



An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

# Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

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

VOLUME 70

ISSUE 8

August 2020

## August Speaker: Jason Fischer Potting *Neofinetia falcata*



Jason is holding a *Phragmipedium* Jason Fischer (*P. besseae* x *P. Mem. Dick Clements*), bred by his father and the most awarded *Phrag*.

Jason Fischer's life-long passion for orchids started at age 5 when he began working in his father Jerry's business, Orchids Limited in Plymouth, MN. He began breeding at age 14, first with *Phals.* and later other varieties. He now helps manage the business and is heavily involved in breeding and marketing.

He studied the Japanese language and culture in high school and college and worked in Kyoto as an English teacher. Returning in 2003, Jason began importing Japanese orchid species, adding a new niche to the family business. Interests include hybridizing *Vanda falcata* varieties and *Phragmipediums*.

Jason has traveled extensively presenting lectures and photographing orchids *in situ*. He will give us a tour of the greenhouse, share his orchid experience in Japan, and teach us how to pot *Neofinetia falcatas* in the classical Japanese form. You won't want to miss this one. Watch your email inbox and check our website for the Zoom link.

Orchids Limited is offering 10% off for FLOS members on all plants August 10 - 31. Select your plants on [www.orchidweb.com](http://www.orchidweb.com). Enter code FLGROUPSHIP at checkout to save on shipping. One big order will be shipped to Vicki Hallock. The 10% will be refunded after you purchase. Details to follow shortly by email and will be posted on FLOS.org.

## Mark Your Calendar

**August 10:** Jason Fischer: Potting *Neofinetia falcata*

**September 14:** Dr. Doug Needham: Photomorphogenic Responses-Phototropism & Photoperiodism. Don't let the name turn you off. He is really down to earth.

**October 12:** Annual Plant Auction (online). Details soon.

## President's Message



Greetings from the bunker! Actually, I have taken to working outside in a shade house, where I enjoy the pounding rains coming down around me. It helps that my "work" is preparing orchid seedlings for our conservation projects.

These projects provide an excuse to get out and mingle, socially-distanced of course, with others who enjoy nature and native plants. I am honored to represent FLOS at these events.

Our virtual reality continues, and we thank Tom Kuligowski for his excellent Zoom presentation on photography. It's a lot of work to convert presentations to a virtual format, and we are grateful to Tom and others for sharing their knowledge through new channels. Our October auction will be online this year, so keep feeding those divisions that you want to donate! We are still trying to figure out the holiday party and our 2021 show... fingers crossed!

Our orchids give us an excuse to stay in touch with each other, and this is something we all need more of. Call a society friend, compare notes on fungicides, share a cutting, post a picture. See you all on the next Zoom! **-Rich Ackerman**

## "Show Table - Pandemic Edition"

Members can submit up to two pictures for judging, definite deadline end-of-day Saturday August 8. Email photos to Rich and Joan. Email photos only, no submissions any other way.



2019



2001

## Olivier Shares His Experiences: *Phalaenopsis* Species, Part 3



Section *polychilos* in the *Phalaenopsis* genus has many *Phal.* species. Most are small plants with small flowers in MANY different colors. Unlike the large *Phals.*, most are fragrant.

While larger *Phal.* species bloom in the spring, their blooms induced by a drop in nighttime temperatures, the smaller type tends to bloom in the summer as their blooming is induced by longer days and warmer temperatures. Hybrids seem to bloom whenever they please.

In my opinion, the three “*violacea*” types are among the most popular.

*Phal. violacea* proper is from Sumatra. It has many different colors in the pink/purple hues, but there is also an alba form.

*Phal. bellina* is a variety that comes from Borneo. Until 1995, it was called *Phal. violacea* var. Borneo. Its leaves are wider, and the flower color are very striking with green edges and a pinkish lip.

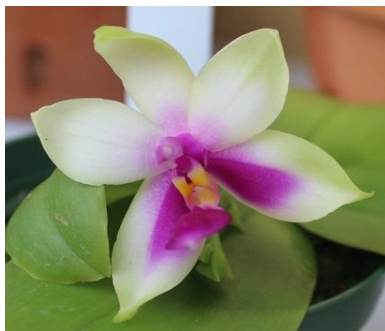
*Phal. mentawaiensis* is less common and is from the Mentawai island (off Sumatra), hence its name. Its inflorescence is much longer, and its flowers larger than the previous examples.

All three are very fragrant and bloom mostly in the summer and fall. Older green inflorescences should never be removed because they can rebloom.

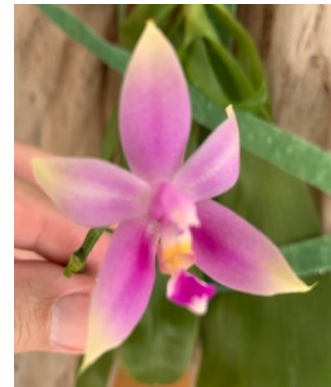
The *violacea Phals.* need true shade and are susceptible to crown rot in winter. Therefore, the medium should be kept away from the bottom of the plant. They should be kept drier when nighttime temperatures are in the 50's. I prefer mounting them to avoid rot.



*Phal. violacea* 'Red' #1 x self



*Phal. bellina*



*Phal. mentawaiensis* 'Pink Lady' x self

There is also a subsection *zebrinae* inside the *polychilos* with a few beautiful species: *Phal. tetraspis*, *P. speciosa*, *P. corningiana polychilos*, and *P. sumatrana*.

This is my *Phal. speciosa* in bloom in February and again in April! See the variation in color of petals and sepals on the same plant!!!







**American Orchid Society**  
*Education. Conservation. Research.*

### AOS August Webinars:

Online video webinars are added every month. You can register for an upcoming webinar or watch recorded webinars at your convenience. Some are member only, just another reason for joining AOS.

**Greenhouse Chat, Ron McHatton**  
 Orchid Q&A  
 Thursday, August 13, 8:30 pm

**The Genus *Maxillaria*, Eric Sauer**  
 Wednesday, August 26, 8:30 pm

### AOS Website Update

AOS is upgrading its system to enhance its online features! In the meantime, some online features are undergoing maintenance and may not work properly. Please be patient during this time. AOS staff is available to help at (305) 740-2010.

## July Ribbon Winners



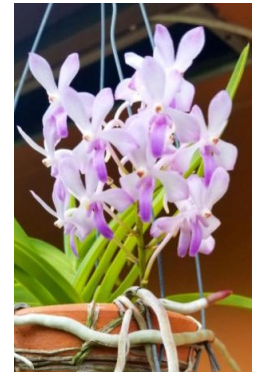
*Bc.* Little Mermaid 'Janet'  
 AM/AOS Jane Unger



*Neostylis* Lou Sneary  
 Claire Garrett



*Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis*  
 Scott Peplin



*Neostylis* Lou Sneary 'Blue Horizon'  
 Kevin Stansberry



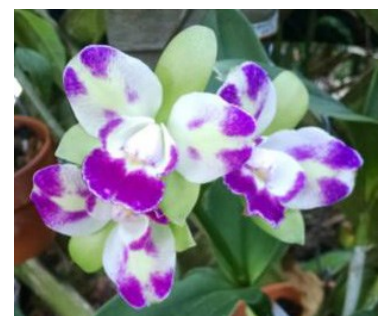
*Pot.* Mem. Lucille Lee  
 Zoe Bejar



*Phal.* Liu's Triprince 'Pink'  
 Kat Schmidberger



*Recchara.* Frances Fox  
 Jill Smith

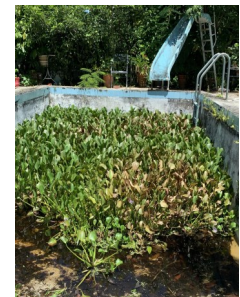
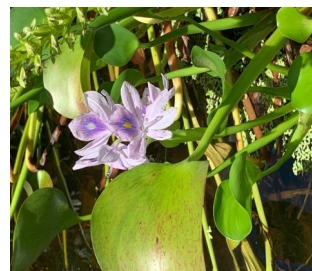


*Blc.* Village Chief North  
 Robert Smith



More than 2,000 native orchids were installed in the past month in the Riverland Manors neighborhood, along the Stunson Nature Trail in Oakland Park and in the downtown neighborhood of Colee Hammock. Copious rains have helped seedlings get established, so we expect great results everywhere.

Our next shipment of native orchids is coming from Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in mid-August. We are pleased to be able to offer them to members for the first time. Pricing will be the same as we give our large partners, not retail as at our shows. Quantities will be limited. Look for a notice in your email inbox.



Finally, we are organizing an orchid rescue on a huge patch of *Habeneria repens*. And, yes, it is a pool-full, surrounded by invasive Hyacinths! More on this next month.

## July Keiki Club Zoom Event

FLOS Keikis were finally able to reunite via Zoom on July 11 for a presentation by our President, Rich Ackerman, entitled “What’s in a Name?” More than 30 keikis, plus some members who wanted a refresher, joined in for a reprise of the popular lecture Rich presented last year, focusing on orchid nomenclature and how to decode orchid labels. He explained all the terms that go into naming an orchid (genera, species, hybrids, cultivars, grex, and more). Rich also provided us with the names of some references where we can learn more about orchids that we may be interested in acquiring or identifying: The International Orchid Register at The Royal Horticultural Society Database of Hybrid Names and The International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants.

Rich created a fun and interactive presentation by sending each registrant a different set of orchid tags beforehand. We were challenged by several quizzes to interpret different examples of our tags, to the “Jeopardy!” theme song, and submit them via the “chat” button. Winners were awarded a free orchid to be picked up that weekend. We were also able to chat in our questions. Thank you, Rich, for bringing us together and helping us to further our knowledge of orchids so we can improve our cultivation techniques!

We are hard at work trying to identify other interesting activities to keep everyone involved until we can gather again in person. If there is a topic that interests you, please contact one of our Chairpersons. We’d love to hear your suggestions!

Jill Smith, Keiki Club Chair ([jsmith8146@comcast.net](mailto:jsmith8146@comcast.net))

Rick Bellas, Co-Chair ([willbell@aol.com](mailto:willbell@aol.com))

Kate Donohue, Co-Chair ([rippermom48@gmail.com](mailto:rippermom48@gmail.com))

## *Dedrobium archipelagense* Update

By Claire Garrett

It’s been a month since my *Dedrobium archipelagense* x *sib.* was shown in the July newsletter. All nine seed capsules have continued to bulk up and swell, with all nine flowers still firmly attached! This new picture shows that the inflorescences are being pulled downward by the weight of the heavy capsules. Because the flowers no longer need to attract pollinators, they lost their delicate fragrance early on when they were first pollinated, but they have maintained their original color, texture, and substance. It has been interesting watching and documenting the unusual behavior of this orchid.



How big will the capsules get? How much longer will the flowers last? Does anyone want to guess the date when the flowers will first start deteriorating and falling off? The FLOS member submitting the closest guess will win a small division of this intriguing orchid when it is eventually repotted. Email your best guess to me at [clairegarr@aol.com](mailto:clairegarr@aol.com).

## July Speaker: Tom Kuligowski

Our July Zoom meeting was the most heavily attended thus far, and well worth the effort! We all love sharing photos of our beautiful blooming orchids, and professional photographer Tom Kuligowski taught us how to improve our photography skills using our cell phones so that our photos will look as spectacular as our orchids. Tom covered all the photography basics, such as avoiding direct sun, using available light instead of flash, using contrasting backgrounds to really “pop” our orchids, and general photo composition. The best thing about cell phones is that you can see the results immediately and reshoot if you are unhappy.

The highlight was introducing us to an App called Pro Camera by Moment that gives cell phones the same type of control during shooting as expensive SLR cameras (depth of field, shake reduction, white balance, etc.). The results are amazing!

Thank you, Tom, for sharing your knowledge with us.



## July Ribbons

<i>Neostylis</i> Lou Sneary 'Blue Horizon'	Kelvin Stansberry	Blue
<i>Neofinetia falcata</i> x <i>Vandofinetia</i> Blaupunkt	Kelvin Stansberry	Red
<i>Neostylis</i> Lou Sneary	Claire Garrett	Cultural
<i>Vandopsis lissochilode</i>	Zoe Bejar	Blue
<i>Vandopsis lissochiloides</i>	Ginny Salus	Red
V. Robert Mezey (V. <i>Ascda</i> Fuchs Joy x V. Yip Sum Wah)	Kat Schmidberger	Red
<i>Perreiraara</i> Bangkok Sunset ( <i>Vanda</i> x <i>Aerides</i> )	Sara Singer	Cultural
V. Stephen Scott Young (V. <i>tessellata</i> 'T. Orchids' HCC/AOS x V. <i>testacea</i> 'Mary Motes' CHM/AOS)	Olivier Turina	Blue
<i>Recchara</i> Frances Fox ( <i>Brassolaeliacattelya</i> x <i>Myrmecophila</i> )	Jill Smith	Blue
<i>Schombocattleya</i> Garnet Glory 'Juno Beach' HCC/AOS	Kate Donohue	Cultural
<i>Myrmecophila brysiana</i>	Claire Garrett	Cultural
<i>Cattleya forbesii</i>	Scott Peplin	Cultural
<i>Rlc.</i> Village Chief North	Robert Smith	Red
<i>C. tenebrosa</i> "Apopka" x <i>C. tenebrosa</i> "Tokyo"	Sue Mitchell-Greig	Blue
<i>Potinara</i> Twenty Four Caret 'Lea' x <i>Blc.</i> Hawaiian Discovery 'Fluorescent Orange'	Timothy Russo	Red
<i>Bc.</i> Little Mermaid 'Janet' AM/AOS	Jane Unger	Blue
<i>Pot.</i> Mem. Lucille Lee ( <i>Pot.</i> Martha Dolge x <i>C. forbesii</i> )	Zoe Bejar	Blue
E. Thomas Fennell* ( <i>Enc.</i> Orchid Jungle 'Gone not Forgotten' HCC/AOS x <i>Enc. plicata</i> Mary Motes' HCC/ AOS)	Vicki Hallock	Blue
<i>Encyclia</i> Orchid Jungle	Sara Singer	Cultural
<i>Phal. speciosa</i>	Elly Meisler	Blue
<i>Brsdm.</i> Longlen 'Bill Switzer'	Jill Smith	Blue
<i>Onc.</i> Everglades	Tin Ly	Cultural
<i>Ctsm.</i> Sheriff Frank Drew 'Maia' AM/ AOS ( <i>Ctsm.</i> Frilly Doris SVO HCC/AOS x <i>Ctsm.</i> Susan Fuchs 'Burgundy Chips' FCC/AOS)	Olivier Turina	Blue
<i>Ctsm.</i> John C. Burchett 'Ursa Major' HCC/ AOS x <i>Ctsm.</i> Dagny 'Fantastica'	Debra Johnson	Red
<i>Liparis grossa</i>	Elly Meisler	Red
<i>Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis</i>	Scott Peplin	Blue
<i>Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis</i>	Scott Peplin	Cultural
<i>Platystele stenostachya</i>	Vicki Hallock	Blue

(\* ) denotes registered hybrid

## Orchid Thievery Continues

The history of orchids is rich with harrowing tales of treachery, murder, intrigue, and thievery. Unfortunately, orchid thieves are still hard at work today. We've heard stories of a prize-winning orchid disappearing at an orchid show, blooming sample orchids walking out of booths, a rare Ghost Orchid stolen from Fakahatchee, and such.

I recently came across a story in the *Miami Herald* about a serious thief who removed thousands of dollars of orchids from the trees in a Miami neighborhood—not once, but twice!

This neighborhood "Orchid Project" began several years ago when a new resident started hanging orchids in the trees lining the sidewalks of a residential neighborhood known for its expansive grassy medians where children fly kites, dogs fetch, and families picnic.

Delighted neighbors were soon contributing orchids, and the beauty of the "Collection" took on special meaning during the COVID pandemic when residents stayed close to home. Then, one night, the orchids started disappearing.

Undaunted, neighbors bought more orchids, hanging them higher in the trees. Nearly 295 orchids had taken root in the trees. Early one morning, they started disappearing again.

Surveillance video spotted a young woman plucking the orchids off the trees on June 4 and June 19 in the 1800-2000 blocks of Country Club Prado. The 34-year old thief was identified, arrested, and charged with several counts of grand theft.

I wonder if the orchids were recovered and returned to the neighborhood.

- Kate Donohue

## Welcome New Members

Dennis Hill, Elisa Mattos, Jennifer Sirop,  
Vito Del Vecchio, Paul Grewal

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### Diana Waterous Centorino Attorney at Law, P.A.

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Washington, D.C. and Nebraska Bars*

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



### Michelle Durnil Financial Advisor

717 S E 2nd Street Ste 204  
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*Atlantic*  
PROPERTIES INTERNATIONAL

**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.

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2nd Vice President: Luanne Betz (Membership)  
Recording Secretary: Jill Smith  
Corresponding Secretary: Zoe Bejar  
Treasurer: Brian Boyle  
Newsletter: Kate Donohue, Editor - 954-644-3042  
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