



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 62 Issue 4

April 2012

APRIL SPEAKER: BOB FUCHS

Bob Fuchs is an “accredited American Orchid Society judge, he travels extensively throughout the world to attend orchid shows, present lectures and programs to orchid societies and other groups, and he is the author of the section on “Vanda Culture” in the American Orchid Society’s Handbook on Orchid Culture.

Bob is a life member and former trustee of the American Orchid Society, life member of the Royal Horticultural Society of Thailand, member of the Royal Horticultural Society in England, past president and board member of the South Florida Orchid Society; founding member and past president of the East Everglades Orchid Society. In 1994 the South Florida Orchid Society presented him with its Distinguished Service Award.

In the fall of 2002, Bob was appointed Co-Chairman of the 19th World Orchid Conference, in January, 2008 in Miami. Held once every three years in a different international location, the World Orchid Conference is the largest and most prestigious gathering of orchid professionals, scientists, growers and hobbyists. The 19th World Orchid Conference was hosted jointly by the South Florida Orchid Society and the Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society at the Sheraton Miami Mart Convention Center.” Robert Fuchs (© 2011, R.F. Orchids, Inc., all rights reser.

Bob’s talk will be on Vandaceous Intergenerics—this is a program not to be missed!

ARE YOU READY TO RAMBLE?

We are all set to travel to the Homestead area for an Orchid Excursion and nurseries tour. Of course, our trip would not be complete unless it included a stop at r.f. Orchids, where we will shop for exotic orchid specimens, and also dine on our (personally packed) brownbag gourmet lunches under the chickee hut, set in the midst of the lush and well manicured orchidscape. After that, we will venture to a behind the scenes tour of Pine Ridge Orchids. Primarily a wholesale supplier to the industry, we will be able to see the inner workings of a commercial grower at near the peak of the season, as well as taking advantage of the opportunity to make purchases (**cash only**) of world class plants to add to our collections. We also have a couple of surprise stops ‘up our sleeve’, so call and make arrangements to ‘board the bus’ and be a part of a fabulous day of orchids. Here’s the scoop:

Date: Sat., April 14, 2012

Bus Departs: 8:00 AM from Cardinal Gibbons H.S. Parking Lot - Return: before 5:00 PM

Cost: \$30.00

Bring: Bag Lunch and Drinks - Coolers – OK
Box to Store Plant Purchases
Snacks (We like to pass around the bus)

Directions: from Fed Hwy go East on Commercial Blvd to Bayview

Turn right (South) on Bayview 2 Blocks, then right - You will see Cardinal Gibbons High School Parking lot on left.

Call: Allen Cogar: 954-553-1351 to reserve your place on the bus!



Inside this issue:

MARCH SPEAKER 2

MEMBERS' CORNER 2

BIRTH OF A SHOOTING STAR 3



Google Image



Photo by Todd McLean

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

MARCH PROGRAM: MAC RIVENBARK

Our March speaker was Mac Rivenbark. Mac & Helen have been collecting and growing orchids for over 13 years. Mac was inspired to join the FLOS by one of his neighbors. This reinforced his desire to grow, share and sell orchids. Now, Mac is a renowned professional orchid cultivator, speaker, and seller.

The Rivenbark's topic was Exotic Dendrobiums from Asia to Australia, a topic they know well given they grow over 300 varieties. With great appreciation he selected over 30 endemic species to share with us. Here are a few of the highlights and some growing specifications for them.

- Den. anosmum - bright purple and tons of flowers, grows everywhere and in all elevations on the island.
- Den. aphyllum - leafless and mounts easily,
- Den. primulinum - purple petals and fuzzy white lip (primrose orchid)
- Den. lituiflorum - like the hot to warm climates,
- Den. bullenianum -orange/goldenrod and goldschmidianum (bright pink) are two leaf less orchids with mix-matched names.
- Den. purperum - delicate icy white with light green tips and it also comes in pink.
- Den. aggregatum - (flowers are close together) a year around water lover, group these with Vandas, since they have similar watering requirements.
- Den. uniflorum - (popcorn orchid) best to mount this one.
- Den. heterocarpum - buff-yellow flowers, smaller plants (2-3ft) grows in lower elevations while the large (8-10ft) grows higher in the mountains.
- Den. secundum - (toothbrush orchid) flowers like the nickname suggests,
- Den. speciosum - slender white orchids from Australia,
- Den. spectabile - 1 of 2 dendrobiums sought after by orchids hunters in the middle and late 1800's.
- Den. smillieae - likes bright light and extra water in summer but let it stay dry in winter.
- Den. sanderae - showy, large white flower (5in.)
- Den. dearei - pristine white flowers for 3 months at time,
- Den. loddigesii - thrives on neglect, grows in bushes in Asia, best to mount it and leave it alone,
- Den. unicum - such a prolific bloomer, it starts flowering in flasks.

Thanks again Mac and Helen for a great program.



Den. anosmum 'Touch of Class' CCM HOS
Photographed by Melvin Waki
Google Image



Google Image

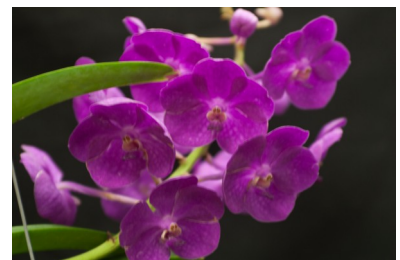


Photo by Nina

MEMBERS' CORNER

Many thanks to all our renewing members, and a special welcome to new member Roby Tannebaum. New members get an information packet filled with all sorts of orchid goodies, and also receive a gift plant to add to their collection. If you joined at our Orchid Show in January and haven't received yours, just talk to Rich at the membership table at our next meeting. Hope to see you all on our April 14 ramble!

RIBBON WINNERS FOR MARCH

Ascocenda Macarena Iglesias	Jeff Tucker	Blue
Brassolaeliocattleya Burdekin Wonder 'Lake Land'	Paul Gartner	Blue
Cattleya Dennis Kone	Ken Workman	Blue
Dendrobium Red Emperor 'Prince'	Carol Jones	Blue
Epicyclia Serena O'Neil	Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
Guarianthe aurantiaca	Michael Bryant	Blue
Paphiopedilum Tying Shin Cupid 'Maria Teresa'	John Wrench	Blue
Tolumnia Ralph Yaco	Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
Potinara Love Passion Daqaspil × Pot. Wm Farrell × Lc. Thick	Paul Gartner	Red
Cattleya intermedia 'White Dwarf' × C. skinneri var. alba	Vicki Hallock	Culture
Dendrobium nobile	International Orchid Services	Culture
Dendrobium secundum	Bob Isaacs	Culture
Dendrobium speciosum	Helen Riverbark	Culture

BIRTH OF A SHOOTING STAR

by Tom Kuligowski

On August 12, 2010 the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) officially registered Angraecum Shooting Star. The originators, Hendrick and Quintus Vorster, from HQ Orchids based in South Africa had created a robust plant that had become popular with both professional growers and hobbyists before the plant was even registered. I was very fortunate and picked one up at a reasonable price fifteen months before RHS bestowed the registration on this amazing hybrid. It was simply known as Angcm. florulentum x Angcm. eburneum ssp. xerophilum.

As it turns out, the sub-tropical climate of South Florida is very conducive for Angraecum Shooting Star. The development of the plant has been nothing short of spectacular. Whether rain fall has been extremely heavy or the lack of (which we've experienced the last two years), the plant has done very well. With an increased number of flowers through the last three blooming periods; and seven new plants at the basal section of the plant.

The plant was placed in a 6 inch clay pot with ample drainage holes at the base in a mixture of equal amounts of medium pieces of coconut husks, charcoal, perlite and tree fir. A small amount of sphagnum moss was added to hold moisture. During the warmer months of early May through early October, the plant is watered every 3 days. When temperatures finally start cooling off, watering should be cut back to every 5 – 7 days. There is a dry period for both sets of parents of the hybrid. Keep the water flowing in culture and the plant will continue to grow and thrive. Try not to let water sit on the leaves where they are connected to the stem.

Fertilizer should be used once every week throughout the entire year. It is easy to dispense while doing the watering of the plant. A systemic fungicide applied once every four weeks, especially the bottom parts of the leaves (where most fungus will show its ugly head first). As usual, it is advantageous to keep a handy quart spray bottle with a topical fungicide in case of minor issues.

As mentioned earlier, there is a dry period for both sets of parents. Angcm. eburneum ssp. xerophilum comes from the southern end of Madagascar. It is one of the few Angraecums that grow in that semi-arid region. It primarily grows as a lithophyte in very bright light. This being the reason that it's rather short for an eburneum. The stem tops off at about 30 – 35 cm (12 – 14 inches tall). Angcm. florulentum (from the Comoro Islands, grows epiphytically on tree trunks and in thick scrub at elevations between 600 – 1000 meters, where it dries out during cooler months), it grows to a height of 35 – 40 cm (14 – 16 inches) with the thickness of the stem being 4 mm (about a ¼ inch) which is less than a third of Angcm. eburneum ssp. xerophilum (1.3 cm, 9/16ths of an inch).

The leaves on Angcm. eburneum ssp. xerophilum are 13 – 15 cm (between 5 – 6 inches long) and very thick and leathery; holding moisture for the drier months. While those on Angcm. florulentum are not as long nor are they as thick (8 – 10 cm long, between 3 – 4 inches).

Flowers from both parents are very similar in size (5 x 4 cm, 2 ¼ x 1 ¾ inches), although the spur on the Angcm. florulentum is about 1 – 2 cm longer (about ¾ inch longer).

What does all of this really mean; if you take a little of this (seed parent – Angcm. florulentum) and mix it with a little of that (pollen parent – Angcm. eburneum ssp. xerophilum) you will get the hybrid Angraecum Shooting Star. My plant looks to have the sturdiness and hardiness of Angcm. eburneum ssp. xerophilum but the height of Angcm. florulentum. The flowers appear to be a little of both, although the spur is longer than both parents, 10 – 13 cm (4 – 5 inches long) and they are a very pristine white. It is a very beautiful addition to my collection.



Photo by Tom Kuligowski



Photo by Tom Kuligowski

Take a moment and check my blog:
<http://angraecums.blogspot.com>
Always looking for new members!
Lets all learn together!

Tom Kuligowski

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

Thank you kitchen staff: Geri Vatovec and Nina Anton. Our March refreshments were provided by: Carrie Ackerman, Maeva Malloy, Paul Gartner, Bonnie Bonneau, Joan Connors, Nina Anton, Barbara M Brown, Grace Vicino, Danielle Bejar, Norma Jeanne Flack



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society
PO Box 4677

Regular Meetings: Second Monday of each month
Time: 7:30 pm

Place: Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.

Directions: East on Oakland Park Blvd. from I-95
Go East for 2.4 miles, left 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. Or to take
US - 1 (Federal Hwy.) Go to Oakland Park Blvd. go west for two blocks turn north on NE 20th Ave.
park in rear.

President: Allen Cogar

1st Vice President: Michael Schaberl

2nd Vice President: Rich Ackerman

Recording Sec.: Gigi Granger

Corresponding Sec.: Zoe Bejar

Treasurer: Brian Boyle

Sunshine: 954-491-1267

Newsletter: 954-532-7637