



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

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September 2020

September Speaker: Dr. Doug Needham



Dr. Needham's professional objective has been "to educate and foster the professional development of others."

After earning his PhD in Horticultural Plant Breeding and Genetics in 1989, Dr. Needham served as Professor of Floriculture at Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Needham joined Longwood Gardens in July 2007, serving as Vice President of Education until he retired in July 2017.

Dr. Needham began growing flowering plants as a child, and that passion continues throughout retirement. He caught the "Orchid Bug" as a teen from his grandmother and, in his words, "never recovered." He grows hundreds of orchids in cool and warm glasshouses, designs and cultivates English-inspired perennial borders, and is working to restore a native prairie. Dr. Needham shares his passion through workshops, presentations, tours, and consulting.

His lecture is entitled, "Photomorphogenic Responses-Phototropism & Photoperiodism." Yes, that sounds frightening, but it really has to do with the effects of light and darkness on plants, something we all need to learn more about. Dr. Needham is very down-to-earth and an engaging speaker. Hope you will join us via Zoom.

Mark Your Calendar

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 via Zoom). Details coming soon.

President's Message

-Rich Ackerman



The pandemic continues to pose challenges for everyone. We know of one FLOS member who was ill, but is fortunately now recovering. We hope that everyone stays healthy and safe until better times return.

Your Board and its committees are working hard behind the scenes to continue to help our members. I appreciate everyone's efforts - thank you all! Our auction will be online this year and you won't want to miss it. We are watching COVID data and government rules and regulations carefully to see what we can do about our Holiday Party and Show. We will be deciding on these soon.

With two tropical storms headed our way, remember to include orchids in your hurricane plan. Small collections can be brought inside - maybe you need a tarp to put them on? Larger collections can be partially protected by dropping them to the ground to get out of the wind. Mounted plants can be wrapped in burlap or shade cloth. After the storm passes, treat with fungicide and watch out for sunburn. Cut back on watering before and after the storm to let them dry quickly. Most orchids are tough, but they need a little help from us to make it through the hurricane season.

Happy growing!

"Show Table - Pandemic Edition"

Members can submit up to two pictures for judging, definite deadline end-of-day Saturday September 12. Email photos to Rich and Joan. Email photos only, no submissions any other way.



2019



2001



Olivier Shares His Experiences

This is a basic summary of the native continents of common orchid genera. It is not a scientific essay, but rather a quick recap for those interested in the geographic origins of their plants. Obviously, there are many more genera than those listed below and there are exceptions to some of these “rules.”

Bulbophyllums which are, according to AOS, the largest orchid genus, hail mostly from Asia, but there is a large contingent in equatorial Africa and even some in Central and South America.

From the Americas (mostly Central and South):

I believe the heaviest concentration of South American orchids are in Brazil, Colombia, and Ecuador. *Cattleyas* hail mostly from Brazil but are found all over Latin America. *Guarianthes* are the former Central American *Cattleyas*. *Oncidium*s have their largest contingent in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, but they are found all over Tropical America and grow in vastly different environments. It is best to research their cultural needs (especially temperatures) as many are not ideal for South Florida. *Gomesas*, formerly called *Oncidium*s, are mostly from Brazil. Most *Tolumnias* (fka. Equitant *Oncidium*s) are from the Caribbean. Some are endemic to one particular island. *Catasetums* are from Central and South America with a heavy concentration in Brazil. The *Stanhopea* alliance is found all over Central and South America. *Bifrenarias* are mostly from Brazil. *Maxillaria* is a huge group from all over the Americas and their cultivation needs vary wildly. The August 26 AOS webinar covers *Maxillaria* in more detail.

From Asia:

I believe the heaviest concentration of Asian orchids are in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Borneo which is split among three different countries (the biggest chunk belonging to Indonesia). *Vandas* are from all over tropical Asia. They are typically warm growers and now also include what used to be called *Ascocentrum* (which are small-statured *Vandas*) and *Neofinetia*. *Phalaenopsis* are from all over Asia. *Dendrobium*s grow all over Asia in many different environments and all the way to Australia. Learning where they grow gives you an indication of how to care for them. *Dendrobium* is one of the least homogeneous genera for growing conditions. *Paphiopedilums* are from tropical Asia.

From Africa:

Angraecoids: *Angraecums* are found in Africa and Madagascar. *Aerangis* are small plants with mostly white flowers found all over Africa, especially on Madagascar. *Ansellia africana* is a mono-specie genus found all over Africa south of the Sahara Desert. There are many color variations.



Our August shipment was delayed in customs, but we'll be picking them up soon. Our Members' Sale will be held through the store on our website (members.flos.org). Pickup will be in downtown Fort Lauderdale, and we will stagger time windows to avoid crowding. Watch your email.

We did a rescue on a huge patch of *Habenaria repens* in August, saving hundreds of native orchids. After quarantine, they will be used for naturalization and breeding projects at Stunson Nature Trail, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Broward Extension's KIND Garden, and Flamingo Gardens. A few FLOS members requested plants for private water gardens, and we are glad to make that happen as well. Many thanks to Zoe Bejar, Claire Garrett, David Thompson, Luanne Betz, Vicki Hallock, Gerritt Stryker, Fernando Rocha, and Rich Ackerman. Lots of pictures are on the FLOS website.

- Rich Ackerman



American Orchid Society

Education. Conservation. Research.

AOS September 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

Tuesday, September 1, 8:30 pm

Encyclia Species & Hybrids, Mike Curtin

Thursday, September 10, 8:30 pm

AOS Events and Judging Centers

Due to COVID-19 concerns, most spring shows, fall shows, and monthly judging have been cancelled or postponed. There will be no physical judging at Flamingo Gardens until further notice.

The AOS 2020 Fall Members Meeting is Going Virtual

In light of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, we've made the decision to transition the October 24, 2020, Fall Members Meeting to a fully virtual event. We will soon publish the event agenda, which will include a virtual auction! Registration will be free. Hope you will join us!

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. The AOS staff is available to help at (305) 740-2010.

Our Centennial Celebration is coming! April 7th - 10th, 2021

Our 100th anniversary is just 9 months away. To be held at the historic Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, FL, it will include our 2021 Spring Members Meeting with fabulous activities, renowned speakers, and a great auction. Watch for details.

Orchidiction: An Intervention

Hi, my name is Kate, and I'm an orchid addict. I've tried to control my addiction, but with so many beautiful orchids available seemingly everywhere, it's been impossible. Plus, I'm surrounded by enablers. What I did not realize is that Orchidiction would cause a secondary addiction: Hoarding.

Like many new hobbyists, I was anxious to build my collection. I purchased just about everything I saw. In three years, I had packed three large shade structures with nearly 400 orchids!

My housemate Sam works very hard to make our backyard an oasis. Things have never looked better—except for the jam-packed orchids. When I got the third shade house, I solemnly promised to stop buying and use the new space to spread out the orchids. Thought I was doing OK, but somehow orchids kept “showing up.” I tried to hide them, but one day Sam caught me. He blew up and didn't talk to me for four days. Then came the INTERVENTION. I was a hoarder and needed professional help. I was ruining the back yard he worked so hard on, and I was not keeping my repeated promises. What was wrong with me? Once I got over the indignity of it all, I realized that Sam was right. I was WAY out of control!

Now I'm working a recovery plan. I'm ditching struggling plants, combining duplicate orchids, donating plants to our auction, and gifting orchids. Yes, it's hard, but one day at a time. It looks better already. My reward will be one or two great orchids a year. For the first time, I have no new orchids to settle in, and I'm enjoying getting to know and concentrating on the beautiful orchids I already have. Life is good!

- Kate Donohue

August Speaker: Jason Fischer Potting *Neofinetia falcata*

Jason Fischer has grown up with two passions: Orchids and Japanese Culture. His mother is Japanese, and Jason has worked in his father's business Orchids Limited since age 5. Jason's lecture was “Potting *Neofinetia falcata*,” but we were treated to so much more. We took a look at the Japanese art of decorating with plants, pottery makers and forms, and orchid show displays in a culture where proper presentation is critical. In fact, there are orchid shows where the plants are not in bloom, but are judged only for form and presentation. We also met Jason's Orchid Guru, an old crusty recognized expert who had never accepted a student until Jason came along.

The potting demonstration showed us the traditional method for *Neofinetia falcata* as well some alternate easier techniques. Jason's engaging personality and delivery made for a special evening. Thank you, Jason, for sharing your passions with us!

Editor's Note: There were 69 Zoom attendees at this meeting, the highest yet. We're looking forward to even more in the future!

A Return to Small Simple Moments of Serendipity – *Enc. Tampensis*

One of Florida’s most beloved native orchids is *Encyclia tampensis*, also known as the Florida Butterfly Orchid. Before overdevelopment changed the landscape, this fragrant orchid with its dainty flowers grew abundantly in the Live Oak hammocks of South Florida. Fairchild Tropical Garden’s Million Orchid Project is re-establishing this orchid with the assistance of FLOS and other organizations. To that end, I volunteered at an outreach event on Fort Lauderdale’s Riverwalk during one of the Jazz Bruch Sundays in 2015. FLOS gave away 100 of these young orchids, along with instructions for successful mounting on area trees. A few plants still remained after the event ended, and as a volunteer, I was encouraged to take one home to mount outdoors.



I selected a good spot for viewing on a diagonal limb of my Live Oak tree, and made certain to tie it on good and tight with strong twine since the clump of about half a dozen pseudobulbs was too heavy for Liquid Nails glue alone. Known as a slow grower, it took a couple years to get established, first blooming three years ago. This May it was really stunning with 30 inflorescences, compared to 15 the previous year. Each inflorescence was just loaded with flowers dancing in the breeze like butterflies, affording me many small simple moments of serendipity when I glanced up at the movement which caught my eye. A couple months later, I noticed 23 fat seed capsules bobbing up and down in the breeze. Within a few months these capsules will pop open, casting their seeds to the four winds, some hopefully landing on tree

limbs where the necessary partner, mycorrhizae fungi, will be present to stimulate germination. I am looking forward to the day when I may notice *Encyclia tampensis* seedlings emerging here and there on my tree or other trees in my neighborhood. Then I will feel such a sense of satisfaction knowing that I did my small part to help re-establish this lovely orchid in South Florida where it belongs.

Encyclia tampensis is completely self-sufficient when mounted on a Live Oak tree where it is most at home. Since not everyone has a Live Oak or other suitable host tree, these orchids can also be grown on a variety of portable mounts like a small branch pruned from a tree with textured bark (i.e., Bottlebrush tree) or a piece of cork or tree fern. They can also be grown in pots, but like most tree epiphytes, they need to dry out after it rains, so it is best to use a small pot with a fast draining potting mix to avoid root rot. The good bright filtered light of a Live Oak branch is ideal, but I’ve found that, like other *Encyclias*, they can take even more direct light.

Give KeikiPro a Try



KeikiPro is a formulation of phytohormones used for activating dormant nodes of plants, including orchids. When applied to a plant during its active growing season, it can stimulate dormant nodes, producing more keikis on monopodial orchids and more pseudobulbs on sympodial orchids. It can help the grower produce more specimen size plants. Just dilute 4 drops in 1 ounce of water and spray on the places where you hope to see new growth. I use a small atomizer that produces a fine mist. A quart-size trigger sprayer will also work, but wastes too much of this very expensive product. Mix only what you need for one application. Just one ounce of the diluted product will go a long way, and you can easily mix more. I try to remember to apply KeikiPro a couple of times per month during the active growing season. My FCC and two CCM awards from AOS and numerous green ribbons of Meritorious Culture from FLOS can be attributed at least in part to regular use of KeikiPro in my collection.



***Dendrobium archipelagense*: Final Update**

Another month has passed. The first of the 9 flowers finally deteriorated on August 14 when its capsule popped open, splitting the petals and scattering dust-like seeds to the four winds. On that day, the other capsules were not yet ripe, and those 8 flowers still looked lovely! So, we have a winner--actually TWO winners who submitted guesses -- Gerritt Stryker (August 13) and Bonnie Bonneau (August 15). They were equally close to the actual date, so they will each win a division of this orchid. Now I need to treat it with KeikiPro to encourage it to produce enough new pseudobulbs so it can be divided 3 ways.

August Ribbons

<i>Aerdv.</i> Somsri Sunlight 'Golden Sands' AM/AOS (<i>A. lawrenceae</i> X <i>V. Rasri Gold</i>)	Olivier Turina	Blue
<i>Brassocattleya</i> 'Adrienne Arsht'	Kelvin Stansberry	Blue
<i>Coelogyne usitana</i>	Karen Fleisher	Blue
<i>Ctism.</i> Brent Baker (<i>Ctism. rectangulare</i> 'Baker's Cheetah' x <i>Ctism. callosum</i> 'Baker's Green Goblin')	Olivier Turina	Blue
<i>Ctism.</i> Portagee Star x <i>Ctism.</i> Lucis 'Bird of Paradise'	John Wrench	Blue
<i>Dendrobium</i> Green Mist x <i>Dendrobium convolutum</i>	Rich Ackerman	Blue
<i>Oncidioda</i> Copper Scarab 'Brass Brethren'	Vicki Hallock	Blue
<i>Paph. spicerianum</i>	Bonnie Bonneau	Blue
<i>Pros. cochleata</i>	Bonnie Bonneau	Blue
<i>Rlc.</i> Greenwich (??)	Timothy Russo	Blue
<i>V. lamellata</i> x <i>V. Noi Blue</i> x <i>Rhy. coelestis</i>	Karen Fleisher	Blue
<i>V.</i> Siriporn Pink (<i>V. East More</i> x <i>V. Fuchs Delight</i>)	Gerritt Stryker	Blue
<i>Vanda</i> Densig* (<i>V. denisoniana</i> x <i>V. insignis</i>)	Sara Singer	Blue
<i>Brassavola nodosa</i>	Claire Garrett	Cultural
<i>Epidendrum</i> Green Hornet	Claire Garrett	Cultural
<i>Habeneria repens</i>	Rich Ackerman	Cultural
<i>Ascada</i> Kuwaldee Fragrance, Ting #8	Sara Singer	Red
<i>Brassavola nodosa</i>	Scott Peplin	Red
<i>Dendrobium</i> Siam ('Blue?')	Bud Romboli	Red
<i>Ett.</i> Volcano Trick 'Paradise' AM/AOS	Bud Romboli	Red
<i>Trichoglottis brachiata</i> var. <i>philippinensis</i>	Scott Peplin	Red
<i>V. lamellata</i> x <i>V. Noi Blue</i> x <i>Rhy. coelestis</i>	Kelvin Stansberry	Red

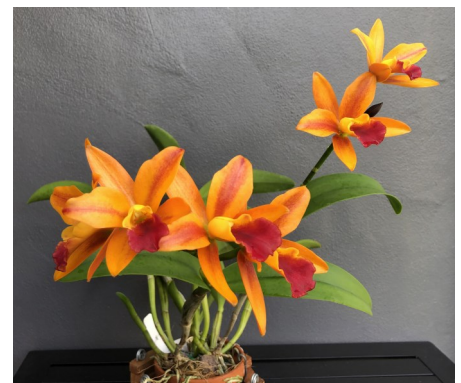
(*) denotes registered hybrid



Bredonara Longlen 'Bill Switzer'
Jill Smith



Can anyone ID this? *Bredonara* Chia Lin 'New City' AM/AOS (?), from Lowe's



Potinara netrasisi Starbright 'NN'
Kate Donohue

Dairy of a Keiki Graduate By Arthur Clark

July 21: I'm left with a terrible feeling of loss. My *A. leonis* was developing a keiki which I first thought was a new flower growth, but it didn't appear to be the normal growth pattern for a spike. I had placed the *leonis* on a bed of rocks for extra humidity.

The high winds and heavy rains the last couple of days seemed to have reached a crescendo last night as the high winds beat against my bedroom shutters. I conjured up fears of orchids whirling around in the wind. How secure are the plants? How much damage will the winds cause?

In the morning I found the *leonis* on the ground, but to my amazement, it had no damage. Greatly relieved, I dusted it off and carefully placed it back where it was. However, there was a snail lodged in the medium. I removed the snail and continued with my inspection, thinking, "I'll have to spray for snails." Just as I inspected the plant next to the *leonis*, I sensed my beloved plant falling to the ground. This time, the keiki was damaged like a crystal glass shattering into many pieces, just like my hopes of seeing my precious keiki grow into adulthood. It's a gut-wrenching feeling when something bad happens and you have no control. All you feel is sorrow. Alas, such is the life of an orchid hobbyist.



Before and After

Welcome New Member

Penelope Burger

MARKETPLACE

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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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