



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 64 Issue 7

July 2014

JULY: NATURE'S RELICS



THE HISTORY, BENEFITS, AND USES OF OLD GROWTH CYPRESS WOOD

Jesse & Dee Vance at Nature's Relics are passionate about the beautiful reclaimed cypress wood they have the opportunity to work with. Their mission is to rediscover and uncover the natural beauty of this old water worn wood. Because the wood has already been sculpted in time by nature, the integrity of the piece is always kept intact. Decade after decade the water has grooved its story onto this wood. Great care is given to the cleaning and preparing of each unique piece, resulting in a one of a kind display of nature's great bounty!

Jess, who is a musician, will open with a couple swamp songs, then after a brief background introduction and a history, Jesse & Dee will discuss the benefits, & uses of Old Growth Cypress Wood including a short instruction on mounting on cypress wood. This will be followed by a slide show and time for questions.

The Vances will provide a few established orchids already mounted on cypress wood (some may be in bloom) for the raffle table. Other raffle items will be various orchid mounts: mounting plaques, large mounting hangers, pecky wedges, baskets, mounting trays, and maybe a pretty cypress wall mount or tabletop piece.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

SOCIETY EVENTS

July 14 - Dee and Jessie Vance from "Natures Relics" "THE HISTORY, BENEFITS, AND USES OF OLD GROWTH CYPRESS WOOD"

August - John Budree: Phalaenopsis Culture

September 8 - Jim Watts - Leafless Orchids

October - FLOS Auction

November - TBA

December 14 - Holiday Party

January 23,24,25--FLOS Annual Orchid Show

COMMUNITY EVENTS

July 17- Coalition for Orchid Species Symposium at Fairchild Tropical Gardens-- contact Erna Maxwell: 305-382-3055 or hendrinamax@bellsouth.net

August 8&9 - Cattleya Symposium at Odom's Orchids in Fort Pierce--contact

John Wrench for details on the symposium and the FLOS discount

Thursday Evenings--Urban Green Market (includes orchid classes with Jeff Adkins)

EUCALYPTUS GARDENS
2430 NE 13th Ave.
Wilton Manors, FL 33304

Paph. niveum--Chris Crepage



C. intermedia--Rich Ackeman



JUNE: MOVIE NIGHT



Wild Orchid Man in the Mountains of Amazonas

Our 2nd Annual Movie Night featured the documentary Wild Orchid Man in the Mountains of Amazonas. Stig Dalstrom, Saul Perez and Darryl Saffer took us to the cloud forests of Northern Peru to find orchid habitats and collect orchid specimens for DNA sequencing. The documentary begins with Stigs' quote, "Wild orchids are harbingers of our success and our failure as stewards of the planet". Stig creates a sense of urgency with evidence of failure. Deforestation is prevalent throughout the film. Likened to environmental suicide, deforestation is tied to the local economy and local people's way of life for eons. Paradigms not easily changed.

Like silver linings, Stig and Saul find jaw-dropping orchid specimens of *Cyrtorchilum*, *Maxillaria*, *Masdevallias*, *Epidendrums*, *Eurostylis*, *Trichosalpinx*, *Oncidiums* and *Odontoglossums* along roadsides, attached to twigs, burrowed into crevices, next to pastures and of course attached to trees within the remaining forests. They collected well over 20 species and manage to discover a couple new ones. The trio, covered a small u-shaped region. Starting in Moyobamba, the home of the spectacular *Kovachii*, then onto Rioja for orchid collecting permits, up to Chachapoya for a wet visit to the ruins and finally Cocachimba to film the Gocta Falls, the third tallest waterfall and only discovered in 2005.

I recommend checking this movie out from the FLOS library and watching it again. Most of us will never trek through a cloud forest, but that doesn't make its existence any less important. I am thankful for the opportunity to hangout with good friends, vicariously tag along with orchid hunters, and witness new discoveries while staying dry. (Gigi Granger)

AOS Monthly Checklist for July and August

Cattleya

Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs owing to characteristically high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a must in areas of the country where it is effective. Where it is not (the more humid regions), care needs to be paid to proper venting to keep temperatures within reason. Bottom vents in conjunction with top vents provide enough rising airflow to help keep plants cool. Increased air flow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent damping down and watering, in areas where high humidity is not a problem. Higher light and heat indicate more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of this autumn, winter and spring's blooms, so applying adequate fertilizer this month is the best way to ensure future blooms. Higher temperatures and humidity may also lead to fungal or bacterial rot problems, so it is important to closely observe your plants for any early indication of problems. Pests are also at a high point this month for the same reason.

Paphiopedilum

Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these two months to prevent stress and avoid disease problems. Watering needs to be closely monitored to ensure that plants do not dry out. Warmer-growing hybrids will be at the peak of their blooming, with attention needing to be paid to staking of spikes. Look for water lodging in growths, which can rot emerging spikes and lead to the loss of the entire growth.

(cont. on page 4)



The Philippine species, *Euanthe sandariana*, rewards growers with massive heads of flowers at the end of summer.

AOS photo

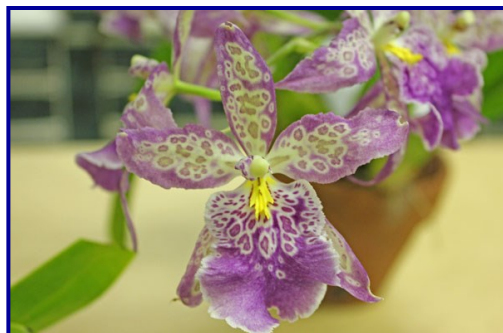
FLOS MEMBER'S CORNER

One New dual Membership John and Ann Bernard

Ribbon Winners For June

C. Bactia x B. nodosa 'Gale'	Zoe Bejar	Blue
Aerides odorata	Zoe Bejar	Blue
Ascofinetia Moonlight Firefly	Clair Garrett	Blue
Beallara Patricia McCulley 'Pacific Matriarch'	Chris Crepage	Blue
Cyrtopodium '?'	Sue Dohn	Blue
Dtps. Taisco Miky	Vicki Hallock	Blue
Encyclia Green Hornet	Clair Garrett	Blue
Paph niveum	Chris Crepage	Blue
Pot. Paradise Beauty 'Marcela'	John Wrench	Blue
Prosthechia radiator	Chris Crepage	Blue
Cymbidium lancifolium	Claire Garrett	Green
Grammatocymbidium Lovely Melody	Zoe Bejar	Green
Jumellea comorensis	Tom Kuligowski	Green
C. Mark Jones 'SVO' HCC/AOS x Slc. Jungle Jim 'Yellow Jacket'	Rich Ackerman	Red

Last month Chris Binder's Den. *Crumenatum* was mistakenly attributed to Rich



Beallara Patricia McCulley-Chris Crepage

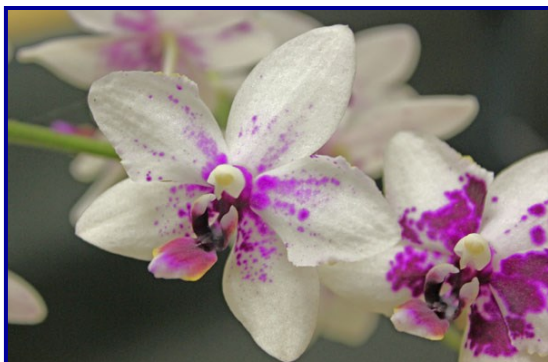


Prosthechia radiator—Chris Crepage

Opportunities To Get Involved

For our society to be successful we need member involvement. Each month a different way to be involved and part of the fun is highlighted. Call or e-mail the committee members. If you have a different idea about how you would like to be more involved stop any Board Member and tell them what you want to do. You will be heard!

This month the Website Committee is asking members to join them in making our website more useful and interesting. Are you skilled in this area? Contact Rich Ackerman (richackerman@gmail.com)



Dtps. Taisco Miky -Vivki Hallock



Pot. Paradise Beauty 'Marcela' - John Wrench



Ascofinetia Moonlight Firefly
Clair Garrett

(cont. from page 2)

Phalaenopsis

Most, if not all, potting should be complete by now. This month and next are when these plants achieve their maximum growth. This growth will be that from which they set their spikes for the coming season. The more leaves the plants grow, the better potential for spiking will be realized. Growers in cooler areas such as the Pacific coast have the advantage this month, should they choose, of cooling for early season spikes. Lots of heat and light call for liberal applications of water and fertilizer.

Cymbidium

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

High-elevation Plants

For cooler-growing plants, such as masdevallias, other pleurothallids and the like, the next few months will be a challenge. During the hottest times, keep your plants more shaded and be sure to keep the humidity level much higher. Do not let plants dry out. Delay any potting until the weather cools.

Oncidium intergenerics

Many of the intergeneric crosses between odontoglossums and oncidiums, such as *Odontocidium*, *Wilsonara* and *Colmanara*, will be blooming now. Take special care to train the spikes for best floral display. Keep plants under fairly shady conditions. Watch for snails and slugs.

Vandaceous

Plants will be growing quickly now and really enjoying the hot humid days so similar to their native habitat. Watch for pests though, as many of these also enjoy the same conditions as the plants. Check flower spikes so that they can extend unimpeded for the best flower presentation later.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.



Beallara Diana Dunn 'Newberry' is a good example of the colorful patterns that *Oncidium* intergeneric hybrids offer. AOS photo

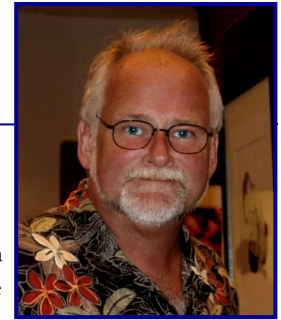


C. Bactia x *B. nodosa* 'Gale' Zoe Bejar



Cyrtopodium—Sue Dohn

FYI COLUMN by Tom Kuligowski



Angels in the Arbor

According to a 4 year old little girl, there are angels in the arbor. That's what she thinks she sees coming out of a compact plant mounted to a cork slab. What she was looking at was a *Jumellea comorensis* in full bloom. This is one of the Angraecoids that I talk about in the Angraecums presentation. Reason being: it is EASY to grow and the variables in its culture are rather wide ranged.

An initial post was added to the Angraecums blog in May of 2012 describing the culture I use for growing the plant. I am writing about it here because I have had several seedlings develop into plants that have started blooming in the past year as well as tripling in size.

Jum. comorensis grows as an epiphyte on coarse bark branches at an altitude of about 1,640 feet (500m) in the Comoro Islands. The amount of rainfall that the area receives can be as high as 200 inches (508cm) per year; the reason that the plant grows so quickly.

As mentioned; the variables in its natural habitat as well as in culture does have a rather deep set of parameters. The plant will grow well in both very bright light and low light. Keeping the developing root system out of direct sunlight however will prevent the root tips from drying out and will allow them to continue to lengthen. When temperatures are in the middle 70s (24C) plants should be watered every morning. Once those temperatures go above the lower 80s (28C), I increase the watering to twice a day (early morning and late afternoon). Because of the amount of moisture that is in contact with the stem and leaves, be sure to have the plant in an area that has a fair amount of cross breeze. Let me say that watering should be backed off by a day or two when temperatures start to drop below 70 degrees F (21C).

Another variable that has a wide range is the climates temperature. *Jum. comorensis* will continue to grow in cool to very warm climates (60F - 95F / 16C - 35C). It is imperative to have a consistent air movement when temperatures are warmer than normal and that plenty of moisture is available.

I use a systemic fungicide on a monthly schedule to prevent any issues regarding fungus. I have found *Jum. comorensis* to be susceptible to fungus because of the amount of water the plant requires. I do alternate the fungicides every three or four months; which prevents any issues with resistance.

Jum. comorensis can be potted or mounted. I choose mounting ALL of the plants I grow due to the amount of branching the plant does as it grows. Stems can reach a length of about 12 inches (30cm) but become pendant. Each stem will develop numerous branches; it is the weight from these new sections of plant that will make them pendant like. This type of plant will require staking to keep it up right or you can hang the pot/basket on an angle and allow the plant to become a pendant type specimen. Either way, I stress to keep *Jum. comorensis* in an area that will receive consistent air movement.

In the northern hemisphere, *Jumellea comorensis* should bloom heavily in late spring though the summer months and into early fall. Specimen plants will bloom throughout the entire year. It is a very easy plant to grow and will provide angels in your grow area.



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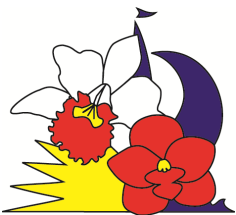
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The Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society
PO Box 4677
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338

Regular Meetings: Second Monday of each month

Time: 7:30 pm

Place: Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall

1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

Directions: From I 95 take East Oakland Park Blvd. for 2.4 miles, turn left on NE 20th Ave.

Or take US -1 (Federal Hwy.) to Oakland Park Blvd. west for two blocks, turn north 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.

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