



Gulf Coast Orchid Society

January 10, 2021

Happy New Year everyone!



Our January 10, 2021 meeting will be at the **Joe Graham Post 119 American Legion Hall, 12320 Ashley Dr., Gulfport, MS** Located east of Highway 49 North. The meeting will start at 2:00. For the next few months there will be no Orchids 101, we will have Show and Tell. Please bring your blooming plants with a limit of 5 plants per member.

On My Mind: Gayle's message for the New Year

Well guys, we made it through 2020, and it has been a year like no other in modern history. Everyone was somehow affected by the pandemic and lives and routines were turned over end. It was a time of angst, confusion, and sadness for many. In spite of the nerve-wracking days good things were also happening.



We were able for the most part to hold our meetings, find new venues, and stop to admire the beautiful plants that our members were growing each month. Some members who were cooped up at home worked diligently to clean greenhouses, repot or refresh their orchid collections. Others researched and read up on some of their favorite genera to hone their skills as horticulturalists. Some decided to try out new varieties of their favorite plant or to grow one of the more elusive or "difficult" types.



Members enjoying a great boxed meal 2020 Christmas bingo

I know that the holidays for most of us went through some modifications. As we move into a better new year, I wish you moments of peace amid the difficulties, connections with family and friends (even if at a distance), the warmth of memories from holidays past, and some tidings of joy.

Additionally, I wish all of you a healthy and happy New Year and my best wishes for your orchid success. Please stay safe as we navigate the next few months ahead and

plan for our February Show. Thank you for being part of our Society and for making it the viable entity that it has become. It is because of your interest, dedication, and hard work that we have been a model for others for over 40 years. Let's look forward to better times for everyone in 2021, and let us focus on keeping our members interested, educated and engaged in the pursuit of orchid excellence.

PROGRAM: January 10, 2021: The program will be a continuation of our November 2020 program on Phalaenopsis. Since the date of our show has been moved to the last weekend in February, many of you will have Phals in bloom. We will have a demonstration on the care of Phalaenopsis (Phals) including staking and presentation for display. We'll also meet some of the most common, uncommon Phals as discussed in November's meeting.

We try to provide everyone with a safe meeting place and ask you to give others their space, wash your hands and wear a face covering. If you have any doubts about your safety or if you feel ill; please do not come to the

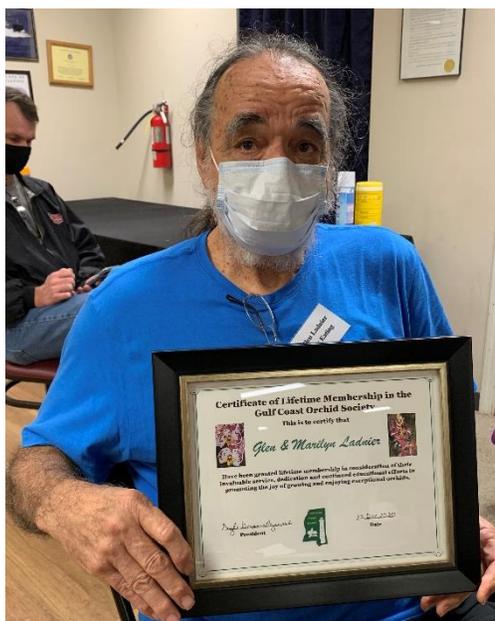


Phal Sogo Yukidan grown by John and Jennifer Wlodarczk at our June 2020 Show and Tell

meeting. So far no one got COVID from our meetings. Let's pray we can get to the other side of this pandemic without anyone getting sick.



Members checking out the great bingo plants L-R Richard Crespin, Janice Fabo and Anita Applebee



Glen accepting his and Marilyn's lifetime membership certificate.

FUTURE PROGRAMS: We are still working on programs for 2021. If you can do a program or know of a topic, you'd like us to cover please let us know.

February 14, Work meeting for Show- Feb 25-28

Thank you meeting for show workers and an introduction to the Orchid Society for new members. All those who help with the show and are present at the meeting get a free plant.

March 14, thank you meeting for show workers and an introduction to the Orchid Society for new members. All those who help with the show and are present at the meeting get a free plant.

April 11 Larry Hennessey of New Orleans will talk on Bulbophyllums and bring plants to sell.

May 16 Third Sunday because Mother's Day is second Sunday. Annual covered dish luncheon and Orchid Auction

CHRISTMAS ORCHID BINGO MEETING: The annual Christmas orchid bingo was a success. Twenty-six members and four guests played bingo till they won an awesome plant provided by Glen Ladnier. Most enjoyed a delicious, boxed lunch prepared and served by Anita Applebee and her staff at the American Legion Hall.

Glen Ladnier announced the Show and Tell winners for the year. Richard Crespin won most Best Plants with 2 wins. We had twenty-eight members bring in at least one plant for Show and Tell in 2020. There was only 4 points difference in first and second places. Top winner with 81 points was Janice Fabo, second place winner with 77 points was Richard Crespin and third place winner with 49 points was Gayle Greene-Aguirre. They got their pick of our Christmas plants. We then drew names of those who were present and had brought in show and tell plants during the year for three more plants.

There were several nice surprises during the meeting. A blooming plant was given to our hostess and chef, Anita Applebee. Janet Olier was given a blooming Vanda for her work in bringing in members through Facebook. Then Jo Ann

presented our President, Gayle Green-Aguirre with a nice blooming plant from Kalapana Tropicals to thank her for all the work she did throughout the pandemic in finding us safe places to meet.

Then Gayle had a few surprises of her own. She presented Glen and Marilyn a certificate of lifetime membership in the GCOS. She also presented Jo Ann with an American Orchid Society Certificate of Appreciation and a gift of an orchid teacup, saucer and spoon set.

SHOW NOTES: Please tell everyone about our show date change. February 26-28, 2021. A set of schedules is attached to this email, a private set of dates for members and exhibitors and one for distribution to guests. The date was changed because a long-time judge and good friend became ill. Barney and Aileen Garrison will not be at our February show. By the Garrisons we lost the required number of judges needed to hold an American Orchid Society (AOS) judged show. Thanks to some good friends of the society, we now have the number of judges need for an AOS judging team. With God's grace we hope to get a few more judges so we can have at least two sets of judging teams.

Just because our show date is a month later do not think our COVID prep will be any less; masks and social distancing are still required. We have devised a plan for members to drop off and pick-up orchids for the society display without getting out of their vehicles.

Societies and vendors are welcome to do tabletop exhibits this year.



Mark Reinke from Marble Branch orchids at our 2020 show. Preorder the items you want most now. All our vendors sell out fast!

We've also set up an open table with minimal time inside the hall and very little interaction with other people. Simply bring in your plants, put them on an open table where blank name tags, pens, schedules with class codes and entry tags are found along with wipes. Fill out a name tag and an entry tag. Get a tag number from the desk and leave the original copy of your entry tag, then go back to the table and affix the name tag and entry tag to your plant and its done. Your plants will be ribbon judged and if selected AOS judged just as it they were in a regular exhibit. On Sunday afternoon you can get your plants after 4:00 pm.

Again, if you do not feel safe or if you're feeling ill do not come to our show. Our 2021 show motto: ***'Let's Move Ahead with Lots of Prayer and Hope!'*** This is not our theme do your exhibits however you wish just keep our motto in your heart, have fun and be safe.



Some of Gracelyn's clay orchids

VENDOR NEWS: The date change may have cost us at least one vendor. Do not worry we are already working on another vendor and we have secured a new type of vendor. **Gracelyn Tamrak of Gracelynn's Clay Flowers, Ballwin Missouri** will sell her clay but very realistic orchids. Our other remaining vendors are:

Jodie Shumaker of Secret Garden Rare Plants jodishu@gmail.com, Check out his website:

secretgardenrareplants.com. If you preorder from his website, you'll get 20% off plus no shipping charge. Attached are some pics he sent of some beautiful, weird plants he has.

Mark Reinke, Marble Branch Farms www.marblebranchfarms.com of Walhalla, SC Mark has made an awesome ad with photos prices and a lot of info. It is attached to this newsletter.

Hicks Orchids and Supplies, Kenny Hicks, Orlando FL 1-407-733-1887 hicksj0430@bellsouth.net, check out their website hicksorchidsandsupplies.simdif.com. One of our biggest expenses with potting media is the shipping, which can sometimes be triple the initial price. Check out their website, find out what you need, then call Kenny and preorder the materials. He will bring it to the show with no added shipping! Do not assume they will bring big bags of barks, charcoal or rock without preordering. If you're a Vanda grower, they have very good, sturdy, cypress Vanda baskets in both the square and octagon sizes.



Brassavola Little Stars 'Glen' CCM/AOS

CONGRATULATIONS: The plant at left, was awarded at the Shreveport judging Center on Saturday, December 19th, 2020. The award description reads; Brassavola Little Stars 'Glen' CCM/AOS approx. 680 flowers on 170 stems!" The plant is owned by Dave Medus of Lake Charles and the photographer is Wilson Guillory. Dave also took another plant to Shreveport, which won and HCC! Congratulations David!

MEMBERSHIP NOTES: All member's dues are due at our January 2021 meeting whether you joined in the fall or any time during the year. We do not prorate our dues because of the cost of the free plants that all our members can get. Dues are \$15.00 per person. New memberships get a free plant, one plant per family. If you cannot attend the meeting send your check to Marilyn Ladnier, 15559 Village Dr., Biloxi, MS 39532. Marilyn will try to be at Sunday's meeting to accept dues.

ONE LAST NOTE: Both our current vendors have Phaius or their cousins listed either on their ads or websites. They have names like Gastrophaius or Phaiocalanthe, they both have Phaius in them



and are both easy to grow here on the coast. Many of you took advantage of our wholesale purchases from growers in Hawaii but if you missed it now is your chance to get some of these glorious plants. One of our vendors even has some in spike!

The plant at left is Phaius tankervilleae 'Valerie C. Scurria' CCM/AOS grown by members, Armand and Val Scurria. It was awarded at the Pensacola show in March of 2014. You can grow this!