

Key West Orchid Society

Newsletter

Jay Pfahl, President

Liza Bray, Editor

Sunday, January 19 – 1:00 West Martello

KWOS Meetings

The regular meetings will resume on the third Sunday of the month, at 1:00PM.

Orchid Vision 2020

7-8 March, West Martello

KW Garden Club

Meets every Monday from 9:00 to noon for potting, rooting, weeding, etc., and general clean up. Stop in to help anytime you have a free Monday morning

KW Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden

Volunteers meet at the nursery every Wednesday and Saturday from 9 to 12 for propagation and to clean up the Garden. Come in and help anytime you can.

2020 Tamiami International Orchid Festival

Miami Dade County Fair Expo Center

17-19 January 2020

The KWOS will resume its regular meetings on the third Sunday of the month at the Garden Club at West Martello at 1:00PM. The speaker will be Patrick Garvey from Grimal Grove and he will present a very interesting talk on "*Grimal Grove and the tropical fruits of the Keys*". He will have examples and demonstrate their use. He will be able to answer questions such as how do I eat this? Does it need to be refrigerated? Can they be frozen?, Can you cook them? He grows these trees in his grove on Big Pine. Patrick will also be a part of our upcoming Orchid Fair.

The presentation starts at 1:30PM; but get there early for raffle tickets, socialising, and looking at plants brought in by members.

Notices

The Key West Orchid Society is having a fair this year "*Orchid Vision 2020*". Dates are 7th and 8th March 2020. This is a fair and not a judged show and is our only fundraiser: we need members' help to stage it. This year we will have five orchid vendors, OFE Orchid Supplies, Grimal Grove, and our member's table which gives members an opportunity to sell on their own plants.

There will be sign-up sheets at the next meeting, and you can volunteer in three-hour shifts, morning and afternoon. Even if you can't do a full shift, you can be a floater and fill in as needed.

Vern Block will be the speaker for the February meeting, presenting a culture program, and discussing some of the problems we have in growing orchids here. This will be very useful in preparing our plants for the Orchid Fair in March.



Dendrobiums on Cudjoe

Jay Pfahl unearthed a 1959 article in the American Orchid Society magazine which described the KWOS first midwinter orchid exhibition at West Martello on January 10 and 11, 1959. Unfortunately the quality of the reprint does not allow me to reproduce it here for you. Interestingly though, two silver trays were awarded as prizes, one for best orchid in the show, the other for the cultural award. Considering the difficulty of keeping silver decent here in our weather, I'd much prefer another orchid as a prize!

Bill Maloney, member from Cudjoe, is the only one responding to my request for photos of your orchids *in situ* and I have included both of his as well as one of mine. Would very much appreciate your photos of your orchids to include in future editions of the Newsletter. Send them to lizabray@mac.com.

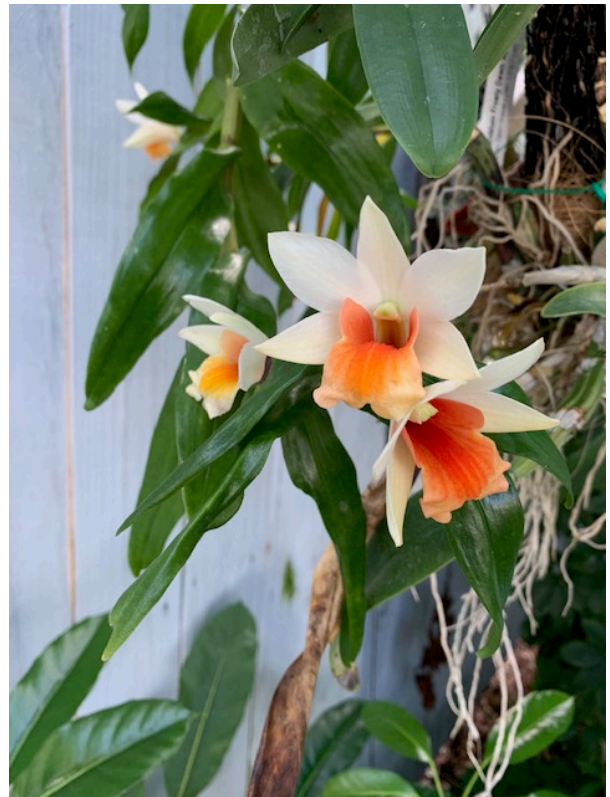


More dendrobiums on Cudjoe

Orchid Notes

While it has been cooler than normal, our orchids are not subject to the cold on the mainland. But wet conditions are conducive to fungus and we should be alert to it. Dr Motes recommends daily inspection and removal by cutting leaves that show the presence of fungus (always with a sterile instrument) at least a quarter of an inch below the obviously infected tissue. Again, watering early is best.

I've always understood that dendrobiums are dormant at this time, but one of my favourites. below, is in full bloom. I'm not complaining, but I don't understand.



Den. Redlands Sunset "Frosty Dawn"