

January 2007

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Platinum Coast Orchid Society



Board Members 2007

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President's Corner

Best wishes and a prosperous New Year to all. I would like to encourage everyone to attend the Jan meeting and show your support for the new slate of officers, which will be installed. It is also renewal time, please use the renewal form provided. Bring your beauties for Show 'n' Tell. Anyone who has plants they would like to sell or trade, please bring them. Jim has informed me that George Hauserman has been contacted to be our speaker for February meeting. I hope that he will be able to come. He has spoken to our group previously and is extremely informative.

I just recently learned from Expo that our Clubhouse meeting room will not be available. However, the room behind the main cafeteria has been made available for this meeting. For those of you who are not familiar with the location of the room, it is in the building known as the cafeteria. You should park where you normally do and enter the building on the opposite side of the road. You shouldn't have any difficulty finding the room.

See you soon.

Bob



Membership

To start the year off, we have a new individual in charge of our membership, Mr. Jack Taylor. In order for him to communicate with us all via email (those who have and use their electronic mail) Jack would like it if you would add him to your email "Accepted" list, so that his correspondences will not go directly your email box's trash can, or spam folder. Add Jack's email as:

mjtquest@cfl.rr.com

Thanks!

Is It Real? Craig Helpling

All new hybrid crosses start with species plants, with hybrids that have been created, or with any combinations of the same. New grex names are not usually created for the hybrid cross until after the plant is successful, which means people want to buy it! The Royal Horticultural Society maintains The International Orchid Registry. Here, official hybrid, or grex, names are registered for new orchid crosses. There is a fee for registering the grex name, but it allows the orchid hybridizer, the vendors, and the potential customers to all know, at least in general, what the orchid is. But, not all orchids are registered.

I have an orchid labeled Dtps. Man Chung Hong. That may be a real name in somebody's world, but it has not been registered to date. That also means I cannot find out its parents. It cannot be entered in AOS judging, either. The label does not give any hint that it is unregistered.

At our show, at least one vendor was selling an unregistered hybrid. The tag said Phal. Anthura Gold. However, the vendor was honest; the tag also said in parentheses, "Not Registered." I have seen, and even own, other orchids with the word 'Anthura' in them: Dawson, Dublin, Halifax. But, using the RHS web site, you will discover that no orchid of any type has yet been registered with the name 'Anthura' in any portion. Go to the web site www.anthura.com and you'll find the source of these orchids explained in the native German or in other languages including English. All are very nice orchids, but simply not "real" as far as international recognition is concerned.

Orchid Seedlings; the Least You Need to Know

Orchid seeds are the smallest seeds of any flowering plant. They are tiny, like dust particles, and an orchid capsule may bear as many as a million seeds at one time.

In a lab setting, orchids are fertilized in a lab dish, preferably in a completely sterile environment. When orchid seeds are germinating, they become tiny spheres called, "protocorms".

Orchid seeds grow when they are infected with a fungus that supplies the infant plants with sugar and nutrients, until the time they are able to produce food on their own.

Different species of orchids have different germination times. Protocorms will grow from their little ball-shapes into more recognizable orchids, as long as they have enough fungus to create leaves. Growing orchids from seedlings takes years.

Sunshine Betty Adamson

Best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year. We are hoping all the members who have experienced some medical problems will be much improved. Here's a special wish for successful growing with loads of beautiful and exciting blooms. Betty

January 2007

January 10, 2007: Regular Meetings resume at the Cocoa Expo, located at 500 Friday Rd. in Cocoa.

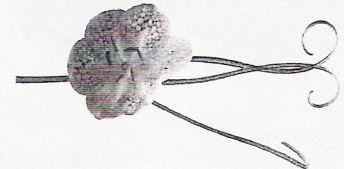
- 6:15pm Board members
- 7pm Regular Meeting and Installment of Officers for 2007.

January 24, 2007

- 6:30pm Back to Basics Meeting at Cocoa Beach Library, located at 550 N. Brevard Ave. in Cocoa Beach. The topic will be Potting: Old and New Methods.

Welcome to the Club!

- Mary Church



Holiday Party

The festive party was a great success. It was well attended and the holiday decorations, food, gifts, etc. were all exceptional. It was indeed a wonderful way to end a year of special celebrations by the Society. The stage and hall were beautifully decorated this year & we truly appreciated the Cocoa-Rockledge Garden Club members sharing them with us.

It was made successful by some members who gave some extra time and effort. The table decorations were picked up and sorted by Glenda Titler & Betty Adamson. Genetta McGee, once again, handled the delivery of the table covers, plus taking them for the laundering afterwards. Helping also with the decorating &/or food was: Jim Adamson, Frank & Toni Bell, Jane Clay, Judy & Harvey Driver Alan Gettleman, Ruth Jackson, Kathy & John Kennedy, Ginny Landreth, Elizabeth & Bob Libbey, Kat Stapf, and Flossie Staton.

Thanks to Betty for her sparkly dendrobium holiday centerpiece. The gift exchange was loads of fun and the members were pleasantly surprised with their Christmas gift, a blooming or budding cattleya, thanks to Jim. Additional handmade gifts, donated by Harvey & Ginny, were also won by members. Others were lucky and won the poinsettia door prizes. All in all, it was a lot of fun with delicious beverage & food, along with the ever popular desserts, holiday music, and a visit from Santa. Thanks again to all who helped make it so eventful & a special note of thanks to Glenda for packing away the paraphernalia and returning it to the warehouse.



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