

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

# FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY

N • E • W • S • L • E • T • T • E • R    October, 2010

## Auction, October 11<sup>th</sup> To Be THE Night of Nights

### Part One: Game Plan -before the auction:

1. Donate healthy, pest free, named divisions of your plants if you have spares. Tape an easy to read note on a leaf with bloom color or a tempting phrase such as 'blooms twice a year'.
2. Find a clean box to bring with you. You need it to put plants that you bid on and win, in a container so clean up near midnight won't leave members knee deep in spilled medium.
3. Remember that there will be NO RIBBON judging, and NO MEMBER DONATED REFRESHMENTS. The auction will be non stop, you can go to the back of the room on your own for refreshments which the society will provide.
4. Urge your friends and neighbors to attend and bid.
5. Plan to arrive by 6:00 PM to look over the plants ahead of time. **The auction begins at 6:30.**

### Part Two: Game Plan - at the auction:

1. When you arrive go to the table by the door and sign up for a numbered plate which you will wave in the air to show that you wish to bid at the auctioneer's price at that moment.
2. If you have the last bid and win the plant a runner will deliver your plant which you will put in your trusty box from home.
3. When the auction ends or when you have to leave, go to the front of the room and get your tab. The tabulators will have written an amount down by your number each time you make a winning bid, and this total should be then taken to the table where you picked up your plate. You may pay up here with cash, check, or Master Card or Visa.
4. Take your box, empty or full, to your car, and if possible come back to help put the room in order.
5. **DO NOT MISS THIS FUN AND FUNDING NIGHT.** Your help and participation will be an important part of our success.

## You Now Have Your Show Work Choice, Take It!

The sign-up board for shift times and places will be available at the October and November meetings. The show lasts 10 hours which will be divided into 3 shifts of 3 hours and 20 minutes. On Sunday we close at 6:00 but the last shift will still be 3 hours and 20 minutes. The last shift people will need to stay and watch doors, help vendors, or carry bushes back to the trucks.

If you are new to the show these are your options:

### Host and Hostess, aka security and smiles:

You get to wear a cute green vest and ask visitors not to pick flowers or walk into the displays. Other options are duty at the 3 sets of doors. You can sit at the back doors and if you get front door duty, you check bags of plants for sold stickers as people exit.

### Box Office:

You will be selling tickets and welcoming people to the show.

### Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Booth:

You will sell show posters and other merchandise and encourage people to join our society.

### Orchid Show Judging Clerk:

You need to show up at War Memorial at 8:00 AM on Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. You will be a silent go-for for a team of judges. If you have not done this before you will be teamed with an experienced clerk.

### Orchid Show Set-up and Take-down:

Chris and John will need many to help on Tuesday morning, January 11<sup>th</sup>. A few will mark the floor to show where sales booths and displays will go and most will wear gloves and take shrubs to the display areas. If you can't lift, there are still jobs for you.

A few people are needed to set-up the floor for the Preview Party. This happens after judging on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Take down on Sunday night after 6:00 is another necessity which has been described at the beginning of this article.

*We supply workers for the AOS booth and I will need one person to help for one shift while the show is open. I am making the sign-up boards, so if you want to be listed early, call or email me to put you on the board before the October meeting. D.H (bobdot@bellsouth.net.)*

## Review of Mike Owen's Program

Obviously this energetic speaker adores every inch of the 85,000 acre Fakahatchee, which is the largest strand swamp in the world. We first saw slides of the logging that took away great numbers of cypress during World War II. The Navy used the cypress wood for mine sweepers, PT boats, and other necessities.

Mike described his beloved work space as a place of strands (shallow valleys) and sloughs (deeper, often river-like, water filled valleys). 400 varieties of lichens coat the trees and huge growths of Bromeliads often crowd other plants out of the canopy. *Guzmanias* are plentiful and "if you Guuze you lose" refers to their ability to take over. The canopy protects the undergrowth from severe cold. The area contains 97 swamp lakes and many alligator holes which are over 3 ½ feet deep. The regular swamp is not deeper than 3 ½'. On the dark side for some, Mike had found road-killed Anaconda, and live Boas, and Pythons.

What we call 'land' in all of South Florida has been dated at no older than 6,000 years, and this relatively new substrate forms the base of the Fakahatchee. Seasonal fluctuation of water levels in the swamp further describes the rhythms of this special place.

The first orchid Mike showed us was *Ionopsis utricularioides* which grows on twigs. The Dingy Flowered Orchid (*Epidendrum amphistomum*) was jokingly renamed by Mike as the Roller Coaster Orchid. He thought the name Roller Coaster would make people feel warmer toward conservation.

Some of the other orchids seen from the Fakahatchee were: The Green Hershey's Kiss Orchid (Mike's name for *Encyclia tampensis*), The Florida Jade Orchid (Mike's name for *Epidendrum difforme*), *Epidendrum strobiliferum*, and *Epidendrum nocturnum*.

Mike gave us a longer description of *Cyrtopodium punctatum* which many people call the Cows Horn Orchid. This orchid was once prevalent in the area and could weigh up to 75 pounds. It was collected so heavily that now there are only 19 known ones in the Fakahatchee. GPS are used to find these plants each blooming season. The University of Georgia has seed pods from some of these plants and the seedlings will be returned to the swamp.

We saw two kinds of *Vanilla*. One was the leafless *Vanilla barbellata* and the other which zig-zagged up the tree was probably *Vanilla phaeantha*.

There are 3 other leafless orchids growing in the Fakahatchee besides the Vanilla. The Jingle Bell Orchid (*Harrisella porrecta*), The Ribbon Orchid (*Campylocentrum pachyrrhizum*) and The Moss Loving Orchid (*Cranichis muscosa*). The latter had not been found in Florida for 100 years until it was discovered growing in the Fakahatchee. It was no surprise that Mike ended his program with the famous Ghost Orchid (*Dendrophylax lindenii*). There are 375 known Ghost

## Mike Owen's Program continued:

Orchids in the Fakahatchee. They are pollinated by the Giant Spinx Moth which has a 6" wing span and a 6 ¼" tongue which goes down into the floral spur and gets pollinia attached to its head.

Mike's program was an absolute treat and made us appreciate even more, biodiversity and clean water. *Now to you who thought I would never turn my notes into script...na-na-na-na. D.H.*

## Member Notes

The summer of 2010 will go down as the hot summer from hell for all of us, but for a number of our members it has also been the unhealthy summer from hell. Please keep these good people in your thoughts and prayers. Three members who know that they will be named are **Jan Allison Coccozza**, **Bonnie Bellavance**, and **Polly Fletcher**. As our weather turns to better let's hope it also begins a season and many years of better health for our members and their family members in cases where our members were the care givers.

## Bus Ramble to Dade, December 4<sup>th</sup>

By now you know the script, we leave the Cardinal Gibbons student parking lot at 8:00 AM and get back at 5:00 PM. The parking lot is a block off Bayview Drive on 47<sup>th</sup> Street. The cost is \$25, you will need to bring a bagged lunch, an ability to lie about what you spent, and the conviction that you owe yourself this trip as a holiday present. Yes, you can sip on wine on the trip back. Is it your turn to donate a bottle to share?

A couple of the planned stops will be new to most of you, and you can pay Bob Henley at a meeting or mail the check into the post office box to reserve your seat. The correct zip code for our box is on this newsletter, not in the Membership Roster where I typed our zip while on auto-pilot.

## Planning Ahead

**November 19-21.** Plan to attend the fall orchid show at AOS. It will be a great time to pick up a hostess gift if you are invited out for Thanksgiving dinner. Of course this is also a great time to pick up a plant or six for yourself. Be sure to enjoy the gardens before you leave.

**December:** Bus ramble south on the 4<sup>th</sup>, party on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

**January 14-16, 2011:** Our show is open to the public.

(2.) **February, 2011:** Picnic at Allison's Orchids



## Transmitters On Orchid Bees

Researchers at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute even use helicopters to follow a bee's signals into their hand held receivers. The tiny transformers are glued to the backs of individual bees in order to get insight into the roll of bees in tropical forests. This is especially important today, since tropical forests are being destroyed, and often patches of forest are separated at some distance. Of course plants that need pollination by bees are less likely to be pollinated if bees can't get to them, and in time this could lead to the extinction of the species.

One male bee crossed over the shipping lanes of the Panama Canal and flew about 3.1 miles. He returned from his forage in a few days, and the researchers hypothesized that he might have gone further if he had not had the relatively heavy transmitter on his back. Science Daily. June 8, 2010

## Know About Orchid Leaves

\* Terrestrial orchids usually, but not always, shed their leaves every year. Epiphytic orchids generally hold their leaves for several years. Cold weather or great lack of water may cause leaf drop in some orchids.

\* Terete leaves are pencil-like as seen in *Brassavolas*. Orchids with terete leaves usually flourish in high light.

\* Plicate leaves are folded many times longitudinally as seen in *Phaius*. These leaves are thin. If a thin leaf is folded horizontally the plant lacked water when the leaf was emerging.

\* Conduplicate leaves are folded only once and in the middle as seen in *Cattleyas*. Conduplicate leaves are often fleshy and thick and some may be coriaceous (leathery).

## Butterflies Pollinate Jewel Orchids

Your *Ludesia discolor* bloomed months ago and it is holding a seed pod. Blame a butterfly for this. Butterflies pollinate orchid flowers with no lip or landing pad. They usually visit flowers that are blue, yellow, orange, or red. Maybe the beautiful leaves of *Ludesia* replaced the attraction made by bright flowers?

So you leave unplanned parenthood seed pods in place? Usually it's a good idea to let the mother-plant rest, but if want to see if a seed will germinate and grow, scatter the ripe seeds on the mother-plant's medium. It may contain the right fungus to nourish the offspring.

## *Encyclia tampensis*



## Notes on Orchid Names

One of Florida's most beautiful and widespread native epiphytic (tree growing) orchids is *Encyclia tampensis*, sometimes called, for reasons unknown, the Florida Butterfly Orchid. Despite how pretty the name is, the flowers don't resemble butterflies and they aren't known to be pollinated by them. Bees are the more likely pollinators. Native orchid old-timers know the plant as the Onion Orchid, which, although not as "poetic," accurately describes the look of the plant, with its rounded to conical pseudo bulbs and long, thick, green leaves.

The species name *Encyclia tampensis* was first applied by Dr. John Lindley, the foremost orchid expert of the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. He chose the name because the first specimen was sent to him from the Tampa Bay region of Florida by Dr. John Torrey in 1876. The *-ensis* ending just indicates that the plant is from the place named in the portion of the name that precedes it.

The genus *Encyclia* to which *E. tampensis* is now assigned was once included in the giant, diverse New World genus *Epidendrum*, which has now been split into smaller, more closely related groups by taxonomists (the people who classify living organisms). As now understood, *Encyclia* includes 158 species ranging from Florida as far south as northern Argentina. The name was first assigned to a Brazilian species where the side lobes of the lip encircle the reproductive column (the structure combining the stamens and pistils that make the orchid family unique). It is derived from a Greek word meaning "to encircle".

-CHUCK McCARTNEY

*Note: Once upon a time Chuck was editor of the AOS Bulletin. Today he is an obvious student of species orchids who also photographs his finds in Florida as well as when he has hiked great miles of the Appalachian Trail and Blue Ridge Parkway. Chuck is also my friend who took pity when I said "Looking for copy is getting old." I hope we can look forward to more copy from him. D.H.*

A good Florida native:

## The Fiddlewood with Domatia

**Domatia** are small holes into leaf veins. They are on the underside of the leaves and predatory mites live in them.



One of my very favorite trees is our Fiddlewood tree (*Citharexylum fruticosum*). Bees and butterflies are attracted to the fragrant flowers. The tree is in flower for much of the summer and when the flowers are pollinated, birds enjoy the berries which turn from red to black. The white flowers have a powerful fragrance that will remind you of up-north lilacs.

Dr Robert Pemberton showed me that this trouble free tree with glossy green leaves had some help from predatory mites that live in small holes leading into to the midrib vein on the underside of the leaf. The mites raise their young in these safe dens and in return the mites eat fungi and other Arthropods such as spider mites that would invade the tree.

Domatia are almost entirely confined to leaves of woody dicots. and found most abundantly in 50 plant families found in the tropics and subtropics. In 1989 Dr. Pemberton participated in a study of domatia in 32 plant species. Mites were found in 48% of the sampled leaves, 84 % of these mites belonged to beneficial species. The study lead to the hypothesis that there was a mutualism between the mites and host trees.

Coffee, grape, and walnut leaves have domatia. I wish somebody could transfer a domatia gene into orchid leaves.

Sources: Pemberton interview, and

Pemberton, Robert and Charles Turner. The Occurrence of Predatory and Fungivorous Mites in Leaf Domatia. *American Journal of Botany*. Vol. 76. No. 1 (Jan. 1989) pp. 105-112

## Bees Take Sting Out of Burns

You know that bacteria fighters in honey will heal a skin infection. A dab of honey will also quickly take the pain out of a first or second degree burn, and probably heal it without a blister or after-sore.

## Fiddlewood Postscript

*I wrote this before Robert Haehle's article on the Fiddlewood in the Sun Sentinel on September 5<sup>th</sup>. From his article I learned why my tree stopped making berries. The trees are single-sexed and there is no male trees near us. With some searching I found a male tree (Look down inside the petals for yellow anthers with pollen.) at Sears at Broward Boulevard and University Drive in Plantation. The overall plant selection there was just great, and the nice lady who operates this haven promised to mark her trees 'male' or 'female' so that you could select a tree or a pair of trees when they are not in bloom.*

*A pair would cost you about \$50 and that's a bargain for small, fragrant, trees which will draw butterflies and birds if you have berries. D.H.*

## Sex Education- Orchids vs. Others

Orchids are the most highly evolved plants and have passed the normal baby producing method of other seed plants. Lower seed plants feed the world so to speak. This food production requires energy and produces a relatively few seeds. Each seed is comprised of an embryo plant, endosperm (food for the embryo), and in higher forms (above Gymnosperm) a seed coat. Pollen grains in these plants contain 2 sperm, one fertilizes the ovule (egg) and the other fertilizes 2 female nuclei to form a blob with 3 sets of chromosomes which will be the food for the embryo once it starts to grow and emerge.

In orchids there may be only one sperm. If there are two which is rare, the development of the endosperm stops at an early stage, if it even starts.

Orchids win if they find friendly fungi to feed them or if they find a sterile flask of medium to take the fungal role. Without the cumbersome endosperm orchids can produce thousands or millions of seeds in a pod. Compare that to the number of peas in a pod!

## Good Ideas

\* Move orchids in bud with green flowers into more shade so they will hold a darker green longer and turn toward yellow slower.

\* Also move budded Oncidinae into more shade so the flower color will be darker.

\* We all have microclimates in our growing area with more and less light. When you buy a new plant, put it with other plants with the same shade of green in their leaves. You will be putting the new plant in the light from which it came.

## So True

- \* There is no snooze alarm on a cat who wants breakfast.
- \* It's best to space your orchids so a cat can walk between them.



## Editor Ego Builder Members

Some of our out-of-area members are former local residents who have kept up their memberships, and that's great. We have a few 'by-word-of-mouth-or-word' members who belong just for the newsletters, and of course they warm my heart. Contrast their orchid lives to ours:

**E.C. Frisbee** lives in central Texas. She belongs to a small group of orchid enthusiasts. Only two of the local group have orchid experience, and the group seems eager to learn. Some are experimenting with Aussie Gold which will probably be great since they lack our humidity. They pot in bark which doesn't grow snow mold there.

**Irma Hughes** lives in Anaheim, California and is an active member of an active group of orchidists. She grows huge *Dendrobiums* that don't thrive here as well as big Mother's Day type *Cymbidiums*. She also grows in bark, and has Eucalyptus trees growing nearby so spider mites are not her main enemy. She and three friends attended World Orchid, and they toured the Keys.

**Lee and Sharon Sharpe** live in Junction City, Kansas and also came to World Orchid along with neighbor **Betty Kline**. When Lee got the orchid bug he built a small free standing green house and grows many things well, but especially the phals that come from Hawaii in community pots. Lee is a retired school principal and his old 5<sup>th</sup> grades get his greenhouse tour and an orchid each year. Betty had a Four Seasons room built off her kitchen. Her favorites seem to be phals and *B.nodosa* crosses.

## Library Appreciation

Thanks go to these FLOS members for recent donations:

- \* **Dr. Martin Motes** for his *Florida Vanda Growing - Month by Month*.
- \* **Eileen Toler** for *Manual of cultivated orchid species* by P. Bechtel, P. Cribb, and Launart
- \* **Anonymous** for back issues of *The Florida Orchidist*, and the AOS publications of *The Orchids Bulletin, and Orchids*. These magazines are on sale at the library table for 50 cents, and proceeds benefit the library for new publications.

Vicki Hallock

**Note:** *This is a good time to thank Vicki for the good job she does as our librarian at each meeting. It is also time to tell you to return your books early in the evening at the October auction. The library will not be open during the auction.*

## Organic Pesticide Thoughts

The most recent **Orchid Digest** published an article on scale. Johnson mentioned that a spray bottle of rubbing alcohol was a way to control a small population of scale. He cautioned that the use of Industrial Strength Formula 409 with alcohol and water would damage orchids as well as scale.

He felt that 'organics' would lessen a scale population but not eradicate it, and he questioned how 'organic' organics really are. For instance horticultural oils are petroleum distillates, insecticidal soaps often contain synthetic pyrethroids mixed with detergent or soap. Neem spray should not be used when the temperature is above 80 and he described Neem as just a ground up Neem tree. *He didn't say why a ground up Neem tree is a bad thing, except it may be bad from the tree's standpoint? (Some describe Neem as a substance processed from seeds of the tree, and one tells me that you have to be 'pure of heart' to process Neem.*

Johnson, P. Boisduval. Scale on Orchids. V.74. N3. Orchid Digest.

## Household Formula 409 Orchid Spray

This insect spray was published in **Orchids** magazine at least a decade ago. It works, it's cheap, you won't die if you get it on your skin, and it has a long life-span in a closed container which would keep the alcohol from evaporating. Use an empty gallon jug to mix:

1 pint of rubbing alcohol, 1 pint of Formula 409 with 3 quarts of water. Transfer some of the mix into a spray bottle, and keep the bottle in your growing area to use on the first sign of pests.

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## Filler Factoids

*These emailed factoids have not been validated by any source.*

1. Every day more Monopoly money is printed than by the U.S. Treasury Department.
2. Men read smaller print than women, but women hear\* better. (*\*Every female in the society will swear to that!*)
3. It is impossible to lick your elbow.
4. The state with the biggest percent of people walking to work is Alaska.
5. The percent of Africa that is wilderness is 28%, while in North America the percentage is 38.
6. The cost of keeping a middle sized dog for 11 years is \$16,400.
7. 61,000 is the average number of Americans who are airborne at any hour.
8. Intelligent people have more Zinc and Copper in their hair than others.
9. The kings in a deck of cards are named for great kings in history: spades- King David, hearts- Charlemagne, clubs - Alexander the Great, and diamonds - Julius Caesar.
10. 50% of Americans live within 50 miles of their birthplace.
11. Women invented bullet proof vests, windshield wipers, and fire escapes. (*\* Every female in the society will get the point of this one.*)
12. 75% of those who read this try to lick their elbows.

## America's Favorites/ most used, or bought

Beer- Bud Light	Fast Food- Subway
Fruit -orange	TV show- American Idol
Vehicle- Ford F-150	Search engine- Google
Baby's name-Isabella/Jacob	Flower- Rose
Bread- white not wheat	Pet- cat not dog
Novel- The Last Symbol	Seafood- shrimp
Airport- Atlanta	Peanut butter- Jif
Potato chips- Lays	Ice cream- vanilla
Rx drug- Vicodin	Wine- red not white
Milk- skim not whole	Car color- white
Cereal- Honey Nut Cheerios	Soda- Coke, not Pepsi

\* Surgery- knee

\*Most frequently held job- sales clerk

\*Pure bred dog- 1-Lab, 2-German Shepherd, 3-Yorkie, 4 tied- Golden Retriever and Beagle

\*France is world wide the most traveled foreign country.

Bloomberg Businessweek. August, 2010. Pp 61-90

## Is This 'It' Member Helping ?

\* It never volunteers. Our meeting and show chores are for others.

\* It points out any error made by a working member. After all doing a good job 90% of the time is not enough.

\* It leaves in the middle of the speaker's presentation, or stands at the back of the room and talks.

\* It never turns off its cell phone.

\* It never brings in refreshments but takes 5 deserts.

\* It never says 'thank you' to a worker, or supports other members when they need it.

\* It will knock other people down to grab the best sale plant on the vendor's table. At the end of the meeting it leaves the spilled aliflor on the floor from the grabbed prize. Of course refreshment debris is also left in place.

*Most of our members are wonderful and do all they can to make the society the best. Let's hope the others reform or at least don't bring in bed bugs.*

## Pot Plant Orchid Survey

California, Florida, and Hawaii produce 94 % of the potted orchids sold in the mega stores in the United States. Even though orchids rank second to poinsettias as pot plants, the market in Hawaii has become flat, thus researchers at Texas A&M did a survey to try to determine why consumers purchase what they do.

57.8% of the respondents could identify the orchid species of the plant they had just bought, but 42.2% were clueless. When determining why purchasers selected a particular orchid 30.9% listed price, 26.28% listed size, and 25.58% listed species. The researches thought that growers would make more money by selling less expensive species in bigger, 5" or 6" pots.

Palma, Marco et. Al. 'Consumer Preferences for Potted Orchids in the Hawaiian Market' HortTechnology. 2010. 20: 239-244

## Life Goes On

Once I buried a dead koi, but not deep enough. A few days later I discovered that a probable possum had dug up the fish and eaten part of it. Flies were swarming around the fish, and a toad was there catching and eating the flies. Sorry about that nasty picture, but think about orchid **antipollinators**.

Spiders have been observed building webs in front of orchid flowers and trapping insect pollinators to the flowers. The pollinators serve as the spiders' meals. Frogs and praying mantids have also been observed on orchid flowers finding meals from pollinators or nectar seeking ants.

## The New Grower's Page

### Orchid Ailments

#### Leaves

##### Yellowing leaves:

This is a normal aging process if only old leaves on back bulbs are involved. If newer leaves yellow and soften, look for:

- too much light
- low temperature (*especially on Dendrobiums*)
- lack of nitrogen (*especially in bark*)
- loss of roots

##### Blackened areas on leaves:

The sudden appearance of brown then black areas on exposed surfaces of leaves on a bright, hot day, may be sunburn. Check shading. If the blackened areas increase in size, it might be a bacterial or fungal disease. Cut off diseased area, treat with fungicide, isolate plant, and dry it off.

##### Shriveled Pseudobulbs:

A sign that the plant is losing water content, it can be caused by:

- low humidity
- underwatering, dry medium
- loss of roots

##### Blackened tips or ends of leaves:

This could be caused by:

- overfeeding, cease fertilizing and flush plant with plain water.
- excessive minerals in water, have water analyzed
- leaf dieback, a fungal infection, cut off blackened areas and treat with fungicide.

##### Brown or black streaking or mottling of leaves:

This could be a virus infection. Send a leaf to your nearest agricultural experimental station. (*Isolate the plant at once, and if it is not really special, forget the testing and toss it.*)

##### Small spots on leaves, reddish brown turning black:

Probably a fungal infection favored by warmth, high humidity and poor light. Reduce humidity and treat with fungicide.

#### Flowers:

##### Deformed flowers:

If deformed flowers are produced each year, it is probably inherent. Destroy the plant. (*A number of people collect "pyloric" or deformed flowering plants. If the strange bloom is "neat" keep the plant.*)

An occasional deformed flower can be caused by:

- high temperature and low humidity when buds were forming
- virus infection, isolate plant
- mechanical or chemical injury to the bud

##### Rapid wilting of flower:

If dorsal sepal wilts or dries early, or entire flower "goes to sleep" shortly after opening, it could be caused by:

- sudden change in climate
- pollination by an unknown pollinator
- air pollution by ethylene or other gas

##### Spotting on flowers:

Light brown or pinkish dots and spots on flowers after opening usually indicate fungus, Botrytis, or sooty mold. Reduce humidity, increase air movement, remove spotted and old flowers from *growing area*

##### Punctures on flowers:

Denotes presence of aphids or thrips, spray with Malathion or *Orthene*..

##### Chewed or eroded flowers, buds or other plant parts:

Shows presence of slugs or snails or cockroaches. (*You live in South Florida, you know what to do: curse, cry, clean up all ground debris where the varmints breed and hide.*)

##### Color mottling of flowers:

This could be a color-breaking virus. Isolate plant, get expert opinion, or destroy the plant *and its pot*..

#### Roots:

Numerous causes, difficult to diagnose:

- over watering
- black rot, an infection of Pythium
- excessive salt content of water
- potting medium old and broken down, Repot.

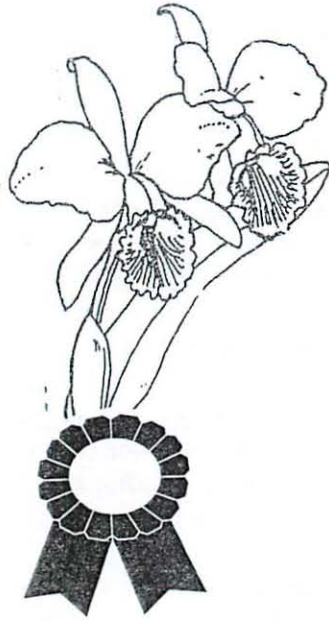
#### Entire Plant:

White cottony mass (mealy bugs or scale eggs), gray, brown or black crust (scale insects) or "*rusted*" looking appearance on underside of leaf (spider mites) See last month's newsletter

*Editor's note: This page is almost verbatim from a chart in Growing Orchids, 1993. The American Orchid Society Handbook on Orchid Culture. Phrases found in italics are editor's additions. Some parts of the original chart were omitted since they do not apply to growing orchids here..*

### Good Ideas

- \* Move orchids in bud with green flowers into more shade so they will hold a darker green longer and turn toward yellow slower.
- \* Also move budded Oncidinae into more shade so the flower color will be darker.
- \* We all have microclimates in our growing area with more and less light. When you buy a new plant, put it with other plants with the same shade of green in their leaves. You will be putting the new plant in the light from which it came.



## Ribbon Judging Results, September 13<sup>th</sup>

### Culture:

**Sue and Bruce Muntz-** *Catasetum pileatum*

**Bonnie Bonneau-** /blue/ *Zygonisia cynosure* 'Blue Birds # 1'

**Mary Burtoff** /blues/ *Pholidota ruba*, and *Bulbophyllum carunculous*

**Tom Kuligowski** /blue/ *Ang. Leonis*, /red/ *Ang. Shooting Star*

**Tony Millet-**/blue/ *Blc. Golden Tang*

**Rob Rinn** /blue/ *C. Wendlandiana*

**John Wrench** /red/ *Cirr. Lepidum*

Thank you, these plants were awesome, and you are all congratulated for having blooms this time of year.

### September Refreshment Thanks Go To:

Norm Petersmarck, Vicki Trank, Shelly Jones, Sandi Gardner, Connie Walker, Danielle Bejar, Eileen Toler, Leah Ostrander, Carrie Ackerman, Petra Thomas, Mary Burtoff, Bonnie Bonneau, Chris Crepage, and Nora Dyke.

Web Site: [www.flos.org](http://www.flos.org)

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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.

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

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

**FORT LAUDERDALE  
ORCHID SOCIETY**

