

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 65 Issue 2

February 2015

FLOS 2015 SHOW & SALE



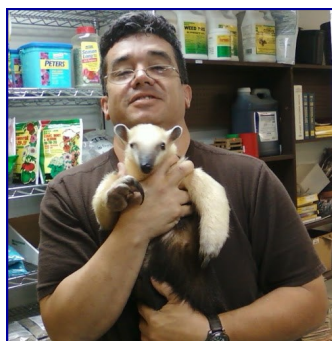
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TOM KULIGOWSKI	

A SUCCESS!!! See photos on pages 2 & 3!

FEBRUARY SPEAKER: Carlos Cahiz

Our February 9th speaker will be Carlos Cahiz of OFE International, Inc. OFE has been a regular vendor for many years in our Orchid Show and brings over 23 years of orchid growing and supply experience to our members. He will be presenting an introduction to chemicals, mixes, fertilizers and the newest in Orchid related products. He will also have supplies for sale and if you did not have a chance to get what you needed at the show, here is a second opportunity! You can call Carlos and he will be happy to bring what you need to our meeting. He can be reached at 305-253-7080.



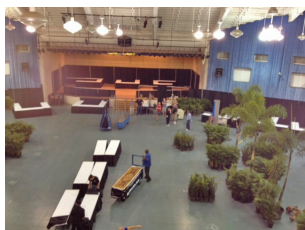
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

FLOS

February 9- OFE International Orchid Supplies - Repotting
 March 9- Catherine Mannion, Ph.D.— sucking insects

COMMUNITY

February 14-15—Boca Raton Orchid Show & Sale



Before the orchids arrived!

HOMESTEAD RAMBLE

The November Ramble was a great success for the orchid growers who went and the orchid growers who sold!!! 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

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

Departs: 8:00 AM Sharp
Returns: 4:00 PM

Destinations: Hennington Farms (John Sherwood) and others

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!

FLOS 2015 SHOW

Beautiful Orchids & Displays



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

And HAPPY People!!!



FLOS MEMBERS' CORNER

New members: Hugh McLaughlin, John Bourassa, Mona Schaffel, Patrick Strader, Chuck McCartney

Ribbon winners will return next month but on this page are a few photos of January plants:

Opportunities To Get Involved

We have a dedicated and active board but they cannot do all the work—member involvement is needed. The society also needs the new and different views that will come from new involvement. Please let a board member know how you would like to be involved or ask where input is needed.

During the SHOW we signed up many new members—now we need to make those new members feel a part of our society. Gigi Granger is Membership Chair and will welcome your contacting her and asking how you can help with membership retention.

In the next couple of months we will be getting ready to nominate a new board. If you would like to be on the board and help our society please approach a board member and ask how you can be involved.



JANUARY SPEAKER: PAUL WETTER

Our January speaker, Paul Wetter has purposed that The American Orchid Society establish a heritage collection of *Cattelyas*. He began his presentation with the history of orchids. Collecting orchids began in the early 1800's. Victorian's like William Cattelyas bloomed the first orchid, a *Cattelya labiata*, and John Lindley who described the first orchid in 1821 became the founders of orchid collecting and establishing a heritage collection in Europe. In 1841, William Hooker became the director of the Kew Gardens. He began collecting and storing the data associated with orchid specimens. Frederick Sanders popularized the glass greenhouses, and James Bateman and Joseph Paxton figured out the conditions required to grow orchids. Each of these early growers had large collections and contributed to the heritage collection at the Kew. Here in America, the first large collectors and orchid founders were Pierre Dupont, Eugene Dixon and Albert Burrage the first president of AOS. Their species collections numbered in the tens of thousands. Today, there is no known collection that reaches these numbers.

Although the heritage collection has not been given approval, Paul has gathered information on how the criteria for such a collection could be established.

Historically, the five most important heritage orchids are: *C. warscewiczii*, *C. trianae*, *C. mossiae*, *C. ludemanniana* and *C. labiata*. These orchids are the parent orchids used in most of the awarded orchids. Throughout the past 100 years, the most important alliances with *Cattelyas* have been the *Laelia purpurata*, *L. tenebrosa*, *Brassivola digbyana*, and *Sophronitis coccinae*. Hybridizing has followed the fashion trends of each decade and each decade favored specific species. Awarded species and hybrids are another criteria to consider when establishing an AOS heritage collection. Paul gathered data of the five most awarded *Cattelyas* for each decade over the past century, as well as the most award winning orchids used in hybrids: *Purpurata*, *skinneri* and *intermedia*.

Paul explained the criteria and allowed us to practice judging *Cattelyas*. The established categories for judging orchids are form, color, size and number of flowers. The form should be round with the face filling the area of the circle. The sepals and petals should form an equilateral triangle and the lip and petals should form an inverted equilateral triangle. The color should be clear and consistent with parentage. Impressively, our group scored the examples close to the judge's totals. Finally, Paul encouraged us to seek a deeper knowledge of orchids by spending an afternoon observing the AOS judging team on the 3rd Saturday of the month at Flamingo Gardens.



FYI COLUMN by Tom Kuligowski

Very Big and Showy

After successfully growing an *Angraecum Memoria Mark Aldridge*, I thought I'd pick up another one or two plants. Nine plants later (over did it by several) they are all growing well. *Angcm. Memoria Mark Aldridge* is the offspring of *Angcm. sesquipedale* X *Angcm. superbum*. The version of plants that I am currently growing is the variation *longicalcar* (I'm not about to open that can of worms right now). Both of these parents are large plants; they can reach a height of 36 - 48 inches and be as wide as they are tall. You do need substantial room to give them an area in which to spread out. A medium sized *Angcm. Memoria Mark Aldridge* can have leaves up to twenty inches long that become a large fan. As the plant continues to grow, that fan shape becomes larger.

The plant should be potted or in a basket that won't need to be changed anytime soon. Large *Angraecums* with roots that may reach a thickness up to a quarter of an inch or more should be left alone; in other words, don't mess with the roots. I have several in deep ten inch pots and ten inch baskets. The medium that I am currently using is 75% coarse red lava rock with the remainder being half inch to three-quarter inch clay pellets. The mixture allows for fast drainage, plenty of room for the root system to develop and good air movement which helps prevent serious fungus issues. I have recently talked to several people about not using any medium at all. Although it makes sense, watering habits would be different to keep the root systems and the plant hydrated (there will be a post at www.angraecums.blogspot.com within the next few weeks).

I have found that *Angcm. Memoria Mark Aldridge* doesn't seem to have a dormant period. There always seems to be active growing no matter the time of year. Due to this, I water the medium in the pots/baskets every other day during our extreme warm summer months. Once temperatures drop into the low eighties and high seventies, the watering cycle is every three days. When the temperatures drop into the high sixties I will water every 4 - 5 days (these low temps don't seem to last but a handful of days. I will hold off watering when temperatures drop below sixty-five degrees.

During our warmer months, fertilizer is used every week; usually into late October. It is cut back to every other week from late October through late March or early April. I use a systemic fungicide once a month, year round.

All of my large *Angraecums* receive very bright light but diffused; never being exposed to mid-day direct sunlight. They do however get direct sunlight in the morning until about 11 - 11:30. As you can see in the photographs, they make a stunning display when in full bloom. Enjoy and Happy Growing!



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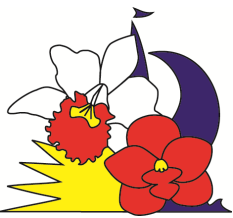
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**THE DALE RUSSELL
NETWORK**

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

Our refreshments were provided by: Deb Johnson, Kathy Homann, Petra Thomas,

Brian Fuqua, Carrie Ackerman, Zoe Bejar, Norma Jeanne Flack



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

2nd Vice President: Gigi Granger

Recording Sec.: Ginny Salus

Corresponding Sec.: Saira Kaizad

Treasurer: Brian Boyle

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

Web Site: www.flos.org