



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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Counting down to ‘Orchids Rock!’

Important information and things members should do as our wonderful show approaches on Jan. 21-23:

1. Sell, buy and give away all your presale tickets and turn in the money collected. Send it by credit card on FLOS.org, mail it to Sara Singer, or bring it to our meeting on Jan. 10 at the church. You will receive a preview party ticket, help make the show a success and make orchid lovers happy to attend our show. After all, everyone loves a discounted ticket!

2. Check your collection and groom your orchids that will be in bloom for the show. There is \$1,500 in prize money available to members. Who knows? You may have the Best in Show! Register orchids at the Convention Center from 3 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 19.

3. Please help promote the show by letting all your friends and family know on social media that “Orchids Rock!” is coming up. When you see a post about the show on the FLOS Facebook page, please share it every day. We are aiming for a full house to make the show successful and our vendors happy. We are, after all, the Fort

Lauderdale Orchid Society, which means we are the best, so post and share like crazy.

4. Clear your calendar for show week and plan on volunteering at least 4 hours. We have more than 300 members, and you are a critical part of the show. This year, we will be on the ground floor of the convention center, so there are no elevators or escalators to deal with. Just walk in, get your volunteer badge and assignment at the hospitality booth in the lobby. Your reward will be knowing you helped make FLOS successful, and you’ll get a free orchid in February. If you haven’t done so, please contact volunteer coordinator Vicki Hallock at wickirae@aol.com.

5. For safety sake, we will be following Covid guidelines from the CDC, Florida Department of Health and Broward County. We insist all our members, vendors and patrons be safe. For added safety, we are asking all attendees to wear masks, especially those who are unvaccinated. To aid in social distancing while shopping, we also will have extra spacing of vendors. Let’s all be safe!



We can and we will do this together! “Orchids Rock!” will be a beautiful and successful show and we hope you will have a few more orchids when you leave. Feel free to contact me with questions at michaelshaberl@comcast.net or 954-683-9615. Thank you all!

– **MICHAEL SCHABERL**
Show Chair

President’s Message

I hope you all had a safe and healthy holiday season. Happy New Year!



We start this year off with business as usual. We will be meeting in person at the Social Hall, with a live speaker, refreshments, raffles and live plant judging. There will be no Zoom interaction. Because of the new variant, we will be encouraging everyone to wear masks. Any refreshments brought in should be individually

wrapped.

Then, we turn our full attention to our show. Please read Michael’s update for all details, and remember to volunteer with Vicki and return any unused tickets to Sara.

See you at the meeting. Happy Orchiding!

– **JOAN CONNORS**

January speaker: Learn about Dendrobium section formosae

Christine Morales, a third year American Orchid Society student judge at the West Palm Beach Judging Center, will give an overview of the Dendrobium section formosae at our monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 10.

Also known as Nigrohirsutae, the name refers to the black hairs that are found on the leaf sheaths of a number of the species. Learn about approximately 30 species from South-East Asia that belong to this section.

Chris was born and raised in Miami and enjoys growing orchids with her husband Alex, who introduced her to orchids and has inspired her growing. They have won many AOS awards.

— **VICKI HALLOCK, Program Chair**

Endangered Paraphalaenopsis is a native of Borneo

Paraphalaenopsis (abbreviation “Pps.”) is a small genus of four species with fascinating terete leaves (pencil like) with beautiful, colorful flowers.

The first Pps. was discovered in 1925. It was *Pps. denevei*, but back then it was classified as Phalaenopsis.

All four species are “endemic” to the island of Borneo, which means this is the only place on earth you will encounter them. Borneo is a huge island (slightly larger than the state of Texas) and none of the species cross paths in the wild! As a matter of fact, they each come from a different corner of the island and all have a fairly small geographical distribution, explaining their status of endangered species. *Pps. denevei* is from SW Sarawak, *Pps. laycockii* is from SE Kalimantan, *Pps. serpentina* is from West Borneo and *Pps. labukensis* from Sabah in the north.

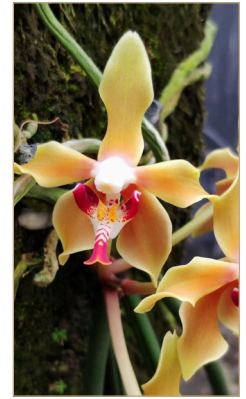
I am growing *Pps. labukensis* and *Pps. laycockii*, but I intend to grow all four species down the road. There are primary hybrids available as well. Pps. species and hybrids are not readily available from most U.S. vendors (except maybe *Pps. labukensis*) and your best shot at securing one is from an Asian vendor at one of the upcoming South Florida shows.

General cultural requirements are to grow them like a Vanda (preferably mounted with no medium). They need strong light, although I’ve read conflicting stories about this. I grow mine in strong filtered light (most of the day). They have not bloomed yet, but these plants are very slow growers. The terete leaves may make you think they are drought tolerant like the *Trichocentrums* but they are not. These orchids need plenty of water but must also dry out fast, hence mounting is advised. Also, good air circulation is important. All species are true hot growers and should not be exposed to night time temps below 60 degrees (preferably).

Pps. labukensis was discovered in 1981. It is a giant plant (when mature, which takes time) and is the largest of the genus (at least 6-foot long leaves but could be up to 12 feet?). In the wild, it enjoys year-round rain. I soak mine once a day. It is mounted.

Pps. laycockii was discovered in 1935. Mine is only one year old but has already grown two leaves vs. two leaves in 3 years for *labukensis*! This is supposed to be the easiest and fastest grower in the genus. Once established, it is supposed to flower freely year-round.

Pps. denevei was discovered in 1925 and is the type-species (the first species described in any genus is called “type-species”). It can be 30 inches long. Once established, this plant can bloom three or four times per year and the flowers



Clockwise from top left: *Pps. serpentina*, *Pps. denevei*, *Pps. laycockii* and *Pps. labukensis*. Photos courtesy Orchid Roots

are long lasting. So, it can be described as “free flowering.” This is the species most used in hybrids as the flowers are well arranged and of good substance.

Pps. serpentina was discovered in 1933 and is the smallest plant of the genus (1 foot max) with the smallest flowers. The flowers are very distinctive because of the shape of the mid lobe of the lip which looks like a snake tongue (hence the name *serpentina* which means “snake tongue”).

The structure of the flowers had them classified at first as Phalaenopsis but then it was discovered that they have genetically little in common. Actually, Paraphalaenopsis cannot even be crossed with any Phalaenopsis species as they are genetically incompatible, but they can be crossed with many vandaceous! The reclassification from Phal. to Pps. happened in 1963, but you may wonder why they did not choose a vastly different name that would have removed any confusion between both genera. Pps. is part of the Vanda alliance.

Recently, a newly created nothogenus called Paraphadenia, which crossed *Pps. labukensis* with *Seidenfadenia mitrata* (another terete-leaved Vandaceous plant) gave us Pdn. Juraj Kojis which has gorgeous rose-scented flowers and it blooms most of the year. Those who came to the Keiki meeting at my home got to see the beautiful fragrant hybrid!

– OLIVIER TURINA



Olivier Turina became a FLOS member in 2014 and a board member in 2020. Orchids are his passion, and he shares his growing experiences each month to help others broaden understanding of orchid culture. Besides the usual suspects cattleyas, phalaenopsis, dendrobiums and vandas, Olivier is very fond of catasetums, stanhopeas and oncidiums (in particular the trichocentrums). Send your growing questions to OlivierFTL@gmail.com.

Keiki Club News: Making the show welcome display

The Keikis are in charge of creating the welcome exhibit for our show each year and this involves some important planning. If you are interested in working on the display, please join us for a meeting to offer ideas and to map out a design. We will be gathering at the clubhouse of the apartment complex where Keiki Sebrina James lives in Davie. She has generously offered the use of the function room and there is ample parking. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 5. Please email to let us know you'll be coming and you will be provided with additional information and the address. We have packets for everyone with guidelines from AOS judges on how to

build an orchid display. If you are interested in helping and cannot attend this meeting, we can email you the packet.

We encourage all the Keikis to sign up to volunteer at the show! It is great fun, you will learn tons of information on orchid culture and you'll meet lots of folks who are orchid enthusiasts just like you. Please contact Vicki Hallock to offer your services at wickirae@aol.com. We will be working on the Keiki display all day on Jan. 19th if you want to help with this effort or if you would like to bring plants to put into the exhibit.

FEBRUARY MEETING: Our next meeting will be at Scott Peplin's at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 19. Scott always gives a lively presentation in his beautiful, lush growing area, which he fondly calls "The Orchid Bar and Grill." It is always an enjoyable morning and there will be refreshments and a raffle. 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**

Highlights of the FLOS holiday party at Oceanic

About 90 members attended the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society's holiday party on Dec. 12 at Oceanic in Pompano Beach. There was dancing and cocktails on the veranda, a delicious dinner and everyone took home a beautiful blooming orchid.

Photos courtesy Sara Singer



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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
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