

Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

November 14, 2021

Meeting Pics



Members enjoying break at the October meeting. That table was loaded with plants before the meeting



Denny Hasse of Spring Orchids talking orchids to a customer

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, November 14** at 2:00 at the **Joe Graham Post 119 American Legion Hall, 12320 Ashley Dr., Gulfport, MS.** Located east of Highway 49 North. Guests are welcome. We will have Rick's Tips, Show and Tell and an auction plant. See last page.

FACEMASKS: For November, we do not require face masks. If you're sick do not come to the meeting.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: Tricks on Presenting Orchids. How to get Best Grown Plant and win Trophies at Shows! We'll also plan for our upcoming show.

FUTURE PROGRAMS: We are working on programs for 2022, If you have any ideas or requests please see our program chair, Janet Olier, at the meeting.

December 12, Second Sunday Orchid Bingo; every member wins a plant!
Christmas potluck

January 9, 2022, Show Prep: Our 2022 show is scheduled for January 28-30 with set up January 27.

February 13, 2022, Thank you party for members who worked our show. Those show workers **present** get a free plant of their choice. Others will be sold at break to all members.

NOVEMBER RAFFLE: Save some money for a few raffle tickets, just \$1.00 will buy you three chances to win a raffle plant. This month we have a wide variety of blooming or near blooming plants starting with Cynthia Oetker will donate two plants; Cymbidium 'Little One' and Grammatophyllum scriptum Leopard, both are potted from back bulb divisions and growing well. We also will have a blooming size plant of Dendrobium stratiotes, this is an antelope type species



Dendrobium stratiotes
courtesy of Internet
Orchid Species

we will have a couple of these plants as bingo plants next month. We'll offer an unusual Dendrobium species that is blooming now with small hanging yellow flowers, Dendrobium platycaulon. Plant this in a hanging basket, give it light shade and lots of water in the summer. We'll offer two Cattleya's, C. Rosie's Surprise, a beautiful mauve with a white, yellow and fuchsia lip, and a blooming Cattleya Venie which is white with a yellow lip. Both Cattleyas like bright light, let them dry out between waterings.



Dendrobium platycaulon

TOYS FOR TOTS: Our meeting room at the American Legion has a huge cardboard box that is waiting to be filled with new unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots which is sponsored by the US Marine Corp. Let's do our best to fill that box. Bring an unwrapped new toy when you attend our November meeting. October was the first anniversary for our meeting at the legion. All the people there have been extremely welcoming. Let's show them our gratitude and fill that box!

LAST MONTH'S MEETING: At our October meeting, 46 members and guests were present. Please welcome new members Theresa Bickle of Harvey, LA and Jim Perry of Philadelphia, MS.

Our special speaker, Denny Haase – Spring Orchids from Spring, TX gave an outstanding, informative program on what to do with newly purchased plants. He said: "One of the first things to do before you buy the plants is to learn where the plants grow naturally. He recommended the website, Orchid Species.com. One should study the elevation and nighttime temperatures required and whether the plant likes dryer winters.



Phrag. Cardinale 'Wilcox'

Once you've brought the plants home you need to isolate them for a long enough time to be sure you're not contaminating your other plants. He recommended buyers inspect new plants well. How are the roots, do the plants show new growth? He suggested plants with bad roots may benefit from a soaking for 15-20 minutes in a mixture of 1 gal water, 1 ounce of Consan or Physan, 1 Tbsp. water soluble fertilizer and 1 capful of Superthrive. The rootless plant can be set in an empty pot with peanuts in the bottom. When new growth appears simply add potting material around the roots."

There were 17 plants on the show and tell table. Robert Stanton judged and talked about the winners. Jo Ann's Phragmipedium Cardinale 'Wilcox' won best plant. Andra Mladinich won the door prize.

Thanks to Cynthia Oetker who donated 3 very nice Ludisa discolors.

SHOW NEWS: Plans for the show are proceeding. (January 28-30 with early set up Thursday afternoon, January 27) We need to begin to focus on our work. If you sponsored a trophy last year, we need to know if you will sponsor it again. We will expect payment \$20.00 or a gift to be used as a trophy by our December meeting.

We have 5 vendors this year. Florida Star Nurseries, Spring Orchids, Marble Branch Farms, Sheila's Orchids and Hicks Orchids and Supplies. Watch future newsletters for preorder sales from each.

UPCOMING SHOWS:

November 19 -21, 2021 Atlanta Orchid Society Show and Sale, Atlanta Botanical Gardens
January 28-30, 2022, Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show and Sale, Gautier Convention Center, 2012 Library Lane, Gautier, Miss.

March 25-27, 2022, Calcasieu Orchid Society Show and Sale Historic City Hall down Lake Charles.
March 25-27, 2022, Mobile Area Orchid Society Bellingrath Gardens.

REFRESHMENTS: We have a wonderful supply of great cooks in our society. Our covered dish meals are outstanding. The food you bring to our shows is so great we all put on a few show pounds!

Refreshments at our meetings have been difficult. We had a group of great cooks who brought in awesome refreshments. So much so that our normal cooks felt they couldn't compete, then we had a huge group of noncooking eaters. We'd pass around a sign-up sheet for refreshments, but people forgot or backed out at the last minute so often that we got tired of refreshments completely! We are about orchids not food! We drafted a refreshment head for meetings, gave them a budget of \$25.00 to bring in LIGHT refreshments each month. Members were instructed not to expect full meals! Jo Ann Vaz brought in refreshments this way for several months. Gayle Greene-Aguirre was next doing an awesome job even when the pandemic started, bringing in light, safe, individually wrapped snacks. Now Judy Harris is doing a great job, doing her best to bring in something light, yet COVID safe to suit every diet. Those that don't remember how refreshments got out of hand have started bringing in extras to add to our refreshments. This is a wonderful thing and thank you very much. Please remember to call Judy in advance and let her know what you plan to bring. If we know in advance Judy could cut back on what she prepares. The society could save a little money and Judy wouldn't be stuck with leftovers. Please, if you want to help Judy and the society, help her by calling her 228-617-2013 and asking what she needs. Thanks



GCOS exhibit in Mobile Show 2018

MOBILE AREA ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW: March 25-27. The Mobile show is always a special event. Bellingrath provides an excellent backdrop, and the Mobile group are all very kind and welcoming. They also have a great group of growers. It's always exciting to see what will be in the Mobile exhibit. Our society will do an exhibit there this year. So, save the date!



Paph. Little Hellas 'North Star'
HCC/AOS

NOTES FROM OUR JUDGING CENTERS: We are lucky to be within a 5-to-6-hour drive to a judging center. Visitors are welcome; bring your best plants for judging.

The **Atlanta Judging Center** - Chair Doug Hartong reports that the Atlanta Judging Center met on Saturday, October 9 at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Fifteen plants were considered for possible American Orchid Society awards; one plant received an award. Paphiopedilum Little Hellas 'North Star', HCC/AOS 78 pts. Exhibited by George A. Guenther. This is a cross of Paph. helenae X Paph. Hellas. A previous provisional award from the September judging was subsequently registered in RHS and the hybrid and clonal name accepted. Vandachostylis Georgia Peach 'Panther Creek', HCC/AOS 79



**Vandachostylis Georgia Peach
'Panther Creek' HCC/AOS**

points. Exhibited by Barney and Aileen Garrison. This a cross of Vandachostylis Lou Sneary X Vanda vietnamica. All photography by Charles Wilson.

You are always welcome to bring plants for AOS judging to the Atlanta Botanical Garden on the second Saturday of each month by 1:30PM. November will be an exception as the Atlanta Orchid Society is having their Fall show on November 19th to 21st. AOS judging will be held on Saturday November 20th in the Magnolia Room of the Atlanta Botanical Gardens.

The **Louisiana Judging Center**, sponsored by the Central Louisiana Orchid Society in Alexandria Louisiana met on October 30 at the



Vanda Ratchabur Fuchs-Katsura 'Julia Katherine

Westside Regional Library 5416 Provine Pl, Alexandria. Leader of the group, **Dr. Wilton Guillory Jr.** reports that they had gave one quality award an AM/AOS of 82 points to Vanda Ratchabur Fuchs-Katsura 'Julia Katherine.' Susan Hathorn was the photographer. The next meeting will be November 27. Guests are welcome.

BATON ROUGE SHORT COURSE: The Baton Rouge Society is hosting a hybrid in person/zoom Orchid Short Course, Saturday, December 4, 2021. The in-person part will be at the Conference Center, Burden Museum and Gardens, 4560 Essen Lane, Baton

Rouge, 70809. It starts at 8:30 with a meet and greet and ends around 3:00 with a 2-hour lunch break. They will have sales plants available after 3:00. There will be several great speakers including Eron Borne who will speak in person and sell some of his plants. (Eron is the grower who wins AOS awards almost every month like the beautiful Vanda at left!) This is free to GCOS members, we made a donation to the BROS to help with expenses. Please read the flyer attached to this newsletter for more detail and the schedule of speakers.

SHOW AND TELL FOR 2021: November is the last month for members to win points for the year in our Show and Tell Competition. You will not be in the Christmas bingo raffle if you have not brought in at least one plant for show and tell during the year. From looking at all the empty crates Denny had stacked under his sales tables; we bought a lot of plants. When one blooms, bring it in and share it with us on the show and tell table. It might earn you an extra bingo plant at our Christmas meeting.

NOVEMBER AUCTION: We have an unusual plant for our auction this month, Laelia rubescens x Laeliocattleya Sylvan Sprite. Although this plant is a member of the Cattleya family, it does not have tall pseudo bulbs. They resemble those of it's Laelia rubescens parent and are short and pear shaped. Lc Sylvan Sprite's parents are Lc Puppy Love X L. rubescens so the plant is ¾ rubescens but may have longer lasting flowers. It was divided in April of 2020 and has a flower spike still in close bud. Care for it like you would a cattleya.



L rubescens x Lc Sylvan Sprite; actual plant