

May 2023 TANK SOCIETY Inside: TOM'S MONTHLY CHECKLIST

A Note from our Culture Group Leader



I would like to thank the display team Samantha Starr, Jeanne Brenan and Jerry Steele for a fun day in setting up the CFOS table at the Platinum Coast Show. Sam and Jeanne were very eager to learn how to set up a display. I also want to thank all who lent their plants for our display. Without plants, there is no display. We took 11 First place, 6 Second place and 1 Third place ribbons. *Everyone who entered plants won a ribbon*. It's a great feeling winning a ribbon for your hard work in growing orchids. Thanks again everyone.

Teri Scott Away Show Team

Don't forget our upcoming show. Get your blooming plants registered and you could win a ribbon too!

Contact Jeanne Brenan or Sam Starr with questions.

CFOS Platinum Coast display won 2nd place in the show!



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UPCOMING EVENTS

June 3-4 CFOS Show

Culture Group Meeting June 1st @ 7pm

CFOS meeting June 12th @ 7pm



May Winners





Oncidium Species/Hybrid Den. Sharry Baby Owner Mary Krese



Euqitant Oncidium Tolumnia Jairar Rainbow Owner Jeanne Brenan



Vanda Falcata 'Mijishi' Owner Samatha Starr



Vandaceuos Alliance Micropera Rostrata Owner Marge Fantozzi



Dendrobium Species/Hybrid Den. Tangerine Star Owner Teri Scott



Phal Species/Hybrid Krull's Red Dragon Owner Maren Aleman



Sm Cattleya Alliance Hybrid Epidendrum Exotic's Mini Jungle Owner Connie & Ery Fox

CFOS Annual Orchid Show and Sale

If you think you may have 1 or more orchids that will be in bloom for our show, June 2nd and 3rd, and would like to have it entered to be judged, we would love to use it in our display. The show theme is <u>Rainbow of Orchids</u>, so we need all colors and types. Please contact Teri Scott, Samantha Starr or Jeanne Brenan for instructions on how to get your plant registered and when we need your plant at the venue.

Don't forget to bring in your blooming beauties for judging each month. You might win a ribbon too!



April

May

2-Carolyn Peters4-Lita-Marie Moody

21-Mark Robinson 28-Mary Krease 10-Teri Scott 15-Nancy Megill 16-Al Supplee 17-Marge Fantozzi17-Paul Little24-Diane Campbell31-Steve Balderson



Denise Andreu - 2022 Ken Bosler - 2022 Neal Ekengren - 2022 Joyce Harris - 2022 Kelly Howard - 2022 Pamela Miller - 2022 Larry Shatzer - 1976 Jerry Steele - 2021 Rodney & Sandra Atkinson Carolyn Peters

No new members last month, but we are expecting many new members to sign up at our show taking advantage of the 18 months for the cost of 12 months. If you have any friends that are interested, let them know about the special available only at the show.

Thank you to the members that brought snack donations in May.

Remember, you get orchid bucks when you bring in goodies.



Connie Fox Jana Evans
Nancy Hoffman Cloe Mobley
Pam Marion Pat Fusco
Mike Cimato Carol Mears

Culture Group

For those members interested in hands-on learning for the care and culture of all types of orchids, the Cultural Study Group meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00PM at Leu Botanical Gardens. Members are encouraged to bring in their "problem plants" for show and tell and for guidance on how to address those problems. Membership for this group is \$10 annually due at the start of the calendar year. Teri Scott oversees this meeting and is a wealth of information that she gladly shares.

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Let's Grow Together

ORCHIDS MAGAZINE REPRINT: TOM'S MONTHLY CHECKLIST MAY: THE MONTH OF ICE By Thomas Mirenda

Something most of us take for granted, available frozen water, was once a rarity. 200 years ago, before the age of refrigerators, Frederick Tudor made a fortune selling blocks of ice from a pond in New England. Some of the elders among us may remember when an "icebox" was exactly that! Back in the 1910s and 20s when my grandparents first arrived in America, the Hudson River banks had more than 100 icehouse storage facilities. In fact, both my grandfathers started off as "ice-men" carrying around giant blocks of the stuff for people's kitchens to prevent fresh produce from spoiling. It sounds incredibly hard! How strong they must have been! Both made enough from this endeavor to save for, and acquire, businesses of their own, earning a successful start for their immigrant families. Thanks Grandpa!

Today, ice is an American obsession. We use more than almost any other culture, and anything less than an ice-cold drink is simply not acceptable. We are even instructed by some orchid sellers to use it to water our orchids. Ice may indeed be a solution to some other looming problems. For example, we may be able to capture and melt icebergs to supply water to drought-stricken areas where it may be unavailable. in the end, natural ice may again become scarce due to climate change.

POTTING ADVICE: It is such an exciting time in our collections as new growths and roots are appearing every day. Do not discount the importance of repotting this time of year. All orchids establish best if new roots are allowed to enter and infiltrate fresh new media. A well-rooted plant will grow more vigorously and produce the best flowers, so a lot of your success for the rest of the blooming cycle depends on what you do this month. Always soak your mix in advance of a potting session to avoid desiccation. Water enters and leaves orchids through the root velamen by osmotic pressure. Therefore, potting in dry mixes can dehydrate your plants unnecessarily.

APPROACHING SOLSTICE: Yes, the days are progressively getting longer, brighter and warmer and the true growing season is upon us. Increased watering must also accompany additional feeding. Your goal this year is to get the largest, fattest pseudobulbs you can, and for monopodials, at least two new leaves per growth. May is a month you can usually water and fertilize more than other months as so many plants are in such active growth. Fertilizers are many and varied, and I hesitate to recommend a particular brand or formula here. But if the subject confuses you, a balanced fertilizer — one with equal nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK) percentages — is one way to ensure your orchids are getting most of what they need. One word of warning: stay away from urea-based nitrogen as it cannot be absorbed well by epiphytic plants.

ORCHID AVARICE: This is a great month to add to your collection. Most new plants will adjust more easily in the mild spring weather. Break out the catalogs or go online and pick out a few choice orchids you have been lusting over. It is also a great time to make some divisions. Often, a lead removed from a larger specimen at this time will not only establish well, but will also be guickly regenerated by the mother plant, like it was never removed! — Thomas Mirenda is a Member (Formerly Chair) of The Conservation Committee, Former Trustee and Recipient of The AOS Ambassador's Award

EDUCATION: Orchids A to Z

The AOS offers a definitive source for concise information on orchid genera. Full descriptions and culture requirements provided by experts hand-picked for their knowledge of select genera. Photos of choice species in each genus are shown with large-size pop-ups for detailed view. Culture requirements are presented in an easy to understand "recipe-style" format. Also included is a playable sound file of the proper pronunciation of each genus so you can sound like an expert. Do not miss out on this information!

AOS New Member Referral Program

You too can enter for a chance to win \$100! Here's how it works...

- 1. Refer a new member using your unique referral link or your referral code (it's the same as the lookup code on your membership card.)
- 2. When the member signs up, we give them a \$40 gift (a free printed copy of Hybridizers, our most recent annual supplement priced at \$40 for non-members.)
- 3. You will automatically get entered into the monthly drawing for \$100 (members will be announced in the OrchidGram each month) The more new members you refer, the greater your chance to win! See the full AOS Member Referral Program Details (and get <u>your referral link</u>)



REGISTRATION IS EASY https://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx

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 indexed by topic for future viewing.

When	May 11, 2023 8:30 pm EDT Thursday	May 16, 2023 8:30 pm EDT Tuesday	June 08, 2023 8:30 pm EDT Thursday	June 15, 2023 8:30 pm EDT Thursday	
Topic Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A Send in your Photos and Questions by May 09		He Came from the Land Down-Under Orchids Australia	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A Send in your Photos and Questions by June 06	Dendrobiums of New Guinea Colorful Clusters for your Collection	
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Tom Mirenda AOS Orchids Monthly Columnist, Professional Grower	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Carol Klonowski AOS Editorial Board Member and AOS Judge	

Check Out the Timeless Collection of Recorded Webinars on the AOS Website



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



You can visit The Central Florida Orchid Society on the web where you can get information about upcoming events, see who next month's speaker is, read about our society's history, find some great resource links for care of your orchids, and pay your dues.

Check us out at https://cflorchidsociety.org



Like the "Central Florida Orchid Society group" on Facebook. We post details about all of our events, meetings and shows. There is an amazing collection of pictures of our orchids from previous events and judgings, as well as an open forum for questions and discussion. Click on the link below and join in on the fun!! https://www.facebook.com/groups/cflorchidsociety



Don't forget to collect your orchid bucks when you bring a plant to be judged, something for the silent auction table, volunteer to be a judge or bring snacks to one of the meetings. Also when you volunteer at any of our events, you also earn bucks and these can be used for purchasing plants or even for your membership dues. The more you get involved, the more bucks you get!

2023 Membership is now due and can be paid at our meeting with cash, check or credit card and on CFOS website with a credit card.

MEMBER SALES

Remember, you can also use your orchid bucks to pay your dues! Yearly dues: Individual - \$30 Couple - \$45 Under 18 - \$15

Leadership

Lori Erlacher **President: Vice President:** Robin Buckler **Treasurer:** Nancy Balderson **Cor. Secretary:** Jeanne Brenan Jeanne Blankenship **Rec. Secretary:**

Membership: Sheila Coburn

Newsletter: Jeanne Brenan

cfoseditor@aol.com

Board of Directors -

Jerry Steele

Samantha Starr Althea Montgomery

John Beasley

2023 JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Culture Meeting 7pm	2 CFOS Show Set Up	3 CFOS Show 10am-5pm
4 CFOS Show 10am-4pm	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 CFOS Meeting 7pm	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	