



THE KEIKI



Volume 34
Issue 12
December 2025



Next Meeting



December- Our annual Holiday party! Same location as last year.
 Where: Buffet City, 13235 Cortez Blvd, Brooksville, 34613
 When: Saturday, December 13th, 11:30AM to about 2:00PM
 Bring your appetite for the most amazing buffet around!

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President's Message



Hi everyone,

Hi everyone, I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. We have so many things to be thankful for, including our orchids, and good friends who care about each other.

I also hope you all had a chance to come to our November meeting and hear Keith Emig talk about Vandaceous orchids that aren't Vandas. It was really interesting, and Keith was a fun and personable speaker as well. He and Dina brought a whole lot of great plants for sale including several that are their own crosses and had never bloomed. I find those so exciting, because you never really know what to expect.

We're supposed to get another cold front Thanksgiving day, with night temps in Spring Hill going down to the low 40s. At that level, nearly all of my orchids will be coming inside for a few days until the weather warms up. I'm really hoping for the warmer winter that the weather services are predicting so the 'chids can stay outside.

Our next event will be our holiday party on December 13th.

Where: Buffet City, on Cortez Blvd. in Brooksville (across Cortez from Walmart).

When: Saturday, December 13th, 11:30AM to about 2:00PM

If you'd like to arrive a little early and help set up, we'd welcome your help. Watch our website and Facebook page for any further details. I hope to see lots of you there. It promises to be a really fun time once again, with something yummy for everyone. Be prepared for some fun games, the cookie exchange, and a special surprise.

Wishing you all a happy holiday season!

Matt

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<u>Past President</u>	Steve Mattana
<u>1st Vice President</u>	Bob East
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<u>Treasurer</u>	Jacqueline Alston-Morse
<u>Executive Secretary</u>	Cheryl Crilly
<u>Recording Secretary for meetings</u>	Cheryl Crilly
(not an elected position)	
<u>Trustees</u>	Jeff Rundell
	Jeanne Montgomery

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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<u>Refreshment Table</u>	Annie Aierstock
<u>Refreshment Reminders</u>	Annie Aierstock
<u>Show Table Report</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Sunshine Greetings</u>	Gertie Messenger
<u>Speaker Segment Writer</u>	Denise Provencher
<u>Trips</u>	Volunteers please
<u>Webmaster</u>	Bob East
	(Website set up by Ken Dunn)
<u>AOS Representative</u>	Matt Riesz

NCOS speaker schedule through December 2026

Updated as of 12/01/2025

January 24, 2026 - Ryan Kowalczyk will teach us *'How to Groom & Prepare Your Orchids For The Best Presentation'*.

This will help us get our orchids ready to display for the March Show. Ryan has spoken at our society before and is an excellent speaker. He is an AOS judge and has been growing orchids for 30 yrs. He often is a judge at our show so he'll definitely be able to give us tips and tricks. Ryan will be bringing plants to sell.

February 21, 2026 - Bill Nunez, also known as the 'Rhizome cowboy', presents *'Growing Seedlings from Flask to Bloom'*.

Bill is such an entertaining speaker, you won't want to miss this. He'll also, by request, do a short overview about how to grow Vanilla. Bill will be bringing plants for us to buy.

March 20-22 - Annual Show—The theme is: 'Orchid Artistry' More details to come!

April 4 - Repotting Clinic & Picnic at Crews Lake Park. There will be a repotting & mounting demo. Bring 1 or 2 orchids you'd like to repot and get guidance while you're doing it.

May 23 - Mike Sands will talk about 'Organic & Inorganic Pest & Fungal Control. Mike owns Tangled Roots Nursery. This is a topic we've all had questions about and Mike will be able to give us some guidance.

June 27 - Harry McElroy 'Mr. Cymbidium Man' will come talk to us about growing & blooming warm growing Cymbidiums. Harry has been growing orchids since 1979. He started growing in Ca. and now lives here in Jacksonville.

July 25 - Still Pending

August 22 - Our Annual Auction

September 12 - Still Pending

October 24 - Keith & Dina Emig- 'How to Winterize Your Orchids'. The Emigs own Winter Haven Orchids.

Vandaceous Orchids

Speaker Keith Emig

At November's meeting, Keith Emig, owner of Winter Haven Orchids, spoke about the many orchids related to Vandas. He provided a very engaging and fun discussion, even raffling off plants during his talk.

He began by discussing the species Vanda orchids that have prized characteristics used by breeders to develop the many hybrids available of these beautiful orchids.

These consist of:

V. Sanderiana of the Philippines, the Queen of Philippine flowers.

Plants may take 10 years to bloom, but the enormous pink flowers are worth the wait.

V. Coerulea, the Blue Vanda. The stunning color is used for distinctive hybrids.

V. Tricolor, with lots of spots, this one is used for its spots in developing new hybrids.

V. Denisoniana, the orange Vanda.

V. tessellate, where the wonderful grape fragrance comes from.

So, when you purchase a Vanda with any one of the above characteristics, you will have an idea of the parentage.

Keith went into great detail on many Vanda allies for you to consider adding to your collection.

These include:

Aerangis - from Africa

Aerides - means "child of the air", commonly known as cat's tail orchids

Angraecum - known as the Comet orchid from Africa

Arachnis - or spider or scorpion orchids

Aranda - A cross between the Arachnis and the Vanda

Gastrochilus - from Asia

Holcoglossum - from India and Asia



Keith and Dina Emig
Photo: Bryon Provencher

Neofinetia - prized in Japan, these miniatures come in many hybrids. Some command prices as much as \$70,000. Very cold tolerant for a Vanda.

Perreirara - intergeneric hybrids between the orchid genera Aerides, Rhynchostylis and Vanda.

Renanthera - a vining epiphyte with showy, brilliantly-colored flowers, found from Nepal to the Philippines, New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands.

Rynchostylis - small plant from southeast Asia.

Paraphalaenopsis - pendent epiphytes with fleshy, terete leaves, and are endemic to Borneo

Sedirea - known as 'Nagoran' in Japan, is native to Japan, the Ryukyu Islands, Korea, and western Yunnan and Zhejiang provinces of China

Trichoglottis - found from India to New Guinea and the Philippines. The name means 'hair spur' from Greek.

Vandopsis - from southeast Asia.



There was an amazing selection of plants for sale, provided by Winter Haven Orchids.
Photo: Bryon Provencher

November's Raffle Winners



The winner of the member's raffle is Carolyn Shearer (left). To have a chance to win the member's raffle just sign in the attendance sheet at each meeting.

The winner of November's Facebook Picture Raffle is Patty Cornell (right).

See information below to enter into the Facebook raffle, and have a chance to win!

Each month there will be a contest to get a free orchid at each meeting.

Here's how it works:

1. Take a picture of yourself holding one of your orchids. YOU must be in the picture with the orchid.
2. Send the picture to Barbara Brown at ranbar03@verizon.net , including your name & the name of the orchid.
3. Barbara will make a raffle ticket for your entry, and also put your picture on our Facebook group page.
4. We will draw from the raffle tickets at the next meeting to see who wins the raffle orchid.

That's it! There is no limit to the number of pictures of you with an orchid. Each one will entitle you to another raffle ticket. Watch our Facebook page for the posts, and feel free to put up your own posts of orchid pictures (we all love to see them!!)

1	NCOS Show Table 11-22-2025	
2	Plant Name	Grower
3	Rlc. Greenwich 'Elmburt' SM/JOGA	Susan Kimmel
4	Bsn. Maikai 'Louise'	Susan Kimmel
5	Hab. Gubbio	Susan Kimmel
6	Onc. Massi White	Payton Millican
7	Onc. Hwuluduen Ruby Gem	Payton Millican
8	Epi. ciliare	Payton Millican
9	Bulb. longissimum	Payton Millican
10	Prosthechea cochleata	Payton Millican
11	Cygd. Taiwan Gold 'Orange'	Bob East
12	Robiquetia cerina 'Yellow'	Matt Riesz
13	C. walkeriana 'Estrada da Colina' HCC/AOS	Matt Riesz
14	Cattleya Hybrid	Matt Riesz
15	Bulb. Emily Siegerist	Matt Riesz
16	Cattleya Hybrid	Carolyn Shearer
17	Cattleya Hybrid	Carolyn Shearer
18	Monnierara Millenium Magic 'Witchcraft'	Barbara Estok
19	B. nodosa - wild collected from Puerto Rico	Ken Mort
20	Bc. Yutoung Star	Nancy Huff
21	Epi. conopseum (AKA Green Fly Orchid)	Ken Mort
22	Laelia rubescens F. albescens	Matt Riesz
23	B. flagellaris	Payton Millican
24	V. Thianchai x Pda. Arjuna	Payton Millican
25	Chrisnetia Green Light	Dee Provencher
26	Cattleya Hybrid	Alyson Utter
27	V. Jed Kao	Kristine Stewart
28	V. Loke	Jackie Morse
29	V. Suwanaphun Sunshine	Nancy Huff
30	B. Ridiculus	Kristine Stewart
31	Cycnodes Wine Delight	Payton Millican

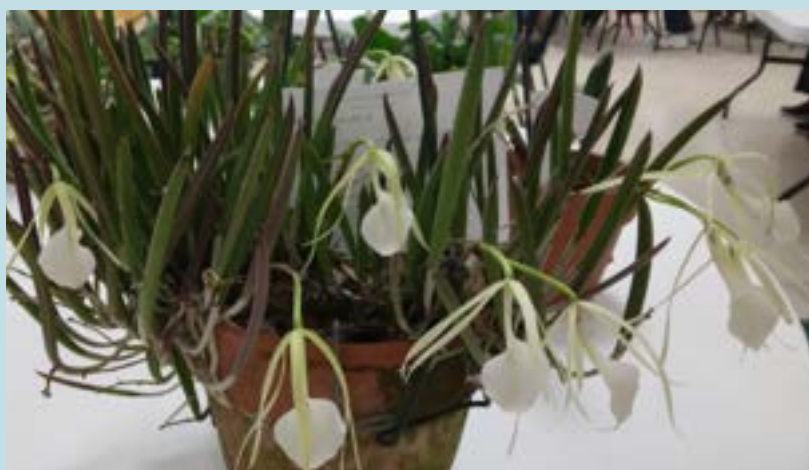


Monnierara Millenium Magic 'Witchcraft'
B. nodosa - wild collected from Puerto Rico



Cattleya Hybrid

Cattleya Hybrid



Bulb. Emily Siegerist





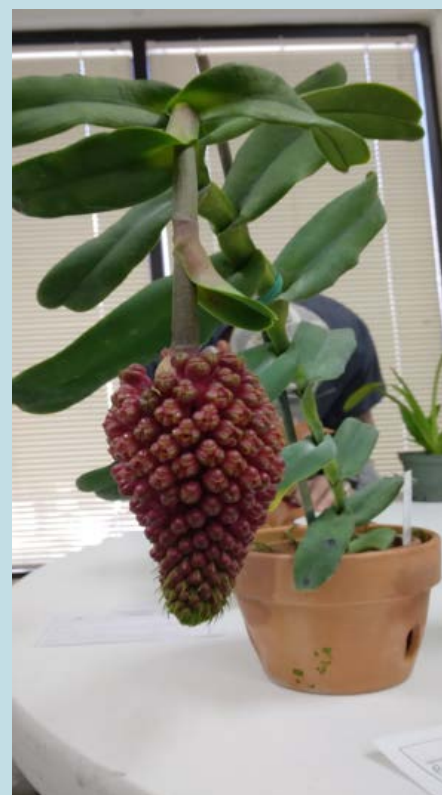
Cyrd. Taiwan Gold 'Orange' *C. walkeriana* 'Estrada da Colina' HCC/AOS



Cattleya Hybrid

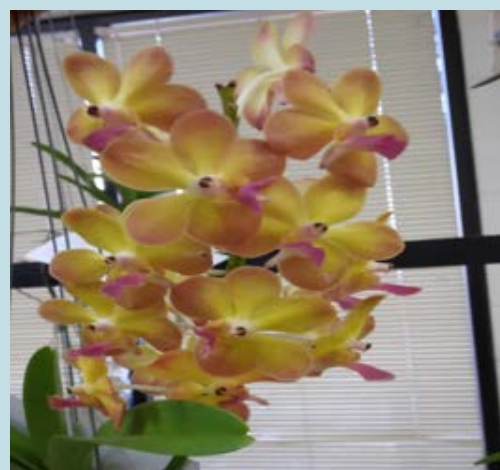


Robiquetia cerina



V. Jed Kao

V. Suwanaphun Sunshine





Prosthechea cochleate



Bulb. longissimum

Bc. Yutoung Star



Epi. conopseum (AKA Green Fly Orchid)



Onc. Hwuluduen Ruby Gem



Epi. Ciliare



Onc. Massi White





Hab. Gubbio



B. Ridiculus



Dendrobium SA Nook



Chrisnetia Green Light



Laelia rubescens 'Alba'



Vanda hybrid



B. flagellaris

Asda Memoria Tienchai
'Mustard Gold' x V Arjuno
'Enlightened' AM/AOS



November's Awesome Raffle Table



Above photos: Bryon Provencher



Matt at the show table



Keith at the show table

Photos: Nancy Huff

Used Clay Pots!!

Melana from Jim-N-I Orchids has provided a donation to the Club of about 200+ clay pots. These pots are used and will need cleaning and disinfecting, but are worth the effort as buying new pots is so expensive! The pots will be available at the January meeting, so get your scrub brush, and bleach ready.

The link below is sourced from the August 2025 issue of Orchids magazine, and is an article about cleaning clay pots by Sue Bottoms. It contains general directions on how to clean and reuse clay pots safely. <https://www.aos.org/orchids/articles/cleaning-clay-pots>

Some fast facts about orchid viruses:

- Even the pros can't always tell by looking if a plant has a virus.
- Alcohol, commercial disinfectants like Lysol, or lye, hand sanitizers, trisodium phosphate, even Physan 20 are not effective against viruses.
- Clay, being porous, will absorb whatever it comes into contact with.
- Advice given decades ago regarding viruses is not correct today, and neither is much of what is on the internet. Consider the source!
- Viruses are not actually alive, they hijack living cells to grow and replicate.
- There is no cure once a plant has a virus. Plants cannot create antibodies to fight viruses like we can.
- Unfortunately, mixed infections are quite common.
- Viruses can live for years on surfaces!!!
- Some viruses are spread by insects or splashing water, but the most dangerous source is your hands and tools.
- Test kits test for the 2 most common orchid viruses, Cymbidium Mosaic (CymMV), and Odontoglossum Ringspot (ORSV).
- Testing is accurate, but can be expensive. You will need to decide whether to test all your plants, suspicious plants, or new purchases.
- CymMV, ORSV are not transmitted by insects, but by tools that are not properly sanitized, hands, water, and contaminated surfaces like benches. In other words, Us!
- Common garden plants such as peppers, tomatoes, petunias, and impatiens can be hosts to viruses that affect orchids.
- Assume viruses can be present, and follow proper safety protocols, such as hand washing for at least 20 seconds, sanitizing your tools and work surfaces, and properly preparing used pots. Follow the link to the AOS article above for procedures and details on doing this.
- Another informative link: <https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/ViralDiseasesOfOrchids-Dr.CalumWilsonJuly2023COCSA.pdf>



Webinars - Coming Attractions!

REGISTRATION IS EASY www.aos.org/webinars

Cannot make it on the scheduled date and time? No need to worry.

Register now and view on your time schedule.

Send Your Greenhouse Chat Questions and Photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

Greenhouse Chat webinars are recorded and summarized by topic for future viewing.

When	Winter Break	Jan. 08, 2026 Thursday 8:30 pm EST	Feb. 10, 2026 Tuesday 8:30 pm EST	Special Selections
Topic	Choose Your Topic From Our Library of RECORDED WEBINARS	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Jan. 05</i>	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A Answers to your questions about all things orchid. <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Feb. 07</i>	All About Orchid Judging Understand more about what goes on at the judging table. Select from the recorded FULL INDEX category.
Presenter	Expert Growers, Conservationists, AOS Judges, Hobbyists, and more	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	Ron McHatton AOS Chief Education and Science Officer	National Education Coordinator, Expert Growers, AOS Judges, and more



Webinar announcements are posted on the AOS website,
on Facebook and Instagram,
and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.

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If you haven't paid your annual dues (January through December) yet, please remember to do so. Yearly dues are due by January 1st. Your dues covers not only administrative costs, but also allow the Club to provide wonderful speakers at monthly meetings, the annual picnic and holiday party, as well as other educational opportunities and events, such as the show and auction. Annual dues is \$20 for single individual, or \$25 for household. You may bring your dues to the next meeting. Cash or check.

Current membership is 126.



Editor submission information:

Please send all your regular monthly Keiki contributions to: deemail@tampabay.rr.com by the end of the month to be included in the next month's Keiki. All members are welcome to send items to the editor. Send photos of your orchids, go ahead, show them off! Let us know of any shows or events that members would be interested in attending. Tips, hacks, and great ideas on orchid growing are always appreciated.

Sunshine Messages

Know of a NCOS member needing a little sunshine in their life? Contact Gertie Messenger at choclabs@att.net.

Member Name Tags

If you would like one of the wonderful name tags available to members, please contact Carol at: corvalor21@gmail.com

Cost per name tag is approximately \$9.00 per tag. Exact cost to be determined when the order is put in.