

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhizome

June 2026

June President's Message

Whew, May is over and we've been very, very busy. First our own orchid show, which was fabulous this year. The sights, the sounds, the smells, the raffle baskets, the volunteers, the sponsors, and all the colorful orchids were just magic! And let's not forget the food! Kudos to Janet and her team of volunteers and all those who brought in such yummy fixin's for us to enjoy. It was a lot of work but it was worth it. Carolyn Anderson and all the show chairs did an excellent job ensuring "Wild About Orchids" was a delightful experience for everyone. I am so proud of our society.

But we weren't finished! The Volusia County Orchid Society and the Central Florida Orchid Society also had orchid shows in May. Both societies participate in preparing tabletop exhibits for our show so we return the favor by creating exhibits at their shows. I want to commend both Margaret Croucher and Karen Chandler for chairing the volunteers who helped design our exhibits and/or contributed plants to the display. I don't want to spoil Margaret or Karen's talks about these events but we really made a showing that got everyone's attention. Also, thanks to Lois Fletcher and Wanda Morales for taking time to travel to both shows and fine tuning their skills in creating award-winning orchid tabletop exhibits.

I hope everyone had a good Memorial Day. Most people consider it the beginning of summer, even though that's not official until June 21st. We, as orchid growers, are well aware of the changing growing conditions and have hopefully adapted our orchid care to meet the needs of our plants during this time. Repotting, fertilizing, watering, and checking for pests and diseases are paramount as we head into hot weather here in Florida. Of course, with climate change we really don't know what to expect. Will there be too much rain, not enough rain, soaring temperatures, thrip infestations, hurricanes? We just don't know how the months ahead will unfold. So, if you have questions about how to handle the various issues that arise in your orchid oasis, be sure to ask questions at meetings, or post your questions on our Facebook page, do research on the AOS website or other reputable sites, and consult your fellow society members. We're all in the same boat, with the same aspirations of growing beautiful orchids. Members helping members is what we're all about!

Laura



CALENDAR—SAVE THE DATES

Wednesday, June 10th, 6pm.
Board Meeting.

Wednesday, June 10th, 7pm.
General Meeting.

Wednesday, July 8th, Board
and General Meeting.

Saturday, August 1. Ramble.
See page 3.

SUNSHINE

We are happy to share that Scott Anderson's mother, has been released from the hospital and is now on the mend out of state. The society sends our warmest wishes to Scott and Carolyn as they help her settle back in and wish her continued recovery.

Kate Redmon has also been discharged from the Hospital to home after surgery. She is healing and on the mend although sore. Kate is a very new member to PCOS and our Andersen Senior Center point person. We wish her continued progress and healing support.

Joy Dykes had a knee replacement recently. We wish her a smooth and speedy recovery during her rehab.

Please contact Mary Ellen Jelen at 330-715-2874 if you or another PCOS member is in need of some sunshine. Please do not disclose any personal information that the person has not granted permission to give.



Speaker of the Month

Olivier Turina

June 10, 2025 7:30 pm



Catasetum Double Down

“Basics of Orchid Growing”

Olivier Turina moved to Fort Lauderdale from his hometown Brussels, Belgium in 2005 and he started growing orchids in 2013 after attending the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Show where he discovered “Paradise” and got the “orchid bug”. It has since become a true passion/downright obsession of his.

Olivier is a hobbyist with a collection of 450+ orchids. He focuses on species and primary hybrids and grows many different genera with Catasetums and Stanhopeas being his top favorites but in reality, there are few orchids he does not like.....

Olivier has been a Board member of the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society (FLOS) since 2020. He has also been a monthly newsletter contributor at FLOS since 2018. He gives lectures on various subjects at various Orchid Societies in South Florida and he also started a YouTube channel in 2019 which has over 4,000 subscribers, 135 videos with over 400,000 views. It is called “Orchid House, Fort Lauderdale, Florida” and it features growing tips for all sorts of orchids.

Olivier has received seven awards from the American Orchid Society; one FCC, four AM, one CCM and one HCC.

Olivier has a Bachelor degree in Finance and Economics. Before being a Fort Lauderdale-based realtor since 2013, he spent the first part of his professional life in the corporate world as banker and financial analyst. He speaks seven languages.



Stanhopea

Contact info:

954-591-1487

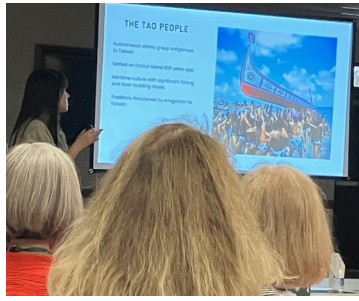
OlivierFTL@gmail.com

“Orchid House, Fort Lauderdale, Florida” YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PlE9SwmjtG4>

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Orchid+House%2C+Fort+Lauderdale%2C+Florida

MAY 13 MEETING



Emily Jefferson "The Butterfly Returns: An Orchid Island Story"

Emily shared her knowledge of the orchids and historic culture of Taiwan.



UPCOMING PCOS EVENTS

July 8, 2026. Serena Roman – "Lady Vanda"

August 1, 2026. Ramble at Orchid Trail on Merritt Island.

September 9, 2026. Tomas Bajza.

October 14, 2026. Mike Sands from Tangled Roots Nursery

November 11, 2026. A speaker from Florida Orchid House.

December 9, 2026. PCOS Christmas Party.



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

We have a fall picnic and our annual Holiday Party coming up. We need someone to chair these events.

Contact Laura to let her know if you are interested.

We should be too big to take offense and too noble to give it.

Abraham Lincoln

Plant forum

May 13th



PCOS AT THE VOLUSIA COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW



Congratulations PCOS!!!! We had a great showing at the Volusia County Orchid Society Show over Mother's Day weekend. Their theme was "Under the Big Top." The PCOS display was awarded an AOS Show Trophy and also earned a 2nd place ribbon! We

also had numerous individual plant ribbons. Congratulations to Clive Gay for a Best in Show



Species and Margaret Croucher for a Best in Show Encyclia.



Thank you to the show away team --- Laura, Margaret, Lois, Wanda and Karen. Special thanks to Sally, Clive, Margaret, Laura, Lois and Karen who generously offered plants for our display.



American Orchid Society
 P.O. Box 58477 Miami, FL 33256-5477
 (305) 740-3030
 info@aos.org

Award Number: 20202495
 Show: Volusia County Orchid Show
 Place: Exhibit 104 Show Trophy
 Date: 5/9/2020

Class Name:
 Parent 1:
 Parent 2:

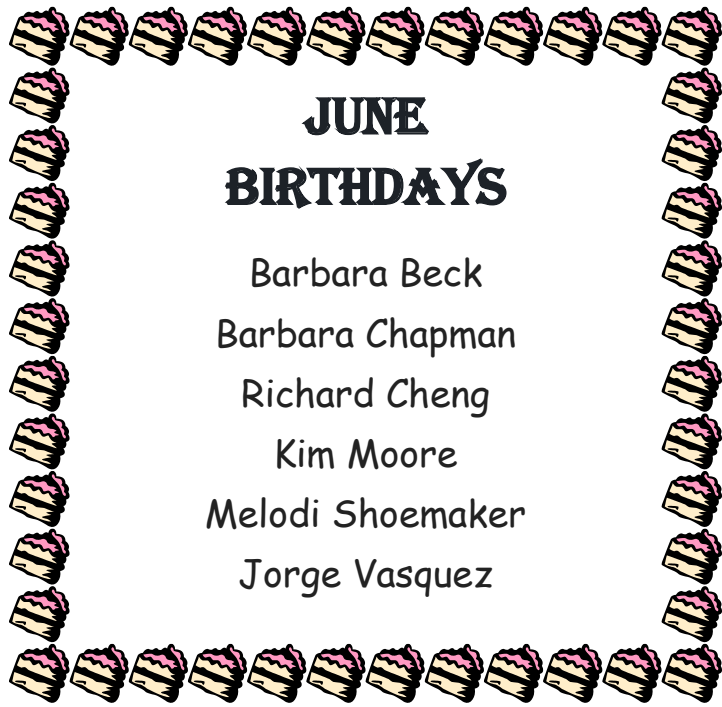
Measurement in centimeters	Width/Horizontal	Length/Vertical
Natural Spread		
Overall height		
Petal		
Lateral sepal/Pyreneal		
Lip/Pouch		
Pistil		
Inflorescence		X

Description: Begin with the number of flowers, buds, and inflorescences.

A 20 square-foot, rectangular exhibit, viewed 180 degrees, of well-grown hybrids and species of Vandas, Cattleyas, Dendrobiums, Encyclias, Zygopogonums, Masferrerias, Phragmipodums, Phalaenopsis, and Oncidium, with a focal point of a specimen plant of Vanda latifolia, drilled-out, recessed, ferns, with circus animals of lion, elephant, and clown leading to the ring leader and circus bigtop tent which highlights the show theme "Orchids under the Bigtop".

Award \$T
 Chairman's Name: Joe Bryson
 Chairman's Signature: [Signature]
 Photographer: [Signature]
 Exhibitor Name and Address:
 Member Class: General Society
 Email Address:
 Phone:





JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- Barbara Beck
- Barbara Chapman
- Richard Cheng
- Kim Moore
- Melodi Shoemaker
- Jorge Vasquez

Happy Birthday Richard Cheng!

He served 20 years in the U. S. Air Force and still works at Patrick Air Force Base.

He loves to fish and play in the garden. He rides mountain bikes and loves hanging out with his three children and two grandchildren.

He really is enjoying being a member of PCOS and learning about his wife's orchids lol.

Happy Birthday!

Tammy



PCOS AT THE CENTRAL FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW



What a great way to end the area orchid shows for this season! The Away Team of Laura, Wanda, Lois & Karen created an award worthy display for the Central Florida Orchid Society Show, May 23 & 24, 2026. **HUGE SHOUT OUT TO...Sally Pancoast, Margaret Croucher, Laura Blackmon, Elaine**



Chambers, Charis Gaines, Lois Fletcher, Wanda Morales and Tammy Cheng for supplying plants for the display. It takes a TEAM! Many of the plants earned 1st, 2nd or 3rd place ribbons. We also had 7 Best in Show Awards! Best Society Exhibit – **PCOS**; Best Interpretation of the Show Theme "Orchids Under the Sun" – **PCOS**; Best Native Florida Orchid Species for her E. tampensis – **Sally Pancoast**; Best Phalaenopsis for her Phal. Antura Victoria – **Lois Fletcher**; Best Dendrobium for her Den. Jairak Fire Horn 'Cooper Prince' AM/AOS – **Tammy Cheng**; Best Vanda Blooming First Time for her Paraphalaenopsis laycockii – **Laura Blackmon**; Best Miscellaneous Genera for her Cyrtopodium polyphyllum – **Margaret Croucher**.



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 Margaret Croucher 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

Note: There are no upcoming shows in our part of the country until later in the fall.

AOS WEBINARS

AOS Webinars are on-line presentations that can be watched live or recorded on the AOS web-site. You must register on-line for the live presentations but there is no cost. Some of the presentations are available to the general public and some only available to AOS members.

These two programs are upcoming:

*Catasetum Culture with Scott Elliot, Thursday, June 11th from 8:30-9:30 pm EDT. Members only.

*Greenhouse Chat, Thursday July 9th from 8:30-9:30 pm EDT. Get answers to your questions about all things relating to orchids. Send questions and pictures to Sandra Svovoda at greenhousechat@aos.org by July 5th, 2026. Available to the general public.



Myc. luster

Florida's Native Orchids

By Laura

I know it's hard to believe I purchased orchids when I went to Redlands, but I did! One of them is a native of Florida named Lonopsis utricularioides, or the Delicate Violet Lonopsis. Did you know there are about 200 native species in the U.S. and over half of them are found in Florida? Of course, most of them are native to South Florida but that doesn't mean we can't grow them in Central Florida if we provide them the proper environment.

One word of caution. You can't collect native orchids in the wild. They are stringently protected by Florida law because of habitat loss, commercial exploitation and poaching. According to UF/IFAS, 58 species are endangered and 18 species are threatened. In some instances, where development and clearing of land results in the disposal of trees with natives attached you might "rescue a plant". However, anyone who wants to harvest native orchids for sale from the wild must get a permit. A permit is also required for collecting more than two for personal use from private lands, or any at all from public lands. Certified nurseries are specifically permitted to sell commercially grown protected plants. I would strongly urge you obtain your plants from responsible nurseries.

Here are a few of the more well-known and/or obtainable natives:

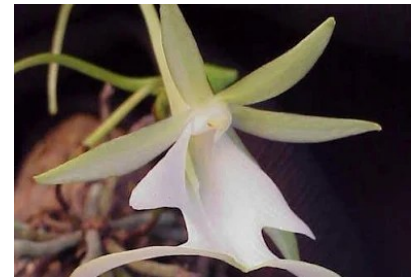
Cyrtopodium punctatum

This Florida native is also known as the Cowhorn Orchid, Bee Swarm Orchid, and Cigar Orchid. In the state it can be found in the cypress swamps and marshes of the Big Cypress Preserve. It usually grows as an epiphyte but can be terrestrial. It is a member of the Catasedum family and blooms in the spring.



Dendrophylax Indenii

The Florida Ghost Orchid is an extremely rare orchid that flowers in the summer. The delicate white flower has corkscrew petals and the plant is leafless. It is very difficult to grow once removed from its natural environment and does not respond well to cultivation.



Encyclia tampensis

The Florida Butterfly Orchid (or Tampa Butterfly Orchid) is one of the most common native orchids and generally found in the south and central parts of the state. It is what we call an epiphyte orchid which grows in trees like live oaks, cypress and mangroves. It is readily available from state-wide vendors and is easy to grow.



Epidendrum nocturnum

This endangered Florida native is also known as the Night Fragrant Epidendrum. It is the largest flowered epidendrum in FL with long, slender, star-shaped flowers that are fragrant at night but often do not open. It produces flowers year-round and is capable of self-pollination, meaning it does not require an insect pollinator to reproduce.



(cont'd from previous page)

Epidendrum conopseum

Also known as *Epidendrum magnoliae* or the Green Fly Orchid, this epidendrum is frost-resistant and the only epiphytic orchid that can be found in the US outside of FL. Large colonies have been found growing on a variety of trees, especially live oaks, but often hidden by ferns that grow on the same tree branch. It is believed to be pollinated by nocturnal moths and is threatened due to habitat destruction (land clearing and draining of swamps) as well as over-collecting. They are fragrant at night and are said to smell like 4 o'clocks.



Eulophia alta

This orchid is also known as Wild Coco and is native to Florida and Georgia. It is a large, showy terrestrial orchid that grows in roadside ditches, swamps, marshes, and flatwoods. It can flower anytime from July to January.



Lonopsis utricularioides

This Florida native is also known as Delicate Violet *Lonopsis*. It is an epiphytic orchid that thrives in humid environments growing on twigs and branches of trees or shrubs along streams. It is miniature to medium sized and has delicate, almost translucent, flowers. It is a close relative of *Tolumnia*.



Trichocentrum undulatum

The **Spotted Mule Eared Orchid** is also known as *Epidendrum maculatum* or *Oncidium undulatum*. The only population still remaining in Florida is in the Everglades National Park and is threatened by hurricanes and an invasive species of scale insects. It grows on the trunks and branches of trees and flowers April – September. While endangered in Florida it still does well from Mexico to northern South America.



Local vendors selling these natives:

Broward Native Orchids

Krull Smith Orchids

Odoms Orchids

Plantio La Orquidea

Springwater Orchids

Internet References:

Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden

Florida International University News

North American Orchid Conservation Center

Reddit.com

University of Florida IFAS

University of South Florida Libraries: [Atlas of Florida Plants](#)

2026 PCOS OFFICERS

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VICE PRESIDENT Tom Dixon

TREASURER Charis Gaines

SECRETARY Tammy Cheng

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Wanda Morales (2026)

Karen Chandler (2026-27)

Bruce Tatje (2026-27)

PAST PRESIDENT Margaret Croucher

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Bill Jelen

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Scott Anderson

REFRESHMENTS

Mike Starr

SHOW CHAIRMAN

Carolyn Anderson

**BE PART OF
THE TEAM**

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