

May/June
2020
Newsletter



The Plantation
Orchid Society

An affiliate of the
American Orchid
Society

Jeffery Tucker



The Plantation Orchid Society
An affiliate of the American Orchid Society

May/June 2020

Rose Maytin

President

954-401-3171

Phyllis Durst

Acting First VP

954-584-4796

Donna McWilliams

Second VP/Membership

954-683-6381.

Karen Reynoldson

Secretary

954-792-1195

Beverly Warde

Treasurer

954-336-3854

Cindy Thompson

Public Relations/Trustee

954-723-0215

Susan Hall

Editing/Trustee

Sandy Langbart

Newsletter Editor

954-472-8490

Cover

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Acknowledgements and Thanks

Cover photograph by Jeffery Tucker

From the President

We hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health, staying safe, and enjoying your orchids.

Though there is some 'reopening' in South Florida, Plantation is not opening Deike auditorium and other similar facilities in the city. There is no indication when they may open. Consequently, the POS Board is carefully planning the rest of the year, keeping in mind health guidelines and safety protocols. Our goal is to keep in touch with the membership through our love of orchids. The monthly newsletter will be restyled to provide more orchid information and a means for you to share your orchids.

June is membership renewal month. Given the uncertainties of this year, the renewal fee for current members will be waived this year.

We are also looking for a few volunteers to help with content for the newsletter. This would be an opportunity for you to learn more about orchids and pass that information on to the membership.

Please see the Announcements section for more details on membership renewal and volunteering.

Stay Safe !!

Rose Maytin,

President



Announcements and Notes

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

June is our traditional membership renewal month. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to have our annual membership pot luck. We missed seeing all of you and enjoying orchid conversations. For the 2020-2021 membership year, the renewal fee is canceled for current members.

Yes. You read that correctly. Your MEMBERSHIP FEE for the coming year is FREE. We ask that you simply email our Membership VP, Donna McWilliams, that you would like to renew and provide her with any changes in your phone, address, etc. If you have any membership

BLOOMERS PICTURES

Though we can't see you, we know you have some beautiful bloomers out there. So we would like you to share them with the membership. Sandy, our news editor, will have a section of the newsletter each month devoted to POS blooming orchids. If you would like to share, please send 1 or 2 pictures to slangbar@bellsouth.net, use **Orchid** as the subject of the email message.

We are really looking forward to seeing your best!



HELP !!!

Though we are not holding meetings for awhile, the POS Board is working behind the scenes to keep in touch with you and to provide support and information regarding orchids that we would normally share at meetings. To accomplish that goal the next newsletter will have a different format. We really need the help of 1 or 2 members to be responsible for a section on Tips for growing orchids. These can be tips from our experienced members, tips from various sources, or small published articles that we can put in our newsletter. This section can have co-authors who work together. So... grab a buddy and volunteer. Please contact Bev Warde 954-336-3854. bevwarde@yahoo.com.

Fun Orchid Facts and Trivia Questions

What is the only commercially grown orchid crop? Look for the answer a little later.

Orchids are the largest family of flowering plants! They have also been around the longest as they are one of the oldest flowers in existence. Since varieties of orchids are found all over the world, it's accepted that orchids were in existence prior to the separation of the continents. So how many documented orchid species exist throughout the world?

Did you guess the only commercially grown orchid crop? It's Vanilla or *Vanilla planifolia*, which is a vining orchid native to Mexico and it's one of the most highly sought after spices in cultivation. Vanilla has become a mainstay flavoring and essence in the world of culinary and perfumes. The vanilla bean is an exotic thing---the only edible fruit of the orchid family. Vanilla extract is the second most valuable spice (after saffron) and is the world's most popular flavor. Most natural vanilla comes from Madagascar, or a few other foreign locations and demands far out reach supply. The United States is the world's largest importers of vanilla beans, but domestic production is minimal. High prices for natural vanillin extract could justify investment for domestic production. University of Florida scientists believe South Florida has promise as a place to grow the plants.

Orchid Notes

TASKS FOR JUNE

- Careful watering this month often means no watering at all. Arise early to enjoy the cool and water only when truly necessary.
- Space plants amply. Good air circulation is essential across the coming months.
- Re-pot Phals and re-set Vandas. Make sure that plants are firmly set in their new abodes.
- Begin or continue a disease prevention program with the prophylactic application of Thiophanate Methyl (Cleary's 3336) and Alliette or Banrot.
- Clean up growing area and plants. Remove dead leaves from plants and the ground. Pull weeds.
- Prune trees and shrubs to increase light and air circulation.
- Apply snail bait lightly early in the month and again lightly mid-month.

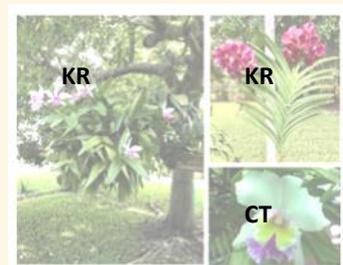
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Bloomers !



Karen Reynoldson
Cindy Thompson



May and June 2020

*Happy
Birthday*



May

**Alan Merola
Angela Puca
Cindy Thompson
Dot McCrain
Elda Scott
Eugenie Johnson
Francisco Lambert
Jill Greenbaum
Linda Dawkins
Lori Levy
Nera Lee
Trevor Cha Champ
Virginia Holman**

June

**Evette Foster
Karen Reynoldson**