

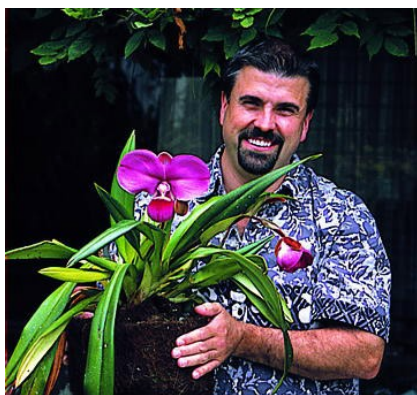
Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 65 Issue 8

August 2015

AUGUST SPEAKER: Glen Decker



"How to Grow Great Slipper Orchids"

Glen Decker began growing orchids at the age of 15 and holds the degree of Associate in Applied Science in Ornamental Horticulture. Glen is presently the owner of Piping Rock Orchids in Galway New York. He was the previous chair of the American Orchid Society's Publications Committee and a past Director of the Orchid Digest Corporation. Glen has won numerous AOS awards, including the Butterworth Prize, Nax Trophy, WW Wilson Award and the Carlyle A. Luer Award. He has appeared in Martha Stewart's Better Living Magazine and on a PBS TV special "Orchid Delirium". He rewrote the

Slipper section of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's "The Best Orchids for Indoors" and was the technical editor for the "Orchids for Dummies" book. He also has written many articles on Paphiopedilums and Phragmipedium, which have been published worldwide. Glen's topic will be Paphiopedilums.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

FLOS

- August - Glen Decker on Paphiopedilums
- September - Carol DeBiase will speak on Oncidiums
- October - Auction
- November - Guillermo Salizar
- November 14—Homestead Ramble
- December - FLOS Holiday Party

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NEXT HOMESTEAD RAMBLE: NOVEMBER 14, 2015

- RF Orchids
- Carib Orchids
- B & G Orchids
- Mystery Stop

Details to follow



Oncidias Sweet Sugar—Gage Simmons -photo by Craig Barry



Rth. Sylvia Wagner (C. Circle of Life x Rth. Elaine Taylor) - Tony Millet - photo by Craig Barry

Broward County's 100th Anniversary

We are planning an event to celebrate Broward County's 100th anniversary. The Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society will be giving away 100 native orchids! Orchids are part of the natural beauty of Broward County and orchid lovers should support them in our landscaping. We have 100 Encyclia tampensis ready to go. Stay tuned for event details! We will need a couple of volunteers to help so talk to any Board member if you would like to be involved.

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society presents

An Orchid Masquerade

ORCHID SHOW AND SALE
 JANUARY 15, 16 AND 17, 2016
 ADMISSION \$12.00

WAR MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
 800 NE 8TH STREET
 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL

WWW.FLOS.ORG

July Speaker: Mark Margolis

Catasetums, Getting a Little Respect



Mark Margolis, our July speaker introduced Catasetums as the Rodney Dangerfield of Orchids, unsightly, and unpopular. Unsightly, because they are deciduous and are just bare bulbs most of the year and unpopular because the flowers are short lived this makes it hard to get to judging.

Mark provided 10 reasons to change the Dangerfield image:

1. Catasetums endure freezing temperatures,
2. can endure hurricane and
3. the aftermath of hurricane conditions
4. blooms more than once in a season,
5. fast growers,
6. easy to cultivate from seed
7. without flasking,
8. smells great,
9. is forgiving – sprouting new growth from “dead” bulbs and roots, and
10. finally “shoots” its pollen sacks at green bees.



Photo by Mark Margolis

Mark suggests growing these large orchids in clay pots for stability, although he has seen them grown in 2 liter bottles with water reservoirs. Fertilize with 20/20/20 plus a well-balanced weakly weekly fertilizer (weak solution weekly). Media should drain well. He uses a mix of sphagnum moss, aliflor, and charcoal. Enemies of Catasetums are snails, spider mites (a sign you should water more), ants farming mealy bugs, rats and fungus. Following the life cycle of Catasetum contributes to growing success:

- February-April: new growth begins (refrain from watering and allow rapid root growth)
- April-August: rapid growth starts (begin watering and feeding)
- August-October: final growth,
- October-December: leaves drop,
- October-February: DON'T WATER!

Finally, the best reason to start respecting Catasetum orchids is very little hybridization work has been done with them. Mark has over 66 awards for his work with hybridizations. Catasetums can be easily crossed with Cynoches, Clowesia, and Mermodes.

PETAL ON by Marie Coy



Building an orchid collection today in 2015 is a lot less hazardous than in the 19th century. Men (no females mentioned here) fought and schemed to steal all the orchids they could find even if they didn't covet them. The key was to strip all locations of orchids so none was left for anyone else. CITIES (Convention of International Trade In Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora), was formed to protect plants and animals from decimation by trade. It also protects the collecting of orchids from their natural habitats.

Today's new orchids are mostly the result of hybridization and laboratory work, although some species are still discovered in nature. In 2002 the discovery of Phragmipedium Kovatchii in Peru and its immediate transport to Florida raised a few eyebrows. Questions about the legality of its importation resulted in fines and resignations from the botanical gardens that published the orchid description.

All my orchids that I have collected since I started writing about them had their beginnings in a lab. Orchid reproduction is still a mystery to me. Orchid seeds are so fine-resembling dust and are hard to work with.

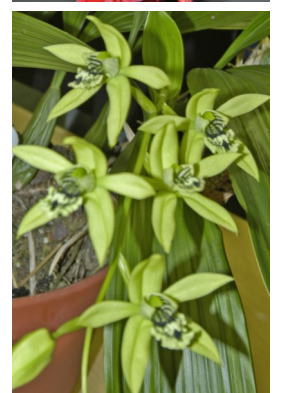
So if this piece was at all enlightening to you, just ask yourself one question: Is this bud for me?



V. Pachara Delight "Isabella" - Jeff Tucker - photo by Craig Barry



Remantiera Darin Blandie Olney - Tony Miller - photo by Craig Barry



Ceolagne inopetana - Omar Gonzalez - photo by Craig Barry

FLOS MEMBERS' CORNER

We welcome new member Ken Erwin this month.

Ribbon Winners For July

Caulocattleya Ethel's Paradise	Debbie Johnson	Blue
<i>Christensonia vietnamica</i>	Nora Jeanne Flack	Blue
Den. Hibiki 'Tiny Bubbles'	Collins/Peplin	Blue
Encyvola Gordon Vickers	Gage Simmons	Blue
<i>Gram. scriptum var citrinum</i>	Sue Zimmer	Blue
Onc. Jiuobao Gold	Jeff Tucker	Blue
Oncidesa Sweet Sugar	Gage Simmons	Blue
V. Pachara Delight "Isabella"	Jeff Tucker	Blue
<i>Brassavola nodosa</i>	Nora Dyke	Cultural
<i>Brassavola nodosa</i>	Chris Binder	Cultural
<i>Coelogyne mayeriana</i>	Omar Gonzalez	Cultural
B. Yaki 'Black's Best'	Stephen White	Red
Bc. Stella Mercella ?	Chris Binder	Red
Bc. Copper Queen	Craig Barry	Red
Renanthera Datin Blanche Olbery	Tony Millet	Red
Rth. Sylvia Wagner (C. Circle of Life x Rth. Elaine Taylor)	Tony Millet	Red
Slc. Barefoot Mailman	Collins/Peplin	Red



Photos by Craig Barry

Opportunities To Get Involved

October is our Auction

While you're repotting, think about donating a division to your society for the October Auction. The proceeds from the sale go toward reducing the cost of the holiday party. Here are some tips:

- Donate healthy, pest and disease free, named divisions. Bare root or potted.
- Include a picture of the orchid in bloom, if you can. (One of your own or one from the internet - just Google the name for an image.)
- If you can't get a picture, tell us what it looked like, such as "Big white Cattleya with yellow lip" or "Blooms in winter around the holidays"
- Do you have extra pots or supplies that are taking up room in your grow area that would make a great donation?

Remember we will be getting plants from vendors but we also need your participation.



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

Paphiopedilum Culture

(Marriott Orchids website)

Light: Paphs do well in diminished light. An east or west window is preferred. (The eastern exposure better because the temperature is lower in the early part of the day when the plant is receiving the greatest amount of light). A south window is acceptable as long as the sunlight is filtered so as not to burn the plants. Around 800-1500 foot candles is ideal. Paphs also do well under artificial lights, such as fluorescent or high pressure sodium lights. Run the lights according to the seasons: 11 hours in the winter, 14-16 hours in the summer.

Water: Paphs need a moist medium — never soggy, but never dry. It is important to water your paph early in the morning. This insures complete water evaporation on the foliage as well as the crown by nightfall (water left in the crown of the plant can lead to rot). Water the plant as it approaches dryness. Do not use salt-softened water. Put the plant in the sink when watering and run plenty of water through the potting mix and then allow to drain well. As a rule of thumb, water every 7 days or so in Fall and Winter and every 4 or 5 days in Spring and Summer. Better to be a bit on the dry side than too wet all the time, but try to keep the mix from drying out completely.

Fertilizer: Fertilizer should be applied regularly. The type used in Spring through early Fall should be a 30-10-10, 20-10-20, or 20,20,20 fertilizer every second or third watering at 1/4 to 1/2 the recommended strength. (Normally 1/2 to 3/4 tsp. per gallon.) In the mid Fall and through Winter switch to a bloom booster type of fertilizer (with a low first number and high middle number like a 10-30-20) or African Violet fertilizer, again at 1/4 to 1/2 the recommended strength.

Repotting: The major requirement is that the mix not get sappy, the plants must have good drainage. Paphiopedilums require repotting when they outgrow their pot or when the potting mix no longer provides good drainage. Typically this would be every year to year and a half.



Paphiopedilum acmodontum—Google Images



Paphiopedilum Satin Stone—Google Images



Paph. wardii 'Candor Black Pepper' HCC/AOS
Google Images

FYI COLUMN by Tom Kuligowski

Rain, Rain, Rain... NOT

Usually, this time of year has most of the orchid hobbyists in a panic; too much rain. Everyone is concerned about some sort of rot. That rot takes its toll on many orchid collections. Yet the rain we expect from late spring into the summer has an advantage. It washes the chemical residues and salts from the potting materials we as hobbyists use. Most of those salts coming from a buildup using fertilizers and what I refer to as city water.



In the last eight weeks (early May into early July) barely an inch of rain has fallen upon my collection. With the day time temperatures reaching the low to mid-nineties for the last month and a half and humidity hovering in the fifties and sixties, I am presently watering twice a day and misting midafternoons. Let me say that the plants being watered twice a day are ALL of the mounted pieces. Living close to the ocean gives me the stronger breezes than areas just a few miles west (those breezes help with the high temps, keeping them a few degrees lower).

Watering usually starts early morning; not long after the sun makes her first appearance. As stated, ALL mounted plants are soaked thoroughly. Most of my larger plants in clay pots or baskets (Angraecums), are watered every morning while we endure this hot weather. The medium I am using is non-organic allowing fast drainage and plenty of room for air movement which in turn doesn't stay wet for long. The moss which covers the mounted plant's roots is then misted mid-afternoon if I am home. If not, they get watered again around five. Giving the plants the opportunity to dry a little bit yet stay damp.

Not having a RO watering system and not getting the normal summer rains, I trek to the store and buy some purified water (RO) for seventy-nine cents a gallon. I put the water in a sprayer and hose the plants down every three or four weeks. Washing whatever salts may have built up.

With the lack of rain, you should still keep an eye out for fungus and yes, rot. Insects should be carefully monitored also. Being a bit drier can invite the little pests more so than not.

At some point this summer, we may welcome the wet stuff. A much needed aspect of orchid growing (as well as a nightmare). Until then we should all get the rain-stick out and run around the backyard shaking the stick towards the sky above.



Brassolaeliocattleya Memoria Vida Lee
Photo Tom Kuligowski



Degarmoara Winter Wonderland
Photo by Tom Kuligowski

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

Our refreshments were provided by:

Fran Renguso, Deb Johnson, Kathy Hoann, Shelly Jones,

Zoe Bejar, Tony Millet and Joan Connors



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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2nd Vice President: Gigi Granger

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Corresponding Sec.: Saira Kaizad

Treasurer: Brian Boyle

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

Web Site: www.flos.org