**Galveston Bay Orchid Society Newsletter**

January 2017

The next meeting of the GBOS will be Monday, January 16, 2017 at the Keller Williams Building, 18050 Saturn Lane, Nassau Bay 77058.  The meeting will start at **7:00**.  Set up starts at 6:30. Guest are always welcome.

The speaker this month will be Monty McGinnis presenting his slide show:

*"Making Greenhouses More Efficient, Ideas on Maximizing your Orchid Growing Space".*

**Orchid Tip of the Month - Orchid Potting Media**

Here are a couple of alternate choices for potting media beyond the traditional fir bark or fir bark mix with pearlite and charcoal which is the most widely used potting mix.

* Aliflor (expanded clay pellets) works well for its ease of absorbing water but is weighty in larger plants.  It has good use as a base media at the bottom of a pot covered with bark or other.  It doesn’t break down and can be sterilized and reused.
* Cork nuggets or chopped wine corks has been used successfully and can be cut as coarse or fine as needed.  I’m trying this media (old wine corks) in a Vulstekeara that I reset in a larger pot.  So far, it likes the cork and is sending out new pseudo bulb growth.

As you can see orchids can grow “on” most anything since they really don’t grow “in” things.

**2017 DUES:**

If you have not paid you annual dues yet, please do so, so that I can make a new 2017 member directory.

Refreshments will be potluck.

You can look up the Galveston Bay Orchid Society on the web at: [www.galvestonbayorchidsociety.org](http://www.galvestonbayorchidsociety.org/)