

Platinum Coast Orchid Society



November's plant forum

The Rhyzome

January 2020



Many thanks to Peter for all of his work this year as President. The photo below shows the results of the election held in November, with the exception of Ed. They will all be installed at the January meeting.

If you have plants you would like to sell at the January meeting, start getting them ready. This newsletter is a bit early so that anyone who wants to participate will have time to prepare.

Please notice the chairman opportunities that will become available in January on page 4. If there is something you can do, please let Mike know as he looks to fill these positions.

CALENDAR

Wed., Jan. 8—6pm Board Meeting

Wed., Jan. 8—7pm Business Meeting

Member plant sale

Installation of new officers

Orchid Wiz Demo

Tues., Jan. 14—6-8pm Show Meeting at Hobb's

OFFICERS TO BE INSTALLED IN JANUARY

President	Mike Ellis
Vice President	Ed Kidder
Treasurer	Margaret Croucher
Secretary	Carolyn Anderson
Directors:	Donna Morris and Bert Forbush
Returning Directors:	Kathy Jacobson and Laura Blackmon



L-R Kathy, Margaret, Mike, Bert, Carolyn, Laura, and Donna

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 FLORIDA SHOWS

- Jan. 4-5 Sarasota Orchid Society Show** at Sarasota Municipal Auditorium in Sarasota
- Jan. 10-12 Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Show** at The Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward Convention Center in Ft. Lauderdale
- Jan. 11-12 Florida West Coast Orchid Society Show** at Seminole Recreation Center in Seminole
- Jan. 17-19 Miami Orchid Society Show** at the Dade County Fairgrounds Expo Center in Miami
- Feb. 1-2 Venice Area Orchid Society Show** at Venice Community Center in Venice
- Feb. 8-9 Boca Raton Orchid Society Show** at Safe Schools Institute in Boca Raton
- Feb. 15-16 Orchid Society of Highlands County** at the Agri-Civic Center in Sebring
- Feb. 15-16 Port Saint Lucie Orchid Show** at the Port Saint Lucie Botanical Gardens in Port Saint Lucie
- Feb. 22-23 Naples Orchid Society Show** at the Naples Botanical Garden in Naples
- Mar. 7-8 Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show** at the Tampa Scottish Rite Center in Tampa
- Mar. 13-14 Englewood Area Orchid Society** at Englewood United Methodist Church in Englewood
- Mar. 13-14 Orchid Society of Coral Gables Show** at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Coral Gables.



Party!



**Many thanks to our
2019 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN**

PRESIDENT

Peter Pancoast

President@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Margaret Croucher

VP@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

TREASURER

Margaret Smith

Treasurer@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

SECRETARY

Patty 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)

******We will be looking for someone to take over the positions of greeter (sits at the door and gives out nametag tickets for raffle), audio (brings and sets up the sound system for each meeting), refreshments (buys and sets up refreshments at meetings), and picnic and party chairs.**

BE PART OF THE TEAM!

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

REFRESHMENTS and PICNIC

Kathy Jacobson

SHOW CHAIR

Laura Blackmon

PARTY CHAIR

Jodi Kittleson

Fredclarkeara After Dark **'SVO Black Pearl' FCC/AOS**

Grower Margaret Croucher

Many thanks to Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids for the article below, which is also in Fred's December newsletter. Margaret got this plant from Fred when he spoke at our meeting. For those of you who also made purchases, here are some great reminders.



Catasetinae Growing tips

What a great year for the genus! Feedback from Catasetinae growers confirms this was a spectacular growing and flowering year. There have been many awards given by the American Orchid Society judges. Congratulations to all of you who received them!

Now that winter has clearly arrived, your Catasetums should have matured growths and be mostly done flowering, *Cycnoches* will be finishing their blooming, *Mormodes* should be flowering now, and *Clowesia* should be starting soon.

The onset of dormancy is caused by several factors: the maturity of the pseudobulb, shortening day length, cooler day/night temperatures and the end of the rainy season resulting in the lack of root zone moisture.

Those of you in Florida and southern states may already have dormant plants. Those in more temperate areas like here in California should be seeing the starts of dormancy with the lower leaves starting to turn light brown and drop off.

The first indications of leaf yellowing and leaf drop signal the beginning of dormancy. This is when you should stop fertilizing and cut back on watering frequency. You want to simulate the end of the wet season, as it happens in nature, by gradually increasing the dry interval in-between watering. I am watering every two weeks at the time of the writing of this news letter. This change in culture will cause the pseudobulbs to harden off, in preparation for dormancy. When most leaves are yellow/brown and have dropped off, cease watering altogether this should be around the first of the new year and marks the start of dormancy.

Generally, this process occurs naturally; however, when the plants are cultivated in warm growing areas such as in the home or under lights, dormancy sometimes needs to be encouraged. I have found that in addition to the steps outlined above stopping watering in late December or early January, regardless of the number of green leaves, will trigger dormancy in plants that are resisting the necessary transition. If you see a little shriveling of the bulb usually one watering is enough to plump them back up.

By late December, it's important to get your Catasetinae into the dormant stage; to provide them with an adequate rest period so that they will 'wake up' early in the spring to a long growing season.

As my Catasetinae go to "sleep" for the winter I am reminded of an old proverb (with apologies to Ben Franklin) "Early to bed and early to rise, makes you healthy, happy and floriferous."