

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhizome

March 2024

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I want to express our thanks to Ed Kidder, our Vice President, for arranging and managing our club speaker schedule, and in particular for his efforts to ensure we always have nice and affordable raffle plants for our meetings. Several of our members have been friends with Vern and Helen Block, and Vern was a regular vendor at our Society's orchid show. Vern passed away about five years ago leaving Helen with the responsibility to close the nursery. Ed had been buying raffle plants from Helen for the past two years. Now, Helen is moving to North Carolina to be with her children, and she has given Ed at least 200 plants for our club. Yes, for free!

The last batch included Blc. Abbeville 'Golden Promise', C. purpurata v flames, C. purpurata 'Valley Isle', C. Holden coerulea, E. plicata 'dark' x E. plicata, C. Meng's Spotted Yen, Gur. Guatemalensis, and Oncidiums, Dendrobiums, and many unnamed Vern Block crosses. Seven Society members have volunteered to help Ed care for all these plants. I always look forward to seeing what's new and exciting in the raffle.

Hope to see you at our March meeting. We will have signup sheets for our show's volunteer assignments. Volunteers are critical to the success of our show. This is how you can get to know our friendly, fun and knowledgeable members, so please sign up and be generous with your time.

Margaret



If you received a Hwra. Lava Burst from Fletcher at the Christmas Party, check to see if it has a flower spike yet. See his in the picture above.

CALENDAR

Wed., Mar. 6th, 5:30pm- Show Chair Meeting

Wed., Mar. 13, 6pm—Board Meeting

Wed. Mar. 13, 7pm—General Meeting.

Margaret Smith will be collecting 2024 yearly dues at check in, if you have not already paid.

SUNSHINE

Best wishes to Jodi as she continues with her medical treatment. Speedy get well wishes to Fletcher.

Laura and her husband, Jerry, will be returning soon. Kat continues to recuperate and was able to attend our February meeting.

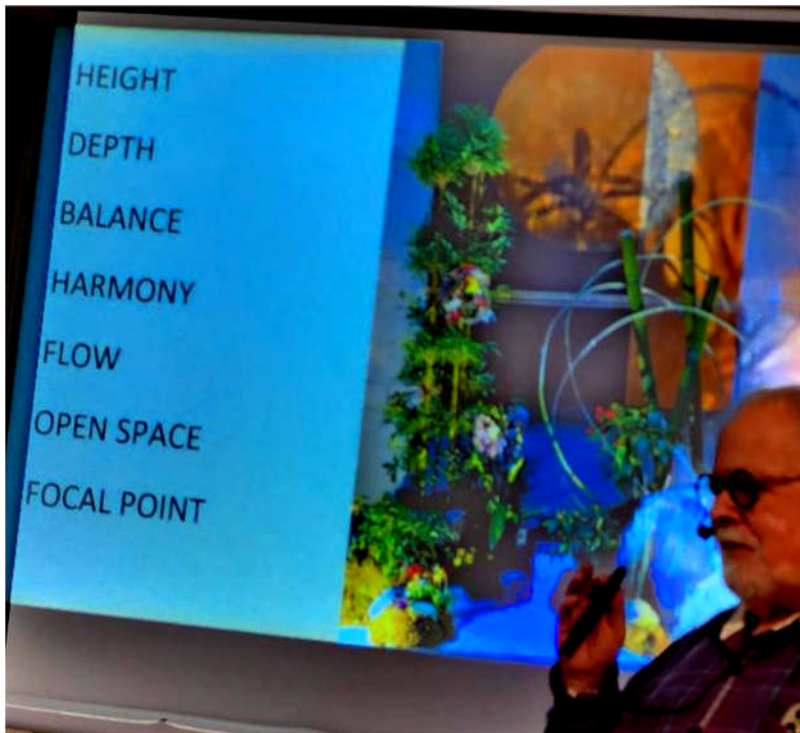
Congratulations to Barry and Shearer on their 65th wedding anniversary and many thanks to them for the beautiful printing of our posters and cards.

Please tell the editor if you know of any member who needs some Sunshine and she will forward the info to our Sunshine chair, Betty.

FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES

This wonderful program on “Creating a Perfect Orchid Display” was presented by Arthur Katz, who has served as the North Central Florida Judging Chair. For those who will be entering a niche or working on one of our show’s displays, this was very helpful.

The pictures were much more vibrant at the meeting, and it was much easier to identify each of the nine ingredients of a good display given in the list of the first photo. Look at the picture to the right of the list. What do you think the focal point of the display is? It is easy to identify. In many Asian displays three pieces of bamboo are used, sometimes in circles as in this display. They are good because they don’t distract from the display, even though they are obviously the focal point. In a good display, the judge should not see everything at once. There should be some hidden surprises that will appear the longer you look at the display.



As you continue looking at the rest of the exhibits on this page and the next, write down how you feel about each exhibit. What is the focal point? Is it pleasing or does it overwhelm the exhibit? What is it missing? Does the exhibit feel artistic to you? Why?

There are no right answers, but things should jump out at you that could be improved on, or maybe you just love the whole exhibit but don’t know why. Are each of the ingredients present?. Is there open space, but not dead space? Does it flow? Do you feel harmony and balance in the colors? Is there depth? Is it cluttered?

Discussion from the presentation and members about each exhibit is at the end, so you can compare.

Other tips: If your plants have blemishes, it will distract from your display. Maybe use some moss to hide it. Put in your height and depth first, and then fill in with orchids. Too much dead space is not good, but open space in the right place is excellent.

Notes for Exhibit 1:





Notes for Exhibit 2:



Notes for Exhibit 3:



Notes for Exhibit 4



Notes for Exhibit 5



Notes for Exhibit 6



Notes for Exhibit 7



Notes for Exhibit 8

WHICH EXHIBIT DO YOU THINK WAS THE BEST USING ALL OF THE INGREDIENTS?

Here's what we noticed and discussed:

Exhibit 1—Good balance and height. The prop or stone figurine didn't jump out or overwhelm the display.

Exhibit 2—Good use of the outdoor scenery to make a nice backdrop of the trees and cupola. Purple flowers on the right side make a good focal point.

Exhibit 3—Nice and simple. The seven plants don't overwhelm the driftwood and the driftwood doesn't take away from the plants. Driftwood can sometimes overwhelm the scene, but not here. Some might not consider this an exhibit.

Exhibit 4—The theme of the show piece can sometimes be so big and obvious that it overwhelms the display and distracts from the exhibit. However, most of us thought the theme here was so cute and well conceived. Did you notice that the eye chart spells out "Focus on Orchids" which is the theme of the show? You have to admit that is cute.

Exhibit 5—Where is the focal point? It is the greenery at the bottom. Does that seem right? Well, maybe not for an orchid exhibit, but this was at a botanical show and being used to cover a wall. So it was not trying to be an exhibit.

Exhibit 6—Do you see the focal point? Artistic and quirky. Did you like it? We did. There is some dead space at the bottom that judges might not like, but your eye is forced away from it to the focal point, so is it a statement?

Exhibit 7—This had lots of good qualities. We did feel that it would be more balanced if one of the orchids at the right was moved to the bench. Sometimes just standing back makes something obvious.

Exhibit 8—Nice flow, good focal point. It almost looks like a painting. But the exhibitor is an artist, as well as an orchid lover, so no wonder. We hear he won a lot of money for this exhibit in the Japan Show.



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
Affiliated Society

PCOS is an affiliate of the **American Orchid Society (AOS)**. There's an abundance of information on the AOS website. Please visit www.aos.org for articles, advice on growing orchids, and lots of free information.

Ask Betty Adamson for an application if you're interested in joining.

For all current members, remember that your renewal notice will arrive in the Orchid Magazine prior to your month of renewal.

www.aos.org

FOR AOS MEMBERS: The AOS also has a presence on Facebook. There is a [group](#) with close to 65,000 members, and a [page](#). Each allows you to post photographs and ask questions about your orchids. The group is the most active of the two, and group members usually respond quickly to posts. The page is parallel to the AOS Instagram account. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/52597049839> <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanOrchidSociety>

Be sure to pick up show posters to hang in great spots and cards to hand out to people around town at the March meeting. Magnetic signs for cars will also be available. As usual, please be sure to clean your car and the back of the sign before placing signs on, so there will be no abrasion to your car. Lay flat otherwise, so signs don't crack.

UPCOMING SHOWS

- Mar. 1-3** **Martin County Orchid Society**
Martin County Fairgrounds
Stuart, FL
- Mar. 2-3** **Tampa Bay Orchid Society**
Sons of Italy Hall
Tampa, FL
- Mar. 22-24** **Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance**
North Collier Regional Park
Naples, FL
- Mar. 23-24** **Orchid Society of Highlands**
Bert J Harris Agri-Civic Center
Sebring, FL
- Mar. 30-31** **Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society**
Flamingo Gardens
Davie, FL
- Apr. 5-7** **Apopka International Spring**
Orchid Festival—Krull Smith
- Apr. 6-7** **Port St. Lucie Orchid Society**
Port St. Lucie Polish American
Club, Port St. Lucie, FL
- Apr. 13-14** **Nature Coast Orchid Society**
St. Joan of Arc Church,
Spring Hill, FL
- Apr. 27-28** **Vero Beach Orchid Society**
Riverside Park, Vero Beach, FL
- May 3-5** **Platinum Coast Orchid**
Society Show
Kiwanis Island Park Gymnasium
Merritt Island, FL



2024 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN BE PART OF THE TEAM!

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Anna Palermo (2024)

Tom Dixon (2024-2025)

Carolyn Anderson(2024-2025)

Bert Forbush (2024)

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PLANT FORUM

Betty Adamson

MEMBERSHIP

Margaret Smith

Margaret will collect dues at the next meeting when you check in, if you have not already paid.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Patti Scholes

SUNSHINE

Betty Adamson

GREETERS

Margaret Smith & Jennifer Starr

AOS LIAISON

Betty Adamson

RAFFLE

JoAnn Amos

WEBMASTER

Bill Jelen

Check out member photos on the website.

AUDIO

Scott Anderson

REFRESHMENTS

Kathy Balance

Many thanks to all who signed up to bring snacks in March. When you bring something in, you get a free raffle ticket.

SHOW CHAIR

Carolyn Anderson



FEBRUARY PLANT FORUM

The editor would like to highlight individual forum entries but needs a little help from you. If you bring in a plant for the forum that you would like to have in the newsletter, please put the name of the plant under your name on the yellow card. At the end of the forum, the editor will pick up the yellow name cards and take a photo for the new section below. Thank you to Betty who wrote down the name of her plant at the Feb. meeting. Our website offers the same thing—just use your code to send in a photo of your blooming plant, with name, etc. Ask Bill, the webmaster, for your code. Visit the site to see members' blooming plants.

At right: Angem. Veitchii
Grower: Betty Adamson

