



Volume 25 Issue 3  
March 2017

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# THE KEIKI



## ORCHID LOVERS OF SPRING HILL

### Orchid Show & Sale

### Presenting "SALUTE TO VETS"

March 18 – 19, 2017

Sat. 10AM – 5PM & Sun. 10AM – 4PM

Presented in

VFW Post 8681

corner of Drayton St. & County Line Rd. Spring Hill

(Pasco County Rd 578) 2.7 miles

West of 589 Parkway or 6.3 miles east of US 19

Beautiful Orchids on display

Orchids and supplies are also available for purchase.

*Sat. with Gary Gethen speaking about  
Insecticides & Fertilizer at 1PM*

*Sun. with Matt Riesz speaking at 1PM about  
"What do I do with my orchids now?"*

Admission is \$2.00 included is 1 free ticket to our hourly  
drawings.

A chance to win an Orchid!

More tickets available for purchase.

Call for information: 732-673-1179

**OFFICERS**

<u>President</u>	Jeff Rundell
<u>1st Vice President &amp; Past President</u>	Geary Harris
<u>2nd Vice President</u>	Donna Fazekas
<u>Treasurer</u>	Helen Battistrada
<u>Executive Secretary</u>	Pat Dupke
<u>Assistant Executive Secretary</u> (temporary appointed position)	Pat Baig
<u>Recording Secretary</u> (not an elected position)	Matt Riesz

**COMMITTEES**

<u>Bulletin (The Keiki)</u>	Ken & Delia Dunn
<u>Mailing the Keiki</u>	Tim Smith
<u>Cleanup Crew</u> ??????????	
<u>Historian</u>	Mary Lou Mattana
<u>Kitchen Co-ordinator</u> (temporary)	Marita Reisz
<u>Kitchen Committee</u> ??????????	
<u>Librarian</u>	Tom Govan
<u>Membership</u>	Linda Condon & Arlene Appelbaum
<u>Nominating Committee Chair</u> (Members: Mary Lou Mattana & Marita Reisz)	Delia Dunn
<u>Programs</u>	Steve Mattana
<u>Publicity</u>	Julie Smolka
<u>Refreshment Reminders</u>	Laurie Ciannamea
<u>Show Chair</u>	Marita Reisz
<u>Show Table Report</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Trips</u>	Sonia Terrelonge & Laurie Ciannamea
<u>Webmaster</u> (Website set up by Ken Dunn)	Bob East

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

By Helen Battistrada



Balance last month: 1/21/17		\$9,525.24
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$1,100.00</b>
Dues	\$ 953.00	
Raffle	\$ 147.00	
<b>Disbursements:</b>		<b>\$ <u>738.01</u></b>
Church Res.	\$ 200.00	
VFW Rental	\$ 100.00	
Raffle Plants	\$ 50.00	
Show Expense	\$ 131.05	
Refreshments	\$ 63.96	
Program	\$ 150.00	
Storage	\$ 40.00	
Bank Charge	\$ 3.00	
<b>Balance 2/18/2017:</b>		<b>\$9,887.23</b>

**REFRESHMENT REMINDER**

by

**Laurie Ciannamea**



**Please be sure to bring whatever food and/or beverage you signed up to contribute to the show on Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday. No other refreshments are needed this month. However, extra beverages—including bottled water—are appreciated**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jeff Rundell

Just today one of my mounted orchids, Cookara "Bill", slowly started to open. It was kind of a metaphor for what is to come in just a few days. Our orchid show is finally going to happen! We still have a few volunteer spots to cover so be sure to look at Marita's list and find out where you can help. Bring your plants Thursday night after 5 or early Friday so we can incorporate them into our display and hopefully you may find an award ribbon hanging on one of them. Don't forget to bring the food you signed up for so that our vendors and volunteers can keep up their strength. Finally come and enjoy yourself, learn from our vendors and lectures. Talk to our visitors and take a plant to the potting shed for a rebirth. Have a great time and bring some friends.

I'm going to be writing about one of my favorite subjects next month, the incredible scent that many orchids offer to entice pollinators and that I also find irresistible. For most of orchid propagation history humans have concentrated on the visual aspects of flowers. After all humans are mostly visual beings while many other mammals live in a different world of scent. Now new research offers us clues to what we are smelling and why it is so unique. This is similar to the research being done to put the flavor back into tomatoes by identifying the specific compounds that people taste. Hope you also enjoyed the little piece I put out about the orchid mantis. So often we see orchids in pots far removed from their natural environment. I think it's important to also see them as members of an ecological community of interdependence that includes all sorts of other organisms. The admiration of flowers goes back through all of history. We are part of that history and our show is a great demonstration that

flowers, especially orchids, will always hold us in their power. Shakespeare may have said it best when he wrote this in a *Midsummer Night's Dream*:

'I know the bank where the wild thyme blows.  
Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows.  
Quite over canopied with luscious woodbine.  
With sweet musk roses and elegantine.  
There sleeps Titania sometime of the night  
Lulled in these flowers with dances and delight.'

### MONTHLY ORCHID QUIZ

What year did our Orchid Lovers Club begin?

- \_\_\_ During 1990  
\_\_\_ During 1992  
\_\_\_ During 1998  
\_\_\_ During 2000

Answer at bottom of page 16

### BOOK REVIEW

Why not visit our extensive book collection?

Learn from a professional how to care for your orchids - Keep the book for a month!  
Click on:

[Http://www.springhillorchidclub.com](http://www.springhillorchidclub.com)

And then click on: Alphabetical Listing  
Library Books





**MEMBERSHIP**

**By Linda Condon**



The February OLCOSH meeting, held February 28, 2017 was very well attended: sixty-two members signed in, and three guests, one of whom decided to join! So let's welcome these two lovely gals~

Pat Carter  
8713 Briggs Marsh Ct  
New Port Richey, FL 34654  
727-644-6345 C  
[pattyann211@gmail.com](mailto:pattyann211@gmail.com)

Shirley Kelley  
7436 Breakers Ct  
Spring Hill, FL 34606  
352-684-3104 H  
[skelley003@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:skelley003@tampabay.rr.com)

It's especially gratifying to see so many new members pitch right in with whatever needs doing to make our club more dynamic and run more smoothly - so, thank you all!!! Big group hug - .okay - maybe not :-)

We will all have the opportunity to be thrilled and proud at the upcoming orchid show as Orchid Lovers Club of Spring Hill presents A Salute to Vets at the VFW on County Line Rd on Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors - it's our mission to introduce everyone to the beautiful and captivating world of orchids.

I know you'll enjoy getting involved in our club by volunteering some time (and snacks?) at the show. And do bring your bloomers to add to the display!

See you there - can't wait!!!!

Linda (Meyer) Condon  
Membership Co-ordinator

This is a friendly (but firm) reminder that if you have not paid your dues that you need to pay (\$17.00 for individual or \$25.00 for family) in order for your name not to be removed from the membership roster.

If removed you will no longer be mailed the Keiki. And we do not want to lose you!! So remember to bring a check made payable to OLCOSH to the membership table at the Orchid Show so we can keep you legal! Thanks-



If you have already paid your dues, we thank you so much. Our membership is growing and you are appreciated!

**TV and our  
Orchid Show**  
By Steve Mattana



Bay News Channel 9 has been contacted. They are now advertising on the web. I have not yet seen it on TV, but our event is on Bay News Nine. Hopefully this exposure will draw more people in to see our displays and our flowers and find out what our own Orchid Society does.



### **RHYNCHOSTYLIS GIGANTEA**

Rhynchostylis gigantea has definitely become a collector's item in recent years with ever more unusual color forms being introduced into the marketplace. The unmistakable spicy fragrance is consistent across this genus, whether the species blooms in the winter or summer. One species, Rhy. retusa, is referred to as the "fox tail" orchid because of its long tapering inflorescence. The inflorescence of Rhynchostylis gigantea is somewhat shorter, the actual length being determined by genetics and culture of the individual plant. There is something exotic and magical about walking into a winter greenhouse and encountering the warm fragrance of Rhy. gigantea. It leaves a lasting impression one looks forward to year after year.

### **Just One More Orchid Please**

**By Steve Mattana**

**Just one more orchid please  
The beauty and fragrance untold  
There's always room for one more  
And when it gets cold**

**I'll bring it in the house so they don't freeze  
I guess it's time to add a greenhouse  
As my collection numbers at least one  
hundred  
This addiction has taken hold**

**The beauty and selection of species has  
captured me  
Which do I choose, Phalaenopsis, Dendro-  
bium, Oncidium, Cymbidium,  
Cattleya, Colmanara or Paphiopedilum**

**Do you see what I mean, just a conundrum.  
My mind spins with all the colors, shapes  
and smells of the orchid  
They have become my mistress  
I can't wait to go out each morning to see  
which one has bloomed**

**The orchid calls to me for no reason  
Each one shows off its beauty in a different  
season  
My forever friends, I am amazed by you  
Just one more orchid please!**





## OLCOSH Minutes February 18, 2017

By Matt Riesz

Jeff opened the meeting and introduced our speaker, Glenn Gross, of Gross Orchids. Glenn brought a bunch of beautiful plants for sale.

Jeff Rundell and Linda Cordon then recognized our guests and new members. We had two new members:

Shirley Kelley, from Spring Hill and Patricia Carter, from new Port Richey. Patricia is also looking for a speaker to speak at one of her other club's meetings in October/November. If anyone can oblige, please contact her.

Linda also thanked all the members who have paid their dues. If you have NOT paid yours yet, please do so as soon as possible. Our membership list will be revised soon, and those who have not paid will be dropped from the list. You can bring your dues to the show next month.

### Treasurer's Report

- Balance as of 1/20/2017: \$9,525.24
- Receipts: \$1,100.00
- Disbursements: \$738.01
- Current Balance: \$9,887.23

Jeff thanked Ken and Delia Dunn for another great edition of The Keiki, our newsletter. They do a terrific job, and are always on the lookout for interesting articles. If anybody has anything they'd like to contribute, either your own article or one you've found elsewhere that might be of interest, please contact Ken or Delia, or submit it directly via the link on our website.

Arlene Appelbaum made a motion to accept the

minutes of the last meeting. Linda Condon seconded the motion and the membership voted to accept them. Jeff mentioned that it's almost time to elect new officers. Delia Dunn was appointed-Chair of the Nominating Committee, and will present the slate at our April meeting. We'll then vote at the May meeting, and install new officers in June. If you have any interest in serving on our Board (it's very rewarding) please let Delia know. Delia asked for two volunteers to help on the committee, and Marita Riesz and Mary Ann Mattana volunteered.

### Our Show:

Our biggest event of the year is coming up March 18th and 19th. We're going to need LOTS of help! All hands on deck! Our theme is "Salute to Vets". Our show chair, Marita Riesz, put out several sheets for signup of volunteers, and asked that members look at them and sign up wherever there is a vacancy. We're doing two displays this year, so we're going to need LOTS of plants. Plan to bring any plant you have with nice flowers – it doesn't have to be a showpiece, just pretty. Even one flower will do, and we can place it nicely in our exhibits. Please make sure your plants are clean and free of insects. We also need materials – things like Spanish moss, driftwood pieces, large lichen pieces, etc. They need to be clean as possible. Setup will be on Friday, March 17th, before the show. We need your plants that day **IN THE MORNING**, as well as any help you can provide. Many hands make easy work so come on down! This is a great experience – good fun and good friends and a great learning experience.

We feed the vendors and club WORKERS during setup and the show. Judy Smith is organizing that part of it, so please see her if you can bring

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something. She has a list of the things that are needed. We will not be able to sell food during the show, but we will provide snacks and water for attendees and ask for a donation for them.

You may have noticed some folks at the meeting wearing those handsome farmers' hats with an "Ask Me" sign on them. Those are people who can answer your orchid questions, and we will have folks wearing them at the show, as well.

Marita needs people to put out our street signs. The signs are on the table, along with maps of where to put them. The signs need to be placed on Friday afternoon or evening, farther away from the road than the telephone poles, so that they're not on county property. Then they need to be picked up Sunday evening or Monday morning and brought back at our next meeting so we can reuse them.

There are nice color flyers available to be given to florists and others. Marita asked that members take some and distribute them. If you need more, Marita can give you a file to print your own.

**Other business:        TRIP**

Yati Douglas has been organizing a trip to the Redlands Orchid Festival, which is one of the largest such festivals in the orchid world. Unfortunately it conflicts with our May meeting, but it still may be possible for some folks to go. The show is May 19th, 20th and 21st. We can rent a bus for 50 people on the bus it would be \$43 each; more if there are fewer people. We have a motel where we can stay for \$56 per night, double occupancy. We need to have a fi-

nal count by April 20th, to make go/no-go decision. Yati passed around a signup sheet for anyone who's interested. Many thanks to Yati for putting all the hard work into organizing this trip!

We broke for refreshments and show table judging by Matt Riesz and Julie Smolka. Upon our return Glenn Gross gave a terrific talk on mounting orchids, including a hands-on demonstration that was surprising, to say the least. Can an orchid really thrive after all its roots have been cut off? Apparently, YES, if you treat it right!

After Glenn's talk, Jeff and Matt presented and described our many beautiful show table plants.

Raffle plants were drawn next .

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Matt Riesz

**NOTE—These Minutes will be the permanent record and have yet to be approved by the members. If you see the need for an addition, a deletion or a correction, please use the address below to send an e-mail to advise that a change is needed.**

**THANK YOU!**

[kdunn004@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:kdunn004@tampabay.rr.com)

**Share "Your Orchid Story"**

Every one has a story to tell, so here is a great way to tell your story to others who are really interested in your narrative.

Click on: [www.springhillorchidclub.com](http://www.springhillorchidclub.com) and then click on "Submission Form" and type your story!



?? WHY CAN'T I PLANT MY ORCHID IN DIRT OR POTTING SOIL ??

Basically the structure of an orchid plant is the same as any other plant as it has roots, stems, leaves and flowers. But the parts are adapted to its way of life and differ somewhat from familiar plants which grow in your garden.

From the central root of your garden plants, smaller, finer roots covered in fine hairs form the root system that grow down and into the soil.

Most orchids, in nature, rather than grow into the ground use their roots to attach themselves to trees or rocks where light and air movement are more plentiful.



ORCHID FERTILIZERS

Although it is common practice to call them Orchid food, fertilizers are not really food for our Orchids. Using water, carbon dioxide and energy from

the sun, Orchids actually make their own food. So fertilizers can best be called Orchid nutrients.

Plant nutritionists have identified seventeen (17) elements essential to Orchid growth. Because Orchids require them in larger quantities for maximum growth, Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) are referred to as macro nutrients. The other elements needed in smaller quantities, such as Calcium (Ca), Iron (Fe), Copper (Cu), and Zinc (Z), are referred to as micro nutrients or trace elements.

All commercial Orchid fertilizers are labeled with three numbers, such as 10-20-30. These three numbers are the percentage by weight of the primary nutrient components of Nitrogen (N), Phosphorous or phosphates (P) and Potassium or potash (K) in the fertilizer.

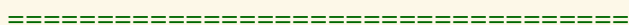
Nitrogen is important for leaf and stem growth and provides the rich green color in leaves.

Phosphorous provides for root and flower development.

Potassium helps build Orchid tissue and aids in the production of vital chlorophyll.

Fertilizers are said to be balanced when they have the same ratio of N, P, and K.

Non Urea based fertilizers provide 100% immediately available nitrogen, which the urea based fertilizers do not.



Watch and listen to a Webinar from THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY 'Greenhouse Chat' Tuesday March 14,2017 at 8:00 PM <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>



**Speaker Segment**  
**By Kara Warnock**

Our speaker this month was Glenn Gross of Gross Orchids, LLC out of Lakeland Florida who gave a talk on how to mount orchids. On his property in Lakeland Glenn manages a total of 13 greenhouses containing between 4,000-5,000 plants by himself. He got into growing orchids out of necessity in 1979 while still attending college at the University of Florida when he inherited his mother's orchid collection after she had passed away. A geologist friend of his that was the curator of the greenhouses at the Sanford Community College showed him the ropes on how to pot and care for his orchids. After graduating from UF, Glenn moved out to Nevada to do his graduate work and the orchid collection was given to his mom's neighbor who had originally gotten her into growing orchids. Glenn moved back to Florida 10 years later and got the orchid collection back from the neighbor. He still has some of these orchids, some of which have been in his family since the 1960s.

When mounting his plants Glenn strives to create as natural an appearance as possible, as if the plants were just plucked from nature. Mounting orchids mimics the manner in which the orchid plants prefer to grow in the wild, and takes advantage of the natural tendencies of the plant and its desire to attach to a substrate. Virtually any material can be used for mounting. Glenn likes to scavenge for his materials and take advantage of woods that are locally abundant. His two choice woods to use are eastern red cedar and red or bald cypress. He prefers these woods for mounting due

to their rot resistant properties. In utilizing these types of woods he is able to extend the longevity of his mounts. It is not uncommon for him to get anywhere between 4-10 years out of the mount before it needs to be replaced. Hardwoods such as oak, hickory, and mahogany are not suggested as mounting material because the wood will start to rot quickly after becoming wet. Other good suggestions for mounting material that can be found in our area include magnolia and citrus (particularly orange and grapefruit) woods. Local driftwood can also make for some interesting mounts, but special care must be taken to remove residual salt from saltwater driftwood. In order to remove the salt it is necessary to soak the driftwood in freshwater for a period of two weeks, changing out the water periodically. If you skip this step the salt present in the driftwood will prevent the orchid roots from adhering to the wood. In general, Glenn tries to obtain the most natural appearance possible for his plants; he often finds that scrap pieces of wood, irregular in shape, can make for some of the more interesting mounts for his orchids.



**Glenn Gross Captivates the Orchid Club Members**

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Before mounting your orchid, a little planning ahead will be necessary in order to ensure that you give your plant the best possible chance for success. First you should consider how large your plant is expected to become in order to select the appropriate size mount for the job. Next you should evaluate the texture of your mounting material; the more irregular the surface with nooks and crannies for the roots to attach to the happier the plant will be. Glenn personally likes to hand split the wood he uses for his mounts in order to create this irregular surface. He especially likes to use the 1st cuts that he makes from the wood, which have the bark still attached; they provide a natural look and rough texture for the plants to attach to. For those not interested in splitting their own wood you can use rough sawn lumber, which will have a similar rough surface for the plants to adhere to.

However, if you plan to take divisions from your mounted plant a smoother surface (such as a sawn blower type wood) makes removing divisions from your plant easier. Glenn allows his orchids to grow on their mounts for approximately 2-3 years, and when enough new growth has accumulated *he prepares the plant for separation while it is still on the current mount. In December to early January he will make a cut(s) into the rhizome of the plant, removing a 1/2 inch section of the rhizome at the location(s) where he wants to make a division. By making a cut in the rhizome of the plant it forces the activation of potentially dormant nodes at the base of the pseudobulb to start to put out new growths. That way as the new growths elongate they orientate themselves in the proper direction. When the time comes to remove the division and transfer to a new mount, an x-*

acto knife and a putty knife make quick work of removing the plant from the smooth surface of the current mount.

After choosing what size mount you need and selecting your mounting material you are ready to begin the process. First remove your plant from the pot and try to remove as much of the old potting medium as possible. Glenn's key to success is to position the plant as tight and close to the mount as possible. *In order to achieve this he removes all of the older roots from the plant trimming as close as possible to the pseudobulb. I know this part sounds scary and like something that you should never do to your plant, but Glenn reassures us that this step does not hurt the plant at all. This step will force the plant to re-root and attach itself to the mount. The reason to remove the old root growth is because the old roots will just hang there and look unsightly; it is only the new roots that will become attached to the mount.*

Positioning of the plant on the mount matters. You want to position the plant so that you maximize the available area that the plant has to grow on the mount. Thus, you want to put the old back bulb portion of the plant towards the bottom of the mount allowing the leading edge, which will continue to grow, positioned towards the top of the mount. After determining where the plant will be positioned, Glenn marks the locations where he will drill holes into the mount in order to attach the rhizome of the plant using black cable ties (these have UV protection) for the larger plants and vinyl twist tie wire for the smaller, lighter plants. He feels that using cable ties is the best way to get the rhizome anchored as tight and secure as possible to the mount. If the rhizome is not anchored securely enough and it is allowed to move the new roots will break off as the rhizome

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shifts. Finally, before securing the rhizome to the mount he places a small amount of sphagnum moss (note: not a clump) directly underneath the rhizome to hold a little bit of moisture until the plant is able to re-root itself.

For hanging his mounts Glenn likes to use 14 gauge galvanized wire to fashion his own hangers. This type of wire is typically sold in 6' length, 50 count bundles (approximately \$18/bundle) and can be found in the roofing section of home improvement stores.

Glenn provides special care to his newly mounted plants to ensure they become established on the mounts as quickly as possible. One thing that he recently started doing for his plants that he has found significantly accelerates the rooting process is using Dip 'N' Grow, a liquid form of the rooting hormone IBA (Indole butanoic acid). He mixes the Dip 'N' Grow per instructions and



places in a spray bottle, which he then sprays directly onto the sphagnum moss located under the rhizome of the plant until it has become saturated. Prior to using the Dip 'N' Grow he would expect to see new root growth from his plants in about 2-4 weeks, and now he sees new root emergence within 7-10 days of mounting.

He typically waters his mounted orchids daily often watering once or twice daily during the hot summer months. Newly mounted orchids, how-

ever, will not be watered for the first 24 hours after being mounted. Post mounting he will water newly mounted plants with his own special "tea" concoction every 2-3 days for the first 3-4 weeks. Glenn's "tea" recipe for use in his 2-gal pump sprayer consists of: *1 Tbsp of white vinegar, 2 Tbsp of Keyplex 350, 1-2 Tbsp of 17-17-17 urea free water soluble fertilizer with trace elements, 1-2 drops of SUPERthrive, and a splash of Dawn dish soap.* Keyplex 350 is a foliar spray containing amino acids and trace elements, and is used to stimulate root and plant growth. It can be purchased at places like Growers Supply over in Apopka, FL. At different times of the year Glenn will do variations on his standard "tea" recipe; such as adding 1 Tbsp of magnesium sulfate (Epsom salts) during the fall to help winterize the plants, increased potassium nitrate in the spring as the plants are coming out of their dormancy, or switch from his standard 17-17-17 fertilizer to a cal-mag fertilizer to help prevent calcium deficiency. Using these methods Glenn can have an orchid ready for sale about 6-8 months after being placed on the mount, and he produces approximately 200 mounted orchids for sale each year.



*A view of the tools used by Glenn to easily mount his orchids on various wood mounts.*

Show Table Pictures February 18, 2017



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Show Table Pictures February 18, 2017 Continued





OLCOSH SHOW TABLE 2/18/2017

Plant Name	Grower	How long owned	Years		Ribbon?
			growing orchids		
Phaius Microburst 'George's Gold'	Wendy Paracka	3 mos	2		
Grammatocymbidium Mem. Nathan Newman 'NN'	Wendy Paracka	3 mos	2		Blue
Cattleya Spring Drumb 'Volcano Dream'	Todd Cleaver	1 yr	5		Blue
Cattleya Hsinying Max-Walker (Cattleya Walkeriana 'Monte Azul' x Cattleya maxima f. coerulea)	Steve Mattana	1yr	20		
Phalaenopsis schilleriana	Steve Mattana	2 yr	20		
Paphiopedalum Saint Isabel (Paph. St. Swithin x Paph. Lady Isabel)	Pamela Clark	3 yrs	4		
Doritaenopsis Achey Breaky Heart	Matt Riesz	1 yr	17		
Dendrobium Sakura 'Hime'	Matt Riesz	6 yrs	17		
Odontocidium Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl' CCM/AOS	Matt Riesz	15 yrs	17		
Dendrobium Country Girl 'Warabeuta'	Matt Riesz	1 yr	17		
Dendrobium Angel Baby 'Little Darling'	Matt Riesz	10 yrs	17		
Aerangis biloba	Kara Warnock	6 yrs	10		
Caulocattleya Spring Fragrance 'Paradise' (Cattleya Hawaiian Wedding Song x Caularthron bicornutum)	Jeff Rundell	3 yrs			
Psychopsis Kalihi f. alba	J. Parker	10 mos	20		
Dendrobium normanbyense	J. Parker	4 yrs	20		
Papilionanda Corneels Cillers (Vanda Mimi Palmer x Vanda Dr. Anek)	J. Parker	6 yrs	20		
Vanda Vanilla Cream Mini	J. Parker	1 yr	20		
Dendrobium Himezakura 'Sanokku'	Delia Dunn	6 yrs	23		
Dendrobium Super Ise (Den. Super Star x Den. Ise)	Delia Dunn	5 yrs	23		Blue
Cattleya hybrid (possibly Laelia purpurata x Brassavola digbyana)	Delia Dunn	12 yrs	23		
Potinara Burana Beauty 'Burana' HCC/AOS	Delia Dunn	5 yrs	23		
Tolumnia hybrid (red)	Connie Chase	5 yrs			
Phalaenopsis Fusheng Diamond Island 'Ei' x Phal. Fusheng Purple Rose	Connie Chase	5 yrs			
Doritaenopsis Shu Lung Yellow Lover	Connie Chase	4 yrs			



*Our Founder, Robert James 'Jim' Duerstock, 81, of Spring Hill, a devoted husband and loving father passed away the morning of December 23, 2016 at Oak Hill Hospital in Brooksville, FL.*

(Jim's autobiography copied from a 2012 Keiki) I began my life's journey in Indiana,--- Fort Wayne to be exact where I spent my first twenty two years. Shortly after my high school days my parents wanted to retire and move to Hialeah, Fl. I had completed my first year at Indiana University Extension in Fort Wayne, and didn't really want to move. I stayed behind working, and going to school at I. U. for another year, and then my funds ran out, and I was on my way to Florida. I lived at home while working part time, and attending Univ. of Miami for one year. At this point it became necessary to work full time.

I spent the next 30 years involved in consumer lending, banking, and industrial financing. During this time I was transferred from Miami to Birmingham, and to Tampa in 1968.

While living in Tampa my employment allowed me time to search out orchid venders from Citrus County south to Naples, and west to Orlando. (Of course, all this looking around was done during my lunch hour.) It wasn't long before I found Krull-Smith greenhouses. They are venders in Apopka, Fl. I tried to see inside their greenhouses, but was told they only sold wholesale. Darn!! When I purchased my first orchid and didn't realize the impact it would have on me for many years to come. My first orchid was a present for Trudy way back in the early 80's. It was a Den. parishii with wonderfully fragrant flowers. We really enjoyed this little guy. It was mounted on fir bark. We watched it carefully providing water, fertilizer, bright light, etc. One day the flowers started to fall off, and later on the leaves started to turn yellow. It wasn't long before the entire plant dropped all its leaves. We thought we had killed our first orchid plant, and sent it on to orchid heaven only to be followed by many others.

Then we learned some orchids were deciduous, Den. Parishii is one of them. We found another Den. parishii along with many other orchids which added rapidly to our collection. It didn't take long to realize space was beginning to be a problem. Where do you keep all these beauties? I built a lean-to on the east side of the house. This was very helpful at first, but one day cold weather arrived, and the process of carrying orchids in and out became routine.

Now after almost 20 years it was time to take early retirement from C I T Group while still living in Tampa. Trudy retired six months later. We wanted to do something, but didn't know what because it was much too early for the rocking chair. Trudy was always interested in African violets. So we took some of our orchids and violets to the flea market. Sales were such that we needed to start buying plants from outside venders.

After six months we moved from Tampa to Spring Hill in **June of 1989**. We found a location from which to sell our orchids and violets. We also sold indoor plants to help decorate homes and business facilities, and then provided maintenance for these plants.

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**TRUDY AND JIM**

During our second year in Spring Hill we started the Fantasy Violet Club. Then the Orchid Lovers Club the following year. Some orchid history you might find interesting follows.

Our 1st orchid meeting was held May 16, 1992. Our first 5 meetings were held at our store *Trifles* plant shop, and then we expanded to Hernando Extension Center on Forest Oaks Blvd because we needed more space 3/93. Again more space was needed so we moved to Spring Hill Enrichment Center off Mariner in 3/94. Our 1st orchid show was open to the public. For this showing club members brought their orchids to show off at Springstead High School October 17, 1992 We adopted our club logo 8/94, and our 1st newsletter was printed 4/95. Our 1st AOS orchid show was held 4/95 in the Spring Hill Enrichment Center.

We did our 1st "design" in an AOS show sponsored by the Pasco Orchid Society the following year. We won our 1st trophy for this design. Talk about excitement. This was it!!! My 1st term as president lasted four years starting in June of 94 until 5/98. Served again from 6/99 to 5/01, and lastly 6 /05 to 5/06. Seven years total. I can't believe time has passed so fast. Note\* (Our 20th birthday will be here next May).

Happy Growing,

*Jim*

**ANTS ANTS ANTS**

There was an ant tip that came from the State of Georgia where they say it is common practice to spread corn meal around ant hills. The worker ants then take the corn meal back to the Queen and she feeds on it, it expands in her body and poof - you can guess the rest. No queen, no nest! Has anyone in the club tried this? If we get any verifications we will report next month.

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**ANSWER TO MONTHLY ORCHID QUIZ.**

Our first Orchid Meeting was held on May 16, 1992. (See the article above)

This will be our 25th year.

