

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 65 Issue 4

April 2015

APRIL PROGRAM: WAGNER VENDRAME



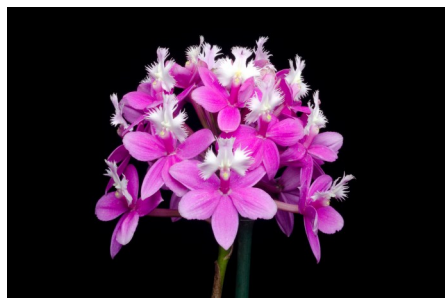
Dr. Wagner Vendrame is a professor at the University of Florida in The Tropical Research & Education Center. He specializes in ornamental horticulture and plant tissue culture. Dr. Vendrame has many refereed journal articles and currently has about 10 active projects. His program is one you will not want to miss: **What makes apparently normal people go passionate, sometimes nuts about orchids? What is it about those beautiful plants that drive people to the extreme? In this presentation, a brief history of orchids is addressed. The audience will have the unique opportunity to learn how orchids evolved to become so popular and their intimate relationship with sex, crime, and Hollywood.**

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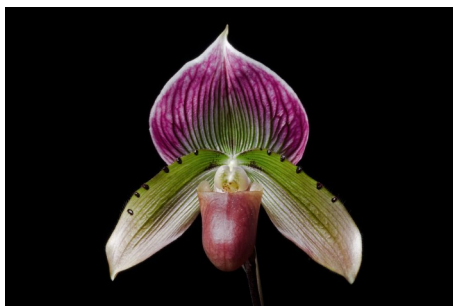
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'Capricious' AM/AOS, 85pts—(Special Valley 'Sweets' X Sun Valley'EasterEgg') Exhibit: Cal-Orchid

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Show; 1-22-15—Greg Allikas;



'Apopka' HCC/AOS, 77pts—Paph. [Hsinying Web X (Hsinying Maru X Hampshire Raven)] Exhibit: Krull-Smith

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Show; 1-22-15—Greg Allikas;

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

FLOS

- April 11—Ramble—see Homestead Ramble announcement on this page
- April 13—Wagner Vendrame: Sex, Crime, Hollywood—A Brief History of Orchids
- April 18—Class with Scott Peplin on repotting (See below).
- June - movie, The Judge, the Hunter, the Thief, and the Black Orchid NO REFRESHMENTS— they will be supplied by the FLOS
- July - Mark Margolis on Catasetum
- August - Glen Decker on Paphiopedilums

COMMUNITY

May 9 & 10—Museum of Science and Discovery— 4th annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration— **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS TO WORK**—See 'Opportunities to Get Involved'

One of the most frequent requests at The Ft Lauderdale Orchid Society, is for a hands-on work shop for potting orchids. We are pleased to announce that on Saturday, April 18, FLOS will hold a potting open house from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the orchid house of Scott & Donna Peplin. Scott will share his techniques for repotting, transplanting, dividing and mounting orchids. You may bring up to two orchids for repotting. **Pre-registration is required.** Please contact Scott at scott@internationalorchidservices.com for registration and any questions you may have.

The next Homestead Ramble will be in April 2015.

Put it on your calendar!

- When:** April 11, 2015
- Meet:** Christ Lutheran Church
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd
Fort Lauderdale FL 33306
- Departs:** 8:00 AM Sharp
- Returns:** 4–5 PM
- Destinations:**
 1. Hennington Farms (John Sherwood)
 2. Stelmar Gardens—Orchids AND Exotics
 3. "On The Rocks" - Bromeliads, Exotics, Koi Ponds, Foot Bridges, Outstanding Tropical Destination
 4. TBD
- Cost:** \$30.00 Per Person
- What to bring:** Bagged Lunch, box or crate to hold your purchases, water and juices will be available on board bus. You may want to bring snacks for the ride.

Drawings for FREE plants on the bus!

Contact: Capt. Allen - 954.553.1351 or tacogar@gmail.com

MARCH'S SPEAKER: CATHERINE MANNION

Catherine Mannion, a professor at the University of Florida spoke to us regarding pests. In the Orchid-Pest connection she suggested the: first step is to determine if you have a pest. Like many things that damage orchids, the damage left by pests is often not seen until after the pest has already gone; second step is to find out what type of pest you have; third step is to determine if pest management is necessary. Orchids are different in that you need to evaluate if it's going to damage your orchids or not.

Part of pest prevention is understanding how pest infestations start:

When you buy or acquire new plants it's a good idea to not include new purchases next to your regular collection. Keep them separate first.

Next is air movement or lack of air movement. Many pests are small and airborne, so if your neighbor has them, it's likely that you will get them eventually.

Another source of pests is our pets or other pests.

The type of damage will be different depending on the type of pest. The largest amount of damage to orchids is caused by Scale, Mealy bugs, Mites and Thrips. As for symptoms of damage, it's often hard to tell, so you may need additional proof that it's a pest. That proof can be in the form of: Caste skin may stick on the plant, Frass (poo), Honey doo - this is not the chore list type of "honey do", but rather the sugary sticky substance excreted by some insects.

All of these pests are tiny, and have a mouth like a syringe that they stick into the plant. Some of the damage doesn't show up until long after the pest is gone. This damage can cause the leaves to yellow, or the flower to drop buds, or the plant to drop leaves.

How do you treat scale, mealy bug, mites:

- Isolate your new purchases from the rest of the collection
- Spray them with water
- Spray alcohol on plants, you can buy it in various strengths
- Soaps
- Insecticides - if you have a persistent problem, chose the right product, and use it the right way
- Biological control – using beneficial bugs to eat the bad bugs.

There is a county extension service in Davie, where you can get free information, and get help with your specific pest problems, if you are stumped. (Edna Rosen)



V_CF_Golden_Dawn-Pammela_DuPuis-AM-AOS
Greg Allikis



Renanstylis Manoa Queen 'White Dragonfly'
CCM-AOS– Greg Allikas

FLOS MEMBERS' CORNER

We Welcome our new members: Lily Castaneda, Charlee Fulmer, and Sami Puzio.



Cattleya loddigesii—Greg Allikas

Ribbon Winners For March

<i>Den. anosmum superbum</i>	Rich Ackerman	Blue
<i>Den. goldschmidtianum</i>	Rich Ackerman	Blue
<i>Oeoniella polystachys</i>	Gary Pierce	Blue
<i>Onc. maculatum</i>	Rich Ackerman	Blue
Paph. Booth's Sand Lady	Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
<i>Phal. schilleriana</i>	Tin Ly	Blue
Tolm. Pink Panther	Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
Den. nobile 'Second Love'	Collin/Peplin	Cultural
Den. anosmum alba	Chris Binder	Red
<i>Den. secundum alba</i>	Rubben Howe	Red
Epic. Heinying 'ChingHua'	Chris Binder	Red
<i>Oeoniella polystachys</i>	Claire Garrett	Red
Paph. Pinocchio 'In-Charm' x In-Charm White BM/TPS	Joan Connors	Red
Paraphalaenopsis SW Wong Ylt Hoe 'Lime Twist'	Norma Jeanne Flack	Red
Phal Naples Nights x Petite Rose	Gigi Granger	Red

TIME TO RENEW!!!

Membership renewal is now due at the first of the year. For members that have not renewed, a reminder envelope is included with your newsletter. We offer three convenient ways to renew: using PayPal through our membership link on the flos.org website, mailing a check to FLOS @ PO Box 4677 Fort Lauderdale FL 33338 or at the monthly meetings. Dues are \$20 for single memberships and \$25 for dual memberships.

Opportunities To Get Involved

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND DISCOVERY—MAY 9 & 10

4th ANNUAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION

This event is one of the tasks of the Society to accomplish our commitment to education. Volunteers are needed because we need people at the museum to answer questions about orchids and help get younger people interested! It is a fun time! We also distribute information about our society. To do this successfully we need volunteers. [Please contact Craig Barry: 954-525-6926 or barrycraig@bellsouth.net.](mailto:barrycraig@bellsouth.net)

THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE would appreciate your ideas about possible program topics for the upcoming meetings. Contact Joan Connors at marti25999@hotmail.com

THE KITCHEN COMMITTEE would like to remind us to bring in goodies for our monthly meeting (none for our June meeting—MOVIE NIGHT and the Society will provide appropriate movie snacks.)



C. loddigesii Krulls Perfection FCC-/AOS
- Greg Allikas

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

AOS Monthly Checklist for March and April

Cattleya - Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.

Cymbidium Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

Dendrobium (Australian) These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

Lycaste This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

Miltoniopsis This marks the beginning of the flowering season. Amazing displays of color will dazzle the grower over the next few months. Prepare your plants for optimum display by staking spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage. Do not miss the wonderful fragrance as the flowers unfold.

Paphiopedilum March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents your doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year.

Phalaenopsis In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging -- even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the look out for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs, and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them.

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



Rth. Tangerine Horses Jordons
Favorite AM/AOS --Greg Allikas



Rhy. Gigantean Orange Star AM/AOS
Greg Allikas



Ctt. Siamese Doll Casey Kaylee
AM/AOS--Greg Allikas

FYI COLUMN by Tom Kuligowski

Blowin' in the Wind

It seems as though South Florida's summer may have arrived a month or two early. The winds associated with our winter (do we really call it winter here?) have died down to a slight breeze; and day time air temperatures are in the low to mid 80s with an occasional near 90. Our wet season is just around the corner which only makes it more humid when the sun pops out between the down pours.

With high air temperatures, high humidity (and lots of rain) and of course the lack of a consistent breeze; it is time to watch for fungus and rot. Preparing for and being ready to pounce on these issues should be on every orchid hobbyist's mind, no matter what level of grower they are. Treating your orchids with effective fungicides will ease some of the worry.

But, you should also be thinking of "AIR MOVEMENT". When the rain storms come through, they do bring some strong gusts with them. Once the storm passes and the sun comes out from behind the dark gray clouds, the wind becomes non-existent and it can become stagnant. The further inland you grow your orchids, there is even less of a chance that you'll have a breeze. Having a steady cross breeze (air movement in one direction) will give your plants an opportunity to dry out quicker. Problems arise when our plants stay wet or damp for long periods of time.

For the hobbyist that is growing in a covered shade house or green house, a series of vents on each end of the building is a plus. Adding a fan or two will greatly increase the air movement throughout the growing area. Yet many of us grow our plants outdoors; in open arbors, hanging in trees or sitting on shelves with just enough cover to protect our plants from the sun but not all of the moisture. There are a number of small electric fans available that can be purchased from a "Do It Yourself" store (such as Home Depot, Ace Hardware or Lowes). Some can be mounted from the ceiling or upper beam of the arbor, put onto a stand resting on the ground or hidden under the eave of a building (be sure you have electric available and the unit is protected from water, BE SAFE).

When researching for a specific culture, you usually come across this statement: "*Be sure the plant has ample air movement*"; or something very similar. Air movement in your collection will help cut down on fungus and rot issues along with a good schedule of treatments on a regular basis. Give the plants what they require and they will reward you with some fantastic blooms. If you're not sure what to do, ASK! Happy growing everyone!



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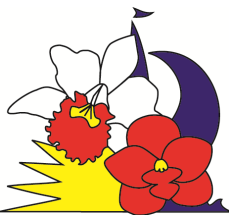
THE DALE RUSSELL
NETWORK

Thank you kitchen volunteers Kathy Homann, Deb Johnson & Fran Renguso.

Our refreshments were provided by:

Deb Johnson, Fran Renguso, Kathy Homann, Shelly Jones, Joan Connors,

Elaine Jordan, Chris Binder, Ginny Salus



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.*

President: *Michael Schaberl*

1st Vice President: *Joan Connors*

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Recording Sec.: *Ginny Salus*

Corresponding Sec.: *Saira Kaizad*

Treasurer: *Brian Boyle*

Newsletter: *Ginny Salus, Editor - 954-532-7637*

Web Site: www.flos.org