



# Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

December 11, 2011

**Merry Christmas everyone!** The December Christmas luncheon and orchid bingo will be held Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011 **at 1:00 P.M.** at the **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Switzer Rd and Debuys. We will meet in the room **behind the cafeteria. We will not have Show and Tell or New Growers.** There will be no show and Tell because the show and tell tables will be full of great eats and bingo plants!



This will be a covered dish luncheon and orchid bingo, playing until everyone wins a plant. We will provide the meat, drinks, and paper products. Members are asked to bring a covered dish. Those who bring a guest can **buy** a bingo card for their guest for \$5.00 per card; one card per member/guest. We ask that you limit the number of guests.

**ABOUT THE PLANTS** Glen really outdid himself this year, the plants sound awesome. Here's what he said about them: "I got a really good deal, on some very overgrown Oncidiums. Some are nice clones, while others are

unique seedlings from their breeding program. They are all in need of re-potting." There's a photo of a mixed collection of Oncidiums on the next page. The ones we'll get Sunday will be much larger.

**AWARD PLANTS:** We will award plants to the top three point winners for the year from our display table, and to the member who brought in the most "best plants". We will then draw names from the list of members who brought in plants during the year and they'll get a plant. This is our way of thanking those who went to the trouble of bringing in plants for our display table. You must be present to win the drawing.

For our new members, we keep track of all plants brought in for show and tell during the year. If you bring in a plant you get one point, if it wins a third place ribbon it gets another point, if it wins second place it gets two more points and it wins first place it gets three more points. If you only brought in one plant during the year and you are present for the drawing you will be eligible for the drawing.

Ken Miles will be giving away his wonderful silver plated orchid award to the most special member again this year. This is a nice gesture; Ken does this with his own money; it is not sponsored by the society. Ken decides who deserves his award.

**2012 SHOW:** Our orchid show is set for January 27-29 at Singing River Mall in Gautier. Once again we are offering our members the opportunity to donate trophies.



Photos from our 2010 Christmas Party



A Collection of Oncidiums

**If you have agreed to purchase a trophy from the Society, please give Jo Ann Vaz your \$15.00. If you are providing your own trophy please bring it to the December meeting. Please pack your trophy in a box with some sort of packing such as bubble wrap or lots of tissue.**

**REFRESHMENTS:** Everyone will bring a dish, our hospitality angel, Andra Mladinich will see to the meats, drinks and paper products. You can see from the photos above that we eat well!

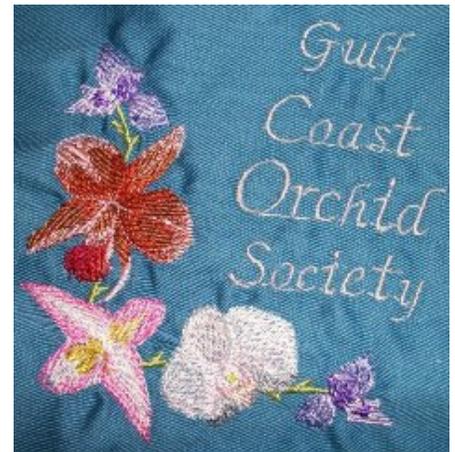
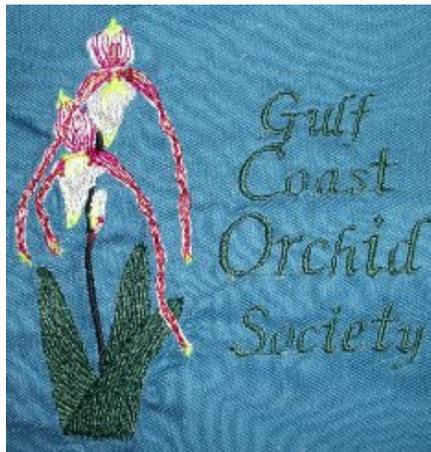
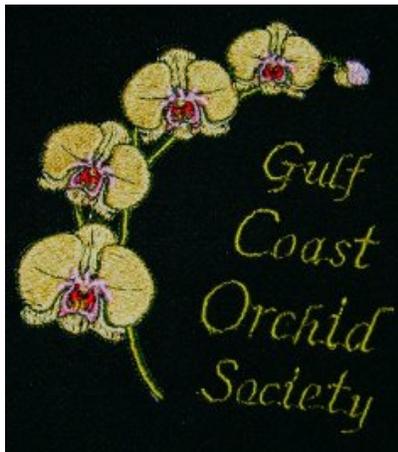
January's refreshments will provided by Bill and Tina Torguson and Judy Chinsee. If you'd like to bring refreshments or to change your assigned date; call Andra Mladinich at 228-388-5054.

**JANUARY MEETING:** Our January meeting will be a planning session for our upcoming show. We need everyone's help to have a great show. We will discuss the proper way to exhibit a plant. This includes how to clean and stake plants and how to prepare an entry tag.

**ORCHID E BOOK:** From time to time we get advertisements for various orchid related items. There's a new E-book on orchids out for Kindles, Nook and other e-readers. (I have no idea what I just wrote). I do not know the author or and cannot recommend the eBook but if you're interested the information is attached to the email.

**NAME TAGS AND SHIRTS:** If you want a GCOS name tag; see Marilyn at the meeting.

Many of you have asked about the GCOS shirts some of our members wear. Those shirts are no longer available but we've found something better! Chip Lechner's Mom can machine embroider an orchid, the society's name and the member's name on shirts that members supply. She will charge us her cost only; 15.00 and \$3.00 for your name. Below are the three orchid patterns that we can pick from. She'll be at the December meeting and will tell us more then. In the mean time; find a shirt that you'd like to have embroidered, wash it, and bring the clean shirt to the Dec. meeting. **Clearly print** your name as you want it to appear on the shirt on a piece of paper and safety pin it to the shirt. Put your phone number on the paper too, in case there are any questions.



**AOS CORNER:** Occasionally we get notes from the American Orchid Society. This month's note had some great suggestions:

**A gift of membership in the American Orchid Society is a great gift for anyone who may not already a member, or a renewal of their membership. To order a gift membership, contact AOS Headquarters 561-404-2050.**

**Access to OrchidsPlus (the web-based AOS awards program also known as AQPlus). For non-members, please call Pam at 561-404-2050 or send AOS a check to Pam's attention and AOS can set up a subscription to AQPlus offline.**

**The 2012 AOS Calendar is now available and is available with a 10% discount AOS Members with free shipping. The new calendar is a 14-month calendar and loaded with fabulous orchid photographs.**

**Many of the AOS published books are also located in the Store on the AOS website and would make a great gift.**