

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

December 2022

The Rhizome

Attendees at the postponed November meeting enjoyed Phillip Hamilton's talk on Phals. We hope all members escaped any damage from the hurricane and we look forward to seeing everyone at the holiday party.

Many thanks to Tammy and Anna for planning the party. They are putting together a special basket. Anyone who brings a toy or food items for local donation will receive a ticket for the basket raffle.

If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped ornament. This is optional.

If you have not signed up, please respond to the newsletter editor with your name, # of guests and what side dish you will bring. These can include appetizers, salads, vegetable dishes, desserts, etc. The main dish will be supplied by the club. Your reservation will be forwarded to the party chairs.

If you would like to help with set up or clean up, it would be appreciated.

Please note that the treasurer will be collecting 2023 dues at the January meeting.

Election of 2023 Officers took place at the November meeting. They will be installed in January:

President	Margaret Croucher
Vice Pres.	Ed Kidder
Treasurer	Mary Ellen Jelen
Secretary	Carolyn Anderson
Directors:	Witha Lacuesta
	Anna Palermo
	Jim Rice
	Tammy Cheng



Holiday Dinner Party

When: Wed., Dec. 14

6:00 pm Appetizers

6:30 pm Dinner

- **You may BYOB.**
- **Optional Christmas ornament gift exchange.**
- **If you want a chance to win the gift basket, you may bring a toy or pantry item for donation and you will receive a raffle ticket.**

SUNSHINE

Continuing best wishes to Ed Kidder as he recovers from surgery.

Deepest sympathy to member Cathy Virata and family.

November Meeting Notes

Phals

Phillip Hamilton



Culture

- Light
 - Medium, 600 – 1,200 fc
- Water
 - Keep media moist, keep water out of crown
- Fertilizer
 - Use balanced fertilizer (with Micro's is best)
 - 20-20-20
 - 18-18-18
 - Recommended: Better-Gro Orchid Plus 20-14-13
 - $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon/gallon every other watering

How Do They Grow

- Most are epiphytic
 - Found growing beneath the canopies of moist and humid lowland forests, protected against direct sunlight
- Growth is monopodial
- Grow upside-down on trees
 - Keeps moisture from collecting in crown of plant



Diseases

- Fungi
 - Most common are:
 - Botrytis (mainly on flowers), Fusarium, Rhizoctonia (on roots) and Sclerotium rolfsii (Southern Blight)
 - Environmental control is also key
 - Keep foliage dry
 - Allow for good air movement
 - Do not over-water!
 - Do not let pot sit in standing water
 - Repot as soon as media starts to break down
 - Use clean tools when cutting plant material

Phal. Venimp (venosa x Malibu Imp)



GREAT PLACES FOR MEMBERS TO FIND INFORMATION ON ORCHIDS:

1. Programs—Take notes—someday they will make sense.
2. AOS Magazine articles. “Orchids” is available at every meeting for check out.
3. Members— Ask longtime members about orchids, but realize that your yard and potting choices are key. We all use trial and error to succeed.
4. Internet sites—**www.aos.org**—This AOS site has the answer to almost any question.
5. Rambles at members’ homes to help you identify how others in your area grow their orchids.

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>

UPCOMING FLORIDA SHOWS

- FEB. 4-5** Venice Area Orchid Society Show
Venice Community Center, Venice, FL
- FEB. 11-12** Boca Raton Orchid Society Show
Safe Schools Institute, Boca Raton, FL
- MAR. 3-4** Englewood Area Orchid Society Show
“Bewitched by Orchids”
Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park,
Englewood, FL
- MAR. 4-5** Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show
“For the Love of Orchids”
Sons of Italy Hall, Tampa, FL
- MAR. 18-19** Jacksonville Orchid Society Show
Mandarin Garden Club, Jacksonville, FL
- MAR. 18-19** Nature Coast Orchid Society Show
VFW Post 8681, Spring Hill, FL
- MAR. 25-26** Orchid Society of Highlands Show
“Art in Bloom”
Agri-Civic Center, Sebring, FL
- APR. 1-2** Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show
“Hoot Loves Orchids”
Port St. Lucie Polish American Club
Port St. Lucie, FL
- MAY 5-7** Platinum Coast Orchid Society Show!!!!



November Plant Forum

Lions, Medicine, and Orchids...Oh my!

Barb Schmidt, Chair – American Orchid Society Education Committee

What do lions, medicine, and orchids have in common? They are all connected through the Education Committee's 2021 grant program.

One of these grants went to the Brevard Zoo in Melbourne, FL. The Brevard Zoo is a 75-acre, native tropical Florida forest hammock location that attracts over 400,000 visitors each year. The zoo's goal was to place tropical and sub-tropical genera of orchids, along with educational signage, in the trees along the trails and walkways of the zoo to spark an interest in zoo visitors to learn more about orchids and how they grow.

A thousand miles northeast of there, the College of Physicians Mütter Museum in Philadelphia, PA, was using their grant money to create a small display of Dendrobium orchids traditionally used in medicine. This display is now part of the Benjamin Rush Medicinal Plant Garden, which was started shortly after the college began in 1787. An audio tour was created to explain the orchids and their medicinal use.

The Education Committee is now accepting applications for the 2023/2024 grant period. We are looking to promote a wide range of projects. Affiliation with a learning institution is preferred but not necessary. The main requirements are: "grants must develop, implement, maintain, and/or support comprehensive educational programs and activities that embrace learners of any age level." Grant projects can be smaller in scope, such as youth or community education projects held in conjunction with a society orchid show. Please email education_committee@aos.org if you would like to discuss a potential project.



Our own Brevard Zoo received a grant from the American Orchid Society. So our donations to and affiliation with AOS comes back to our community. That is exciting.

2022 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN BE PART OF THE TEAM!

PRESIDENT

Ed Kidder

President@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Walters

VP@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

TREASURER

Margaret Croucher

Treasurer@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

SECRETARY

Carolyn Anderson

Secretary@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

DIRECTORS

Bert Forbush (2022)

Kathy Ballance (2022)

Witha Lacuesta (2022-2023)

James Rice (2022-2023)

Peter Pancoast (Past President)

PLANT FORUM

Betty Adamson

MEMBERSHIP

Margaret Smith

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Patti Scholes

SUNSHINE

Betty Adamson

GREETER

Margaret Smith

AOS LIAISON

Betty Adamson

RAFFLE

JoAnn Amos

WEBMASTER

Bill Jelen

AUDIO

Scott Anderson

REFRESHMENTS

Kathy Ballance

SHOW CHAIR (2023)

Jodi Kittleson

PARTY CHAIRS

Anna Palermo

Tammy Cheng