Space Coast Orchid Society

FKA Platinum Coast Orchid Society

The Rhyzome

November 2026



President's Message

The motion to change our society name to Space Coast Orchid Society passed at the regularly scheduled Membership Meeting in October. I want to thank all the members who attended the meeting to participate in the discussion and vote on the issue. I realize there was a staunch minority of members who did not want the name change. However, I felt it was important to bring this issue before the membership because there was significant support to change the name to improve our recognition in the community. So here we are: Space Coast Orchid Society *(formerly Platinum Coast Orchid Society).*

I know change is difficult. It can make people feel insecure, confused, and angry. Many times we think it just makes life easier to keep things the way they have always been. But change is a part of life. It gives us a chance to grow, it keeps us moving forward and it keeps us interested. No one wants to see this organization fail. We want to be excited about our meetings, our orchid show, and our contribution to this community. We are always making small, incremental changes, but this change goes to the core of our identity. It makes us more recognizable to the community and to the potential visitors to our annual show.

So, I encourage everyone to embrace our new identity with a positive attitude. Adapting, rather than resisting, reduces the stress on the membership and allows us to move forward to improve and invigorate this organization. To quote one of the most motivating American presidents of modern times:

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."
John F. Kennedy

See you in November.

Laura

CALENDAR—SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, November 7th, Open House at Orchid Trail. See p2.

Wednesday, November 11th, 6 p.m. Board Meeting.

Wednesday, November 11th. 7 p.m. General Meeting. See p2.

December 9th. PCOS Holiday Party.

January 15th, 2027. Tamiami International Orchid Festival Bus Trip. See p6.

SUNSHINE

We are so pleased to report that Karen Andreas is doing well after her knee surgery. She has been through the grinder with two surgeries in two months. She is upbeat and recovering well. Nothing keeps her away from her horse!

I hope to see you all at the November Meeting We wish any member not mentioned a healthy and speedy recovery. Please let me know what we can do to support you.

Please contact Mary Ellen Jelen at 330-715-2874 if you or another PCOS member is in need of some Holiday Sunshine. Holidays cand be difficult.

Please do not disclose any personal information that the person has not granted permission to give.

NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Ti & Henry (Khang) Ho have always been around orchids and they were fascinated by them at an early age.

Their love for orchids grew greater than ever as they grew older and were given access to a greater diversity of orchids from around the world. With backgrounds in microbiology and business administration, they founded Florida Orchid House nursery to explore and advance their passion for growing, hybridizing, and trading orchids.



Their goal is to make available the varieties of orchids that are not easily found and grown to the other growers. Currently, their focal point is set on the cultivation and breeding of Asian varieties including soft cane Dendrobiums which is the topic of their lecture for our club this month.

They will be supplying plants for our club raffle.

LOGO CONTEST

The **Space Coast Orchid Society** is excited to announce our New Logo Contest! We invite all members to put on their creative thinking caps and submit their artwork suggestions for our new official logo.

The winning logo will be featured on our show advertising, Facebook and Instagram pages, and other promotional materials.

Submission Details:
- Deadline: Friday, November 6th
- How to Submit: Email your artwork to Carolyn Anderson at: cjane.anderson@gmail.com

Voting Process:
The board will select the top three submissions. These options will be presented to the society at our next member meeting on Wednesday, November 11th, where members will vote to choose the official winning logo!

Let's have some fun and see your creative, unique ideas!

OPEN HOUSE AT ORCHID TRAIL

Open House for Space Coast Orchid Society (FKA Platinum Coast Orchid Society) members at Orchid Trail on Saturday, November 7th from 9 am until 4 pm.

Sharon and Mark Walters invite us to come and see all the beautiful orchids blooming this time of year. It's truly a wonderful sight to see!

Orchid Trail is located at 800 North Tropical Trail on Merritt Island. Call (502) 220-1869 for more information.

Dear Space Coast Orchid Society Members,

Due to an unforeseen opportunity, we are in need of a new Secretary nomination for the 2027 term. We are scheduled to vote on the new Board at our upcoming November meeting. In accordance with our Bylaws, nominations will only be accepted directly from the membership during this meeting.

If you are interested in serving as Secretary, please contact us prior to the meeting:

- Jennifer Starr: 321-403-6991
- Mary Ellen Jelen: 330-715-2874

Thank you in advance for your support,

SCOS Nominating Committee

Upcoming Board Election in November

At the September meeting, Mary Ellen Jelen, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers and directors for the 2027 Board. Special thanks to Mary Ellen, Jennifer Starr and Charis Gaines for serving on the committee.

President: Carolyn Anderson
Vice President: Mike Starr
Secretary:
Treasurer: Bill Jelen
Directors: Wanda Morales (serving first year of 2027-2028 term)
Marie Barber (2027-2028)

Per our bylaws, at the regular November meeting, nominations may be made from the floor in addition to the names presented by the Nominating Committee. The election shall be by ballot and a simple majority shall elect. If no additional nominations are made from the floor for an elected position and there is only one candidate for an elected position, the presiding officer may declare the candidate elected by acclamation.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Kathy Ballance
Joy Dykes
Sally Pancoast
Margaret Smith
Violet Smith
Danette Storms

OCTOBER 14TH MEETING













Mike Sands, owner of Tangled Roots Orchid Nursery in Loxahatchee, was our speaker at the October meeting. Mike covered essential chemical care for orchids and addressed common challenges such as pests and fungal issues. He discussed the use of both organic and synthetic chemicals, as well as best practices for fertilization, and highlighed important do's and don'ts.

OCTOBER PROGRAM







plant forum

October 14th













Photos by Jennifer Starr















Tamiami International Orchid Festival
Bus trip reminder!

Date:

Friday, January 15, 2027

Pick-up Location:

Martin Andersen Senior Center, Rockledge, FL

Departure Time:

7:00am sharp

2nd Pick-up Location:

Eau Gallie & John Rhodes Blvd. (Perimeter Parking Lot), Melbourne, FL

Departure Time:

7:30am

Departure Time from Tamiami:

4:00pm-5pm(ish)

Cost:

$40.00 per person

The details are as follows:

Admission: Festival admission is included with your bus fare.

Travel & Refreshments: Drive time is approximately 4 hours each way. We will provide donuts and water for the trip down, and light snacks for the return journey.
Meals: Please feel free to purchase a meal from one of the many vendors at the show to eat on the ride home, as we will not be stopping for dinner.
Storage: There is plenty of storage room under the bus for your purchases. Please ensure you bring a storage container clearly marked with your name for your items.
RSVP: Please email or text me by **December 1, 2026**, or you can sign up at our member meetings:

- **Email:** cjane.anderson@gmail.com
- **Phone:** 321-917-3531
- **Payment:** Payments can be made at the October, November, and December member meetings, or you can mail your check to the following:

PCOS
ATTN: Bus Trip
PO Box 540991
Merritt Island, FL 32954

All payments must be received by December 31, 2026

OUR ANNUAL PICNIC

By Karen Chandler

In spite of blustery winds, we had a beautiful day to enjoy our annual picnic at the Cocoa Beach Country Club Pavillion. We had a great turnout and the food was amazing!

Special shoutout and thank you to Margaret Croucher (chair), Kathy Ballance (serving), Zack Starr (bingo officiant), Clive Gay (for securing the pavilion), Tom Dixon (for caring and bringing the Bingo prizes) and all our members who brought yummy treats and helped set up and breakdown.

After enjoying our BBQ lunch, Carolyn Anderson announced the logo contest (look for more info on this separately) and we all WON at Bingo! Our Bingo prizes this year were all purchased from the Jelens, who recently downsized. Bill & Mary Ellen, your orchids are now being "loved" in their new homes!











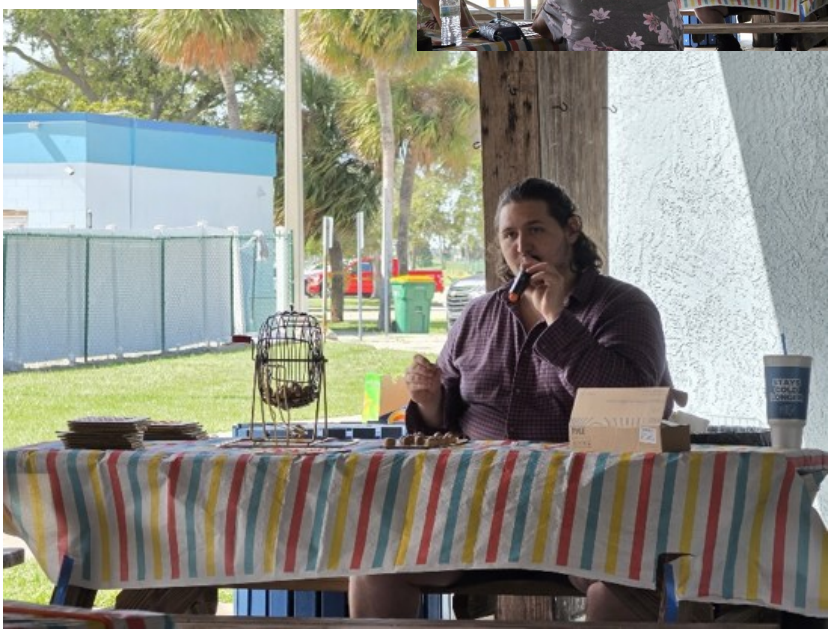


We had a great turnout and the food was amazing!





FRIENDS, FOOD, ORCHIDS, AND BINGO



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
Affiliated Society

UPCOMING

January 30-31, 2027, Florida West Coast Orchid Society's "A Rainbow of Orchids", Walter Fuller Park, St. Petersburg Recreation Center, 7901 30th Avenue North, St Petersburg, FL.

January 15-17, 2027, Tamiami International Orchid Show, Miami-Dade County Fair Expo Center (Fuchs Pavilion), 10901 SW 24th St., Miami, FL.

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 Margaret Croucher 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

AOS Greenhouse Chats: Must register online at AOS.org/orchids/webinars

Tuesday November 10th, 8:30-9:30 EST

Join Dr. Ron McHatton as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Please send your question and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhouse-chat@aos.org two days prior to event.

2026 PCOS OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Laura Blackmon

VICE PRESIDENT Tom Dixon

TREASURER Charis Gaines

SECRETARY Tammy Cheng

DIRECTORS

Lois Fletcher (2026)

Wanda Morales (2026)

Karen Chandler (2026-27)

Bruce Tatje (2026-27)

PAST PRESIDENT Margaret Croucher

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PLANT FORUM

Ed Kidder

MEMBERSHIP

Margaret Smith

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Elizabeth Bishop

SUNSHINE

Mary Ellen Jellen

GREETERS

Margaret Smith & Jennifer Starr

AOS LIAISON

Margaret Croucher

RAFFLE

JoAnn Amos

PUBLICITY

Erin Boden

WEBMASTER

Bill Jelen

AUDIO

Scott Anderson

REFRESHMENTS

Mike Starr

SHOW CHAIRMAN

Carolyn Anderson

BE PART OF THE TEAM

PCOS Mailing Address:

Platinum Coast Orchid Society

P.O. Box 540991

Merritt Island, FL 32954

Website: https://PlatinumCoastOrchidSociety.org/

FaceBook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/166627883901964