



Gulf Coast Orchid Society

Newsletter

September 12, 2010

Our next meeting will be held **Sunday, September 12**, at 2:00 at the **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Switzer Rd and Debuys; just north of Pass Rd. in the **media room, G121**, which is south east of the cafeteria. The New Growers led by Glen Ladnier will precede the meeting at 1:30 in the cafeteria. This month's New Grower's topic will be "pronunciation of genera names, and reading plant tags. Members can bring in their own tags that may be confusing to them."

PROGRAM: Larry Hennessey from New Orleans will speak on Bulbophyllums and their kin. He will bring plants to sell. This will be a very interesting informative talk as the genus Bulbophyllum is the largest in the entire orchid family, Orchidaceae, and currently contains over 1800 orchid species. New species are constantly being described and added. It is currently one of the largest genera in the entire plant kingdom. Among the species he will offer for sale are Bulb. wendlandianum, corolliferum, makoyanum (Daisy Chain), grandiflorum and classoglossum. More about these wonderful easy to grow orchids at the end of this newsletter. Left top *Cirr. mokoyanum* (Daisy Chain) Left bottom *Bulb. grandiflorum*



REFRESHMENTS: Janet Olier will provide refreshments for the September meeting. We have no one scheduled for the rest of the year. If you'd like to bring refreshments one month or if you have to change your date; call Andra Mladinich at 228-388-5054. Please do not bring in refreshments without first checking with Andra. We will have a sign up sheet at the meeting.

OCTOBER PROGRAM: Our October program will be October 10 in the cafeteria meeting room. James Phillips from Riverbend Orchids will speak on Phalaenopsis. He will bring plants to sell.

SHOW And TELL: Last month's plant table was not as full as usual; still our guest speaker from Hawaii could not believe the number and quality of plants. When he was told we limit our members to five plants he was astonished. It seems we have the "show" part of show and tell going great but our "tell" part is lacking. If you have a blue ribbon plant, please be prepared to tell us something about the culture you give it not where you got it.

HURRAY FOR HOME DEPOT: The manager of our local Home Depot recently gave Ken Miles and Renick Taylor some phals that definitely have seen better days. Ken and Renick will nurse them back to health and the plants will be available for sale to our members at a later date.

PLANT SALE: Several members have asked to be included in the next wholesale purchase Earl's Girls makes from their favorite Hawaiian vendors. What they have decided to do is offer this

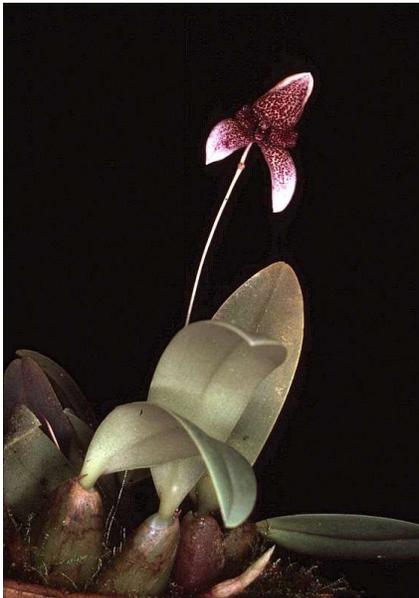
opportunity to all our members. They will order from Lehua; Paphs, Masdevallias, Angraecums and Island Sun Orchids; Vandas, Cattleyas and weird stuff. Most of these plants will be in bud. Plant lists are attached and will be available at the September and October meetings. **This is your chance to get quality plants at unbelievably cheap wholesale prices!** Orders must be finalized and given to Jo Ann either by email or phone, 601-947-8777 joannvaz@bellsouth.net no later than the October meeting.

The plants will be shipped to arrive in time for the November meeting. Payment is due when you get your plants. Since this order could get extremely large, we ask that you limit the number of plants ordered to 10 per member. Please do not order if you cannot pick up and pay for your plants at the November meeting or sometime before. If you look at the quantities on the Vanda/Cattleya list you will see they are limited. Plants will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. Please make some alternative selections.

To order, simply print out the list. Mark the items you want. Total the items. Mark any that you might like as supplemental items if the main items chosen are taken. Write your name and phone number across the top and return or email to Jo Ann.

There should be no other charges than the price listed. Lehua does not charge shipping and does not give discounts. Island Sun charges shipping but gives a discount which usually offsets shipping. If the discount does not offset the shipping than a small charge will be added. Any overage from the discount will go to the society's speaker's fund.

DO YOU LIKE TO WRITE? The 2010 Dillon/Peterson Memorial Essay contest is on; the deadline is November 30, 2010. The theme is "Going Green: Conserving Resources and Still Growing Healthy Orchids." The winning essay will be printed in the May 2011 issue of Orchids Magazine. Essays must be original, unpublished articles. Membership in the AOS is NOT required. The contest is open to all persons except employees of the AOS and their immediate families. Submissions must be no more than 5,000 words in length. Manuscripts must be submitted in English,



typewritten and double spaced. Artwork is not required. Submissions will be judged without knowledge of the identity of the author. Submit all entries to the Dillon/Peterson memorial Essay Prize, American Orchid Society, Attn: James B. Watson, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, FL 33446.

MORE ABOUT BULBOPHYLLUMS: (Copied for the AOS website Orchids A to Z) Most *Bulbophyllum* species are warm growing and should see a winter temperature of no less than 65 F at night. Species from more temperate regions can be grown 5-10 degrees cooler. Maintain a gentle air movement. They prefer moderate to bright (2000 to 3500 foot-candles). Higher light, that does not damage the leaves, seems to result in better and more frequent blooming. Most species come from humid rain forests. Humidity should be kept at 60%, which is easy here on the Coast. Water

frequently, as both mounted (at least daily) and potted plants (several times a week) will thrive under wetter conditions than most orchids. Bulbophyllums may be the exception to the rule "when in doubt, don't water". Species from more temperate regions often have a dry period, and watering should be adjusted accordingly. *Bulbophyllum* species tend to prefer a minimum of repotting. Mounting (tree fern or cork slabs), well draining baskets, and pots can all be used successfully. The recommended potting media are sphagnum moss, coir



(coconut chips or fibers) and tree fern. The choice of potting will often be dictated by the very long rhizomes of some species. Bulb. elassoglossum above left, Bulb. Corolliferum above right.

AOS NOTES: As you can see from this newsletter the AOS website has a wealth of information available to all its members. Some of you have complained about the magazine being “over your head” and have not renewed. If you keep reading and learning then one day it will not be “over your head.” The magazine is only part of all the AOS has to offer. Please consider renewing or joining the AOS. With a two year membership you get a coupon worth \$30.00 off a \$100.00 purchase from any one of several great orchid vendors. Woodstream Orchids offers AOS members a 5% discount on all orders.

Besides a discount on orchids you’ll get the AOS newsletter which is a beautiful on-line magazine which features a beginner’s series. For those that like to chat there is an AOS Orchid Forum. Visit the website www.AOS.org.

Attached is a survey from the President of the AOS asking for your thoughts on the AOS. Please take the time to print it out, fill it out and give it to Jo Ann at Sunday’s meeting. She will forward them on.

MIDAMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS: As a member of the GCOS you are a member of the Mid America Orchid Congress. Check out their website, www.midamericanorchids.org. When you’re there click on meetings and you will see that they will have a meeting, lectures and orchid show at Louisville Kentucky on September 24 – 26.