



Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

March 11, 2012

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, March 11, 2012**, at 2:00 at the **old Cabot's restaurant near the site of our January show at the Singing River Mall in Gautier**. The New Growers meeting led by Glen Ladhner will precede the meeting at 1:30. This month's New Grower's topic will be "Jewel Orchids."

JEWEL ORCHIDS: These plants for the most part love warm moist humid conditions, they are found in nature crawling around on the forest floor. They get their common name because their leaves are very colorful and glisten very much like jewels. Everyone should have a Ludisa discolor, photo at left. Glen will tell you more!

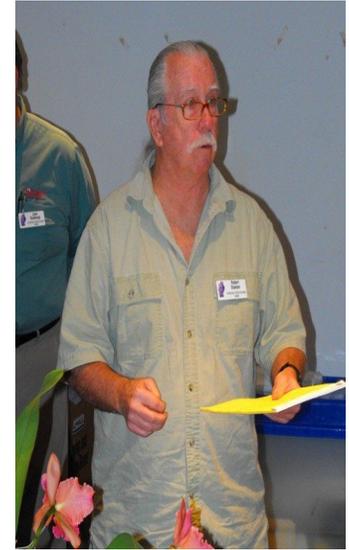


PROGRAM: NEW MEETING PLACE - Cabot's Singing River Mall: For two years in a row our guest speaker for March has canceled. So this month at your request we are going to have an orchid sale. We have ordered over 100 plants from a Hawaiian grower. We will sell those plants to our members for about \$1.00 over cost. To make things fair we will draw numbers and members will get 30 seconds to select a plant. We will do this twice so each member will have the opportunity to get two plants. During break any remaining plants will be sold to anyone with no limit. Please pay with cash or checks made out to GCOS.

Before the sale some of our more expert members will give instructions on the proper care of these great plants.

At this time we're not sure exactly what will come in, here's what the supplier said in her last email: "Quite a few will be in spike but a lot of the large Vandas will not. I am waiting for these to bloom myself. Otherwise it will be a lot of different varieties. I know your group likes antelope type Dens so I will have some of those, also Encyclia, some Cattleya, Psychopsis, Phaius, and many others."

REFRESHMENTS: John and Janet Bridges will provide March's refreshments. Earl Young will bring April's refreshments. If you'd like to bring refreshments or change your assigned date; call Andra Mladinich at 228-388-5054.



Robert Stanton keeping us in line!



Jo Ann standing center giving Andra, left, and Becky, right, their special awards for the GCOS 2012 show

MORE ON THE JANUARY SHOW: We announced that Janis Zuleeg won the dessert bake off with her pie but we forgot to announce the runners up who were Janet Bridges, Kathy Rimer and Jo Ann Vaz. We also forgot to thank our head judge, Robert Stanton, who kept us all in line on Saturday morning and Sarah Tringle who worked on the exhibit on Friday, those wonderful ferns were hers, and she clerked on Saturday. Sarah comes from Wiggins so that's quite a trip. We want to especially thank Tony Vaz who worked on Saturday putting the trophy tent cards in the exhibits and again on Sunday taking down Jo Ann's exhibit so she could help with the Society's exhibit. Thanks to Tony for keeping Jo Ann's computer running throughout the year. The amount of emails and printing that is done for a show is mind boggling. We will have plants for all these members and a few who did not get their plants at the March meeting.

If we left anyone else off please let us know. There were so many jobs, so much work that got done. We can not thank you all enough. Many of you gave us your entire weekend, others gave the hours they could, most worked cheerfully and without complaint. This was truly **Your Show!**

SHOW REPORT: The **Mobile show** was outstanding! The Society's exhibit won the trophy for Best Society exhibit and the AOS Show Trophy. Three plants from our exhibit were pulled for AOS judging but not awarded. John Bridges' won trophies for his Phal. Aphrodite which won Best Phalaenopsis and his Den. anosmum won Best Dendrobium. Richard Crespin's Fdk. After Dark won Best Misc. Species, John Tate's Vanda Kultana Oriental Aroma x Gordon Dillon won Best Vanda and Jo Ann Vaz's Lc. Mildred Rives x Mem. Maggie



Mobile 2012 Exhibit



Fdk. After Dark

Hood won Best Cattleya. Jo Ann also won a CCM on her *Oncidium ensatum* in her private exhibit. Glen Ladnier and Earl Young also did a private exhibit which took the trophy for Best Cymbidium. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who participated!

ORCHID SHOWS IN THE AREA FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS:

March 30, 31 and April 1, 2012 Greater Pensacola Orchid Society Show, Pensacola Interstate Fairgrounds, 6655 Mobile Highway, Pensacola, FL Becky Jolly-Wood and her crew **will do an exhibit**, so start cleaning and staking your plants now!

April 13-15 Mid-America Orchid Congress and Central Indiana Orchid Society Spring Show, Embassy Suites, Indianapolis,

April 20 -22, 2012 Heart of Dixie Orchid Society Show Holiday Inn Research Park, 5903 University Dr., Huntsville, AL

April 25 – 29, 2012 AOS Trustees and Members meeting at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita, Kansas, sponsored by the Kansas Orchid Society

May 4, 5, 6, 2012 Terrebonne Orchid Society Orchid Show and Sale Southland Mall in Houma, LA

May 18-20, 2012 Memphis Orchid Society Show, Memphis Botanic Garden 750 Cherry Rd., Memphis

June 1-3, 2012 New Orleans Orchid Society Show, Lakeside Shopping Center Mall, Metairie, LA.

June 22-24, 2012 Acadian Orchid Society Show, Ira Nelson Ag Center, 2206 Johnson St., Lafayette, LA.

July 13-15, 2012 Baton Rouge Orchid Society Show, Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd. Baton Rouge,

APRIL PROGRAM: Because of Easter, our April meeting will be the third Sunday, April 15. Jo Ann will talk about Orchid Insects and disease. She'll incorporate a little red neck botany in her talk. Look forward to a basic down to earth explanation of why those critters are eating your orchids.

Our more "prolific" growers are invited to bring in plants for sale at the April meeting, the society gets 10%.

FUTURE PROGRAMS: Please let us know if there is a topic you wish us to cover. **These will all be at Jeff Davis Jr. College**

May 20, Covered dish lunch and plant auction - cafeteria

June 10, Potting orchids made easy.

July 15, open

August 12, open

Sept. 9, Tentative program on Epidendrums and Encyclias hopefully we'll have a special speaker

Oct 14, open - We'll take orders for wholesale plant order

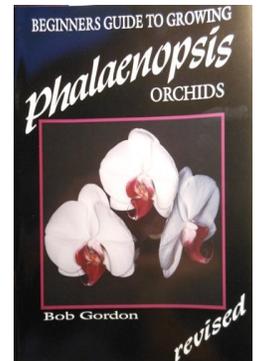


Above Antelope Dendrobium,
Below Psychopsis

Nov. 11, Work Session for our 2013 show Plant distribution from wholesale plant order

Dec. 9 Orchid bingo and covered dish luncheon

The summer months are open because we have not decided what programs you would like. We are thinking about an open Show and tell where everyone gets in on the thought processes used to determine the blue ribbon winners and also waiting on some of our orchid friends who are ill or busy to free up time to come speak to us. These programs are for you; let us know what you want.



WHAT'S FOR SALE THIS MONTH? : We'll have lots of orchid plants and Jo Ann has purchased 12 copies of *The Beginners Guide to Growing Phalaenopsis Orchids* by Bob Gordon. This 8 1/2" x 11" soft cover book is 46 pages of easy to understand, basic, common sense instructions on how to grow Phalaenopsis. These books are available to the first 12 members who give Jo Ann \$5.00 at the meeting. Make checks out to GCOS.

Some of you may be asking about the **antelope Dens** listed in the plants available for sale. These are hard cane Dendrobiums that have flowers with twisted petals that resemble antelope horns. These guys love our hot summers and bright light but can't tolerate cold. They prefer to be in pots and can grow large. **Psychopsis** is not a mental condition, but a large *Oncidium* type orchid with a flower that resembles a large yellow and brown butterfly. These guys rebloom so don't cut the flower spike. They grow large and like to be in pots.



JOIN THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY: Thanks to AQ Plus for some of these photos. Check out their website, www.aos.org. There is so much information available on the site and in the magazine that comes with membership. As a member of the American Orchid Society, you may get a 5% discount on all purchases from the following vendors as an added benefit of membership: [Exotic Orchids of Maui](#), [June's Orchid Estate](#), [Krull-Smith](#), [Orchid Doctor](#), [Orchid Inn, Ltd.](#), [Seagrove Orchids](#), [Sunset Valley Orchids](#), and [Woodstream Orchids](#). Another gift

option could be to purchase an AOS gift membership or renewal -- for a 2 year renewal they will receive directly from AOS headquarters a certificate worth \$30 off of an order of \$100 or more from your choice of one of the following vendors: [Carmela Orchids](#), [Carter & Holmes](#), Dan & Margie Orchids, [Exotic Orchids of Maui](#), [Gold Country Orchids](#), [Hillsview Gardens](#), [Indoor Gardening Supplies \(IGS\)](#), [June's Orchid Estate](#), [Kelley's Korner Orchid Supplies](#), [Krull-Smith](#), [Little Brook Orchids](#), [Marsh Hollow Orchids](#), [Mountain View Orchids](#), [New Earth Orchids](#), [Norman's Orchids](#), [OFE International](#), [Orchid Doctor](#), [Orchid Inn Ltd.](#), [Piping Rock Orchids](#), [Quest Orchids](#), [RF Orchids](#), [Ravenvision](#), [Roberts Flower Supply](#), [Soroa Orchids, Inc.](#), [Sunset Valley Orchids](#), [Tropical Gardens Orchids](#). Some of these vendors allow these certificates to be used at the shows if they are vending (be sure to have the certificates in hand however in order to take advantage of this benefit). Information on how to contact these vendors, as well as many others, may be found in the 2012 Orchid Source Directory (OSD) which was mailed to all AOS members last fall. This directory also has a listing of the then-current Affiliated Societies of AOS (a more current updated list is on the AOS website).

DUES ARE DUE: It's time to renew your dues for 2012. Dues are \$10 for single and an additional \$5.00 for each additional 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. New members must pay dues at the meeting, returning members can mail them to Marilyn Ladnier, 15559 Village Dr., Biloxi, MS 39532. If you want a GCOS name tag; see Marilyn at the meeting. See Chip Lechner if you'd like a GCOS shirt.

CAN'T WAIT TILL MARCH 11? It's very easy to order plants on line from any of the orchid vendors listed above. John Bridges just took advantage of Carmela's Orchid's February on line special. He got 20 orchid plants, 10 hard cane Dendrobiums and 10 Phalaenopsis for around \$7.00 each including shipping! It was seller's choice so he got whatever they felt like sending. John reports the plants all came in great shape; many were in spike. He repotted the Phals and says he saw some root rot inside the pot but the roots outside the pot looked great. He'll order more from Carmela.



HARD CANE DENDROBIUMS? Thanks to Becky Jolly-Wood for teaching me this term. There are many different types of Dendrobiums, which vary greatly in looks and needs. Sometimes it's difficult to keep them straight. Let's talk about the most common types.

Hard cane refers to many different attributes of the plant. Mainly hard cane Dendrobiums have longish flower spikes coming out of the top of the pseudobulb. They keep most of their leaves year round. The pseudobulb is strong and solid; hence the term "hard cane". They like our hot summers with lots of water, but need to be warm in the winter. Many bloom year round especially in the fall. Florists like the flowers of hard cane Dendrobiums because they have great color, long stems and stay fresh for a long time. The antelope Dendrobiums mentioned earlier in this newsletter fall into the category of "Hard Cane". The photo at bottom right is a Dendrobium Phalaenopsis type of hard cane Dendrobium. The other photo is a cross between a Den. Phal type and an antelope type. Notice the flower spikes coming from the top of the pseudobulb.

Soft cane Dendrobiums love our climate too and are easier to grow for those who don't have greenhouses. They love our heat but also like a little cold (no freezing temps!) and don't like much water at all in the winter.

Quite often they lose many if not all of their leaves during the winter dry spell. Most only bloom in the spring. They have blooms that appear in clusters all along the pseudobulb. The flowers have very short stems and so aren't good for vases but the flowers have great texture and color. The pseudobulb gives a little when pressed hence the term "soft cane". Dendrobium nobile fits into the category of soft cane. The photo at left above is Dendrobium Sea Marian owned by Sarah Tringle. This plant won best flower in the GCOS exhibit a few years ago.



Remember to meet at Cabot's at the Singing River Mall instead of the Jr. College; the college is closed due to Spring break.

