A World of Orchids
the 51st Annual Orchid Show

January 4th, 5th & 6th, 2008
Jan. 4th — 12pm-8pm
Jan. 5th-6th — 9am-5pm

Admission $3.00 at the Door
Children Under 8 Are Free
Sarasota Municipal Auditorium
December in your collection

In December we can no longer afford to be dominated by the illusion, so easy here at the northern edge of the tropics, that summer will never end. Although Indian Summer persists for the whole winter in South Florida, December is the month to prepare our plants for those short sharp blasts of cold which are inevitably coming as each successive cold front pushes the overall temperature a little lower and a little lower. Each day is shorter too. The loss of daylight savings time should awake us to the fact that there are less hours of sunlight to save our plants from the chill of the night. Many genera are already anticipating this sea change and have completed their growths for the season. Some like Catasetum, Cycnoches, Calanthe and the nobile dendrobiums are even beginning to shed their foliage in preparation for the cool, dry season. While the Himalayan Dendrobium species of the nobile and Callista types, calanthes, cymbidiums and an few others, actually relish temperatures down to near freezing, and most cattleyas and Oncidium alliance species and hybrids are not bothered by temperatures in the mid-thirties, the majority of the genera which we grow, vandas, evergreen dendrobiums, Phalaenopsis and others, benefit from being protected from the cold. Now, while the first breaths of cool air remind us that more and stronger cold is in the offing, is the time to start thinking about protecting our plants.

In nature nearly all the tender tropical epiphytic orchids native to South Florida are found nestled in the bosom of deep hammocks where they are well protected from the wind. This observation leads us to think of protecting our orchids from the north and northwest winds. Creating or utilizing already existing wind breaks to the north and west of our orchids will limit the ability of the wind to steal the warmth out of our plants. The critical factor is not the low temperature that the air reaches but rather the temperature to which the plant tissue is chilled and for how long.

Continue page # 7
The Sarasota Orchid Society Inc. (SOS) meets on the first Monday of each month at Selby Gardens, 800 South Palm Ave., Sarasota, FL. The SOS Inc., an affiliate of the American Orchid Society, is a nonprofit association with the aims of promoting the development, improvement and preservation of orchids through the dissemination of information concerning the culture, hybridization or development of orchids; and generally to extend the knowledge of orchids.

Annual dues are $15-$20 for family. Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the previous month. Contributors to this newsletter give reprint rights of their work to newsletters and other affiliates of the American Orchid Society.

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Support Our Vendors and Suppliers

American Group Travel, Sheldon Thorne
813-282-4510 or 800-266-0755

Broward Orchid Supply, Inc. Sandi Jones, Tom Wells
877-967-2443

Canaima Orchids Michael Sinn
941-751-0536

Chapman's Orchids Charlie Chapman
407-619-1907

Featherstone Orchids Ed & Lyn Bugbee
352-795-4614

Fender's Flora Orchids Bill & Susan Fender
941-412-1355

Florida SunCoast Orchids Jim Roberts
941-544-6831

Hicks Orchid Supplies John & Lois Hicks
407-256-8518

Kruhl-Smith Orchids Jim Krull
407-866-4134

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens Garden & Book Store
941-366-5731

Nature on the Rocks Guy & Janice
888-490-9631

Odom's Orchids John & Louise Odom
772-467-1386

Orchid Art Joné Ritchie
941-922-3434

Orchid Mania Karen Harper
941-322-1678

Orchids Etcetera Jeff & Walter
941-921-9138

Palmer Orchids Robert Palmer
941-322-1644

Pelican Coast Farms Jerry Meola
239-693-8967

Plantío La Orquídea Rafael Romaro
941-504-7737

Venice Orchids Bob Hague
941-321-4691

Wayne Hibbs Farm & Garden Jeff Hibbs
941-366-4954
JOIN THE AOS

If you are not a member of the American Orchid Society, let me briefly tell you about the premier organization devoted to our hobby. The AOS is the world’s largest specialty horticulture group and offers information not available elsewhere. The monthly magazine, Orchids, is the most highly regarded orchid periodical in the world. The photography and articles are outstanding. Membership entitles you to a 10% discount on publications and your dues support conservation and educational programs. As a new member you will receive a copy of Your First Orchid, a book chock full of advice and an Almanac listing all affiliate organizations (Florida has the most with 58), growers, special interest groups, descriptions of awards, and many more resources. Membership forms are available at the sign-in table for anyone who needs one.

The AOS also publishes the Awards Quarterly, with detailed descriptions of 200-300 awarded orchids with color photographs. I eagerly await mine every three months.

Dues are U.S. single membership $60.00 for a 2 year membership $108.00. American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Fl. 33446

Linda Kokin is now accepting 2008 Dues. Please make your checks payable to the Sarasota Orchid Society P.O Box 19895 Sarasota Fl 34276-2895

Treasurer’s Report

Beginning Balance 10/2/07 $15,207.97

Income
- Membership 280.00
- Show Income 1900.00
- Raffle Plants 181.00
- Hats & shirts 250.00
- Donations 500.00

Expenses
- Refreshments 51.71
- Speaker Exp 150.00
- Show Printing Exp 226.05
- Display exp 47.77
- Show Advtg Exp 795.00
- Show dinner deposit 200.00
- Newsletter Exp 135.64


Let’s talk about sales…….The vendors who lecture at our meetings take their valuable time and effort to educate us on orchid culture. In turn, they ask us to buy their plants at our meetings.

We know that there are lots of places to buy orchids in our area but as members of SOS, we should really make a point of patronizing the speakers and advertisers when we buy new plants.
Upcoming Events

JANUARY 2008

4-6
Sarasota Orchid Society Show, Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 Tamiami Tr., Sarasota, FL.

FEBRUARY 2008

2-3
Venice Area Orchid Society Show, Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice, FL

9-10
Boca Raton Orchid Society Show, Safe Schools Institute, 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd., Boca Raton, FL.

23-24
Daytona Beach Orchid Society Show. Contact: Suzanne Woodruff, 722 Katherine St., S. Daytona, FL 32119; (386) 846-7164.

29-March 2
Fairchild International Orchid Festival, Fairchild Tropical Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Rd., Coral Gables, FL

MARCH 2008

7-9
Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show, Port St. Lucie Community Center, 2195 SE Airoso Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL.

8-10
Key West Orchid Society Show, West Martello Tower, Key West, FL.

14-16
Naples Orchid Society Show, United Church of Christ, 5200 Creyton Rd., Naples, FL

14-16
Greater Pensacola Orchid Society Show

14-16
Naples Orchid Society Show, United Church of Christ, 5200 Creyton Rd., Naples, FL

Bring on the Bud Vases

One of our biggest money makers at last year’s show was the flower arrangement booth that Connie Waymer orchestrated. With very low cost she managed to put together beautiful cut flowers and ornamental ferns in vases that literally flew out the door.

Since many of us enjoy visiting yard and garage sales, please keep an eye out for vases, big and small, that the committee can use. Tip: When some of our members have browsed at sales and mentioned what the vases were for, the owners were more than willing to donate them!

This year Connie will be joined by Kay Weber & Cherie Randall.

21-22
Englewood Area Orchid Society Show. Contact: Englewood Area O.S., PO Box 257, Englewood, FL 34295-0257.

22-23
Jacksonville Orchid Society Show. Contact: Harriet Wright, 16190 Sawpit Rd., Jacksonville, FL

29-30
Orchid Lover's Club of Spring Hill Show, SNPL Lodge, 13383 County Line Rd., Spring Hill, FL.

29-30
Orchid Society of Highlands County Show. Contact: Ed Fabik, 221 Lakerim Ct., Lake Placid, FL 33852; (863) 465-2830
Minutes of the November 2007 meeting

President Laurie Stoner welcomed everyone to the November meeting of the Sarasota Orchid Society.

Roberta Arcand introduced our new members and guests.

The October meeting minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

The Treasurer’s report was also approved as published after some discussion.

A suggestion was made to eliminate the $85 dollar business charge by changing banks, if necessary. Linda agreed to look into it after the existing supply of checks is exhausted.

Old Business

President Stoner said that the 2008 Show is fast approaching. It will run January 4th, 5th, and 6th. Setup is the 3rd. Jo has the sign up book for the show so please make an effort to see her and sign up during the break. We need to know that we can count on you! Tama is looking for helpers to provide food for the workers during the four days of the show. We’re also planning another sumptuous dinner with the orchids for Saturday night January 5th. We will need your reservation and payment at the next meeting. Look for the details in the next newsletter.

Josephine Fontana has completed her audit of our finances and procedures. The board will discuss her recommendations at our November 12th meeting if they are made available by then.

We will soon order the small loose-leaf binders for our membership directory. We’re hoping that they will be in by the end of this month. Juanita, who has produced the inserts themselves for the Sarasota Garden Club, has graciously offered to do the same for us. New Business:

December is our annual members meeting and Christmas party. We had a $15 or less gift exchange last year in which every one who brought a gift got one in return. Members voted to repeat this year. Tama has the main dish planned. The rest will be potluck – salads, desserts, and beverages.

Our by-laws state that our annual member’s meeting, in which we elect new officers, should also be held in December. The board will ask you to approve moving it up to November in 2008 with nominations in October 2008. We will also be recommending that our dues increase of $5. Printing and postage alone for the newsletter is $9 per member per year whereas we’re only collecting $15.

Also at our December meeting we will present a $2000 scholarship to Heather Hill who is a graduate student at Florida Gulf Coast University studying Environmental Science. She is working on propagation if the endangered Oncidium ensatum in Everglades National Park.

Carolyn will also be taking orders for the shirts we showed you at the last meeting. If you weren’t there, take a look at the samples during the break. They’re great looking shirt made of self-wicking fabric. Ball caps are in and look really sharp, too.

We participated in the Manatee Orchid Society Show last weekend. Jo took a first place and received a best of show Oncidium trophy for her Oncidium Mendenhall. Jeff and Walter helped us out with some gorgeous plants that earned four red ribbons and one yellow. Paul Storm and I also took home a yellow ribbon each.

Don’t forget to browse the library that is now in the board-room behind me.

Al is selling raffle tickets tonight. Be sure to stop back and purchase them during the break.

Also don’t miss the display tables and be sure to vote for your favorite species, member’s choice, or novice orchid.

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Marv Ragan gave a very enjoyable and informative talk on “Orchids of the Philippines.”

Show table: ribbon awards were made for speaker’s choice, best species, best hybrid, and novice grower.

The raffle was held with some wonderful plants.

President Stoner thank everyone for coming.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM

Sarasota Garden Club
HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE
For Shopping & Lunch
Open to the Public
Friday, November 30 & Saturday, December 1
Time: 10 - 4
(no admission fee Friday or Saturday)
Over 15 professional artists, featuring jewelry, paintings, pottery, wood works and much more.
Specialty poinsettias for the choosing.
SGC member’s creative crafts will be available.
Browse through Gramma’s Attic for that unique collectible.
Enjoy lunch on the patio prepared by Orange Blossom culinary arts members.
Not only is this event festive but it brings funds to compliment and support our gardens and community projects.
See you there!

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE
PREVIEW PARTY
Thursday November 29, 2007
TIME: 5:30 - 7:30
Start the festivities by joining us at the catered Preview Party.
Open to all members, friends and others with pre-paid ticket.
Tickets-, at $15, are on sale now through circles and the SGC office
All ticket money from circles & SGC office
Due on November 15th
(an accurate ticket count must be taken for the preparation of food)
Call Sarasota Garden Club Office 955-0875 for information
Don’t miss the catered hors d’oeuvres and wine evening for friendly conversation and shopping with over 15 local artist vendors, and SGC member’s creative craft booths. Browse through the treasures of Gramma’s Attic.
Need a specialty poinsettia?
Sarasota Garden Club, Inc.
1131 Boulevard of the Arts
(corner of Route 41)
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This is why limiting the movement of cold air over our plants is essential. In still air, plant tissue (mostly water but with some dissolved salts) retains heat for a long time and is aided by the plants’ metabolism. The very goings on of life generate heat, therefore considerable exposure to still air is needed to chill a plant to the temperature of the surrounding environment. Not so if wind enters the picture. Wind can quickly rob the plant’s surfaces of heat, chilling the plants tissue deeper and deeper. When the plant’s temperature tolerance is reached, at best growth ceases or worse yet damage ensues. Slowing the cooling process and limiting the hours of exposure to sub-optimal temperature is the best gift we can give our plants for the holidays.

Protecting our tender plants from exposure to wind must be our primary concern in preparing them for winter. Buildings, walls and even thick hedges can be very effective windbreaks slowing or stopping chill air. Choose places in your garden that offer this sort of protection to your orchid plants wherever possible. The geography of Florida plays into the equation as well. Because the Florida peninsula juts decidedly to the Southeast (Naples is due south of Jacksonville), protection from the Northwest wind is even more crucial than protection from the North wind on the east coast of Florida. Northwest winds are blowing out of the cold heart of the landmass while true North winds have in most locales usually blown over more warm water and less cold land. Regardless of the degree of north, safeguarding our collections from the wind is critical to their healthy maintenance. Not until the air circulating clockwise around the cold high pressure system shifts to the Northeast to blow over the warm Gulfstream can we relax our guard.

Orchids that are grown in shade houses, in patios or pool enclosures can be protected by installing plastic film on the north and west walls of the structure. This can be attached with staples or other devices that allow the plastic to be furled in warm weather and only lowered for those few nights when it is needed. Easiest to come by (Home Depot, or any hardware store) and cheapest, is 6mil clear polyethylene (don’t use 4mil; it rarely lasts the winter being exposed to Florida’s bright ultraviolet light). One hundred feet by ten costs about $20. Stored in a dark place, this stock will last the average grower several years and be a very small investment that will yield greatly improved orchids. Handled with care in furling and unfurling, 6 mil plastic usually will get the grower through the winter. If unobtrusive, it may be simply left in place till March. White polypropylene, similar to nursery ground cloth, is used by many nurseries for winterizing. More expensive than polyethylene, it is very durable and will last many more years. Some growers have it cut to size, taped and grommoted for easy up and down installation and storing. Universal Supply (1-800-432-3009) has it. Given the dimensions and enough lead time they can customize it for you.

Getting our growing area ready for winter is one half of the equation. We must also get the plants themselves ready. Healthy, well-nourished plants withstand cold better as do plants that are harder and not too lushly in growth. Because both light and temperature are lower in November and most orchids have slowed their growth, they need less fertilizer. In cooler weather ammoniacal nitrogen is less available to our plants because it needs the assistance of bacterial action to ease its absorption by the plants. Nitrate nitrogen is more desirable therefore in cooler weather, because it is more quickly and readily absorbed by the orchids. Check the label on your fertilizer and try to choose one with a higher ration of nitrate nitrogen to ammoniacal nitrogen for winter use. The very best source for nitrate nitrogen is potassium nitrate (KNO3). It has the formula 13-0-44. The lower level of the desirable nitrate form of nitrogen is well suited to the continuing but diminished nutritional needs of our orchids in cool weather. The level of potassium is thought to contribute to the ‘hardening’ of the plants. Try to obtain the soluble or ‘Spray’ grade. If only Prills (small beads like tapioca) are available they will need to be dissolved with boiling water, a tedious task.

Potassium nitrate is superlative also because it contains no phosphorus which, in combination with our hard, alkaline water interferes with the plants’ absorption of trace elements. Trace element nutrition is especially important to maintain healthy orchids in cool weather: above all, magnesium, the ‘major’ minor element. The reddening of orchid foliage which is usually attributed to cold is in fact the symptom of magnesium and potassium deficiency.

Cold is only the efficient cause of this reddening; the material cause is lack of magnesium. Epsom salts at 1lbs. per gal plus potassium nitrate at the same rate will quickly bring back the green.
This regimen can be alternated with a general trace element mixture (follow the package rate) plus potassium nitrate. Indeed, following the recommendations of the Michigan State University study published in the July 2003 issue of Orchids, symptoms of magnesium or potassium deficiency might be a warning that we should have been following something closer to this “winter” fertilizer regimen all year. We now recommend alternating applications of 1TBS each of Epsom salts and potassium nitrate with a balance fertilizer such as 20-20-20 or 18-18-18 year round not just in the Fall. Best of all is a 15-5-15 with additional calcium and magnesium. Peters markets one as Excel.

The Epsom salts are as near as your medicine cabinet. The potassium nitrate is more difficult to find but a trip to the nearest Farm supply store is worth the effort. You’ll save a bundle on fertilizer and have plenty of potassium nitrate left over to grow the biggest bunch of bananas in the neighborhood.

If you have the energy, November is also a great time for starting to pot those sympodial orchids (cattleyas, oncidiums, et al) that have finished blooming. You’ll have a leg up on potting and will glow with virtue in expectation of the rewards of the Holidays. Be especially careful at this season that the newly transplanted orchids are well secured in their containers. It may be many weeks till they have broken growth and can anchor themselves with their own roots. If the plants are allowed any wiggle room the newly emerging roots will be chaffed off, sending the plant into a slow and difficult to reverse decline.

Tasks for December

1. Prepare for cold
2. Reduce fertilizer
3. Apply extra Potassium and Magnesium
4. Segregate dormant genera in bright dry area
5. Repot plants after flowering
6. Groom plants and flower spikes for holiday display.

World Orchid Conference

Good News! As you are probably aware the 19th WOC has been moved to the dates of the well established Tamiami International Orchid Festival, January 25-27 2008. Billed as "Florida’s Winter Orchid Extravaganza", the Festival features over 50 vendors from around the nation and around the world. It is often described as "The Redlands with air-conditioning."

If you or your society are not familiar with the Tamiami, this year will be an excellent opportunity to get acquainted! To encourage societies that are bring buses to the WOC, society groups will be offered free admission to the Festival. The event is at the Tamiami Fair Expo center, Sunshine Pavilion 10901 Coral Way (SW 24 st. and 109 Ave) easily accessible from the Fla. Turnpike or Palmetto Expressway (SR 826). The festival is just six short miles from the WOC site or as little as a mile and a half out of the way depending on your route. Ample free parking is available and a free shuttle bus to the WOC will be provided should your members choose to drive themselves.

We hope your society will come and see the Festival, an AOS judged show which supports five local orchid groups. If you decide to come simply let me know how many you are bringing and an estimated time of arrival. Your free tickets will be packaged and waiting at the door.

Maps are available at www.fairexpo.com

See our ads in Orchids for October, November and January. We hope to have our website up soon.

Hoping to see you in January,
Martin Motes — 305-247-4398
2008 CONTRIBUTORS CATEGORIES

**Sponsors**
- **Diamond Sponsor Level** $750.00  Inside Front page or Back Cover of the Orchid Show Journal
- **Platinum Sponsor Level** $500.00  Full page Ad in Show Journal
- **Gold Sponsor Level** $250.00  One-half page Ad in Show Journal
- **Silver Sponsor Level** $150.00  One-third page Ad in Show Journal
- **Bronze Sponsor Level** $100.00  Business Card size

**Patrons**
- **Sapphire Patron Level** $ 75.00  Listing in Journal
- **Ruby Patron Level** $ 50.00  Listing in Journal
- **Emerald Patron Level** $ 25.00  Listing in Journal

**Additional Amenities**
- **Diamond Sponsors**
  6 free tickets to the 2008 Orchid Show Candlelight Dinner on Saturday evening, January 5th
- **Platinum Sponsor**
  2 free tickets to the 2008 Orchid Show Candlelight Dinner on Saturday evening, January 5th

  Name listed on all commercial advertising for the Orchid Show, in the Orchid Show Journal and on Sarasota Orchid Society website.

- **Diamond, Platinum and Gold Sponsors**
  Table at the Orchid Show for Printed Material relating to their company or organization. Listing on Sarasota Orchid Society website

- **Silver and Bronze Sponsors**
  Listed on Sarasota Orchid Society website

- **Patrons**
  Listed in Show Journal

**Closing date is November 30, 2007**
51st ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW

The Sarasota Orchid Society’s 51st Annual Orchid Show will be held the weekend of January 3rd, 4th and 5th, 2008, the hours are 12 noon to 8:00 pm on January 3rd and 9:00 to 5:00 pm on January 5th & 6th at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 North Tamiami Trail in Sarasota, FL.

This American Orchid Society sanctioned show will showcase thousands of award-winning Orchids in the displays created by orchid vendors and local orchid societies.

SPONSOR and PATRON FORM

Company or Individual Name_____________________________________________________
Address______________________________________________________________________
City________________________________________State_____ Zipcode_________________
Telephone___________________________________ Fax______________________________
E-mail _______________________________________________________________________

Please attach your Business Card.

Please make checks payable to
Sarasota Orchid Society,
Attention: Monroe Kokin, Co- Chairman
51st Annual Orchid Show
P.O. Box 19895,
Sarasota, FL 34276-2895

Visit our website: www.sarasotaorchidsociety.org

Deadline November 30, 2007

I will accept all donations for the Sponsor - Patron List at the December meeting
Attention members

We are in need of quite a few more volunteers to sign up to help out at our show. By signing up ahead of time in the book, each committee chairman can organize his or her committee much better. Please call Jo Davis @ 228-5501 or email me @ srqjd@comcast.net, or see me at the December meeting. Also, if for some reason you are unable to show up, please notify your committee chairman.

Front door—collect entrance fee, hand out show materials.
Volunteers needed for Saturday & Sunday.

Information, Membership, & Promotional Item Sales
Inform guests of the value of membership in the Sarasota Orchid Society as well as the American Orchid Society, Sell Sarasota Orchid Society T-shirts & caps. 1 more person needed Saturday afternoon, & 2 more people needed for Sunday.

Sell Raffle tickets - Need a couple more people each day to sell raffle tickets.
(Prizes are blooming orchids)

Hospitality - Need people to help serve food for vendors and volunteers all 3 days.

Floral arrangements - need people to sign up all 3 days.

Clerks-Assist AOS judges with ribbon judging on Friday morning-instructions given just prior to beginning.

Tear down-Dismantle SOS display, put away tables & supplies, general hall clean-up on Sunday afternoon @ 5:00

BUS TRIP
Carolyn Langdon has information about a potential bus trip to the World Orchid Conference in Miami in January. If we can get enough people we can rent either a bus or a minibus. We can stay overnight in a motel/hotel and even visit the AOS Center or the Japanese Gardens or Fairchild Gardens the 2nd day. If we have enough interest, we could get a block of rooms. There are time constraints. Please call Carolyn immediately if you are interested.
SHOW DINNER ~ January 5, 2007

Wine & Cheese

Caesar Salad

Hearts of Romaine, Garlic Croutons, Classic Creamy Dressing

Imported Parmesan

Chicken Piccata

Chicken Breast Sauté, Lemon/White Wine Sauce

Orzo Primavera

Bistro Rolls

Assorted Gourmet Cookies

Catered by SIMPLY GOURMET

Reservations now being accepted, payment in advance required.

$25.00 per person

Kathy Baker  941-822-0917
Jo Davis 941-228-5501
Co– Best Species
C. bowringiana
Owner - Pat Boyd

Members Choice
V Jimmy Miller ‘Nol’ x
V. Taveesuksa x Chindavat
Owner - Kay Weber