



Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

October 15, 2017

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, October 15, 2017 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 cafeteria meeting room. The cafeteria is north of the college on Runnymede. Orchids 101 lead by Glen Ladnier will precede the regular meeting at 1:30. The topic will be 'Harvesting Terrestrial Tubers'. **Please note this meeting is the third Sunday of the month.**



Our members working and shopping during the September meeting

PROGRAM: Get ready for winter! Open discussion. This is a very timely subject. October is the month for securing all our plants for the winter. Many of our orchids can't take temps in the mid 50's or lower for any length of time. It won't kill the plant but will set it back for weeks. We had an open discussion on winterizing a few years ago and it was very well received. We'll just sit and talk about what we do to get our plants ready for winter. Our members are smart and very resourceful listen to what they do! This year we'll add a side topic – what we should do now to get our plants blooming their best for our January show.



Glen explaining some of the merits of the plants he brought in to make up for the plants that were lost

FUTURE PROGRAMS: Some of the following programs may change; the dates will remain the same. If you can do a program or have ideas for one, please contact Jo Ann.
November 12, Second Sunday – This is the last month to make points for show and tell. We'll spend some time talking about our show and tell process. We'll show you how to make your plant the most striking plant on the table and some tricks for getting the most points.
December 10 Second Sunday – Orchid bingo Christmas pot luck luncheon
January 14, 2018 Second Sunday - Final work session for show.
February 11, 2018 Second Sunday - Thank you meeting for show. Everyone who worked the show gets a free plant.

REFRESHMENTS: Valerie Scurria and Andra Mladinich will supply October's. Janet Olier and Sarah Tringle will bring November's refreshments. Call our Hospitality Coordinator, Andra Mladinich at 228-365-0640 if you have questions.

LAST MONTH'S MEETING: There were 24 members present. Thanks to Gayle Greene-Aguirre and John Tate who supplied such great refreshments. We unpacked the plant order from Island Sun Orchids in Hawaii. One of our boxes had been cut in half and over half of our plants were



Unpacking is a real mess!



The damaged box

missing. Some were damaged. Thanks so much for all your help in keeping this straight. There were only 16 plants on the show and tell table. Val Scurria's *Spathoglottis pubescens* won best plant. Jennifer Wlodarczk won the door prize.

DONATION TO HURRICANE RELIEF: At the September meeting a motion was made and voted for to send a donation of \$100.00 toward orchid related hurricane relief in Texas and Florida. We contacted one of our vendors and orchid judge, John Stubbings, from the Houston area. He directed us to the President of the Houston Orchid Society, Dereck Lowenstein, who said *"On behalf to the Houston Orchid Society, I would like to thank you for your generous offer. We have decided to support one of our members who endured significant damage and is in dire need of financial support."*

We contacted Aileen Garrison about our Florida donation. Aileen said when we contacted her that it was too soon most people did not have phones and they could not access damage yet. The storm was so wide spread that it affected Atlanta quite a bit. Recently we got an email from the American Orchid Society saying *"We were fortunate at AOS Headquarters and the AOS Library and Archives, located in the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden at Coral Gables, Florida, to suffer no major damage inside the buildings and are now back to business as usual. We are blessed to have a staff that truly cares about the well-being of our organization and are grateful for their extraordinary efforts during this terrible event. Unfortunately, the Gardens suffered all the devastating effects of Irma and have a long path to the restoration of many felled trees, damaged collections and grounds."*

We know from our own experiences with Katrina that rebuilding from both storms will take some time and orchids are way down on the list. The society will donate the \$100.00 for Florida relief when we hear of someone who needs it or if the AOS asks for donations for storm relief.

SHOW NOTES: We've heard from five of our six vendors and we are pretty sure all six vendors are coming back. Show packets will go out to them before the end of the week. Marilyn is doing her job putting advertisements in all the periodicals that she can.

UPCOMING SHOWS:

Oct. 20-23, 2017 Fall Mid America Orchid Congress and Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Show and Sale
Krohn Conservatory

December 2, 2017 Acadian Orchid Society "57th Annual Short Course", Wyndham Garden Lafayette, 1801 West Pinhook Rd., Lafayette, LA. Contact Barbara Alexander, 337-208-2026
alexanderb4094@gmail.com

Jan 26-28, 2018 Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show; Gautier Convention Center, Gautier, MS

FALL MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS AND GREATER CINCINNATI ORCHID SOCIETY

SHOW: From Charles Wilson, MAOC: We hope to see you in Cincinnati at the Mid-America Orchid Congress meeting, October 20-22, 2017. Registrants will enjoy the popular Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Orchid Show & Plant Sale at Krohn Conservatory, lectures by our expert speakers, and lots of time to shop and talk orchids with your fellow orchid lovers! Highlights will include:

Lectures by George Hatfield, Hatfield Orchids, and Tom Harper, Stones River Orchids
The Mid-America Auction, our main fundraiser
The "Queen City Buffet" featuring Cincinnati chili and other local favorites
The Affiliated Societies Breakfast

Visit the Mid-America Orchid Congress website, www.midamericanorchids.org/meetings, for more details to register online, or use the attached PDF registration form.



SPATHOGLOTTIS PUBESCENS: We didn't get a photo of Valerie Scurria's best plant from October's show and tell table, but she was able to send us this excellent photo (at left). Spathoglottis are terrestrial orchids found growing natively from India to southern China. In tropical areas it's considered a garden plant. In our area you should treat it like a Cymbidium; plant in a Cymbidium mix and bring inside before a freeze or frost.

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.

THE REST OF THE STORY: Thanks to Chip Lechner for sending the great pictures of last month's meeting. Hopefully all members who ordered plants are happy with their purchases. We have one member who has been ill and has not received his plants. Please say a little prayer for Grady Holt to recover and get his plants.

The lists were gone over a thousand times and the missing and damaged plants were determined. Our vendor, Karen from Island Sun Orchids, only charged the society for the plants we received in a decent shape. Many of you received a plant or two with damaged flower spikes. Some of our longtime members didn't get the plants they ordered so newer members could get them. We appreciate your generosity and help. It may take a year or two for the damaged plants to recover well enough to pass them along to our members. Those who ordered them will get first chance to buy them. Thank you all.

NOVEMBER MEETING: The November meeting will be held in a different location on the Jeff Davis Campus. We will discuss this one-time change at our October meeting.