



Gulf Coast Orchid Society

March 8, 2020

Our next meeting will **Sunday, March 8, 2020** at 2:00 at **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Switzer Rd and Debuys; just north of Pass Rd. in the **cafeteria meeting room**. The cafeteria is on the north side of the school off Runnymede.

The **Orchids 101** class led by Glen Ladnier will **precede the regular meeting at 1:30**. Glen's topic is "Reading Plant Labels". Orchids 101 is a free 30-minute session led by one of our best growers, Glen Ladnier. It's very informal and guests are welcome.



Fredclareara After Dark 'SVO' one that Richard generously shared with a fellow member.

PROGRAM: Richard Crespin will teach a hands-on class on repotting of Catasetinae type plants. The class will focus on repotting your young Catasetinae plant that you purchased at our October meeting, from a 3" pot to a 4" pot. If you don't have a plant to repot the class is still very important, while Catasetinae are different from other orchids most potting principles are the same.

Richard will bring the moss used to repot the plant. You will need to bring **1. Your plant in its 3" pot; 2 A new 4" pot (4" deep)** or an old 4" pot that has been sterilized. **3. Sterile scissors or shears to cut the moss and some of the roots. 4. Newspapers or something to protect your work area.**

If you don't have a 4" pot, Richard will bring some that he will sell at his cost of \$2.00 each.

VERY IMPORTANT. The day before the meeting wet the plant to make the moss damp and easier to remove from the pot.

FUTURE PROGRAMS:

April 19 Third Sunday because Easter is the 2nd Sunday - Larry Hennessey of New Orleans will talk on Bulbophyllums and bring plants to sell.

May 17 Third Sunday due to Mother's Day. Annual covered dish luncheon and Orchid Auction

June 14 Second Sunday the start of our summer learning session – Hard Cane Dendrobiums. Plants will be available for sale.

July 19 Third Sunday due to Baton Rouge show. Continuing with summer learning session – Maxillarias and Their Friends. Plants will be available for sale.

August 9 A lot of you asked for more programs on Vandas. We'll explore other types of Vandaceous Plants, especially the small growing ones that will grow inside! Plants will be for sale.

September 13 Test time - We'll have another easy test and free plants to win. All questions will be gleaned from our three summer learning sessions.

October 18 Third Sunday Glen Ladnier will explore the various plants on our Show and Tell table and show us how to judge plants.

November 8 Special Speaker - Denny Haase – Spring Texas Will give a hands-on demonstration on "Acclimating Your Orchids – What to do when Buying Plants that are not Grown in Your Area to Make Sure They Survive".

December 13 Annual covered dish luncheon and Orchid Bingo



Rlc George King 'Southern Cross' won Best Flower in the GCOS Exhibit

SHOW REPORT: A recap of the GCOS 2020 show: The raffle brought in **\$631.00!** Great job Sydney and Judy Harris and all those who worked the raffle. The society exhibit won the AOS Show Trophy with an 84-point score and the trophy for best exhibit of its size. In total there were 24 blue ribbons, 10 red and 8 yellow ribbons. There were 8 tri-colored ribbons. Gayle Greene-Aguirre won 2 trophies, Trey and Kourtne Thigpen won 4 trophies, Richard Crespin won 3 trophies and Jo Ann won three trophies. Gayle also won an the AOS award for her Educational Exhibit.

Next year Trey and Kourtne Thigpen will be Show Chairs with some assistance from Jo Ann and hopefully all of you. We cannot have a show without you; we appreciate your help.

UPCOMING SHOWS:

Mar 13-15 Calcasieu Orchid Society Show, City Hall Lake Charles, LA 337-368-1456

March 28-29 Terrebonne Orchid Society Show

April 25-26 Acadian Orchid Society Show

May 1-3 Memphis Orchid Society Show and Sale, Memphis Botanic Gardens 750 Cherry Rd., Memphis

May 29-31 New Orleans Orchid Society Show and Sale, Lakeside Mall, 3301 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA

July 11-12 Baton Rouge Orchid Society Show and Sale: Burden Conference Center, 4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge 225-247-1543.



Richard's Cym. Flirtation which also won Best Grown cymbidium in our recent show. Picture taken by Richard Crespin

LAST MONTH'S MEETING: There were 28 members present at the January meeting, including 4 new members. We had one guest. Please welcome Renee Olszowy from Wiggins, John Pickles from Barataria, La, Ken Redler from Metairie, La and Sandy Hulseby from Biloxi. There were 42 plants on the show and tell table. Richard Crespin's Cymbidium Flirtation won Best Plant. John Pickles won the door prize. The meeting was a recap of our recent show. Members who worked the show and were present got their pick of the plants brought in for sale. During the break the rest of the plants were available for sale. After the price of the purchased plants was deducted, the society made over

\$200.00 on the plant sale, that's with all those present who worked the show getting a free plant!

PLANTS AVAILABLE AT MARCH MEETING: Many of you know that we bought some very high-quality plants to give the judges of our 2020 show as thank you gifts. The judges were asked to pick their top four preferences. The list included some multiples of very desirable Cattleya species, Vandas, some miscellaneous species (weird stuff) and a Paph and Phrag from Jo Ann's collection. We have ten plants leftover which will be available for your purchase through a silent

auction at the March meeting. We will also have an 11th plant. Something that won't be so expensive and is fairly easy to grow. The list is attached with exception of plant number 11!

PLANT NUMBER 11: At press time we're not sure what plant number 11 may be. It might even be two plants! You see there were 11 plants left over from the judges' plants. One of our members wanted one and offered to buy it for the initial price of \$25.00. Eight members of the board voted to give that member the plant and not accept the money. To pacify those members who did not vote or voted otherwise and to keep from starting a precedent; that member will bring in at least one plant that will be something that beginning orchidist can grow. Something that is in bloom and will have a less expensive starting bid. Then again, they may bring in something that will require a MACK truck to bring home. Come to the March meeting to see!

SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERSHIP – By Gayle Greene- Aguirre

This month the light shines on longtime member and very hard worker, **Sydney Dyche**. Most of you know her as our Recording Secretary, but she wears many hats which include working as our Show Exhibit Chair for the past 3 years as well as our Co-Raffle Chair with friend Judy Harris. Her lovely exhibits for the Society have won annual AOS awards.



Sydney Dyche

Sydney is originally from Tonawanda, New York which is on the northeast side of Buffalo. She spent 20 years in the Air Force working in the Health Field before she retired from Keesler AFB as the NCOIC of Nuclear Medicine as well as other duties including Nuclear Phase II Coordinator and Radiation Safety Officer. It was in the Air Force when she was stationed in Korea that Sydney first became interested in orchids. Her Commander's secretary had a Phalaenopsis on her desk which had gorgeous flowers which lasted a very long time. The secretary only knew that it was some sort of orchid, and Sydney was curious to ascertain exactly what type of orchid it was. From then on, she was hooked. When she returned from Korea in 2000, she joined the Sarcomata Orchid Society of Sacramento to begin her orchid journey.

She joined the GCOS in 2003 when she returned to Keesler. Sydney loves all things orchid

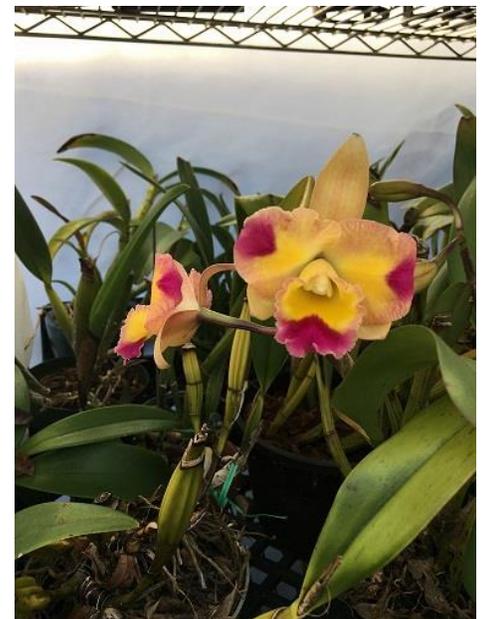
and has been to the shows in Pensacola, Baton Rouge, New

Orleans, and Terrebonne, Louisiana. It was at the Terrebonne Show that her Lycaste won best grown plant in its class. When asked about her favorite type Sydney replied that she doesn't have one favorite, but she loves Lycastes, Bulbophyllums, Cymbidiums, Cattleyas and Coelogynes.

Sydney buys most of her plants at shows, but lately has been buying more online when she wants something very unusual. She also loves getting orchids at the shows where she can talk to vendors and other attendees. Her orchids are grown outside since she just built a greenhouse. She turned a dog kennel into a greenhouse with some ideas from Facebook and a few more

items from Tractor Supply Company and Lowe's. Instant greenhouse!!

Sydney is a plant guru in the true sense. As an avid gardener she has over 200 varieties of daylilies as well as 50 varieties of amaryllis. She has been President of the Mississippi Gulf Coast



Some of Sydney's plants happily growing her new greenhouse!

Daylily Society for the last two years and is also a Master Gardener. She also enjoys desert roses where she has over 20 different colors, bonsai plants and tropicals.

Her advice for success is to listen to everyone's suggestions and see if they apply to your yard's ecosystem. Make small changes and give them time to work before making further adjustments to your plant routine. Just don't give up. I am sure that Sydney's enthusiasm for orchids will continue far into the future, so we can look forward to more eye-catching displays at our upcoming shows for years ahead.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES: Dues were due at our January 2020 meeting with the grace period for renewals ending with the March meeting. After which your name will be dropped from our member's roster. Dues are \$10.00 per single membership, 15 for double membership and then \$5.00 for each extra person living at the same location. New memberships get a free plant, one plant per membership only. If you cannot attend the meeting send your check to Marilyn Ladnier, 15559 Village Dr., Biloxi, MS 39532. After renewal time, dues will be \$15.00 per person.

NAME TAGS AND SHIRTS: If you want a GCOS name tag; see Marilyn at the meeting. If you want a GCOS shirt see Chip Lechner. The fee is \$15.00 and \$3.00 for your name. You supply a shirt.



GCOS exhibit Mobile 2020
Picture by Glen Ladnier

MOBILE SHOW: Our members, led by Sydney Dyche did an outstanding exhibit at the Mobile Show. Thank you Andra for doing all the paperwork and thank you Judy Harris for helping Sydney load and carry so much stuff to and from so many times. Thanks to Richard Crespin, John Tate and Trey Thigpen who worked very hard doing the exhibit. Thanks to all our members who brought or sent plants.

Sydney also did a private exhibit as well as Jo Ann Vaz. Glen



Trey Thigpen with his Vanda 'Orea's Beauty' AM/AOS that was awarded at the Mobile Show. The plant also won the trophy for Best Vanda in the show.

Ladnier led the Hattiesburg exhibit and Gayle Greene-Aguirre did an outstanding educational exhibit. Thanks also to John and Janet Bridges and Lexie Mitchell for bringing two huge Dendrobiums and several other great plants all the way from Carriere, Ms to put in our exhibit. The society was very well represented in Mobile.

There was also one vendor exhibit and the New Orleans Orchid Society did an exhibit. Beverly and Harry Stephens did an outstanding private exhibit. This was one of the nicest and biggest shows the Mobile group has ever had. These people are good guys; it's good to see other societies flourishing! Sydney and Andra will announce all the winners at the meeting.