

# VENICE AREA Orchid Society

Newsletter

Visit us on the web at [www.vaos.org](http://www.vaos.org)

July/August 2024

**July 2024**

**Joint Meeting at EAOS  
Monday July 15th  
Doors Open: 5:30pm**

**St. Davids Episcopal  
Church  
401 S. Broadway  
Englewood, FL**



**Speaker: Jake Bateman  
Topic: Brassavola Orchids**

Jake works at Palmer Orchids in Bradenton, where they care for a little over 40,000 square feet of shaded growing space. After initially joining the team to help set up their e-commerce, he now assists with their feeding and pest management programs. He works alongside his wife, Ashley, and his father-in-law, Robert, to try and offer the widest variety of orchids that their greenhouses can accommodate, with the majority of their hybridizing being in the Cattleya and Vanda alliances.

Jake will have plants for sale.

**Note: VAOS will not have a meeting on July 3rd**

## July/August Events

**July 11  
Growers Clinic**

**July 15  
Joint Meeting at  
EAOS**

**August 7  
General Meeting**

**August 8  
Growers Clinic**

**Quick Links:**

[VAOS Officers](#)

[Orchid resources](#)

**Face Book Group**

<https://>

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)



[groups/  
VAOS.org](#)

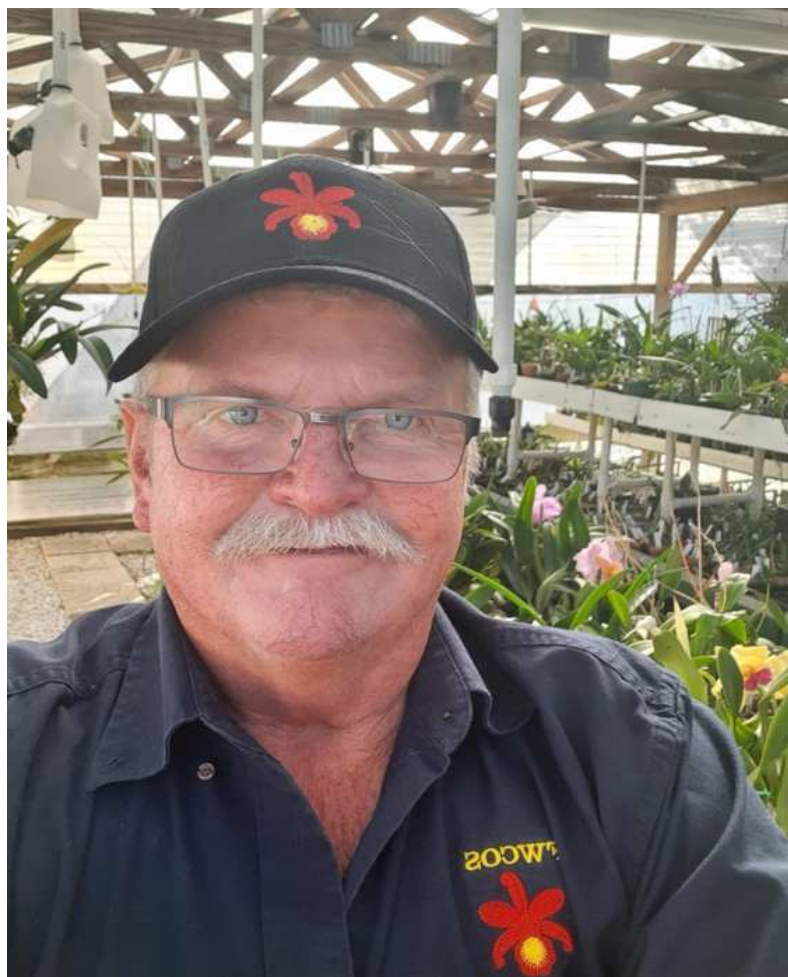
# **August 2024 General Meeting With Our Guests EAOS**

**Wednesday, August 7th**

**Doors Open: 6:30pm  
Venice Community Center**

**Speaker: Bill Nunez**

**Topic: Encyclias**



Bill began growing orchids in the late 60's after several years of tagging along with his father to visit friend's greenhouses. Some of these growers were prominent growers in the area and some of you may remember them: Jack Sweet, Cliff Curry, John Matthews, John & Gloria Naugle, Gladys Whitesell, Richard Bates, and a few others.

He began to receive a few back bulbs from some of these folks and a few of them lived. He was off to the races after that. He built my first flask box when he was in high school . He grew up on 1800 acres of family owned ranch land and started working on Cattle ranches in the 70's becoming familiar with Florida cypress swamps. He greatly enjoyed his adventures into these wonderful swamps. They became his refuge and always had the since of traveling back hundreds of years in time when he entered one of these untouched places. He was able to find many of the Florida orchid species along with native ferns and a variety of wildlife.

He has been growing orchids most of his life and gets great pleasure now when he is making new hybrids mostly in the Cattleya alliance.

He has been fortunate enough to receive several AOS awards and register several of his own hybrids.

The greatest satisfaction for him is to have one of his hybrids awarded.

Now he is older than dirt and is still fascinated with orchids. Somewhere back in his memory he is still a young man on an afternoon adventure in a pristine Florida cypress head, oak hammock or creek bottom.

Bill Nunez ' AKA ' Rhizome Cowboy '

## July Growers Clinic—Mounting Orchids

**The July 11<sup>th</sup> Growers Clinic** will have our Orchid ER, as usual. Members and guests can bring in their problem plants and the team will diagnose and make suggestions as to how you should proceed. Attendees always hear new and important information for their own knowledge! The presentation will focus on naturalizing orchids by “**Potting Without Pots**”! We’ll explore various ways to mount orchids on trees, shrubs, cedar planks, driftwood, and other surfaces. Members can/SHOULD bring a plant (properly prepared for mounting) and the item (wood, shell, driftwood, etc.) for mounting. John Masters will bring some of his gorgeous cedar cuttings and demonstrate his unique and ever-spectacular mounting methods. Members should remember to wear their VAOS Name Tags, please. There will be a Sign-in Sheet for guests. The meeting starts at 7:00PM and is held in Room F of the Venice Community Center. Park on the left (south) side of the building and enter through the side door.



### JOINT MEETING WITH EAOS IN JULY

Every summer, when things slow down, we join our sister orchid society, the Englewood Area Orchid Society (EAOS), in joint meetings. In July EAOS will host the VAOS at their July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. In August, VAOS will host EAOS at our August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**VAOS will not have a meeting on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**Instead, we will join EAOS at their Monday,**

**July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting:**

**Location: St. Davids Episcopal Church**

400 S. Broadway

Engelwood, FL

(Behind Stephanos Restaurant)

**Doors open at 5:30pm.** Meeting starts at 6pm

**Speaker: Jake Bateman, Palmer Orchids**

**Topic: Brassavola Orchids**



Bring your donations for the raffle table and bring your blooming plants for the plant table awards.

On August 7<sup>th</sup> VAOS will host EAOS members at our monthly meeting with an Ice Cream Social.

Mark your calendars!



# Treasurer's Report

May 31, 2024

---

<b>OPERATING FUND</b> April 30, 2024	\$3,590.81
+ Income	430.00
- Expenses and Payments	(1,198.26)
<b>OPERATING FUND</b> May 31, 2024	<b>\$2,822.55</b>

**Reserve Account** May 31, 2024 - \$45,537.51

Petty Cash on hand \$75.00

*Submitted by Ian Kennedy, Treasurer*

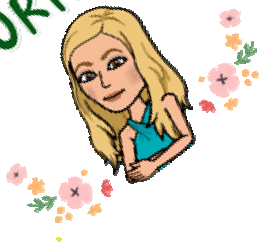
---

## Growers Clinic Review June 2024

Well, the Rain Gods gave us enough of a break to allow for approximately 40 members and guests to venture down to the Venice Community Center on Thursday, June 13, to attend our Growers Clinic. Stephanie Luburger did a masterful job leading the discussion on **Orchid Diseases**. The presentation, with many photos, laced with plenty of personal observations based on her experience in the working- and orchid worlds, made the time go quickly. The Orchid ER, while seeming to have many patients, was actually more of a "Wellness Exam" as most of the plants were relatively healthy and just needed a little TLC. The raffle ended up with Martha Koehnlein and Arvra White-rogers walking out with a *Maxillaria Tenuiflora* (Coconut Orchid) and a nice, white *Phalaenopsis*, respectively. Join us next month for our "Potting without Pots – Mounting Orchids" class.



VAOS SOCIAL  
CORNER



**July 15, 2024 Englewood Orchid Society** will be hosting the Venice Area Orchid Society members for a meeting. Doors open at 5:30pm Meeting begins at 6:00pm. St. Davids Episcopal Church, 401 S Broadway, Englewood, FL

**August 7, 2024 VAOS Monthly Meeting Ice Cream Sundae Social** as we welcome & host Englewood Orchid Society.

**September 4, 2024 Monthly Meeting Falling for Orchids** as we step into the fall season we will celebrate in colors of red, orange, gold and purples.

**October 2, 2024 Monthly Meeting Spooktacular** a Halloween themed social event for all to enjoy.

**October 10, 2024 Annual Pot-Luck Dinner Orchtoberfest** in place of the growers clinic. Join us from 5:00pm-9:00pm at VCC for Dinner and Orchid Bingo with great prizes. We ask all members who sign up to attend to bring their favorite pot-luck dish to share. Sign-up sheets will be available at the September meeting

**November 6, 2024 Monthly Meeting Welcome Back to our Northern Growers**

**November 2024 Bus Trip** to a few Orchid greenhouses details in the works.

**December 2024 Annual Holiday Brunch & Orchid Auction** planning is underway stay tuned for more details.

Special Thanks to the newly formed Refreshment Team Dawn Bozogan, Jennifer Gardner, Sara McCartney, Kelly McWilliams & Joan Piper!!!

\*Reminder to all who bring a refreshment during our Monthly Meetings, you will receive one coin to turn into the raffle table for your free ticket.

\*\*Don't forget to bring in your blooming plants for your chance to win a ribbon at each of our Monthly Meetings.

\*\*\*Finally, share your divisions/extra plants or orchid related items & potting materials by donating them to our raffle table.

*Respectfully Submitted, Denise M Langman, VP Social VAOS*

## VAOS General Meeting Minutes, June 5, 2024

7:05 Judy Loeffler called the meeting to order. She welcomed new members and did a quick overview of how our society is run, reviewing the format our meetings normally follow.

Reminder of the Tampa Bay Orchid Society will be having a plant auction that starts at 9:30am on Saturday June 29, 2024. It is being held at the Good Sheperd Lutheran Church located at 501 Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa. For more information visit them on Facebook.

Our next grower's clinic will be June 13<sup>th</sup> and will be on Orchid Diseases. Stephanie Luberger will be doing the presentation on how to identify common diseases and how to treat them.

7:10 Vicki Fisher gave the night's speaker ( Thanh Nguyen) Bio. Thanh is the owner of Springwater Orchid. He is speaking on the genus of Paphiopedilum. He has over 50 years of experience growing orchids.

7:12 Thanh Nguyen took the mic and gave his presentation.

8:26 Vicki Fisher advised we had to get to our break and that we would go over the plant table upon return. She reminded everyone of the refreshments that had been provided.

8:42 Vicki Fisher and Kristin Shaw reviewed the plants that had been brought in by the members and explained that we have divided up the judging and there is now a new person entry area. This will be for anyone who joined the society within the last year to be judged separately from those on the judging tables from our growers who have belonged for over a year. They announced the winners from the different divisions.

8:53 Natalia Romero took over the meeting to do the nights raffle event.

9:15 The meeting ended.

*Submitted by Michele Baker, Secretary*



# Jay Loeffler Photo Composition Tips

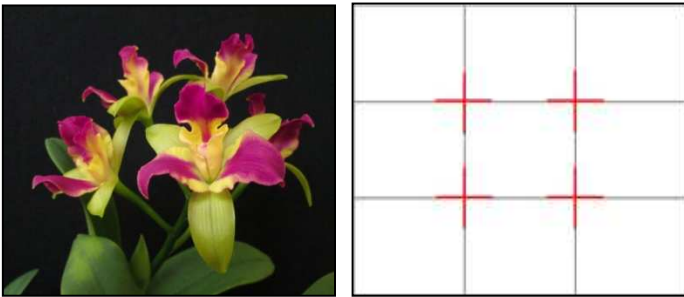
## Continued from Last Month

### Photo Composition Tip 4: Avoid the middle

It's tempting to put whatever you're shooting right in the middle of the frame. However, this produces rather boring pictures. One of the ways to counteract this is to use the Rule of Thirds, where you split the image up into thirds, both horizontally and vertically, and try to place your subject on one of these imaginary lines or intersections.

Move your subject away from the centre and get a feel for how it can be balanced with everything else in the scene, including any areas of contrasting color or light. There are no hard and fast rules about achieving this kind of visual balance, you'll learn to rely on your instincts. you'll know when something is just right.

1. Don't be locked into the 'Rule of Thirds'. Just get the object off-centered
2. Look for any 'Balancing' elements in a photo, Eyes go to brightness, use it to balance objects.



### Photo Composition Tip 5: Leading lines

A poorly composed photograph will leave your viewers unsure about where to look, and their attention might drift aimlessly around the scene without finding a clear focal point. However, you can use lines to control the way people's eyes move around the picture.

Converging lines give a strong sense of perspective and three-dimensional depth, drawing you into an image. Curved lines can lead you on a journey around the frame, leading you towards the main subject.

Lines are everywhere, in the form of walls, fences, roads, buildings and telephone wires. They can also be implied, perhaps by the direction in which an off-centre subject is looking.

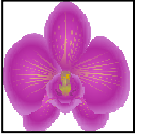
When photos contain strong lines your eyes will follow it.







## Monthly Quick Tip from Your Growers Clinic Team



### JULY

Water well, as needed, when dry.

If you're worried about too much rain, mold, etc., spray with Daconil, Thiomyl, or Physan 20 and, of course, read and follow label directions!

Dry plants hard once or twice.

Fertilize a bit more often during height of growing season.

Watch for, and spray for, Thrips during any dry spells.

And, of course, cleaning up your growing area and plants by removing dead leaves helps keep your plants healthy. This should be done throughout the year as needed.

For more detailed information consult the [Florida Orchid Growing: Month-by-Month](#) book by Martin Motes, PhD.



### AUGUST

Watering well as needed, when dry.

Fertilize a bit more often during height of growing season.

Continue anti-fungal spray program during rainy season.

Watch for pests and diseases, treat as needed.

And, of course, cleaning up your growing area and plants by removing dead leaves helps keep your plants healthy. This should be done throughout the year as needed.

For more detailed information consult the [Florida Orchid Growing: Month-by-Month](#) book by Martin Motes, PhD.

*Submitted by Rick Belisle, Director, Training & Education*



## Rick Belisle Presentation to the Stoneybrook HOA

On Wednesday, June 12, Rick Belisle, our Director of Training & Education, conducted the Basic Orchids – 101 class for 20 members of the Stoneybrook HOA. As usual, he brought in examples of the pots, media, fertilizers and other paraphernalia we all use, as well as a few of his potted and mounted plants to show the different pieces and parts we, as more experienced growers, are familiar with. The HOA was nice enough to have purchased a Dendrobium, in bloom, for a raffle, which generated much enthusiasm. There were many interesting questions, much learning went on, and we may pick up a few new members, as well! They're looking forward to having the class again in the fall, "when the snowbirds are back!"

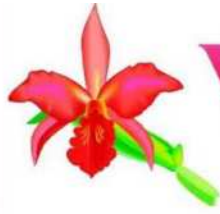


## August 8<sup>th</sup> Growers Clinic – Cattleya Basics

The August Growers Clinic will have our Orchid ER, as usual. Members and guests can bring in their problem plants and the team will diagnose and make suggestions as to how you should proceed. Attendees always hear new and important information for their own knowledge! This month the presentation will focus on the “**Culture Basics of Cattleyas**”. Members should remember to wear their VAOS Name Tags, please. There will be a Sign-in Sheet for guests. The meeting starts at 7:00PM and is held in Room F of the Venice Community Center. Park on the left (south) side of the building and enter through the side door.



*Submitted by Rick Belisle, Director, Training & Education*



# VENICE AREA Orchid Society

WELCOMES THE ENGLEWOOD  
AREA ORCHID SOCIETY

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

**Build your own  
sundae**



Monthly VAOS Meeting  
Wednesday August 7th 2024  
7:00pm - 9:00pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**July 11** (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, 7pm. Topic: Mounting Orchids

**July 15** Joint meeting at EAOS. See article this newsletter

**August 7** (1st Wednesday) General Meeting, Venice Community Center. Speaker: Bill Nunez. Topic: Encyclias

**August 8** (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, 7pm. Topic: Cattleya Basics

**September 4** (1st Wednesday) General Meeting, Venice Community Center.

**September 12** (2nd Thursday) Growers Clinic, Venice Community Center, 7pm. Topic: Vanda Culture Basics

---

### ONGOING

**Mentor Program**: help for new growers, contact Rick Belisle - [Mentor@vaos.org](mailto:Mentor@vaos.org)

### AOS JUDGING

**AOS Orchid Judging—Florida North Central Judging Center.** Check Website for Schedule:

Info:

<https://aosfncjc.wixsite.com/aos-florida-north-ce>

**Next meeting:**

**July 15 in Englewood**

## Contact Us

**Venice Area Orchid Society**

**PO BOX 443**

**Venice, FL 34284-0443**

## **President**

**Judy Loeffler** [pres@vaos.org](mailto:pres@vaos.org)

## **Membership**

**Ian & Karen Kennedy**

[memb@vaos.org](mailto:memb@vaos.org)

**Visit us on the web at**

[www.vaos.org](http://www.vaos.org)

**Visit our Facebook Group at**

[https://](https://www.facebook.com/groups/VAOS.org/)



[www.facebook.com/groups/VAOS.org/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/VAOS.org/)