

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhizome

February 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HELLO 2025!!!

This new year promises excitement and endless possibilities for PCOS members to immerse themselves in the world of orchids. There are so many learning opportunities ahead of us: monthly meetings with knowledgeable speakers and educational demonstrations, our own orchid show in May, other shows we either participate in or attend to see what beauties await us, and visits to orchid vendors and nurseries in Central Florida.

However, the best source of information comes from being involved in an organization where members are interested in learning and sharing their knowledge and experience growing an endless variety of these fascinating plants. That is why it's so important to get to know your fellow society members. Wear your nametag, introduce yourself to others, find out what types of orchids they grow, what medium they grow in, how much and often they water their collection, what fertilizers or insecticides they use, etc. Margaret Croucher tells a true story of me, as a newbie, following her around at orchid shows to learn from her: which plants she has bought, which ones survived and which ones didn't, how did she pot them, and so on.

It's a process to becoming an orchid grower because it takes a while to learn and incorporate the information you gather into successfully growing your own orchids. Make sure you read our monthly newsletter which is full of information, attend the meetings and take notes, participate in our orchid show by entering plants, doing a niche, or volunteering to help with judging. Most of us who have been growing orchids for a while keep a log of our plants, including parentage, re-potting dates, particular needs of that variety of orchid and whatever information we know will help us be better growers.



C Margaret Hort

CALENDAR

Wed., Feb. 5th @ 6pm Show Chair Meeting

Wed., Feb. 12th @ 6pm Board Meeting

Wed., Feb. 12th @ 7pm Meeting

Speaker Art Chadwick

“First Ladies & their cattleyas”

If you didn't pay your dues at the January meeting, you may mail your check made out to Platinum Coast Orchid Society to the post office address on the Officers' page.

Check out information on the internet like the PCOS facebook page and website as well as AOS (American Orchid Society), St. Augustine and other local orchid societies, vendors, blogs, etc. Just remember, orchids grow in a wide range of environments and many cannot take the high temperatures and humidity of our region.

Our February speaker is Art Chadwick of Chadwick and Sons Nursery in Virginia. He is a well-known and well-respected orchid grower who will talk about cattleyas. Here's your opportunity to learn all you can about these classic beauties. See you then! Laura

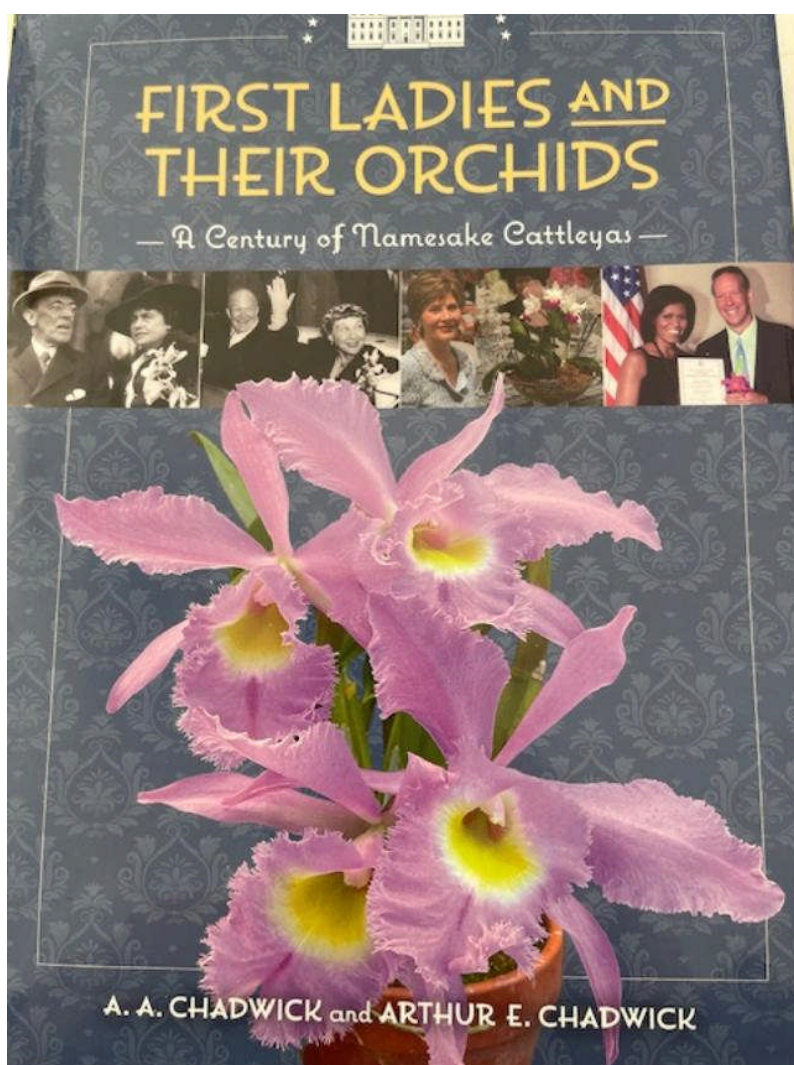
MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT:

I love my Past President gift from PCOS, *First Ladies and Their Orchids*, by A. A. Chadwick and Arthur E. Chadwick. I believe other members would enjoy it too. Our February Speaker is Arthur E Chadwick, and he can bring copies of his book to our Feb. 12 meeting. For orchid lovers, it is a photographic trip through history- that is from the early 1900's up to today. Some of the most beautiful cattleya hybrids are named for royalty or famous women.

The Chadwick family decided that First Ladies Orchids should be " an American tradition- a legacy that is to be celebrated". (Arthur E. Chadwick) The book sells for \$50.00 and is a nice addition to any library. Let Patti (our newsletter editor) know by Feb 5 if you wish to purchase one.

Reading the acknowledgements revealed some very familiar names - one we all know is our own Ed Kidder!

Margaret



SUNSHINE

We send our sincere sympathies to Betty Adamson, who lost her dear sister last week.

MATCH GAME 2025

Membership in PCOS can be a great benefit if you get involved. Do you read the newsletter? Do you attend meetings? Try this match game below to help you know your 2025 officers better. Just draw a line from the name to the correct person in the photo. The answers will be sent to you in a couple of days. Reach out and volunteer.



President Laura Blackmon

Vice President Tom Dixon

Treasurer Charis Gaines

Secretary Tammy Cheng

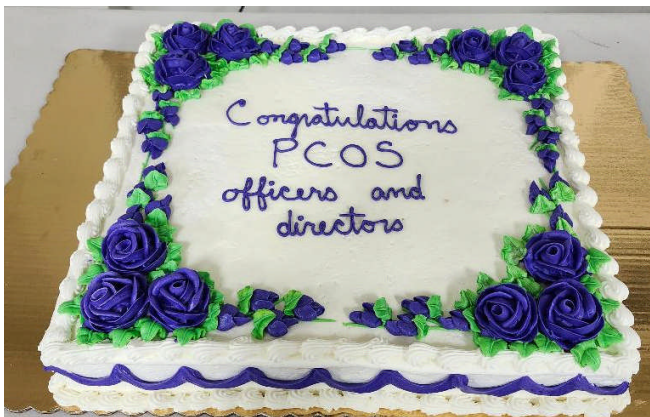
Director Lois Fletcher

Director Ann Wade

Director Phyllis Gautreaux

Director Carolyn Anderson

Past President Margaret Croucher



Congratulations to our new officers for 2025. We look forward to a great year with a wonderful show the first weekend in May. Director Carolyn Anderson is also the show chairman, so if you want to volunteer let her know.



Above, Margaret's Paph. Judge Philip, Ed's C. Robert Ferguson Rainbow sherbert and C. percivaliana 'Gene Crocker'

January Forum



Above, Sharon's beautiful purple phalaenopsis

Witha brought in several lovely orchids. In the center, Rlc. Chia Lin 'New City'

Many thanks to Betty for all she teaches us through the forum.



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 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

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 SHOWS

- Feb. 1-2 Venice Area Orchid Society Show
Venice Community Center
Venice, FL
- Feb. 8-9 Boca Raton Orchid Society Show
Safe Schools Institute, Boca Raton, FL
- Feb. 21-23 Naples Orchid Society Show
Naples Botanical Garden, Naples, FL
- Feb. 28-Mar. 2 Martin Co. Orchid Society Show
Martin County Fair Ground, Stuart, FL
- Mar. 1-2 Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show
Sons of Italy Hall, Tampa, FL

Quality Vendors!

- Plants
- Flowers
- Orchids
- Trees
- Pottery
- Furniture
- Garden Art
- Native Plants

Great Raffle Prizes!
...no need to be present to win!

Great Food & Youth Activities!

Free Admission
Free Parking

Saturday, Feb. 1, 9 am - 5 pm
Sunday, Feb. 2, 9 am - 4 pm

Rain or Shine
Bring your wagon

Riverside Park in Vero Beach 3260 Riverside Park Drive...Off Rt. 60, Beachside

See you there!
Check our web site for more information & directions...
www.gardenclubofire.org

Presented by Garden Club of Indian River County, Inc.

NEW MEMBERS WHO MAY NOT BE AOS MEMBERS: You may borrow the club's ORCHIDS magazine, if you would like to read some of the articles. For instance, in the December edition:

Home Remedies—alternatives to pesticides, etc.

Questions and Answers—with photos

Cold Tolerance of Warm Growing Orchids

January edition:

For the Novice—Repotting Catasetinae

2025 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN BE PART OF THE TEAM!

PRESIDENT

Laura Blackmon

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Dixon

TREASURER

Charis Gaines

SECRETARY

Tammy Cheng

DIRECTORS

Carolyn Anderson (2025)

Lois Fletcher (2025)

Ann Wade (2025-26)

Phyllis Gautreaux (2025-26)

PAST PRESIDENT

Margaret Croucher

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Merritt Island, FL 32954

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PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

PLANT FORUM

Betty Adamson

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Patti Scholes

SUNSHINE

Betty Adamson

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Margaret Smith & Jennifer Starr

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Betty Adamson

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Scott Anderson

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Carolyn Anderson