



# Gulf Coast Orchid Society

February 14, 2021

*Happy Valentine's Day everyone!*



Our February 14, 2021 meeting will be at the **Joe Graham Post 119 American Legion Hall, 12320 Ashley Dr., Gulfport, MS** Located east of Highway 49 North. The meeting will start at 2:00. If you have any doubts about your safety or if you feel ill; please do not come to the meeting.

Although many of you have at least one of your COVID shots; you may still spread the virus to those who haven't gotten their shots! Masks, properly worn, are required. As we are outgrowing our new space, please remember to social distance as much as possible. Wash your hands!

**PROGRAM: Feb 14, 2021:** This is our planning meeting for our 2021 show, February 26 - 28, with set up Thursday afternoon, February 25 from 1:00 pm until around 6:00pm, with vendors and exhibitors welcome around 2:30 pm. Our show is a little more than a week away from this meeting. We need help doing everything; cooking, cleaning, data entry, staging, photography, signage, judging helpers, security to protect workers and plants . . . the list goes on and on. Please come to the meeting and volunteer. We will have sign-up sheets available. We understand if you don't feel safe enough to come to the February meeting or to our show.

Jo Ann will give a short mini program on roots and offer a small experiment for those interested to take home and try. Winter watering seemed to be a great concern last month, so she'll talk a little about the role roots play in the life of orchids and try to explain the danger caused by too much water. The experiment is fun, easy and informative!

**FUTURE PROGRAMS:** We are still working on programs for 2021. Right now, we are discussing a mini potting camp this summer.

**March 14,** Robert Stanton will give a talk on Paphiopedilums. All show workers who help with the show and are present at the meeting get a free plant. More plants will be available for sale.

**April 11** Larry Hennessey of New Orleans will talk on Bulbophyllums and bring plants to sell.

**May 16** Third Sunday because Mother's Day is second Sunday. Annual covered dish luncheon and Orchid Auction.



**JANUARY MEETING:** We had twenty-four members present including Susan Gavin, Eric Lease's Mother, from Ocean Springs and Terry Applebee, Anita's husband from Gulfport. Many of you know that the Applebee's are our hosts at the American Legion for which we are grateful. There were 30 plants on the show and tell table. Best plant winner was John Wlodarczk's Eplc Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall' photo at left. Anita Applebee won the door prize. A beautiful semi-alba Cattleya donated by Glen Ladnier, Rlc. Blanch Aisaka 'Yuki' FCC/AOS was auctioned and Cynthia Oetker won it with a \$30.00 bid.

Our President, Gayle Greene-Aguirre, appointed a nominating committee to find members who would like to be officers for the next two years starting in May.

## On my mind: a message from Gayle

I hope that all of you are doing well this month in spite of a plethora of never-ending news regarding Super Bowl, vaccines and crazy weather among other “exciting” topics. Even old Puxatawney Phil, the groundhog guru of Pennsylvania is predicting more winter to come. Joy. At least we are not in Truckee, California where they had 9 feet of snow this past week. Hopefully, everyone’s orchids are safe and sound in the greenhouse or home where they can continue to provide some winter color and enjoyment.

Since this is now February, we are getting ready to have our Bi-annual officer elections. I have asked Andra Mladinich, Sydney Dyche and Judy Harris to form a Nominating Committee to present a proposed slate of officers to the Society at our March meeting. The actual election will take place in April and the new officers will formally take over the reins in May.

I will not be seeking re-election this term due to a request from my husband of 42 years. He has been very patient and understanding of my hobbies and interests which have included sport parachuting in Panama with General Noriega’s *La Guardia* while stationed there in the Army as an Ordnance Officer, competitive horse jumping (lots of broken bones), animal rescue and rehab (lots of barking & bites) to name a few. He mistakenly thought that orchids would be a tame undertaking for me, but he was wrong as they seemed to take on a life of their own as you all can attest. It is way too easy to go from 1-100 in no time!

That being said, it is time for me to cut back on my interests and spend more time relaxing with Gil, if that is even possible for me. I certainly owe him that. I have enjoyed serving as your President and getting to know all of you better these past two years, and I look forward to remaining active in the Society. I know that we have many outstanding members who will do a great job leading the group forward in the coming months and years. Thank you for the support that you have given to me and the other officers and board members. May the future bring healthier days ahead so we can all enjoy each other’s company once again safely and without fear.



**Gayle serving as head clerk at our 2019 show.**



**Clty Spring Fragrance 'Hawaii'**

This plant is blooming now and is stunning!

**FEBRUARY AUCTION:** This month we will have two Cattleyas from the ‘Ladnier Collection’ for auction. This first *Caulocattleya* (Clty.) Spring Fragrance ‘Hawaii’, a cross between *Caularthron bicornatum* and *Cattleya Hawaiian Wedding Song*. Both parents have been awarded and this is a clone of a select plant.



**C. Earl 'Imperialis' FCC/AOS**

The second plant we have to offer is a special, old, famous. white Cattleya that is hard to find and afford, Cattleya Earl 'Imperialis' FCC/AOS. Parents are the golden oldies of white Catts: Empress Bells x General Patton! It is in heavy bud now and may be blooming for the meeting. Bring cash or your checkbook. Both plants are assets to your collection and should bloom for you every year at showtime!

**SHOW NOTES:** Please tell everyone about our show; February 26-28, 2021. We have more than the number of judges needed for an AOS judging team. At this time, we have 5 judges, with 4 who can ribbon judge.

We have 4 plant vendors, one supply vendor and one orchid craft vendor. We've heard some societies plan to exhibit but we've not heard what size or type exhibit they will do. Some will exhibit on our open table. The idea of the open table is to make entering plants for judging safer and easier for individuals, societies and judging. No bending over or loading down your car with staging equipment. **If you are a society or individual wanting to exhibit, please email, call or text so we can send entry tags and a schedule.** [joannvaz@bellsouth.net](mailto:joannvaz@bellsouth.net) 601-530-8778.

What we need from all of you is advertising. Send out the ad that is on our Facebook page to everyone you know; talk up the show as best you can. Please remind everyone to wear face coverings properly and social distance.

Sydney has plans for an awesome exhibit. If you have plants you'd like to exhibit, please send your list to me or call. If you don't feel safe. I will come to your car and get your plants and bring them out to you after the show. For GCOS, plant lists must be in by Sunday Feb 21. I must have your final list by Tuesday night, Feb 23 [joannvaz@bellsouth.net](mailto:joannvaz@bellsouth.net) 601-530-8778. If I do not respond to your email or text within a reasonable time, call me and ask why.

We will make the main door in the lobby the entrance door and the smaller door will be the exit door. Members and guests are asked to follow the arrows on the floor.

**Thursday** afternoon set up should be easy this year, we hired people to put out our tables and chairs so we should only have to shove a few tables around. We will set up the raffle and arts area; bring in and set up water, drinks and food items, unload supplies from the locker, set up the kitchen, put the backdrop up for our exhibit and help arriving vendors unload. Please bring and wear your face coverings.

On **Friday** morning, all plants for the GCOS exhibit should be at the hall by 9:00 or you can bring them in after 2:30 the day before. Sydney will start on the placement of plants soon after 9:00. All plants should be staked and must be able to sit on a shelf by themselves or you must bring some type of holder for them.

**Saturday** morning ribbon judging will be simple, this year we'll only have two judges each with their own listing. Our judges will be in charge of keeping records, hanging ribbons and finding and judging plants. Just in case, we'll have some tall, knowledge helpers with face masks sitting quietly to come to the aid of the teams.

**Sunday** afternoon will be hectic, if everyone follows the rules takedown should go well and safely. We are closing early this year but not before the times listed. At 1:15 we'll give a demo on potting

Cymbidiums. At 2:00 trophies will be available; our raffle will be around that time. At 3:15 the Orchids in Use and Orchid Art located only in the lobby can be removed. Any vehicles blocking the front covered parking or the northeast door should move their vehicles because we want our vendors to park there so they can begin loading at 3:30 when we officially close. As soon as they pull out others can park in their places. At 3:45 guest society and open table exhibitors can begin take down. By 4:00 most people should be packed up and the Society can start take down. Those who want curbside delivery should park at the northeast door at 4:30- not before!

Throughout the show our hospitality crew, headed by Andra Mladinich, will be cooking, cleaning and safely feeding all the exhibitors, workers and judges. Feeding that many people safely requires a lot of workers and ice chests. Normally Richard Crespin, Andra's right hand man does most of the hard work. Richard injured his shoulder and is scheduled for surgery Feb 15. Please say a little prayer for Richard and offer to do whatever you can. Andra will talk more about the hospitality room at the meeting. We will all be busy at the show but please take a minute to clean up after yourself. Whether you're a member or guest. Do not be afraid to speak up and insist others do the same! There will be disinfectant sprays and wipes available; spray and wipe down where you sat. Put your trash in the garbage and do not ask to go in the kitchen. If you aren't eating put your mask on! Those who need to store their plants can store them in the closet by the northeast door.

Again, ***if you do not feel safe or if you're feeling ill do not come to our show.*** If you have items that you preordered, or exhibit plants call 601-530-8778 and I will bring them out to you.

**VENDOR NEWS:** We think you will all be pleased with our slate of vendors.

**Jodie Shumaker of Secret Garden Rare Plants** [jodishu@gmail.com](mailto:jodishu@gmail.com), Check out his website: [secretgardenrareplants.com](http://secretgardenrareplants.com). He has added some new items. Most of the plants on his website are small plants in 2.5" pots. We got a lot of these from Jodie once after a hurricane and everyone popped up and grew. He is sending some ads when we get them, you'll get them too! If you preorder from his website, you'll get 20% off plus no shipping charge.



***Coel South Carolina - It's Green!***

**Mark Reinke, Marble Branch Farms** [www.marblebranchfarms.com](http://www.marblebranchfarms.com) of Walhalla, SC Mark has made an awesome ad with photos, prices and a lot of info. It is attached to this newsletter. Mark was practically sold out by Saturday afternoon last year. Hold the presses just got an email from Mark: "I have a plant of Coelogyne South Carolina that is ready to divide. I can make a 3-bulb front lead division with new growth coming if anyone is interested. This is a special orchid, but also a robust plant. It loves heat and humidity and can bloom more than once a year. Coel. South Carolina is 3/4 Coel. pandurata and 1/4 Coel. asperata. It has big bulbs and large arching pleated green leaves. It is a pretty plant but definitely not the size to grow in a windowsill. The flowers are somewhat fragrant too. The flowers with are about 3 inches across and bright green with black markings on the lip. The division would be bare root and \$35 if anyone is interested."

**Barb's Orchids and More;** [barboyr@gmail.com](mailto:barboyr@gmail.com), is one of our members who has been selling orchids, tropical plants and other things like fence peepers for some time. She'll sell Phals,



**Rhyncholaelia digbyana smells like citrus So has them blooming size in 6" pots.**

Dendrobiums, Cattleyas, yellow and white Plumerias, a few of the wonderful orchids basket she sold us a few months ago and fence peepers like the cute Valentine pig on the front! These cuties sell for \$40.00 each and they go fast so check out her Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/fence-peepers-yard-decor-100250852081615/>

**So's Orchids:** soorchids.com [so.orchid@gmail.com](mailto:so.orchid@gmail.com) Our newest vendor deals with all orchids but mainly Vandas and Dendrobium. Check out their website and read the culture tips on Vandas and Dendrobium anosmum and aphyllum types. These are genuinely nice people who will fit right in with our group. They sent one of the most outstanding preorder lists we've ever had! The problem is it is a huge file; 36 pages of wonderful full-page pictures that blew up my computer when I tried to send it out! If you want to see the full pictures go to our Facebook page. I shrunk down the entire ad and will try to attach it to this newsletter.

**Hicks Orchids and Supplies, Kenny Hicks, Orlando FL 1-407-733-1887** [hicksj0430@bellsouth.net](mailto:hicksj0430@bellsouth.net).

One of our biggest expenses with potting media is the shipping, which can sometimes be triple the initial price. Check out their website, [hicksorchidsandsupplies.simdif.com](http://hicksorchidsandsupplies.simdif.com) find out what you need, then call Kenny and preorder the materials. He will bring it to the show with no added shipping! Do not assume they will bring big bags of barks, charcoal or rock without preordering. If you're a Vanda grower, they have very good, sturdy, cypress Vanda baskets in both the square and octagon sizes. Don't forget pot clips, wires and fertilizer! If we have our potting workshop this summer, you will be expected to bring your own potting supplies. They have some very reasonable hobby bags of bark, charcoal and sponge rock.



**Gracelyn Tamrak of Gracelynn's Clay Flowers, Ballwin**

**Missouri** will sell her clay but very realistic orchids and possibly some non-orchids which are all amazing. When I asked Doug Hartong, the head of the Atlanta region MAOC about how to enter her art in our show. He knew Gracelynn and said he has some of her art! He said a lot of people he knew at the show bought her art. Apparently, a lot of people do! She's on Facebook: search on theBestClayFlowersArtWorks. She's good folk too, already she's sent pics of the **two** items she's donating for our raffle table! At left is an award-winning example of her work, Dendrophylax lindenii, Ghost Orchid!

**MEMBERSHIP NOTES:** All member's dues were due at our January 2021 meeting whether you joined in the fall or any time during the year. We do not prorate our dues because of the cost of the free plants that all our members can get at Christmas and after shows. Dues are \$15.00 per person. New memberships get a free plant, one plant per family. If you cannot attend the meeting send your check to Marilyn Ladnier, 15559 Village Dr., Biloxi, MS 39532.



**SAD NEWS:** Our friend and lifetime member, Beryl Davis, passed away this month. She worked so hard on the society's behalf over the years, that we made her a life-time member! Beryl was a retired florist and always had a little vase or basket beautifully arranged with her wonderful orchids ready when we needed it! Many of us learned to make corsages from Beryl's programs on "How to Make a Corsage". She hasn't been able to attend the meetings over the last few years, but she's been with us in spirit. Beryl loved our shows and worked tirelessly. We often wondered how she could work all day at the show and bring in wonderful baked stuff the next day! In her final years she ran the show raffle. Our 2021 show is

dedicated to Beryl.

Services are Thursday, February 11, 2021 @ Belle Fountain Baptist Church. Visitation 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Service begins 11:00 a.m. Burial at Crestlawn Memorial Park following the Service. Realizing COVID safety concerns, the family is asking that all appropriate masking and social distance guidelines be observed. Beryl's service will be live-streamed and can be viewed on the Belle Fountain Baptist Church Facebook Page (located @ 7900 Fontainebleau Road)