



The South Carolina Orchid Society NEWSLETTER

August 1, 2026
Volume 7, Issue 8

The South Carolina Orchid Society,
established in 1964,
is an affiliate of
The American Orchid Society

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Above: A massive Encyclia
Newberry 'Tuity Fruity'
(Bridget Uzar).

JOIN US!

General Meeting Information

The South Carolina Orchid Society meets at 1:00 PM on the third Sunday of each month at the Garden Club Council building, 1605 Park Circle, Maxcy Gregg Park, Columbia, SC. There is a short business meeting, an orchid program, raffle plants, and a Show and Tell Table.

Visitors are welcome!



Above: Our July 19 meeting featuring David Off of Waldor Orchids.

NEWSLETTER UPDATES

We're Changing Our Look

We will be revamping the content and format of the SCOS newsletters and the website in coming months and looking for your feedback. If you have suggestions, recommendations, or general opinions on what you would like to see in both of these media, please send your thoughts to Secretary Carrie scarriedoc@yahoo.com or President Clay jester0711@aol.com.

UPCOMING ORCHID EVENTS

August Meeting - Sunday August 16

- Speaker Mark Reinke of Marble Branch Farms

September FIELD TRIP to Carter and Holmes Nursery

- SATURDAY September 19th

October 18 - Fall Orchid Auction

POTTING MEDIA PURCHASE

Information has been sent out for a bulk buy of potting media (bark, moss) for purchase at discounted prices. Check your email for this information and contact Clay with your questions and orders. The last day to order is 8/16.

Treasurer's Report

Here is our monthly financials update.

6/1/26	11,817.63	Beginning Bank Balance
	-168.00	Storage Unit
	-250.00	Petty Cash for Auction
	-1,200.00	GGC Show Rental - Space
	3,875.00	Auction Deposit + Petty Cash
Total	2,257.00	
7/1/2026	14,074.63	Beginning Bank Balance
	-150.00	Show Photography
	-168.00	Storage Unit
Total	-318.00	
8/1/2026	13,756.63	Beginning Bank Balance
	425.00	Cash balance from July Meeting
	174.32	Venmo Balance
	223.68	Pay Pal Balance
	14,579.63	Total Balance

July Meeting Recap

JULY 19 DAVID OFF OF WALDOR ORCHIDS

In July, the SCOS hosted David Off of Waldor orchids and he presented his talk "Cattleya Collecting in the 21st Century." David gave a humorous, highly detailed presentation about Cattleya orchids, orchid collecting, breeding, historical plants, and practical growing. He explained that collectors often begin by buying whatever looks attractive, but their tastes become more specialized over time. He recommended focusing on particular groups, colors, species, or breeding lines because orchids can quickly consume both space and money. He joked that collectors eventually run out of one or the other.

David highlighted why certain orchids become collectible:

- Historical significance
- Famous previous owners or collections
- Awards from organizations such as the RHS and AOS
- Important breeding lineage
- Unique mutations or unusual forms
- Famous names, cultivars, and historical photographs
- Plants appearing in influential books or catalogs

The basis of David's talk was that orchid collecting becomes much richer when growers learn the stories behind plants—who bred or collected them, where they came from, how they were awarded, how they were propagated, and why particular plants are rare or historically important.

Following David's talk, the SCOS meeting continued with an auction of several blooming orchids, the orchid raffle, and the Show and Tell. (Photos below and on page 3.)



July Meeting Recap (cont.)

Additional photos from July's meeting



Upcoming Events & Programs Calendar

Here is a detailed look at our upcoming schedule. We invite you to join us for learning, friendship, and promoting passion for orchid cultivation.

AUG
16

August Meeting - Mark Reinke

Mark Reinke from Marble Branch Farms will be our guest speaker and speaking on how to mount your orchids. He will be bringing plants for sale. Check out Mark's inventory at: www.marblebranchfarms.com

SEP
19

Field Trip to Carter and Holmes

We will be taking a society field trip to Carter and Holmes in Newberry and Bridget Uzar will be presenting Introduction to Tropical Lady Slipper Orchids. C&H will also be providing members with "behind the scenes" tours and discounts on plants.

OCT
18

Fall Auction

There will be ~100 items up for LIVE AUCTION. These include blooming plants, seedlings, pottery, care kits, and more.
Cash, check, Venmo, and Paypal, and credit card.

NOV
15

SCOS Holiday Party

Join us for a party to celebrate the holidays! New for this year! More info to come.

MEMBERS' ORCHID PHOTOS

Enjoy these photos of blooming plants from our members, Stan Hutto (SH, photographed by Bridget Uzar), Janine Fiorito (JF), Tom Carter (TC), Carrie Wood (CW), and Mark Mull (MM). L-R, first row: Paphiopedilum Hilo Black Eagle 'Sandhill's Night Hawk' AM/AOS (SH), Rlc. Toshie Aoki 'Starburst' (SH), Ctt. Mary Elizabeth Bohn (JF), Vanda falcata (TC). L-R, second row: Dendrobium hekoense (CW), Vanda Tracy Moehling (MM), Vanda Crystelle Smith (MM), and Vanda Motes Starfall (MM).



The American Orchid Society is there for you!

www.aos.org

FREE Webinars & Greenhouse Chats

Join the global community of orchid-growers on AOS' one-of-a-kind webinars where orchid experts share the latest in orchid research and valuable information on caring for your orchids.

The next Webinars:

Tue., Aug. 25 - Take a Virtual Trip to Dresden, the 2026 World Orchid Conference with Kay Perry

Tue., Sept. 1 @ 8:30 PM EST - Greenhouse Chat



WWW.AOS.ORG

New Segment: Ask an Expert

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY ORCHID?

Member: "Can you tell me what is wrong with these two Phalaenopsis orchids?"

Expert:

I see spider mite damage on both. It has been there a while because I see some deformities from the feeding. The mottling of light and dark is either nutritional or viral. Potting in pine bark is no good either, likely leading to further issues. I see surface roots but not in pots. Spraying with an insecticidal soap is the best treatment but you will want to also virus test these plants.

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION OR TOPIC FOR "ASK AN EXPERT", EMAIL YOUR QUESTION AND PHOTOS TO CARRIE @ scarriedoc@yahoo.com AND WE WILL FIND AN EXPERT TO SOLVE THE ISSUE.



August SCOS Meeting

Mounting Orchids in Your Collection

Mark Reinke will present a talk on mounting orchids as well as lead a mounting demonstration. Blooming orchid auction (2-4 plants), raffle, and Show and Tell to follow.

Mark Reinke

Marble Branch Farms, Walhalla SC



Sunday, Aug 16, 2026

Doors open 12 pm for members
12:30 for guests;
Meeting begins 1 pm



Greater Columbia Garden Council Building

1605 Park Circle,
Columbia, SC 29201

Mark will bring plants to sell from Marble Branch Farm's current inventory (www.marblebranchfarms.com)



WHO WE ARE

SCOS 2026 Officers and Board Members

President:

Clay Owens

jester0711@aol.com

Vice-President:

Stan Hutto

sandhillorchids@aol.com

Secretary:

Carrie Wood

scarriedoc@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Mark Mull

scostreasurer@yahoo.com

Newsletter:

Carrie Wood

Board Members 2026

Elaine Chik

Pami Hagan

Jennifer Stott

Janice Milheim

Amanda Combs

Mary Langston

Julia Zsolczai

MEMBERSHIP: Individual



MEMBERSHIP: Student



MEMBERSHIP: Family



Get Involved Today

Joining the SCOS connects you with a passionate community of growers, opens doors to exclusive plant sales and raffles, and elevates your cultivation skills from novice to expert.

Find us on Meta (Facebook), Instagram, and on the Web.

WWW.SOUTHCAROLINAORCHIDSOCIETY.ORG

Want to become an SCOS member or have not paid your annual dues?

Your annual dues support our ongoing efforts of the South Carolina Orchid Society.

Cost:

Single membership \$25

Student \$15

Joint membership \$30 (two people same address)

You can use the QR code to the left or bring cash or check (payable to South Carolina Orchid Society) to the next meeting, or mail one with your contact information to:
Mark Mull, 723 Fairway Lakes Road,
Greenwood, SC 29649