



Gulf Coast Orchid Society

May 2010

Our May meeting will be held Sunday **May 16 at 1:00** at the **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Switzer Rd and Debuys; just north of Pass Rd. We will meet in the meeting room behind the cafeteria. There will be no **Show and Tell**.

Please note the time and date change.

PROGRAM: This will be a covered dish luncheon and orchid auction. The Society will provide the meat, drinks, and paper products. Members are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert. Guests are welcome.



We will offer for auction some great plants (many will be in bloom or bud); a few donated by members; others purchased from commercial growers. Our plant coordinator, Glen Ladnier, says "We have a lot of Encyclias for the auction. Stuff like *E. atronecium*, (*alata* x *cordigera*), and a few other crosses, and a nice *E. tampensis* var. *alba* (photo at left). We have a wide diversity of genera and crosses." Encyclias grow well on the Gulf Coast; in fact *E. conopseum*, the green fly orchid, is one of our native species and can be found in this area growing on low branches near water. *E. tampensis* can be found growing in central to south Florida. Most are very fragrant and stay in bloom for several weeks. In past years members have gotten some good bargains at our auctions. If you have some "extra" plants to donate call Glen at **228-392-0919**. Please bring a box for your purchases.

JUNE MEETING: Earl Bailey of ORCHIDbabies, the speaker for our June 13 meeting, has sent us some more specials that we can preorder. He has *Paph. sanderianums* (photo at left) for \$125 that are ready to bloom, *Paph. Lady Isabel* (*rothschildianum* x *stonei*) (photo at right), in bud for \$45 (from Orchid Inn), *Paph. Pinocchio* x *concolor* for \$35 in bud and *Paph. Via George* in bud for \$35. The *sanderianums* are lush, big plants ready to bloom, they are in 4.5" pots and have an 18" leaf span. The Bailey's have only a few of the *sanderianums*, so first come, first served. The *Lady Isabels* are about the same size - 18" leaf span and 4.5" pots. Call them at **205-665-5650** to reserve yours. He and Phyllis pick out the best plants for preorders in the order received. So get your orders in early. The last date for preorders is June 4. Prices quoted in this newsletter are better than the



website (www.orchidbabies.com) and are good on all GCOS preorders.



Some of you may be thinking "Wow, \$125.00 for one plant is a lot of money!" It is; but you will get a whole lot of plant (look at the length of the petals on the plant at left) and one that is rare. It is only found growing on limestone cliffs in the mid east. They are not easily propagated and are very slow to grow. So it's best to get one that is blooming size like the one Earl and Phyllis are offering.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR: At our April meeting members voted for the member of the year. This award is given by popular vote to the member that represents the best of the GCOS. If you did not vote in April; see Becky Jolly-Wood at the May meeting for a ballot. We will announce the winner before the auction. Board members are not eligible for this award. Board members are: Becky, Tony Vaz, Jo Ann Vaz, Marilyn Ladnier, Glen Ladnier, Janet Olier, Andra Mladinich and Robert Stanton.

SHOW REPORT: Glen and Marilyn Ladnier did a great job on the Pensacola Exhibit. One plant was awarded, while others were pulled for AOS judging. Special thanks to John Tate who traveled from Ocean Springs to Pensacola to help set up the exhibit.

Our next show will be the New Orleans Orchid Society Show, June 4-6 at Lakeside Shopping Center, Metairie, LA.

The Baton Rouge Show will be July 9-11 which is the second weekend so our July meeting will be the third Sunday.

EDGEWATER EVENT: The sale at the Mall was a success; we sold some plants and had a great time. Special thanks to Earl Young and John Tate who worked all day with Marilyn and Glen and thanks to Janet Olier, Andra Mladinich and Janice Fabo who helped also.



What do you think about moving the Edgewater Event to the Singing River Mall in Gautier and perhaps having it at another time of the year? This could be a learning time for the orchid community, rather than a money making project. We have plenty of ideas such as having potting supplies and plants for sale, potting demos, basic culture lectures and instead of doing a display having plants aligned on a table similar to our show and tell. The best idea so far is having it from 10:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M., one day only with members not having to be there until 9:30! We would like some input from you, think about it. We will discuss it at one of our future meetings.

NATIVE ORCHIDS: Many of our local orchid species are in bloom now. Glen Ladnier has offered to take those interested on a tour of one of the native orchid sites which he monitors, immediately after the May meeting. Since most of our native orchids grow in meadows and wetlands, he suggests sensible footwear for marshy terrain. We will meet first at Glen's house to view the native orchids he grows, and then caravan to one of several possible natural areas. This is not an annual event, so if you have an interest in Mississippi native orchids, please take advantage of this opportunity. The photo at left is *Calopogon tuberosus*, the grass pink orchid.

LIBRARY REPORT: Our library will be changing hands soon. Sarah Tringle will be our new librarian. A recent addition to the library is "[Bulbophyllums - The Incomplete Guide; From A to Why?](#)" by Bill Thoms. He has a unique way of growing *Bulbophyllums*, which has earned many awards. He is the source of the A-doribil name that you see on many *Bulbophyllums*. The info below was gleaned from the internet.

"The genus *Bulbophyllum* is the largest in the family Orchidaceae with at least 1,900 named species. Species are found in Africa, Australia, Asia, and South America. Species are found from almost sea level to over 2,000 meters in elevation. Some grow in deep shade, others in direct sun. Though most commonly known for the foul-smelling species; not all *Bulbophyllums* have rancid aromas, some smell quite pleasant). Flowers range from just a few millimeters to



nearly 40 centimeters. Some have very small leaves and pseudobulbs measured in millimeters and some have monstrous pseudobulbs comparable to softballs. Simply stated, it's an extremely diverse genus." Bulb. annandalei at left, Bulb. medusae at right.

Larry Hennessey from New Orleans will speak about and sell *Bulbophyllums* at our September meeting. If you'd like this book or any other from our library call our current librarian, Glen Ladnier.

AOS AWARDS: Janice Fabo won an AOS award for one of Larry Strasburger's plants at the Pensacola show. Larry first got that plant in 1970. Over the years it has been divided and shared with many of our members and has been in several shows. It's a credit to Janice's growing skills that it bloomed so beautifully to be awarded. The cross is *C. harrisoniana* x *Schom. (Myh.) tibicinis*; she has named it *Myc. Janice's Joy 'Larry's Legacy'* HCC/AOS. If you have one of these plants, you can make a new label with its new name.

The photo below is the official American Orchid Society award photo of *Myc. Janice's Joy 'Larry's Legacy'* HCC/AOS taken by the official photographer for the Pensacola show, our own Ken Miles!



Some of our newer members may be wondering what this AOS award stuff is. What is an HCC/AOS? Here's some more stuff straight from the AOS website, www.aos.com.

The American Orchid Society grants the following awards to orchids and exhibitors. AOS awards are a recognized measure of quality the world over and coveted by hobbyists and commercial growers alike. An AOS flower quality award adds value to an orchid in its own right, and as a parent for creating hybrids.

HCC (Highly Commended Certificate) Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 75 to 79 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

AM (Award of Merit) Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 80 to 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

FCC (First Class Certificate) The highest flower-quality award, awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 90 points or more on a 100-point scale.

JC (Judges' Commendation) Given for distinctive characteristics that the judges unanimously feel should be recognized but cannot be scored in the customary ways.

AD (Award of Distinction) Awarded once to a cross representing a worthy new direction in breeding. The award is granted unanimously without scoring by the judging team assigned.

AQ (Award of Quality) Awarded once to a cross exhibited by a single individual as a group of not less than 12 plants or inflorescences of different clones of a hybrid or cultivated species. At least one of the inflorescences must receive a flower quality award and the overall quality of the group must be an improvement over the former type.

CBR (Certificate of Botanical Recognition) Awarded to rare and unusual species with educational interest that has received no previous awards. The entire plant must be exhibited.

CHM (Certificate of Horticultural Merit) Awarded to a well-grown and well-flowered species or natural hybrid with characteristics that contribute to the horticultural aspects of orchidology, such as aesthetic appeal.

CCM (Certificate of Cultural Merit) Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must score more between 80 and 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

CCE (Certificate of Cultural Excellence) Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must score more than 90 points on a 100-point scale. Plants receiving this award represent the highest level of orchid culture