Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

Volume 65 Issue 3

MARCH SPEAKER: CATHERINE MANNION

How to deal with orchid sucking insects!!!

Catherine Mannion is a Professor and Extension Specialist with the University of Florida, Tropical Research and Education Center. She is responsible for developing a research and extension program on integrated pest management of ornamental plants with an emphasis on invasive pests. Her research has focused on the biology and management of several introduced pests such as whiteflies, scales, thrips and weevils. She received a B.S. degree in Biological Sciences from University of California, a M.S. degree in Entomology from North Carolina State University, and a Ph.D. in Entomology from the University of Florida.

FEBRUARY RIBBON WINNERS

Inside this issue:

- OPPORTUNITIES TO GET IN-2 VOLVED
- FYI TOM Kuligowski



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Paph. Spicerianum - Sue Dohn

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 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

Drawings for FREE plants on the bus!

Returns:

available on board bus. You may want to bring snacks for the ride.

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

FLOS

March 9- Catherine Mannion, Ph.D.- sucking insects April 11-Ramble-see Homestead Ramble announcement on this page April 13-Wagner Vendrame: Sex, Crime, Hollywood-A Brief History of Orchids COMMUNITY

March 6 & 7- Martin County Orchid Society Show at Martin Co. Fairgrounds March 13-15-Coral Gables Orchid Society at Fairchild Gardens

March 20-22-Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show at Port St. Lucie Community Center. 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



Rlc. Orglades Grand 'You Chang Beauty' -Jeff Tucker



Arundina graminifolia -Carol Jones



March 2015

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NEWSLETTER



FLOS MEMBERS' CORNER

New Members: Hugh McLaughlin; John Bourassa; Mona Schaffel; Patrick Strader; Chuck McCartney; Armando Neves; Mark Snyder

Ribbon Winners For February

A 1:	C = 11	Blue
Arundina graminifolia	Carol Jones	
C. percuvaliana coerulea	Tony Millet	Blue
Cattleya Dominiana	Sue Dohn	Blue
Dendrobium Micro Chip	Collins/Peplin	Blue
Dendrobium Sweet Pinky	Les Corbin	Blue
Ludisia discolor	Carol Jones	Blue
Myrmecophia Keith Goldson	Tin Ly	Blue
Paph. spicerianum	Sue Dohn	Blue
Rhynchovanda Colmarie 'Merlot'	Tin Ly	Blue
Rlc. Lawless Zauberflote 'Apricot'	Judy Gottlieb	Blue
Rlc. Orglades Grand 'You Chang Beauty'	Jeff Tucker	Blue
Blc. Gold Digger	Chris Binder	Red
Blc. Yen Orange 'Ye'	Tin Ly	Red
C. walkeriana Hybrid	Tony Millet	Red
Dendrochillum cabbianum	Chris Binder	Red
Phal. amabilis var., formosanum 'Varigata'	Roby Tannenbaum	Red
Gerberara Snow Ballet 'Snow White'	Tin Ly	Cultural
Myrmecocattleya Mem. Loiuse Fuchs	Collins/Peplin	Cultural
Rhyncholaeliocattleya Ranae Eugene	Rich Ackerman	Cultural
Rlc. Lawless Zauberflote 'Apricot'	Jeff Tucker	Cultural



Dendrobium Sweet Pinky-Les Corbin

C. percuvaliana coerulea - Tony Millet

A Gentle Reminder from Membership:

Renewals for 2015-16 are due. Payments can be made by PayPal at FLOS.org, or directly to: P.O. Box 4577

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338

Opportunities To Get Involved HOUSE COMMITTEE

Hi, I'm Scott Peplin and I am chair of the "House Committee" for FLOS. We are responsible for getting the church ready for our meetings. This entails the setup and take down of the chairs, sound system and display tables. Without us, there would be no meeting. We are looking for volunteers to help facilitate the setup or the take down. For those who have helped in the past, we would like to thank you and hope you will continue. As you know, when there are more "bodies" the task is quick and easy. We are looking for a few more bodies. If you are able to lend a hand on the day of our meetings, anytime from 6:00 pm on, we would love to hear from you. Please contact me at either scott@tyestudios.com or 954-629-3627. Just remember the best way to meet other members and develop friendships is by getting involved!

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND DISCOVERY-MAY 9 & 10

$4^{\rm th}$ 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 barrycraigf@bellsouth.net.

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

FYI COLUMN by Tom Kuligowski

Organic, Non Organic or Nothing

I am not going to suggest there is an argument as to whether you should be using a non-organic medium with your orchids or whether you should forego any medium what so ever. However, specializing in Angraecoid orchids, I have started using non-organic medium in my pots and baskets if I don't mount the plants. As for why; many Angraecums such as the large *Angcm. sesquipedale*, *Angcm. eburneum* and the smaller *Angcm. leonis* (as well as so many other Angraecoids), do not like their roots messed with. Placing such plants in any type of organic material would surely need to be repotted when the medium starts to break down (as all organic materials do, see image #1, an *Angcm. longicalcar* that was in a pot too small and with an organic material that completely disappeared). When these plants are pulled from the pots, you have no choice but to try and clean the broken down rotted medium from the roots the best you can; you will damage roots. Using a non-organic material allows you to simply place the plant in a larger pot and insert additional medium around the existing material. Look at it this way, Mother Nature does not supply clay pots or baskets to orchids that grow in the wild.

When potting small or medium sized plants, I use a medium that is a minimum of ½ inch wide if not larger. For larger showy plants I use a medium that is about one inch to an inch and three-quarters. Using this medium allows for fast drainage (keeping the roots from becoming soggy), ample space for a healthy root system to develop and plenty of space for air circulation (giving the root system an excellent chance to breath). A healthy root system promotes better plant growth and the less likely chances of various fungus issues.

Will Riley, a very knowledgeable and respected AOS judge and noted orchid grower uses no medium with many of his orchids that are not mounted. He builds slatted flats, places a piece of screen on top of that flat and then places his orchid over the screen covered flat. He uses old, weather beaten and sun baked pressurized wood giving those plants the opportunity to absorb moisture, the root system breaths and the root systems have no obstructions to growth (see image #2). SPECIAL NOTE: do not use new pressure treated wood... this wood is pressurized using various chemicals that can be very harmful to your orchids. Use only very aged wood or cedar to build your slatted flats. It is suggested that you test this concept with a plant before tackling your collection. Do your research and ask questions.

Craig Morell, the chief horticulturalist at Pinecrest Gardens and an avid orchid grower for more years than he'll admit, uses no organic medium and a minimal amount of non-organic if any. He will place an orchid in a clay pot or a cedar basket and then allow the plant to eventually attach itself to the container he chooses to use. When using a non-organic material, his explanation is that when repotting, just place the plant with the potting material into a larger container and fill the space around the plant with new material.

These concepts are not new; but until recently were very seldom used by the hobbyist. We all strive to grow bigger plants with more flowers; this is a common goal for all of us. Keep in mind though – what works for one grower may not be the best for another. I stress, do your research and test the concept. If it works, go for it! Happy growing!





MARKETPLACE



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

Our refreshments were provided by:

John Bernard, Ann Bernard, Eugenie Johnson, Deb Johnson, Kathy Holman, Fran Renguso,

Les Corban, Petra Thomas, Shelly Jones, Zoe Bejar, Vivki Trank, 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 GrangerRecording Sec.:Ginny SalusCorresponding Sec.:Saira KaizadTreasurer:Brian BoyleNewsletter:Ginny Salus, Editor - 954-532-7637Web Site:www.flos.org