



Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 62 Issue 7

July 2012

JULY SPEAKER: BRIAN MONK



Brian Monk was born in Milton, Florida in 1969. Shortly after his birth, Brian's family moved to Charleston, West Virginia where he spent the next 18 years. As a young man, Brian's intense passion for nature led to his profession and his many hobbies including bird-watching, orchid growing and natural history.

In 1992, Brian received his B.S., *cum laude*, from Hampden Sydney College in Virginia followed by a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Virginia Tech in 1997. In 2005, while working as a Veterinarian in Orlando, Florida, Brian met the love of his life, Mary-Margaret, in Ft. Lauderdale.

Because of their passion for all things orchid, Brian and Mary-Margaret formed Blu Llama Orchids, Inc. They were married on April Fool's Day in 2006 and reside in Ft. Lauderdale with their five cats and their ever expanding orchid collection.

Brian started growing and hybridizing orchids in his backyard, but this has expanded to 4000 square feet of greenhouse space. He will grow anything green, but focuses on his hybridizing projects, which include the development of multi-floral white and pink Paphiopedilums, warmth-tolerant red Oncidiinae, and a standard pink Cattleya with an all-white lip.

Accompanied by his wife and inspired by his orchids, Brian continues to pursue and perfect his orchid culture and photographic skills. Brian's photography has won awards online, in the 2007 Miami International Orchid Show, and at the 2008 World Orchid Conference, and (was) exhibited in Florida and California in 2009. Brian is currently a student judge with the American Orchid Society. (from Blu Llama web site)

Brian's talk will be on Tolumnia orchids—don't miss this one!

CARE FOR ORCHIDS IN WET WEATHER

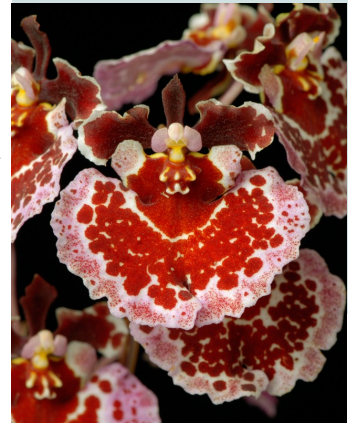
The recent wet weather has been a boon to Vanda's and other bare root orchids. However, it also means that special care should be taken to ward off against problems that ensue. Mainly the dreaded Black Rot! Here are a few tips and tricks to keep in mind when dealing with this in your collection:

- Black rot is a disease caused by the fungi *Pythium ultimum* and *Phytophthora cactorum*. Although it affects a wide variety, Cattleyas seem to be especially prone to it.
- Prevent plants from being contaminated by not using unsterilized pots, media or water sources.
- The fungi spores can spread easily in wet conditions through splashing water. It can take hold of any part of an adult plant (leaves, pseudobulbs or roots) and spreads.
- If you see black rot in any of your orchids remove it from the collection and keep it dry. Remove the affected area and a small portion of healthy tissue around it with sterilized tools to prevent the rot from spreading. This may involve removing entire growths until healthy tissue is observed. Generally, the affected tissue may have a dark tinge to it. (cont. on page 3)

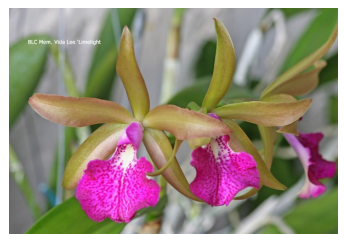


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Darcey Hackney Lotsa Spots2



AOS CORNER

This month I thought I would give a sampling of some of the information one can obtain from the AOS website. More in depth information is available to AOS members by logging into the webpage with your own name and password. Below, however, is an excerpt from the monthly checklist section – probably one of the more widely visited areas of the website.

Cattleya - Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs owing to characteristically high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a must in areas of the country where it is effective. Where it is not (the more humid regions), care needs to be paid to proper venting to keep temperatures within reason. Bottom vents in conjunction with top vents provide enough rising airflow to help keep plants cool. Increased air flow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent damping down and watering, in areas where high humidity is not a problem. Higher light and heat indicate more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of this autumn, winter and spring's blooms, so applying adequate fertilizer this month is the best way to ensure future blooms. Higher temperatures and humidity may also lead to fungal or bacterial rot problems, so it is important to closely observe your plants for any early indication of problems. Pests are also at a high point this month for the same reason.

Paphiopedilum - Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these two months to prevent stress and avoid disease problems. Watering needs to be closely monitored to ensure that plants do not dry out. Warmer-growing hybrids will be at the peak of their blooming, with attention needing to be paid to staking of spikes. Look for water lodging in growths, which can rot emerging spikes and lead to the loss of the entire growth.

Cymbidium - Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

-- Taken from the American Orchid Society Website – All About Orchids – Monthly Checklist – July and August

There are also a number of videos and articles that are available to the public and many more to the AOS Members.

Lynn Fuller, Chair

AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

June Speaker: Patsy West

Ms. West began her presentation by reminding us of the Orchids 2012 IV Scientific Conference on the Andean Orchids and IX Ecuador International Orchids Show this fall in Guayaquil Ecuador. She recommended that we arrange to visit the Orchid and Cloud Forest Lodge. Alfonso Pozo established the preserve near Cuenca. His lodge features a view over looking the basin. A tour of the preserve begins 9,600 feet up the mountain-side. Journeying down the mountain is strenuous, humid, and often extremely wet.

As one treks through the understory, Masdevillas, and Dracula orchids bloom in bright-shade hammocks. Just out of reach of hikers, oversized stems with hundreds of oncidiums are like ready-made bouquets. Epidendrums grow like weeds, some with bulb bases too large for one person to carry much less transport to a safe relocation. The forest floors are home to 'jeweled orchids', bromeliads, and pink sphagnum mosses. One in four plants in Ecuador is an orchid.

Ecuador has specialized ecosystems. The indigenous foliage of the cloud forest catch the clouds. Hundreds of inches of water are collected, absorbed or dropped to the understory by the native trees. It is estimated that these specialized ecosystems, lost forever by deforestation, causes a 60% reduction in the precipitation. Preserves maybe the only protection for a country with over 4,000 species of orchids. Just another reason, besides the conference, the lodge, the cloud forest, and of course the orchids to book that trip to the Andes. (Gigi Granger)



MEMBERS' CORNER

A big FLOS welcome to returning members David Bogardus and John Adornato. We are glad to see them back.

We are working on our 2012-2013 membership roster and it should be ready for distribution in July. Thank you all for the updates and renewals! Initial distribution will be at meetings so stop by the membership table and pick one up. Later on we will mail out copies, so let a Board member know if you want one mailed to you.

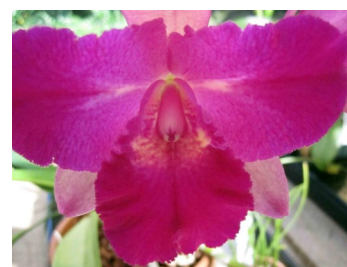
Summer sees fewer orchids in bloom, but if you've got a good one, share a photo on our Facebook page. We all enjoy seeing each others' photos.

JUNE RIBBONS

| | | |
|--|-------|----------------------|
| Lctna. Quests' Sexy Eyes 'Paradise' | BLUE | BOB ISAACS |
| Enc. Tampensis | BLUE | N. RUDOLF |
| Ctism Alexis Pardo x Cl. Dodsoniana Clo Sandy Kasner | BLUE | RANDY CLYDE |
| Enc. alata | BLUE | CHIP JONES |
| Blc. Margorie Hausermann | BLUE | TONY MILLET |
| Eppi oerstedii | BLUE | CHUCK McCARTNEY |
| C. Green Emerald 'Orchid Queen' | BLUE | CHIP JONES |
| Sc. Crystelle Smith | BLUE | RUBBEN HOWE |
| Stlma. Florida Sunset | BLUE | CONNIE WALKER |
| Aerides Aer. odorata | GREEN | INT. ORCHID SERVICES |
| Enc. cochleata | GREEN | INT. ORCHID SERVICES |
| Enc. tampensis | GREEN | CHIP JONES |



Enc. Tampensis Google Image



Lctna. Quests Sexy Eyes Paradise' Google Image

(cont. from page 1)

- You may need to remove the plant from the pot and check to see if it has reached down all the way to the rhizome.
- The 'wound' can be sealed with Cinnamon which is an excellent fungicide! You can also use StopRot which is made specifically for orchids.
- Take care of affected plants with chemical fungicides like Truban or Terrazole if caught early. Systemic fungicides like Aliette, Subdue, Captan, Dithane M-45 and Physan 20 are also recommended by some growers in advanced cases.
- Provide good air movement and plenty of space between plants to prevent the disease from 'jumping' from plant to plant. (AOS <http://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=119>)



enc cochleata



sc crystelle smith



stlma Florida sunset



C. Green Emerald 'Orchid Queen'

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Thank you.

Thank you kitchen staff: Geri Vatovec and Nina Anton. Our September refreshments were provided by: Kathy Homann, Grace Vicino, Vicki Trank, Paul Gartner, Dee Flores



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.

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