An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

The purpose of the Society is to stimulate interest, provide education, support conservation, and enable the exchange of information among those interested in all aspects of orchid culture.

Loving orchids since 1951 | Volume 76 | Issue 11 | November 2026 | FLOS.org

President's Message

Bloom into Action! Join the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Volunteer Team!

As the crisp autumn breeze rolls into South Florida and the weather finally cools down, there's no better time to step outside, connect with fellow orchid enthusiasts, and share our passion with the community!

The Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society needs **YOU**! We are putting out a rallying cry for energetic, friendly volunteers to help staff our society booths at two upcoming community events: Equality Garden Club Tropical Plant Fair as well as the Jazz Brunches on Riverwalk. And of course, be at the heart of our premier annual showcase entitled this year – Orchid Odyssey!

Why Volunteer?

- **It's Great Fun:** Experience our local events from the inside, meet new people, and share what makes FLOS so special.
- **Enjoy the Weather:** Take advantage of South Florida's fabulous cooler season in the park and by the river.
- **Support Our Mission:** Help us educate the public, grow our membership, and ensure our events and annual show run smoothly.

Whether you can give a couple of hours or an entire afternoon, your time and enthusiasm make all the difference. No prior expertise is required, just a love for orchids and a friendly smile!

Ready to jump in?

Sign up at our next monthly meeting, or contact our Volunteer Coordinator Roger Triplett r.triplett22@gmail.com or me at president@flos.org to claim your preferred spot and shift. Let's make this season our best and brightest yet!

– LEN EMORY
FLOS President

November Speaker: Art Chadwick, a Cattleya legacy

Join us Monday, November 9th at 7:30 PM for a presentation by Art Chadwick at our members meeting. Art founded Chadwick & Son Orchids Inc. in 1989 with his father, who had been growing orchids since 1943.

The Classic Cattleyas is widely considered to be the definitive book on large-flowered Cattleya species and was written by Art and his father. Martha Stewart favorably reviewed the now-sold-out first edition and had both Chadwicks on her TV Show. A second edition was released in 2024.

A follow-up companion book, First Ladies and their Orchids: *A Century of Namesake Cattleyas*, was launched the same year and highlights the 19 consecutive First Ladies (starting with Mrs. Woodrow Wilson), their namesake hybrids and the growers who made it happen.

Art has the distinction of naming Cattleya hybrids after the wives of the last six U.S. presidents and personally presenting the flowers to most of the honored recipients. He has spoken at World Orchid Conferences - France (2005), Ecuador (2017), Germany (2026) and his monthly orchid advice column appeared in many



newspapers around the country for 20 years.

Chadwick's has had two high-profile orchid exhibits in the past year: The 2025 Chelsea Flower Show in London which won a silver-gilt medal from the Royal Horticultural Society. He also received a visit from Queen Camilla as well as the 2026 Philadelphia Flower Show which won best artistic design, best educational, #1 must see exhibit and a visit from Martha Stewart.

Chadwick's operates 13 greenhouses in rural Powhatan County, two retail stores in Richmond, and boards over 13,000 orchids for local clients.

– MARY JO FRICK
Programs Chair

INSIDE: Growing with Olivier Pg. 2; Bring plants for judging at 'Orchid Odyssey' Pg. 3; Membership renewal Pg. 4; Community Outreach Pg. 5; Holiday Party Pg. 6; AOS & Keiki's Pg. 7; Annual Auction Pg. 8; Cleaning clay pots Pg. 9; Keith London Garden Tour, Advertisers Pg. 10



Terete-leaved orchids

As seen on the YouTube channel "Orchid House Fort Lauderdale"

Growing Orchids With Olivier

A terete leaved orchid is an orchid with pencil-like leaves. People who are not hobbyists would never figure out that these plants are actually orchids but they are. I have developed my share of obsessions in the orchid world and terete leaves are just one of my many orchid obsessions. My husband Tommy calls them my “beans” and there are plenty of beans in my collection!

The majority of such orchids are in the Vanda alliance but Trichocentrums are Oncidiums and Brassavolas and Leptotes bicolor are in the Cattleya alliance. There are more. These leaves, in my experience, are not very prone to diseases.

A healthy terete leaf should be hard. These are water storage mechanisms and a plump leaf is a happy plant. Many are able to withstand drought but others live in areas with constant moisture and no rest. Basically, you cannot make generalizations as to water needs or light needs for terete leaved plants. Also, their flowers have wildly different looks.

I will go over a few genera that I know personally and describe their specific needs. I do not grow Papilionanthe teres but that is a wildly popular orchid with terete leaves. I believe they need full sun and constant water.

Trichocentrum

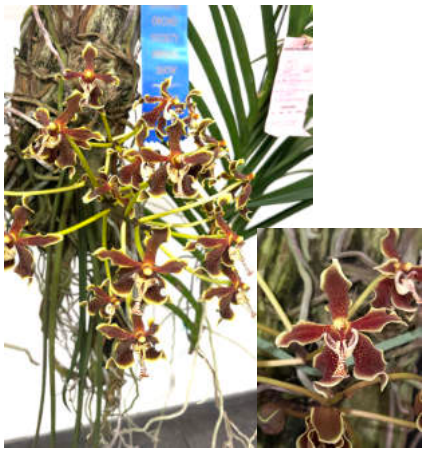
One of the 3 types of Trichocentrums was formerly known as Cohniella or also “rat-tail Oncidiums”. Those plants are very drought tolerant and over the winter should be watered very sparingly, if at all. Over the summer, on the other hand, they should be watered frequently but allowed to dry out each time to help prevent rot. Also, they don’t need excessive light. Bright light is good enough for them. They need warm temperatures year-round.

Paraphalaenopsis is a genus of four terete-leaved plants which all come from Borneo which is the typical tropical environment with extreme heat and humidity and lots of rainfall year-round. Unlike Trichocentrums, these Paraphalaenospis are not at all drought tolerant and should be watered heavily year-round, but they too should dry out in between. They take higher light than Trichocentrums and are hot growers year-round. Nighttime temperatures below 60°F are to be avoided.

Seidenfadenia is a monotypic genus, meaning it has a single species: *Seidenfadenia mitrata*. It grows in Thailand and Myanmar. While it needs warm temperatures, it seems it will tolerate colder nights. It needs plenty of water year-round but must dry out every time. This one needs the most light of all three genera mentioned in this article.

Scuticaria is a genus I discovered very recently. I am currently growing *Scu. salesiana.* So far, it is looking good but it is too early to say if I am really doing a good job. This genus is unusual as it spans all tropical continents: Asia, Africa and South America! It seems they need lower light and plenty of water but no stagnating moisture. To be continued…

Olivier Turina became a FLOS member in 2014 and a board member in 2020. Send your growing questions to OlivierFTL@gmail.com.



Paraphalaenopsis labukensis



Trichocentrum Jason Fuchs



Seidenfadenia mitrata (yellow variety)

Bring your plants for judging at 'Orchid Odyssey'

Dear members,
Our spectacular Orchid Show is back at the War Memorial in January 2027, making this a great opportunity to enter your blooming plants for ribbon judging, because you don't have to drive as far!
Besides earning a precious ribbon, there are no fewer than 22 award categories with monetary prizes between $50 and $200 and, like last year, most categories are open to hobbyists and not just the professional vendors!
Several of our members earned between $100 and $300 last year! So, give it a try.

To help you prepare your plants for judging, Olivier created a video on the subject last year on his YouTube Channel.

Watch the video here

- You must have owned the plant for at least 6 months.
- The plant is free of pests and disease.
- It must have a proper tag with the correct ID.

Registration: Thursday, January 7, 2027, 3–7 p.m.
Judging: Friday morning, January 8
Plant pickup: Sunday, January 10, beginning at 4:30 p.m.
Note: Plants must remain on display until the end of the show



Artwork by Gretchen Denton



Awards and cash prizes.

Prize	Award Description
$50	Most outstanding exhibit judged on artistic merit
$200	Grand Champion Flower (Hobbyist) in show
$100	Best quality flower from any genus
$100	Best species or hybrid Cattleya flower 10 cm (4") or larger
$100	Best species or hybrid Cattleya flower smaller than 10 cm (4")
$100	Best species or hybrid Vanda 7 cm (2.75") or larger
$100	Best species or hybrid Vanda flower, smaller than 7 cm (2.75")
$100	Best Phalaenopsis species or hybrid 7 cm (2.75") or larger
$100	Best Phalaenopsis species or hybrid smaller than 7 cm (2.75")
$100	Best species or hybrid flower in the Vanda alliance other than Vanda
$100	Best Oncidinae species or hybrid
$100	Best Epidendrum, Encyclia or Prosthechea species or hybrid
$100	Best Dendrobium species or hybrid
$100	Best Bulbophyllum species or hybrid
$100	Best Brassavola species or hybrid
$100	Best Paphiopedilum species or hybrid
$100	Best specimen plant in the show (any genus).
$100	Best Miscellaneous genus orchid
$100	Best Education display in show
$50	The Oliver C. Munson Award - may be awarded to the best *Vanda* species or hybrid entered by a hobbist grower.

– JOAN CONNORS
– OLIVIER TURINA
– CLAIRE GARRETT

Join the Orchid Odyssey Volunteer Team

A spectacular orchid show doesn't happen without volunteers. FLOS members are the heart of Orchid Odyssey, helping welcome our guests and creating the friendly, exciting atmosphere our show is known for.

We need enthusiastic volunteers for a variety of roles, including:

Greeters: Welcome guests and set the tone for a fantastic day.

Exit Checkers: Help guests as they leave and provide a friendly farewell.

Raffle Table: Keep the excitement going while helping with our popular orchid raffles.

Conservation Table: Share FLOS's commitment to orchid conservation and help visitors learn more about protecting these extraordinary plants.

Available Volunteer Shifts

Thursday, January 7 - Setup

- 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM*
- 1:00 to 6:00 PM*

SHOW DAYS

Friday - January 8

- 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM*

Saturday - January 9

- 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM*
- 2:00 - 6:00 PM

Sunday - January 10

- 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM*
- 1:00 - 5:00 PM*

* More volunteers needed

The success of our show depends on volunteers like you, who make our guests feel welcome. Your time and talent will help create an unforgettable experience for all. Sign up today by emailing me at r.triplett22@gmail.com to be a part of the Orchid Odyssey team. Please include your name and phone number. I will confirm by text message.

– ROGER TRIPLETT
Volunteer Chair

Wear your FLOS pride with an Orchid Odyssey T-shirt

Limited-edition Orchid Odyssey shirts are available to order for $20 on our members page. They are 100% cotton this year.



ORDER YOUR T-SHIRT

Join the VIP Event

Friday, January 8 2027 9-11 AM. Advance purchase of your 5 show tickets includes VIP access at no additional charge.

MEMBER TICKETS

FLOS Membership renewals begin November 1st 2027

FLOS is more than a club; it's a community of orchid lovers, from beginners to award-winning growers. Renewing your membership keeps you connected to friends, mentors and fellow enthusiasts who share your passion.

Membership renewals begin in January 2027. Your dues support community education, conservation efforts and orchid shows that inspire appreciation for these remarkable plants and the importance of protecting them.

Enjoy Your Member Benefits

- Discounts from select orchid vendors
- VIP entry to our annual orchid show
- Fun, rewarding volunteer opportunities
- Our monthly newsletter, filled with growing advice, photos and event updates
- Our annual holiday party
- Greenhouse tours and rambles

Learn, Connect and Grow

- Keiki Club activities for members in their first two years
- Featured guest presentations Monthly orchid raffles and judging
- Plant sales to expand your collection

RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Calling All Jazz Lovers – Volunteer at Riverwalk Jazz Brunch

Once again this year FLOS will be doing outreach at the December and January Jazz Brunch events in Fort Lauderdale to promote our Show Orchid Odyssey.

Location

Our tent and display table will be located in front of the History Fort Lauderdale Museum on Riverwalk. We need volunteers to help on these dates:

Sunday, December 6, 2026
Sunday, January 3, 2027

First shift runs from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM and includes set up. The second shift runs from Noon to 2:30 PM and includes taking down the display.

We had lots of fun last year talking with people about our Show and our orchid society, while listening to great jazz in the background! Stay for a while after your morning shift, or come early for your afternoon shift to take in the live jazz up close at the stages if you would enjoy that. Bring snacks if you like for yourself or to share.



Please contact Claire Garrett by text (954-684-1062) or email (clairegarr@aol.com) to sign up for a shift or to ask for more information.

– CLAIRE GARRETT
Jazz Brunch Volunteer Coordinator



Volunteers needed for A Tropical Plant Fair

Location

Richardson Historic Park and Nature Preserve
1937 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, Florida

Saturday, November 7 9AM-5PM
Sunday, November 8 9 AM-3PM

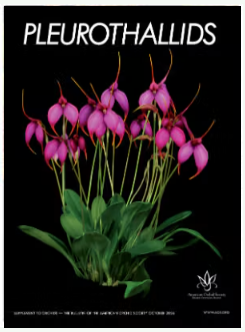
Meet new people and make friends at A Tropical Plant Fair, Wilton Manors' largest plant festival and sale. It's a wonderful weekend destination for gardeners, collectors, and anyone who loves plants. Volunteers will be there to promote FLOS membership and Orchid Odyssey.

If you would like to help at the FLOS booth, please contact Roger Triplett at r.triplett22@gmail.com. We'd love to have you join us and help introduce more plant lovers to FLOS!


FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY
75TH
Jubilee
1951 – 2026
75 YEARS OF ORCHID COMMUNITY & GROWTH
Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society's
Annual Holiday Party
BUY TICKETS
6-10 PM
Friday, December 11th 2026
Coral Ridge Yacht Club
2800 Yacht Club Blvd
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Complimentary valet parking
Cocktails & appetizers
Dinner & drinks
Every guest receives
an orchid in bud or bloom.
Music by Andre World Music



AOS Corner



Oct. AOS Magazine

October 2026 Supplement

This year's annual supplement explores pleurothallids, a group of mostly miniature orchids with flowers that range from strikingly beautiful to almost grotesque. Ron Parsons and Mary Gerritsen begin the supplement with an excellent primer on miniature orchid culture, followed by an article by Eckhard Schuller on the construction of a portable structure for growing orchids that need constant moisture.

Keikis have fun learning orchid facts through trivia



Photo by Doreen Christensen

If you missed the October Keiki Orchid Trivia meeting, you missed one of our best events yet! We delivered on all our promises: great food, new friendships, a fun way to learn about orchid care, and plenty of orchids won to expand our collections.

As a reminder, new members are eligible to attend these extra Keiki meetings during their first two years with the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society. Please take advantage of this bonus benefit; it is a fantastic way to enhance your orchid expertise and establish a wonderful community of friends within the FLOS orchid experience! Our monthly Keiki activities are designed to jumpstart your orchid knowledge to help you flourish in this rewarding hobby.

Congratulations to some of our Keikis who learned so much from our previous activities that they even won multiple times! I thoroughly enjoyed creating thought-provoking trivia questions and was deeply impressed by our members' knowledge.

Special thanks to our prize sources and donors: Maui Orchid Whisperer provided superior seedlings from Ben Oliveros, an exceptional Hawaiian hybridizer. With proper care, these will grow into big, beautiful orchids. We look forward to seeing fantastic orchids grown by our Keikis at the judging table in the future! Thank you to Luanne Betz, who donated a gorgeous wooden orchid basket handcrafted by her husband, Dave Thompson, which was won by a very lucky Keiki.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the board members who came out to support our Keikis, as well as to Doreen Christensen for her help arranging our indoor venue at Anthony's Clam House to ensure that this Keiki activity would not be rained out and for designing the beautiful orchid trivia answer sheets.

Looking Ahead:

In November, the Keikis will plan our display for the FLOS Orchid Odyssey show coming up in January. Please make sure to attend this important meeting!

With all of our amazing events, it is understandable why no one wants to graduate from the Keikis… just remember to RSVP to upcoming Keiki invitations while you are eligible to enjoy these valuable opportunities.

– KAREN FLEISHER
Keiki Chair











Photos by Gretchen Denton

Thank you to our annual auction donors

Springwater Orchids
RF Orchids
David Sweeten & Traci Slusher
Dan & Margie
Chuck Asche
David Thompson
Mickey's Orchids
Allen Black
Quest Orchids
Soroa
Sherrie & Mark Smith
Claire Garrett
Francisco Miranda
Rich Ackerman
Jim-n-I Orchids
Olivier Turina
Redhawk Orchids
Les Corbin
Doreen Christensen
Luanne Betz
Mac's Orchids
OFE
Greenbarn Orchid Supplies
Keith London
Hung Tran
Orchid Hangers
Krull Smith
Mary Jo Frick
Roger Triplett
John Soto
Tin Ly
Tony Millet
Zoe Bejar



While we love our furry friends, Christ Lutheran Church has requested that dogs are not permitted at our general meetings. Thank you for understanding and helping us maintain a good relationship with our venue.

Welcome new members!

Matt Wells
Mark Malmstrom
Kathleen Stapleton

Cleaning Clay Pots

A fresh start for your next orchid

Editor's Note: The following is an abridged adaptation of Sue Bottom's "Cleaning Clay Pots," from the August 2026 issue of Orchids, the magazine of the American Orchid Society. Used with permission.



Photo by Terry Bottom

If you want to reuse your clay pots, it is important to clean them, remove accumulated fertilizer and hard-water salts, and disinfect them before planting another orchid. Porous clay can retain salts and pathogens that may harm the next occupant. The task becomes much more manageable when you make cleaning part of your daily repotting routine.

Scrub Away Debris

As you repot, place empty pots in a bucket of water to soften old roots, potting mix and other debris. Add a little dishwashing liquid if desired. At the end of the day, use an abrasive pad to scrub away as much clinging material and mineral buildup as possible.

Even if you cannot complete the entire cleaning process immediately, this first step prevents a growing stockpile of dirty pots from becoming a tedious project later.

Disinfect Before Reusing

Once the debris is removed, the pots need further treatment to help prevent transferring pests and diseases between plants. The traditional approach is to soak scrubbed pots for several hours in a solution of one part chlorine bleach to nine parts water. Wear rubber gloves when handling the solution. Afterward, rinse the pots thoroughly and soak them in fresh water for several hours to remove residual bleach.

Editor's safety note: Never mix bleach with vinegar, citric acid or other cleaning products. Keep bleach and acid treatments separate.

Bleach treatment may not eliminate orchid viruses, so the next step described here is heat treatment: bake the pots at 400°F for two hours, then let them cool in the oven. Suitable metal rhizome clips and wire accessories can be treated at the same time.



Photo by Terry Bottom

Try the Dishwasher Alternative

Another approach eliminates the bleach soak. After the initial scrubbing, soak pots in water to begin dissolving residual salts. Hot water helps speed this process. Scrub again, then wash the pots in the dishwasher.

The heat and detergent help draw salts out of the clay or toward the surface. Check the pots as they come out, and scrub away remaining crusts while they are still warm. Follow with the same oven treatment described above, allowing the pots to cool inside the oven.

Tackle Stubborn Salt Deposits

Persistent white deposits deserve attention because accumulated salts can burn the roots of a newly repotted orchid.

An overnight soak in white vinegar, either straight or diluted, can help loosen these deposits. Scrub again and follow with a fresh-water soak to remove the acid. Citric acid is another mild acid that works well on mineral buildup.

For especially stubborn deposits, simmering pots in water for several hours can help draw salts from the clay. A little vinegar or citric acid may help loosen the buildup; afterward, soak the pots in fresh water.

Build a Simple Routine

Drop empty pots into water as you work, and make scrubbing them your final repotting chore of the day. Then complete the remaining treatment steps when practical. With a little regular attention, your used pots will be ready for the next round of beautiful orchids.

— Sue Bottom started growing orchids in Houston in the mid–1990s after her husband Terry built her first greenhouse. They settled into St. Augustine, Florida, Sue with her orchids and Terry with his camera, and are active in the St. Augustine Orchid Society, maintaining the society's website and publishing its monthly newsletter.

Keith London welcomed FLOS members for a private garden tour









Advertisers













FLOS Officers

President - Len Emory
1st Vice President - Mary Jo Frick (Programs)
2nd Vice President - Rich Ackerman (Membership Chair)
Recording Secretary - Doreen Christensen
Corresponding Secretary - Justine Vishnesky
Treasurer - Olivier Turina
Past President - Luanne Betz

Board of Trustees

One-Year Trustees
Roger Triplett
Karen Fleisher
Two-Year Trustees
Gretchen Denton
Grace Boston

Three-Year Trustees
Joan Connors
Bob Brach
AOS Representative - Joan Connors
Parliamentarian - Keith London
Newsletter Editor - Gretchen Denton
Keiki Chair - Karen Fleisher
Social Media - Gretchen Denton
Plant Raffle Table - Francisco Lambert and Paul Gebrian
Webmaster - Luanne Betz

For a full list of FLOS Committees and Bios go to our website - Committees List

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society
P.O. Box 4677
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338
www.flos.org

Meeting Info

2nd Monday of each month.
Time 7:30-9:30 PM
Location
Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall,
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306
Map and Directions