



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 67 ISSUE 8
AUGUST 2017



AUGUST MEETING: MOVIE NIGHT

Plants Behaving Badly: Sex and Lies

Darwin's book "On the Origin of Species" shook the scientific world and far beyond. Yet it was his next book, devoted entirely to orchids, which filled in gaps and firmed up his revolutionary ideas. Orchids have an ethereal beauty, whether growing hundreds of feet up in a misty rainforest or along the verges of busy suburban roads. But their exotic flowers are shaped for just one purpose: to draw in pollinators. (PBS web site) Many use sex as a lure by impersonating a female bee or wasp. Learn all about it!

There will be plant judging and a raffle table. The society will provide the movie treats! (please do not bring in refreshments for this meeting.)



From PBS website

Our annual auction will be held October the 10th. Early in August we mail out letters to orchid growers asking for plant donations. It is also time to look in our personal collections and potting areas for items to donate for the auction. Orchids and orchid materials: pots, potting medium, hangers, benches, books, etc. are welcome.

Mark Your Calendar

- August 10—Movie Night
- September 11—Roy Tokunaga—H&R Orchids in Hawaii
- October 10—FLOS Annual Auction (see above and page 3)
- November 11—Homestead Ramble (details to follow!)
- November 13—Our Annual Show, the planning stages. This will be a great meeting. Possible topics, based on The American Orchid Society standards:
 - How show exhibits are designed and judged
 - Preparing your plants for judging
 - How plants are judged
- December 10—Holiday Party

President's Message By Gigi Granger



President's Message: Updates, Donations, and House Keeping

Updates: Our 2018 Orchid Jubilee Show posters and save the date cards are at the printer. We ask members to help distribute and blanket the county with our show information during the show season.

The 2017-2018 roster was mailed out this month. If you have not received one see Zoe Bejar at the membership table.

Donations: Keith Clark, from Flamingo Gardens presented the master plan and requested a \$15,000 donation for the new cycad and native orchid project. The project will begin in 2018 and will take a year to complete. Keith is the Development and Managing Director of Flamingo Gardens and is in charge of fundraising and planning several projects contributing to the growth and prosperity of the gardens. After careful review of Keith's data and plan, the board voted to approve \$10,000 to help start the project.

Please see the kitchen if you: need a plastic bag to carry a raffle plant home that may spill over, or have a food, drink or plant spill during the meeting. We want to keep the carpet and chairs looking new.

Donations: Thanks to Michael Schaberl, Rich Ackerman, Craig Barry, Brian Boyle and the folks at the church, our makeover project will soon wrap up. As most of you have noticed our meeting hall at the church has a new, blue look. The new carpet has dramatically improved our space. Our current task is finding affordable and comfortable stacking chairs.

House Keeping: Our monthly meeting attendance is strong, with an average of 100 per meeting.

As always, I am grateful for your friendships, attendance, time, participation, and contributions to the success of our club.

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August Movie Night!

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President's Message

Mark Your Calendar

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JULY PROGRAM:

JIM & MELANA DAVISON



The speakers for the July meeting were the husband and wife team of Jim and Melana Davidson. The Davidson's are active members in the orchid community: judges, growers, past and present board members of several local orchid boards. Jim's talk was 'The Four Horseman' the 4 species of Cattleya's that like to grow mounted. The four Cattleyas are aelandiae, walkeriana, nobilior and schilleriana all from different areas of Brazil. Each of the species passes on it specific traits and Jim described the four varieties offering different examples of each and what they will pass on to their hybrids.

-C. aelandiae grow naturally in 400-800 ft. and have a dry winter. A small compact plant, they have a distinctive tiger striped leaf which is more or less dark depending on the variety in the species. They will produce a new flower on each new growth, so here in Florida the plants with have one or 2 flowers all season, but if you let the plant go dormant it will have a large number of flowers. The flowers are waxy and long lasting with a lovely fragrance. The species and hybrids grow well here but need to have medium that can dry out, a basket will also work, a piece of screen on the bottom of the basket will keep the medium in the basket.

-C. walkeriana is found to grow on trees and limestone cliffs, in dry conditions with a mist surrounding them. The plants need a lot of calcium to do best. A paste made of agriculture lime and peat moss that is smeared on the mount will give the plants plenty of what they need. They like to be mounted or in a basket but don't do well in pots. They bloom here in the winter and spring off a leafless shoot and are very fragrant. The species comes in multiple varieties, coerulea, alba, semi alba, and vinicolor. The species passes on the colors and the shape to many of the hybrids.

-C. nobilior grows in a dry section of Brazil and can go weeks without water in the winter. To grow here they can be put with the Catasetums in the winter and have a dry period. The nobilior blooms from the blub and not the leaf, they like warm to hot. They again do best mounted but will also do well in a basket. They pass on the distinctive lip shape and the fragrance.

-C. schilleriana, the largest flower of the group, originally found on the coast of Brazil but today none can be found in the wild. They also have a dry season but with high humidity. The plants are small and slow growers, the underside of the leaves is often a purple color. The var. imperialis is a larger flower and var. sanderiana is a deep wine color.

Jim & Melana brought some examples of how they mount their plants and donated some plants to our raffle table. Next Month is movie night and it is time to get plants ready for the auction in October. (Loren Colburn)



Den. Liberty White -Les Corbin



Renanopsis Lena Rowold -Mac Rivenbark

How do I water my orchid?

Avoid overwatering which leads to the demise of many more orchids than underwatering. Constant wetness will cause the roots to rot, which leaves the plant without a means for taking up nourishment which then causes the leaves to droop and will eventually kill the plant. The classic advice is to water the day before the plant dries out. If you have to let the plant go dry to figure out what a dry plant weighs, it will not kill the plant and will make you a better grower. Another measure is to use the pencil trick (the point of a sharpened pencil, when inserted into the medium, will darken with moisture if the plant has enough water). And, there's always the old standby - put your finger in the mix. If it feels wet, it is wet. If you aren't sure whether it is time to water, wait one more day.

"Evenly moist," while the most commonly given advice on watering, is the least easily explained. Because most plants are grown in plastic containers a good diagnosis is the weight of the plant: heavy - does not need watering; light - does require water. With a little practice, one can easily tell the amount of moisture remaining in the container.

Water your orchid early in the morning. This insures complete water evaporation on the foliage as well as the crown by nightfall. If your home is very warm or has low humidity you will most likely need to water more often. The best place to water your plant is in the kitchen sink. Use lukewarm water (do not use salt softened or distilled water) and water your plant for about 15 seconds and be sure to thoroughly wet the media. Then allow the plant to drain for about 15 minutes. It may appear dry but it has had enough water. After the plants are watered, they should be placed so that the pots do not stand in water. Some people like to place the pots on "humidity trays" or in trays or saucers of gravel or pebbles and water. The pot is placed on the pebbles above the water line. This helps to insure that the base of the pot is not immersed in water, increases humidity for the plant, and provides some air circulation under the pot.



Use a pencil or wooden skewer to determine whether an orchid needs to be watered. (AOS.org)

MEMBERS' PAGE

Welcome to our new members:

Bernard & Patricia Kulavic
Paul Gebrian & Francisco Lambert
Adam & Zulia Schooley

Noemi Hew
Roberto Espinoza

JULY RIBBONS

Aerides Hermon Slade	Stephen White	Blue
Alcra. Pacific 'Hilo Star'	Debbie Litchmore	Blue
Blc. Waianae Leopard "Ching Hua Spots"	Sami Puzio	Blue
Broughtonia sanguine 'Star Splash'	Rich Ackerman	Blue
Bulb. More Than Aghast *	Jill Smith	Blue
<i>C. forbesii</i>	Scott Pelin	Blue
Cochlezella Tsiku Churchango *	Bob Stroozas	Blue
Encyvola Florid Bay	Rich Ackerman	Blue
Grammatophyllum <i>scriptum</i>	Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
Mtssa. Shelob Red Spider	Luane Betz	Blue
Renanopsis Lena Rowold	Macs Orchids	Blue
Renanopsis Lion's Splendor *	Macs Orchids	Blue
Vandopsis <i>lissochiloides</i>	Macs Orchids	Blue
Ascda. Laksi	Scott Peplin	Cultural
Bc. Stella Marula	Chris Binder	Cultural
Callistoclossa ? Alba	Les Corban	Cultural
Den. <i>scundum</i>	Macs Orchids	Cultural
Den. Liberty White	Les Corban	Cultural
Encyelia Alata	Chris Binder	Cultural
Grammatophyllum <i>scriptum</i> var <i>citrinum</i>	Bob Stroozas	Cultural
V. Violetta	Luanne Betz	Cultural
Blc. Picotee Passion	Norma Jeanne Flack	Red
Phal Purple Martin 'K.S.'	Bonnie Bonneau	Red
Vandopsis <i>lissochiloides</i>	Stephen White	Red

* indicates registered hybrid

Keiki Club News

On Saturday, July 8th the Keikis gathered at Flamingo Gardens, having been invited by the Orchidteers from the Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society for an interesting presentation by Mac Rivenbark on general orchid culture. As always, Mac provided the group with lots of great information on growing orchids, mounting them and lots of tips on fertilization, pests and fungus control. The Keikis asked questions and were able to engage in a raffle and plant sale as well. Maneuvering among the raindrops, the group ventured inside Flamingo Gardens and watched Mac climb high into a huge tree and mount a very large Grammatophyllum, while he instructed everyone on the ins and outs of the procedure. Carol Holdren, AOS Judge and FLOS member, also spoke to the group, encouraging our Keikis to return and join with the Orchidteers to mount orchids on the trees around the entrance area of the Gardens. As a follow up, we would like to remind the Keikis that this is a fantastic opportunity to get together with other orchid enthusiasts and to continue to learn great information about growing orchids and to give back to the orchid community, so GET OUT THERE and participate with the Orchidteers! We will provide the Keikis with more information about this in future emails.

Our next meeting will take place at the home of Sue and Chuck Grieg on August 20th at 2 PM. Sue and Chuck are Keikis but have graciously invited everyone to join in the fun of helping to divide a couple of huge overgrown Oncidiums they have. We're hoping that some orchid veterans who are well versed in the art of dividing plants will show up and help us safely create divisions so please let us know if you would like to join us. There will also be a free raffle of a bunch of "noid" phals. A week before the event there will be an email with more details but in the interim, mark your calendars!

Tony Millet axxmillet@gmail.com

Jill Smith jsmith146@comcast.net

Support FLOS when you use Amazon Smile



Amazon has a program called Amazon Smile where they donate 0.5% of your purchase price to a non-profit if you join the Smile program.

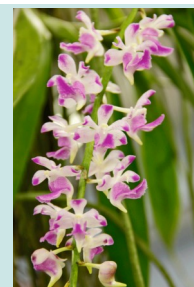
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Ascda. Laksi—Scott Peplin



Callistoclossa—Les Corbin



Aerides Hermon Slade—
Stephen White

Opportunities To Get Involved

October Auction – getting ready!

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.

Please support our advertisers. They help pay for the expense of this newsletter.

MARKETPLACE

Market Place

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Address/Directions



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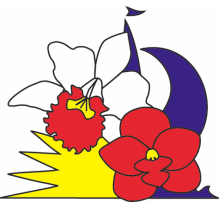


Broughtonia sanguine 'Star Splash' -Rich Ackerman

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

Carrie Ackerman, Carol Jones, Gigi Granger, Clara Barker, Fran Renguso, Deb Johnson, Kathy Homann,

Rosemary Brown, Zoe Bejar, Bonnie Bonneau, Chris Crepage, Norma Jeanne Flack



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

Label here

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: Gigi Granger

1st Vice President: Rich Ackerman

2nd Vice President: Zoe Bejar

Recording Sec.: Vicki Hallock

Corresponding Sec.: Jijll Smith

Treasurer: Brian Boyle

Newsletter: Ginny Salus

Website: www.FLOS.org