



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

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.

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January 2016



IT'S SHOWTIME!

BY MICHAEL SCHABERL

Our 58th Orchid Show and Sale themed “An Orchid Masquerade” is January 15, 16, and 17 at the War Memorial Auditorium. There is still time for you to volunteer at our January meeting or by contacting Michael Schaberl at 954-764-1239 or email him at michaelschaberl@comcast.net. We need your participation and guarantee that you will have fun and get to know your fellow members better.

It is also time to be grooming and staking your orchids for judging to possibly take home the \$250.00 cash prize for the best orchid grown by a hobbyist. Plants need to be clean, free of insects and disease and brought to the War Memorial on Wednesday Jan. 13th from 3PM to 8 PM for registration. The flowers on your individual plant could also be awarded a special show award by our AOS judges in any one of 20 categories. You can pick up a list of those categories from Michael Schaberl at the January meeting.

General admission tickets to “An Orchid Masquerade” are \$12.00 each with parking included. Pre-sale tickets are \$10.00 and are available at www.FLOS.org.

Lastly, if you have paid for your 8 presale show tickets, you are entitled to attend the Gala Preview Party on Thursday evening. This is a beautiful event and your first chance to purchase the biggest and best plants the vendors have for sale, enjoy live music, fine food and drinks and mingle with friends old and new. Please remember to return any unsold tickets by Saturday January 16th so FLOS is not charged for them. You can return them to the FLOS booth at the show or to any Board member. Additional tickets for the preview party are available for \$70 per person.

The excitement is building, final preparations are being made for “An Orchid Masquerade.” We hope you plan on joining the fun!



FLOS Show

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JANUARY SPEAKER

Fred Clarke by Gigi Granger

January Speaker

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Sunset Valley Orchids ▶

Our January speaker, Fred Clarke will be flying in for a one-night speaking engagement from Sunset Valley Orchids in Vista, California. Fred Clarke has been growing orchids for over 30 years, and hybridizing for almost as long. As a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred has been a pioneer when working with *Catasetum* inter-generic hybrids. This work has led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, *Fredclarkeara*, *After Dark*, which produced “the blackest flower ever witnessed”. This grex has received five FCC’s and three AM’s on the first flowers shown for judging. His talk will feature a widescreen computer slide show on some of the new hybrids and breakthroughs in the hybridization of *Catasetum*, *Cynoches* and *Mormodes*.



Fdk. *After Dark* ‘SVO Black Pearl’ FCC/AOS

From www.SunsetValleyOrchids.com

Light levels: *Catasetinae* like light levels comparable to *Cattleyas* at about 2500-4000 foot candles (fc)

Potting mix: For mature plants I have been using a 3/1 mix of fine ‘Kiwi Bark’ and medium Perlite. For seedlings up to a 3” pot size I like to use New Zealand sphagnum moss with the bottom 1/3 of the pot filled with Styrofoam peanuts. However, this genus is not too particular in what it is potted in and any well drained media will work well.

Repotting and Dividing: Is done as the new growth is just starting to develop and before the new roots start to show. (remember no watering until the roots are well established, 3-5” long). Unlike most orchid plants *Catasetinae* do well when divided into 2 bulb pieces. Divisions are made by cutting with a sterile tool or by

pulling the bulbs apart. I try to keep the size of my plants between 2 and 5 bulbs.

Fertilizer: When in active growth, regularly use one tsp. of your favorite fertilizer per gallon of water.

Insect pests: *Catasetinae* are generally pest free, however spider mites are attracted to the soft leaves of these plants. Spider mites are quite small, they live and feed on the undersides of the leaves. The leaves will automatically drop off naturally during dormancy.

Please feel free to contact Fred on any question regarding the growing of this genus. fred.clarke@worldnet.att.net

Fred Clarke is taking preorders and offering 10% off and no shipping (delivery will be at our meeting)

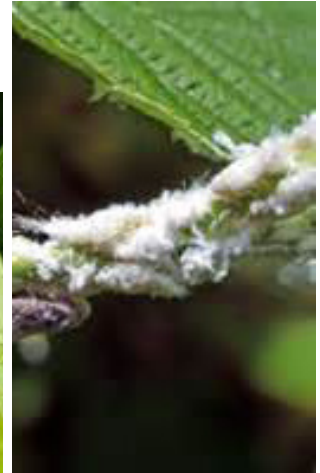
Tips & Tricks for Better Growing and Happier Orchids

By Keith Davis

Pests: Pay close attention to your plants and don't let pests get out of hand. Most serious pests on orchids are small and can escape notice. The worst pests are thrips, scale and mealybugs. Always check new plants for pests and isolate them for a period of time. Repot them and clean off old mix if in doubt. I like using systemic pesticides best and put them out using a Dosmatic injector as a drench. I use: Merit (Imidacloprid), Orthene (Acephate 97UP), and Safari. Cygon and Diazinon are good but very toxic. For slugs I use Iron Phosphate such as Ferramol, it won't hurt pets or humans. Metaldehyde is toxic to pets, children and adults and can result in death. Please don't use it since a better alternative is available. You can always visit: <http://keithdavisorchids.com>.



Clockwise:
Orchid pests - Thrip (enlarged),
Scale, Mealybugs & Snail



All of these photos and article are from Ginny Salus's collection.

The *Brassavola nodosa*, the Lady-of-the-Night Orchid in the middle, smells of citrus at night to attract nocturnal moths.

How I Grow Orchids At My Home

By Ginny Salus

Two things make my environment a difficult one for orchids-being right smack on the ocean (salt) and my lack of knowledge of orchids. Currently there are about 100 orchids on two balconies at my home and I have killed at least four times that number. I have tried to learn how to keep them alive and bloom for me. There is an automated watering system (I live on the ground floor) which serves the dual purpose of watering and rinsing off salt. The orchids I know not to try here are Cattleyas. The orchids that do well are *Catasetums*. Being a member of FLOS has helped with the other issues. I know more now than I did when I joined FLOS!

Mark Your Calendar!

- January 15, 16 & 17 The FLOS Annual Show & Sale "An Orchid Masquerade". See you there!
- February 8 Hyla Levine from The Green Barn Orchid Supplies (one of our advertisers) will talk on Orchid Care for Beginners (For all the new orchids we bought at the show!)
- March 14 Mac Rivenbark from Mac's Orchids will speak on Dendrobiums. One of our favorites.
- April 11 Roger Hammer professional photographer will talk about how he has photographed 89 of the 108 native orchids of Florida.
- May 9 John Salventi of Parkside Orchid Nursery will talk on Orchid Nutrition and Demystifying Fertilizing.

Sounds like a great line up. Thanks FLOS team!

LEARN IT, BUY IT, THEN GROW IT

FYI Article

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Tom's Bio ▶

by FLOS member Tom Kuligowski

Whether I have mentioned it in a newsletter article or a post on the Angraecums blog, it all comes down to one thing; “what works for one may not work for you” or “do the research before you buy”. All too often most beginners see or hear about a plant that they can't live without and go out of their way to add that plant to their collection. At the blink of an eye, the plant commits suicide or is over/under cared for and passes.

Give these next few words some thought. The plant that didn't survive in your collection; was or could it have even flourished here (in your collection)? Was the climate similar to its natural habitat, was it given a fair opportunity to acclimate to its new home and most of all did you do the research and ask the right questions as to whether you could grow it?

All of these questions and thoughts should always be on your mind and at the tip of your tongue. When you see or find a plant you can't live without, the most important question is “Will the plant grow and bloom in my growing conditions?” Most growers will be up front with you and tell you whether it will. Before you do buy, do an internet search; find the specific culture for that individual plant. You can usually find that information on several sites. One of the most popular is www.orchidculture.com; the majority of the information on this site was gathered by Charles and Margaret Baker. This same culture information is also included in the Orchid Wiz software.

When visiting a grower's nursery or greenhouse, ask questions; if you don't understand a particular answer, ask them to explain in more detail. They want your trust in the knowledge they have. They realize that if you're happy, you'll be back as a regular customer. If you talk to a grower at an orchid show, find out where they are from... it is not unusual for plants to have to acclimate if the growing conditions are very different than your own. Don't hesitate to talk to them about it. I have had plants as a beginner that didn't survive for that one reason.

One I wanted so bad, I tried three times before I finally gave up, for now at any rate, *Dendrobium unicum*.



Dendrobium unicum

Growing orchids can be a fruitful hobby. Enjoying the blooms that come seasonally or multiple times each year. Every aspect of their culture is a variable with some of the parameters having a wide range. It takes some time to get it right; but when you do, reap the rewards. Bottom line: communicate!

Tom is the creator of the Angraecums.blogspot; a blog dedicated not only to the culture of various Angraecoid orchids but the culture of numerous orchids in his personal collection. The blog is also host to a gallery of digital orchid art, American Orchid Society award images, stories behind the meanings of individual orchid grower's clonal names and a page dealing with projects of unusual mounting of orchid plants. The blog is free and holds the interest of readers from around the globe.

Not only is Tom an award winning orchid grower specializing in Angraecoids; he has won numerous awards and accolades throughout his forty-five plus year photography career. Both of which fuel his passion of natural beauty. A retrospect of his photography and digital art can be seen at www.facebook.com/tkartimages.

'Tis the season

It was a full house at the Tower Club overlooking beautiful Fort Lauderdale as FLOS celebrated its 2015 Holiday Party on December 6. After mingling in the recently renovated bar we all enjoyed dining and dancing the evening away. Table by table we each selected blooming orchids from an amazing garden of flowers provided by Krull-Smith. Lucky winners also took home their table's spectacular Phalaenopsis centerpiece. Many thanks to Ginny Salus for being party organizer supreme!

FLOS HOLIDAY PARTY



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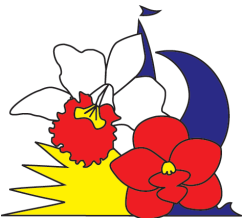
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THE DALE RUSSELL
NETWORK

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



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

P.O. 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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