



Volume 27
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CONTENTS

Page 2

Officers, Committees
 Treasurer's Report

Page 3

From The Desk of Steve
 Mattana

Page 4

Membership Notes
 NCOS Quiz

Page 5

August Show Table
 Entries

Page 6-7

Show Table Pictures

Page 8-10

September Speaker's
 Notes

Page 11

September meeting
 minutes

Page 12

AOS Webinars
 AOS News

Page 13

NCOS library
 Book of the month
 Quiz Answers



THE KEIKI

Coming to NCOS this month:

This month's event, on October 19th, is one of the most vital to our society. It is OUR YEARLY AUCTION. This is the event where we make the money that will support our society's efforts over the next year. We hope everyone will make it a priority to come to the auction, and bring a plant—perhaps a division, or an extra that you don't want anymore, or two or three—to be sold at the auction. You can replace it (them) with some great plants from the auction. We will also have a nice selection of plants from local Florida orchid growers. Generally, the plants available at the auction are very special and often not available elsewhere. THIS is where you get all those cool plants that you see on the show table and at shows, where you think "where on earth did they get these? I wish I had one!" Please bring any plants you are willing to donate to the VFW Hall by 10:00AM. Viewing of available plants to the public will begin at 11:00AM, and bidding begins promptly at NOON.

NCOS Annual Orchid Auction

Where: 18940 Drayton St., Spring Hill, FL, 34610
 When: Saturday, October 19th, 2019
 10:00AM—Plants to VFW
 11:00AM—Previewing for the public
 12:00 Noon—bidding begins

See you there!

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

- OCTOBER 19TH: PLANT AUCTION AT VFW HALL
- NOVEMBER 2ND: PICNIC AT CREWS LAKE WILDERNESS PARK (PASCO COUNTY), PAVILION #1
- DECEMBER 7TH: CHRISTMAS PARTY AT BUFFET CITY, BROOKSVILLE

EXECUTIVE BOARD

OFFICERS

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

COMMITTEES

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

Mary Lou Mattana



People that signed up to bring food are:

Snacks

Pat Carter
Marie Tanaka
Marge Waig
Pat Dupke

Drinks/Water

Sue Caparbi
Carol Vanderlaan
Sonia Terrelonge

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Pat Baig



Prior balance:	\$9350.50
Total receipts (raffle, etc.)	\$155.00
Total disbursements	\$862.31
Balance as of 8/30/2019	\$8643.29



Good day everyone

WOW!!! We certainly had a terrific meeting on Sunday last month. Tomas and Yair had a mountain of information and a plethora of amazing miniature plants. Their presentation was absolutely, fabulously interesting. I feel the information provided was easy to understand. Many different species of miniature orchids were displayed. There were many happy faces as they picked up their brand-new mini orchid. I grabbed a couple myself.

Our social media advertising was re-posted and shared over 4000 times! Social media does work! As well as the massive amount of advertising that we do, all for FREE!!

We had a few new members that won a mini orchid from our raffle table. What a fabulous way to get introduced to the Nature Coast Orchid Society. And of course, orchids orchids.

This month is our auction. This is the lifeblood of our society. Without your donations bringing in the speakers is not possible, the money made also pays our rent here at the VFW. Again, if you can bring one maybe two plants to donate to the organization that would be great. It's a good way to clean out your greenhouse for all the new programs that are slated for 2020. Celeste Ogden has secured a vendor for next year that everybody's waiting to see and hear for at least four years. I'm not going to spill the beans just yet!

I want to thank the volunteers they have signed up for the auction and for the picnic. Please check with Mary-Lou to see if there are any spots that still need to be filled. And that would be for both events. At the picnic there will be

NO RAFFLE!

Plant show table optional

Membership Notes for July



By Arlene Appelbaum

For a complete membership list send a message to

ncos2gether@gmail.com.

September's meeting was attended by over 38 members and 8 guests. We are pleased to welcome two new members to our society. They are Nancy Makar and Bruce King. This brings our current membership total to 108.

I am currently holding the following name badges for pick up:

Jon and Valeria Dragonswan

Barbara Hogan

Jane Norris

The cost of purchasing a name badge is \$13.50 and can be ordered by contacting either myself or Carol Vanderlaan.

Our October meeting will be replaced by our annual auction to be held on Oct. 19th. Since this is our big fund raiser, please try to come out to support our hard working group and purchase some amazing orchids at incredible prices. See you there

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

THANK YOU!



Starting in September, 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 16

Many thanks to the Tarzane group for teaching us about their gigantic world of miniature orchids

1. *Thomas from the Tarzane group mounts on*

- A. Plastic*
- B. Cholla Wood*
- C. Pressure treated wood*
- D. Palm fronds*

2. *Miniature orchids can be classified into what catagories*

- A. Micro-miniature*
- B. Miniature*
- C. Small*
- D. All of the above*

3. *These miniature orchids can be grown*

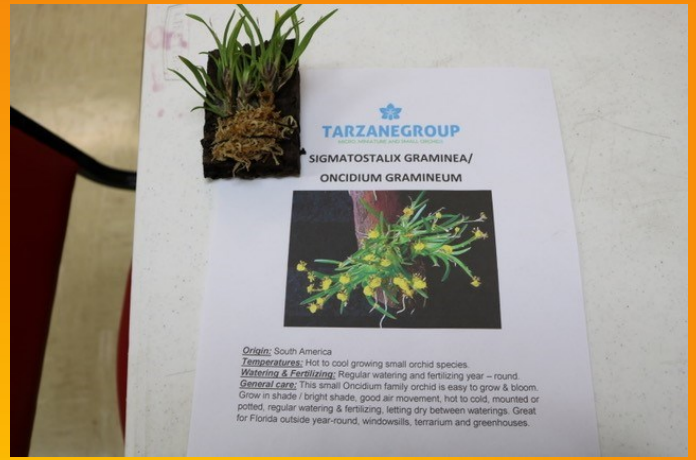
- A. Mounted*
- B. In glass orbs*
- C. In terrariums*
- D. All of the above*

NCOS Show Table , September 22, 2019

Plant Name	Grower
Howeara Lava Burst	Jeff Rundell
Vanda Pachara Delight	Marj Waig
Lc. Tropical Pointer 'Cheetah' AM/AOS	Matt Riesz
Habenaria dentata	Matt Riesz
Blc. Petite Stars	Matt Riesz
Lc. Purple Cascade	Matt Riesz
Blc. Rustic Spots 'H & R'	Matt Riesz
Vanda Pachara Delight	Matt Riesz
Phal. Cesario Gene Tobia (Phal. cornu cervi X Phal. bellina)	Steve Mattana









NCOS Speaker Notes

September 22nd, 2019

by Kara Ramsey

Our speaker for this month was Tomas Bajza of the Tarzane Group based out of Miami, FL. He provided a very special presentation to our club on the Giant World of Miniature Orchids and Simple Set Ups. Tomas came to the United States from the Czech Republic about 16 years ago and settled in the hot, tropical environment of Miami. His first attempt at growing orchids was with *Phalaenopsis* and *Cymbidiums* as a teenager in the Czech Republic without much success. By his own admission his approach to growing orchids and knowledge of their care was totally wrong. His plants suffered and barely survived under his care. About 8 years ago when Tomas' world changed when he was "bitten" by the miniature orchid bug after being acquainted with a plant of *Lepanthopsis astrophora* for the first time. He has come a long way from his teenage years growing orchids and has adapted his growing techniques to provide his orchids with the precise cultural requirements they desire to grow and thrive. In recent years he has been fortunate enough to collect hundreds of micro and miniature orchid species, many of which are pretty rare. Tomas considers himself to be a stubborn orchid grower, not liking to hear that a particular orchid species he likes is impossible to grow here in Florida because it is too hot or that they are too hard to grow. Today he shared with us some of his techniques in successfully growing miniature and intermediate to cool growing species in our hot Florida environment.

Miniature orchids can be classified into three categories based on the mature blooming size of the plant. These categories are micro miniature (eg. *Pleurothallis microphylla*), miniature (eg. *Lepanthes astrophora*), and small (eg. *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*). Miniature orchids might not be every orchid growers cup of tea especially when some plants require the use of a magnifying glass or hand lens in order to appreciate the intricacies of the floral parts. However, even the smallest of the miniature plants, the micro miniatures, can be very showy with relatively large blooms in comparison to the overall size of the plant. One of Tomas' first micro miniature plants a species *Pleurothallis microphylla* started out with just 15 tiny leaves. After growing the plant successfully for 8-9 years it is now a specimen plant with 1,000+ leaves still growing happily on its initial 3" mount. If you plan to get into growing miniature orchids do your own research and consider asking orchid sellers questions such as: "How big will the leaves of the plant get?", "How tall will the orchid grow?", and "What is the growth habit of this orchid?" (i.e. creeping or upright) to ensure that your new additions wont outgrow your

miniature orchid set up.

Tomas grows his miniature orchids in simple set ups that he has created indoors in his living room and outdoors on the balcony of his apartment. His outdoor set ups are geared towards the intermediate and warm growing species whereas the indoor set ups are home to the cooler growing species. His simple set ups are inexpensive, can be constructed quickly, and designed to provide the plants with the exact conditions that they need. He likes to use glass orbs indoors to create a microclimate for growing his miniature orchids. A variety of glass orbs in different shapes and sizes can be purchased both online or from your local hobby store. You can even utilize other glass containers such as an old fish bowl, a vase, a vintage glass jar, or a candle holder. Whichever glass vessel you choose, line the bottom with small pebbles covered in a light layer of sphagnum moss. Placement of the plants are dependent upon their cultural humidity and dryness requirements. Plants that like less moisture should be hung with the plant on the outside of your glass container to dry out between watering. Those that prefer more humidity should be hung and or placed on the inside of the glass container, with those that covet more moisture placed closest to the moss – to literally bathe it in the humidity. Using live sphagnum moss is the key to creating these miniature terrariums. The live moss will hold the water for a longer period of time and wick the humidity to your plants, it will continue to grow as your set ups age creating unique beauty, allows plant roots more room to breathe and get air, and has antiseptic properties. The vast majority of miniature orchids prefer shaded to bright shade conditions and are perfectly adapted to growing indoors. An area of indirect light such as light from a nearby window that will suffice for most species. If you desire to grow miniature Dendrobium species, which often require bright light conditions and higher light levels than found in most home environments, you will have to supplemental light for your plants. If you have to use artificial lighting for your orchids purchase electronic components that are labeled for use in aquarium and hydroponic set ups.

Tomas uses a variety of materials in order to create unique terrariums, mounts, and displays for his miniature orchids. A favorite mounting material of his is cholla wood, which comes from a member of the cacti family in the genus *Cylindropuntia* and is native to North and South America and the West Indies. The skeleton from this cacti features a hollow cylinder with many regularly spaced holes. Because the cholla wood is used to being saturated with

water this material is very hearty for mounting orchids to and can last 10+years before starting to break down. For those orchids in need of higher moisture the hollow center of the cholla wood can be stuffed with sphagnum moss to provide extra humidity. Other materials he utilizes to create unique mounts for his plants include cork wood, backsplash tiles used for aquariums and terrariums, used wine corks (useful for growing micro miniatures), and wood from old wine barrels. Often as a standalone material or in place of sphagnum moss on a mount he will use Hygroton, a fabric material created to mimic the bark of trees and capable of storing, wicking, and transporting large amounts of water to plants. Never a big fan of using fishing line to attach his orchids to mounts, he instead uses 1mm thick elastic cord with nylon for the safe mounting of orchids giving new roots plenty of room to expand without cutting into them. He uses driftwood and cholla wood to construct miniature tree limbs on which to showcase multiple plants for a more dramatic display. He even utilizes bonsai trees capable of withstanding daily watering to create stunning live displays on which to mount several miniature orchids. The key to creating these multi plant displays is to organize plants with like requirements for light, water, humidity, and feeding together.

Tomas recommends feeding your miniature plants with an application of 1/8 strength of the fertilizer with every watering. When you feed your orchids infrequently, say every two weeks or once a month, your orchids will store this fertilizer releasing it slowly in order to just survive. However, when you feed them more often such as with every watering they will grow like crazy and produce multiple bloom periods and flower spikes. For several years now he has been satisfied with the results he has achieved using the urea free MSU Orchid Fertilizer to feed his plants. There are several supplements that he applies to his plants along with the fertilizer application once a month during the active growing season. He uses MagiCal to provide Magnesium and Calcium to his orchids and supplements Magnesium and Sulfur by using Technaflora Sugar Daddy. He uses seaweed extract to promote healthy, thick root growth on his plants. He recommends using Biobizz Fish Mix on any of the terrestrial tuberous orchids that come from Europe such as the naked man orchid (*Orchis italicus*) or the bee orchid (*Orphrys* spp.), as these species can be sensitive to too much fertilizer. It is very important that you use good quality water on your miniature plants. Tomas recommends that you water with either reverse osmosis, rainwater, or distilled water. You must remember that species such as *Lepanthes* and *Masdevallias* are adapted to growing in forested environments with the purest water possible, and you can kill your new plant by giving it water high in minerals or total dissolved solids.

Learning how to grow miniature orchids can open you up to a whole new world of orchid species that you didn't even know existed. They are unique and beautiful in their own way and perfect for the grower who does not have a lot of space. Do not be perturbed by the fact that some of the miniature species are labeled as cool growers. Tomas says if you see something interesting that you would like to attempt to grow to go ahead and give it a try. You never truly know until you try if you can grow a particular orchid species or not. Some plants are forgiving and can even be grown contrary to their culture if they are given the right set of conditions. So, next time you are in search for a new orchid species open your eyes to the giant world of miniature orchids



NCOS Minutes September 22nd, 2019

by Kara Ramsey

Steve Mattana welcomed everyone to our special Sunday meeting. A request was made to approve the minutes from our previous meeting held on July 20, 2019. This motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

Pat Baig provided our financial report:

Opening Balance as of 8/1/2019:	\$9908.10
Total receivables:	\$0.00
Total Disbursements:	<u>\$457.50</u>
Current Balance (as of 8/31/2019):	\$9,050.60 0

Mary Lou Mattana distributed sign-up sheets for volunteers for our upcoming auction and attendees for our club picnic.

As a reminder the annual auction held in October is the lifeblood of our society. With the funds raised from this event the club is able to secure vendors to present to club members and helps put on our spring orchid show. We ask if you have the means to please consider donating 1-2 plants or divisions of plants to help with the auction. The auction will be held next month on Saturday, October 19, 2019. The bidding will start at 12:00PM with a preview of plants up for bid beginning at 11:00AM. For members that wish to donate plants for the auction it is requested that you drop off plants as soon as possible that morning ahead of the auction. This year we have two auctioneers, Ed Bugbee and Bill Nunez, which should allow for a smoother and faster program than in previous years for this event.

Arlene Appelbaum provided the club with an update on membership. As we stand, we currently have 108 paid members. At today's meeting we had 2 new members join our organization and a total of 10 guests in attendance.

Matt Riesz and Jeff Rundell discussed the beautiful orchids featured on our show table for this month.

Our speaker for this month was Tomas Bajza of the Tarzane Group who gave a very special presentation on growing miniature orchids in simple set ups.

The raffle was drawn and the meeting adjourned.



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

Greenhouse Chat for November

Thursday, November 7th, 2019
8:30 PM—9:30 PM EDT

Join Dr. Ron McHatton as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Please send your questions with photos to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by September 3

AOS Members: October Webinar

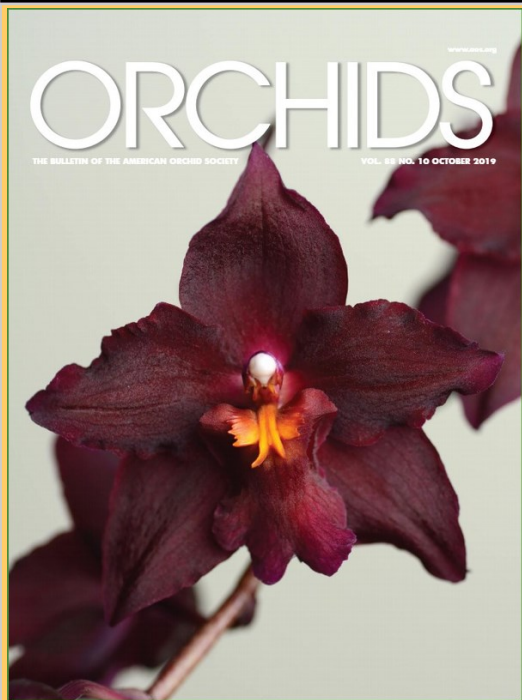
Monday, October 7th, 2019
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT

Join Tara Luna for a survey of the status of cyripediums in Western North America and what can be done to preserve habitat.



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 October 2019

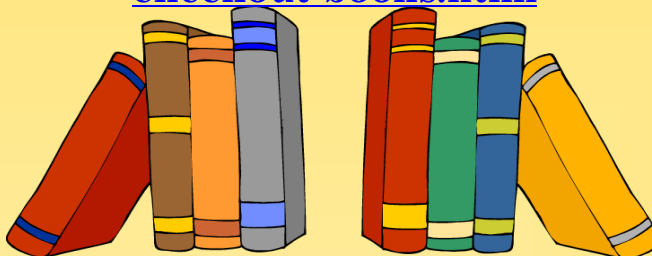
- Our October issue anchors our annual supplement with a comparison of true miltonias and miltoniopsis.
- Fred Clarke continues his multipart series on the Catasetinae with an article on "Breeding with Goblins (Mormodes)" and
- Jean Allen-Ikeson shares with us tips on flowering sarcochilus.
- Rounding out the October issue is an article by Paul Bayman on the vanilla industry in Puerto Rico
- This month we also have the release of our annual supplement, featuring The Oncidium Alliance. All Current AOS members can log in to read it online now

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
2. Select Books or CD's you think would be useful and order right on the web page.

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Orchids In Colour #300-12 by: Brian & Wilma Rittershausen

Orchids In Colour has been written with the amateur orchid grower and enthusiast in mind. It contains a wealth of cultural information which provides guidelines for the beginner, and includes many details regarding the most popular orchids which are in cultivation today. This is an informative and easy to read book with 105 full color photos.

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



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

Answers to quiz

1. *B. Cholla Wood*
2. *D. All of the above*
3. *D. All of the above*