

*Saginaw Valley Orchid Society
News and Notes for March 2011
Saturday, May 14th, 2011
Featured Speaker: Tim Hueston
Board Meeting starts at 6:30p
Membership Meeting starts at 7p
COME PREPARED FOR THE ORCHID AUCTION!
<http://www.sagvalleyorchids.org/>*

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Two pages

Officers and Board of Directors

Linda Sule _____ President
(2011-12)
Tim Hueston _____ Vice President (2011-12)
Alan Getzin _____ Past President
(2011-12)
Roberta Bouleau _____ Treasurer (2010-11)
Jim Lile _____ Secretary
(2010-11)
Marilyn Whittaker (2011-12), Eleanor Baker (2011-12),
Amy Motter (2011), Rollie Wilson (2009-11), Lori Lickly
(2010-12), Edith Sommers (2010-12)

Treasurer's Report

As of May 2011, our account balance is \$2,651.85.

Secretary's Report

SVOS March Board Minutes

(<http://www.sagvalleyorchids.org/>)

- The Board discussed an auction to raise money for the Society. Ordering plants from different vendors was considered. Other ideas included purchasing repackaging potting media in bulk and dividing it for sale.
- Memorial garden walk in May at Fred Case's property.
- Nature Conservancy thanked us for our gift in Fred's name.

SVOS March Meeting Minutes

- Members present VOTED and APPROVED the Secretary's report.
- Members present VOTED and APPROVED the Treasurer's report.
- Orchiata bark – doesn't break down, doesn't need perlite or charcoal. Some growers keep plants in this media for 10 years.
- Tom Jurek noted that the Wildcatt website is no longer free, but the final free version is available at www.wildcattdata.com/NewWeb/WcUpdateF2008.EXE. The password is fafnir.
- Auction – not in September since Russ Vernon is coming to speak and sell orchids. No meeting in July, consider auction in May.
- Carol is recovering from her surgery and recovery.

- The Workshop date was changed to April 30th to accommodate speaker schedules.
- Glenda Lask spoke about Vandas. There are 352 registered hybrids with a single parent (V. sanderiana). V. coerulea is the blue vanda – very common for hybrids. The third important vanda for hybridizing is tessellata.

SVOS Show Reports

- GLOS Show: Lansing was a real learning experience. I was able to be part of a judging team Saturday morning and loved it, but found out it is much more stressful being a judge than a clerk during the show judging! No wonder it takes a minimum of six years to become an orchid judge!

Competition in Lansing was tough. It's hard to compete against all those growers downstate with bushel-basket sized plants with at least 40 flowers each! We managed to get a second place on our display. Thank you ladies, for all the help! Where was the guy with the video camera when all four of us--Linda, Linda, Sally & Marilyn--tried to figure out how to set up the backdrop? We missed you Tom & Gregg!

Tim Hueston, Linda Carey, Sally Heinlein, Marilyn Whittaker, Rollie Wilson, Carol Jurek and I all sent plants to the Lansing show. Rollie came home with two firsts, one for *Sophranitis coccinea* and one for LC Puppy Love, a second for Vanda Madame Rattana, and a third for his (very ugly plant per Marilyn) *Maxillaria variabilis*. Carol received two seconds for Phal Marianne and BLC Orchidom. Sally received two seconds for a yellow unnamed phal and a Phrag. Cape Sunset as a first bloom seedling. Marilyn received a second for Phal Firebird, and I brought home two thirds for Paph Nightfire and Brassavola Little Stars.
Respectfully submitted,
La Presidente'

- MOS Show: Many thanks to the people who sent plants to the MOS show and helped to set it up—Rollie, Linda Sule, Carol Jurek, Lori Lickly, Dale Pieper, Sally Heinlein, and me, Marilyn Whittaker. We had about 43 orchids on display in a 50-foot area, earning a second-place ribbon for the display and 18 ribbons for the entries. Rollie not only took 10 of those ribbons, but also won a

trophy for his uniquely carved cane. Carol Jurek also got a trophy for a gorgeous Brassia Rex Sakata.

That's the good news. You gotta also know that we went through trouble getting that puppy set up. We got most of the way there and discovered that we forgot to take all the fabric from Sally's house. That was after we made it through a horrendous traffic jam on I-75 due to construction, costing us about one-half hour of time. Sally saved the day by coming up with the black garbage bag idea. We bought a couple of boxes at a gas station and kept going. Thank goodness MOS provides the backdrop, sides, and table covers. We only had to use the garbage bags on the plants. We also got lucky that Rollie brought lots of cypress moss to distract from the garbage bags.

We spent forever trying to get the colors in the display to "flow." The yellows that usually look well with the oranges weren't yellow—they were green. We had too many whites, too many blah colors, and not enough reds. We had lots of hanging plants and no wire or wire cutters to hang them. Rollie salvaged wire from Peter to pay Paul, and we borrowed cutters.

When we finally got that together, Rollie went to set up the lights, and we had a burned out bulb. When he went to take it out and replace it with our ONE spare, the old one broke in his hand. No harm done to Rollie.

Several hours later, we had it up and it was very pretty. There were 13 vendors there, and many, many displays. Everyone found something to buy to take home, and they were all different. Many thanks to the gang for getting us through the problems. It was worth it—I'd do it again.

Orchid Workshop

Paul sends his thanks to all the members that made the Society's workshop a big success. A special thanks goes to Roberta who prepared a delicious salad buffet for all and to the members who were part of the presentation panel. Some of the guests were already asking about next year.

Upcoming SVOS Events

- Membership meeting, May 14th, Family Baptist Church, 7p
- Study Group, June 14th at Skip and Rollie's greenhouse, 7p
- Picnic, July: cancelled
- Membership meeting, September 10th, Family Baptist Church, 7p
- Membership meeting, November 12th, Family Baptist Church, 7p

From the President

Lori, Sally and I had a fun road trip this spring to New Vision Orchids, Hilltop Orchids and Orchid Inn. We spent

too much money, but what else is new? Visiting the growers themselves always gives you insight as to how they get their plants to grow and bloom so well. We bought some nice plants for our auction from New Vision, Hilltop and Natt's Greenhouse. If you were at the workshop last Saturday, you saw most of what is in bloom. The rest have almost all opened, and are awaiting their new homes, so bring your checkbook for Saturday night!

Due to a mix up with emails and schedules, our planned speaker will not be able to attend. I'd like to use this meeting time to brainstorm what you would like to talk about at future meetings, so please bring lots of ideas!

Upcoming Orchid Shows and Events

- NMOS Orchids by the Bay, Memorial Day Weekend
- 2011 Native Orchid Conference: Mt. Cuba Center, Greenville, Delaware (www.mtcubacenter.org), July 30th through August 2. Greenville is 90 minutes south of Wilmington and 30 minutes south of Dover. Registration is \$125 for a single and \$225 for a couple. Registration is limited.

Refreshment Volunteers

- May: Karen Hueston, Rollie and Skip Wilson
- July: cancelled
- September: Judy Thomas, Dolores Munsel
- November: Lori Lickly

Other Bits

- Thank you to those who brought food to the March meeting.
- Additional volunteers are welcome to help set up any or all of the show displays. Consider offering your artistic eye to this important task. Experience is not required. Participation is appreciated. You may be surprised by how creative you are.
- If you are not receiving notices of the study group meetings in even months, please contact Carol Jurek at 642-5351 or tfjurek@frontier.net.
- If you are receiving a paper copy of the newsletter and would prefer an electronic copy, please contact the SVOS secretary at lile@ufl.edu to add your name to the email list. Save a stamp.

WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

- Charlie Robinson
- Joyce Potoff
- David Meyers
- Helmut Schick
- Barb Leo
- Lynn Johnson