



# Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

**April 14, 2019**

Our next meeting will be held **Sunday, April 14, 2019** at 2:00 pm at **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Switzer Rd and Debuys; just north of Pass Rd. in the **cafeteria meeting room**. The cafeteria is on the north side of the school off Runnymede. For those with GPS the

address of the school is 2226 Switzer Rd., Gulfport, MS 39507.

The **Orchids 101 meeting**, led by Glen Ladnier, will start prior to the regular meeting at 1:30 pm. The program will be a power point presentation on Australian terrestrials.

**PROGRAM April 14**, Second Sunday – Janet Olier will lead the group in a demonstration and power point presentation of “Weird Pots! Unusual Items to Plant Orchids in that Work! You’ll see some great ideas on containers and potting mediums that you can use to bring your orchids into your living and play spaces.

There are a lot of things available on the market that make very good containers for orchids. The photo at left is a good example, the species cattleya really loves the freedom of not being confined



to a pot. The grower likes not having to repot every few years. It’s planted on a coconut fiber pot liner over a wire basket turned upside down! The mat and basket were on sale for \$1.00 at the end of summer many years ago. If you have some orchids planted in unusual containers, please bring them in to share with the group.

For those who come to our meetings from out of the area, Sunday is also the last day of Black Spring Break. There may be detours around Hwy 90 on the beach.

**FUTURE PROGRAMS:** We finally have most of the year’s programs lined up. However, it is not too late to change, so if any of our readers would like to do a program, we will be very grateful. If you can do a program or have ideas for one, please

contact Jo Ann.

**May 19**, Third Sunday Covered Dish Banquet and Orchid Auction. We have some great plants lined up for the auction, all donated by members. If you have some plants, you would like to donate to the auction please see Glen at April’s meeting.

**June 9**, Second Sunday. Summer learning starts in June with an American Orchid Society (AOS) program entitled “**What are Orchids**”. This program produced by a corresponding member of the AOS Education committee, is one of the best primers on the diverse family of orchids. Even the most hardened orchid specialist will find something to enjoy in this program.



Australian terrestrial orchid,  
*Diuris amplissima* 'Donkey Tails'  
CBR/AOS

**July 21**, Third Sunday due to Baton Rouge Show. Continuing with our summer education series, we will see another AOS program on “**Orchid Pests and Diseases**”. We’ll follow it with an open discussion on what we do here on the coast to keep our orchids strong and well.

**August 11**, Second Sunday. We’ll end our summer education series with a final AOS program on “**Today’s Strap-leaf Vanda Hybrids**”. Since Vandas grow very well here and should be very happy in our August weather we felt this program would be appropriate. We’ll see lots of great pics and study the influence of *Vanda sanderiana* and *Vanda coerulea* in modern hybrids. Half of this program is devoted to all aspects of Vanda culture.

**September 8**, Second Sunday We will use this meeting to prepare for our October speaker Fred Clark. Hopefully we will work on our group order from Fred’s orchid company, Sunset Valley Orchids (SVO) orchids.

**October 13**, Second Sunday – We have an agreement with Fred Clark of Sunset Valley Orchids to speak and sell plants.

**November 10**, Second Sunday. We’ll have a fun program this month. We’ll play **Name That Orchid**. All the pictures you’ll see will be featured orchids from the June, July, August and October programs. Come to those meetings and pay attention – it may win you a free plant!

**December 8**, Second Sunday Orchid Bingo; every member wins a plant! Christmas pot luck

#### **UPCOMING SHOWS:**

**April 12-14, 2019** Acadian Orchid Society Orchid Show, Ira Nelson Ctr. Lafayette, LA

**April 12-14, 2019** Central Louisiana Orchid Society Spring Show Kees Park Community Center  
2450 Highway 28E Pineville, LA

**May 31 – June 2, 2019** New Orleans Orchid Society Show and Sale, Lakeside Shopping Center  
3301 Veterans Memorial Blvd. Metairie, LA. V



**John Bridges' Dendrobium anosmum**

**July 12-14, 2019** Baton Rouge Orchid Society Show

**Jan 24-26, 2020** Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show; Gautier  
Convention Center.

**LAST MONTH’S MEETING:** There were 34 members present at our March meeting. Please welcome Tanya Stelly of Seminary, MS and Karen Nelson of Moss Point, MS. There were 41 plants on the show and Tell table with John Bridges’ *Dendrobium anosmum* winning Best Plant. Valerie Scurria won the door prize. We welcomed Frank Zachariah who did a marvelous program on the Classification of Paphiopedilums. Frank also sold plants. Copies of Franks’ beautiful classification sheets are attached to this newsletter. SWROGA has approved this method of classifying Paphs will begin to change their show programs in the future.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** We’ll take a minute to vote on new/old officers. The slate of elected officers for the next two years is: President **Gayle Greene-Aguirre**, Vice-resident **Becky Jolly-Wood**, Treasurer **Marilyn Ladnier**, Recording Secretary **Sydney Dyche**, Corresponding Secretary **Jo Ann Vaz**, Elected Board Members: **Andra Mladinich, Janet Olier and Robert Stanton**. Nominations will be accepted from the floor before the vote – please get approval of all nominees before you nominate them.



Some of our field trippers l-r Diane Seidemann, Valerie Scurria, Freda Palmgren, Cynthia Oetker Joy Lorens and Rob Lorens

**FIELD TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS:** Several members went on a guided tour of the New Orleans City Park Orchid Greenhouses (Pelican House) on Monday April 1, 2019. The tour was led by Freda Palmgren, Supervisor of the orchid greenhouses. Cynthia Oetker organized the tour and reports:

“After touring the two orchid greenhouses, we toured the City Park Conservatory where the blooming orchids are shown to the public. We ended the day at Diane Seidemann's home. She invited us to her home to view her watering system using detachable drip lines for self-watering her orchids. It was a great orchid day.” Joy Lorens will give a full report at the April meeting.

**POTTING MIX AND FERTILIZER:** At March's meeting, Richard Crespin with Trey Thigpen's help organized a group purchase of Kiwi bark and fertilizer. The materials have arrived and Richard asks that if you haven't already gotten your materials please pick them up at the April meeting.

**MEMBER NEWS:** As I write this newsletter, I am aware that many of our members are recuperating from surgeries and illnesses or about to have surgery. Sometimes members do not like their illnesses posted on the internet but all of you that are ill please know that we will take a minute at our meeting to send good thoughts your way. Get well soon and join us at the May auction.

**THANKS TO THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY (AOS):** This society owes a lot to the AOS, it seems they are always there when we need something. They are providing the programs for our summer learning series free! They help us with our shows and provide, for a very cheap price, one of the best tools available for researching the parentage of orchids, Orchids Plus! Members of the AOS receive a wonderful magazine full of awesome pictures. There's a picture of one of our member's plants in the April edition. For those on a budget, the digital membership is very reasonably priced.

Every month there are two webinars offered sometimes these webinars are open to non-members. This month on Tuesday, April 9 at 8:30PM-9:30PM EDT will be a **Greenhouse Chat** with Dr. Ron McHatton, AOS Chief Science Officer as he answers questions about all things orchids. This webinar is open to members and non-members.

On Thursday, April 18 8:30PM – 9:30PM EDT: **How to Grow Habenarias** - Jim Heilig will discuss how to culture these exotic deciduous terrestrials. Members only.

Check out the website [WWW.AOS.com](http://WWW.AOS.com). The information they offer is so great there's no need to look anywhere else!

**NAME TAGS AND SHIRTS:** If you want a GCOS name tag; see Marilyn Ladnier at the meeting. If you want a GCOS shirt see Chip Lechner. The fee is \$15.00 and \$3.00 for your name. You supply a clean shirt.