



Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

February 9, 2014

The February meeting will be held Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014 at **2:00 P.M.** at **Jeff Davis Community College** located on Runnymede Rd

off Debuys Rd. and north of Pass Rd. We meet in the **cafeteria** meeting room. Orchids 101 led by Glen Ladnier will precede the meeting at 1:30. The topic will

be 'Dividing Orchids'. If your plants look like the photo at right, you need Orchids 101!



FEBRUARY PROGRAM: The February meeting is one week before our show. We will spend that time working on our show and planning for the Mobile Area Orchid Society show just two weeks after that!

REFRESHMENTS: January's refreshments will provided by Joy Lorens. Dave and Vicki Perry will provide February's refreshments. If you'd like to bring refreshments or to change your assigned date; call Andra Mladinich at 228-365-0640.

Andra will have a sign up sheet at the meeting for our next year's refreshments. It's best if a group get together to bring them. Believe it or not we have some members who enjoy the refreshments yet never bring any. If you're one of these members please know that refreshments are not a mandatory thing to be a member; don't let anyone bully you into bringing them, but if you've wanted to and just were a little shy, please talk to Andra and she'll arrange someone to help you with them. Remember the society provides the drinks and paper items. All you need to bring is some sort of refreshment and please keep it light!

FUTURE PROGRAMS:

March 9, 2014 This will be our "Thank You" meeting for our show workers. Everyone who supports our Feb. 14-16 show will get a free plant. We hope to have extras left over for sale. Also some of our board members are working on an orchid surprise. We have to plan for the Pensacola show the following weekend and the Terrebonne show the week after that!

April 13, 2014 We will have a special speaker, Weyman Bussey, a well known grower and importer of Central and South American orchids will talk to us about these plants. He will bring plants to sell.

May 18, 2014 This is our covered dish orchid auction. This meeting will start at 1:00pm and go on until we run out of plants or money.



Part of January show and tell table photo by Lexie Mitchell

plants on the show and tell table. Jo Ann Vaz's Blc. Mem. Jean Byers won Best Plant and Vicki Perry won the door prize.

UPCOMING SHOWS: Here's a list of local shows

Feb 14-16 2014 Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show, Gautier Convention Center

Feb 28-March 2 2014 Mobile Area Orchid Society Show and Sale, Mobile Botanic Gardens

March 14 -16, 2014 Greater Pensacola Orchid Society Show

LAST MONTH'S MEETING: Our orchid judge, Robert Stanton, talked about his experience using recycled bark from a pet lizard's cage. He started using it on Paphs but now is using the bark with perlite and charcoal on other orchids with great results! The point is to keep your mind open and cautiously try new things. We made close to \$200.00 on the plant sale which will be used for the art trophies and other show expenses. Richard Crespin gave a short talk on his experience at the Lafayette, La. Orchid Short Course held last December.

There were 40 members who signed the guestbook. We had 64

March 21-23, 2014 Terrebonne Orchid Society Show, South Land Mall, Houma, Louisiana

May 16-18 Memphis Orchid Soc. Show, Memphis Botanic Gardens, Memphis

Sept. 10-14, 2014 World Orchid Conference Johannesburg, South Africa

2014 SHOW UPDATE: With the show just days away, we ask all of you to please pitch in and help. We need refreshments for Friday, lunch only and Saturday morning and lunch. Since the show is open from noon to 4:00 we do not need any food for Sunday. Strong backs are needed Thursday afternoon at 2:00pm to help with the staging and again on Friday morning to help people unload orchids and set up exhibits. We need people to help with the raffle desk from midday Friday till show closes on Sunday. Sunday, we'll need people to help us clean and take down. There is a complete set of important show times at the end of this newsletter.



We need some honest people who are knowledgeable about orchids and can count money to assist some of our vendors Saturday morning during judging. If you would like to do this please call or email Jo Ann 601-530-8778, 601-947-8777 joannvaz@bellsouth.net. Please come to Sunday's meeting and let us know if we can count on you.

Please note we found an error in our art rules and have increased the size limit for our art – not photos. The new size limit is 18 x 20 and for this year no outsized art will be disqualified. It was brought to our attention that it is hard to

frame or mat an artwork that the outside dimension is less than the original limit. Art and photos both still need to be matted or framed unless it is on canvas or canvas board.

VENDORS: We have the same vendors this year with one exception. Clown Alley couldn't make the show so we substituted Stones River Orchids, Tom Harper, which specializes in Phalaenopsis orchids. Tom was our special speaker a few years ago. Hopefully next year we will have seven plant vendors, Clown Alley and the ones we have this year. Price lists for Hicks Supplies will be available at the meeting. Mrs. Hicks, Lois, has asked that we announce to the public that **vendors don't usually take credit cards. Bring checks or cash!**

Riverbend Orchids---James Phillips and Morton Engleberg, Biloxi, MS.

Orchids Plus---Malcolm and Pat Huval from Breaux Bridge, LA cty28172@centurytel.net

Orchid Retreat---Ashley & Beverly Matherne, Bourg, LA 985-594-4050 abmatherne@hotmail.com.

Morning Star Orchids: John and Linda Bourgeois from Thibodeaux, LA 985-226-0990.

Hicks Orchids: Kenny Hicks Orlando FL.; 407-493-3064; hicksj0430@bellsouth.net.

Hicks Supplies: John and Lois Hicks of Orlando Fl. 407-493-3064; hicksj0430@bellsouth.net.

Stones River Orchids Tom Harper Franklin, TN harper_sro@bellsouth.net

2015 SHOW: That's right 2015! It seems Mardi Gras for 2015 is four weeks earlier than this year. Since we lost the mall we have to make a reservation over a year in advance. We are already losing ground to Mardi Gras Balls. If we want to continue having February shows, the only dates available are Feb. 7-8 and Feb. 21-22. Mardi Gras for 2015 is Feb. 17. The earlier date is also the date of the Moss Point, Gautier, Long Beach and D'Iberville parades. The later date will be just one week before the Mobile show! We could go back to our usual date the week before Super Bowl but with the weather we've had this year do we really want to chance it? Help! Since we close our show on Sunday nights at 4:00pm would having a Superbowl weekend show, Jan 30 – Feb 1, 2015, be a problem to anyone? It's a week later than our old date that we had for years. Please let us know your thoughts. Should we move to a completely different month?

COLD WEATHER DAMAGE: This is a repeat of an article that appeared in the newsletter several years ago. If your plants get too cold they may not show symptoms right away they may just start to die slowly, others will 'melt' immediately. In either case don't throw the plants out, isolate them from the healthy plants. They may send out new growth in the spring.

The following is by Dr. Martin Motes, who spoke to us a few years ago:

It's not just plants in usually temperate areas left out but plants in greenhouses and windowsills can be significantly damaged if too close to the glazing or without adequate air circulation to avoid cold temperature stratification. Cold damage appears as either white patches on the foliage or, if bad enough, outright death of the tissue resulting in brown lesions that look at first like sunburn. The white patches eventually will turn brown as the effected tissue dies.



Necrotic spots on leaves and dry brown pseudobulbs are symptoms of cold damage

Watch the affected areas and plants carefully. Often the dead areas simply dry leaving no more than ugly patches. However, sometimes the damaged areas become infected by bacteria or fungi. When this happens, the affected area will soften and if infected with a fungus, develop yellow areas that spread into normal green tissue. Oozing of brown liquid, especially with a foul odor is indicative of serious bacterial infection. One of the most effective treatments of bacterial infection is a product called Junction (a commercial 50/50 mixture of copper hydroxide [Kocide or Champ] and mancozeb [Manzate, Dithane]. – DO NOT APPLY THIS TO DENDROBIUMS as they are extremely sensitive to copper compounds. Necrotic spots on leaves and dry, brown pseudobulbs are symptoms of cold damage.

For small collections, a bit of water can be added to the powdered Junction (or a 50/50 mixture of Kocide and Dithane) to make a thick slurry and, using an old toothbrush or cotton swab, the slurry is painted on to the lesions and any cut surfaces. For larger collections with widespread damage, the mixture can be diluted with water following the manufacturer's directions and applied as a spray. ALWAYS use gloves and a mask when handling chemicals – especially powders and dusts.

Low level magnesium deficiency in orchids will also be apparent now; brought on by an extended cold snap.

Low temperatures and magnesium deficiency cause the foliage of stressed orchids to turn red or coppery in appearance. This is rather easily correctable by treating your plants with a mixture of 1 Tbs Epsom salts and 1 Tbs of potassium nitrate/gallon of water. This should be applied in lieu of regular feedings until spring warmth returns. Epsom salts are easily found in any grocery or drugstore but potassium nitrate can be more difficult to find in small quantities.

If you can't find the brand name products Dr. Motes recommends; check the farm supply store for a fungicide that contains copper hydroxide or mancozeb. (Hicks Supply also offers some fungicides.) We haven't been able to find potassium nitrate in this area; Epsom salts alone work well. Always remember this saying: "IF YOU CAN'T KEEP 'EM WARM; KEEP 'EM DRY!" Increase your air circulation and keep your growing area clean.

A Compendium of
Miniature Orchid Species
volume 1



Ron Parsons and Mary E. Gerritsen
Edited by Alastair S. Robinson

MINIATURE ORCHIDS: Recently a member asked about miniature orchids. A week later the following email was sent to the Society announcing a new book.

My name is Stewart McPherson. I have just published a beautiful, two volume work called ***A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species***, authored by leading orchid experts Mary Gerritsen and Ron Parsons.

The two volumes are nearly 1,200 pages long, with over 1,800 spectacular photos of miniature orchids in culture and the wild, featuring individual entries for over 500 different species across more than 120 genera. Each species entry includes nomenclatural and etymological information, as well as cultivation guidance and notes about habitat, conservation status and similarities to other orchids taxa. It is the most comprehensive, illustrated reference for miniature orchid species published to date; offers a uniquely detailed overview of selected miniature orchid species and cultivars from across 122 genera in an

encyclopaedic format; and includes the first print published images of a number of different species. Attached are the front covers, and a selection of sample pages. Please see the following links for more information:

<http://www.redfernaturalhistory.com/books/a-compendium-of-miniature-orchid-species-vol-1/>

<http://www.redfernaturalhistory.com/books/a-compendium-of-miniature-orchid-species-vol-2/>

DUES ARE DUE: It's time to renew your dues for 2014. Dues are \$10 for single and an additional \$5.00 for each other member living at the same address. First time members get only one free plant per address; not one per person. There is no free plant for renewals. Dues can be paid at the meeting or you can mail them to Marilyn Ladnier, 15559 Village Dr., Biloxi, MS 39532. **We will not accept dues at the show.**

NAME TAGS AND SHIRTS: It would be wonderful if all our members wore a GCOS name tag or shirt during our show. If you want a GCOS name tag; see Marilyn at the meeting. See Chip Lechner if you want an orchid shirt. Cost is \$15.00 for an orchid and the society name and \$3.00 for your name. You supply the shirt.

GCOS OFFICERS: With our Valentine's show fast approaching many of you might need to know who to call to volunteer for certain tasks or you may have questions. Here's a list of officers and show Committee:

President/Show point of Contact Exhibit Chairman: Becky Jolly-Wood, bjwzoo@aol.com

Vice-President/Chairman of clerks for show: Dave Perry, Doc11@cablone.net
Treasurer/Chairman of Advertising for Show: Marilyn Ladnier, weebill@aol.com
Secretary/Show organizer: Jo Ann Vaz, joannvaz@bellsouth.net
Board Member/Hospitality Coordinator for meetings and show: Andra Mladinich, andrajmladinich@gmail.com
Board Member/Photographer: Chip Lechner, chiplechner@gmail.com
Board Member/Show Awards: Janet Olier, ddolier@att.net
Board Member/Accredited AOS Judge/Head Judge for show: Robert Stanton, Poln8r@cablone.net
Orchids101, GCOS Plant Buyer: Glen Ladnier, gladnier@yahoo.com
Raffle for Show Beryl Davis: no email address and Janis Zuleeg, janiszuleeg@yahoo.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS for GCOS 2014 SHOW

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Thursday Feb. 13 | 2:00 pm meet at Convention Center for staging and Exterior sign set up 4:00 pm Exhibit and Vendor set up Members can bring plants for GCOS exhibit at this time Doors close 7:00 |
| Friday Feb. 14 | Exhibit and Vendor set up 7:00 am till 4:00 pm Sales Open 10:00 am Exhibits open noon Plants for GCOS exhibit must be in by 9:00am Plant entries received 10:00 am till 4:00 pm Art entries received 3:00 pm till 5:00 pm Art Judging 6:00 pm Winners announcement around 7:00 pm Preview Session 7:00 pm till 9:00 pm Doors close 9:00 pm |
| Saturday Feb. 15 | Judges breakfast (members and guest only) 7:30 am Ribbon judging (members and guest only) starts 8:00 am Sales open 10:00 am Exhibits open 11:00 am Entries for Dessert Bake-off need to be in by 10:30am Judges luncheon (members and judging crew only) noon Children's Activities 2:00 pm till 4:00 pm Free Class "You're First Orchid" 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm Doors close at 7:00 pm |
| Sunday Feb. 16 | Doors open at noon Sales and exhibits open at noon Raffle around 2:30 Trophy pick up 2:30pm Doors Close at 4:00 Take down and clean up follow |