

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhizome

July 2023



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our June speaker, TJ Hartung, showed us many beautiful orchids from Mexico. I saw many familiar species that also grow very well in Florida. As a parting gift, TJ gave Bill and me a small bottle of Mexican vanilla and a copy of his book, *Vanilla: The Gift from Mexico that gives Flavor and Aroma to the World*. He also gave us a trivia question, "Which state in the US has the smallest number of indigenous species?" Bill guessed a desert state and I guessed our coldest state. Both were wrong. The answer is Hawaii with only three, isolated in the middle of the Pacific.

As requested by TJ, we have sent a \$200 donation to the Vallarta Botanical Garden. As a permanent reminder, the Garden will make a tile with our PCOS logo to be placed in the Garden.

Remember there is no meeting in July We have not yet had anyone volunteer to host a July Ramble, but we are still trying to arrange something where we can all get together. We will notify you by email if we are successful.

Margaret

Charlie's C. Margaret Hort

Charlie is dividing his orchids. If you know how to pot, just let him know that you are interested in one of his divisions, by responding to Patti, the newsletter editor. She will call you when one is ready. If you miss one opportunity, no worries, as he has several to divide.

Calendar

NO MEETING IN JULY

Ramble date will be sent by email when it is determined.

SUNSHINE

Our sympathies to Bill Jelen on the passing of his brother.

Special thanks to Margaret and Bill for graciously hosting our speaker and his wife last month.

Thanks to Laura for once again donating the buckets. We can put them to multiple uses.

Betty

June's Meeting



Members' plants in the June orchid forum (above).

Below, speaker TJ Hartung kept us entertained with his orchid tales and the beautiful photos of the Orchids of Mexico.

The orchid wheel that TJ shared with us and the instructions are attached as documents on this email.



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.

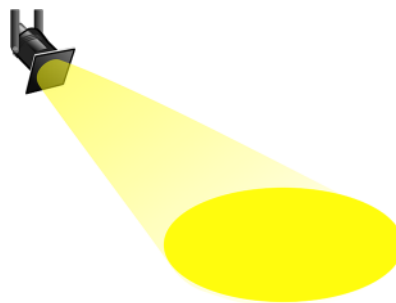
PCOS is an affiliate of the **American Orchid Society (AOS)**. There’s an abundance of information on the AOS website. Please visit www.aos.org for articles, advice on growing orchids, and lots of free information.

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>



New Member Spotlight

Jennifer Starr joined PCOS in October and immediately started helping with raffle tickets at the meetings. She is young and energetic, so she is a big help in greeting people and working wherever she is needed.

Jennifer’s mom is longtime member, Margaret Smith, our membership chairman who takes attendance at the meetings at the entrance table.



What is your niche?



This society is held together by its members. Take a look at page 4 and see if there is any job that’s right for you. Within the next few months, we will be planning our annual picnic and our holiday party. If you would like to chair or be a helper in any way, please let President Margaret Croucher know. As always, we appreciate everyone assisting in some way at the end of every meeting. Just carrying a chair over or picking up trash can be a big help. Hospitality chair, Kathy, always appreciates anyone who brings in snacks for the meeting.

2023 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN BE PART OF THE TEAM!

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Anna Palermo (2023-2024)

Witha Lacuesta (2022-2023)

James Rice (2022-2023)

Bert Forbush (2023)

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Margaret Smith

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Betty Adamson

RAFFLE

JoAnn Amos

WEBMASTER

Bill Jelen

AUDIO

Scott Anderson

REFRESHMENTS

Kathy Balance

PICNIC CHAIR

PARTY CHAIR

SHOW CHAIR

Our Central Florida Orchid Show Exhibit



Many thanks to everyone who assisted in the Central Florida Orchid Society Show exhibit, shown above. Members' orchids that were used received several awards, as you can see from the picture. We also received a second place ribbon.

The team included (l-r) Bill, Karen, Laura, Margaret, Witha, and Clive.....GREAT JOB!!!!

