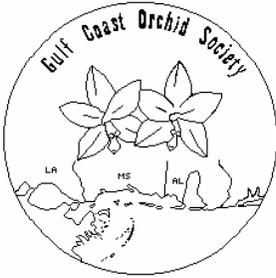


July 19, 2009



Gulf Coast Orchid Society

Our July meeting will be held on the **third Sunday, July 19**, at 2:00 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. Go past the college on Debuys and turn left.

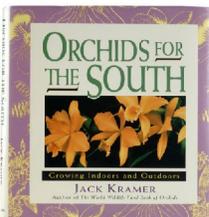
PROGRAM: Have you ever wondered why your plant didn't win a blue ribbon on our show and tell table? After July's meeting you will know. We have an American Orchid Society program on judging orchids, laughingly titled "Why is that plant better than mine?" This program will be narrated by our own accredited orchid judge, Robert Stanton. If that's not enough learning for one day, Earl Young will give a short demo on potting cymbidiums. This is especially important as three banditos drove up to Earl's greenhouse and knocked a whole bunch of cymbidiums, Phaius, and a few other types out of their pots and will sell them (very cheap) to the members during break. No pre-orders please! Below is Phaius Dan Rosenberg. We will offer some of these for sale. See these links culture sheets on Phaius <http://www.clanorchids.com/culture/phaicult.htm> and Cymbidiums, http://www.aos.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Culture_Sheets&CONTENTID=3732&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm.



JULY PROGRAM: Our August meeting will be the third Sunday, August 16, because we will have a special speaker that we may share with the New Orleans Society. Mr. Francisco Miranda will speak on Brazilian orchids. These are mostly cattleyas, laelias and a bunch of weird stuff. He will bring plants to sell. Check out his website www.mirandaorchids.com. It is not only full of pretty photos but has an extensive list of Brazilian plants, their culture and photos of their natural habitats.

SHIRTS AND NAME TAGS: Some of our members have asked about GCOS shirts, \$25.00 and nametags, \$7.50. The shirts come in a large variety of colors and sizes. See Marilyn at the meeting or 228-392-0919.

SHOW REPORT: While you may get this newsletter too late to send plants; the Baton Rouge Show is July 10-12 at the Garden Center 7950 Independence Park Blvd. Call or email Glen if you have plants for the show, 228-392-0919 gladnier@yahoo.com



BOOK OF THE MONTH: From our librarian, Glen Ladnier: Hey, this month's selection is "Orchids for the South", by Jack Kramer. This book features more than 200 carefully chosen orchids that spell success for the Southern gardener—indoors and outdoors. "Orchids for the South" offers you everything you need to grow your orchids successfully: how to buy healthy orchids, proper watering and feeding, types of containers and potting mixes to use, lighting needs, pests and disease protection, and how to use them outdoors—all in straightforward fashion.

This book is not listed on the library list yet. I have two copies, and am donating one to the society. It may be a popular title, so first come, first served. I will take reservations for future readings from those who are not the first to reserve it. Glen

NEW COMMITTEES: Barbara Duncan is our benevolent person; she will be in charge of sending out cards to members that need a little cheer, and making a report at each meeting on the status of our sick or injured members. Please call or email Barbara if you need or know someone that needs

a little cheer or prayer, 228-388-2606, dunbrbr@aol.com. We will fund this department with an auction and sale at our September meeting. Don't start groaning! The sale plants will all be in bud and bloom from Hawaii and we will sell them at cost!

BOTANICAL GARDEN! No not now and no time soon; however, the Coast is taking steps headed that way. The (MRG) Mississippi Renaissance Garden Foundation has been building satellite gardens all over the coast, from Diamondhead to east Biloxi. Recently the city of Biloxi gave 1.4 acres in Hillyer Park for a small garden. They are in the preliminary planning stages now. Included will be areas for various gardening groups on the coast to feature a garden such as a camellia garden, rose garden or a native plant area, along with a handicap accessible bird's nest and a building that will house a gift shop, kitchen and meeting room; hopefully a potential meeting place for us! It will be a true asset to the Coast! Right now the MRG needs funds and volunteers in leadership positions. If you have skills with fundraising or grant writing; or if you'd like to donate to a very worthwhile cause please contact Martha Boyce, 2474 Provence Place, Biloxi, MS 39531. mboyce@msrengarden.org. Check out their website too www.msrengarden.org.

Some of you may ask why we should support them. They aren't building a greenhouse for us. True, but if we support them now; when they begin the next phase, a true botanical garden, perhaps they will remember us and build a display greenhouse and a couple of back up greenhouses. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have a home for our orchids when we can no longer care for them ourselves? A place to sit and enjoy without having to worry about who's going to water or spray and what if the heater goes out! When the time comes, some of our bigger growers will be more than glad to donate plants. Just the divisions of plants from Earl's greenhouse alone would stock a premier display house!

AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY: Guess who went to the A O S Gardens in Florida – Sarah Tringle!



Look what she bought and look at the size of those blooms! Lately the American Orchid Society has been having funding problems. The gardens were almost closed because of the expense required to operate a public garden. Due to public support, they decided to keep the gardens open and try to save in other areas. As you can see from these photos the site in Delray Beach, Florida is impressive. The gardens are open from 10:00 to 4:00 ET Sunday through Thursday.

Sarah says "I urge anyone that gets down that way to go to the gardens. However I suggest you go early as we were there in the middle of the day and it was pretty hot. It is really easy to get to and if you are traveling the expressway there is an AOS exit sign. My friend that lives down there said she always wondered what that AOS meant."

MID AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS: The Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee invites us to participate in their fall 2009 50th Anniversary Mid-America Orchid Congress show and sale. It will be held at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin, TN on October 30 through November 1. A lecture and program schedule will be posted at a later date. Visit the Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee's website, www.tnorchid.com for more information and registration forms.

Gcorchids.org, the Gulf Coast Orchid Society's official website has links to some other growers that may be of interest. Check it out.