
Brevard County Orchid Society

Bulletin – March

President: Vern Bloch 727-0527
 Secretary: April Graham 751-1240
 News Letter Editor: Dave Siegrist 254-4645

Vice President: Judy Law 777-0311
 Treasurer: Lorna Mazza 255-2050

Board of Directors:

1st Year
 Barbara Brackett 426-5100
 Carol Hartgen 638-8657

2nd Year:
 Ed Dunham 255-3309
 Fred Zepf 777-9837

3rd Year:
 Kathryn Merry 724-2698
 Helga Lamb 773-5713

Past President: Julie Zepf

The BCOS is a non-profit organization established to develop, improve, and preserve cultivation and hybridization of orchids; collect information relating to growing and developing orchids; disseminate information concerning the culture, hybridization or development of orchids through meetings, exhibitions, lectures, or publications; to provide awards for excellence in the development or culture of orchids; increase public interest in the growing of orchids; and generally to extend the knowledge, production, use and appreciation of orchids.

The BCOS meets monthly each 2nd Monday at 7:30 P.M in the Satellite Beach Municipal Auditorium at the Civic Center, 565 Cassia Blvd, Satellite Beach, Florida.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Two thoughts for the month.

First; it appears we completely escaped winter this year, unlike our countrymen farther north. We may still have some occasional nighttime temperatures below 50, so you do have to remain aware of the potential consequences. That means Dendrobiums, which can drop leaves, and bud blast for plants left out below 50 degrees. Now is the time to get serious about spring orchid needs. It is the best time to re-pot, since spring is your best growing season, which means the plants will re-establish themselves before the heat of summer slows them down.

Second; the Spring Fair is coming up in two months. Julie will need lots of help. What can you contribute?

Vern Bloch

BACK TO BASICS

Last month I agreed to start some short presentations on basic orchid culture. We’ll start at 6:45 pm, preceding the main program at 7:30 on Monday, March 10th. We’ll set up a special area away from the plant table, so we don’t interfere with setup for the regular program. Doors open at 6:30, so we don’t have much time to get ready. If you wish to participate, please show up in time to help set up and stay long enough to put the chairs away when we finish.

The program this month will be on potting, since this is the prime time of year for just that. Although the physical act of potting an orchid is really simple, some people are afraid to tackle this task for fear of hurting their plants, and some people make mistakes that can be harmful to the plants. There are some tips that can greatly enhance your results. I'll use the old writer's code: What, when, why and how. I'll talk about reasons for re-potting, the timing, materials, and a short demo on how to chop up a plant and stuff it back in a pot. Hopefully, we'll help you develop the confidence to tackle this task without trepidation or fear.

Although many aspects of re-potting are the same for most orchids, there are some unique considerations for different genera. We won't have time for all of them, so I will focus on the cattleya family. Next month we'll try to touch on some others, including how to mount plants on wood or plaques.

Vern Bloch

MARCH PROGRAM

March program will be Joe Bryson "Phalaenopsis culture and Judging of quality plants". There will be member plant sales.

MEMBER PLANT SALES ARE PERMITTED.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2007

The meeting was called to order by the President at 6:43 pm on Tuesday, February 8, 2008, at the Satellite Beach Public Library. Vern Bloch, Fred Zepf, Julie Zepf, Dave Siegrist, Helga Lamb, Ed Dunham, April Graham, Kathryn Merry, Barbara Brackett, Judy Law, Carol Hartgen, and Lorna Mazza were present.

The minutes from the December Board meeting were distributed by April Graham and corrected and approved by the Board.

The Treasurer's Report for December and January were distributed by Lorna Mazza and tabled until March board meeting due to questions.

Correspondence –E-mail

February in you orchid collection form
Martin Motes.

Old Business

1. Final Christmas party budget – tabled until March board meeting due to questions corresponding with treasurer's report.
2. Final WOC trip budget – Ron Fischer will be asked to present at February general meeting.
3. Report on BCOS Bucks – no actions taken as of yet.
4. Purchase of memory sticks – Dave Siegrist has purchased these at a cost of \$56.50.

New Business

1. Satellite Beach Auditorium – Ed Dunham reviewed processes for using new facility
2. Topics from the AOS – Julie Zepf reviewed AOS sales and discount offers for membership and the restructuring of the AOS. Information will be made available to all BCOS members by the newsletter and website.
3. Minutes of board meetings – Briefly discussed process of approving and publishing board minutes. This will be discussed further at March board meeting.
4. 2008 Committees – Reviewed changes and updates, will finalize review next month after checking with past chairs and new volunteers
5. 2008 programs – Judy Law and Vern Bloch will be arranging speakers for the 2008 general meetings
6. Annual plant auction – Vern Bloch would like to revisit holding an auction
7. Number of Vendors in Fairs – Vern presented concerns vendors have about low sales at fairs corresponding with high amount of vendors at shows.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

April Graham

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

As the BCOS President I want to welcome our new members and hope that you enjoy your membership in our organization.

Here you should ask questions and learn. Just listen, learn and enjoy.

Vern Bloch, BCOS President

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

We send our condolences to the family of D. X. Ross, who passed away in February 2008. D. X. was an active member of our Society and co-chaired the Orchid Fair with Julie Zepf for two years. D.X. was an accomplished artist of many media and was exhibited nationally and internationally. As quoted in her obituary "She tread the earth lightly, taking little and giving much". A Celebration of her Life will be held March 6th at Spessard Holland Park in Melbourne Beach at 5:30 pm. In lieu of flowers, BCOS will send a donation to Vistas Hospice of Melbourne in D. X.'s name.

The Brevard County Orchid Society would like to express caring and concern to any member or their immediate family who is ill or in need of care. We are also happy to announce and celebrate joyful events. Please get in touch with the Sunshine Committee if you know of anyone who should be remembered or contacted, and let us know about events worth celebrating.

Elaine Chambers, 321-213-6341

Sunshine Committee

ASK THE EXPERTS

When you have a question about your orchids, just write or e-mail Dave Siegrist. Dave will then direct the question to one of our society experts. Your answer will appear in the next issue of the newsletter. There will also be a log of all the questions asked with their answers kept on the web site for future reference. We hope that everyone uses this new reference and finds it informative. So the next time you have a question, a problem to

solve, or a pest you can't kill, remember to just 'Ask the Experts'.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BCOS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4th at 6:45 PM at the Satellite Beach Library.

GENERAL MEETING. The next meeting of the BCOS general membership will be held on **Monday**, March 10th beginning at 7:30PM, at the Satellite Beach Municipal Auditorium.

UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND FLORIDA

March 7-9

Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show

Port St. Lucie Community Center, 2195 SE Airoso Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL. Contact: Laurie S. Hart, 2217 SE Adobe St., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952; (772) 337-2126; paddy Laurie@bellsouth.net.

15TH SPRING ORCHID FAIR

The Brevard County Orchid Society's 15th Spring Orchid Fair will be the weekend of May 3 and 4, 2008. As usual, we are looking to volunteers for help make the Orchid Fair a success. The following describes some of the help that will be needed for our fair to be successful:

The following tasks are 1 or 2 hour shifts:

Admission: This is a sit down job for 2 members per 2 hour shift, this entails handling money, giving out tickets and fair information to each customer.

Hospitality: We will need 2 members per 2 hour shift to sit at the society table to hand out culture sheets, answer questions, act as ambassadors for the society and encourage people to join our society.

Plant Raffle: We will be raffling off blooming orchids and supplies donated by our 16 vendors and orchid related items donated by members. We need volunteers to explain the process to people and sell as many raffle

tickets as possible. This entails handling money and standing for 1 or 2 hours.

Workshop Room Monitor: This entails being in the room during the workshop and assisting the speaker if needed, closing doors, getting anything the speaker may need and just being an extra pair of hands to ensure the workshop goes smoothly. A sit down job for 1 member per workshop for 1 hour.

Display Room Monitor: This entails being in the room to watch that no one touches the orchids, no orchid develops feet, to answer any questions and to act as an ambassador for the society. 2 members per hour 1 sits 1 stands, can change off as needed.

The following are not difficult tasks, and won't take a lot of your time:

Set-up/Tear-down: This entails putting skirts on tables (which are already in place), hanging the vendors name signs, assisting vendors to get their plants and supplies unloaded and setup. At the tear down the process is reversed. Set-up is Friday May 2, 2008 at 3:00 pm, tear down is Sunday May 4, 2008 at 5:00 pm.

Raffle Prize Delivery: This entails coming Sunday May 4, 2008 at 5:30pm and taking two or more of the raffle prizes and delivering them to the winners. We will try to match the winner's address with the volunteers. The raffle committee will have gotten directions for the volunteers.

Please think about volunteering for at least one of these activities. It takes all of you to make a fair a success. I will be passing the signup book around at both the March 10 and April 14 general meetings. If you will not be at the general meeting please call me at 777-9837 to sign up. **Please volunteer!! We need all of you!!**

Thanks, Julie Zepf Fair Chairman

**WANTED ALL BLOOMING ORCHIDS!
WIN CASH!**

Our Spring Orchid Fair is coming May 3 and 4, 2008 now is the time to start talking to your orchids and play them music to get them

to show their glory for the fair. Judging will be of only non-commercial orchids and cash prizes will be awarded. There will be ribbons and certificates awards in each category with a \$25.00 prize for the Best in each category. The orchid judged the Best in Fair will receive an additional \$25.00. That's a total of \$325.00 to be awarded. All BCOS members are eligible to enter orchids for judging but please only enter orchids that have been bloomed under your guidance and tender loving care. Please don't enter orchids that you have just purchased from your favorite vendor, Loews, Walmart or Home Depot. Entries should be brought to the Azan Shrine Center, 1591 West Eau Gallie Blvd, in Melbourne on Friday May 2, 2008 between 4:00pm and 6:00pm. All plants will be inspected by the head of judging. A plant found to have any pest or disease will be rejected and not allowed to be entered. This is to protect all vendor and member plants in the display room, so please inspect your orchids before bringing them for judging. The judging will take place at 9:00am on Saturday May 3, 2008, by a panel of selected BCOS members. So come enter as many orchids as you have in bloom, there is no limit. The following are the categories being judged: Cattleya - small \leq 4 inches, Cattleya – large $>$ 4 inches, Dendrobium, Epidendrum/Encyclia, Oncidium, Paphiopedilum, Phalaenopsis, Vanda, Other Genera, one for Culture, People's Choice and the Special Judging category which is a discretionary award to be used by the head of judging. So come, enter your orchids, join the fun and win some cash.

AOS MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL

From now through March 31, 2008 the AOS is offering discounted membership rates!

Two year sign ups or renewals will receive a coupon worth \$30 off on a retail purchase of \$100 or more from one of these 12 nurseries:

Carmela Orchids, Carter & Holmes Orchids, Gold Country Orchids, Hoosier Orchid Company, IGS, Krull-Smith, Norman's

Orchids, OFE International, Piping Rock Orchids, Quest Orchids, R.F. Orchids, Inc., Soroa Orchids, Inc.

New Members:

Individual - \$49.95/year or two years for \$99.95

Joint - \$64.95/year or two years for \$129.95

Current Members:

Current members may extend their membership for two (2) years at the \$99.95 rate

The existing membership brochure application form may be used, simply reduce the price. You can also join or renew at the website www.aos.org.

In addition to 12 issues of *Orchids* Magazine, membership in the AOS also includes benefits at over 200 Arboreta and Botanical Gardens throughout the United States. The following is a partial list of those in the State of Florida:

Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens, Winter Park – free admission; 10% gift shop discount.

Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens, Lake Monroe – free admission.

Fairchild Tropical Garden – free admission.

Harry P. Leu Gardens, Orlando – free admission.

Heathcote Botanical Gardens, Inc., Fort Pierce – free admission except special events.

The Marie Selby Botanical Garden – free admission; 10% gift shop discount.

McKee Botanical Gardens – free admission.

Mounts Botanical Garden – 10% gift shop discount; discounted workshops, classes and tours.

For a complete list go to http://www.ahs.org/pdfs/07/0708_RAP_Brochure.pdf

If you require more information or have any questions please feel free to contact me at 777-9837 or by e-mail at jfzopf@aol.com.

Julie Zepf, AOS representative for BCOS

FROM THE EDITOR

THEBCOS.ORG is the address for the New Brevard County Orchid Society Web page. This newsletter is available in both paper hardcopy (Snail-Mail), and electronic Distribution (E-Mailed) using Adobe Acrobat PDF format. If you send an e-mail request to dave@siegrist.net, I will add you to the electronic distribution list. I can also take you off the Postal Mailing list and save the society a little money on postage and reproduction costs.

FROM THE LIBRARIAN

We have many new books in our library available to check out. The list is on the web page. Please feel free to contact me about the library.

Helga Lamb 773-5713

MARCH 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

24 Feb	25	26	27	28	29	1 March
2	3	4 BCOS Board of Directors Meeting, 6:45pm at the Satellite Beach Library	5	6	7 Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show	8 Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show
9 Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show	10 BCOS Meeting. Satellite Beach Municipal Auditorium 7:30pm	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1 April BCOS Board of Directors Meeting, 6:45pm at the Satellite Beach Library	2	3	4	5 Central Florida Orchid Society Show

* See the “**Upcoming Events Around Florida**” information enclosed in the newsletter for further details on the Calendar of Events activities

Brevard County Orchid Society
% Dave Siegrist
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