

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhizome

January 2024

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that 2024 is really here, but I'd first like to remember all the wonderful activities that PCOS had in 2023.

I'd like to recognize Anna, Tammy, her husband Rich and son Cooper, for their hard work organizing our fun-filled Christmas/Holiday party. All the delicious food, the novel hot chocolate station and Ruthie's carrot cake were big hits. There were lots of toys and food items collected for charity, and JoAnn won the donor raffle. I enjoyed participating in the first Ugly Christmas Sweater contest, won by Jennifer's husband, Mike, with a truly ugly entry. The ornament exchange was again popular. All members present enjoyed picking out a free orchid provided by the club, and Fletcher MacDonald surprised us all with his gift of newly potted seedlings for members. We all want to thank him for his generosity.

Our picnic was well attended and fun, our monthly speakers were informative and enthusiastic, and our Spring orchid show was very successful, which makes everything else possible. All great memories with so many nice people participating.

Our January meeting will be the installation of officers and directors for 2024, and we are planning a members' plant sale too. There will be a cake to celebrate the installation, our usual great plant raffles, great orchids for sale at reasonable prices and our Orchid Forum. See you there!

Margaret



Den. Snow Fire

CALENDAR

**Wed., Jan. 10, 6pm—Board Meeting
7pm General Meeting.**

Installation of officers & cake

Member Plant Sale

2024 Elected Officers to be installed in January:

President—Margaret Croucher

Vice President—Ed Kidder

Secretary—Janet Scenna

Treasurer— Mary Ellen Jelen

Directors—Tammy Cheng, Anna Palermo,
Carolyn Anderson, Tom Dixon, Bert Forbush

Many thanks to Tammy and Anna (below) for planning our Christmas Party again. It was a fun-filled night with great food, ugly sweaters, and a gift exchange (bottom right)



Party 2023



A MERRY BAND OF MEMBERS AND THEIR LOVED ONES



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 how others in your area grow their 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

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>



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
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UPCOMING SHOWS

- Jan. 5-7 Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Show**
Charles R. Dodge City Center
Pembroke Pines, FL
- Jan. 6-7 Sarasota Orchid Society Show**
Sarasota Municipal Aud.
Sarasota, FL
- Jan. 27-28 Florida West Coast Orchid Society Show, Seminole Rec Center, Seminole, FL**
- Feb. 3-4 Venice Area Orchid Society Show, Venice Community Center, Venice, FL**
- Feb. 10-11 Boca Raton Orchid Society Show, Safe Schools Institute Boca Raton, FL**
- Feb. 16-18 Naples Orchid Society Show**
Naples Botanical Garden
Naples, FL
- Feb. 23-24 Englewood Area Orchid Society Show, Ann and Chuck Dever Regional Park, Englewood, FL**

2023 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN BE PART OF THE TEAM!

PRESIDENT

Margaret Croucher

President@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Ed Kidder

VP@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

TREASURER

Mary Ellen Jelen

Treasurer@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

SECRETARY

Carolyn Anderson

Secretary@PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org

DIRECTORS

Tammy Cheng (2023-2024)

Anna Palermo (2023-2024)

Witha Lacuesta (2022-2023)

James Rice (2022-2023)

Bert Forbush (2023)

PCOS Mailing Address:

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

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Merritt Island, FL 32954

PLANT FORUM

Betty Adamson

MEMBERSHIP

Margaret Smith

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Patti Scholes

SUNSHINE

Betty Adamson

GREETER

Margaret Smith

AOS LIAISON

Betty Adamson

RAFFLE

JoAnn Amos

WEBMASTER

Bill Jelen

AUDIO

Scott Anderson

REFRESHMENTS

Kathy Ballance

PARTY CHAIRS

Tammy Cheng and Anna Palermo

SHOW CHAIR

Carolyn Anderson

ORCHIDS IN THE NEWS:

Southern Living featured the Moth Orchid (phalaenopsis) in their December edition and the Grumpy Gardener used a shot glass full of water a week instead of ice cubes. YAY! We hope his “Christmas miracle” continues to bloom every year and that lots of people read the advice.



FROM THE EDITOR:

While browsing book stores in New Zealand, I kept seeing a great new gift for the person who likes both orchids and building with LEGOS. No watering necessary.

While I didn't see any orchids in the wild on my treks, I am sure they were there. They do have many species of native orchids, many that I have never even heard of before. New Zealand is extremely wet, getting more than 10 meters of rain a year on the South Island. Perhaps that's why they have such great sphagnum moss.

