

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhizome

September 2023

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

July and August have been particularly hot so I have been extra vigilant to keep all my plants safely watered. I don't know why but all my vandas and dendrobiums have been late to bloom. Now, in late August, I finally have the buds and blooms I've been hoping for all summer.

We had a nice turnout at our August meeting, and I hope everyone found something helpful in the very interesting AOS video about growing dendrobiums. Except for dendrobiums needing protection from extreme cold, they are easy growers, and it is a plus that they don't like their roots disturbed. Less potting is a great incentive for growing these hardy plants.

Our September speaker is Cindy Christie, "The Vanda Lady". Cindy will have some very helpful advice for growing vandas. She spoke to our club several years ago, and I still remember her excellent advice when watering vandas – that you must water until the roots turn green. Please come and enjoy another great lecture and meet some of our many new members.

Margaret

Want to help? Bring snacks to the meetings and get a free raffle ticket.



Calendar

Sept. 13th 6pm Board Meeting

Sept. 13th 7pm General Meeting

Cindy Christie, "The Vanda Lady" will share her growing tips.

October 8th Noon Picnic

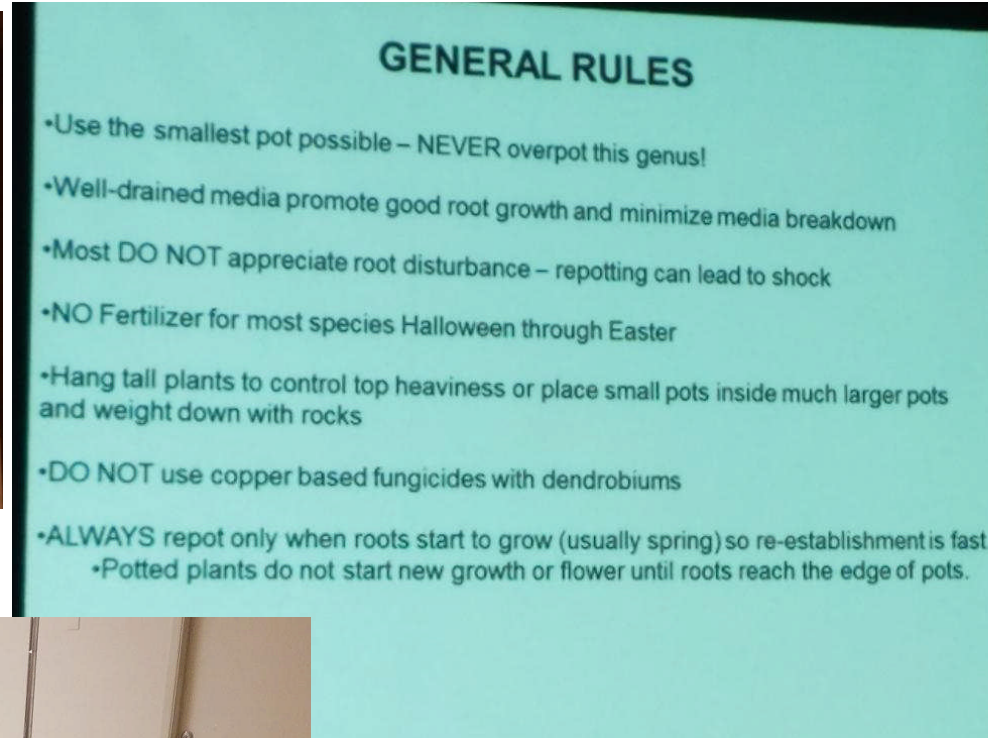
October 11th Meeting

PICNIC INFORMATION

Our annual picnic will be held at the Cocoa Beach Pavilion on Sunday, Oct. 8th at noon. The main dish and drinks will be provided by the society. As usual, a fun BINGO game will be played with orchids as prizes. Members may bring family and their favorite potluck item for the picnic. Please sign up at the September meeting if you plan to attend, noting both the number of attendees and the dish you will bring. Reservations will also be taken by the newsletter editor up until Sunday, October 1st.

DIRECTIONS: From A1A, turn west onto Minuteman Causeway in Cocoa Beach. After passing Cocoa Beach High School on the left, make a left turn just after the water towers. When you reach the Cocoa Beach Country Club parking lot, make a left and park at the end next to the pavilion and pool.

AUGUST MEETING



- Use the smallest pot possible – NEVER overpot this genus!
- Well-drained media promote good root growth and minimize media breakdown
- Most DO NOT appreciate root disturbance – repotting can lead to shock
- NO Fertilizer for most species Halloween through Easter
- Hang tall plants to control top heaviness or place small pots inside much larger pots and weight down with rocks
- DO NOT use copper based fungicides with dendrobiums
- ALWAYS repot only when roots start to grow (usually spring) so re-establishment is fast
 - Potted plants do not start new growth or flower until roots reach the edge of pots.



Our August meeting presentation was an informative AOS slide show on Dendrobiums, with Ron McHatten narrating. Above are some general rules for growing dendrobiums.

AOS Chair, Sunshine Chair and forum leader, Betty, presented the forum with help from President Margaret.

Many thanks to those members who brought their orchids for the forum.

Don't forget to bring in your blooming orchids for the forum each month.



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.

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>

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

UPCOMING SHOWS

Sept. 16-17 Ridge Orchid Society Show

WH Stewart Center, Bartow, FL

Sept. 30-Oct. 1 Tampa Orchid Club Expo

Northdale Recreation Center, Tampa

Oct. 21-22 Gainesville Orchid Society Show

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, Gainesville

Nov. 4-5 Apopka International Fall Orchid Festival in Apopka

Nov. 11-12 Deerfield Beach Orchid Society

Safe Schools Institute, Boca Raton



Our sincere sympathy to Fletcher. We will miss Michelle and her sweet personality.

2023 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN BE PART OF THE TEAM!

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