



# FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY

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

## NOVEMBER SPEAKER FRANCISCO MIRANDA



Born in Rio de Janeiro, Francisco has been growing orchids since 1979, the same year he completed his degree in Biology, and began his taxonomic studies on the orchid family. He obtained his master's degree in 1985 with his thesis "*Section Cattleyodes of the genus Laelia*". He spent many years doing field research on Brazilian orchids resulting in many new species being described and published two books and several scientific papers.

In 1996, he was the Program Chairman for the 15th World Orchid Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. For many years Miranda went at least twice a year to the United States and other countries with the main purpose of giving lectures to Orchid Societies. From 1986 to 2000 he had an orchid nursery in Rio de Janeiro, Orquidário Boa Vista, specializing in producing superior cultivars of Brazilian orchid species. Presently, he owns Miranda Orchids, a Haines City, Florida-based Nursery, where high-quality species in the Cattleya alliance are being produced, continuing Orquidário Boa Vista's tradition.

Since 2001, he's been a qualified Taxonomic Authority for the American Orchid Society, specializing in the determination of Brazilian orchids, mainly of the Cattleya alliance.

A gifted lecturer, he has concentrated on speaking primarily to conservation minded orchid societies. His overwhelming knowledge of his native Brazil, coupled with his insights about orchid observation in native habitat, make this presentation one you will not want to miss if you like seeing the beauty of orchids in nature. (Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee) (cont. on page 2)

## President's Message

By Gigi Granger

I would like to thank everyone who helped prepare and run our auction. We grossed over \$7,000, exceeding last year by nearly \$3,000. Thanks to:

- Rich Ackerman for his efforts and preparations leading up to this event. For nearly six months, he housed and rehabilitated the Burtoff collection. Rich sent out request for donations from growers and arranged for pick up dates. Finally, his crew managed transport, unloading and set up.
- FLOS members who donated their own orchids and orchid related materials. They really were a big blessing.
- Stephen White and the Perez family: Mercedes, Carolyn and Ari. They recently moved away from Florida and donated orchids and materials. Their generosity added more volume to the auction.
- The House Committee, Tin and Craig for the early set up and late closing.
- Kathy, Deb and Fran for the "Fall" themed refreshments and, of course donuts.
- The auction crew: Allen Cogar and Rick Bellas ran plants, Tin Ly, Jill Smith, Joan Connors, and Criag Barry tallied bids. Brian Boyle and Sue Mitchell-Grieg cashiered.
- Ginny Salus and Luanne Betz worked on getting show tickets out, and Michael Schaberl worked on getting volunteers for the show.
- A special thank you to Mac Rivenbark for his knowledge, and his voice as our auctioneer.

Finally, we are entering show season, so as you are shopping this season, take a moment to thank growers who donated to our auction.

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## Mark Your Calendar

<b>November 12</b> <b>Francisco Miranda</b>	<b>December 9</b> Holiday Party <b>See invitation on pages 3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>Jan. 25, 26 &amp; 27</b> FLOS Annual Show & Sale
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# HOMESTEAD BUS RAMBLE

Date: Saturday, Nov 10, 2018

Meet: Christ Lutheran Church  
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd  
Fort Lauderdale FL 33306

Departs: 8:00 AM Sharp

Returns: 4:00 to 5:00 PM

Destinations: Quest Orchids  
Soroa Orchids  
R.F. Orchids – Lunch and shopping  
Last Stop TBD ?

Cost: \$30.00 Per Person

What to bring: Lunch  
Box or Crate to hold your purchases  
Personal Beverages

LUNCH – We will have our lunches at the Pavilion at R.F. Orchids

Water and juices will be available on board bus. You may want to bring snacks for the ride.  
Drawings for FREE plants on the bus!

Contact: Capt. Allen 954.553.1351 or  
tacogar@gmail.com



# KEIKI CLUB NEWS

BY JILL SMITH

There will be more Keiki news to report next month since the October and November meetings are so close together, but never let it be said that the Keikis are an idle bunch! They were at the ready helping to move plants from Rich Ackerman's to the auction venue and they were there to lend a hand as well as bid and buy. Many have volunteered their services and contributed greatly to FLOS, and we are most grateful for their assistance and happy that they are assimilating to the group and learning how to better grow their orchids!



Photo by Jill Smith

Our October meeting at Lori Cervene's and Dolores Hurst's growing areas will be reported at a later date as will our forthcoming meeting at Lydia Davis' and Bernie Dusch's home in Southwest Ranches on November 3. Announcements are always sent via email, so keep a look out for messages about our doings.



Photo by Jill Smith

Also, save the December 2 date for a casual holiday cocktail gathering at Scott and Donna Peplin's Orchid Bar and Grill! Time to be determined, but it will be late afternoon. Do NOT confuse this event with the FLOS Holiday Party on December 9.

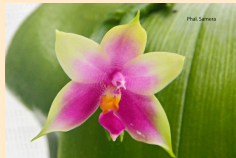
Jill Smith ([jsmith8146@comcast.net](mailto:jsmith8146@comcast.net)),  
Rick Bellas ([willbell@aol.com](mailto:willbell@aol.com))  
Sue Mitchell-Grieg ([smg05kw@gmail.com](mailto:smg05kw@gmail.com))

**Delray Beach Orchid Society**  
ORCHIDS - on the - SQUARE

**Orchid Show & Sale**  
October 26-28, 2018  
FRI/SAT 10-5 • SUN 10-4  
ADMISSION \$5

Held inside Old School Square Fieldhouse  
51 N. Swinton Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33444  
[www.DelrayBeachOrchidSociety.com](http://www.DelrayBeachOrchidSociety.com)  
Call 561-573-2422 or 561-573-2360

I want to thank John Wrench, Joan Connors and Kate Donohue for their monthly help in proofreading the FLOS Newsletter. Without their input this publication would have many, many more grammatical, punctuation, and design errors, as well as much misinformation. Thank you for your help and support!



Phal. Samera



Amazon has a program called Amazon Smile that donates 0.5% of your purchase price to a non-profit if you join the Smile program. FLOS is on their list of supported non-profits so you can choose to support us while you shop!

(cont from Page 1)

## NOVEMBER SPEAKER FRANCISCO MIRANDA

Francisco is a much sought-after speaker on Brazilian orchids. The FLOS has visited his nursery on west coast rambles, where we saw his amazing laelia collection and a huge variety of bifoliate cattleyas.



Make yourself known as a FLOS member by wearing your new identification button. This button is yours to keep so it can be worn to Keiki meetings, rambles and at shows (Redlands, Mounts, etc). Keep it in your car so it will always be handy. Be sure to pick up your button at the membership table.



# OUR ANNUAL SHOW: ORCHID PARADISE

Jan. 25-27, 2019

## ORCHID PARADISE 2019: THE EXCITEMENT BUILDS!



At the October auction we began distributing members Pre-Sale show tickets. Every member will be given 8 tickets (16 for dual memberships) and is asked to sell (or buy them yourself and give as gifts) 8 tickets to the show. The pre-sale tickets are only \$10.00 each, a \$5.00 savings from the \$15.00 price at the door. As a 'Thank You' for selling your pre-sale tickets, you

will be given a "golden ticket" to attend the Gala Preview Party on Thursday evening, January 24th at the War Memorial. The party will again feature live music, great food and, best of all, the first chance to preview and purchase from the entire selection of orchids the vendors have to sell. It is always a fun evening! If you have not sold your tickets, or you want to buy a ticket for a friend, you can still attend the Preview Party by purchasing a ticket for \$80.00 and enjoy the party with your FLOS friends. Tickets can be paid for on our website ([flos.org](http://flos.org)), at the November or January meeting (Our Holiday party is our December event), using the envelope provided with the tickets, or by contacting Ginny Salus ([ginny@salus.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:ginny@salus.onmicrosoft.com) or 954-303-1789). Please keep in mind that all unsold tickets must be returned prior to the show or we will be charged for them by the War Memorial.

Also, at the annual FLOS Auction we had our Show Volunteer sign up boards and had a great number of FLOS members sign up to work at the show. You will be given another chance to sign up at the November meeting, so bring your calendar and plan on donating at least 4 hours of your time (or make it an all-day) over the show weekend. Remember: volunteers have fun, meet other members, get into the show for free and are given a free orchid at the February meeting to say thank

you for making this incredible show the best on the east coast! Together we are very strong, and your volunteering makes a huge difference to our reputation in the orchid world and with all who attend the show.

Volunteers are critical to the show's success. We need you all.

Also remember we have 3 new Prize Categories this year, each with a \$250.00 cash award. (Details of the categories will be announced at our next meeting.) These three are only available to FLOS members, so start grooming your best Cattleya's and Dendrobiums. One of the new awards is for a cut flower display. More information will be forthcoming on how this newest award will be judged.

If you cannot attend the November meeting, please feel free to contact me with any show related questions or to sign up as a volunteer.

Thanks in advance,  
Michael Schaberl, FLOS Show Chairperson  
[michaelschaberl@comcast.net](mailto:michaelschaberl@comcast.net)



2018 Preview Party



FLOS 2018 Show photos



# OLIVIER SHARES HIS EXPERIENCES



## THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE CATASETUM FAMILY

-Catasetum and Cynoches have separate male and female flowers. Typically, you only get one or the other but not both at a time, but any plant can carry either or both.

-In Catasetums, the showy flowers are male. They are the ones used to distinguish the species, while female flowers tend to look the same across all species. Female flowers are vastly different from male flowers: The female flowers are green and look like a helmet. The female flowers are less attractive, but also a lot less common. The flower count is typically lower for female flowers, but they last longer. The female flowers are believed to be induced by higher light and/or older plants. You should expect a majority of male flowers throughout the life of a plant.



This is a picture of a Ctsm. Sheriff Frank Drew which carried BOTH male and female flowers on the same spike earlier this year. (Photo by Olivier)

-Cynoches have the same oddity, but unlike Catasetums, the female flowers are typically fairly attractive and not so different from male flowers. None of the other genera and inter generic hybrids share this characteristic.

-Cataseums' male flowers have a "trigger" that ejects the pollen at the slightest touch. While fun to experience, you should avoid this as the flower dies the next day once the pollen is triggered.

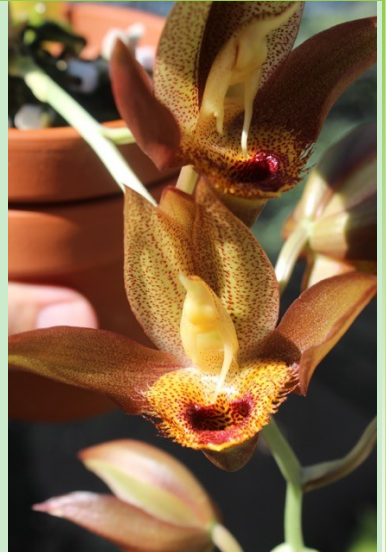
-The only true pests are mites. It is a real concern for Catasetums, but not lethal and easy to treat if you catch it early. All it does really is make the leaves ugly. The good news with Catasetums is that they get brand new leaves every year. So, if you have a bad year with mites, you get to start fresh the next season unlike other genera where leaves are permanently blighted by mites if you fall asleep at the wheel.

-Do not spray any insecticide on flowers as they are fragile.

-The only true issue with diseases is rot. Cynoches and Mormodes species are the most susceptible to rot, but even Catasetums have bulbs that rot. You should excise a rotting bulb at the first sign of rot. Preventive treatment against rot is a good idea, but that is truly the most difficult aspect of Catasetum cultivation since they really need a lot of water during growing season.

-Inflorescences of Catasetums and Clowesia start at the bottom of the bulb, while those of Cynoches and Mormodes grow higher up on the bulb. I had a Cynodes 'Wine Delight' once which grew 9 inflorescences starting at the top of the bulb all the way down to the bottom.

-A typical Catasetum's flowers lasts 5 to 15 days, but the plant will often rebloom more than once per season, and they sometimes grow 2 or more inflorescences at the same time. Summer flowers last the least amount of time as the heat damages them. Female flowers last a lot longer and so do Clowesias. Most inter generic hybrids. Some can last one month.



This is a photo of my favorite catasetum: Ctsm. *Schmidtianum* (Photo by Olivier)

## FLOS 2018 ANNUAL AUCTION



# Winter Holiday Party



FLOS Holiday Party 2016

**Where:** Hugh's Catering  
 4351 NE 12th. Terrace  
 Oakland Park, FL  
 (Directions on back of this page)

**When:** Sunday, December 9, 2018  
 6:30—10:30 PM

**Musical entertainment provided by  
 SALVATORE FAZIO!!!!!!**

Entree selections (one for each person):

- \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Marsala
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tenderloin of Beef
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pan-Seared Tuna
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

From 6:30 to 7:30 there will be an open bar; from 7:30 to 10:30 wine and coffee only will be served. Other beverages may be purchased at the bar.

You can sign up now at <https://members.flos.org>; and pay online:

- go to <https://members.flos.org>
- log in (only members can log in)
- click on Events
- click on Holiday Party and follow the directions

Names of members attending:

Total for members \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40 each)

Names of guests attending :

Total for Guests \_\_\_\_\_ (\$65 each)

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

People you would like to sit with:

(we will try to accommodate seating requests)

Please detach below the red dotted line and send with your check (make checks out to Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society) **by December 1** to:

Paula Kramer: 4400 NE 16th Terrace, Oakland Park FL 33334  
[pk@mtwevents.com](mailto:pk@mtwevents.com)



## Driving Direction to Hugh's Catering

### From Interstate 95

Take Exit 32 East – Commercial Boulevard. Continue to North Dixie Highway. Turn Right and go to the next light – Florinada. Turn left and go over the train tracks and make the next right onto NE 12<sup>th</sup> Terrace. Hugh's will be on the right. Drive through gates.

### From Federal Highway

Turn onto Florinada (Macy's Furniture Gallery is on the corner) and drive down to NE 12<sup>th</sup> Terrace (last street before the train tracks). Turn left and Hugh's will be on the right. Drive through gates.

### Parking

There is ample parking on Hugh's property.



FLOS Holiday Party 2017



FLOS Holiday Party 2017



Hugh's Catering photos

# A NEOPHYTE'S JOURNEY

By Kate Donohue

## To Moss or Not to Moss

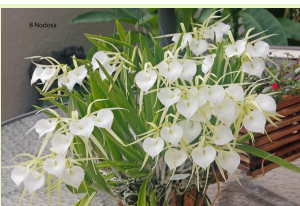
That is perhaps the most perplexing question that has dogged me throughout my journey. Sphagnum moss is the recommended medium for Phalaenopses, and many growers use it for Catasetums and Paphiopedilums because it helps retain the moisture they need.

However, my experience with it has been disastrous. Every time I've used it, my orchids go into rapid decline. When I remove them from their pots, I always discover rotted roots and a green, goopy, soupy mix that looks about as appetizing as those kelp health drinks you whip up in your Ninja blender. I've tried substituting clay pots and even plastic baskets for the recommended plastic pots, but the result is still the same. Scott Peplin recommends saturating the moss with Paysan and water-soluble fertilizer before using it, because it helps keep the algae away and other undesirable stuff found in moss. That didn't work for me either. I lost several cherished Catasetums along with my Phals and a couple of recently acquired Paphs.

All my orchids are grown outside in my new shade house, so orchids in moss medium get the same amount of rain as the other orchids. We did have an unusually heavy amount of rain this year until the last month, which no doubt contributed to the problem. I keep the Phals and Paphs under the eaves, but they still get very wet.

It's not in my nature to accept defeat, even against overwhelming odds, so I read some more, polled some fellow FLOS members, and started experimenting. First, I tried the Phal mix available from orchid suppliers. Results were better, especially for the Catasetums, but still not great. I suspected there was not enough air getting to the roots, plus I needed better drainage. I remembered a speaker last year who swore by a mix of 1/3 chopped sphagnum moss, 1/3 clay pebbles, and 1/3 coconut fiber. Now THAT sounded promising, but I didn't have any coconut fiber on hand, so had to substitute.

What I've come up with is a mix of approximately 1/3 chopped sphagnum moss pretreated as recommended by Scott, 1/3 clay pebbles (plus an extra layer at the bottom of the pot to help drainage), and 1/3 combination of sponge rock, charcoal and commercial Phal mix. I've also ditched the plastic pots and am trying clay pots and plastic baskets instead.



Believe I have finally found the right recipe that works for MY growing conditions, in MY shade house. At least, I haven't lost any more orchids, and some are starting to recover. When I buy orchids grown in sphagnum moss, I immediately repot them in other medium. Sphagnum moss alone does not work for me, no matter how many experts recommend it.



**AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY WEBINARS**  
Webinars are online video presentations. You can register for an upcoming webinar or watch the recorded webinars any time at your convenience. The AOS adds multiple webinars each month, so check back often. Some are member only, but it's just an additional reason for joining. Current November offerings:

### Greenhouse Chat

Ron McHatton

Calendar-ico

Wednesday, November 7th, 2018

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

## THE AOS LIBRARY NOW OPEN!



We are pleased to announce that our library is now open! Located in Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Coral Gables, Florida, the library holds our extensive collection of orchid books and artifacts.

Library hours are:

Monday - Wednesday - Friday 9:00 AM to Noon

Tuesday - Thursday 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

### **West Palm Beach Judging Center is at:**

Flamingo Gardens

3750 South Flamingo Road

Davie, Florida, 33330

Judging takes place at Flamingo Gardens, at 2:00 PM on the fourth Saturday of the month.

Bring your plants for nominations before 2:00.

Contact: Chair - Robert Fuchs

Web site: <http://wpbjudging.org/>



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**Diana Waterous Centorino**  
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**Atlantic**  
PROPERTIES INTERNATIONAL

Thank you to our kitchen volunteers:

Kathy Homann, Deb Johnson & Fran Renguso for the Auction refreshments (especially the doughnuts!).



## FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY

**P.O. Box 4677, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338**

Regular Meetings: Second Monday of each month  
Time: 7:30 pm. Place: Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall,  
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

Directions: From I95 take East Oakland Park Blvd. go 2.4 miles, turn left on NE 20th Ave. Or take US-1 (Federal Hwy.) to Oakland Park Blvd. west for two blocks, turn north 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.

[Recipient]

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Recording Secretary: Jill Smith  
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Treasurer: Brian Boyle  
Newsletter: Ginny Salus, Editor - 954-532-7637  
Website: [www.FLOS.org](http://www.FLOS.org)