



# Gulf Coast Orchid Society Newsletter

January 9, 2011

Our meeting will be held **Sunday, January 9, 2011**, at 2:00 at the **Jeff Davis Community College** located at the corner of Switzer Rd and Debuys; just north of Pass Rd. in the **cafeteria meeting room**. The New Growers meeting led by Glen Ladnier will precede the meeting at 1:30 in the cafeteria. This month's New Grower's topic is "Exposing Orchid Myths". Please note: The meeting place may be changed to the other meeting room behind the cafeteria.

**DECEMBER MEETING:** Our covered dish dinner and orchid bingo was a huge success as seen by these photos taken by Ken Miles. Thanks to everyone who brought food. A special thank you goes to Andra Mladinich who coordinated everything; the meats, drinks and paper products. Glen Ladnier did a great job procuring plants. They were awesome! Thanks Glen.

Earl Young and Jo Ann Vaz shared the spotlight tying for most best plants, while Earl won the most points on the Show and Tell Table. Runners up were Walter Taylor and Janice Fabo. Ken Miles presented Earl with his best grower award.



**PROGRAM:** Our January program will be a work/planning meeting for our show, January 28, 29, 30, 2011. We need people who can cook or bring in refreshments, people to man the hospitality room and help out, security people to watch the exhibits until the Mall closes on Friday and Saturday nights, strong backs to help set up on Thursday night and or to take down on Sunday night, blooming orchid plants or greenery for our exhibit on Friday morning, clerks for Saturday morning to help with the judging, and people to help out with our raffle.

Jo Ann Vaz will give a demo on the way she cleans, stakes and transports plants to shows.

For those who ordered *Zygopetalums* from Hawaii. They sold out in minutes; we just weren't fast enough. Graham says he may ship us some nonblooming plants for a better price. If he does they will be available at the January meeting. One of *lehua's* *Zygopetalums* at lower left.



**PLASTIC VANDA BASKETS:** Jo Ann will be taking orders for baskets and hangars. If you can't attend the meeting and want baskets call or email her ; 601-947-8777 [joannvaz@bellsouth.net](mailto:joannvaz@bellsouth.net).

**REFRESHMENTS:** Walter and Word Taylor will provide January's refreshments. Joy and Rob Lorens will provide February's. If you'd like to bring refreshments or to change your assigned date; call Andra Mladinich at 228-388-5054.

**SHOW REPORT:** Andra Mladinich will be in charge of hospitality and will be

doing the Judges Luncheon. She needs our help. If you have large, clean ice chests or anything that you think Andra could use for the weekend, call her at 228-388-5054.

Members are encouraged to exhibit their plants. If you have plants to exhibit, please call Jo Ann, 601-947-8777, cell 228-342-0017 (leave message; she'll call you back) to give her your list or email her at [joannvaz@bellsouth.net](mailto:joannvaz@bellsouth.net) before Wednesday morning January 26. It is very important that you turn in your list as we need to know how many plants to expect, and we can start making a list from which to make our labels. Each orchid in the exhibit must be properly labeled. We spend hours each year correcting names and finding the parentage for each plant. Labeling counts as 10 points toward the overall quality of an exhibit. All orchids and foliage plants must be disease and insect free. Each item used in the exhibit must be labeled with the owner's name. Include another list with your plants even if you only bring one plant. All orchids, greenery and props should be at the mall no later than 10:00 A.M. Friday morning. Do not leave plants brought in to exhibit or newly purchased plants in a back room or on a table. We will not be responsible for those plants. Someone will check plants in Thursday night and Friday morning, and assist anyone needing help with entry tags. All Society entry tags must be handed in to Jo Ann by noon.

**TROPHIES:** If you have not brought in or paid for your trophy please bring them to the January meeting or make some arrangements with Janet Olier.

**FEBRUARY MEETING:** We have a very special surprise planned for our February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

**DUES ARE DUE:** It's time to renew your dues for 2010. Dues are \$10 for single and an additional \$5.00 for each additional member living at the same address. First time members get only one free plant per address; not one per person. There is no free plant for renewals. Dues can be paid at the meeting or you can mail them to Marilyn Ladnier, 15559 Village Dr., Biloxi, MS 39532.



**DISPLAY TABLE:** January is the start of the year for acquiring points on our plant table. Each time you bring in a plant for the display table you get one point. Depending on the ribbons you win you get more points. At the Christmas meeting the top three point winners get blooming size plants, then we draw from the names of those who brought in plants during the year and are present at the Christmas meeting

for more blooming size plants. Above is *Dendrobium aggregatum* which won a blue ribbon at our April 2010 meeting. The grower of this plant advises us to hold off on the water during the winter to get flowers. The plant on the next page is *Arpophyllum giganteum* which won a blue for species in April 2010. Photos by Ken Miles.

**JUANITA MCMILLIAN:** We lost a special member last summer. Juanita was the best cook; we could count on her delicious blueberry muffins and her popcorn-white chocolate treat we called trash at every show. She served as hospitality chair for decades. We plan on doing an honor board in memory of Juanita at the January show. Anyone who has photos or articles from the newspaper of Juanita please bring them to the meeting or call Jo Ann 601-947-8777.

**MOBILE SHOW:** The Mobile Area Orchid Society will have a show Feb 18-20, 2011.

**COLD WEATHER DAMAGE:** Many of you have asked what to do if our plants get too cold. The AOS has supplied the answer to all those asking about what to do with cold damaged plants. The following is by Dr. Martin Motes, who spoke to us last year:

It's not just plants in usually temperate areas left out but plants in greenhouses and windowsills can be significantly damaged if too close to the glazing or without adequate air circulation to avoid cold temperature stratification. Cold damage appears as either white patches on the foliage or, if bad enough, outright death of the tissue resulting in brown lesions that look at first like sunburn. The white patches eventually will turn brown as the effected tissue dies.



Watch the affected areas and plants carefully. Often the dead areas simply dry leaving no more than ugly patches. However, sometimes the damaged areas become infected by bacteria or fungi. When this happens, the affected area will soften and if infected with a fungus, develop yellow areas that spread into normal green tissue. Oozing of brown liquid, especially with a foul odor is indicative of serious bacterial infection. One of the most effective treatments of bacterial infection is a product called Junction (a commercial 50/50 mixture of copper hydroxide [Kocide or Champ] and mancozeb [Manzate, Dithane]. – DO NOT APPLY THIS TO DENDROBIUMS as they are extremely sensitive to copper compounds.

For small collections, a bit of water can be added to the powdered Junction (or a 50/50 mixture of Kocide and Dithane) to make a thick slurry and, using an old toothbrush or cotton swab, the slurry is painted on to the lesions and any cut surfaces. For larger collections with widespread damage, the mixture can be diluted with water following the manufacturer's directions and applied as a spray. ALWAYS use gloves and a

mask when handling chemicals – especially powders and dusts

Low level magnesium deficiency in orchids will also be apparent now; brought on by an extended cold snap. Low temperatures and magnesium deficiency cause the foliage of stressed orchids to turn red or coppery in appearance. This is rather easily correctable by treating your plants with a mixture of 1 Tbs Epsom salts and 1 Tbs of potassium nitrate/gallon of water. This should be applied in lieu of regular feedings until spring warmth returns. Epsom salts are easily found in any grocery or drugstore but potassium nitrate can be more difficult to find in small quantities

If you can't find the brand name products Dr. Motes recommends; check the farm supply store for a fungicide that contains copper hydroxide or mancozeb. (Hicks Supply also offers some fungicides.) We haven't been able to find potassium nitrate in this area; Epsom salts alone work well. Always remember this saying: "IF YOU CAN'T KEEP 'EM WARM; KEEP 'EM DRY!" Increase your air circulation and keep your growing area clean.

**VENDOR FOR 2011 SHOW:** Here's a simple list of our 2011 vendors.

**Riverbend Orchids**—James Phillips and Morton Engleberg, Biloxi, MS.

**Clown Alley Orchids**-John Stubbings from Pasadena, Texas, 281-991-6841, Cell 832- 693-8140 [clownalley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clownalley@sbcglobal.net) Sign up for a newsletter; [www.clownalleyorchids.com](http://www.clownalleyorchids.com).

**Orchids Plus**—Malcolm and Pat Huval from Breaux Bridge, LA [cty28172@centurytel.net](mailto:cty28172@centurytel.net)

**Orchid Retreat**—Ashley & Beverly Matherne, Bourg, LA 985-594-4050 [abmatherne@hotmail.com](mailto:abmatherne@hotmail.com).

**Morning Star Orchids:** John and Linda Bourgeois from Thibodeaux, LA 985-226-0990.

**Hicks Orchids:** Orlando FL.; 407-493-3064; [hicksj0430@bellsouth.net](mailto:hicksj0430@bellsouth.net).

**Hicks Supplies:** John Hicks of Orlando Fl. 407-493-3064; [hicksj0430@bellsouth.net](mailto:hicksj0430@bellsouth.net).

**Mary Roberts:** Mary is from Cantonment, FL; 850-941-4863