



# Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

**October 13, 2019**

Our next meeting will be held **Sunday, October 13 at 12:30pm at 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 on the north side of the school off Runnymede. For those with GPS the address of the school is 2226 Switzer Rd., Gulfport, MS 39507.



**Fred Clarke holding Fredclarkeara After Dark**

This is a special meeting featuring special guest speaker, Fred Clarke, who will give two talks and bring plants to sell.

There will **be no** Orchids 101. We **will** have show and tell and our raffle. Members are encouraged to bring their best blooming orchids to show our guests.

We have the cafeteria from 11:00 am till 6:00 pm. We ask those that can come early to help move tables and chairs please meet in the main cafeteria starting at 11:00. Those that can stay after to help put tables and chairs back please do so. If you would like to help with refreshments call Andra at 228-365-0640. If anyone has an idea on how to darken the windows in the meeting room, please bring what you need to darken them. No tape on the inside walls! In the meantime, we are hoping for a slightly overcast afternoon. Mainly we ask that you all come and hear our speaker, visit with old friends and have a great day.

If you haven't made your order with Sunset Valley Orchids you still have a day or two. Last date to order and get the discount is Oct. 7. Just go to Sunset Valley Orchids website check out the fantastic plants and add a few to your cart. When you go to check out, enter SOCIETYORDERS for your 10% discount and if you are an AOS member enter your membership number for an additional 5% discount. Enter "Deliver to the Gulf Coast Orchid Society 10-13-19" or something similar as your shipping address so they will know it is to be hand delivered. Shipping will be removed from your total, but the discounts will not until your order is pulled. Fred assures us we will all get the discounts even if he has to give it to us when we pick up our plants.

The schedule of events is:

**12:20** Open meeting:

**12:30** Fred's first talk: entitled **"Becoming an 80 Percentile Grower."** Learn about the fundamentals of growing orchids and explore some advanced techniques. Orchid plant culture is explained and techniques on how to maximize growth and flowering are reviewed.

**3:00:** Fred's second talk **"Cycnoches, Mormodes, Catasetums Recent Trends";** a review of the amazing world of Catasetinae. A lively and entertaining presentation, amazing pictures and the making of Fredclarkeara After Dark 'the blackest orchid seen.' Also includes a thorough review of plant culture.

**5:30-6:00** Meet at McElroy's Harbor House Restaurant, 695 Beach Blvd., Biloxi, MS for Dutch treat dinner.



**Actual plants to be donated to our raffle. this plant holds an FCC, the highest award the AOS gives out for flower quality.**

we are talking large letters here. We will have members trying to make sure no one gets confused and takes the wrong plants. Please help us help you!

We have planned a long break period between the talks for you to enjoy good conversation and have some delicious refreshments, view our show and tell table and buy some more plants and raffle tickets! At some point during the afternoon we will discuss our show and tell winners and have our raffle and door prize.

We expect a lot of guests, there will be no secure place to store your newly purchased plants. We suggest you put your plants in your vehicle as soon as you can. If you can't, please bring something to identify your plants. Mailing labels work well, stick

We always have great raffle plants but because we'll have guests, we want to offer something a little more special. Richard Crespin is donating two divisions of Fredclareara After Dark 'Black Pearl' and Jo Ann will bring in a few blooming plants from her greenhouse.

This will be a great FREE meeting, come and bring your friends.

### **FUTURE PROGRAMS:**

**November 10**, Second Sunday. We'll have a fun program, playing **Name That Orchid**. All the pictures you'll see will be featured orchids from the June, July, August, September and October programs. If you came to those meetings and paid attention – it may win you a free plant!

We will offer many of the plants we purchased last January from Jodie of Secret Garden Rare Plants. Lots of Cattleya types and Cymbidiums. These are hurricane damaged plants and are recovering. The foliage will not be pristine, but they are all coming back and show good new growth. Some names are lost but so far Jodie has been able to name every plant that has bloomed. There may also be a few of Jo Ann's divisions. All money will go to GCOS to help pay for our October program and upcoming show.

**December 8**, Second Sunday Orchid Bingo; every member wins a plant! Christmas potluck

### **UPCOMING SHOWS:**

**October 16 -20**, East Everglades Orchid Society show in conjunction with the AOS Fall Members Meeting. R.F. Orchids gardens 28100 SW 182<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Homestead, FL

**Dec. 7** Acadian Orchid Society Short Course Hilton Garden Inn, 2350 W. Congress St., Lafayette, LA

**Jan 24-26, 2020** Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show; Gautier Convention Center.

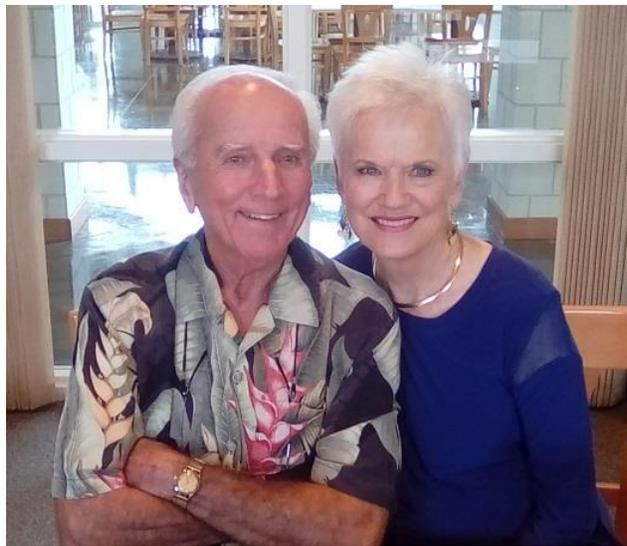
**LAST MONTH'S MEETING:** There were 30 members and two guests who later joined the society at the August meeting; Karl Schmidt, Pat Schmidt's husband who later joined. Karl was a great help with our 2019 show. Welcome also Fred Weissinger of Moss Point, MS. Welcome back



**Diane's Rth. Paradise Beauty**

returning member, Emily Boutwell of Mobile. There were 24 plants on the show and tell table. Best plant was Diane Seidemann's wonderful Rth. Paradise Beauty 'Marcela'. The door prize was won by Gayle Greene-Aguirre.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** In our 2019 show Gayle Greene-Aguirre entered an awesome educational exhibit that won an AOS award for Educational Exhibits. Gayle tweaked the exhibit some and entered it in the Stone County Fair. The exhibit won first place and got \$50.00 in award money. Gayle graciously donated the \$50.00 to the society. Thank you, Gayle.



the red Cattleya caught Judy's eye. At that time, they knew nothing about orchids and had never seen a red orchid before, so they were fascinated.

**SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERSHIP**

**– By Gayle Greene- Aguirre**



Our spotlight this month shines on one of our friendly couples from Alabama: **Charles and Judy Rush** who are also members of the Mobile Area Orchid Society. This couple share the same birthday of September 10<sup>th</sup> and, they even married on their birthday in 1965. Talk about coincidences!

Back in March 2008 they attended the annual "Festival of Flowers" on the Providence Hospital grounds in Mobile. The Mobile Area Orchid Society had a table with gorgeous orchids on display, and a

The Cattleya belonged to longtime orchid enthusiast, Ruth Gordon. This lovely lady invited the



**Rush Greenhouse**

Rush's to her home and greenhouse. Once they saw Ruth's extensive collection and enthusiasm they were hooked. Immediately they both joined the Mobile Area Orchid Society to learn all they could about these fascinating flowers.

Once they decided they could learn more by also becoming a part of GCOS, they began packing a brown bag lunch to be able to make the monthly Sunday drive over in 2012. Though they don't often bring plants since they would sit in a hot or cold car while the Rushes are in church, they love seeing everyone else's plants and hearing their growing tips.



**Judy in her greenhouse with Ludisia discolor**

Judy's favorite orchid is "one that is blooming". Charles and Judy have a variety in their 12x20 foot greenhouse. However, they have always loved Cattas and Phals. Judy says, "it would be extremely difficult to name just one plant as my favorite-like naming one of your children as your favorite". She does enjoy her magnificent Ludisia discolor which she acquired from Ruth Gordon in 2008 as a cutting. In recent years she has developed a love relationship with both Vandas and Paphs, so she has been avidly collecting these plants. One of her plants, Paph. Macabre in Pink was awarded an AM/AOS at the Mobile Show this year. Judy was at a family funeral when she received the call from someone telling her of the award and asking her to name it. She says, "I was so dumbfounded that all I could think of was 'Just Judy'".

Charles and Judy grow most of their orchids in their greenhouse, but they put some outdoors during the summer months to bask in the breezes under the dappled shade of trees. Judy keeps meticulous records of her plants in Orchid Wiz.

**2020 SHOW UPDATE:** Show prep is going well. We sent in our application, the Convention Center is ready and one of our vendors has already paid! There are a few snags. The Convention Center has been updated. No tape of any sort on walls. They do not want new paint scratched so we must be very careful. We only have four vendors signed up. That is a \$500.00 loss for a show that barely breaks even. If we could find some company that sells garden related stuff; jewelry, art, garden stuff even other tropical plants we will gladly rent them a space. If you have any ideas please email Jo Ann, [joannvaz@bellsouth.net](mailto:joannvaz@bellsouth.net). We can do well with just five vendors, but we could really use the income from selling at least one more vendor area.

**NAME TAGS AND SHIRTS:** If you want a GCOS name tag; see Marilyn 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.