



Gulf Coast Orchid Society

Newsletter

JULY 20, 2014

Our July meeting will be held **Sunday, July 20**, at 2:00 at the **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Runnymede Rd and Debuys; just north of Pass Rd.

This is the third Sunday due to the Baton Rouge Show. We meet in the **cafeteria** meeting room. The Orchid's 101 meeting led by Glen Ladnier will precede the meeting at 1:30 in the smaller meeting room. This month's topic will be "Orchid Propagation You Can Do at Home."



PROGRAM: "Mounting Orchids" Every member gets a free orchid to mount at the meeting and take home. Guests are welcome but they must pay \$5.00 for the orchid and materials to mount it. We will furnish all materials needed. More about the type of orchid you'll mount later in the newsletter.

AUGUST PROGRAM: August 10: Round table discussion: "How do you keep your orchids cool? How do you keep your orchids warm?"

FUTURE PROGRAMS: Some of the following programs may change; the dates will remain the same. We are trying to find a local speaker who would possibly speak and sell plants for the summer. If there is a topic you'd like covered please let us know.

September 14, Open at this time. We'll have our price lists for our Hawaiian wholesale order.

October 19, Third Sunday, the college is closed on the second Sunday. Pick up your Hawaiian plants.

November 9, Show Party, we will have a miniature show, more about it later.

December 14, Christmas meeting, this is our orchid bingo and potluck luncheon.

REFRESHMENTS: Sydney Dyche and Earl Young will bring July's refreshments. According to our signup sheet, Marilyn Ladnier, Janice Fabo and Cynthia Oetker will bring August's refreshments. If you'd like to bring refreshments or change your assigned date; call Andra Mladinich at 228-388-0640.



LAST MONTH'S MEETING: Jo Ann Vaz showed a power point program on repotting Cattleyas and then did a live demonstration on repotting a Cattleya. Thanks to Armand Scurria for bringing in an excellent example. We had several people recuperating from illnesses last month. We hope they are all doing much better and hope to see them at the meeting.

We had 40 plants on the Show and Tell table. Earl Young's *Brassia verrucosa* won best plant. At left is a photo of a *Brassia verrucosa* stolen from the internet.

BATON ROUGE SHOW: Our exhibit crew spearheaded by Becky Jolly-Wood and Andra Mladinich will exhibit in the Baton Rouge show on July 11-13 at Baton Rouge Garden Center on 7950 Independence Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA ljohnson@sulc.edu. The theme is 'Exotic Delight'. This is the last show that we exhibit in for the year so please help us have a great last show for 2014, send your best plants; call Andra at 228-388-0640 or Becky 228-474-2500.

Anyone who would like to come and help with any of our exhibits please just come we would love to

have the help! Yes there is a lot of physical work but there are also some jobs that don't require much physical work at all.

OUR 2015 SHOW: We are waiting for our official approval from the AOS. After that letters of invitation will go out to the vendors and all the local societies.

UPCOMING SHOWS: Here's a list of local shows.

August 8-10: Houston Orchid Society 35th Annual Summer Workshop, The Church of St John the Devine, 2450 River Oaks Blvd., Houston, TX 832-693-8140

Sept. 19-21: Alabama Orchid Society Show and Sale, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, 2612 Lane Park Rd., Birmingham, Al., margholder@aol.com.

Dec. 6, 2014 Saturday only: Acadian Orchid Society 54th Annual Short Course, Hotel Acadiana, 1801 West Pinhook Rd., Lafayette, La 337-923-4273.

ORCHID MAGAZINES: Crosby Arboretum gave Armand and Valerie Scurria a bunch of orchid magazines. They have decided to share these magazines with us! Valerie has decided to make an Honor Magazine Library which will be displayed on the outside tables. Each month she will feature a different magazine in the newsletter and she will put the featured magazine on a stand, along with note paper and pens, and highlighted informative tidbits so that members can quickly scan the article. Below are Valerie's thoughts about how she will operate it:



"MAGAZINE LIBRARY: We're going to initiate a new feature at our monthly meeting to aid in the knowledge of growing orchids. There will be magazines available for borrowing on a library basis. Even though the dates are not current, there are pearls of information to be gleaned. We would appreciate any books or magazines you may have to donate to the library. This month will be featured Orchids on the Half Shell from May 2004 ORCHIDS. We ask members to bring in either samples or quick suggestions of your unique ideas of mounting or potting these space-saving miniatures."

Val's featured magazine ties in nicely with our program. You will mount a miniature orchid! Great planning Val!

Joy Lorens, our new AOS Rep, will also have some issues of the Society's 'Orchids' magazines available for you in the near future.

TOLUMNIA CARE: The plant we'll get to mount on a seasoned piece of citrus wood is *Tolumnia sylvestre*, a species that is native to Cuba and Hispaniola. This plant should be very easy for you to grow as the weather in Cuba is very much like the weather here during the summer. In winter bring it inside and keep it warm but still try to mimic the winter conditions in Cuba. These are very small fan shaped plants that send out flower spikes in summer that have the pink 'dancing lady' type flowers.

In nature they are found growing on the outer twigs of shrubs or on tall grasses. The worst thing you can do is over water them. Observe the weather here, it doesn't rain every day in the summer, nor does it rain every day in the summer in Cuba. Most days *Tolumnia* survive on dew, which collects on upper twigs or grass blades and falls down on these little orchids. They grow loosely on the twig or grass blade so they dry out quickly after a heavy rainstorm. I have seen tiny plants like *Tolumnia*

growing on the very outer edges of orange trees in Belize. In early morning they are wet from the moisture that dripped down the outer limbs to the very tiny twigs on the outermost branches where they are attached. As the sun comes up and warms the tree the little orchids dry completely. If left alone, these little fans of plants will quickly form a dense mat of plants. For those with internet, please read the attached article from **'Orchids'** magazine about Tolumnia.

NAME TAGS AND SHIRTS: If you want a GCOS name tag; see Marilyn at the meeting. See Chip Lechner if you want an orchid shirt. Cost is \$15.00 for an orchid and the society name and \$3.00 for your name. You supply the shirt.