# 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.

# WENDY MAZUK: The Ghost Orchid



Our September speaker Wendy Mazuk who will be discussing the Ghost Orchid. Wendy is a grower, photographer, researcher, and has done extensive work with the Ghost Orchid.

She is a graduate of Florida Gulf Coast University with a BA in Environmental Studies and a minor in Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS). She has a strong interest in our natural habitats, the Everglades, wetlands restoration, horticulture, and research projects.

Her special hobby is studying the Ghost Orchid, which is only found in the Florida Everglades and Cuba. She has developed a side passion that involves occasional speaking engagements to chapters of the American Orchid Society around the US.

## IT'S SHOW TIME

Our 62nd FLOS Orchid Show and Sale is titled "The 20/20 Orchid Vision"! As many know, the War Memorial, where we have held our show for many years, is not available to us in January 2020. So, we have moved to the Great-



er Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center. This location is just off 17th Street, before the causeway at 1950 Eisenhower Boulevard here in Fort Lauderdale. Our dates are January 10-12, 2020, we will be on the third floor, and have a much larger space than was available at the War Memorial. Larger space = Bigger show! (cont. page 2)

### Mark Your Calendar

### The Ghost Orchid Annual Auction

September 9

## October 14

donations

Wendy Mazuk Start collecting your

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20/20

#### President's Message By Rich Ackerman



I hope everyone is having a great summer! It's been wet, wet, wet, so I'm trying to dry out my plants whenever I can, and I keep sprinkling out small amounts of snail bait. So far, the snails are missing in action and the fungus has been kept at bay. I hope your plants are also doing well.

At John Odom's Cattleya Symposium this year we had the largest FLOS contingent ever. There were excellent talks on culture, nutrition, hybridizing, and history, but Francisco Miranda's talk on Brazilian orchid conservation impressed me the most. He shared photos taken 20 or 30 years ago side by side with present day shots in a variety of regions around the country. They showed deforestation and development just like we saw in Stig Dalstrom's new Tasmania movie and as we see daily in South Florida. We are ahead of the game with the Million Orchid Project; Francisco says there is nothing comparable in Brazil yet. Next year's Symposium will be July 30 – August 1 if you want to mark the dates.

We are collecting items for our October 14 auction . Please consider donating an orchid or some unused supplies.

Finally, mark your calendar for our Holiday Party on December 8<sup>t</sup>. New venue, new menu, larger and more beautiful than ever! It's a very enjoyable event for everyone. Happy growing to all!

### **In This Newsletter**

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#### **KEIKI CLUB NEWS** BY JILL SMITH

Although there was no meeting in the month of August due to the blistering South Florida heat, we're be looking forward to more meetings this fall! We will be gathering at Bud Romboli's growing area on Saturday, September 21st at 1:30 PM. Bud has requested, due to parking and space constraints, we limit this meeting to active Keikis only. This will be a hands on event and will entail both repotting and mounting some of Bud's plants so bring your gloves and some tools and we'll go to work! There will be an email with more details about a week prior to the date. Thank you for hosting us, Bud!

So proud of our Keikis who are now regularly bringing plants in to our monthly meetings for judging! In August there were several folks who were awarded blue and red ribbons! Congratulations to all! This is a wonderful accomplishment and serves as great encouragement to keep up your good growing habits. Nice work!!

Jill Smith Keiki Club Chair (jsmith8146@comcast.net) Rick Bellas Co-Chair (willbell@aol.com) Sue Mitchell-Grieg Co-Chair (Smg05kw@gmail.com)



V. Hybrid # 10-Roby Tannenbaum

# Million Orchid Project Update

FLOS is coming up on our one-year anniversary working with Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden on their Million Orchid Project. We have accomplished a lot:

- Installed around 1,500 native orchids in locations around Broward County
- Collected seed from Broward E. tampensis and have approximately 10,000 started in Fairchild greenhouses, mostly for 2021 projects
- Acquired some very rare species including *Eltroplectris calcarata* and an alba form of E. tampensis
- Signed permits and partnerships with Flamingo Gardens and Palm Beach County to collect seed at new locations this fall
- Flasked around 2,000 plants ourselves

Participated in four outreach opportunities in the community and schools

Many thanks to Committee members Paul Gumos, Luanne Betz, Sue Mitchell-Grieg, Sue Zimmer, Allen Cogar, Rich Ackerman, and Gerritt Stryker for making it happen.

#### HOMESTEAD BUS RAMBLE

Saturday November 9, 2019 Meet: Christ Lutheran Church 1955 E. Oakland Park Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306 Depart: 8:00 am sharp **Return:** 4:00—5:00 pm **Destinations:** TBD **Cost:** \$30 per person available on the bus) Lunch: TBD Drawings for free plants on the bus!



What to bring: lunch and snacks, box or crate for purchases, beverages (water and juices will be

Contact: Capt. Allen, 954-553-1351 or tacogar@gmail.com

(cont. from It's Show Time on page 1)We are still working out all the 100's of details unique to this new location, and our wonderful vendors are excited, signing up and new ones are being invited. The Convention Center has agreed to help promote our show using their web sites Broward.org and sunny.org as well as sharing contacts with local TV, radio and newspaper connections, so we are anticipating a full house.

Ticket costs will remain the same as last year, \$15 at the door, \$12 with a discount coupon and \$10 for member Pre-Sale tickets. Each member will again be receiving 10 pre-sale tickets. and you are asked to help promote the show by selling them or, as some members do, purchase them and give them as gifts to others. Once you have turned in the money from your tickets, you are given a ticket to our Thursday evening Preview Party! This once-a-year, not to be missed event is always a fun and enjoyable!

This show relies very heavily on our members volunteering and helping make the FLOS show one of the premier shows in the country. We really Need your help. More information will be forthcoming, but for those who have been volunteering, there are some of the regular jobs and some new ones too.

Another way you can help is by tweeting and sharing about 20/20 Orchid Vision on your social media connections. This is one of the best means of advertising today and its easy and fun to do. We will have posters and our discount save the date cards available at our next meeting.

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at michaelschaberl@comcast.net or 954-683-9615 for additional information, as it becomes available will be shared by email and our newsletter.

## AUGUST RIBBONS

Alcra. Hilo Ablaze 'Hilo Gold'	Barbara Gaterman	Blue
B. David Sanders	Roderick Lewis	Blue
Bulb. makoyanum	Roby Tannenbaum	Blue
Catasetum Edgardo A. Pauneto	Olivier Turina	Blue
Lepanthes telipagoniflora	Vicki Hallock	Blue
Phalaenopsis Sapphire's Galah (*)	Jeff Tucker	Blue
Phragmipedium X roethianum	Chris Morales	Blue
Trichocentrum jonesianum	Olivier Turina	Blue
V. Doctor Anek	Olivier Turina	Blue
V. Pachara Delight	Francisco/Paul	Blue
V. Pachara Delight	Kate Schmidberger	Blue
V. Pinchai (*) x V. Gordon Dillon	Roby Tannenbaum	Blue
V. Xena x V. Jane DePadro	Kelvin Stansberry	Blue
Vandachostylis Lou Sneary	Haydee Valor	Blue
Bromecanthe Garnet Glory	Roby Tannenbaum	Cultural
Den. Caesar	Bob Isaacs	Cultural
Rlc. Susan Fender 'Cinnamon Stick'	Jeff Tucker	Cultural
Taeniophyllum obtusum	Vicki Hallock	Cultural
V. Susan Fowler (*)	Deborah Rauch	Cultural
Bulb. <i>lepidum</i>	Anne Marie Miles	Red
Den Sonia	Linda Dawkins	Red
Phal. amboinensis	Janyce Forster	Red
V. Hybrid # 10	Roby Tannenbaum	Red
V. Kuttana Ruby Papillon	Haydee Valor	Red

(?) Denotes Unregistered Hybrid



V. Pachara Delight - Kate Schmidberger

B. David Sanders-Roderick Lewis



Bromecanthe Garnet Glory Roby Tannenbaum

## ANNUAL AUCTION

Our auction is coming soon! October 14 is your chance to buy all sorts of orchids and associated paraphernalia. We already have some interesting items and can use more, so please donate whatever you can. You can bring items to the September meeting if that is convenient.

- Chuck McCartney donated a very fine hardcover copy of Arditti's *The Fundamentals of Orchid Biology*. This rare volume is essential for anyone seriously interested in orchids.
- Allen Black is providing us with some of his unusual hybrids. A four-pack of his seedlings sold at Odom's Cattleya Symposium for \$400 so watch for this offering.

Francisco Miranda spoke to us last November, we will have some of his Brazilian species for sale.

Rare plants from Miriam Burtoff collection

Orchids from at least a dozen other vendors and many donated by FLOS members

We will have a plant list for most of the plants being sold. If you would like your donation listed, please let Rich know the plant name (<u>richackerman@gmail.com</u>). See you there!



The auction is FREE and open to all. more info at www.FLOS.org



Catasetum Edgardo A. Pauneto Olivier Turina



Phal. amboinensis-Janyce Forster



Phalaenopsis Sapphire's Galah



Rlc. Susan Fender 'Cinnamon Stick' Jeff Tucker



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!

## A NEOPHYTE'S JOURNEY

#### **By Kate Donohue**

This year I finally got to attend Odom's Cattleya Symposium in Fort Pierce August 1-3. FLOS was well represented (Rich Ackerman, Craig Barry, Vicki Hallock, Zoe Bejar, Claire Garret, Joan Connors, Carol Holdren, Sandi Block-Brezner, Honorary Member Chuck McCartney, Jeff Tucker, and first-timers Arthur Clark and me). Most were from Florida, others from various parts of the country, and two from Japan. Thursday evening, we



Blc. crowfield 'Indian River' Photos by Kate Donohue

their orchid photographs spectacular. Dean Kopspell, Ph. Cattleva triana and Cattleva eldorado in the wild.

Last, but certainly not least, was AOS Judging, led by Carol Holdren, with help from Associate Judges Joan Connors and -----Sandi Block-Brezner (all three FLOS members). She



Lc. Allen Condo 'Cory' AM/AOS Photo by Kate Donohue

gathered for a welcome pizza party, a chance to chat with friends, meet new people, and browse orchids offered for sale by some of the speakers.

The Symposium sessions were held nearby at the modern University of Florida Indian River Research and Educational Center. Well-known Florida orchidist Bob Scully served as Emcee and kept us all organized and on time. The list of speakers was impressive, their specialties varied, and

D from University of Florida spoke about plant nutrition. Native Texan Jeff Bradly showed us "The Rarest of the Rare" from his world-class collection. Ron Midgett of New Earth Orchids in Santa Fe discussed breeding with Cattleva horace 'Maxima' AM/AOS. Frank Smith of Krull-Smith Orchids shared his work in breeding bifoliate Cattleyas. Bill Thoms, of Hilltop House Nursery kept us awake after lunch with his humor and common-sense advice on growing specimen Cattleyas. Francisco Miranda of Boa Vista Orchids took us to Brazil to see native Cattleya species. We returned to Brazil and to Colombia with Kouji Degawa from Japan looking for great examples of



spoke about the West Palm Judging Center at Flamingo Gardens, award categories for Cattleyas, and judging trips around the world. The judging segment was newly added this year, and attendees bought in a magnificent array of unusual plants for judging, a final feast for our eves.

I didn't stay for the judging because the Odoms agreed to open their nursery, and I didn't want anyone else to snap up the good stuff first. Had a shopping list from FLOS friends, so I felt



obligated to secure their plants-ha ha. (See what Orchidiction has done to me!) Of course, my car was overflowing for the drive home.

The highly anticipated Friday evening auction stood up to its reputation for crazy bidding and crazier prices. Items are donated, and proceeds help pay for next year's symposium. Undaunted, we all got our bid numbers and waited for volunteer auctioneer David Off from Waldor Orchids in New Jersey to get start-



ed. Due to my former life as an antiques dealer, I immediately brought my highly developed auction skills to bear, jumping right in on the second plant. Almost before I noticed, I had a healthy little Cattleya intermedia coerulea 'Joe' (original plant from orchidist Joe Grezaffi) for \$125. It must have been the deal of the evening, several experts telling me I would have had to

Cattleya harrisoniana Photo by Kate Donohue

pay a lot more for it later in the auction. David's humor and enthusiasm ramped up excitement and no doubt contributed to some serious cases of sticker shock later that night. The competition and prices became insane, \$700 for three rare tiny seedlings, a hand-made orchid pot for over \$500, and t-shirts for \$70! Okay, I did buy a shirt, but only paid \$40.



Mvrmecocattleva Giovanny Licona Photo by Kate Donohue

Everyone was friendly and willing to share advice and experiences. I met some interesting people and received expert advice on plant choices. John and Louise Odom and crew are gracious hosts with a seemingly unlimited supply of patience and good will. My head is still spinning from all that I learned. Can't wait for next year!

(The orchids seen in this article were all brought in for judging during the symposium)

## **OLIVIER SHARES HIS EXPERIENCES**

### TRICHOCENTRUMS



In case you have never heard of "Trichocentrums" you've probably heard of "mule ear" and "rat tail" Oncidiums, both of which became Trichocentrums" with the big renaming wave of orchid genera due to better genetic understanding of orchids at the outset of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Until then, Trichocentrum was a small group of small sized "mule ear" looking orchids that have one single colorful flower,

usually pretty large compared to the size of the plant.

Orchids of the Oncidium family can be tricky to grow in South Florida because many are cold or intermediate growers. Trichocentrums on the other end are mostly hot to warm growing orchids, and South Florida's temperatures



Trt. jonesianum.

are ideal for them. What is less ideare the torrential rains as "mule ear" and especially "rat tails" are VERY drought tolerant and any excessive moisture will quickly make them rot and die. So, these orchids are perfect for south Floridians who travel a lot or don't have time to take care of their orchids as long as they are put underneath an overhang where heavy summer rains cannot reach them.



Try. Lillian Oka (Trt. *stacyi* x Trt. *lanceanum*)

Formerly known "rat-tail" Oncidiums (aka. Cohniella) have terete leaves like some Vandaceous (Papilionanthe, Seidenfadenia etc.)Those leaves store water, and if your leaf is plump and firm, your plant will be able to withstand a lot of drought. The name "rat-tail" is an unfortunate turn-off name. Who likes a rat? Those plants have gorgeous Oncidium looking flowers that emerge from the base of the leaves, and their colors are usually in the yellow/gold/beige/white range. They really should be mounted as their roots cannot be disturbed, and especially as

they are so rot prone. Most have a defined rest period in winter when they should not be watered at all, unless the leaf is shriveling. If you don't see any root activity, do not water them.... Easy enough! Mine grow with 5 to 6 hours of filtered light per day.

Formerly known "mule-ear" Oncidiums (aka. Lophiaris) have thick leaves that look like a mule or horse's ear. Their leaves also store water, and they are also very intolerant of sogginess and should be mounted and protected from summer rains. Their care is similar to rat -tail Oncidiums. The color range includes reds as well. Some are large plants (Trt. *ascendens*, Trt. *cebolleta* etc..)



Try. ascendens

The "true" (original) Trichocentrums are small plants that have one flower at a time that open successively, but they can have multiple spikes and therefore multiple flowers. The flowers tend to be large compared to the small stature of the plant itself, they are colorful and usually fragrant. They need more water than the previous two groups.

Give them a try! These are attractive, intriguing plants with gorgeous blooms that require very little of your time. They thrive on neglect but need to be sheltered from Summer rains.



#### 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. September offerings:





**Orchid Gardens of Latin American** 

Greenhouse Chat September 2019 Ron McHatton

Thursday, September 5th, 2019 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT

Orchid Q&A

Visit beautiful orchid gardens.

Wednesday, September 18th, 2019 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT

Tom Mirenda

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.

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## AUGUST SPEAKER: JIM ROBERTS OF FLORIDA SUNCOAST ORCHIDS

I was eagerly anticipating our August presentation on Encyclias by Jim Roberts from Florida Suncoast Orchids. Encyclias were the first orchid I fell in love with for its flower shape and profuse blooms. Jim certainly did not disappoint as he shared his passion, growing recomm endations, and experience gained during the years since he encountered his first orchid in Minnesota.

The plants Jim brought for sale were nearly all gone before the lecture began. He also donated the raffle plants, one of which was so large and vigorously blooming that it attracted a full cup of tickets.

His discussion of orchid morphology and origins was fascinating and is a recurring problem in the identification of not only Encyclias, but most orchids as well. Wild orchids must adapt to the new or changed habitats they colonize. Early botanists would often collect samples that appeared distinct, but were sometimes the same plant from different regions, often taking years, decades, and ongoing controversies to sort it all out.

Jim discussed the growing routine that works best in his nursery in Mysaka, FL, at the same time emphasizing that whatever is working in your growing area now should be what you maintain. He keeps his Encyclias on the dry side. (Omar Gonzalez)

Recommending a growing mix that helps the plants dry out before the next watering, he uses Orchiata bark and clay pebbles, no charcoal. He recommended short clay pots (bulb pans), baskets or mounts (although wood plaques don't work well for him). He uses a bloom boosting fertilizer starting in March. As the days get shorter and cooler, he gradually lessens the feed and water, watering maybe twice a month in the winter.

Some Jim mentioned: Enc. alata, Enc. adenocaula, Enc. albo-xanthina, Enc. altissima, Enc. ambigua, Enc. aspera, Enc. cordigera, Enc. tampensis, Enc. stellate (gravida), Enc. alata x tampensis, and hybrids of interests mentioned: Caticlia El Hatillo (Enc. plicata x Cattleva mossiea), Enc. Orchid Jungle, Enc. Thomas Fennell. The latter two are the work of the closed Orchid Jungle Nursery of Redlands and are difficult to find.

Have enthusiastically added Florida Suncoast Orchids to my bucket list and encourage everyone to visit their booth at upcoming shows.



d & Drinks Available

## A NOTE ON THE NEW GENUS *GUARIANTHE*



By Chuck McCartney For years, a small group of orchids primarily from Mexico through Panama that bore two leaves at the top of a club-shaped pseudobulb and produced clusters of showy flowers, traditionally known as the Central American bifoliate cattleyas, to distinguish them from the very different

bifoliate cattleyas from Brazil, such as *C. bicolor, C. loddigesii, C. amethystoglossa, C. guttata,* etc. But DNA research, coupled with more detailed anatomical studies, led some orchid taxonomists to question the inclusion of these Central American species in the genus *Cattleya*.

This misgiving about the placement of the Central American bifoliates led pre-eminent contemporary orchid taxonomist Dr. Robert L. Dressler and colleague Wesley E. Higgins, Ph.D., to create a separate genus for these few



G. skinneri

Mesoamerican "cattleyas." In a 2003 article in the Costa Rican scientific orchid journal *Lankesteriana*, they proposed placing them in a new genus they named *Guarianthe*, with the familiar former *Cattleya skinneri* chosen as the type species. This new generic name comes from *guaria*, a Costa Rican word for epiphytes, especially orchids, and the Greek word *anthe*, meaning flower.



Besides the type species, the new genus includes plants formerly known as *Cattleya bowringiana*, *C. aurantiaca* and a natural hybrid "swarm" consisting of various combinations of genes from *C. skinneri* and *C. aurantiaca*. The latter has long been known as *Cattleya X guatemalensis*, although it is now officially being called

G.aurantiaca

*Guarianthe X laelioides* (with the "X" in both names indicating a natural hybrid).

There is a fourth naturally occurring species from the old Central American bifoliate cattleyas that has caused a great deal of confusion over the years -- and continues to do so. When I was first learning orchids as an early adolescent in the late 1950s, this species was known as *Cattleya skinneri* var. *autumnalis*, the so-called fall-blooming *Cattleya skinneri*. However,

even then, I could tell that it was somewhat different from the typical spring-flowering *C. skinneri*.

Later, a lot of people started calling this fall-blooming species *Cattleya deckeri*, and the late Dr. Carl L. Withner, in his 1988 book on the genus *Cattleya*, helped to establish that name as the "correct" one for this orchid. However, a study by Bob Dressler, a meticulous worker and shrewd observer, through his research refuted that idea, pointing out that the name *Cattleya deckeri* actually belongs to a spring-blooming



G.X laelioides

orchid from northern Central America that actually is part of the highly variable hybrid swarm of what we then knew as *C. X guatemalensis*, although it most closely resembled its *C. skinneri* parent. The thing Withner was calling *C. deckeri* actually occurs from Costa Rica and Panama southward to Colombia, Venezuela and into Trinidad -- and, of course, blooms in the autumn, rather than the spring.



Following Dressler's work on the confused name for this orchid, the southern, autumnflowering bifoliate came to be known as *Cattleya/Guarianthe patinii*, with that epithet first having been proposed by Belgian taxonomist

G.hennisiana

Alfred Cogniaux in 1900. Then, to confuse things even further, some taxonomic "archaeology" revealed that an older, validly published name existed for this entity, *Cattleya hennisiana*, proposed by English orchidologist Robert Allen Rolfe in 1889. Therefore, that name has priority over the other names for this beautiful orchid and is the correct name for it (for now).

Many commercial growers to this day persist in calling this fallflowering southern bifoliate species *Cattleya deckeri*. But if you purchase a *Cattleya skinneri*-type orchid that flowers in the autumn,



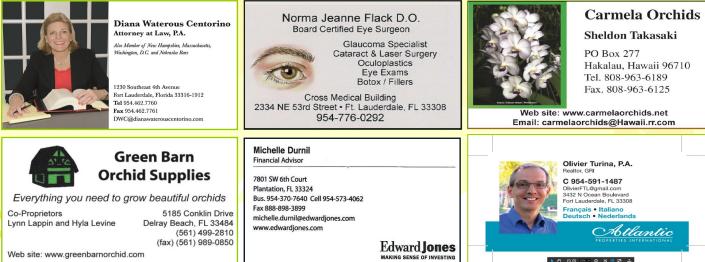
G. bowringiana

you most probably are buying *Cattleya/Guarianthe hennisiana*. Best advice: Forget that name *Cattleya/Guarianthe deckeri*.

(all photos in this article are by Chuck McCartney)

# MARKETPLACE

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

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### 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.

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#### AUGUST 2018