



# Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

June 17, 2016

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, July 17, 2016 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 off Runnymede. 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 is "**Cymbidiums**". More about Cymbidiums later in the newsletter.



Cymbidium Golden Elf

**PROGRAM:** Robert Stanton – possibly an open Show and Tell. Robert has led us in open show and tells in the past which were very informative. Robert is a certified orchid judge through the American Orchid Society. He trained for many years, going back and forth to the judging center in Atlanta to get his accreditation. He will lead us in selection the winning flowers in each category, explaining to us what to look for in each of the various types of orchids. Armed with his information we will vote for each ribbon category. This procedure will be very much like the procedure followed during ribbon judging at shows with the exception that we will be the judges. Each flower will be judged against the other similar flowers on the show and tell table.

**REFRESHMENTS AT MEETINGS:** Beverly Stephens will bring July's refreshments. Diane Seidemann and Marty Miller will bring refreshments for August.

**FUTURE PROGRAMS:** Please let us know if there is a topic you wish us to cover.

**August 14, 2016:** Sydney Dyche "How to Buy Orchid Plants"! If you know Sydney she buys a lot of plants. Learn her tips.

**September 11, 2016:** Chip Lechner - Orchid Photography geared toward cell phones and organizing your gallery.

**Oct. 16, 2016 third Sunday:** We hope to have a speaker on Cymbidiums who will bring plants to sell

**November 13, 2016:** Work meeting for show with a twist.

**December 11, 2016:** Christmas orchid bingo.

**January 15, 2017:** Prep meeting for show January 27-29, 2017

**February 12, 2017:** Thank you meeting – everyone that worked the show will get a free plant!



Frank assisting John Tate

**SHOW AND TELL REPORT:** The person in charge of the Show and Tell report did not remember to get the sheets after the June meeting; the reports will be at the July meeting.

**LAST MONTH'S MEETING:** The June meeting was truly awesome. We've never had a speaker be so kind and generous with us before. Frank Zachariah from Baton Rouge showed us all some wonderful new easy ways to make small arrangements out of just a few flowers. He took the time to visit with everyone giving hints and



Members working on their arrangements

suggestions. We had no raffle but there were so many orchid flowers that everyone got a few. Frank brought in several trays of potted plants and offered them to anyone who wanted. Most members left the meeting with at least one floral arrangement.

There were 28 members present including new members, Jane and Lee Taylor of Diamondhead MS. Glen Ladnier won best grown plant and flower. Both meeting photos taken by Sarah Tringle.

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

**July 9-10, 2016, Baton Rouge Orchid Society Show** and sale LSU Burden Conference Center 4560 Essen Lane Contact: [plantlover58@bellsouth.net](mailto:plantlover58@bellsouth.net). **NOTE THIS IS A NEW LOCATION!**

**Dec 3, 2016 Acadian Orchid Society Short Course Workshop,** Wyndham Garden Lafayette, 1801 W. Pinhook Rd., Lafayette: Dennis Wollard [Wollard@louisiana.edu](mailto:Wollard@louisiana.edu)

**Jan 27-29, 2017** Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show; Gautier Convention Center, Gautier, Miss.



Figure 1GCOS New Orleans Exhibit

**NEW ORLEANS SHOW:** Sydney Dyché did a great job with the New Orleans exhibit. We did not get a chance to discuss the exhibit at June's meeting so here are the results. 31 orchids were entered with 8 blue ribbons, 6 red ribbons and 1 white/yellow ribbon for a total of 15 ribbons. We won three trophies: Best Flower Class 260 Armand Scurria, Best Flower Class 720 Richard Crespin and Best Grown Class 718 Earl Young. Photo taken by Sydney Dyché

**BATON ROUGE SHOW:** Sydney has engine issues so could not carry our plants and supplies to Baton Rouge, no one came forward to help so we are not doing a Baton Rouge exhibit. If you would like to see an outstanding show please try to attend. The address is 4560 Essen Lane at the LSU Burden Conference Center. Directions are from I-12 west go I-10 East, take first exit stay right to Essen Lane, right at first red light onto Burden. Keep right and stay on cement road past circle, past gate through sharp left turn until you drive into the building. There'll be signs.

**SPECIAL PLANT ORDER:** The plants have been ordered and will be available at the July meeting if you haven't gotten them already. We ordered 111 plants for a total of \$1,689.00. Sixteen of our members and 4 members of other societies took advantage of this bargain. We will receive the plants via Fed Ex late in the day on Thursday. Those that ordered plants are invited to come up and share the fun of unpacking on Friday afternoon at 2:30 at the Vaz home in Movella. If you can't come to the meeting or attend the unpacking please contact Jo Ann for instructions for payment. Below are some pictures of the vendor's greenhouses.



As you can see she has many greenhouses packed full of plants. Most orchid vendors will not make a list of what's available like the one we have. Most vendors don't like to take the time to go out in the greenhouse and search for a particular plant. This vendor does and will for us and for that we should all be grateful.

**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. This is a good time of the year to order shirts as there is no conflict with football clients.



**Cymbidium Mimi 'Lucifer' at one of our shows**

**CYMBIDIUMS:** Every January our show has some awesome Cymbidiums. There was a time when it was thought that they were cool growers and would not grow here. We have proved that is just not true. Many types of Cymbidiums grow well here. Mostly the smaller flowered varieties. They are a great orchid for beginners as many can be considered semi terrestrial and their care is much like non orchid potted plants. They can take really cool conditions but no freezes. Learn more about these wonderful orchids by attending orchids 101 at 1:30 prior to the regular meeting.



**OUR SHOW: JANUARY 27-28-29, 2017 :** While doing some research on the American Orchid Society website I came across the following suggestions for exhibitors. Please keep these points in mind for our January show. The schedule is the listing of all plants with the classes they should be entered in and it also contains the rules we have set for the show. Many of these hints can apply to our monthly show and tells. At left is a photo of our members, lead by Becky Jolly-Wood doing our 2016 exhibit.

- 1 Read the schedule.
- 2 Do not be deterred from exhibiting because you are inexperienced. You can only gain experience by accepting the challenge and doing your best.
- 3 Plants for exhibition should receive special attention. Flower stems of Phalaenopsis should be staked during their entire growth process. Cattleyas should be staked and tied before buds emerge from the sheath. Stake a spray-type orchid before buds begin to open. Do not change the position of any plant after buds are mature.
- 4 Wash discolorations from leaves before exhibiting. Mild soap suds may be used. Lemon juice may be used to remove hard water spots (lime scale). Artificial "shine" should not be applied. Pots should be clean or covered.
- 5 Water your plants thoroughly before taking them to the show.
- 6 Think of your exhibit as a painting, executed in depth. Remember that the principles of good design include balance, rhythm, dominance, contrast, proportion, and scale (See Part I, paragraphs 8.1 and 7.4).
- 7 Colors should be pleasingly grouped, not scattered at random. In general, darker colors should be at the bottom of the display.
- 8 Choose accessories with care. They should complement, not over-power, your orchids. Labels should be large enough to be read easily, but should not be obtrusive. Make sure of proper spelling and abbreviations.
- 9 Exhibitors and the show committee should work as a team in setting up the show. Do your part
- 10 Do not wait until the last minute to set up your exhibit.
- 11 Do not say of a prize-winning plant: "I have a better one at home." So why didn't you bring it?
- 12 Do not expect prizes for flowers just because you are especially fond of them. Learn the standards set for excellence and the rules of good judging. Then you will have some understanding of the difficult decisions judges must sometimes make. Be a good sport.
- 13 Read the schedule.