

March 2007

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[www.PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.Org](http://www.PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.Org)

## Platinum Coast Orchid Society



### Board Members 2007

- ✎ Jim Adamson, *President*, Tel.: (321) 632-2847
- ✎ Alan Gettleman, *Vice-President*, Tel.: (321) 454-3239
- ✎ Ginny Landreth, *Secretary*, Tel.: (321) 631-6316
- ✎ Craig Helpling, *Treasurer*, Tel.: (321) 779-0123
- ✎ Jack Taylor, *Board Member*, Tel., (321) 453-4856
- ✎ Toni Bell, *Board Member*, Tel.: (321) 751-3900
- ✎ Sherrill Gossett-Moore, *Board Member*, Tel.: (321) 784-4006
- ✎ Bob Libbey, *Past-President Advisor*, Tel.: (407) 568-2740

### Jim's Bench

*Jim Adamson*

Hello Members,

This month's meeting will again be on the second Monday. We are working diligently to find a place where we can return to our regular Wednesday night meetings. Please be patient. While we can not promise it will happen, if it doesn't, it won't be because we didn't give it our maximum effort.

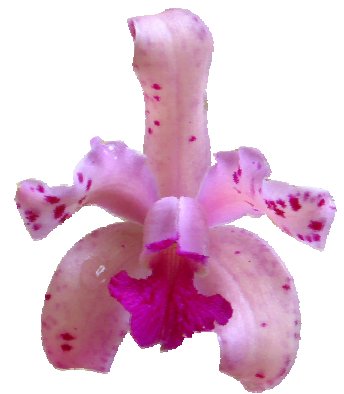
The Monday night meeting place seems to be o.k. It just seems to be a conflict for many of our members. We are also listed in many printings as meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed.

The program for this month is an Auction! Any and everybody may bring up to five plants to auction off. The meeting for April will, in all probability, be a plant sale. Incidentally, if you missed the February meeting you missed a very interesting presentation by Jamie Lawson.


In case you haven't noticed, the spring time Shows are happening all around us. Most of them are excellent Shows and well worth the trip. I have asked Sherrill to list them in the Rhyzome so you will know when and where they are. Speaking of Shows, I am off to one almost every weekend and if you think that isn't work, try it!

We shall endeavor to make our activities as interesting as possible so I trust that all of you will hang in there.


Jim



## Cattleya



The *Cattleya amethystoglossa* (a bifoliate cattleya) is synonymous with “purple throated orchid”. It is a Brazilian species native to South-eastern Bahia (where the habitat has been almost totally obliterated) and Minas Gerais. It is found growing in humid places near the coast-line with full sun conditions, where it has probably been forced to adapt to the brightness due to deforestation (the leaves acquire a red pigmentation to protect it). When in full sun, the pseudobulbs are said to be much *shorter* than those grown in partial sun and more dry conditions, located in inland Brazilian forests. The *C amethystoglossa* growing more inland can be as high as 1m tall, with green leaves and none of the red color found on specimens near the coast. It is one of the tallest cattleyas, and the characteristic spotting on the floral segments is extremely varied.




The *C amethystoglossa* has an “accidental” past. Originally it was named “porphyroglossa” due to the rough state the flower arrived in at Vienna, Austria. In 1856 the misnomer was amended. “Amethysto-” is Latin for purple and “Porphyro-” is Greek for the same color. The same year, 1856, the flower was classified as a varietal of *C gutatta*, another “accident”. *C amethystoglossa* is a species orchid, not a varietal.

### April Showers Bring May Flowers and an Umbrella!

The Society has purchased an Orchid Umbrella from the AOS Gift Emporium with the gift certificates we won for a first place exhibit. We decided to sell chances on this umbrella with the collage of colorful orchids, which will be available for you to view. Your chance to win can be purchased for \$1.00 a chance, 8 for \$5.00 or 20 for \$10.00. In order to give many of our members’ chances to win tickets will be available at both the Cocoa and Cocoa Beach meeting. Tickets will be sold starting in March and the drawing will be at the regular May meeting. Looking forward to your participation!

## Sunshine

*Betty Adamson*



Our deepest sympathy goes to Jim Adamson on the passing of his sister. We continue to send get well wishes to Toni Bell.

Thanks to Flossie for sharing her beautiful black bamboo. Perhaps she will bring another “harvest” in sometime!

## Current Orchid Shows

\*Miami Show: Sheraton Miami Exhibition Center, 777 NW 72 Ave. Miami, FL, March 2-4

\*Port St. Lucie Show: Port St. Lucie Community Center, 2195 Airosa Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL, March 9-11

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden International Orchid Festival, Fairchild Tropical Gardens, 10901 Old Cutler Rd., Coral Gables, FL, March 30– April 1.

Sebring (Highlands Orchid Society) Show: Ag-Civic Center, 4509 George Blvd., Seabring, FL, March 31– April 1

\*Orlando, Central Florida Orchid Society Show: Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr., April 6- April 8.

\* Indicates a show attended by Jim Adamson



## Jamie’s Chocolate Twister

Just last month (February 2007) one of our society members, Jamie Lawson, received a Certificate of Botanical Recognition (CBR) at the judging center in Orlando for a species of Mormodes. The CBR is given when a plant has never been seen at judging before, and is interesting enough to be recognized. Jamie’s plant’s new name is Mormodes *punctata* ‘Jamie’s Chocolate Twister’ CBR/AOS.

The final step in having a plant qualify to receive a CBR is to send a spike, along with a photo of the growth habit, to a recognized taxonomist, like at the Orchid Identification Center at Selby Gardens, which is what Jamie did. They reported back to him from the Center that his plant *is* in fact a *punctata* but an earlier name of Mormodes *cartonii* retains precedence.

Doing some research of his own, Jamie checked the AOS Awards Quarterly and it seems that Mormodes *cartonii* has never been judged either, and he is hopeful his award will stand.

## Orchid Vernacular

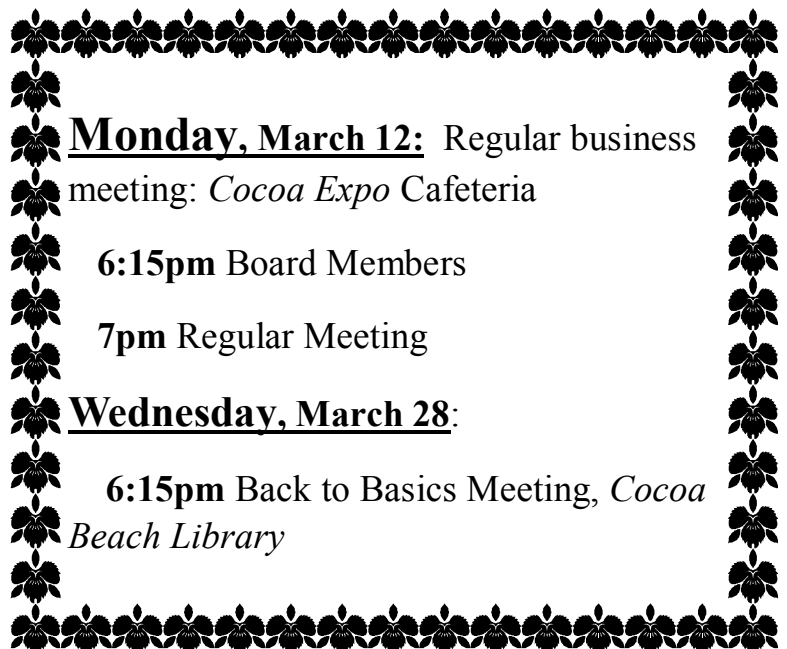
Bifoliate: (bye-FOH-lee-ayt) having two leaves.

Unifoliate: (yew-nih-FOH-lee-ayt) having a single leaf.

Polyploidy: having more than two basic sets of chromosomes in the nucleus (polyploid organisms, especially plants, grow larger than normal with larger cells)

Varietal: a plant derived from a particular species.

Flask: a narrow-necked, glass vessel for cultivating orchid seeds.


  
**Monday, March 12:** Regular business meeting: *Cocoa Expo* Cafeteria  
 6:15pm Board Members  
 7pm Regular Meeting  
**Wednesday, March 28:**  
 6:15pm Back to Basics Meeting, *Cocoa Beach Library*

# Platinum Coast Orchid Society

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