

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhyzome August 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Orchid people are the nicest people!

Bill and I were pleased with the great turnout for the Ramble at our home on July 27th. We had many of our newer members stop by. We also had lots of help from Karen, Sally, Patti, Carolyn and Scott – thank you all! We were able to send a number of our attendees home with ferns and Phals left over from our Show in May, and Sally brought a large number of “back bulbs” to give away – thank you Sally!

We were all busy answering lots of good questions. I know we weren't able to get to everyone's questions, so it is good timing that our August meeting is called “Back to Basics”, where some of our experienced members will be available to help you with your individual orchid questions regarding potting, potting supplies, fertilizers, pesticides and identifying any mystery orchids you may have – no presentations or outside speakers – just members helping each other! Guest speakers will resume in September. Members may also bring in any plants they wish to show in our Plant Forum, and there will be a Members Plant Sale for members to bring in plants they would like to sell as there will be time for members to shop.

If you would like to bring refreshments to share with our members, please do – you will receive an extra ticket for our Raffle.

See you on August 14th!

Margaret

SUNSHINE

Deepest sympathy to the family of member Shearer Kennedy.



CALENDAR

Aug. 14—6pm Board Meeting

**Aug. 14—7pm Business Meeting
An evening of Orchid Basics**

GREAT THINGS FOR NEW MEMBERS TO KNOW

If you want to read a great article about **Orchid Plant Parts and why they matter**, check out the article in our July 2015 newsletter.

Now you might ask, “Where can I find that? “ Just go to our website:

www.PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

Then click on **The Rhyzome**, then find 2015 and click on July.

If you have never been to the website before, this will be a great opportunity to check it out. Our webmaster has set up a place to put photos of your blooming orchids.

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A big thank you to Margaret and Bill for welcoming members into their home and backyard paradise yet again. It was great to see so many new members, who took home free orchids that were available at the front door. Thank you to Sally for bringing those for us from her greenhouse. Many of you were at her ramble in 2022.

The best thing about Margaret and Bill's set up is that every orchid is in the exact place IT wants to be, which takes knowing the information and observing your orchids. Also, most of them on a screened patio, which so many of you already have in your backyard. In the photos below see if you recognize any of the members and then peek behind them for the type of orchid that is growing nearby.



Long time members, Barbara and Barbara, collected a few orchids as they arrived. We chatted for a while on the front porch about that beautiful *Epidendrum radicans* potted with a dracaena on the left. Some of our new members who joined at the show received a cutting of that *epidendrum* when they joined. Margaret has hers potted in soil with the dracaena where it gets full sun in the winter.

Ramble



Margaret, in the middle, gets a shade break while telling Louise and new member Lois about her orchids.



Anna and Tammy staying cool and hydrated.

Rambling along



New members, Marie, Dawn, and Sandra, check out the orchids. It was great to meet our new members!

On the right side, you can see dendrobiums, sitting in full/partial sun inside the screened enclosure, where they thrive.

At the end of the pool, vandas hang in full sun inside the screened patio. They miss the brutal afternoon sun and benefit from the pool's evaporation.



At left, Valerie stops for a photo and a chat.

Behind her is a shade cloth enclosed portion of the patio that holds the cattleyas and a few others that like some sun, but not as much as the vandas and dendrobiums.

On the left where it is shady is a tiered shelf with phaleanopsis that want no direct sunlight, except in the winter, when the sun is low and through a screen.



At left, Diane, who joined last year, and Ann who is a new member, are inside the cattleya room.

Below, new members, Bryon and Bill, who are moderating our Facebook site. Thanks!!





American Orchid Society

Education. Conservation. Research.

Affiliated Society

UPCOMING SHOWS

Sept. 28-29—Ridge Orchid Society Show

United Women's Club of Lakeland

Lakeland, FL

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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>

First you need to get your password from Bill, our webmaster. You can contact him from the website with your full name and when you joined.

This is your society, and the more active you are, the more you will learn. We welcome all levels of orchid growers and want to provide new members with information and demonstrations on how to best grow their orchids in this area. That is one of the reasons we have a ramble in the summer, right after our show. It is a great benefit to see how our experienced members grow their orchids. Hope you attended and enjoyed.

For the next few months, we will have a look back at some of the great articles from years ago that are things new growers need to know. At the same time, you will be learning more about our website. All of these things plus the wide variety of speakers throughout the year will provide you with a solid foundation.

Charlie will start dividing soon if you are interested in a division. *The Editor*

2024 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN BE PART OF THE TEAM!

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