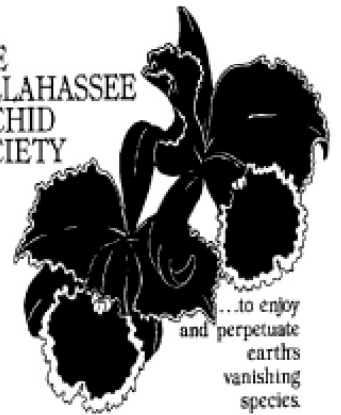


# Tallahassee Orchid Society News



THE  
TALLAHASSEE  
ORCHID  
SOCIETY



December 2006

**Next meeting:** Thursday, December 7th, 2006. The meeting will commence at 6p.m. See below for more information on the location and directions.



Members of TOS posing with some of their favorite orchids

## **December Program - Christmas Party!**

Christmas party! (please note change in time!) We will gather at the meeting hall of Christ Episcopal Church in Monticello. We have the hall from 6 to whenever we leave (around 9:00). To get there go to Monticello courthouse, go north on Jefferson (rt 19) toward Thomasville, and go 3 blocks to Cherry Street. The church is right on the corner of N. Jefferson and Cherry street, and the meeting hall is just north of the church. People can park along Cherry Street, or anywhere around that block. TOS will supply the ham and turkey, everyone else is asked to bring a side dish.



## **Previous Program -**

Mike Heinz from the Jacksonville Orchid Society gave a presentation on the care and potting of bulbophyllums. He brought some wonderful plants to sell. Thanks Mike for another enjoyable presentation.



## **2006/07 Officers**

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## Secretary's report

November Secretary's Minutes  
2 November 2006

Due to the late arrival of the secretary and president the minutes of the meeting were recorded but have yet to be forwarded.

The minutes will be included in a future newsletter.

## Upcoming Events

### *Carter and Holmes Orchids*

629 Mendenhall Road  
Post Office Box 668  
Newberry, South Carolina 29105

Phone: (803) 276-0679  
[Orchids@carterandholmes.com](mailto:Orchids@carterandholmes.com)



### **FEATHERSTONE ORCHIDS**

**CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA**  
FL Reg. # 47823948



**Lyn and Ed Bugbee**  
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Dunnellon, FL 34434

**(352) 795-4614**  
By Appointment  
email: featherstone@starwind.net



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### **WOODLAND ORCHIDS**

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704-394-6530

### **Hicks Orchids & Supplies**

359 Forsyth Rd.

Winter Park, FL 32792

(407) 679-9266

[Hicks.Orchids@worldnet.att.net](mailto:Hicks.Orchids@worldnet.att.net)



**MAJ ORCHIDS**  
126 Wild Orchid Ln.  
Orange Park, Florida 32065

**MARV and JAN RAGAN**

(904) 272-6227  
Fax (904) 272-6877

### **Treasurer's Report - November**

No Report for November, will update at a future time

Ending account balance (October)

\$2059.25

### **E.F.G. Orchids, Inc**

4265 Marsh Road  
DeLand, FL 32724  
Tel: (386) 738-8500



George Hauserman Jr.  
Visit us at [www.efgorchids.com](http://www.efgorchids.com)

## President's Letter - December 2006

The weather has turned down right frosty! Prepare the plants for the winter, which is predicted to be colder than the last couple of years. Thanks El Nino!

At this time of year we start thinking of the people we miss or can't be near at the holidays. These are folk that who makes us feel thankful and loved. They may not be around for many reasons, moved away to go to school, in the military, or may have passed from this earth. Recently Linda and I traveled to Missouri to see her nephew, who is in the National Guard. He was back from Iraq and wanted achance to have the family together. He is stationed in an area that is in the heart of the Baathist territory. He is there serving his country and trying to help. I am proud to know him and hope that all will work out and he returns home in one piece. Last year I lost my mother just before Halloween. I miss talking to her and sharing jokes. Her life was cut short by her own chosing, as she smoked on and off until the last couple of years of her life. I, myself, smoked for almost 20 years, but have found hte resolve to quit and stay off for more than five years. We never know how long each of has on this earth. Please take a moment and think of some one who needs our well wishes and prayers and, if you can, call or visit them.

See you at the party ,

Chris Sedlacek



Galeandra bauerii



## **Paphiopedilum**

The flowering season for the “toads” or “bulldog” paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. Paphiopedilums are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath’s rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike.

While paphiopedilums rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease problems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With paphiopedilums, especially, “cleanliness is next to godliness” and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flowers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

## **Phalaenopsis**

Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in phalaenopsis. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our phalaenopsis will not begin to bloom until Valentine’s Day at the earliest.

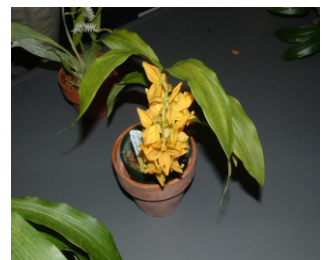
A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a “bloom booster”-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a copper-based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.

## **Vandaceous Genera**

Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules.



Oncidium.....



Cyc. herrenhusaneum