



# Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

**October 18, 2015**

Our October meeting will be held Sunday, October 18, at 2:00 at the **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Runnymede Rd and Debuys; just north of Pass Rd. We meet in the **cafeteria** meeting room.

**ORCHIDS 101:** Due to the fact that we are having a special guest speaker who will be selling plants there will be no Orchids 101 this month. We will have an Orchids 101 class at the November meeting.



**Bulbophyllum Crownpoint 'A-doribil Too'**

order is for the Gulf Coast Orchid Society meeting so he can package it properly.

**PROGRAM: October 18, Third Sunday –** Bill Thoms, will speak on General Orchid Care with an Emphasis on Bulbophyllums. Bill is a very accomplished speaker. His presentation is what he calls his 'Waffle House Presentation'. Not sure what that means but it will be a live, lively talk on all sorts of topics related to general orchid care. He will bring plants to sell; both Bulbophyllums and other types. A preorder list of limited quantity Bulbophyllums is attached to this email along with another file of pictures of some of the Bulbophyllum species mentioned on the list. Last date to preorder is October 15 please say the

The society will take Bill out to Salutes for dinner after the meeting. All members are invited to attend Dutch treat.

**FUTURE PROGRAMS:** Some of the following programs may change; the dates will remain the same.

**November 8, Second Sunday –** Work meeting for show. For those who missed the sale of Walter Taylor's plants we'll have more for sale then. Those that have lost their bare root divisions that they purchased in September due to black rot can get replacement plants then, see later in this newsletter.

**December 13 Second Sunday** Orchid Bingo and Christmas pot luck; we bingo till all members win a plant.

**January 10, 2016** This meeting is three weeks before our 2016 show. We will finalize all plans and talk about preparing your plants for the show.

**February 14, 2016** Valentine's Day meeting. Every member who participated in our show will get a free plant, their choice, of the plants we bring in. We'll critique the show and plan for the Mobile show.

**March 13, 2016** Vandas! Jo Ann will bring in some of the Vandas she topped in the spring of 2015 to show you the results. She'll bring in the bottom parts to show also. We'll talk about Vanda care and why she said goodbye to tea bags!

**April 17, 2016 third Sunday** We hope to have a special speaker on Angraecums

**May 15, 2015** Our annual banquet and orchid auction.

**REFRESHMENTS:** Irene Lear and Myrtle Barrios will bring October's refreshments. Gayle Greene-Aquirre and Sarah Tringle will bring in November's refreshments.

The complete list for the rest of our fiscal year is:

January 2016 - Nikie Martin; February 2016 - Dave and Vicki Perry; March 2016 - Shari Harshberger; April 2016 - Janet Bridges and Val Scurria.

Please call our Hospitality Coordinator, Andra Mladinich at 228-365-0640 if you have questions.

**NEWS ON MS. MYRTLE:** Ms. Myrtle is a very active 95 year old lady, still wanting to help with refreshments! Unfortunately she had hernia surgery and is recuperating well but will be unable to help with the refreshments. One of our members has stepped up and will be bringing in a little something to help Irene out. You guys eat a lot of refreshments. Please, if you see a single name on the refreshment list give them a call and ask if they need a hand. A membership list is attached to this newsletter.



A similar *Trichoglottis brachiata* courtesy Orchids Plus

the owner of Spring Orchids, Denny Haase, will be selling not only orchids but succulent cacti. He tells me that he is in the middle of moving and hopefully will have some great Cattleyas at reduced prices.

We need to get the trophy list finalized. If you gave a trophy last year and want to give one this year please notify Jo Ann Vaz [joannvaz@bellsouth.net](mailto:joannvaz@bellsouth.net). Tell her if you want to pay the \$15.00 to the society for your trophy or if you want to provide your own trophy. Remember your name and the name of the person you are honoring will be on the trophy, in the exhibits and in other places throughout the show. Please provide something that speaks well for you and your honoree. The trophy list is attached.

We have made a special trophy in honor of Walter Taylor. The trophy description reads “Dr. Walter Taylor Memorial Award Awarded to the **best grown and flowered Oncidium type orchid entered in the Gulf Coast Orchid Society exhibit by a GCOS member.**” If you would like to sponsor this trophy please talk with Jo Ann.

If you would like to sponsor another trophy please let Jo Ann know. We usually have changes and she will try to work you in.

**UPCOMING SHOWS:** Here’s a list of local shows:

**Jan 29-31, 2016** Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show. Gautier Convention Center.

**Feb 19 - 21, 2016** Mobile Area Orchid Society Show; Bellingraph Gardens.

**April 1-3, 2016** Heart of Dixie Orchid Society Show, Holiday Inn Research Park, Huntsville, AL

**DR. WALTER TAYLOR:** The society has made a contribution to the American Orchid Society in memory of Walter. We will offer more of his plants for sale at the November meeting. Our 2016 show will be dedicated to Dr. Walter Taylor. If anyone has any photos or special memories of Walter please send them to Jo Ann at the email address above.

**BULBOPHYLLUMS AND BILL THOM:** Last month we talked about Bill Thoms and all the awards he’s won for his fantastic plants; 46 cultural awards! This month we’ll tell you one of the reasons he’s won so many awards. He makes his own very special fertilizer!

The food is special for several reasons:

Nitrogen from Ammonia, not urea  
Nitrates not nitrites (very important)  
Low copper for Bromeliad growers  
All trace minerals and elements  
No dye

**REPLACEMENT PLANTS FOR THOSE PURCHASED IN SEPTEMBER:** If you purchased plants that were bare root (not in a pot or mounted) at the September meeting and the plants died. Please notify Jo Ann so she will know how many divisions to bring in. She will see that you get a replacement plant at the November meeting. Black rot is very contagious, please keep all the plants purchased in September away from other orchids until you see new growth. Those that were at the September meeting have already received information on black rot and how to care for plants affected with black rot. Just to remind you, that article is also attached. We are sorry we cannot replace your plants with the same plant you purchased. We will bring in an assortment of healthy plants.

This incident was no one's fault; the plants appeared healthy at the meeting. Read the article for more info.



**Another awarded Red Illusion courtesy of Orchids Plus**

Armand got \$100.00 for that plant! He can call Lehua Orchids in Hawaii and buy plenty more plants where the Red Illusion came from!

**ON A HAPPY NOTE:** Many of those present at the September meeting saw Val and Armand Scurria's Paphiopedilum Red Illusion on the show and tell table. After the meeting Armand asked me to bring the plant to Birmingham for AOS judging. I did. While I was putting up my exhibit I kept Armand's plant close at hand on my work table. Many people came by and commented on how lovely the plant was. One man came by so often that I began to worry he would steal it. Finally he asked if I would be willing to sell it. When told it wasn't my plant he asked that I call Armand and see if he would sell him the plant. I did. Armand said if the plant doesn't get an AOS award sell it.

**MORE CEDAR BOARDS:** Last month Jo Ann brought in a bunch of used cedar boards that would make great mounts for orchids. These boards belonged to her sister's husband who passed away. She was moving and found them. She found more! Jo Ann will bring them to the November meeting unless some member would like them all first. Jo Ann can arrange a meeting place for pick up. This time some of the boards are 12" wide but they are all short. These will make good mounts for staghorn ferns.



**THANK YOU: (an editorial and speaking for Glen without his consent)**

Many times we hear things like the society would be nothing without you. Yes, we do a lot of things for the society – it's in our DNA. God blessed us with energy, drive and health to do a lot of physical things even at our old ages. Really though the society would be nothing without you. Orchids 101 is nothing without a class. There would be no Show and tell without members who volunteer to assist Glen and plants to judge. When I drive up to the college there is always a crew waiting to help me unload. You guys arrange the tables and put them away. You clean the place after the meeting and help me reload my van. You don't get too upset when I say a bad word even on a Sunday. The members who helped with Walter's plants and the sale were awesome! We have a show coming up in a few months, it's a lot of work; but every step of the way there has always been someone there to help. You guys are wonderful! Your help, energy and love is what makes everything worthwhile and is what makes US a SOCIETY.