

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhyzome

October 2025

President's Message

Boy, were we busy in October!

I hope you enjoyed Jim and Melana Davison from Jim-N-I Orchids as our presenters last month. That was the first time we've had them speak at one of our meetings. I thought he had an unusual approach with the plants (i.e. their grandchildren) talking back and forth with him. It made the presentation very light hearted while still getting a lot of information across to the membership. He was pleased we had so many questions because that indicated to him we were listening and inquisitive.

First the picnic, then the Redlands Trip. If you missed either one you missed a great time. We had plenty of food at the picnic supplied by all the great cooks in our society plus Sam's, Costco and Publix. I don't know what everyone brought but the cheese straws from Clive, the cherry topped non-gluten brownies from Julie and the always popular corn pudding from Dave were a hit with me! I even won an orchid at bingo so it was an excellent day! I hope everyone had a good time. I think every family playing bingo won an orchid. If you didn't please let me know. Everyone be sure to thank Margaret Croucher and Kathy Ballance for once again organizing such a great day for us.

The Redlands Trip was superb! I want to thank Carolyn Anderson and her team for such a well planned and executed event. The day was gorgeous, the people polite, the vendors friendly, and the park lovely. Attending an orchid event this time of year was a treat because the orchids for sale were blooming, which means we'll have orchids in our collection that now bloom in the fall.

One last tidbit. When Jim and Melana were here, I bought some cataseds from them that were hybridized at Sunset Valley Orchids. A few of them were labeled Fdk instead of Ctsm. I finally figured out that stands for Fredclarkeara. I don't know how that becomes official but I thought it was a great honor for Fred Clarke. We're hoping he will be in the area next year and can come speak to our society.

See you in November!



CALENDAR—SAVE THE DATES

Wednesday, November 12th, 6pm.

Board meeting

Wednesday, November 12th, 7pm .

Meeting.

Wednesday, December 10th, 6pm

Christmas Party

SUNSHINE

Speedy get well wishes to James Rice and Jo Waits as they recover from surgery.

Wishing Al Valentine the best as he receives his treatment.

We continue to follow Jed's progress and remember to keep in touch with Ed Kidder!

Betty A

NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Phillip was born and raised in Jamaica where he inherited his dad's passion for orchids and grew up working in his parents' orchid nursery, Hamlyn Orchids. Although his dad's true orchid passion is with the Jamaican native Broughtonia's and their hybrids, Phillip's passion leaned heavily toward Phalaenopsis, which he has been growing and hybridizing since the age of eight.

He earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Environmental Horticulture at the University of Florida in Gainesville and is an American Orchid Society (AOS) Senior Judge.



Professionally, Phillip has worked for two major orchid production nurseries in Central Florida as a grower and grower/manager. In 2013 he formed his own business (part-time), Bredren Orchids, to facilitate the small-scale sale of some of the more unique Phalaenopsis and Broughtonia species and hybrids he grows and breeds. Since 2017, he now manages Bredren Orchids full-time, with the generous help of his wife, Liz. They are currently working on developing this business into more than just the mail-order only entity it now is.

<https://www.bredrenorchids.com/>



YOUR 2026 SLATE OF OFFICERS

Officers:

President: Laura Blackmon
V-President: Tom Dixon
Secretary: Tammy Cheng
Treasurer: Charis Gaines
Past President: Margaret Croucher

Directors:

2026: Lois Fletcher
2026/2027: Karen Chandler
2026/2027: Bruce Tatje

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Marisa Black
Kathy Balance
Joy Dykes
Sally Pancoast
Margaret Smith
Violet Smith
Danette Storms

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2026

Annual Membership Dues are due January 1st, and become delinquent February 15th.

Individual Membership is \$20

Dual Membership is \$30

Credit Cards and Cash are only accepted at the meetings while Checks can be mailed to the following address

PCOS

Attn: Membership

P.O. Box 540991

Merritt Island, FL 32954

UPDATING DATABASE

As part of our ongoing efforts to maintain accurate records, we are currently updating our database. To ensure that we have the correct information on file, we kindly ask for your assistance in verifying your email address, phone number, birth month, and AOS Membership status. We extend our gratitude to those who took the time to verify and update their details during the October meeting. If you have not yet done so, we kindly request that you confirm your information by sending it to our dedicated membership email address: pcos.membership.2025@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued membership.

October's Meeting



PCOS donation to
Samantha Roulet
representing
Candlelighters of
Brevard

Is the light good for you?

- Greenish yellow indicates a bit too much light, heat, and stress.



plant forum

OCTOBER





The PCOS annual picnic on Oct 12 was a great success. We had 60 people in attendance which was a new record. The weather was perfect and the food delicious. Everyone brought a side dish, appetizer or dessert providing lots of variety. We had fun with Bingo, and every family went home with a new orchid. Thanks to Zachary and Betty for leading the Bingo games. Thanks to Kathy and Margaret for organizing the event and everyone else who helped with the drinks, set up and clean up.

CLUB PICNIC
Photos by Patty

Redland's 2025 in the books!!

I want to thank everyone that signed up and went on the bus trip down to the Redland International Orchid Festival.

The bus ride went off with a hitch and we picked up our first group as planned in Rockledge then made it on time to meet the Melbourne group and we were off and running by 7:30am on our brand new BTM bus. I (Carolyn) then quickly christened it by spilling my coffee all over the floor before we even got out of Brevard County!!

We were then met by Bart, the Redland's organizer upon our arrival at the festival where he led us into the park where we were quickly greeted to a plethora of beautiful orchids and plants. There wasn't even time for a group photo before everyone scattered to start shopping. The venue was so big I didn't even see some of the members all day.

It was nice running into several of our show vendors and other vendors asking if they could be a vendor for our show. It appears our society and our show has a very nice reputation, something we should all be very proud of.

I want to thank our "Flight Attendants", Scott, Charis and Erin for keeping everyone happy (especially me) on the drive home by serving refreshments, aka wine!! Oh yeah, some had water and soda and snacks!! Ya'll did great and you're hired for the next trip.



While I was enjoying my beverage of choice, those on the right side of the bus were enjoying a complimentary shower on the way home or they got to water their orchids if they didn't put them under the bus!! Yes, we had a slight a/c condensation drip issue. Okay, it was way more than a drip.

I think everyone that came to the festival left happy by the looks of all the orchids, plants and supplies that were stored under the bus for the trip home.

Looking forward to the next adventure!







American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
Affiliated Society

PCOS is an affiliate of the **American Orchid Society (AOS)**. There's an abundance of information on the AOS website. Please visit www.aos.org for articles, advice on growing orchids, and lots of free information.

Ask Betty Adamson for an application if you're interested in joining.

For all current members, remember that your renewal notice will arrive in the Orchid Magazine prior to your month of renewal.

www.aos.org

FOR AOS MEMBERS: The AOS also has a presence on Facebook. There is a [group](#) with close to 65,000 members, and a [page](#). Each allows you to post photographs and ask questions about your orchids. The group is the most active of the two, and group members usually respond quickly to posts. The page is parallel to the AOS Instagram account. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/52597049839> <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanOrchidSociety>

UPCOMING SHOWS

2025

Deerfield Beach Orchid Society "Orchid Obsession",
November 15-16, 2025

Ft. Pierce Orchid Society Show and Sale
December 13-14, 2025

2026

Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society "Orchid Magic"
January 9-11, 2026.

Sarasota Orchid Society and Sale
January 10-11, 2026

FL West Coast Orchid Society "A Rainbow of
Orchids" (Seminole, FL)
January 31-February 1



2025 PCOS OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN

BE PART OF THE TEAM!

PRESIDENT

Laura Blackmon

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Dixon

TREASURER

Charis Gaines

SECRETARY

Tammy Cheng

DIRECTORS

Carolyn Anderson (2025)

Lois Fletcher (2025)

Ann Wade (2025-26)

Phyllis Gautreaux (2025-26)

PAST PRESIDENT

Margaret Croucher

PCOS Mailing Address:

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

P.O. Box 540991

Merritt Island, FL 32954

PLANT FORUM

Betty Adamson

MEMBERSHIP

Margaret Smith

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Elizabeth Bishop

SUNSHINE

Betty Adamson

GREETERS

Margaret Smith & Jennifer Starr

AOS LIAISON

Betty Adamson

RAFFLE

JoAnn Amos

WEBMASTER

Bill Jelen

AUDIO

Scott Anderson

REFRESHMENTS

Erin Boden

SHOW CHAIRMAN

Carolyn Anderson

Website:

PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org