



# THE KEIKI



Volume 27  
Issue 12  
December 2019

## Reminder: Coming to NCOS this month: OUR HOLIDAY PARTY!

### CONTENTS

Page 2

Officers, Committees  
Treasurer's Report

Page 3

From The Desk of Steve  
Mattana

Page 4

Membership Notes  
NCOS Quiz

Page 5-6

AOS Monthly Checklist

Page 7-9

Picnic Pictures

Page 10

AOS News

Page 11

NCOS library  
Book of the month  
Quiz Answers

It's that holiday time of year, so come celebrate with all of us!!!

**WHERE:** Buffet City, on Cortez Blvd. in Brooksville, across from Walmart.

**WHEN:** Saturday, December 7th, at 12:00 Noon

Members are asked to bring an unwrapped children's gift for the Toys For Tots drive, and a dozen cookies for our cookie exchange. This is a wonderful way to start the Holiday season, so we hope to see everyone. Guests are welcomed too. If you have not signed up, please call Mary Lou Mattana at 352-600-9077 or Pat Dupke at 727-856-3485



## CALENDAR OF SPEAKERS/EVENTS FOR NATURE COAST ORCHID SOCIETY FOR BALANCE OF 2019

- DECEMBER 7TH: CHRISTMAS PARTY AT BUFFET CITY, BROOKSVILLE

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**OFFICERS**

<b><u>President</u></b>	Steve Mattana
<b><u>Past President</u></b>	Jeff Rundell
<b><u>1st Vice President</u></b>	Geary Harris
<b><u>2nd Vice President</u></b>	Celeste Ogden
<b><u>Treasurer</u></b>	Pat Baig
<b><u>Executive Secretary</u></b>	Pat Dupke
<b><u>Advisory Capacity</u></b>	Helen Battistrada
<b><u>Recording Secretary for meetings</u></b> (not an elected position)	Kara Ramsey

**COMMITTEES**

<b><u>Bulletin (The Keiki)</u></b>	Matt Riesz and Julie Smolka
<b><u>E-mail Co-ordinator</u></b>	Tim Smith
<b><u>Historian</u></b>	Mary Lou Mattana
<b><u>Librarian</u></b>	Celeste Ogden
<b><u>Membership</u></b>	Arlene Appelbaum, Carol VanderLaan
<b><u>Publicity</u></b>	Mary Lou Mattana
<b><u>Refreshment Table</u></b>	<b>Volunteers please</b>
<b><u>Refreshment Reminders</u></b>	Mary Lou Mattana
<b><u>Show Table Report</u></b>	Matt Riesz
<b><u>Speaker Segment Writer</u></b>	Kara Ramsey
<b><u>Trips</u></b>	Sonia Terrelonge
<b><u>Webmaster</u></b> (Website set up by Ken Dunn)	Bob East

Mary Lou Mattana



People that signed up to bring food are:

**Looking for  
volunteers to  
bring snacks and  
drinks starting in  
January**

**Please contact  
MaryLou Mattana to  
sign up**



**TREASURER'S REPORT**

By Pat Baig

Prior balance:	\$11,203.47
Total receipts (raffle, etc.)	\$300.00
Total disbursements	\$170.54
Balance as of 11/20/2019	\$11,332.93



## President' Message

Good day everyone!

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Holidays !

Another year has come and gone already! This year has been jampacked with guest speakers bringing us new plants, fresh ideas, and know how. Just to mention a few, we started off the year with a bang! With Norman Fang from California at Orchids.com We had Bret Ullrey teach us how to put misting systems in our greenhouse. We had Luis Del Favero come and see us, and of course we ended the year with the folks from the Tarzane group. We definitely got a good taste of a lot of different things.

2020 is already shaping up with exciting speakers. Starting off with Laura Newton teaching us how to get our plants ready for AOS judging, we will also have member plant sales in January.

And of course we have our big show in March as well election nominations. If you're thinking about becoming a board member now's the time to speak up. You may also join us at our next board meeting which will be Wednesday, January 15 at 1 o'clock at the library on the west end of Cortez Boulevard. There you will get a good taste of how the organization runs and find out if you're interested in becoming a board member

See you at the Christmas party at the Chinese buffet and Cortez Boulevard on December 7 at 12 o'clock noon. Be sure to bring gifts for the Marines Toys for Tots, and a dozen cookies for the cookie sharing. See you at the party!

Steve

## Attention, Members!

Our annual orchid show is coming up in March, and we are in urgent need of several people to lead and participate in the Show Committee. The committee is responsible for organizing the show, interacting with our vendors, designing and setting up the orchid exhibit, and generally handling the details of our show. We have plenty of guidance to show you what needs to be done, and many hands make light work. This is a very enjoyable and social activity, so please consider volunteering. Your society needs you! Without you there is NO SHOW!

Please contact Mary Lou Mattana, Steve Mattana or Matt Riesz if you can help.

## Membership Notes for December



From Arlene Appelbaum

Even though we have had no formal meetings for the past three months our membership has continued to grow. We now have 119 society members, nine of which were acquired from our auction. Congratulations and welcome.

Please note that if you wish a current membership list please e mail me at [fluffy2cats@gmail.com](mailto:fluffy2cats@gmail.com) with your request.

Happy Thanksgiving to all and I hope to see many of you at our Christmas party on Dec.7th.

### MEMBERS:

Arlene has graciously taken over sending get-well cards and sympathy cards to members. If you know of any members who are ill or grieving, please send her an email to let her know at [fluffy2cats@gmail.com](mailto:fluffy2cats@gmail.com)



THANK YOU!

Starting in September, 2019, we will no longer mail hardcopies of the newsletter. If you do not have access to email or the web, you can pick up a copy at our monthly meeting (or other event such as auction, picnic, holiday party, etc.)

## NCOS ORCHID QUIZ

*Answers on page 11*

- 
1. *Orchids are found in all continents, except*
    - A. *Africa*
    - B. *Australia*
    - C. *Antarctica*
    - D. *Asia*
  
  2. *Africa is perhaps best known for*
    - A. *Slipper orchids*
    - B. *Angraecoids*
    - C. *Ghost orchid*
    - D. *Phaleanopsis*
  
  3. *The beautiful ground orchids Disa and Satyrium are found in*
    - A. *South Africa*
    - B. *Canada*
    - C. *Europe*
    - D. *Italy*

### People Helping People

In the future the society will provide a box at each monthly meeting for us to collect groceries for those in need all year round. Please bring food items such as canned food, snacks, etc. to the meeting, and put them in the box. It will be donated to People Helping People from NCOS.

## AOS Monthly Checklist for November and December

### **Cattleya**

Growers of just about every level of expertise will have begun to notice autumn conditions by now. Days are becoming shorter, hence cooler; the sunlight has less intensity as a result of the sun's lowering angle, nights are longer and generally cooler. Plants are responding by slowing and ripening their growth in preparation for winter.

The first cultural change noticed should be a reduced frequency of watering, as the plants dry out more slowly. This is a function of both the reduced day length and lower temperatures, as well as the plants' slowing growth rate. Reduced water needs signal a reduced need for fertilization. Note that the key word is reduced, not eliminated. Feed less frequently and at lower dosage, but feed. Growths, made during summer's heat, and relatively soft and green, will be ripening -- hardening -- in preparation for a brief period of rest (in many cases).

Many of these ripening growths will have a sheath, presaging the coming winter or spring flowering season. In some cases, these sheaths will have been evident since as early as July. (Early sheath development does not mean early flowering on plants with winter-spring seasons.) You may notice that some of these sheaths are showing signs of yellowing. This is not abnormal. Autumn's more pronounced temperature fluctuation can lead to water condensation inside the sheath, hastening the normal process of senescence, so yellowing sheaths can be left on the plant only so long before they must be carefully removed to preserve the bud primordia within. Water condensation left unchecked can rot the bud primordia. The sheaths can be safely removed by slitting open and peeling down toward the pseudobulb.

### **Cool-Growing Orchids**

One can almost hear a sigh of relief from all of the cool-growers, from masdevallias to odontoglossums. As day temperatures decline, one can see a noticea-

ble improvement in these plants. Shorter days and lower light levels do not seem to bother them. Repot before winter arrives.

### **Cymbidium**

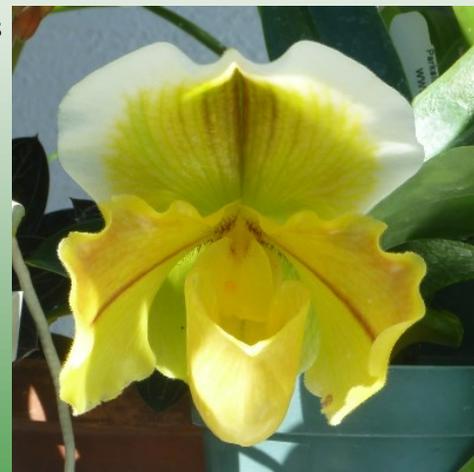
Finally we begin in earnest the main cymbidium season. *Cymbidium ensifolium* can give some early and fragrant hybrids, but it is now that the bulk of the crop will be flowering. The season lasts for about seven months, adding color to any collection. Miniature varieties will peak for the next three to four months. There are three important things to do: stake inflorescences ramrod straight for best presentation, watch for slugs and snails (especially just after a rain), and fertilize with a mild balanced formula regularly.

### **Oncidium crispum Complex**

This is the season for plants in *Oncidium* section *crispum* from Brazil to shine. Extremely vigorous hybrids come in wide varieties of markings dominated with chestnut and brown and butter yellow. Give plants high light to produce strong upright inflorescences. The pseudobulbs should be plump, so do not let the plants dry out while they are in bloom. Later, plants will enter a dormant period.

### **Paphiopedilum**

The flowering season for the "toads" or "bulldog" paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. *Paphiopedilums* are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen



levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath's rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike.

While paphiopedilums rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease problems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With paphiopedilums, especially, "cleanliness is next to godliness" and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flow-



ers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

### Phalaenopsis

Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in phalaenopsis. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our phalaenopsis will not begin to bloom until Valentine's Day at the earliest.

A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a "bloom booster"-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a copper-



based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.

### Vandaceous Genera

Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules.

*This article was generously provided by the American Orchid Society ([www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org))*

*The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay .*







## The American Orchid Society Webinars

Webinars are online video presentations. You can register for an upcoming webinar or watch the recorded webinars any time. Some webinars require you to be an AOS member.

### Upcoming Webinars

#### AOS Members: December Webinar

Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
8:30 PM—9:30 PM EST

Jennifer Reinoso will present “Conservation of *Sacoila lanceolata* in Florida, A Tale of Success”

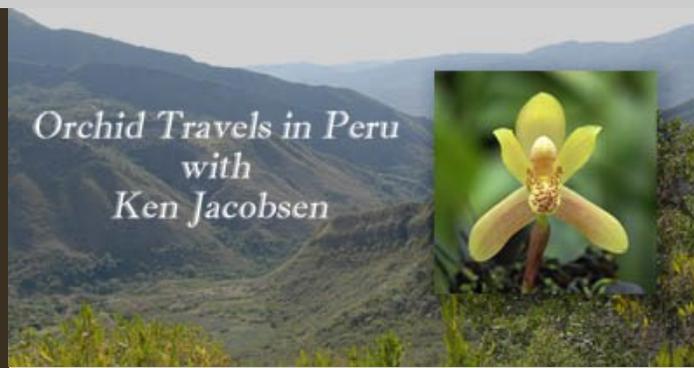
#### AOS Members: January Webinar

Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT

Ken Jacobsen takes on a tour of Peru, looking at orchids in situ



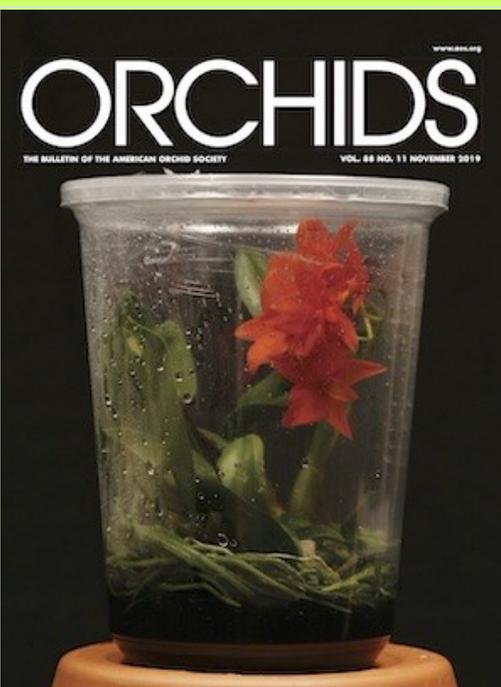
**Conservation of  
*Sacoila lanceolata*  
in Florida  
A Tale of Success**  
with  
Jennifer Reinoso



**Orchid Travels in Peru  
with  
Ken Jacobsen**

Just click on: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>  
and you can watch these videos at your convenience.

Some webinars are reserved for AOS members only.



#### Orchids Magazine

Coming in December 2019

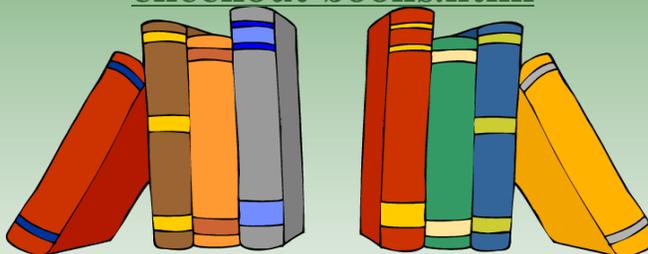
- New Refugium Botanicum - *Phragmipedium xtalamancaum*
- Orchid Growing in a Retirement Community
- Orchids Illustrated - *Laelia*
- The Strange Case of *Phragmipedium xtalamancaum*, an International Story of Conservation and Taxonomy
- Photograph of the Week - A Selection of the Best
- The Catasetinae, Part 4: *Cycnoches warszewiczii* and its Influence in Breeding
- Orchids in the Guided Age New York
- Pass on Your Love of Orchids - And Watch it Grow

# YOUR ORCHID LIBRARY

By Celeste Ogden



<http://www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com/library-checkout-books.html>



How do I get a book from the Club's Library?

1. Just Click on: [www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com/library-alphabetical-list-books.html](http://www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com/library-alphabetical-list-books.html)
2. Select Books or CD's you think would be useful and order right on the web page.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

*Growing Orchids #300-016 by: J.N.Rentoul*

*This book covers Vandas, Dendrobiums and others. Using the modern propagation methods described in this book we can, with care and patience, produce beautiful and rewarding blooms of truly spectacular plants. There are over 200 colored illustrations of orchids as well as many black and white photos, pedigree charts and maps included in this book*

Select any number(s) that you would like to spend some time with and then you can sign them out at the next Members' Meeting Keep them for 1 month and return them at the following meeting and remove your name from the list.

If you have any questions about our Library Books, my email address is: [c1948ogden@gmail.com](mailto:c1948ogden@gmail.com)



The Society meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month, at 1pm, at the Spring Hill VFW Post 8681 18940 Drayton St. at County Line Rd

Enjoy great speakers, fantastic raffle prizes and beautiful orchids on display.

[www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com](http://www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com)

## Answers to quiz

1. C Antarctica
2. B Angraecoids
3. A South Africa