

*Platinum Coast Orchid Society
Brevard County, Florida*

The Rhyzome

January 2011 Edition



AM/AOS George King 'Serenadipity'

Bus Trip to the Ft. Lauderdale Show

A Heavenly Eclipse: Orchids Day and Night

We are trying to finalize plans for a bus trip to the Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society's Show on Saturday, January 15th. With the commitment of 40 people, at \$25 per person for the bus trip, we can reserve the bus for that date. If you signed up to go, please contact Jim with confirmation and a check, so plans can be finalized ASAP. If you want to go, but haven't signed up, call Jim at 632-2847 immediately. Guests are welcome to travel with us at the same cost.

Once there, Jim will arrange for reduced admission of \$5.00 for the show. There will be plenty of room for purchases you make to be stowed in the baggage area.

The bus will stop for us to have dinner on the way home at each individual's expense.

New Meeting Place

For those members who were not at the November meeting at Kiwanis Park, the directions for the January meeting are:

From US1, go east on SR520. Pass the mall and continue on SR520 through the light at the Walgreen's. Make a left at the next light. The building is the first one on the left, right after you enter Kiwanis Park.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**January 12th 6:15 pm
Board Meeting
Kiwanis Park**

**January 12th 7:00 pm
Business Meeting
Installation of Officers
Kiwanis Park**

**January 15th
PCOS bus trip to
Ft. Lauderdale Orchid
Show**

**January 26th 6:30 pm
Cocoa Beach Library
Back to Basics Meeting**



Membership Renewal



Joyce Schofield is now collecting membership dues for 2011. Please fill out the membership form attached, so your information can be updated. See Joyce at a meeting or mail your form and dues to:



Joyce Schofield
118 Chipola Road
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931



(New members who joined at the 2010 PCOS Show, do not owe dues at this time.)



2011 PCOS OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

PRESIDENT

Jim Adamson
321-632-2847
jadamson1@cfl.rr.com

AOS REPRESENTATIVE

Betty Adamson

MEMBERSHIP

Joyce Schofield

VICE PRESIDENT

John Hicks
407-277-0430
hicksj0430@bellsouth.net

LIBRARIAN

Sally Pancoast

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Patti Scholes

TREASURER

Joyce Schofield
321-783-5200
joyceschofield@cfl.rr.com

RAFFLE HOST

Glenda Titler

SECRETARY

Nadine Kern
321-504-1199
kern@bellsouth.net

PLANT TABLE HOST

Steve DeSorbo

PAST PRESIDENT

Peter Pancoast
321-459-1996
sallypancoast@cfl.rr.com

DIRECTORS

Dennis Gollehon
321-427-6959
ggollehon@earthlink.net

JoAnn Amos

321-259-8585
mijo2800@yahoo.com

Joan Lehnert

321-632-7105
joanlehnert@belsouth.net

Karen Snee

321-453-1862

(These new officers will be installed at the January meeting)

Sunshine

If you know of a member who is ill, going in for surgery, etc., please contact Betty Adamson.

Water Quality and Orchids

By Craig Helping

Part 6. Softened Water

A number of people use water softeners to treat their home drinking water. Water softening equipment is commonly used when a private well provides the drinking water for household use. However, a growing number of people are opting to install a whole-house water softener to further treat the drinking water received from a public water utility. While the first example may be an unavoidable necessity, the second should be very carefully considered since it could be not only a significant waste of money, but a possible health threat as well.

In either case, water that has been processed through a water softener should never be used on orchids!

Conventional, and effective, water softeners use an ion exchange method to reduce the hardness of the original water source. New 'non-ion exchange' systems are showing up on the market, but their effectiveness and viability are questionable. Hardness can't be reduced by a water softener without altering the water chemistry. These newer systems claim to change water chemistry, but don't claim to actually remove any dissolved salts. Therefore, they may not produce water suitable for orchid irrigation.

Minerals dissolved in the water create the hardness. A conventional water softener works to reduce that hardness by tying up those minerals with an ion exchange process that then keeps the minerals out of the water entering the house. The minerals usually dissolved in water that produce the hardness are a variety of ordinary salts, most of which include a bond of some metal with carbonate.

When passed over a resin system containing sodium, many of these compounds give up their bonds, take the place of the sodium in the resin, and release the sodium into the water. This reduces the hardness. When the resin system "runs out" of sodium ions to exchange, a brine made from added salt renews it. But, the point is, this ion exchange process leaves behind high levels of sodium in the 'finished' water. If you are on a low sodium diet, you should talk to your doctor before using a softener. High sodium can be bad for you, and it is absolutely lethal to your orchids!

AOS CORNER

By Susan Taylor

What does it mean to be an affiliated society of the American Orchid Society? Why should orchid societies be affiliated? I am often asked this question in conversations about the AOS. First and foremost, being an Affiliated Society affords your society a membership in the American Orchid Society and a subscription to *Orchids*. Society membership provides access to a number of video and slide shows. The Education Committee of the AOS is working on production of more shows and updating some of the outdated video and slide productions. For a listing of the available programs, check out the website www.aos.org on the Affiliated Society page. Your society may borrow any of these programs.

A program that AOS is starting to implement on a trial basis will be useful to your society's recruiting efforts. If your society sends the contact information (preferably email) of any new member (forward to affiliated_societies@aos.org), that new member will receive a subscription to the free e-mail newsletter as well as a copy of a recent issue of *Orchids* magazine with an invitation to join the American Orchid Society. A membership in the AOS will complement your local society membership.

As an Affiliated Society, you have your own AOS Representative. That AOS Representative acts as the liaison between your society and the AOS. They should have information and membership materials relating to the AOS at each of your meetings. The only requirement of that AOS Representative by the AOS is that they also have their own membership in the AOS. In addition, the Affiliated Societies Committee holds a membership breakfast at each of the two member meetings where we exchange ideas relating to societies' issues, programs and the like.

Of course, in order to provide AOS judging at any shows, the sponsoring society or group must be an Affiliated Society.

I look forward to working with you all through the upcoming year. If any of you have any comments or suggestions on how the American Orchid Society may better serve its affiliated societies, please feel free to contact me (you may reach me at affiliated_societies@aos.org).



Fellowship



Fun

Holiday Party



**Thank you to
Denise Baumann,
Joyce Schofield, and
Betty Adamson for
planning this wonderful event.**

**Santa Claus
is coming to
town.....**



**The gift exchange was a
huge success....**



**"The 12 Days of Christmas"
was a PCOS team effort...**



Five golden rings.....

**A partridge in
a pear tree.....**



**Four members
dancing.....**

Seven swans a swimming.....



Platinum Coast Orchid Society
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION for 2011

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

NEW MEMBER: _____ or RENEWAL: _____ (Renewal ONLY no changes in data) _____

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY? _____ Yes, _____ No.

THE MEMBERSHIP FEE IS \$15.00 PER PERSON FOR REGULAR MEMBERS AND \$3.00 FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS (UNDER 16 YEARS OLD). Please pay by cash or check. Make checks payable to the "Platinum Coast Orchid Society" or "PCOS".

The membership fee is for one calendar year from Jan. 1 thru Dec 31, except for new members who join at the 2011 PCOS Orchid Show or those who join after Oct 1, 2011, who will be members through 12/31/2012.

AMOUNT PAID: _____ CASH: _____ CHECK NO. _____

Give or mail this completed form with cash or a check for the MEMBERSHIP FEE stated above to Joyce Schofield, your Membership Chairman, addressed below:

Joyce Schofield
118 Chipola Road
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

Home: 321-783-5200, Cell: 321-960-4536

E-mail: joyceschofield@cfl.rr.com

RECEIVED DATE: _____ BY: _____

Data Base Entry Date: _____

E-mail Address Book Entry Date: _____