



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.

JULY 8—MOVIE NIGHT

Wild Orchid Man in the Devil's Realm



Stella King Productions Inc.
America's Orchid Society presents
Stig Dalstrom.

WILD
ORCHID
MAN
in the



DEVIL'S
REALM
Coming
January 2019!



film and music by
Barry Saffer
saffers@earthlink.net
www.wildorchidman.com

Dalstrom travels to Tasmania and Western Australia. Stig Dalstrom is locally known as the Wild Orchid Man, a name given more than 10 years ago because of his love for orchids. Dalstrom has dedicated a decade to traveling around the world in search of some of the world's most beautiful orchids. Popcorn and snacks provided by FLOS!



Pictured is FLOS President Rich Ackerman (left) with the Flamingo Gardens Orchidteers at the June opening of the new, secure orchid holding area. FLOS member Brian Hufford (in red shirt) built the structure with three different growing areas. The Society made a \$500 donation towards the building cost.

President's Message

By Rich Ackerman



May's blast furnace has mutated into June's sauna, and our orchids should all be enjoying the rain and humidity. Drying them out for a few days if the weather cooperates will help keep fungus at bay. June and September are Broward's two wettest months, so you should be able to get through them with very little watering.

Time release fertilizer is your friend, but remember that the release rate is a function of temperature and humidity. Read the label! The fine print on one of the "Four Month" products at your local box store says it only lasts 1-2 months at 90° F. You cannot apply it in April or May and think your plants will be fed all summer; I reapply after six weeks or so.

It is the tail end of repotting season, but if you are still working on your collection, please set aside a few divisions to donate to our auction on October 14. The proceeds of our auction help underwrite our Holiday Party. All donations are appreciated! (cont. on page 4)

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Mark Your Calendar

Movie Night

July 8

Wild Orchid Man in the Devil's Realm

Jim Roberts

August 12

Florida Sun Coast Orchids
Encyclias



Phal. Bellina -
Bonnie Bonneau



KEIKI CLUB NEWS

BY JILL SMITH

This year the month of June was ushered in by FLOS and the Keikis, a group of Master Gardeners, several Boy Scouts and a troop of neighborhood friends gathering at Rich Ackerman's home to further expand the efforts of the Million Orchid Project, integrating native plants into the Collee Hammock neighborhood in Fort Lauderdale. Rich had everyone organized into teams provided with addresses and marked trees, glue, string, scissors and ladders—and most importantly—baby native orchids! The morning was scorching hot, but everyone was fortified with bagels, donuts and of course, lots of water. We set out to our assigned yards with brave volunteers climbing the ladders to mount and secure the plants on the huge oak and palm trees. Everyone had a job to do, the work continued throughout the morning and all the participants found the efforts educational and exhilarating. Most of the Keikis were very new to the scene so they were able to really learn in a “hands-on” way how to identify the different native species and how to go about mounting the epiphytic orchids and planting the terrestrials. They met so many new folks and made new friends—both FLOS members as well as the other helpers from the community, and found their participation in the project to be most rewarding. Thank you, Rich, for providing the Keikis with this great opportunity to learn about the Million Orchid Project and to be able fully participate in getting our native species back where they belong—in our neighborhoods and communities.

The next Keiki meeting will take place on Saturday, July 13 in the party room in the Marine Tower Condominium, hosted by Jill Smith, aka Keiki Mama. For those of you who are serious about learning how to grow orchids, it is very important to be able to interpret and read your orchid tags. So, this presentation by our President, Rich Ackerman, is a must! Rich is creating games, and there will be a raffle and, as always, lots of fun and camaraderie! We are looking forward to seeing you all there! More information will follow in an email the week before.

Jill Smith, Keiki Club Chair
Sue Mitchell-Grieg, Co-Chair
Rick Bellas, Co-Chair



Phal. Cornu-cervi 'Red'
Allen Cogar



Yamadaara Queen Adellia
'Kiilani'- Claire Carrett

JUNE SPEAKER: FRED CLARKE

SPOTTED AND SPLASHED CATTLEYA ORCHIDS

Fred Clarke started his collection and passion for orchids at the age of 18 with \$300 worth of orchids purchased from a show. He created a greenhouse with leftover construction materials and began working with a grower. He got paid in orchids and learned about care and propagation of new species.

His presentation was filled with beautiful and informative photos of new cattleya orchid hybrids created by crossing one breed with another. He explained how spotted orchids of one breed crossed with another will create an entirely different spotted arrangement on the new orchid. He showed how “color canceling” can occur when crossing one dominant color with another. An example of this is Tokyo Magic “Hihimanu,” a white orchid with a vibrant throat color, created by crossing a dominant yellow orchid with a dominant fuchsia pink cattleya. Fred also showed us gorgeous crosses produced by one “splashed” orchid paired with another to produce a unique pattern that was totally foreign to both the parent orchids. The interbreeding between the orchids can also create bigger flowers and plants with a much more prolific bloom count.

The later part of Fred Clarke's presentation dealt with growing principles and care. He explained how these orchids had grown on trees for millions of years, with few nutrients, a lot of air circulation and well-drained root bases. Cattleyas prefer filtered light: 75% shade in the summer and 55% shade in the winter. Remember that black polypropylene shade gets hot. Luminette is a foil that reflects the heat, making a cooler greenhouse. Cattleyas like a 75 – 85F degree day and a 60 – 70F degree night.

Re-pot when new roots are showing and use a pot that allows for about 3 years of growth. Try not to touch or break the tips of the new roots, especially by shoving them down into a heavy potting mix and breaking the growth tips. Position the back of the plant to the side of the pot allowing new growth to continue in the middle. Don't try to remove all the old media as it risks damaging the new root tips. Use a bark mixture of 3 parts bark mix (organic and inexpensive) and 1 part perlite. Sphagnum moss and clay pots (the clay pots tend to dry out) are also good in our climate, especially when they are the appropriate size for the plant. A pot that is too large will not permit the media to dry. Remember to make new tags, recording the date you noted new root growth, not the re-potting date. Always use good potting habits, wear gloves, use clean pots, and sterilize cutters by “torching” them.

Fred suggests a 60-day “throw and grow” fertilizer at the beginning of the rainy season. (Pat Ellson)

JUNE RIBBONS

<i>Aerides houlletiana</i>	Zoe Bejar	Blue
<i>Aerides odorata</i>	Luanne Betz	Blue
Blc. Hawaiian Wedding Song	Jill Smith	Blue
<i>Brassavola nodosa</i>	Omar Gonzalez	Blue
Brassocatanthe Simba's Song *	Jill Smith	Blue
Bro. <i>sanquinea</i> 'Start Splash'	Chris Crepage	Blue
<i>C. leopoldii</i>	Omar Gonzalez	Blue
Enc. Orchid Jungle	Luanne Betz	Blue
<i>Encyclia alata</i>	Roderick Lewis	Blue
Lc. Canhamiana 'Azure Skies'	Zoe Bejar	Blue
Lc. Tropical Pointer 'Cheetah'	Chris Crepage	Blue
<i>Lycaste consobrina</i>	Olivier Turina	Blue
Phal cornu-cervi	Jane Unger	Blue
Phal cornu-cervi 'Red'	Allen Cogar	Blue
Phal cornu-cervi 'Red'	Allen Cogar	Blue
V. Pimsai x V. Jindawat	Kelvin Stansberry	Blue
V. Raspi Gold x V. Doctor Anek	Luanne Betz	Blue
Cattleytonia Jamaica Red	Debbie Johnson	Culture
<i>Eria spicata</i>	Rich Ackerman	Culture
<i>Gram. scriptum</i>	Luanne Betz	Culture
Lc. Canhamiana 'Azure Skies'	Claire Garrett	Culture
Phal cornu-cervi 'Red'	Allen Cogar	Culture
Yamadaara Queen Adelia 'Kiilani'	Claire Garrett	Culture
<i>Brassoepilaelia</i> Golden Peacock	Angie Bondarenko	Red
Paph. Magic Cherry	Katelyn Schmidberger	Red
Phal. <i>bellina</i>	Bonnie Bonneau	Red
Pot. Hisako Akatsuka 'Volcano Queen'	Chris Crepage	Red
Ramasamyara Jairak Blue	Les Corbin	Red
V. Su-Fun Beauty	Matt Wells	Red
Wils. Golden Afternoon	Chris Crepage	Red

(?) Denotes Unregistered Hybrid



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!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Minnelli Lucy France Steven Bessellien
 Elaine Malinguaggi Andrew Collins
 Edward Leed Cheryl Lutz
 Eric Gent & Jennifer Kuykendall

MILLION ORCHID PROJECT UPDATE JUNE 2019

We finished our Spring 2019 plantings with a large installation in downtown Fort Lauderdale. You can read that story in Jill's Keiki update. The plants are certainly enjoying the nice wet weather and should acclimate quickly.

We got a permit from the state for collection of orchid seed from a variety of locations. Florida maintains lists of Endangered Plants, Threatened Plants, and Commercially Exploited plants, and many orchids are on one of these lists. Each list has a different set of rules and regulations governing collection of plants or plant parts. We recently discovered some native orchids in Flamingo Gardens, and they were happy to partner with us on a permit to collect seed, so along with other Broward and Palm Beach sites, we will have plenty to collect this fall.

Finally, we visited Pine Jog Environmental Education Center in Boca Raton a couple of weeks ago with Jay Collins, the President of the Boca Raton Orchid Society. Pine Jog started with Million Orchid Project three years ago and now have a full micropropagation lab on site with at least a dozen different species of native orchids under culture. They won a grant to work in local elementary schools with their "OrKids" project. The Executive Director, Ray Coleman, was very open to helping FLOS and Boca Raton OS in getting native orchids back into the community.

This year we have distributed about 1,500 native orchids in Broward County. Congratulations FLOS! Rich



OLIVIER SHARES HIS EXPERIENCES

SERIAL OVER-WATERER (CONT. FROM MAY)



Basic water needs for other genera (besides Vandas and Phals.):

Cattleyas: many of the species need extensive rest periods. Make sure to research each of them as their needs and growing season vary (proper timing for repotting of *Cattleya* species is also very critical). Hybrids usually grow constantly so you don't have to worry about a rest period, but you still want to let any *Cattleya* dry between waterings.

Oncidium and Gomesa species (*Gomesa* are typically small *Oncidiums*) are fairly tricky to grow because they usually go through a phase of dormancy. My recent policy has been to mount them since mounted orchids are unlikely to suffer from overwatering. If you keep them potted, make sure to let them dry thoroughly between waterings unless the plant is truly actively growing. Hybrids are a lot more tolerant, but this family of orchids does not need too much water!

Trichocentrum: which are mostly the former mule-ear and rat-tail *Oncidiums*, go through periods of dormancy; watering them during that time = death! The rat-tail in particular can withstand extensive droughts, and their terete leaves are a water reservoir. Unless you see those shrivel, your plant is fine and does not need water if the roots don't grow. Also always keep them away from mother nature's rain (this is Florida after all) since you want to control their watering needs.

Dendrobiums: I refer to a previous article on the genus. Research every one of them as their needs go from year-round watering to months of drought!

Catasetum: keep it totally dry as long as it is dormant or the new bulb is less than 3 to 5" high and the roots less than 3 to 5" long. Then it is monsoon time, but like for any orchid a truly soggy situation is never advisable!

Stanhopeas: those gorgeous plants need a LOT of water and must be kept moist at all times. That is true for most of the related genera

Encyclias: they should typically be kept on the drier side.

Paraphalenopsis: they are actually Vandaceous and not related to *Phalaenopsis*. They live in monsoon types of environment and should not be allowed to dry.

Trt. Jason Fuchs.
Mounted to avoid overwatering as these *Trichocentrums* rot easily.
Photo by Olivier Turnia



Claire Garrett's 12 foot tall *Mcp. christinae* won the Allied Laeliinae Trophy at the Redland Festival this spring.

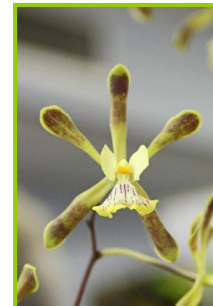
(President's Message cont. from Page 1) We still have some copies for sale at the Librarian's table of the new AOS book, *The American Orchid Society Guide to Orchids and their Culture*. You'll get a deep discount from list price since we bought a case for our members. Pick one up and learn more about your hobby.

Our July meeting will be Movie Night, a FLOS summer tradition. We provide the refreshments, so you don't need to bring in any goodies. We will still have plant judging and a raffle. We are screening the recently released *Wild Orchid Man in the Devil's Realm*. Stig Dalstrom travels to Tasmania and Western Australia seeking out orchids.

If you are new to FLOS, welcome! If you are an old-timer, thank you for your continued membership and support! Rich



Bro. Hawaiian Wedding Song—Chris Crepage



Encyclia alata
Roderick Lewis



Paph. Magic Cherry
Katelyn Schmidberger



Gram. Scriptum—Luanne Betz



Blc. Hawaiian Wedding Song
Jill Smith

A NEOPHYTE'S JOURNEY

By Kate Donohue

Choosing the Right Orchids

The more I've learned about orchids, the more I realize how little I know. It's mind-boggling and can be very confusing. There are no hard and fast rules, and everybody has their own way of growing orchids. There are classes, books, speakers, blogs, seminars, and guides suggesting orchids that would be perfect for you to grow. The possibilities are endless, and orchid plants seem to be for sale just about everywhere. How does a neophyte go about purchasing the right orchid for you?

Don't hesitate to seek advice from FLOS members, friends, and neighbors who grow orchids. Which vendors do you recommend? What type of orchids do you find easiest to grow? Orchid "addicts" love to share their experiences and ideas about orchids. The danger is that you might get as many suggestions as the number of people you ask.

If you purchase an orchid at a big box store, through Amazon, or from an unknown online grower, it's "buyer beware," but you will be thrilled if the orchid thrives and reblooms. It's a gamble, but you can save money. I've had good luck at my local Home Depot and Lowe's. Every so often, usually before a holiday, they stock up on Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Encyclias, and other orchids besides the ever-present Phalaenopses. Some are in baskets with hangers, which saves even more money.



I've even found wooden baskets with two different types of Dendrobium in the same basket, a real Two-Fer! Sometimes the yellow proper identification tags can be found way down in the pots. They look like Carmela tags, which makes it even better. They also offer bare root plants for those who prefer to see the root systems before they buy.

Two different Dendrobiums in a basket with a hanger for \$25.99 - photo by Kate

We are continually told the importance of purchasing from knowledgeable and reputable growers, whether at a show, online or by visiting their nurseries. You can usually subscribe to their mailing lists to receive news of special offers, sales, classes, and workshops. Some offer special online deals, where you purchase a group of orchids at a greatly reduced price, a good opportunity to try a new plant without a major investment. Again, don't hesitate to ask questions.

The first step is to carefully examine the plant, looking for signs of insects or disease, healthy foliage, and good

roots. Are there signs of new growth, flower spikes, or keikis?

If you are buying a new kind of plant, ask the vendor if it is a species or hybrid that will do well in south Florida. If it is a cool or intermediate grower, it will not likely survive unless you grow inside.

If you are buying a division that has been potted up, ask the vendor when it was potted and how well-rooted the division is. You shouldn't pay the full potted plant price for a bare root division recently wrapped in moss and stuck in a pot. The better the root system, the greater your chances of success. Some people prefer to purchase bare root plants for that reason.

If you are buying a large specimen, ask the vendor to confirm that it is a single plant and not several potted together. This is my most frustrating experience because it is impossible to determine until you remove it from the pot after you get it home. This has happened to me several times. My latest mistake fell apart into four separate plants with horrible roots. The four small pieces are now sweating in a pot. Huge disappointment. I was so excited by a beautiful large plant in full bloom that I forgot to do my juris prudence. I should have asked the vendor.

Make sure the plant has a tag that is legible and complete. If not, ask the vendor to give you one. If they can't, don't purchase it. Don't buy an orchid without a tag. Seems every time I get home from an orchid shopping spree, I end up with at least one tag-less plant, even though I check carefully. I suspect the lost orchid tags must be hanging out somewhere with the odd socks that disappear from my laundry. You should still make a NOID (no id) tag for the plant, entering the information you do have in hopes that you can eventually identify it. Some members bring their orchids to FLOS meetings for help in identification.

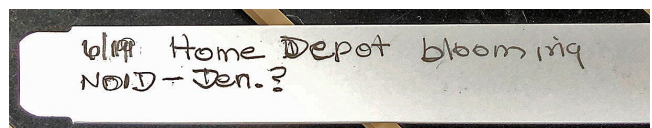
(Cont. on page 6)



Bought as one large Dendrobium photo by Kate



Reality—four little Dendrobiums photo by Kate



MAY SPEAKER: SCOTT PEPLIN

Creating Orchid Environments

Developing the correct orchid environment was a learning process for Scott. He states that three things in nature trigger blooms. Depending on the various species of orchid, light is needed more or less, such as the Vanda orchid that loves light to produce more blooms. Water is the second element. A Pseudobulb Orchid will be triggered by a heavy rain and more water. The third element is temperature that encourages some orchids to bloom and others to rest.

Sunlight, Nutrition and Air Movement are also crucially important, especially in maintaining the blooms and having them last longer. The best growing areas are those that give 8 -10 hours of filtered sunlight. Vandas could get fried in the last few hours of direct sunlight, while too much water inhibits the blooms.

Over-watering is a problem much more so than under-watering, specially in the fall and winter months when water should be cut back. Black crown rot, partly from over-watering is a big problem in a sheltered location like an orchid house. This black rot, especially in Phalaenopsis orchids will easily pass to other orchids nearby if the grower is not careful. During the winter months, let the plants go dormant and do not fertilize.

If orchids are outdoors, putting them in trees is a very healthy option. Try to acclimate the orchids in the winter to spring so they have strong healthy roots by summer. You can tie the orchids on standing pieces of wood or attach them directly to the tree. Cork mounted orchids do very well, attached with a soft coated wire. Vandas like to be in a sunny area that gets full eastern sunlight. When you place them in these locations you will be encouraging future growth, not the existing leaves, so don't be too upset when the existing ones get a little sunburned. Remember that you can use shade cloth in the very hot season of June to September. When you set up the watering routine, make certain that you use city water and not well water that can tend to be too salty.

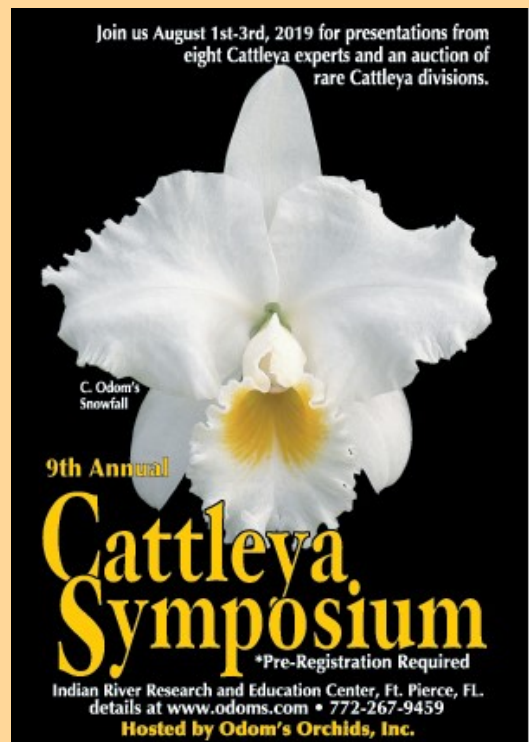
During hurricane season, Scott recommends spraying fungicide on the roots and placing them on the ground. Put snail bait around them for protection from snails. It is humid but not windy on the ground. Resist the temptation to move them indoors. Moving orchids around to different environments, too much, especially near an air conditioner, can kill blooms and cause rot.

If you have an orchid eating iguana.... Get a cat!
(Pat Ellson)

(cont. from Page 5)

There are two excellent online resources every orchidist should bookmark and learn how to use to figure out what you are buying and where it grows. The first is ISOPE (Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia) (URL: www.orchidspecial.com). It's the best source for information about species. The second is RHS (Royal Horticultural Society), home of the International Orchid Registry, the official hybrid registry (URL: <https://apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/orchidregister.asp>.)

Finally, if you have a bad buying experience, talk to the vendor immediately about the problem. If they won't make it right, don't buy from that vendor again.



Lc. Canhamiana 'Azure Skies'
Claire Garrett



Aerides houlettiana
Zoe Bejar



American Orchid Society
Education, Conservation, Research

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 that is just an additional reason for joining. July offerings:



The Story of White Cattleyas
Jean Ikeson
Thursday, July 11th, 2019
8:30 PM—9:3 PM EDT

Greenhouse Chat
Ron McHatton
Thursday, July 18th, 2019
8:30 PM—9:30 PM EDT



West Palm Beach Judging Center:
Flamingo Gardens
3750 South Flamingo Road
Davie, Florida, 33330

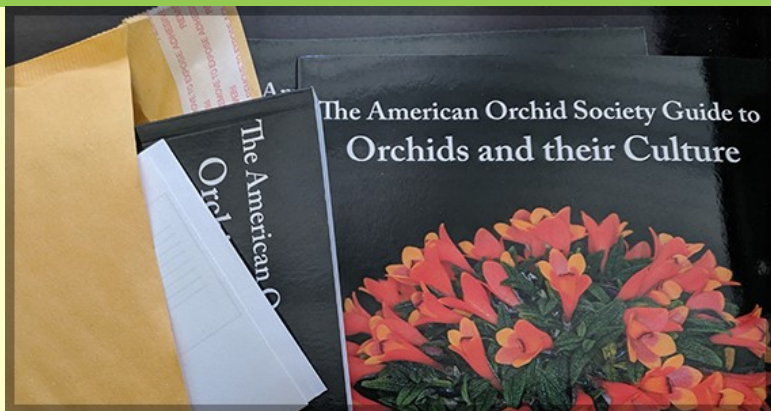
Judging takes place at Flamingo Gardens, at 2:00 PM on the fourth Saturday of the month. November & December judging will occur on the third Saturday because of the holidays. Bring your plants for nominations before 2:00.



We are pleased to announce the completion of the Greenhouse Chat index project. The idea is simple enough. When you click on LEARN MORE on any recorded greenhouse chat webinar, you will now see a time stamped table of contents that you can browse for topics that interest you. So, if you missed a chat, or could not remember the chat where a specific topic of interest to you was discussed, you can quickly zero in on what you want to see, and skip directly to that section when you view the recording.

These webinars are such a great asset to our membership We encourage you to take advantage of them.

Also, of note is that the indexes are integrated into the search capabilities of aos.org. So, you can expect to see Greenhouse Chats in the list of search results. For example, if you search on MSU (because you are interested in MSU fertilizer) you will notice that is discussed in 2 chats; June 2018 and February 2015.



AOS brand-new book. FLOS members can buy one for \$15.00 at our monthly meeting.

This book is crammed with nearly 250 pages of valuable information on orchid culture, paired with stunning, full-color images from cover to cover. It appears that Mary E. Gerritsen and Ron Parsons have delivered a quintessential guidebook for facilitating a blossoming interest in orchids!

THE AOS LIBRARY HAS A NEW LIBRARIAN!



Our library is open to the public with a new set of hours and a new librarian! Come to the library, located above the gift shop at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Coral Gables, FL, and meet our new addition to the AOS staff, Jennifer Vina! She will be helping us catalogue our extensive collection of books and will be more than happy to assist any visitors.

The Library hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10AM to 4:30PM EDT.

On the third week of the month, the hours remain the same, but the dates will be switched to Monday through Friday.

The librarian will be breaking for lunch around 1:00 until 1:30PM, closing the library briefly during thattime.

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Diana Waterous Centorino
Attorney at Law, P.A.
Also Member of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Washington, D.C. and Nebraska Bars

1230 Southeast 4th Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316-1912
Tel 954.462.7760
Fax 954.462.7761
DWC@dianawaterouscentorino.com



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Financial Advisor

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Plantation, FL 33324
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Thank you to our kitchen volunteers: Kathy Homann, Deb Johnson & Fran Renguso.

Zoe Bejar, Pat Ellson, Jane Unger, Brian Boyle, Fran Renguso, Deb Johnson, Nora Dyke, Ginny Salus, Carrie Ackerman, Haydee Valor, Hannah Kozak, Norma Jeanne Flack



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 I-95 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
Corresponding Secretary: Zoe Bejar
Treasurer: Brian Boyle
Newsletter: Ginny Salus, Editor - 954-532-7637
Website: www.FLOS.org