



# The Keiki



Volume 20 January 2012 Issue

January 14, 2011

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## My life's journey

By Jim Duerstock

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,

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## The Presidents Message

By Dave Dobson

### Treasure's Report

By Helen Battistrada, Treasure

Balance 12/15/11	\$2053.77
Receipts	\$1824.87
Disbursements	\$ 869.89
Balance 11/1911	\$3008.75

Reminder:

Club dues are due January 1st.

### Upcoming Events

TBA

### Membership

By Yvonne Allen,

Membership Coordinator

62 Paid members.

Christmas Party

30 Members/Guest.

**Happy New Year**, the weather has been nice to us so far this year with nice temperatures, let's hope it stays that way. As we start a new year we have a lot planned for it, starting with our orchid festival with little time to get it planned and set up. For those who maybe first timers at this activity it is a lot of work but the fun that you have off sets the work.

I do not know what programs are planned for this year but I know we always come up with interesting ones thanks to Ed. He always comes up with someone who is interesting and brings some nice little jewels to add to our collections. We owe a great deal of thanks to him for coming up with them.

These cool sunny days make me impatient waiting for the temperature and sun come up with a warm spring so I can get out and work on my orchids

See you at the meeting

Dave

*My life's journey form page 1*

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 vendors. 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.

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*

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Jim & Trudy

**Newsletter Deadline** is the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. Forward newsletter submissions to:

[The.Keiki@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:The.Keiki@tampabay.rr.com)

Or

Judy Smith, Editor  
7918 W flight Path Ct  
Crystal River, FL 34429

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*sponsored by the Pasco Orchid Society the following year. We won our 1st trophy for this design. Talk about excitement.*

*This was it!!!*

*My 1<sup>st</sup> 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 pasted so fast. Note\* (Our 20<sup>th</sup> birthday will be here next May).*

*Happy Growing*

*Jim*

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**Our meetings** are held the 3rd Saturday of each month starting at 1:00 P.M. We usually have an informative speaker at each meeting, a show table of orchids grown by our members and orchids for sale.

We meet at the Partners Club of Oak Hill Hospital, 11375 Cortez Blvd., Spring Hill.

### **Thank-you to everyone that attended our Oct/Nov consolidation sale**

*By Ed & Lyn Bugbee*

**I**t was terrific .... everything is now in the one gutter connected greenhouse! Amazing!

**I**t was a scramble to beat the predicted cold (which never materialized that goodness) One person returned 6 times and kept buying seedlings commenting each time "How did I miss that?"

**T**here were goodies hiding everywhere.

Some of the specimen plants (3'+) that left dubiously ... we are not sure where they were going to put the monsters but they haven't returned, so I guess they found a home

**S**till looking for homes for a P. Azure cactus (8' high & beautiful cerulean/azure blue) and a Buddha Belly bamboo ... neither take a freeze

**I** cut the frangipani growing tips off, so those as well the base trunks are up for grabs too ... blooms should be set if rooted in now they should produce in the late spring (bases will branch and bloom next year)

**L**yn's plants are finally all in one spot and both are happy about that. Lyn is madly repotting them. It's fun to see them blooming all together. Of coarse it's makes it that much more difficult for customers when the see an 7" catt, a showy bulb medusa or a specimen native nodosa covered with flowers.

**A**nway, now we are sweeping up the floors from all the fall leaf droppings and shuffling of plants.

**T**here are even a few spaces on the tables open!

**W**e're finally settling in to a smaller operation (2 greenhouse - shut down, no electric, no water & no propane bills!) We've begun the task of staking nobiles before flowers open.

**T**hanks again, Ed & Lyn

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### **Things my mother taught me.**

My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL...

"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"

### **Refreshment Reminder**

*By Eleanor Szarzynski,  
Refreshment Coordinator*

352-688-3887

January

Eleanor Szarzynski

Pat Dupke

Judy Smith

Sarah Hart

## Christmas Party 2011



*Photos courtesy of Ed Bugbee*

*By Tim Smith*

Outside the skies were gray and a misty rain was falling which reminded me of the winters up North before a snow. But inside The Boston Cooker, it was bright and cheery with most party attendees wearing red and green Christmas colors. As people began arriving and finding their seats, many lively conversations were overheard as all were in a holiday mood. Many presents were placed under the beautifully decorated Christmas tree for the Yankee Swap gift exchange that was a lot of fun.

Carol Monroe, with the assistance of Linda Hindman, placed cut orchid blooms on the wreath that the club later delivered to The Partner's Club and placed on the wall in the lobby for a little cheer for the many seniors who visit the club. Every one brought a flower or three from their favorite Orchid to place on the wreath. Carol and Linda did a fantastic job and the wreath was a beautiful thing.

It has been a few years since Judy and I attended the club's Christmas party and was not so pleased with the quality of their

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*Christmas party 2011 from page 4*

cuisine at that time. I must say though, on this occasion our entrée was delicious, fresh out of the oven rolls, salad that was crisp and chilled, red potatoes with butter, what a meal.

We all owe our sincerest gratitude to the members who made this all happen. It takes time and effort to coordinate a luncheon party like this because so many things have to come together at a certain time.

Many thanks to the following:

Pat Dupke for reserving the restaurant and providing the candy favors for all.

Helen Battistrada for keeping track of the money and paying the restaurant.

Donna Fazekas & Lois Jensen distributed the orchid plant raffle & gift exchange tickets.

All who attended for bringing a dozen cookies for dessert. What a variety of goodies that I personally tried so savor each one.

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**Marc Yacht and Helen Merchan** just celebrated 32 years of marriage (Aug 17). Marc is a retired physician who spent most of his medical career as Director of the Pasco County Health Department retiring in 2007 after 20 years of service. Born in Philadelphia, and a graduate of Overbrook High School he came to Florida in 1958 to earn his Bachelor's degree at the University of Miami. After experiencing the balmy winters he made an oath that he would never leave Florida. Except for pursuing his medical studies and an occasional diversion he kept that promise. Dr. Yacht has published editorials on Health and related issues for more than 20 years. He has published two books of his short stories, plays and poetry. He will arrange book signings when requested and has raised money for groups and organizations at the signings. He is an avid photographer and is currently working on compiling 50 years of photographs in a multivolume set. He has completed 3 volumes. He enjoys sailing and plays tennis daily.



Helen Merchan & Dr. Marc Yacht

Helen, trained as an ICU nurse met Marc when he worked as a House Physician at St. Frances Hospital (no longer exists) in Miami Beach. She received her RN degree in Miami and Bachelor's degree at University of South Florida. They have three lovely grown children. Her interests include writing poetry, hiking, and orchids. Her large collection unfortunately was destroyed in a severe freeze

2 years ago and she is slowly rebuilding her collection.

Marc J. Yacht MD, MPH  
Hudson, FL 34667

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### New Year Wishes :



There is always an end and a new beginning. Same is the case with the years also. New Year is always a time to say good bye to the past year and make a warm welcome for the coming year. We hope for all our desires and wishes to come true with this New Year, and we expect the same for you as well. So, what makes New Year more special is when you send warm New Year wishes to all your friends and family.



Tim & Judy Smith

## January In Your Orchids

*Based on AOS monthly checklists by Robert Scully and Ned Nash & James Rose, adapted to St. Augustine by local growers.  
Re-printed by permission of the St. Augustine Orchid Society*

### General Orchid Growing Tips

Plants will continue to manufacture food during the winter, albeit at a reduced rate. Everything will occur at a slower pace until spring arrives so the need for water and fertilizer is reduced. Indoor growers: pull you orchid away from the window if its leaves are touching the exterior glass. Outdoor growers: keep an eye on the minimum projected temperatures, such as the hourly forecasts by zip code from Wunderground.

### Cattleyas

Tie up Cattleya pseudobulbs. Watch for signs of red spider mites on the undersides of leaves or scale in the sheathing on pseudobulbs. Remove the sheathing (cataphylls) carefully so as not to nick the soft tissue of the newest bulbs, which could result in rot or the introduction of disease.

### Cymbidiums

Keep the humidity high around cymbidiums to prevent shriveling of the pseudobulbs and to prolong flowering. Later varieties are beginning to push up their inflorescences. Watering frequency and volume is important to support their development. Cool temperatures are beneficial.

### Dendrobiums

Continue to water sparingly, or not at all, those dendrobium species that require a dormant period before flowering this spring (Den. lindleyi (syn. Den. aggregatum), Den. chrysotoxum, Den. farmeri, Den. densiflorum and Den. nobile or its hybrids). As the buds emerge, gradually increase the watering frequency and amount. Do not expose evergreen-type hybrids to temperatures below 60 F or plants in flower may drop leaves and buds.

### Paphiopedilums

Do not allow the roots of paphiopedilums to dry out. On a windowsill, use a pebble tray, with water in the pebbles, to increase humidity. Keep water out of sensitive pouches. Accumulated moisture in the pouch shortens flower life. Watch for insects, particularly red spider mites, on the foliage.

### Phalaenopsis

The phalaenopsis flowering cycle is about to start. Constant air circulation is essential to avoid Botrytis-spotted blooms. Water carefully to keep flowers dry and to minimize risks of soft rot in the fleshy leaves. Continue to use a dilute water soluble fertilizer. Monitor for scale and mealy bugs on the inflorescences and undersides of leaves.

### Vandas

Many of the popular Thai hybrids and African angraecoids begin their winter flowering now. Watch for signs of inflorescences; help them away from the main stem of the plant to ensure proper display. Water the roots every other day and fertilize once or twice a week if light levels are sufficient.

Orchid Lovers Club of Spring Hill

*Presents*

## **Festival of Orchids**

**Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25, 2012  
10 AM to 4 PM**

### **SUNCOAST PARTY DANCE CLUB**

**(formerly S.N.P.J. Lodge)**

13383 County Line Road  
Spring Hill, FL 34609



Orchid displays, orchids /supplies for sale, and potting/advice booth.

Free parking. Entry fee of \$2 includes hourly orchid plant raffle.

Directions: 3 miles east of Mariner Blvd on County Line Rd. or 2.3 miles west of US 41 on County Line Rd.  
From the Suncoast Parkway, exit at County Line Rd. and go west about ½ mile.

Call (352) 683-2767 or (727) 856 -3485 for more information

## FAQ

Q: I have just purchased a mottled-leaved paphiopedilum. Do I care for this plant the same as the plain, green-leaved paphs?

A: Like their solid green-leaved relatives, the mottled-leaved paphiopedilums prefer less light than many orchids and are well suited for growing in your home. Place them near a bright window but out of the direct sunlight. Both types of paphs should be kept continuously moist but not soggy. The solid green-leaved types are cool growers that prefer night temperatures of 50-55F and day temperatures of 75-80F. The mottled-leaved types are warm growers that prefer night temperatures above 60F and day temperatures of up to 85F.

Q: What are the most common orchid pests?

A: Snails and slugs often hide in the potting media where they chew on young root tips; they also come out at night to chew on the leaves and stems. There are several insect pests that are common: Aphids (small sucking insects) and thrips (small chewing insects) attack tender new growth, flowers and buds. Scale insects form a brown or black crust on leaves and stems. Mealybugs also attack the leaves and stems forming a white cottony mass. Consult a local garden center for products to control these pests.

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