

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

# FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY

N • E • W • S • L • E • T • T • E • R

April, 2008

## April 14<sup>th</sup> Program:

### Don't Miss Patrick O'Day's Night

Program chair, Joan Connors, was recovering from the departure of her gall bladder when I needed copy. You too, can look in our Membership Roster and go to the web site for **Hawaiian Orchid Source**. It included the fact that Patrick is a second generation orchid grower, he is the youngest person in Hawaii, at 33, to own a commercial orchid business. The nursery covers three acres and he has sold his plants as a vendor in our recent FLOS shows. He is a probationary AOS judge.

Patrick spoke on *Cynoches* and *Mormodes* when he presented a program to our society a year or two ago. He will be in Florida on a 10 day orchid society speaking tour and his topic for us will be: a/ Blc. Toshie Aoki and its hybrids, b/ *Vandas* and their culture, c/ *Cattleyas* and their culture, or d/ *Bulbophylums* and their culture. If you do not see a/, b/, c/ or d/ circled on your newsletter back, please get an update from our web site. (Please also support the advertisers on the back!)

Whatever the topic, it will be another night not to miss. Patrick will no doubt provide the raffle table and sell plants.

### Don't Buy Dumb!

The more you buy from growers from 'far away' the more likely you are to buy orchids that will **not flourish here**. No surprise that you snapped up cool growers at WOC, but that was so, so, such a special event that it was ok to join me and not think. The Redlands Festival is coming up and people from all over come to it. The out-of-country vendors are not 'evil' to bring orchids that won't make you happy. Before you plunk down your money, ask the vendor about those -not from here- orchid needs. D.H.

### The Nominating Committee's Slate

Nora Dyke was committee chair and Chris Carney and Bruce Muntz were the other members. The slate that they picked will follow, but if others wish to run, they may be nominated at our April 14 meeting. If you are nominating a friend, be sure to get the friend's permission, and have a short supporting biography for that person to go with your nomination. Now the slate:

President- Mac Rivenbark

1st Vice-President- Joan Connors -programs

2nd Vice-President - Wayne Musgrave - new members

Recording Secretary - Allen Cogar

Corresponding Secretary - Marianne Walker

Treasurer - Bob Henley

Trustees -1 year: Nora Dyke, Bruce Muntz, Johnny Ma

Trustees-2 year: Chris Carney, Michael Schaberl

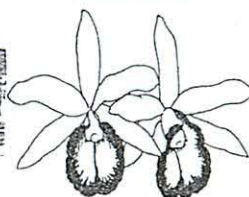
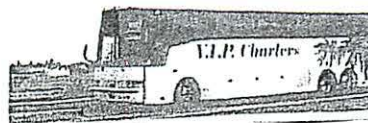
Trustees- 3 year: Gigi Granger, Marc Bruchette

### Overnight Ramble, May 31- June 1

Our ramble chief, Bob Henley, is still firming up the overnight ramble, and he has not lost a gall bladder recently. The bus cost will be \$75, added motel costs will be as modest as possible. We will begin and end at the Cardinal Gibbons High School parking lot. You will need a bagged lunch for the first day. If you are a rambler **help me help him** decide:

**North:** It is their turn. We would be going to Odoms, Indian River, EFG, Krull Smith, Orchid Acres and another grower if we can find one.

**West:** We went there last year and our stops would probably be Tropiflora and two growers who have greenhouse space there, Venice, Palmers, and Orchid Mania. Email (bobdot bellsouth net )or call Bob and vote for where you want to shop. **Overnight rambles are THE best.** (Get the last word in May.) D. H.



## Vic Fowler's March Program

Vic presented a very detailed program on assembling a battery operated sprinkler system and on fertilizing with a hose-end sprayer. Since the details were lengthy, I have included a copy of his handout in newsletters of those who might want to use his information. Apartment dwellers obviously won't be misting their inside rooms and will not get the enclosure. If I misjudged your need for detailed information, please get a copy at the raffle table in April.

From the question and answer period, I would repeat that vandaeas are heavy feeders. Vic uses 3 teaspoons of fertilizer per gallon of water each week, and he fertilizes weekly. Certainly the blooming vandaceous plants for the raffle table were a testimonial for his growing plan which included watering them daily for at least 15 minutes to avoid the loss of lower leaves and the 'palm tree' look. Nora Dyke supplemented the raffle table genera by donating some blooming sized catties to go with the vandaceous offerings. Thank you Nora. D.H.

Continued from March

## WOC Workers' Honor Roll

Bonnie Bellavance, Zoe Bejar, Yolanda Bernardini, George Henderson, Jenny Hughes, Laurajeane Neisel, Luana Tringali, Ken Slump, Joan Stulginskis, and Ken Workman. *I hope to get the last two groups of workers listed by May.*

## Totally Useless Trivia

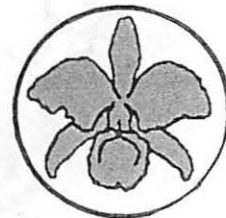
\* Cut daffodils produce a slime to keep other non-daffodil cut-flowers in their vase from taking in water. *Plants are selfish green animals?*

## Good Poster Framing Deal

You probably bought a WOC poster that now needs a frame. Take your poster to the Frame Gallery and identify yourself as a FLOS member and they will give you discount on framing. It is located at 2707 E. Commercial Blvd. (954-771-2922)

## Welcome New Members:

Theresa and Alexander Chang  
Judy Crowder  
Barbara and Charles Fitzgerald  
Ana Sainz Pie  
Bill Shumpert  
Maria Vittiglio  
Ron Lennen and Robert Russotto  
Rich and Carrie Ackerman



## Many Thanks To Some of Those Who Make Our Meetings Work

### Refreshment Providers: ( March list)

Vicki Trank, Carol Clarkson, Lisa Davis, Laurie Klink, Helen Rivenbark, Vicki Hallock, Nora Dyke, Joan Massingill, Doris Pearson and Gigi Granger

### Room set-up/ take down:

Wayne Musgrave always has things well in place by about 6:45. Others pitch in both before and after our meeting, but there are too many names to list.

## March 10 Ribbon Winners

Marilyn Barrows-/culture/ C. Guatemalensis  
The Burtoffs /blue/ Chodranthese Andrea Niessen, /red/ Den. Mem Margery Ummer  
Eddie Griffith / blue/ *Rhyn gigantia*, Dtps. Minho Princess  
Vicki Hallock /red/ Phal. Brother Spots Way x Snow Leopard, C. *intermedia* 'White Dwarf' x C. *skinneri* Alba  
Rubben Howe /blue/ Lc. Fire Dancer 'Patricia'  
Christine Marinella /blue/ Phal. Sogo Pearl 'Pro 9'  
Kayelynn Northcutt /blue/ Dtps. Fuiier's Sunset 'Long Pride'  
Helen Rivenbark /blue/ Den. *anosmum var giganteum*, Den. *goldscheiditanum*, /red/ *Onc. splendidum x cavendishianum*  
Michael Schaberl /red/ *P. schilleriana*  
Mercer Stowers /red/ *Onc. papilio x kalihi*  
Joan Stulginskis /blue/ Ascda. Princess Mikasa 'Blue'  
Paul Vicino /red/ Pot. Exotic Dream 'Orange Passion'  
Marianne Walker /blue/ Phal. *mannii v. flava* x self  
Paph. Hellas x Winston Churchill, Odbrs. Fangtastic  
Bob Henley  
John Wrench /blue/ Slc. Puppy Love, *Lockhartia acuta*

*Note: Ribbon judging is for members only. Others are welcome to bring in plants for show, but they should be marked 'not for judging' along with any member's plant which has not been owned by that member for at least 6 months. Thank you all for sharing your blooms.*

*Remembering*

Bertha Menig  
Mother of Sue Muntz



## Members' Moments to Remember

This will be a new column now that Ora the explorer is glad to be home. Member One, is **Irma Hughes** who lives in Anaheim, California. She took a side trip from WOC, an air boat ride in the Everglades. She commented that it was scary, to which I said, "Did you know about all the pythons out there?" She remembered life with 4 animal loving children. A son's python escaped in the house just before a daughter's living room wedding. The family kept looking down for the escapee and barely heard the ceremony.

I am going to be Member Two to inspire you to tell all. My first homework for students was to bring an unusual living creature to class for a lab. Creature 14 was a spider's egg case the size of a hen's egg. I had attached a post-it-note to the jar with a number and a question as I had to the other lab specimen. At the end of the day, most critters were released to the school yard, but the students wanted to see what would hatch out of that monster egg case. I proceeded to transfer it to a jar which allowed air to enter, but prohibited escape of the occupants. Something ran down my arm. I jumped, I screamed, I tossed the jar which broke, and the students loved that I had made such a fuss over a post-it-note that had detached from the jar. Now it is YOUR turn for us to get to know you better. Life's little moments are often the most memorable. My children love the time we took the cat for a fish sandwich on her birthday, but another of my memorable moments was the day I got my first orchid. Dot H. Email yours to bobdot@bellsouth.net

## Some Good News in Florida

*Note: We don't get enough of this from local media sources, but I liked what I found in Southern Living. 1/08. P. 36.*

\* Florida Atlantic University is researching a turbine that will harness power from the Gulf Stream. 5,000 turbines could be operating in the next 3-5 years..

\*FPL is building a solar array in Sarasota that will produce energy for 50 homes and a wind powered project in St. Lucie County that would power 200 homes. (*Hopefully FPL's baby steps will lead to big steps.*)

\* Gainesville and Sarasota County require that all government buildings are certified by a LEED green building rating system.

\* The University of Florida will have a plant by the spring of 2009 to convert sugar cane to ethanol in South Bay.

(*Of course we want more, but at least it is a start, and not about politics, murder, or mad dogs.*)

## Yeah for Our Charity Bikers

A number of our members participate in good causes, and in April and May, three of our members with strong legs will raise money by taking long bicycle rides.

**Chip Jones and Raoul Pinho** are two of about 15 riders who will bike to Melbourne Beach and back. They will cover this distance of 308 miles over three days from April 11-13.. Last year they raised \$75,000 to benefit **Tuesday's Angels**. In the last 11 years this group has raised \$850,000. Tuesday's Angels is a 501c-3 organization that helps people in Broward County who have HIV or AIDS. All of the money collected goes directly to the people when they need supplements for food, housing, medical needs, and sadly sometimes funerals. FLOS member **Chuck Nichols** has been a major organizer and supporter of this organization for years.

**John Wrench** will again be joining about 2,500 other riders in the **National Multiple Sclerosis Society Bicycle Tour**. He will pedal from the University of Miami campus to Key Largo and back- 150 miles over two days. The MS Society uses funds collected from the Bike Tour not only to help people living with MS today but also to support research to find a cure tomorrow. Other FLOS members **Steve Herman** and **Michael Schaberl**, will be driving a support vehicle as volunteers during the May 3-4 event.

Certainly Chip, Raoul and John would appreciate support from their fellow FLOS members. Tax-deductible checks (of any size) should be made out to the charities and either sent to the bikers' addresses listed in the Membership Roster or to the FLOS P.O box and I will forward them. D.H.

## Don't Grow Snow Mold

If you grow orchids outside in South Florida avoid having bark in your potting mix. Our high humidity encourages this white fungus which will in time suffocate orchid roots.

## We Need to Know YOU Better

Maybe you don't want to tell all, but why not run your business ad in the Membership Roster which should come out in June? The price of a business card sized ad is \$40. New advertisers will also get one free ad in the newsletter, a \$20 value. What a deal? Send money and copy to the PO Box address before May 1.

## About Florida's Water Supply

We have a growing population of 18 million residents and tens of millions more visit here each year. Water shortages impact our economy, environment, and quality of life.

Nearly 93 % of Florida's population relies upon ground water for drinking, more than any other state in the nation. Our main water source is the Floridan Aquifer and it is one of the most productive aquifers in the world. Fifty percent of that drinkable water goes on our lawns and another 15% goes down the toilet.

While we may have a 'chronic' water crisis due to population, natural weather cycles, and the potential bio-fuel agricultural trend, there are some bright spots.

For instance Holloway Technology in central Florida uses a hybrid irrigation system that harvests rain water in reservoirs and pumps it to shallow flood plains for crop irrigation saving about 78 million gallons of water per acre each year. Others are working to reduce water-waste in other ways. Go to [www.SustainableFlorida.org](http://www.SustainableFlorida.org) to learn more.

---Florida Trend Magazine. March 2008. Pp. 54-55

### \$5 What a deal!

## An Orchidist's Lexicon

I met Rick Burian at WOC. He is a member of the Oregon Orchid Society and he gave me a copy of the awesome reference book that he had revised. I'm planning to put in an order for members who give me \$5 at the next meeting. The book has 96 pages of great information including the 7 areas listed here but there are more areas than these:

1. A 20 page list of what genera make up the multitude of multigeneric crosses is included.
2. Subfamilies and tribes come next
3. Followed by a 25 page list which tells you how to pronounce genus names, what they mean, the sub-tribe, and more (For instance *Coelogyne* is pronounced 'see-LODGE-jin-ee'. Which is Greek for hollow, the pistil is hollow, it is in the sub-tribe *Coelogyminae*. It's natural range is listed as Asia and the islands above Australia.)
4. Tables of orchids listed by climatic and geographic areas are included.
5. Common names of 100 orchids are listed.
6. There is a list of fragrant orchids and a list of those with 'bad' odors.
7. There is a 28 page glossary of orchid related terms.

The cost to members will be \$5 now. Later the cost will increase. Dot Henley

## Bifoliate 'Kissing Cousins'

When the cousins 'kissed' in nature they produced a natural hybrid *guatemalensis*, which like the parents is a spring bloomer and in many of our collections along with its parents.

The orange parent's species name is *aurantiaca*. It's genus name was *Epidendrum* when it was named in 1835. Later it became a *Cattleya*, now it is a *Guarianthe*. It is easier to grow than most of what we, die-hards, call species *Cattleyas* and its perky, but small, orange flowers have given their color to many wonderful man-made hybrids. This parent comes from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

The *skinneri* parent ranges from Guatemala to Panama and has up to 19 lavender or white flowers on a spike. A few of the lavenders have a blue or rose caste, but *skinneri* is not famous for color variations. It is the national flower of Costa Rica and was discovered in 1836. These orchids can form huge specimen plants with one awarded plant being 4 ½ feet across and bearing 520 flowers. The plant is tolerant of heat and dryness and is a wonderful plant to own.

The offspring of cousins *aurantiaca* and *skinneri*, *guatemalensis* was found by George Ure-Skinner growing on a tree with its parents in 1861. It is highly collected for it's huge range of sunset colors and like its parents is an easier growing species.

Other 'kissing cousins' are found with these natural but less common hybrids formed with *C. guttata*: *guttata* x *C. intermedia* produced *C. picturata*, with *C. loddigesii*, *C. hybrida* and with *C. forbesii* to produce *C. dayana*.

*C. guttata* was certainly an active parent, and early descriptions in the *Orchid Review* described it as having 5 foot pseudobulbs and living in tall trees with its roots growing down the tree for as far as 40 feet.

The parents described here are listed as Group II plants. These plants grow a new lead and roots during the summer, enter a resting stage and bloom from dry sheaths the next winter or spring. Withner stated that the best time to repot is just at the beginning of a flush of tiny new roots.

Withner, Carl L. 1988. *The Cattleyas and Their Relatives*. V.1. The Cattleyas. Oregon, Timber Press. Pp. 32, 40-41, 63, 68-69, 113-115.

## About '\_\_\_ara' Endings

When your orchid's genus name ends in -ara that suffix means the plant is a hybrid of four or more genera. For instance *Portinara* is a man-made hybrid from *Brassavola*, *Cattleya*, *Laelia*, and *Sophranitis*.

## Replacing and Adding Trees in Broward



Hurricane Wilma took out 250,000 trees in just our 26 parks and took out uncountable numbers in yards and along streets. Even before that we knew we needed more trees to make Broward a better place to live.

The county has replaced 10,000 trees in our parks, and many of us are still adding trees to keep our homes cooler and our air clearer. What to add? We might follow the county park plan which includes using trees with a more spread out canopy which can provide more shade. Trees are also selected on abilities to survive with less water and to hold up better to high winds. Oaks, gumbo limbo, cypress and slash pines were listed as the tree choices being used in county parks.

Sortal, N. Feb. 17, 2008. *Sun Sentinel*. 'Community News'. pp 1-2.

## Adding Drought Coping Palm Trees



Of course palm trees are wonderful and stand up well to hurricanes. The rules for planting trees with new construction in Broward requires builders to plant 3 palm trees to substitute for one non-palm to meet the required tree number. Of course this is based on the smaller canopy spread but if you want to plant palms try to choose from this less thirsty list where the genus is given and common names may follow: *Allagoptera* - seashore palm, *Bismarkia* - the nobel palm, *Brahea armata* - armed palm, *Butia purpurascens* -purple palm, *Chamaerops humilis* - humble palm, *Coccothrinax* - silver or silver thatch palm, *Dypsis* - three good species with common names Triangle, Teddy Bear, and Thin lip palm, *Livistona humilis* - small palm, also species with names mill stream or Chinese fan palm, *Sable* -13 species most of which are somewhat to greatly drought coping, and *Thrinax* - six species including the Key's thatch are also good palm choices for us.

Riffle, R.E. and Paul Craft. 2003. *An Encyclopedia of Cultivated Palms*. Oregon, Timber Press. Pp.489-490

## Drink Beer, Save Water?

It takes only 20 gallons of water to produce the products that end up as a glass of beer, where a single hamburger costs 634 gallons of water. Some other virtual gallons of water: 5 slices of bread 10.5 gallons, an apple 18.5 gallons, an egg 36 gallons and one sheet of paper 2.6 gallons of water. (*I don't want to know how much water it takes to produce one Cattleya bloom, but we do need to conserve water to justify getting our blooms!*)

— Sierra. Jan./Feb, 2007. P. 13

## The Salvation of Nomenclature

*Dr. Wes Higgins- Selby Gardens*

“ Horticulturists have thrown up their hands in despair over the changes in orchid names. First it was the species and then the hybrid names which began to change. The purpose of a classification system is to facilitate communication. It is a user tool based on scientific data, but it must be user friendly. With the advent of molecular systematic, we have new insights into relationships within the orchid family. The DNA data has caused taxonomists to re-examine the morphology and to rethink genetic concepts. What is a genus? How big should it be? Can it be too small to be useful? Unfortunately many of the recent changes in genera did not consider the impact of horticulturalists (the users).

The lectures at the 19<sup>th</sup> World Orchid Conference reflected a new trend where scientists have started consulting the users of the classification system. New data have mandated changes in orchid names, but the changes need to be compatible with the needs of the end users.

At the general meeting of the International Orchid Commission, Cassio van den Berg proposed moving the Brazilian *Laelias* into *Cattleya*. This recommendation was well received by the group. This change will greatly help with the nomenclature of the widely hybridized group. Alec Pridgeon stated that a supplement could be included to *General Orchidearum V* to rapidly disseminate the change. The only dissenter was someone who wanted to do away with nothogenra and use just breeding groups. The *Cattleya* proposal was forwarded to the Royal Horticultural Society (the hybrid registrar) for consideration.

What do we have to look forward to:

A large *Cattleya* genus,

A large *Epidendrum* genus,

A large *Pleurothallis* genus,

A large *Oncidium* genus,

And a stable system of hybrid names.”

## The Year of the Rat

According to legend the Jade Emperor invited the animals to cross the celestial river. The first 12 to arrive were rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and pig. This is the year of the rat. We can expect plentiful opportunities and prospects and relatively little turbulence. It is a year to socialize and share meals with friends and family. Now be glad not to celebrate the Vietnamese custom of **dining on rats** for festive meals this year.

Rain, P. Feb.-Mar. on line newsletter. The Vanilla Company.



## Be Your Own Orchid Doctor

The "symptoms" are in bold print and the information is from *Growing Orchids, 1993*. The American Orchid Society. Note this has been abbreviated from the original and *Italic comments are mine. D.H.*

**Yellowing leaves:** This is normal aging on older leaves on back bulbs. If newer leaves yellow and soften look for: /a/ too much light/ b/ low temperature/ c/ lack of nitrogen or /d/ loss of roots.

**Blackened areas on leaves:** /a/ If the days are very bright and a brown spot appears, then turns black and doesn't spread, this is sunburn. Move to less light./b/ If the dark spot or spots grow, cut off the leaf and apply a bactericide or fungicide. Isolate the plant and keep it dryer than usual.

**Brown or black streaking or mottled leaves:** /a/ This may indicate a viral infection. Isolate the plant, have it tested, or *assume that you are right and destroy the plant and its pot.*

**Small reddish or black spots on leaves:** /a/ This is probably a fungus, treat with a fungicide and grow dryer. (*Try kitchen cinnamon, it won't hurt you.*)

**Deformed flowers:** If the flowers are deformed year after year, it is inherited. Destroy it or *treasure you perloric plant!* An occasional deformed flower may be caused by: /a/ high temperature and low humidity when the bud is forming. /b/ mechanical or chemical injury to the bud (*Think thrip damage in dry weather.*) /c/ color break or floral streaks, think virus, *isolate, test, or destroy.*)

**Rapid wilting of flower:** /a/ air pollution, especially from ethylene (*Ripe fruit emit this.*) or other gasses. /b. a sudden change in climate.

**Spotting of flowers:** /a/ common Botrytis or sooty mold. Reduce humidity, increase air movement, remove old and spotted flowers from growing area.

**Chewed flowers, buds, roots:** /a/ slugs, snails, cockroaches, *and rats, mice or iguanas*, may be to blame.

**Loss of roots:** (This is not easy.) /a/ over-watering, /b/ bacterial or fungal disease, /c/ slugs or snails, /d/broken down potting medium. ("*a*" and "*d*" likely!)

## Uses for Baking Soda

Besides deodorizing your fridge and making baked goods rise, baking soda is good for:

1. **Removal of tape residue** from glass. Rub a paste of baking soda and water on the residue.
2. It will **put out flames**, keep it handy where a fire might break out.
3. It will **zap roaches**. Put equal amounts of sugar and baking soda in a shallow dish. The roaches will go for the sugar and die.
4. **Spot clean a rug** by putting the soda on a grease spot and letting it sit for an hour. Scrub with a damp sponge, then vacuum.
5. **Absorb moisture** in your tool box to prevent rust.
6. Once a week pour some baking soda and a cup of vinegar down your kitchen sink to **keep the pipes clog free**.
7. Clean **shower doors** with baking soda on a damp sponge. Rinse in warm water.
8. **Uncrust your grill** by sprinkling baking soda on the grill and let it sit overnight. Use a wire brush to remove the gunk the next day and then rinse.
9. **A bad odor on your hands** rub some baking soda on them and rinse.
10. Put **musty smelling books** in a plastic bag with baking soda and let them sit for a few weeks. The mold and mildew smell will be gone.

Snoonian, D. '10 uses for baking soda'. Jan./Feb. 2008. *This Old House*. P. 18.

## About Visiting Botanical Gardens

Unless they are having a 'special event' such as an orchid show these Florida gardens will let you show your AOS membership card for free, or maybe reduced, admission:

- Albin Polasek Museum- Winter Park
- American Orchid Society Gardens- Delray
- Edison and Ford Winter Estates- Fort Myers
- Fairchild Tropical Gardens
- Flamingo Gardens
- Florida Botanical Gardens- Largo
- Harry P. Leu Gardens- Orlando
- Heathcote Botanical Gardens- Ft. Pierce
- Marie Selby Botanical Gardens- Sarasota
- Mckee Botanical Gardens- Vero Beach
- Mounts Botanical Gardens- West Palm Beach
- Sunken Gardens - St. Petersburg
- University of South Florida Gardens- Tampa

There are over 200 gardens on the Horticultural Exchange list. Before you travel, check them out on [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org).

## Invasive Non-native Plants

This is not about Melaleuca, Brazilian Pepper, Australian Pine, or Carrot Wood trees or water plants such as water hyacinth, Hydrilla or Elodea which you know about. The site above had too many grasses and vines to list, but you might like to go there and check out the site and also see the list of invasive introduced animals. Here are some trees that you might want to avoid planting:

*Acacia melanoxylon*- Australian Blackwood  
*Ailanthus altissimo* -Tree of Heaven (One tree can make 350,000 seeds per year.)  
*Albizia julibrissin* - Mimosa or Powder Puff Tree  
*Ardesia elliptica* - Shoe Button Tree  
*Dalbergia sissoo*- Bombay Blackwood  
*Elaeis guinensis* - African Oil Palm  
The next list is comprised of non-trees (shrubs, herbs, etc.)  
*Asparagus densiflorus*- Asparagus fern  
*Cornilla varia*- Crown Vetch  
*Eugenia uniflora*- Barbados Cherry  
*Euonymus alata*- Burning Bush  
*Hedera helix*- English Ivy  
*Hypericum perforatum* -St. John's Wort  
*Lantana camara*- Lantana  
*Ligustrum lucidum* or *L. sinensis* - Ligustrum or Privet  
*Mimosa pudica*- Sensitive Plant

<http://timesaving-expert.com/us/contents/view/100/42>

## Need to Clean Almost Anything?

If you have a drawer filled with tomato paste or other stained plastic containers, put them outside in the sun. They will bleach and look new! That is just one of MANY tips found on this website.



## Finger Tip?

This is NOT about the drivers who give you a third one on I-95. This is about your wearing latex or plastic gloves when you repot, put half a cotton ball in your glove fingers before you begin and your nails will not ram through the gloves. Then remember to dip those gloved fingers into your potting tool solution of tsp before you work with your next plant.

## About Deciduous *Calanthes*

These Asian forest terrestrials are commonly grown here. When the dry season arrives in the fall experienced growers move the plants, which are grown in *Cattleya* light, away from water and watch them drop their leaves. (The leaf drop is reportedly a way to avoid the spider mites of early spring which are especially drawn to their soft leaves.) Small amounts of water should be added during winter. When the floral spikes emerge in spring, the plants need water and fertilizer. The plants should be kept damp and given weekly fertilizer until fall. Dividing and repotting should be done after blooming in the spring.

If you have never grown one of these orchids begin with the hybrid *Calanthe Rozel*. Later try these species: *vestita*, *rosea*, *regnieri* and *cardioglossa*.

## Fragrant Orchids

Humans take about 23,040 breaths a day and in so doing move about 438 cubic feet of air. It takes us 2 seconds to inhale and sense 4,000-10,000 kinds of odor molecules. In case you need to know, it takes us 3 seconds to exhale and our sense of smell is most acute between the ages of 20-40.

According to Frowine, there was a study of 4,000 kinds of flowers in 1977, and this French study concluded that sixty percent of fragrant flowers were white or yellow. More recently flowers are ranked from the color with the most scent to that with the least. The order follows: white, bluish white, pale pink, mauve-pink, pale yellow, yellow, and purple. Blue orange, red, and brown flowers generate little or no scent, or some browns produce an unpleasant, fly attracting scent. Most flowers are fragrant only during the period when their pollinators are active.

While this 200 page book describes or lists 460 orchids and describes their fragrance, **this short list is just to encourage you to check out the book from our library:**

*Brassavola flagella* is - hot chocolate, *B. nodosa* - freesias, *C. maxima*- sweet peas, *Enc. cordigera*, *L. anceps*, and *C. walkeriana* -all have a vanilla smell, *C. Chocolate Drop*- roses or lilies, *Onc. Sharry Baby*-chocolate, *Odontobrassia Fangtastic Bob Henley*-floral, *Phals. Bellinia and schilleriana*- roses, *Rhyn gigantea-citrus*, and *Trichoglottis philippinesis* - ripe apple. This well illustrated book also lists fragrant *Aerides*, *Angraecums*, and *Vandas*. The author lists his favorite enticing orchids, but states that there are 20,000 fragrant orchids available today.

Frowine, Steven. 2005. *Fragrant Orchids*. Portland Oregon. Timber Press.



# FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY

P.O. Box 4677  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338

**Regular meetings:** Second Monday of each month  
**Time:** 7:30 P.M. Workshop, 8:20 P.N. Program  
**Place:** Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall  
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.

**Directions:** Use Oakland Park Blvd. from I-95.  
Go East for 2.4 miles, go to rear of the church  
which is on the North side of Oakland Park Blvd.  
Or take US-1 (Federal Hwy.) to Oakland Park  
Blvd. and go West for 2 blocks.

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