



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

Our Mission Statement : The purpose of the Society is to stimulate interest, provide education and enable exchange of information among those interested in the culture of orchids in all its aspects.

Volume 65 Issue 9

NEWSLETTER

September 2015

September Speaker: Carol DeBiase



Carol De Biase is the Curator of Orchids at Vizcaya Museum & Gardens in Miami, Florida for the last 15 years. Carol has been growing orchids for over 40 years starting out in Tulsa, Oklahoma where her husband John was practicing medicine. Carol has been an American Orchid Society Judge for the last 35 years traveling extensively to Peru, Borneo, South Africa, Malaysia, Columbia, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and the Caribbean, as well as the United States. Carol has served on many Committees of the American Orchid Society. She is also a member of many orchid societies and had been the Editor of the

South Florida Orchid Society "The Orchidist" Magazine/Newsletter for twelve years. When Carol is not growing or judging orchids, she is heavily involved in volunteering especially with Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. Carol is the recipient of many AOS awards and enjoys growing and showing her many species and hybrids. Carol's talk will be on *oncidiums*. (this information is from the New Orleans and Plantation Orchid Societies)



Onc. Sweet Sugar-Jeff



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR
NEXT HOMESTEAD RAMBLE:
NOVEMBER 14, 2015



LEAVING FROM:
Christ Lutheran Church (parking lot)
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306
TIME: Leaving at 8 AM & returning between 4 & 5 PM
TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT:
Contact Allen Cogar 954-553-1351 or

DESTINATIONS:

RF Orchids
Carib Orchids
B & G Orchids
Mystery Stop

\$30 per person
Bring lunch
Bring box or crate for orchids
Water & Juice on bus

Mark Your Calendar!

- September 14- Carol DeBiase will speak on *Oncidiums*
- October 12- Auction—see **Opportunities to Get Involved** and poster on page 3
- November 9- Guillermo Salizar will speak on *Epidendrums*
- November 14—Homestead Ramble—see announcement above
- December 6—FLOS Holiday Party **INVITATION COMING IN OCTOBER NEWSLETTER**
- January 15, 16 & 17, 2016—FLOS Annual Show & Sale: *An Orchid Masquerade*

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

August Speaker: Glen Decker

Slippers Are Not Just for Cinderella

Glen Decker from Pipingrock Orchids began collecting and cultivating slipper orchids when he was 15. By 30, he had well over 5,000. Although he cultivates in the much colder temperatures of New York, he tailored his program for our much warmer climate. Paphiopedilums are classified into 6 subgenus:

- ◆ *Parvisepalum*, *Brachypetalum*, *Polyantha*, *Paphiopedilums*, *Sigmatopetalum*, and *Cochlopetalum*.
- ◆ *Parvisepalum* prefer cooler temperatures and to be damp with a drier rest period in the winter. They produce a single flower with large crepe-like pouch.
- ◆ *Brachypetalum* are a single flowering and are often called the “Bulldog or Toad” orchids. They like to be watered and then allowed to dry out. *Polyantha* is a multi-floral type that requires more light and a temperature change to bloom. Be prepared to wait for this plant to mature.
- ◆ *Paphiopedilums* have solid green leaf color. They produce a single waxy flower and should be repotted annually.
- ◆ *Sigmatopetalum* have mottled or *maudiae* leaf colors. *Maudiae* orchids like lower light and warmer temperatures. Water like the *Brachypetalum*.
- ◆ *Cochlopetalum* require a temperature change to bloom and are sequential bloomers that can flower for 6 weeks. They are easy to grow and bloom.

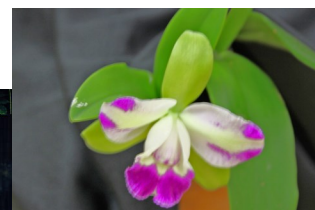
Glen recommends purchasing complex hybrids, *maudiae*, multi-floral and sequential bloomers for our climate. Most of these like to be damp while growing and drier in winter months to rest. However, treat each Phap. as an individual while getting to know its watering requirements: pick up the pot to test pot weight for watering. Feed according to seasonal growing periods with a lighter feeding schedule during resting months. He recommends repotting species every year and hybrids every two years. Spring is best, however slippers can be repotted anytime they may need it. He uses potting media similar to Phalaenopsis. Some signs of trouble are black leaf tips, which is salt damage. Flush the roots regularly to prevent. Glen uses Listerine (original, not mint) as a disinfectant. He sprays it right on the plant. He also uses Suffix Oil to control fungus, however oils can clog the pores and interfere with cooling. Hydrogen peroxide and water also work with a 3 parts to 1 solution. Finally, add crushed oyster shells to mix as a calcium supplement. (Gigi Granger)

The 5th Annual Cattleya Symposium

The 5th Annual Cattleya Symposium was held in Fort Pierce in August. The symposium attracted speakers and attendees from around the world, including FLOS members Rich Ackerman, Jeff Adkins, Sandy Block, and Chuck McCartney.

After a Thursday evening pizza party allowed everyone to get acquainted, there were two days of presentations. Friday's topics included Pre-WWII Hybrids, Orchid Diseases, and talks on *C. gutta*, *C. mossiae*, and *C. mendelii*. A Friday night auction let collectors acquire rare and unusual species and hybrids, including a division of a 1924 award winner. Saturday's talks included Early Hybrids, *C. eldorado*, Species of the Andes, and Growing Cattleyas. A special highlight was the presentation by the AOS's Ron McHatten of the “AOS Hybridizer Award” to Gene Crocker, recognizing Gene's accomplishments in cattleya breeding at Carter & Holmes.

The Symposium is organized by John Odom of Odom's Orchids. It has sold out for the last few years. If you enjoy learning about orchids you should attend next year! (Rich Ackerman)



Blt. yencoronae 'Green Genie'
Craig Barry



LC. Diamond Girl—Tony Millet



C. Bactia 'Grape Wax' — Al Papa

Jeff Adkins of Adkins Orchids is offering an orchid lecture series:

Understanding Orchids

Lectures will be held at the “Alchemist: a coffee garden located at 2430 NW 13th Ave, Wilton Manor at 9 AM – Come early and have coffee and a snack! Jeff's lectures will start promptly at 9 AM.

August 29, Saturday – Free Introductory Lecture

subsequent lectures will be \$15 each (cash only please)

September 5, Saturday & September 20 Sunday – “Fantastic Phalaenopsis”

The series will be offered the 1st Saturday & 3rd Sunday of the month. All aspects of culture, potting and grooming will be covered on both Saturday & Sunday lectures (this schedule accommodates more growers with busy schedules). October and November topics will be announced.

Jeff always offers a lively, fun learning experience with audience involvement and prizes!

The “Alchemist” is the retail location of Adkins Orchids - fine orchids and plants in flower are offered all year.

Jeff Adkins is an FLOS Life Member, a 3rd generation orchid grower, a professional grower and AOS judge since 1980. He has won dozens of AOS awards. He is also an orchid greenhouse builder.

FLOS Members' Corner

In September you will see our new badges on a new and improved mounting system.

Ribbon Winners For August

Brassavola nodosa	Claire Garrett	Blue
Bulb. Wilbu Chang	Rich Ackerman	Blue
C. Bactia 'Grape Wax'	Al Papa	Blue
Chrisnetia Green Light	Craig Barry	Blue
Cyc. warszewiczii X Ctsm expansum	Randy Clyde	Blue
Onc. Sweet Sugar	Jeff Tucker	Blue
Peristeria elata	Rich Ackerman	Blue
Rlc. Susan Feder 'Cinnamon Stick'	Jeff Tucker	Blue
Rync. Herbert Kuiuhara	Connie Walker	Blue
Trichoglottis brachiata	Johnny Ma	Blue
V. Charles Goodfellow	Zoe Bejar	Blue
V. Vinita Blue	Al Papa	Blue
Cl. russeliana x Ctsm. Brekenridge	Norma Jeanne Flack	Cultural



Rync. Herbert Kuiuhara—Connie Walker

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.

During the auction we will need volunteers (you can bid while working!) - to sign up contact our Program Chair Gigi Granger: (954) 675-3570 or GigiGator@aol.com. This is a big night and the more members are involved the more fun we will have!



**Fort Lauderdale
Orchid Society's
Annual Orchid Auction**

**Monday
October 12, 2015**
Preview at 6:30 pm
Auction starts at 7:00 pm

Christ Lutheran Church Parish Hall
1955 E. Oakland Park Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL

 **www.FLOS.org**

 Like us on Facebook

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

AOS Monthly Checklist for September and October

Cattleya Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom.

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.

This is the month for purples derived from *Cattleya labiata* breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too.

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

Cycnoches This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches chlorochilon*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

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.

Dendrobium This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

Rhynchostele bictoniensis Both *Rhynchostele bictoniensis* and its hybrids bloom in this season. *Rhynchostele bictoniensis*, formerly known

as *Lemboglossum*, *Odontoglossum*) is a showy species from Mexico that has three different color forms: sulphureum (green with white lip), album (brown with white lip) and roseum (brown with a pink lip). It is a vigorous grower with tall inflorescences of many flowers, and imparts to its progeny (as seen in *Odcdm*. Bittersweet and *Odm*. bicross) ease of culture, warmth tolerance and eye-catching patterns. They make a prime candidate for *odontoglossum* beginners and advanced alike.

Paphiopedilum Standard, green-leaved *paphiopedilums* begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

Phalaenopsis The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid-type fertilizer, is beneficial.

Rossioglossum grande Once known as *Odontoglossum grande*, this is a spectacular orchid with six to eight flowers up to 8 inches across. Often known as the tiger orchid, it has bright golden yellow flowers heavily marked with chestnut brown barring. The plants are beautiful with a grey-green cast to the foliage, which is borne on succulent pseudobulbs. It prefers hot and wet summers with cooler, even down to 40 F, dry winters. Grow under filtered light. Watch for snails and slugs that eat the flowers, pseudobulbs and leaves.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay. (from the AOS website)



BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY
ANNUAL FALL AUCTION
At **Deicke Auditorium**
5701 Cypress Rd, Plantation 33317
Monday August 31, 2015
Preview @ 6:00 Auction @ 6:30
Cash, Check, Credit Cards Accepted
FOR MORE INFO CALL 954.791.8017 OR
WWW.BROMELIADSOCIETYBC.COM
Open to the Public

FYI Column by Tom Kuligowski

Enough is Enough

How long are you willing to attempt to save an orchid plant? When do you draw the line and finally blurt out the words “enough is enough”? We are all guilty of letting a plant sit for periods of years at a time hoping that it will start to look healthy and even bloom for us. I have had this conversation with hobbyists, professional growers and even with those people who have no patience. The answers have varied more than you think.

Some will give the plant a minimal amount of time; hoping Mother Nature will produce some sort of hocus-pocus and the plant one morning will look perfect and hold an unimaginable amount of flowers. We all like to dream or fantasize. Others will place the plant in one area and wait, wait and wait for years thinking that it will eventually come around. Then there is the small group that will say “not a chance” and just deposit the plant in the nearest dumpster or trash can. Their train of thought: may as well make room for something healthier and that will produce phenomenal blooms sooner than later.

My suggestion; before wasting your time and valuable space; do some research. Find out what the standard growing stages are. What is the best culture for the plant? Remove the plant from the container it is in. Cut away the back bulbs and bad bulbs/canes. Cut away all of the dead roots. Determine whether there is enough left to warrant repotting the plant and to give it a fighting chance. Talk to other hobbyists and to growers and get their opinion.

When the orchid bug bites us we all seem to be scrambling for growing space. We should now go through our collections and “thin them out” (shame on me for saying such a thing)! But we all want to add more; no matter the space we have or don't have. Staying on top of repotting, keeping plants healthy and simple weeding can very often be a preventive action. Saving time from having to watch a plant just sit there and do nothing.

Please understand, I am not suggesting throw it all away. Do research and ask questions. The images with this article will show you that sometimes, it is very well worth it. Happy growing everyone!



V. Vinita Blue— Al Papa



Rlc. Susan Feder 'Cinnamon' – Stick' Jeff Tucker



Zoe Bejar



Brasavola nodoso Claire Garrett



Tom Kuligowski



Tom Kuligowski

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**THE DALE RUSSELL
NETWORK**

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

Our refreshments were provided by:

Fran Renguso, Kathy Homann, Les Corbin, Carrie Ackerman, Lisa Davis, Petra Thomas, Shelly Jones,

Tony Millet, Vicki Trank, Norma Jeanne Flack, 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: Joan Connors

1st Vice President: Gigi Granger

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Corresponding Sec.: Les Corbin

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