

June 14, 2009



Gulf Coast Orchid Society

Our June meeting will be held Sunday, June 14, at 2:00 at the **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Switzer Rd and Debuys; just north of Pass Rd. We will meet in the meeting room behind the cafeteria.



GCOS members enjoying our May meeting

June marks the first regular meeting with our new old slate of officers. Becky Jolly-Wood will be our President for another two years. She has led us since May of 2006 following our previous President, Glen Ladnier. Look how these two leaders have shaped the Society. We crawled out from the debris shortly after Katrina. Many of us had lost everything including our orchid collections. We had our first meeting; shared our stories and choose to go on. We decided to have our 2006 show. With everyone's support and hard work, we had an excellent show! From the destruction of Riverbend's greenhouses came new greenhouses for our members. We lost Larry, Jean and Chet but we have new members. Now after three years of leading us through these trying times Becky has agreed to two more years. She sends us the following message:

Hello Everyone,

As a very busy person who is always on the go I have learned to take pleasure in rolling up my sleeves, and peering over my orchids to look for new growth or new buds. As I inspect each plant I am drawn in by their beauty, the history of where each came from, the memories that each plant invokes, and their secrets, learning to imitate their natural growing habits, the wires that make their presentation award winning, their roots growing out of their medium or becoming root bound. I have a vision that someday, I will learn to grow orchids as well as some of you.

In this time of spending less money, your officers have tried to find affordable ways that each member can add quality plants to their collection. I also want every minute of the time we spend together in our meetings to be a learning experience and pleasurable. Each of us can share time and information teaching each other the "tricks" that work well. The program list for the upcoming year is fantastic and varied! We are all in for something special each month. As with all things that survive from generation to generation, change is still coming but it is a good change. Welcome to the new look of Jo Ann's refreshed newsletter! She has been busy thinking up new ways to entice us!

Again, I appreciate all the members who have been stepping up and I continue to encourage each member to find their "niche". Don't miss the opportunity to share with us. The society continues to grow because it is a pleasant mixture of all of us. Here's to all of us and mixing it up!

PROGRAM: Jack Wible from Pensacola, FL. will give us a talk on general orchid culture with an emphasis on Oncidiums. Many of you know Jack, he and his wife, Lois, come to all our shows and are very helpful, knowledgeable and informative during our entire show weekend. Jack grows outstanding plants and now we get to find out how he does it! He will bring plants to sell.

JULY PROGRAM: Our July meeting will be the third Sunday, July 19, due to the Baton Rouge show. We are planning a slide program on orchid judging. We are going to try to answer a question we've all heard; "Why is that plant better than mine?"

SHOW REPORT: Glen and Marilyn Ladnier did another great job with our exhibit at New Orleans . Another one of Chet's plant won an AOS award. They will do the Baton Rouge Show July 10-12.

GCOS New Orleans exhibit



MAY AUCTION: We want to thank all of you who donated plants for the auction. With the purchased and donated plants we made a profit of almost \$900.00! Once again the food was great and the bidding was fun. Let's look forward to next year by saving a few divisions for the Society as we replot our orchids.

BOOK OF THE MONTH: Our Library has a large number of books and videos. It is a great way to learn about orchids, yet very few members take advantage of the library. This month we feature, *Sunset Magazine's* "How to Grow

Orchids". *Sunset Magazine* is the west coast's equivalent to *Southern Living*. Their how-to books are simple, colorful and full of good, basic information on a variety of orchid types. "How to Grow

Orchids" is highly recommended for new growers. Our library has three copies. Email or call Glen Ladnier 228-392-0919 and ask him to bring you a copy. The complete library list is featured on our website along with Glen's address.



CULTURE TIP: This tip comes courtesy of Becky Jolly-Wood. It's her Dad's recipe for a safe spray that kills a whole array of insects and mites. This is a proven, time tested recipe. He used it for years. In a hand held spray bottle, pour almost half of the bottle with alcohol, put in a couple of good squirts of dishwashing liquid, add enough mineral oil to make the mixture stick to the plant and fill with water. Becky says she sprays each plant, and then with rubber gloves rubs it all over the plant. If you have a proven tip you'd like to share email Joannvaz@bellsouth.net.

Gcorchids.org is the Gulf Coast Orchid Society's official website Check it out.