# 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.

VOLUME 66 ISSUE 7 JULY 2016



# JULY SPEAKER: BILL THOMS

GENERAL ORCHID CULTURE BUT WITH AN EMPHASIS ON BULBOPHYLLUMS



The July FLOS program presented by Bill Thom will cover general orchid culture but with an emphasis on Bulbophyllums. His slides of Bulbophyllums is not to be missed!

Bill Thoms has been growing orchids along with his wife, Doris Dukes, for over 35 years in central Florida. They are highly accomplished growers and win more AOS awards for culture than most other growers in the world. AOS has named an award in Bill's honor.

This award is given to the grower of either species or hybrid regarded as an outstanding example of the Bulbophyllinae Subtribe.

Bill's book will also be for sale. <u>Bulbophyllums, The Incomplete Guide</u>; From A to Why?, covers every aspect of growing and hybridizing Bublophullums. He offers tips to help the grower produce the fast growing plants loaded with flowers. Bill covers species identification and the progression of the alliance. The

#### **BULBOPHYLLUMS**

The Incomplete Guide;

From A to WHY?

#### **Bill Thoms**







C. maxima—Bob Stroozas

## Mark Your Calendar

**July 11** - Bill Thoms: Program on general orchid culture with an emphasis on Bulbophyllums, the largest genus in the orchid familyas. He will discuss culture and growing tips as well as many aspects of growing Bulbophyllums. His slides include some of the most unique and exotic looking species and hybrids.

July 17 - Keiki Club (see page 3 for details)

**August 8** - Movie Night from Nova: "The Orchid Hunter". Do not bring refreshments. Fran, Debbie and Kathy will bag up popcorn and lay out a candy selection that will make your teeth ache.

**September 12** - Thanh Nguyen of Sweetwater Orchids – Paphiopedilum culture **October 10** – FLOS Annual Auction – Do not bring refreshments. FLOS will supply Krispy Kreme glazed donuts and coffee.

-Now is the time to divide plants and select a few to donate to the auction. Donating to the Annual Auction is also a great way to recycle potting equipment or materials you no longer need.

-All moneys raised used to underwrite society functions like the holiday party, rambles and preview party.

**November 14** Brian Monk from Blu Llama Orchids - Warm growing Cymbidiums **January 9** -Jose Esposito from Soroa Orchids. Jose's presentation will be on Phalaenopsis culture.

January 20-22 - FLOS Annual Show & Sale

FLOS Members be sure to pick up the 2016-2017 FLOS Roster at our July meeting. Changes or corrections to the roster can be sent to:

membership@FLOS.org

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Den. Kauai Evening Song Debbie Johnson

2

# JUNE SPEAKER: JOHN SALVENTI BY LOREN COLBURN



All about Roots - Healthy Roots are the Key to Healthy Orchids was the topic at our last meeting. John Salventi started out as a hobbyist orchid grower and later became the owner of Parkside Orchid Nursey in Pennsylvania. John recently become a resident of Sarasota and his new project is Everything About Orchids – an educational and consulting service.

John's talk began with the observation of roots, in nature and in pots. In nature the orchid's roots are bare and grow on the surface of another plant or in some cases rocks. There is no media around them as they grow out - way past the plant. When we look at the roots of an orchid that isn't doing well we find the roots have been either over watered, under watered, or are surrounded by potting media that has broken down and does not allow any air flow around the roots and the roots have rotted.

John then went on to explain that understanding the biology of orchid roots helps us understand how to better water our orchids for healthier plants. The root is construct-

ed to absorbe water and fertilizer quickly and send them up to the rest of the plant. John demonstrated this with video of a water droplet on a root - it quickly was absorbed and worked its way up the root.

John broke down the needs of the roots into the area needed to maintain happy roots on a plant:

**Growing environment** – pot or mounting and the media to use.

**Species** - each type of orchid has different needs

**Temperature and Humidity** – how quickly the media dries out.

Airflow - A good way to judge the combination is to insert a skewer in the pot and water then observe how long it takes it to dry out, this allows you to adjust the water amount and frequency for each plant.

The last part of the talk was about the watering and feeding:

- soak the plant, this will bring new air around the roots
- water should be around 6.5 pH with little or no particles
- for feeding the old adage of weakly weekly was John's advice
- there is no science that tells us if feeding a dry plant or an already watered plant is more beneficial John then took some questions,. A very interesting and informative talk.



V. Memoria Loius Hatos Richard Julius

Epi. ciliare var. oerstedii Carole Schwimmer

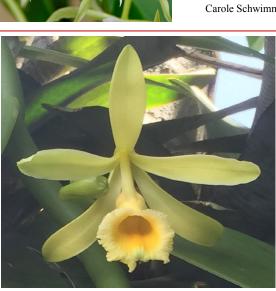


#### Article from The American Orchid Society

Vanilla belongs to a group that includes some of the most primitive orchids. The name is derived from the Spanish word vainilla meaning small pod and is characterized by vine-like plants that climb and branch. A leaf and short roots that attach to tree trunks and branches are present at each node. The flowers, produced from congested racemes opposite the leaf axils, are large and showy and short-lived, but produced in succession so that the plant is attractive for weeks or even months at a time. Vanilla is one of the few orchids, other than those grown for the cut flower trade, with widespread commercial use. V. planifolia is widely cultivated for its long, slender, fleshy pods that are essential for the manufacture of vanilla flavoring.

In addition to its commercial value, the presence of fleshy, fragrant seed pods and seed with a hard seed coat may also prove indispensible to the understanding of orchid evolution. These characteristics suggest animal-mediated seed dispersal. Recent research has established the pollinator to be a Euglossine bee (also called Orchid Bees) consistent with the pollination of many very fragrant orchids in the neotropics. However, it has also been reported that the seed capsules are eaten by bats thereby effecting seed dispersal.





Vanilla planifolia- John Wrench



#### Welcome to our new members:

Tim & Terry Morrison, Debbie Lacek and Paul Koucek

# JUNE RIBBONS

Aerides odorata	Tin Ly	Blue
Ascda. Tawee x Ascda. Somri Gold	Roby Tannenbaum	Blue
B. nodosa	Richard Julius	Blue
Blc. Toshie Aoki 'Pizazz'	Roby Tannenbaum	Blue
C. intermedia	Roby Tannenbaum	Blue
C. mossiae f. coerulea	Debbie Johnson	Blue
C. violacea	Tony Millet	Blue
C. waneri f. coerulea	Tony Millet	Blue
Den. Kauai Evening Song	Debbie Johnson	Blue
Den. Salaya	Chris Crepage	Blue
E. Orchid Jungle	Barbara Brown	Blue
E. Randy Jamaican	Rich Ackerman	Blue
E. Thomas Fennel	Rich Ackerman	Blue
Epi. ciliare var. oerstedii	Carole Schwimmer	Blue
Epi. fragrans	Tony Millett	Blue
Max. tenuflolia	Barry Deutsch	Blue
Mrn. Evergreen	Roby Tannenbaum	Blue
Paph. kolopakingii	Christine Binder	Blue
Phal. Blue Saphire	Richard Julius	Blue
Phal. Soroa Stardust	?	Blue
Ren. Kalsom 'Red Dragon	Roby Tannenbaum	Blue
Rhy. coelestis	Stephen White	Blue
V. Memoria Loius Hatos	Richard Julius	Blue
C. maxima	Bob Stroozas	Green
Lc. Canhamiana 'Azure Skies'	Claire Garrett	Green

# Opportunities To Get Involved

Techie alert! Content management, social media, mailing lists, SEO, template design, analytics, online advertising... want to help? Talk to Rich Ackerman at a meeting or email <a href="mailto:richackerman@gmail.com">richackerman@gmail.com</a>.

### Keiki Club News

The Keiki Club had their second meeting at Edna Rosen's beautiful growing area on June 12th. Again, the turnout of more than 30 Keikis and a few other experienced growers speaks volumes for the popularity and value of our newcomers group! Edna gave a talk about the challenges she faced as she started growing orchids and also gave us some insight as to how she waters and what types of fertilizers she prefers. Her glorious plants are evidence that she is, indeed, a successful grower! Questions were asked and answered and the Keikis had ample opportunity to enjoy the orchid-filled bar area and pergola. Our thanks go out to you, Edna, for being such a gracious hostess and also to those who brought cookies and snacks to share.

Our next meeting will take place at the home of Luanne Betz, 8721 NW 18th Place, Coral Springs 33071 on July 17th from 2--4 PM. An email will be sent out a week prior to the meeting as a reminder. Please confirm your attendance by either calling or emailing Tony or Jill. Looking forward to seeing you at another great Keiki gathering!

Tony Millet 954-531-2079 <a href="mailto:axmillet@gmail.com">axmillet@gmail.com</a>
Jill Smith 954-462-0477 <a href="mailto:jsmith8146@comcast.net">jsmith8146@comcast.net</a>

# MEMBERS'PAGE

# Another successful event at the Museum of Discovery & Science



A special thank you to FLOS volunteers for their help May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The Museum of Discovery and Science invited us to partici-

pate in their annual Polynesian Cultural Arts and History celebration. Chris Crepage, Rich Ackerman, Sara Hutching, Bob Stroozas and Craig Barry designed a display with blooming orchids and presentation boards with interesting orchid facts. Membership information was distributed and many "how to grow" questions from attending public were asked and answered. Thanks and gratitude for volunteers; Rich Ackerman, Craig Barry, Julius Bianchi, Lily Castaneda, Loren Colburn, Chris and Bill Crepage, Sue Dohn, Gigi Granger, Sara Hutchings, Elaine Jordan, Barbara

Martin, Richard Mach, Fran Renguso and Bob Stroozas. The volunteers gave time, materials and effort.





C. violacea-Tony Millet



Blc. Toshie Aoki 'Pizazz' -Roby Tannenbaum

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# Marketplace



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(954) 462-7760



Thank you to our kitchen volunteers: Kathy Homann, Deb Johnson & Fran Renguso. June refreshments were provided by: Petra Thomas, Zoe Bejar, Sue Zimmer, Carrie Ackerman, Nora Dyke, Chris Crepage, Deb Johnson, Fran Renguso, Elaine Jordon, Eugenie Johnson, Alina Cendoya, Reneè Miles & Robbie Tannenbaum



# 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.

**President: Joan Connors** 

Treasurer: Brian Boyle

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

Website: www.FLOS.org

Label here

1st Vice President: Gigi Granger 2nd Vice President: Zoe Bejar Recording Sec.: Vicki Hallock Corresponding Sec.: Les Corbin