

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

# FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY

November, 2009

N . E . W . S . L . E . T . T . E . R

## November 9<sup>th</sup> Speaker Will Be Terry Glancy from Pine Ridge

If you have been on a spring bus ramble lately you know that the Pine Ridge greenhouse has about a million +/- phals in glorious bloom. You also have seen great numbers of paphs in bloom. The *Catasetinae* were way out of sight in the huge greenhouse and they are the newest and 3<sup>rd</sup> group to be grown at Pine Ridge Orchids. Now that Terry's plants have become grown up and plentiful we will be seeing some of them and learning more about *Catasetinae* and their culture. Terry's emphasis is large flowers that last longer than most.

Your evening will start off more informed if you go to [www.pineridgeorchids.com](http://www.pineridgeorchids.com). For one thing you will see that the *Catasetinae* section of orchids includes the following genera: *Catasetum*, *Cloesia*, *Cynoches*, *Dressleria*, and *Mormodes*. Hybrid grexes include *Catamodes*, *Catasellia*, *Catawesia*, *Clomophyllum*, *Cloughara*, *Clowestum*, *Cyclodes*, *Cynodes*, *Cyceellia*, *Fredclarkara*, *Monnierara*, *Mormodia*, *Mormosella* and there are more. (*Don't panic, you won't be tested and Terry is good at bringing new information down to beginner's level.*)

Plan to bring extra money, the plant raffle table will be supplied by Terry and Barbara and they will be selling plants.

This will also be the right evening for you to ask questions about both phal and paph culture since Terry knows how to grow and bloom these very, very, well.

## Save These Dates

December 13 <sup>th</sup> - Holiday party, no regular meeting	
January 11 <sup>th</sup> - Regular meeting with Carmela speaker	
January 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> - Show set-up	
January 14 <sup>th</sup> - Preview Party	Volunteer
January 15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> - show open	Volunteer
January 17 <sup>th</sup> - show tear down	Volunteer
February 8 <sup>th</sup> - Regular meeting, Hyla Levine on basics	
February TBA - Home ramble	

## Wow! What An Auction

If you participated in any way, do a dance of joy. We made \$4,549.00. The next 'order' is to thank and support the growers who supported us. They were:

Adamson's Orchids  
Amazonia Orchids  
Banjong Orchids  
Carib Plants  
Carmela Orchids  
Coconut Orchids  
EFG Orchids  
Indian River Orchids  
Kodama Orchids  
Mac's Orchids  
Oak Hill Gardens  
Orchid Acres  
Plantio La Orquidea  
Quest Orchids  
r.f. Orchids  
Soroa Orchids

## 2010 Membership Dues

If you have 2009 by your name on the address label on the front of the newsletter, you owe dues for the coming year. New members who were not members for the whole year must sadly pay dues again! There is no time to send out a few membership bills every month to make things fair. **Please take the time to write in your current information on the enclosed dues envelope.** It is especially important that you write in your current phone number. More and more members give up their line phones and forget to make the change known. Please pay your dues in the envelope to make record keeping easier.

Please write 3 checks for each of the following:

1. Dues should be mailed or handed to Bob Henley.
2. Presale ticket money goes only to Dave Levine.
3. Holiday party money goes only to Marian Huber.

**SORRY TO ASK YOU TO WRITE SO MANY CHECKS BUT YOUR HELP IS NEEDED IN KNOWING WHAT IS AND ISN'T PAID.**

## American Orchid Society Thoughts

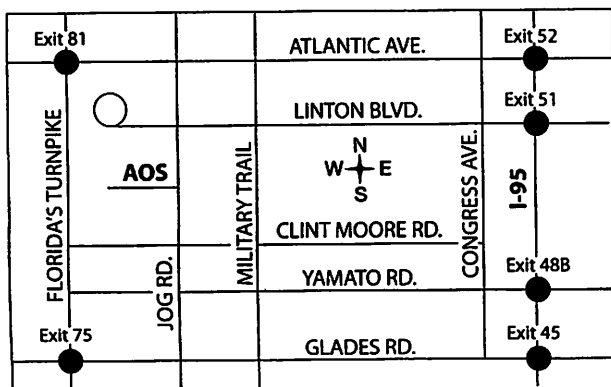
I think you should consider it your duty as an orchid lover to attend the show at AOS which runs from 10am-4pm for 3 days. **Why?** Our mother society needs your entry fee to help support the gardens and other good things which need more funds.

Don't even say: "But \$10 is so much these days". Of course the non member entry fee may be more than you want to pay but you can get in for \$5 if you are an AOS member or join at the show. I'll be there all three days selling memberships and Norman Fang is sending me plants to give to new members. It's a deal you shouldn't refuse.

Back to your duty to spend \$5 or \$10 to support the AOS, visit the beautiful gardens and of course buy orchids, orchid supplies, and garden crafts. You can also attend educational lectures, park free, and buy food. Over the years we have supported the AOS in many ways and two things to see in the gardens are our handsome fountain and the Kone water feature in the Conservatory. This is not the time to desert our donations!

One thing you might also like is a **repotting service**. You will be charged a fee dependent on pot size, but it is a great time to have somebody else struggle over the big sprawling plant you've ignored for years.

The map below shows you how to get there and if major routes are not your thing, get to Powerline Road and head north. It becomes Jog Road and signs on Jog tell you that you've arrived at AOS and the Morikami which is the next door neighbor. D.H. (Dot Henley)



## Brain Food Filler

Keep your mind nimble with blueberries, eggs for selenium, mustard for turmeric, salmon for omega 3s and 3 servings of kale per day. *Hopefully four out of five will help.*

Real Age email, 9/21/09

## Wow! What An Auction

## Wow! What An Auction

### More Auction Appreciation

Now is when I get into omission trouble. I don't have a list of all the members who donated plants, nor all the members who worked on the auction. Rather than leave some out, the plan is to leave everybody out who donated plants. Those who attended the auction and bid on plants are important omissions. You omitted ones were an important part of our success!

**Mac Rivenbark** and **Allen Cogar** served as auctioneers, Bob and I took in the out of town plants and picked up some local plants. John Wrench and Michael Schaberl helped unpack or transport plants, and they were the primary auction runners. Allen Cogar and Tom Blanc picked up the donations from Dade growers, Wayne Musgrave and Joan Connors recorded the bids, Nora Dyke and Shari Weidenbaum gave out the plates and collected the money, Ginny Salus and Zoe Bejar saw that we had the donuts and cider needed for keeping up the strength to lift the bidding plates. The members who helped set up the room and clean up at the end were very valuable but I have no list. It was a great evening and again evidence of what we can accomplish when we work together. D.H.

## Web Masters: Then and Now

**Sue and Bruce Muntz** kept us on line for about five years. Their work was especially appreciated since most of that time they were making us look good by constantly up-dating the more complex site for the World Orchid Conference.

It was not a case of their not having anything to do, besides working they took their therapy cats to hospitals to cheer up patents. They were responsible for putting orchids in trees at the Miami Veteran's Hospital and for teaching patients to care for their own assigned potted orchids. Their work and work with patients is on-going and they want to have more time to devote to that. Thank you Bruce and Sue for all you have done for us and for others.

**John Wrench** is now putting his spin on our site. Since being web master is time-consuming, we owe him a debt of gratitude. It is going to be fun to see what he shows us and the public who go to the site. Please encourage John by visiting the site and telling him how much you appreciate his efforts.





*Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Holiday Party*  
**Sunday, December 13, 2010**

The Party will be held at Brooks Restaurant which is located at  
500 South Federal Highway, Deerfield Beach  
*Every member attending the party will get a free blooming sized orchid,  
there will be great raffle prizes and music for those who wish to dance.*

**Cash Bar, Cocktails 6:30 PM**  
**Dinner 7:30 PM to include**

**Order one of these choices from your table:**

**Appetizers:** lobster bisque, shrimp cocktail, short ribs, escargot, or crab cake

**Salad:** sliced tomato, Caesar, or greens and goat cheese

**Entrée:**

Evans chicken with lemon, garlic, and parsley

Half duckling with Bing cherry and red current sauce.

Char grilled sliced beef tenderloin with Cabernet and Béarnaise sauce

Roast rack of lamb with mustard and Jamaican rum coating

Chilean bass with miso, ginger, pineapple mint relish and lemon grass cream

**Desert:** Granny apple tart, banana crepe 'Foster', caramel espresso float, sorbet tasting (mostly tropical fruits) and dark chocolate mousse

Coffee, teas, and wines are part of the dinner menu

**member cost \$45**

**guest cost \$75**

*Detach*-----

Please mail your reservations and check made out to FLOS by December 1<sup>st</sup> to  
Marian Huber, 3050 N.E. 9th Terrace, Pompano Beach, FL 33064

**Member name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations for** \_\_\_ **members @ \$45 each = amount \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations for** \_\_\_ **guests @ \$75 each = amount \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*Use the space below to list names of those you would like to have at your table.\*\**

# FLOS History, A Slow Work in Progress

**Ted Nulden** ( interview, June 6, '09) was FLOS President 1965-66)

**Mickey Carmichael** (interview, June 7, '09) became member in the 1959-60 year.

The society was formed in June, 1951 at the home or nursery of Jim Bloom, the Father of current member Gary Bloom. Jim was an avid hybridizer and his varietal name was always 'Bloom's Ideal' Gary still has some of his Father's plants. The Bloom nursery was off Dixie Highway.

**Mickey commented on the Presidents** and what she remembered about them as follows:

**1960-61 Ted Dixon** who was in construction and worked for Gore's Orchid Nursery.

(Note: Gore Nursery was one of just a few South Florida nurseries and much respected.)

**1961-62 E.S. Montgomery** had kept many orchids for 'snowbirds' who left for the season.

**1963-64 Richard Roth** was an attorney who hybridized Cattleytonia Keith Roth.

**1964-65 and again, 1966-67- John Hackett** was from South America and returned there.

**1965-66- Ted Nulden** was very creative with show displays. More later from Ted.

**1967-68- John Shirah** was a plant inspector for the state, later he moved away.

**1968-69- Irene Van Alstyne** was a very dominant President - She was also Treasurer and newsletter editor. She grew Den. Gattton Sunrays that were taller than her slat-house roof and her pool was surrounded with semi-terete *Vandas*.

**Jim Smith was President in 1969-70.** He was an avid collector of species orchids. Once Mickey bought a bushel of *Onc. papilios* from him. His wife Margaret was also an orchid person.

**Joanne and Bob Savage** who together held the Presidency 3 times in the 70s.

**Mickey recounted how she got into hybridizing** and community pots. A friend brought back \$3.50 community pots from R.J. Smith on the Florida West Coast. One of these community pots was a hybrid which Mickey named Blc. Lisa Carmichael. Over the years Mickey has given many people a division of Phal. Mahinhin 'Little Mary Ann'. It came from Gore nursery originally but a friend had a huge one growing at the top of a palm tree, a raccoon destroyed it and the friend called Mickey and she came to pick up some of the pieces. They filled a garbage can!

Larry and Sylvia Hill bought their first orchid from Mickey.

## **Mickey on orchid shows:**

Mickey was show chairman when shows were held in a bank.

She and 2-3 others put in a 300 square feet display at the 11<sup>th</sup> WOC. They got a first place and Mickey still has the handsome trophy as well as the AOS show trophy for that size. (They had planned to put in 100 square feet, but show chair Ken Kone saw how many plants they had and bumped them up.

## **Ted on orchid shows:**

The three displays he did that he remembers with pride.

1. Cardboard refrigerator boxes were modified to look like aquaria and some how he got goldfish into the 'tanks'. Mickey loved it that 10 year old Gale Carmichael sat most of the day during the show watching the fish.

2. Ted built a Styrofoam swan and covered it with white orchids. It circled around a pond and into and out of a cave. His theme was 'tunnel of love'.

3. Ted got permission from Disney to do Fantasia and small Christmas tree lights were hung above to resemble fire flies. During judging, somebody left big lights on and the 'fireflies' didn't show.

Other early show chairs were Julian Haywood, who sold landscape stone in Wilton Manors, and who was a life member, and Norman Nelson.

## **Mickey on collection trips with Fred Fuchs:**

She went on 5-6 but remembers the first with affection. There were 5 men on the trip and she was the only woman. They went to Nicaragua which is still her favorite place to travel. The orchids were thick and easy to collect, especially Cow's Horns and *B. nodosa*.. Mickey and Joe Romans missed a botanical garden tour to collect even more.

## **On a dominant lady:**

Doris Mattiticks was a long time treasurer and dominant lady. She initiated the idea that 2 old members had to sign for a new member. (*Bad idea, today our society welcomes all orchid lovers.*)

## **Now for some more of Ted's memories:**

(Meetings were held at Birch State Park then.)

Harry Bauvelt had a construction business and was famous for his blue *Vandas*.

Premo Busso was FLOS President in 1956-57, he was known for V. Rothschildiana crosses..

Bill Boyd made red *Cattleya* crosses.

The Merckles were vendors at FLOS shows.

Jones and Scully was THE orchid vendor at that time.

## Stake, Groom, Show!

Last year the individual plant tables at our show were on the bare side. We want to see them full this year, after all they can get AOS awards, ribbons, a cash award, or a trophy. For your plants to look their best they need some preparation. Do these things:

### Examine:

1. If there is any evidence of disease or insect or mite damage, isolate the plant and do not embarrass yourself by showing it to the public. If your plant looks problem free move on to the next steps.

### Stake:

1. Stake the bloom spike when the buds first appear.
2. Keep the buds turned in the same direction they were growing before you staked them.
3. Don't change the orientation of the plant. Flowers usually open in the sun's direction.
4. Use green stakes and ties to blend with the leaves.

### Groom:

1. If you have to cut anything be SURE you are using sterile blades or clippers on each plant.
2. Cut off a damaged part of a leaf by following the normal contour of the leaf.
3. Trim off old spikes and remove spent brown covers on pseudobulbs if the orchid has pseudobulbs.

## Orchids and Wind Chill

According to page 66 of the October/November 2009 **Horticulture Magazine** you don't have to base your cold protection of plants on the temperature given as the wind chill factor. Wind chill refers to the ability to remove heat from a warm-blooded animal.

*That reported a strong wind would carry away the days heat rising from the earth or a swimming pool. Most years the advice to turn on the system circulating your pool will cause the water to evaporate faster and offer some plant protection. D.H.*

## On Orchids That Imitate Fungi

There are several species of both temperate and tropical orchids that live on the forest floor and have evolved flowers to resemble the fruiting body of a fungus as well as a fungus-like odor. Fungus gnats are attracted to these flowers, go into them to lay their eggs and pollinate the flowers in the process. When the larvae hatch they starve, because the flowers or seed pods lack the nutrition needed!

## Winter Orchid Preparations

Yes, it is November and the inevitable facts are that super markets will put their 50 pound turkeys on sale, and you will have to endure yet another reminder to think cold snaps, winter rest periods, and less light. Now is the time to:

1. Group your very cold tender plants so they can be brought inside when a really cold snap is due. Think *Rhynchostylis*, *Vandas*, and baby plants. Evergreen *Dendrobiums* won't die, but will lose their leaves and not bloom well if you leave them outside.
2. Gather the things you will need to cover plants when the temperature may get into the 40s. Good things include old cotton sheets and blanket for cover. Don't even think about cook-'em-in-the-morning plastic. Binder clips will hold your covers in place. A soaker hose to go under growing benches will let the warm 70 degree tap water rise and warm your plants. This works especially well if the warm air is held under cover cloth. Another way to warm tree orchids is to put Christmas tree lights on the ground and wrap the lights and tree trunk in a blanket.
3. Group and move plants that need a winter rest so they can get little or no water and no fertilizer.
4. If you are growing outside and want to help adapt an orchid to greater light next summer move it now into that spot so it can adapt as spring light increases. If you are growing inside you might move your plants to a brighter window or remove any light blocking film that you might have used during the summer.

## Another Orchid Pollination Story

*Dendrobium sinense* flowers produce an odor that mimics the alarm pheromones emitted by honeybees. Hornets prey on honeybees, and when they smell the fragrance they attack the orchids flowers and inadvertently pollinate them.

Smithsonian. October 2009. P. 10



## Think Snakes and Spiders!

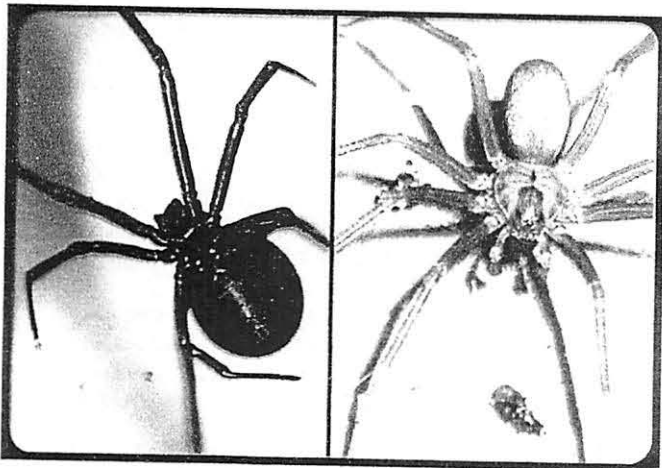
At the bottom of this article are pictures of the only two poisonous spiders in the United States. While the black widow and brown recluse could cause physical harm, any spider bigger than a gnat gives me goose bumps which is perfectly logical. YOU are not rational if snakes, other than pythons, give you goose bumps.

There are more than 70 kinds of snakes in Florida. Only four native snakes have toxic bites. They are rattle snakes, copper heads, cotton mouth moccasins, and coral snakes. Coral snake venom is quite toxic, and like very toxic, spider-related, Daddy Long Legs, their mouths are too small to bite people.

In Florida 500 times more people are bitten by dogs than snakes, and far more people die from bee stings and lightning strikes. Snakes are not generally aggressive, but if one appears aggressive you can run away or walk away. The top speed for a rattle snake is 2 miles per hour.

Pythons have been in our news and they are a worry. The biggest reported one was 37.5 feet long. They and boas have the most sensitive heat detecting lips in nature, and they can go a year between meals. Common sense tells us that they will always be in Florida and if you have one in your back yard, tie some Alka Seltzer around a live chicken's neck and hope he eats the chicken. The Alka Seltzer will react with his stomach acid and the snake will explode. Plan A is to call Animal Control. (*Welcome back to Florida Sylvania, this article is for you!*)

The snake numbers came from: Lloyd, J. and J. Mitchinson. 2007. *The Book of Animal Ignorance*. New York. Harmony Books. Pp. 194-194.



Black Widow Spider (left) and Brown Recluse Spider (right)

## Grow A Healthy Food Inside or Out

If you had a 'normal' childhood you put a sweet potato in water, sat it in a window, and it produced a lush green vine. Kentucky State University has found that new, red, sweet potato leaves have a phenol (antioxident) content as high as blackberries. Mature leaves and stems have less phenols but are still a vegetable to add to your diet.

*The Avant Gardener*. October, 2009. P.90

## Plant Inspections

The National Academy of Sciences revealed that the USDA inspects approximately 2% of incoming cargo shipments. Even with this low percentage it intercepts over 53,000 plants, pests, and disease organisms in these shipments annually. It is estimated that by 2020 115 exotic insects and 5 plant pathogens will become established, and the numbers may be bigger if climate changes allow more organisms to adapt.

*The Avant Gardener*. October, 2009. P. 92

## Use of New Insecticide Causes Destruction of *Cymbidium* Crop

Up to ten percent of New Zealand's export crop of *Cymbidium* orchids had to be destroyed and the crop was worth millions. Growers had used a new insecticide, Oberon. Oberon was produced by a German subsidiary of Bayer Crop Science Products, and has been pulled from New Zealand markets. Oberon was a very effective insect killer, but the harm came when it was used in warm weather. Plants that were exposed to less than toxic amounts of spray had deformed flowers.

Terry Glancy sent this information which came from [www.stuff.co.nz/national/farming/497308](http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/farming/497308) and there may be a warning in this for all of us who are using any pesticide. Molecular movement increases with temperature increases and while pests may die faster if you spray at noon, plants may be harmed at that time too. Speakers often tell us to spray in the cool of the evening so the pesticide can dry and dissipate during the cooler night hours. We should follow that advice.

Better yet is the advice to keep an eye out for pests and to treat a few infected plants early before the pests reproduce. This way our whole collection does not have to be poisoned to control a multitude of pests.

**Please** retrieve the dues envelope which is taped to this newsletter and then pay your dues today. It would save so many hours if all the dues were paid on time.



# FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY

P.O. Box 4677  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33338

**Regular meetings:** Second Monday of each month  
**Time:** 7:30 P.M. Workshop, 8:20 P.M. Program  
**Place:** Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall  
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.


**Directions:** Use Oakland Park Blvd. from **I-95**.  
Go East for 2.4 miles, go to the rear of the church  
which is on the North side of Oakland Park Blvd.  
Or take **US-1 (Federal Hwy.)** to Oakland Park  
Blvd. And go West for 2 blocks.

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