainment from Dick Pippen, and a Big Thanks to my Co Chair, Carolyn Booker.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL

Carolyn and Lanelle

Thank you to Suzanne Fundingsland, Membership Chair for greeting our members & renewing Memberships for 2023.

Thank you to Marilyn Moser & Karen Davenport for crafting the beautiful raffle baskets.

A great resource for orchid information is the St. Augustine Orchid Society's website:
https://staugorchidsociety.org/

From Kris Morton, NOS Newsletter Editor

How many of you only pick up the latest "Orchids" magazine from AOS to look at the orchid photos? If that is the only thing, you are looking for you are missing an important section of the magazine. In this month's "Questions and Answers," (pgs. 890-891) I found 3 very informative Q & A's. The topics were fusarium & anthracnose (a nasty type of fungus). Thiomyl was the chemical of choice. If you do not already get "Orchids" see if you can find it on the AOS website.

FROM AOS "GROWING ORCHIDS' MONTH-BY-MONTH CHECKLIST

By Robert M. Scully Jr.

- The *Phalaenopsis* flowering cycle is about to start. Constant air circulation is essential to avoid *Botrytis*-spotted blooms. Water carefully to keep flowers dry & to minimize risk of soft rot in the fleshy leaves. Fertilize sparingly with a liquid or granular formula, & only when the medium is moist. Begin careful monitoring for scale & mealybugs on the inflorescences & undersides of leaves.
- Tie up *Cattleya* pseudobulbs. Watch for signs of red spider mites on the undersides of leaves or scale in the sheathing on pseudobulbs. Remove the sheathing (cataphylls) carefully so as not to nick the soft tissue of the newest pseudobulbs, which could result in rot or the introduction of virus.
- Continue to water sparingly, or not at all, on those *Dendrobium* species that require a dormant period before flowering this spring. (lindleyi, aggregatum, chrysotoxum, farmer, densiflorum, nobile or its hybrids.) As the buds emerge, gradually increase the watering frequency & amount. Do not expose evergreen-type hybrids to temperatures below 60 F., or plants in flower may drop leaves & buds.
- Fertilize moist *Vanda* baskets or pots at least twice this month if light levels are sufficient. Many of the popular Thai hybrids & the African angraecoids begin their winter flowering now, so watch for signs of inflorescens; "help" them away from the main stem of the plant to ensure proper display. Maintain high humidity in the root zone, particularly for those plants in slatted baskets. Mist the roots daily with a light spray from a spray bottle or hose.
- Keep the humidity conditions high around cymbidiums to prevent shriveling of the pseudobulbs & to prolong flowering. Later varieties are beginning to push up their inflorescences; watering frequ3ncy & volume is important to support their development. Cool temperatures are beneficial.
- Do not allow the roots of paphlopedilums to dry out. On a windowsill, use a pebble tray, with water in the pebbles, to increase humidity. Keep water out of the sensitive pouches; accumulated moisture shortens flower life. Watch for insects, particularly red spider mites, on the foliage.

Our Next AOS Orchid Culture Speaker Day!

Save the Date - **Sunday, February 12, starting at 11:00 AM EST**

Thank you to all who registered and participated in our ever-popular Orchid Culture Day yesterday! Your session recording link will be sent to you soon.

Do you get the Winter Blues? Would you like to do something to take your mind off Winter but maybe
not the Blues? Well, the AOS will be Celebrating the Orchid Blues in February! Our next Culture Day will be packed with an informative series of speakers talking about Blue Breeding of Orchids.

Our Current Speaker lineup & Topics

- Carson Whitlow - Blue Cattleyas
- Rob Griesbach - Blue Breeding of Flowers
- Fred Clarke - Breeding Blue Mini Cats
- Leslie Ee - Blue Phalaenopsis breeding

Tell your friends! (AOS Membership is not required)
Registration will be $30 and we might have a few surprises.

Details and Registration link/information will be available shortly.

TASKS FOR JANUARY

From Florida Orchid Growing Month by Month by Martin Motes, PhD

- Water judiciously, only early in the day.
- Run plants on the dry side to preserve the possibility of using water for cold protection.
- Check irrigation system in anticipation of cold.
- Flush excess fertilizer salts from cattleyas and other sympodials.
- Spray for mites, then, spray again in 7-10 days.

PROGRESS OF THE SEASON

(From Martin Motes' December 2022 Newsletter)

November offered further proof of climate change as the rainy season has extended to the end of the month. All of that extra rain has greatly increased the disease pressure on our plants. The impact of the rain has been exacerbated by the shorter day lengths allowing fewer hours of drying. Scout carefully and remove any diseased tissue quickly and relatively little harm will be caused by leaf spotting fungus. An additional application of the preventative fungicides recommended in Florida Orchid Growing would be particularly valuable. As likely, typically drier weather will return in December but with the additional disease pressure, which this exceptionally wet November has served up, it behooves us to be careful with watering: both in terms of frequency and in timing it as early as possible in the day.

Our vandas are, of course, relishing the abundant rain and extra warmth. Keep them happy and well fed. Although the season of the Thrips has normally passed by now, this year has provided them with additional opportunities. The recommended treatments of oil followed by soap to control mites should control Thrips as well. It is important to scout for them and keep them under control lest they spoil our Holiday blooms.

Snails, too, which should be estivating long since, are still on the prowl. A single light application of snail bait should control them and perhaps even serve to diminish the impact of them when they are scheduled to re-emerge in the spring.

For those of us with tropical souls like our orchids, Christmas in the Northern Hemisphere can never be too warm.

Martin

Martin Motes

Sign up for Martin Motes Newsletter here:
https://www.motesorchids.com/

What's Blooming in My Collection?

Vuyl Citrus Sun
Marilyn Moser

Rlc. Pratum Green 'Holly'
Karen Davenport

Rlc. George King 'Serendipity'
Karen Davenport

Blc. Goldenzelle 'Lemon Chiffon'
Karen Davenport

C walkeriana semi alba
Karen Davenport

V Pachara Delight
Karen Davenport

Have a blooming orchid in your collection?
Send us a photo and we will feature it here!

NOSNews@NaplesOrchidSociety.org

An Orchid Vignette—Christmas Cheer from Orchid-land

Contributed by Dick Pippen

One of the orchid plants given to those attending the Naples Orchid Society December 2022 Holiday Party brings a little "Winter Cheer" to Florida. It is *Dendrobium* Mini Snowflake (about the only snow we will see in Southwest Florida). Mini Snowflake (photo left) is a primary hybrid between two of the Latouria group of Dendrobiums from New Guinea, *Dendrobium aberrans* and *Dendrobium johnsoniae*. *Dendrobium* Mini Snowflake was created by H & R Orchids and registered by them in 2005. For a relatively "young" plant it has already garnered sixteen AOS and international awards and been used as a parent in seven crosses.

As the name "mini" suggests, the plant is relatively small with narrow, spindle-shaped pseudobulbs up to about eight inches tall. Clusters of small white flowers are produced usually twice a year and the flowers stay open for more than a month. Moreover, as an additional bonus, the flowers are fragrant! Spikes may develop more than once on the same cane (that is a bonus).

One of the Mini Snowflake orchid parents, *Dendrobium aberrans* (photo shown on the right has been borrowed from OrchidWiz), as mentioned above, is a native to Papua New Guinea. It is small plant, maxing out at about 8-12 inches. The pseudobulbs are narrow and spindle shaped. The flowers are produced near the tips of the pseudobulbs and last for a long time. The plant flowers twice a year and spikes may develop multiple times on the same canes (gee, does that sound familiar). This species has earned 22 AOS and many international awards and been used as a parent in 25 crosses. In addition to Mini Snowflake, one of its best-known offspring is *Den*. Micro Chip.

The other parent, *Dendrobium johnsoniae* (photo left, borrowed from the Internet) is a little more widespread in its distribution. In addition to growing in New Guinea it also is found on other island in the South Pacific such as Guadalcanal and Bougainville. It is somewhat similar to *Den. aberrans* in size and flower production. It has earned nine AOS and international awards and been used as a parent in 33 crosses.

These are all relatively easy to grow here in Southwest Florida and do add a little "snow" to your collection.