



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.

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We need your help with 'Orchids Rock!'

We are less than 3 months away from our beautiful orchid show and sale on Jan. 21-23. We are asking our members for support and participation in two important ways: Please sell your presale show tickets, and sign up to volunteer at the show. We cannot have a successful show without your help!

Many members have paid for their eight tickets on FLOS.org or by mail and they will be joining us free of charge at the Jan. 20 Gala Preview Party at the Broward County Convention Center. Many thanks and we look forward to all members helping produce the show by selling their discounted presale tickets. The show is our largest fundraising event and also is a large expense to our society.

We will need 75 volunteers Friday through Sunday. To lessen the commitment for everyone, we have created four-hour shifts in the mornings or afternoons. Morning shifts are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and afternoon slots are 2 to 6 p.m. Volunteers will be needed to hand out show programs, raffle tickets, answer questions or offer directions. We have positions that require both standing or sitting. Please contact Vicki Hallock (wickirae@aol.com) or me (michaelschaberl@comcast.net) to let us know what shift and day works best for you.

Sign up ASAP and get the best pick of the schedule!

We hope you all will take an active role in our show and at the same time have fun, meet other members and receive a free thank-you orchid at our February meeting.

Knowing that you personally are giving back to the society by helping make this a great event for FLOS is a very rewarding feeling. Everyone helping to make our great show happen are volunteers. Together we are very strong and your volunteering a few hours (or all day if you can) will make a huge difference to the thousands of people who attend our shows and love orchids.

Many of us joined FLOS after attending our first show, and now you have the chance to be one of those volunteers that made you feel welcome, safe and glad you came. Please plan on paying it forward and contact us to add your name as a volunteer.

We need you! Please contact me with questions at michaelschaberl@comcast.net or 954-683-9615.

— **MICHAEL SCHABERL**
Show Chair

President's Message

Come one, come all! This month's meeting at the church will be at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 8.



We are very excited to FINALLY be meeting in person, but we will be offering the meeting on Zoom as well. There will be a ribbon judgings and raffle table, too.

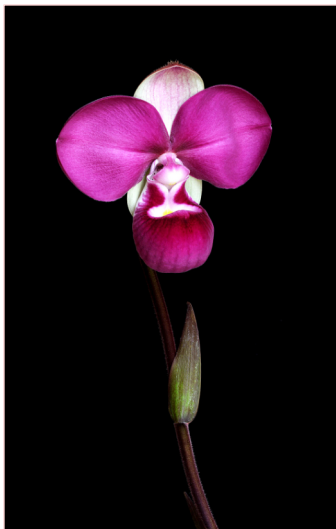
We will be following safety protocols. First, church rules require masks for all participants. We will check names at the door and only offer drinks during the social hour. Please don't bring any snacks as we cannot serve food.

Holiday party alert: If you don't buy tickets by Nov. 15, we may be forced to cancel the event on Dec. 12 as we do not have enough people signed up yet. Go to Page. 2 to get the details. Please note there will be no meeting in December.

See you Monday!

— **JOAN CONNORS**

November speaker: Mary Gerritsen's search for slipper orchids



This month's general meeting will feature a Zoom talk by Mary Gerritsen presenting "Slippery Tales," about her adventures and tribulations searching for slipper orchids, including the cursed *Phragmipedium kovachii*, left, at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 8. Come to the church or participate on Zoom.

Mary, who lives in the San Francisco Bay area, is a consulting professor at Stanford University and independent biotechnology consultant who has been growing orchids (mostly species) for more than 30 years. She grows small, cool-growing, miniature species such as Masdevallias, Porroglossums, Lepanthes and other assorted tiny gems, as well as Angraecoids, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Laelias, Phalaenopsis and Bulbophyllums. She loves to see orchids growing in situ, and has made it her mission to see and photograph as many as possible, with trips to

Canada, many parts of the United States, Mexico, and countries in Central America (Costa Rica, Panama), South America (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela), South East Asia (Borneo, southern and southwestern China, Sulawesi, northern Thailand, Papua New Guinea), western Australia, Europe, South Africa and Madagascar.

She is the co-author of several botanical books: "Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World;" "Calochortus, Mariposa Lilies and Their Relatives;" "A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species; A Bay Area Guide to Orchids and Their Culture;" and the "The American Orchid Society Guide to Orchids and Their Culture," written with fellow San Francisco Orchid Society member, photographer and our September speaker, Ron Parsons.

— **VICKI HALLOCK, Program Chair**

Cold sensitive orchids

We are closing in on winter and cooler nights may become a potential concern. We are obviously blessed with a spectacular climate here in South Florida, but some orchids we grow are “hot” growers and temperatures below 50 or 55 degrees at night can be a problem. I know some growers give their plants tough love and refuse to bring them inside even when temperatures drop to 45 degrees or lower. I personally tend to err on the side of caution.



Also, if you live close to the ocean, early-morning temperatures in winter can be several degrees higher than those who live out west.

It is a good idea to learn about the cold hardness of your collection and there are plenty of resources online. Among the most cold sensitive orchids encountered in South Florida that should avoid being exposed to temperatures below 50 to 55 degrees are *Cattleya violacea*, antelope dendrobiums, hard cane dendrobiums, some vandas and some phalaenopsis species such as *stuartiana* and *schilleriana*.

While exposure to such temperatures typically does not usually mean death, just a few hours of chilly weather can do extensive damage, causing defoliation and stunting growth, which could set them back hard. Also, for ANY orchid type, young plants, tender growths and flower spikes are always more sensitive to cold.

When it comes to vandas, a cold night may lead to a bunch of leaves dropping leaving your plant looking more like a palm tree with no hope of ever recovering those lost leaves. A few vanda species are more hardy, and if you have hybrids with those species in the background, your plants should be more cold-tolerant, too. These include *V. denisoniana*, *V. tessellata* and also *V. coerulea* (not an ideal choice for South Florida as it grows colder year-round and is not likely to thrive in our heat). Smaller vandas formerly known as ascocentrums, are usually more cold tolerant as well. The most cold sensitive vandas are *V. lamellata*, *V. dearei* and especially *V. sanderiana* which is extensively used in hybrids.

If you have hybrids, go to Orchidroots.com to check the main species behind your plant to determine how cold sensitive it is likely to be.

For instance, *V. Golden Doubloon* is a primary hybrid with *V. denisoniana* and *V. tessellata* as parents. These are two cold tolerant parents and therefore the hybrid will be, too. I keep it outdoors on colder nights.

Aeridovanda Somsri Sunlight 'Golden Sands' (*Aerides lawrenciae* x *Vanda Rasri Gold*) AM/AOS has the following background: 50 percent *Aerides lawrenciae*, which is cold sensitive, 38 percent *V. sanderiana*, which is very cold sensitive, 6 percent *V. dearei*, which is very cold sensitive, and only 2.5 percent *V. Coerulea*. It is unlikely that the small percentage of *coerulea* which is cold tolerant will counteract the 94 percent of cold-sensitive parents in the background. So I would personally treat it as very cold sensitive.

You can do this exercise for cattleyas or any other genus. In cattleyas, hybrids with substantial *C. intermedia* or *C. loddigesii* will be cold tolerant, while hybrids with *C. violacea* will be cold sensitive.

Olivier Turina became a FLOS member in 2014 and a board member in 2020. Send your growing questions to OlivierFTL@gmail.com.

FLOS Annual Holiday Party

LAST CALL!

Join us at the Beautiful
Oceanic Pompano Beach
250 N. Pompano Beach Blvd
6:30 pm - 10:30 pm



Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres
from 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
(Open Bar from 6:30 - 8:30)
Cocktails & dancing will be on the Outdoor Patio overlooking the Atlantic Ocean

Featuring your choice of Entree:
Sea Salt Roasted Chicken
Simply Grilled Sixty Street Salmon
6 Oz. Certified Angus Filet Mignon
Grilled Roasted Cauliflower Steak

After Dinner Dancing and Orchids!

Make your reservations on the FLOS website
Members \$55.00 Guests \$70.00

All reservations must be made by Nov. 15, 2021

For additional information, please contact Sue Mitchell-Greig at smg05kw@gmail.com

<https://members.flos.org/event-4506378>

Volunteer at Tropical Plant Fair

The Equality Garden Club's "A Tropical Plant Fair" will be held Nov. 13-14 at beautiful Richardson Park in Wilton Manors. We need volunteers to staff the FLOS booth.

Saturday shifts are 9 a.m. to noon; noon to 3 p.m.; and 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday shifts are 9 a.m. to noon and noon to 3 p.m.

This is a great way to meet fellow orchid lovers and share information about our society.

If you can help, please email Sue Mitchell-Greig at smg05kw@gmail.com with preferred day and time. Get more info at EqualityGardenClub.com.

Growing spotlight: Claire Garrett's spectacular specimens

Claire Garrett took home two awards last month for her *Encyclia radiata* at the Tamiami International Orchid Festival in Homestead. Claire, who has been an orchid society member for 16 years, has more than 250 plants in her collection and has won many ribbons for her stunning specimens. We caught up with her after the show to get some tips on growing.

Q. What category was this plant entered in?

A. It was entered in the *Encyclia radiata* category where it won a regular blue first place ribbon. It also received another award at this show – a big blue medallion style “First Place Orchid” ribbon which came with a cash prize.

Q. How long have you had this orchid?

A. Nine years.

Q. Why do you grow this orchid?

A. I love *Encyclia radiata* (now known as *Prosthechea radiata*) because it is intoxicatingly fragrant. Fragrance is the main focus of my collection. It took a couple years before it bloomed for the first time, but now every fall it produces an abundance of flowers that last for several weeks.

Q. What's your No. 1. growing tip?

A. Subscribe to the digital orchid encyclopedia known as OrchidWiz which opens the door to invaluable background

information about all your orchids (countries and climates of origin, temperature requirements, recommended potting/ mounting media, parentage, etc.).

Q. What's your most indispensable orchid tool?

A. Tweezers with rounded tips to use for plucking out old potting media without damaging the roots.



Q. What do you like about growing orchids?

A. Being a hobby orchid grower active in FLOS and the American Orchid Society has enriched my life by introducing me to a circle of wonderful friends and acquaintances who share the same interest. Orchids grow on all continents except Antarctica. We can traverse the world vicariously through our orchids, as we learn about the climate and conditions in far off places where they originally were found to grow. I have had the opportunity to travel to Ecuador and Taiwan for consecutive World Orchid Conferences in 2017 and 2020, although the conference in Taiwan was canceled at the last minute due to the pandemic. I am looking forward to more World Orchid Conferences and orchid treks once the pandemic is in the rearview mirror.

Send growing story ideas to cneerod@gmail.com.

– **DOREEN CHRISTENEN**
Newsletter Editor

Keiki Club: Get a peek at Olivier's garden

On Oct. 9, former FLOS President Rich Ackerman was front and center on Zoom to present his third annual “What's In a Name” class to the Keikis and long-time members.

This interactive event has been popular in the past, and the information Rich shares is invaluable for decoding orchid labels. Rich explained all the terminology and nomenclature involved in naming an orchid (genera, species, hybrids, cultivars, grex and more). The event was great fun, with Rich providing participants with a set of orchid tags at registration and setting forth challenges during the presentation in the form of several mini-quizzes designed to help interpret the different examples on our tags. The tune of the “Jeopardy” theme song lended a bit of levity and the answers are shared on the “chat” forum. We were also able to “chat in” questions during and after the lecture. Thank you, Rich, for helping us learn more about how orchids are named and how we can better choose new plants for our collections.

NEXT MEETING: Join us at 10 a.m. Nov. 20 at the home and growing area of Olivier Turina. It is sure to be a winner. This will be the third time Olivier has hosted our new members, and he loves sharing his extensive knowledge on orchid cultivation. You will be amazed at his gorgeous plants and the interesting ways he displays them around his patio and pool area. More information will follow in an email.

We are gearing up for the show “Orchids Rock!”. This will be a great experience for the Keikis with opportunities for volunteering in many different capacities, including creating the Welcome Display. Please check the information on the cover to see how you can sign up. Email questions to Jill at jsmith8146@comcast.net, Rick at willbell@aol.com or Karen at ispo3008@gmail.com.

– **JILL SMITH, RICK BELLAS,**
KAREN FLEISHER
Keiki Club Chairs

Renew your membership

It's time to renew as memberships expire next month. Members enjoy many benefits:

- Monthly newsletter, delivered via email or USPS.
- Monthly meetings on Zoom or socializing with other orchid lovers while enjoying a presentation, snacks, and orchid judging.
- Welcome packet.
- Free loans of books from our library.

Renewals are \$20 (single member) and \$25 (dual membership). Go to members.flos.org.

– **LUANNE BETZ**
Membership Chair

MARKETPLACE

Please support our advertisers.
They help pay for our newsletter.



Amazon has a program called Amazon Smile that donates .5% of your purchase price to a non-profit if you join the Smile program. FLOS is on their list of nonprofits, so you can choose to support us while you shop!



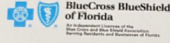
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Directions: From I-95 take East Oakland Park Blvd., go 2.4

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.

1955 East Oakland Park Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

Time: 7:30 pm. Place: Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall,

Regular Meetings: Second Monday of each month.

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society
P.O. Box 4677, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338

