



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 61 Issue 10

October 2011

Orchid Auction! October 10th, Viewing 6:30



Cattleya I won in the auction last year, John Wrench

Our October meeting will be our annual fund-raising auction. The action starts early. 6:30 is the preview and the auction will start promptly at 7:00, so come early to register and get your numbered plate then check out the hundreds of unusual orchids you will be able to buy. These are not your typical Home Depot style orchids. There will be orchids on auction that are hard to come by plus, Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society members have been dividing their favorite orchids to share.

Growing tips and advice on how to grow these special orchids will also be available from FLOS members. There will be a lot of fantastic deals on large specimen plants.

Here are some of the generous orchid nursery vendor donors from last year: Adamson's, Amazonia, American Orchid Society, Banjong, Carib, Carmela, EFG, Indian River, Kodama, Krull-Smith, Mac's, Orchid Acres, OFE Orchid Supplies, Quest, RF Orchids, Soroa, and St. Germain. Please support these wonderful nurseries that help make our annual auction so successful.

Jeff Adkins and Mac Rivenbark will be auctioneers again this year. They always do a great job in describing each plant brought up for auction. They tell you a lot about the plant, how to grow it and what the flowers will look like (if it's not already in bloom).

Refreshments will be provided by FLOS.



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Vanda Robert's Delight "Black"

Thank you Chuck McCartney

Chuck's presentation on "Endangered Epiphytic Orchids of Southern Florida" was terrific. It was a great opportunity to learn about the magnificent orchids that grow naturally in our own backyards. He spoke on many species and gave us his own personal common name to most of these gems. It was a great introduction to our upcoming

field trip to the Fakahatchee Strand State Reserve.

Chuck quoted "Of the 100-plus orchids native to Florida, the state classifies 56 species as endangered, 17 threatened, and 2 as commercially exploited" plus, "No orchid species native to Florida is classified as endangered or threatened by the federal government."



Prosthechea cochleata in the Fakahatchee Strand State Reserve

2011-2012 Membership Rosters
THE NEW ROSTERS ARE READY! BE SURE TO PICK YOURS UP AT THE OCTOBER 10TH ORCHID AUCTION. See Michael Schaberl

2012 Fort Lauderdale Orchid Show, January 20, 21, & 22
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP AT THE NEXT FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SHOW. A SIGN-UP SHEET WITH ALL THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF VOLUNTEERING WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT EVERY MEETING UNTIL THE SHOW. See Chris Crepage

Join with the AOS to Save the Myrtle Head Savanna Orchids

Photographed at the Green Swamp. *Calopogon tuberosus* and *Platanthera integra*, Photos by Skip Pudney and Jim Fowler



AOS is working with The Nature Conservancy to assist them with a management project of property they own in North Carolina known as the Myrtle Head Savanna, a part of the ecologically rich Green Swamp. This is a remarkable and ecologically important area in which our collective support can help to resuscitate and sustain a critical habitat for native orchids, as well as numerous other plant and animal species. I strongly encourage you to participate in this communal project by contributing in any way you can to help reach our financial goal of **\$10,000**.

We hope that you as our local society will be able to support this effort generously and be able to take pride in protecting orchids in the wild. Please go to the www.aos.org to donate. Even small amounts add up to large numbers when it comes to conservation!

You Can Help Save the Myrtle Head Savanna Orchids

It is just miles from the Atlantic Ocean, but Myrtle Head Savanna is a completely different world. A 72 acre remnant long leaf pine savanna, Myrtle Head is a part of the greater Green Swamp in Brunswick County, NC. Acquired from the Georgia Pacific Corporation in 1990, this parcel was of specific interest to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) due to its biological significance and biodiversity rating as designated by the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NCNHP). Additionally, Myrtle Head Savanna is nearly adjacent to the Juniper Creek Gamelands protected by the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission (NCWRC), and to the Columbus County Gamelands (NCWRC). Currently there are several large restoration efforts occurring on the abovementioned protected lands. TNC wrote a site management plan for the entire savanna in 2009.

From a technical point of view, the preserve encompasses an unusual pine savanna natural community (very wet clay variant) on non-alluvial flatland, intermingled with patches of small stream swamp. Abundant ecotonal habitat also exists where the two communities grade into one another. Although the area was damaged by logging in the late 1980's, the pine savanna community retains most of its character and has shown natural recruitment of Long Leaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*). There are many

orchids within the savanna that bloom spring through autumn, including the Giant Spiral Orchid (*Spiranthes longilabris*). The savanna also has a large cluster of rare plant species including a large population of the endangered Cooley's Meadowrue (*Thalictrum cooleyi*) and Carolina Grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia caroliniana*). The herbaceous community is dominated by Wireleaf Dropseed (*Sporobolus teretifolius*), a very rare grass currently known on only ten sites globally.

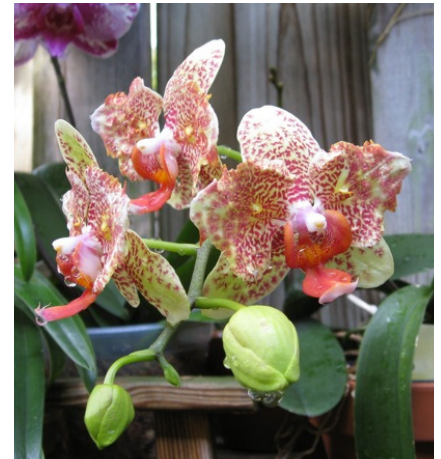
There have been several botanical surveys done on the property. Orchids found in Myrtle Head Savanna are: *Platanthera blephariglottis*, *Platanthera ciliaris*, *Calopogon pallidus*, *Calopogon barbatus*, *Cleisteslopsis bifaria*, *Cleisteslopsis divaricata*, *Pogonia ophioglossoides*, *Spiranthes longilabris* and *Spiranthes praecox*.

Due to fire suppression beginning in the early 1900's, the wet savanna has begun to fill in with shrubs, shading out and imperiling the orchids and other savanna plants. With your assistance, funding would be used to implement the restoration of this significant savanna through controlled burning and mechanical removal of shrubs and trees to create the open savanna habitat that historically existed at the preserve and crucial for these plants to thrive.



Pelorics from Pine Ridge Orchids

Occasionally (and sometimes not so occasionally if a clone has been drastically over-cloned), a hybrid seedling such as the Phal. Arctic Threshold and the Phal. Elizabeth Hayden or a clone such as the Phal. Center Stage (pictured to the right) will undergo a mutation resulting in what I have been calling semi-peloric flowers. These are not true pelorics producing 3 lips usually pinched together, but they will result in flattened petals with all the lip characteristics. Many of the pelorics result in very unstable flower characteristics - flipping back and forth between "normal" and peloric flowers. I will only clone the best of my semi-pelorics if they are consistently stable both in the mother plant and in all the clones. For more information contact Terry Glancy at Pine Ridge Orchids. terry@pineridgeorchids.com.



Center Stage 'Pine Ridge Cockleshell' AM/AOS
Photo Steven Herman, Grown by John Wrench

September Ribbons

<i>Aer. quinquevulnera</i> var. <i>calayana</i>	Ray Ratliff	Blue
Bc. Ann Hamilton	Dr. Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
Blc. Golden Tang	Tony Millet	Blue
Blc. Kcovee Mendenhall AM/AOS	Dr. Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
Blc. Lake Murry 'Mendenhall' AM/AOS	Paul Gartner	Blue
Den. <i>goldschmidtianum</i>	Dr. Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
Den. Sakda Blue	Paul Gartner	Blue
<i>Glandera baueri</i>	Joan Connors	Blue
<i>Habenaria medusa</i>	Tony Millet	Blue
Mtdm. Rosy Sunset	Bonnie Bonneau	Blue
V. Fuchs Delight X Doctor Anek	John Wrench	Blue



Aerides quinquevulnera var. *calayana*
Grown by Ray Ratliff

Cultural Tips — Growing Tolumnias

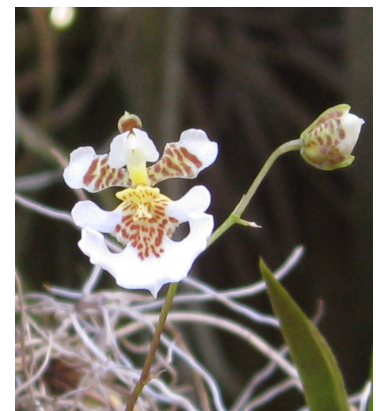
The key to growing Tolumnias is understanding their natural habitat. Most of the species involved in modern hybrids are found in intermediate to warm conditions growing on twigs where they are exposed to bright light and air movement. Moisture is provided by high humidity and by daily rain showers or heavy dews. Due to constant air movement by the wind, plants never remain wet for long. Grow Tolumnias almost anywhere an intermediate range of temperature (55° to 90°F) and relative humidity of 50 to 70 percent can be provided.

Light Provide bright, diffused light that is somewhere between the optimal

for phalaenopsis and that for cattleyas. The general rule of thumb is if shadows on the orchid bench are just discernible, the light is about right. Plants that are growing well but reluctant to bloom usually need an increase in light intensity. Once conditioned to high light, tolumnias are fairly tough, but when moving tender plants to a higher light situation, increase their exposure gradually to prevent burning. This is especially true when moving plants outdoors for the summer.

Watering This is the most crucial aspect to success with tolumnias. There is no hard and fast rule for how often to water. Only close observation of your

conditions will indicate frequency. Plants must dry out between waterings. Drying will be faster outdoors than on a humidity-enhanced windowsill. Damp, cloudy days will retard drying while bright, breezy days will hasten it. Plants on mounts can be misted daily because drying is rapid, but those in pots must be observed more closely for complete drying. The adage "if in doubt, don't water" applies here. Avoid misting or watering during the heat of the day. Water that collects in the overlapping leaf bases can reach "cooking" temperatures and severely damage plant tissue, especially the tender young growths.



Tolumnia, Photo Steven Herman
Grown by John Wrench

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Thank you.

Thank you kitchen staff: Geri Vatovec and Nina Anton. Our September refreshments were provided by: Grace Vicino, Joan Connors, Carrie Ackerman, Bonnie Bonneau, Lisa Davis, Paul Gartner, Nina Anton, Shelly Jones, Vicki Trank, Betty Runde

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Directions: East on Oakland Park Blvd. from I-95
Go East for 2.4 miles, left on NE 20th Ave. Park in the rear of the church which is on the NW corner of Oakland Park Blvd. and NE 20th Ave. Or to take
US -1 (Federal Hwy.) Go to Oakland Park Blvd. go west for two blocks turn north on NE 20th Ave. park in rear.

Regular Meetings: Second Monday of each month
Time: 7:30 pm
Place: Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society
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Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338

