

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhyzome

March 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

PCOS will be honoring our past president and long-time member Jim Adamson by dedicating this year's show to him.

Jim and his wife, Betty, have been active with the club since it first began. He readily shared his knowledge as a professional orchid grower, and continuously supported the club with his own plants and his contact with other growers.

Finally, a special thanks to Kathy Jacobson who has once again agreed to handle the snacks for our meeting. Again, thank you Kathy.



Blc.
Karnmaneethong

CALENDAR

Wed., Mar. 20th 6pm—Board Meeting

Wed., Mar. 20th 7pm—Business Meeting

AOS PODCAST

Member plant sale

Tues., Mar. 19th—3rd Show Meeting at Hobbs Pharmacy



Many thanks to Sally Pancoast for guiding us through another potting experience. A great time was had by all who attended.

Please bring any sponsorships you have collected over the past month. Be sure to have the forms filled out, so we have contact information.

SUNSHINE

We send our sincere sympathy to the Adamson family. Jim Adamson was President and show chairman multiple times over the years for PCOS. We will dearly miss him and his devotion to the society.

Our best wishes go to members Nadine Kern and Shearer Kennedy as they recover from surgery, etc. We are glad to see that they are doing well.

Please contact Betty at jadamson1@cfl.rr.com if you have any information about a member who needs a card.

DUES

Margaret Croucher will be collecting dues for 2019 at the March meeting.



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 the best way to grow your 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

UPCOMING SHOWS

Mar. 2-3—Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show, Tampa Scottish Rite Center, Tampa, FL

Mar. 8-10—Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance Show, North Collier Regional Park, Naples, FL

Mar. 16-17—Jacksonville Orchid Society Show, Garden Club of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL

Mar. 23-24—Orchid Society of Highlands County, Jack Stroup Civic Center, Sebring, FL

Mar. 30-31—Nature Coast Orchid Society Spring Show, VFW Post 8681, Spring Hill, FL



2019 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN

BE PART OF THE TEAM!

PRESIDENT

Peter Pancoast

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VICE PRESIDENT

Margaret Croucher

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TREASURER

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Patti Williams

Secretary@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

DIRECTORS

Laura Blackmon (2019-2020)

Julie Howard (2018-2019)

Ed Kidder (2018-2019)

Kathy Jacobson (2019-2020)

Jodi Kittleson (Past President)

PLANT FORUM

Betty Adamson

MEMBERSHIP

Margaret Croucher

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Patti Scholes

SUNSHINE

Betty Adamson

GREETER

Maureen Malone

PROGRAMS

Margaret Croucher

PHOTOGRAPHER

Charlie Scholes

AOS LIAISON

Betty Adamson

RAFFLE

JoAnn Amos

WEBMASTER

Dennis Gollehon

AUDIO

Mike Ellis

ORCHID SAFARI

Our show is one of the best ways to get involved with the society and get to know other society members well. Many members spend the entire weekend at the show doing a variety of jobs, but even if you only have a little time, this will help you start thinking about what you would like to do:

Find sponsors: At February's meeting, you received sponsor forms. When you go to a restaurant or a store, tell the manager about the orchid society and the show and ask if they would like to contribute a gift certificate or prize. Money sponsorship will be used for trophy prizes. All sponsors are recognized in the program and at the show if we receive their information and gift by the April meeting. This is easy for anyone as most places are happy to donate to a community event. Just have them fill out the form and bring the form and gift to the meeting. Sponsor chair: Elaine DeRiso

Help at the courtesy booth: This is the place where visitors can buy raffle tickets, sign up for membership, and pick up information. Friendly and outgoing people are needed here. Pick a time slot or 2 for Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Courtesy Booth Chair: Lisa Broddle

Help at the ticket table: This involves taking money for entrance and giving out door prize tickets. Friendly and outgoing people who can handle an occasional bit of stress when the lines are long are needed here. Pick a time slot or 2 for Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Ticket Chair: Al Valentine

Set up and clean up: We need a variety of people here. There is some lifting, but we try to hire people to do heavy lifting. Putting on tablecloths, hanging signs, arranging tables, etc. is easy and fun. Set-up is on a Wednesday; tear down is on Sunday afternoon. Set-up Chair: Mike Ellis

Clerking: This involves quietly following the judges, reading a map and finding specific orchids that will be judged, listening to the judges' decisions and then recording them, making sure ribbons are filled out and hung on the appropriate plants. Those who listen well and can perform multiple tasks at a time are needed. Knowledge of different kinds of orchids is necessary. This takes place on Friday. Clerk Chair: Margaret Croucher

Do a niche exhibit or help with the society exhibit: A niche is a small orchid exhibit that one or two people work on. Ferns and moss are provided to help you fill out your exhibit. Some people use driftwood or stones, but however you do your exhibit, it needs to follow the show theme. People with an eye for design and are familiar with or will be present for the meeting program on "how to do a niche" will have fun with this. Niche Chair: Darlene Norton

Registration: This involves helping those who want to register plants, fill out the form correctly. If you have registered your own plants in the past and understand the format, you will be a big help here. This takes place on Thursday. Registration Chair: Sally Pancoast

Helping vendors and others set up: Thursday is a very hectic day, but the fun in being there for the whole day is that you get to witness the transformation. Some vendors will need help carrying in their orchids. Booth chairmen may need help setting up. Registration or exhibit chairs may need someone to run an errand. Show, hospitality or luncheon chairman may need help. This job can be filled by anyone who is willing to help.

Monthly Checklist for March and April

Cattleya

Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.

Phalaenopsis

In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging -- even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the look out for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs, and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them. (From www.aos.org)