

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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OCTOBER 2022

Our orchid auction is back — live and in person!

Our annual auction will be at **7 p.m. Oct. 10**. This fun night happens just once a year and it is live again. This is our nonprofit society's largest fundraiser, so get ready to bid on interesting new orchids. We will have blooming plants from your favorite vendors, as well as member donations and divisions. Here is how the auction differs from a normal meeting:

1. The auction starts at 7 p.m., not at our 7:30 regular meeting time. Registration starts at 6:30. Arrive early to register and preview plants of interest.

2. There will be no ribbon judging. Plants you bring in will be sold.

3. Walk-in donations for the auction are welcome. Drop off contributions at the donation table starting at 5 p.m. Make sure plants are properly tagged, with a description of blooming color and season. Other items such as orchid growing supplies, artwork or books are also appreciated.

4. Pick up your numbered bid paddle when arriving. When you are ready to leave, take your bill from the tabulators, and pay at the exit.

5. We will provide snacks and drinks, so you don't need to bake anything this month.

6. Please bring a cardboard box to hold your purchases. We want to keep the carpeting clean.

7. More help than usual is needed for the auction. Please come at 5 p.m. as there will be hundreds of plants to bring in from cars and trucks. If you can stay late to put the room back in order, that would be much appreciated, too. Happy bidding!

— **Luanne Betz**
Program Chair



Blo. Copper Queen
Auction plant
from 2019

President's message: Live FLOS Auction

I am thrilled and elated that after 3 years, our auction on October 10 will be live and in person. Our last two auctions were over Zoom and



although they were super successful and members could easily bid from the comfort of their homes, I like the energy and dynamic atmosphere when we are all together. It's

just SO much more fun!! It is also a real treat to have Mac Rivenbark as our FLOS Auctioneer Extraordinaire! His enthusiasm is contagious. It's a

bonus that you can peruse all the plants and select what to bid on.

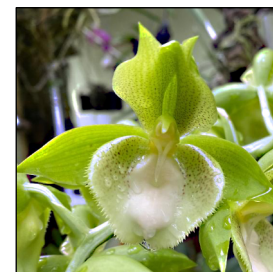
Great member growers, like Claire Garrett, bring in lovely, healthy divisions and she also includes care instructions. If you like large orchids, there will be Scott Peplin's monstrous *Epidendrum cilare*. We will have a vast array of beautiful, flowering plants from local vendors and nurseries and potting supplies to take care of them.

Remember, there is no ribbon judging or raffle, we'll start early—at 7 PM, and the Society will provide refreshments. Please consider

volunteering either before or after the auction because, as always, we need help setting up and breaking down. This is a great opportunity to support FLOS, become involved and to meet new FLOS friends!

I look forward to seeing you all at the Auction for an evening of orchid excitement!

— **Vicki Hallock**
President



Catesetum
Auction plant
from 2021

Keiki Club News

Saturday, September 24th proved to be an exciting and profitable morning for about 25 Keikis with Broward Orchid Supply as a backdrop! Sandi Jones, provided everyone with a nice sitting area in her patio and yard, adjacent to her out building which houses all her amazing orchid paraphernalia. She displayed her wide variety of potting media and explained the differences and what is appropriate for different types of orchids. Claire Garrett was there and gave some advice for treating orchids in need of triage to give them a boost and Sandi showed us the products they use for this purpose. She divided everyone into two groups and took one for a tour of her yard to see all her plants while Joe Guerrero, her assistant, gave a potting lesson, then they reversed so everyone could have a chance to see both. After that it was shopping time so the Keikis

could avail themselves of her vast array of orchid supplies. Sandi also held a mini-affle with discounts as prizes as well as some tee shirts. One of the highlights of the morning was a visit from Bill Peters from Whimsy Orchids. He brought a table full of lovely, bare root plants, mostly cattleyas and many in full bloom and the Keikis eagerly bought them up! It was a terrific way to spend a Saturday morning and everyone really enjoyed themselves. Thank you, Sandi, Claire and Joe for hosting us and sharing your orchid expertise!

At this time we have not set a date for an October Keiki meeting but if anyone would like to host, please let us know. It would be the weekend of October 15th. There are so many dates coming up with opportunities for volunteering, making new friends, orchid shopping and learning more about orchid culture.

We would appreciate it if any Keikis would be able to volunteer to help at the annual Auction on October 10th with either set up or breakdown. There are other jobs too that will be available if you'd like to help. Check your calendars to see what events are in store (Swamp Walk, Ramble, Flamingo Gardens Walkathon) and plan to participate in the FLOS fun ahead!

– Jill, Karen and Rick



AOS judging at November meeting

Can't get to the regular monthly American Orchid Society judging at the West Palm Beach Judging Center at Flamingo Gardens in Davie? No problem! Judges will come to you at FLOS's Nov. 14 meeting.

AOS Judging centers offer outreach as part of its ongoing commitment to demystify orchid judging. This service, both practical and educational, is only available to AOS-affiliated orchid societies. However, the public is invited to attend, and can bring an orchid in for judging.

Teams of qualified AOS judges will be at the 7:30 p.m. meeting along with the official AOS photographer. Clean up your best plant and register it at 7 p.m.

There also will be an educational presentation on how the AOS judging system works given by your scholarship recipient and accredited judge Joan Connors.



Fakahatchee Swamp Walk

Save the date! Spot wild orchids on a swamp walk with Mike Owen, biologist for the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park in Copeland, FL on Oct. 15. The adventure begins at 8 a.m. as we hop on a chartered coach to the park. \$85 per ticket. Space will be limited. Go to FLOS.org to buy tickets.

November Ramble to Homestead

Take a day trip to Home-stead orchid growers aboard a luxury coach on Nov. 5. Cost is \$50 at FLOS.org. Space is limited. We will leave Christ Lutheran Church at 8 a.m. sharp. Bring a cardboard box or crate with your name printed clearly to secure purchases. Also, bring a boxed lunch. Water will be provided.

We will visit OFE and RF Orchids, among others.

For info, contact Allen Cogar at 954-553-1351 or email him at tacogar@gmail.com

Growing Orchids With Olivier

The fragrant and unusual blooms of the Stanhopea alliance

An alliance is a group of genera that share important common characteristics and they are also usually genetically compatible to make hybrids. The Stanhopea alliance is very attractive for growers who love fragrant blooms.



Besides Stanhopea proper, there are many more genera that are available in the trade, often from South American vendors as all these plants hail from Central and South America.

The flowers in this alliance are usually extremely fragrant and have often quite remarkable shapes. A drawback in this alliance is that all genera have short-lived flowers but many will rebloom many times over during one growing season. Acinetas are the longest lasting at two weeks.



***Gga. atropurpurea* Flower**

Gongora

Gongora is the second largest genus in this alliance. They produce small flowers in pendulous chains. One plant can bloom many spikes at once and create quite the show but the flowers never last more than a week. Some Gongoras can bloom for months on end though. They are usually VERY fragrant, just like Stanhopeas, and the variety of fragrances is quite amazing. Most are warm growers and will do well in South Florida. They usually grow well in shade or low light. Their flowers typically grow at the base of the bulb unlike Stanhopeas which grow flowers downwards.



Coryanthes flowers (internet)

Coryanthes

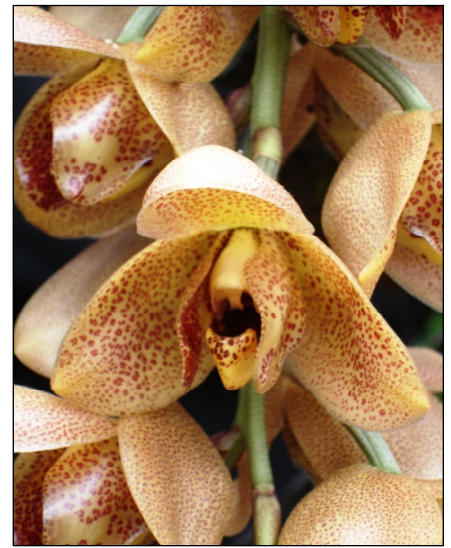
Coryanthes seem popular based on their appearances on Facebook pages dedicated to the alliance. Their flowers are very large and their shape is fairly 'X' rated in my opinion (see picture above). I have zero experience with them; the flowers are short lived but a mature plant can bloom repeatedly during the growing season.



Paphinia flowers (internet)

Paphinia

Many plants in this alliance are fairly large but not so for Paphinias which have large flowers on fairly small plants that thrive in heat and constant moisture. The blooms last one week but mature plants can bloom year-round and most species start blooming on very young plants. Houletia and Sievekingia are other genera that you may encounter and there are many more small genera that are more obscure.



Acineta flowers (internet)

Acineta

Acinetas is a small genus of plants that all have the exact same growing habits and are tough to tell apart until they bloom. There are many color variations. The very fragrant flowers can last two weeks which is the longest of any genus in this alliance and makes them desirable in hybridizing. Acinetas are more traditional looking flowers. Aciopneas, which are a cross between Acineta and Stanhopea, are desirable hybrids.



***Peresteria elata* flower (internet)**

Peresteria

It has flowers that look like Acinetas. It is a very small genus, best known for *Peresteria elata* which is the national flower of Panama and has a lip that looks like a cute white dove. *Per. elata* has very fragrant flowers, is a true warm grower and is deciduous and dormant over the winter. It is a large terrestrial plant with beautiful flowers on an erect spike that can be up to 6' tall! The flowers last two weeks but it is a sequential bloomer and you can have constant blooms for over two months. *Send questions to Olivier Turina at OlivierFTL@gmail.com.*

Get tickets to our annual Holiday Party



**Celebrate the season at the
Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Holiday Party
on Sunday, Dec. 11 at the
Coral Ridge Yacht Club in Fort Lauderdale.**

**The fun gets started at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails (open bar) and
hors d'oeuvres on the veranda overlooking the Intracoastal
Waterway followed by dinner and dancing.**

**Entree choices: Grilled Filet Mignon With Bearnaise;
Pan Seared Mango Glazed Scottish Salmon;
Stuffed Chicken With Thyme Madeira; Vegetarian plate.**

**Seating is limited, so get your tickets now at FLOS.org.
\$75 members; \$95 guests**

**Doreen Christensen
Holiday Party Committee Chair**



Claire's Quick Tip: Getting auction orchids off to a good start

Orchid auctions and festivals are starting up again and many of us are looking forward to adding new orchids to our collections. Large souvenir tote bags from last year's Tamiami Orchid Festival proudly boasted the motto: "It's not hoarding if it's Orchids!" to excuse orchid shopaholics from the stigma of over-consumption. Here are some tips to help hobby growers assimilate new orchids:

- Give all new arrivals a preventive cleaning with dilute Neem Oil or Insecticidal Soap to eliminate any possible pests.
- Make an ID tag with the correct name and note of where and when you got the orchid. Keep track of cultural advice on the tag or elsewhere for future reference.
- If you got the plant at an orchid society auction and the identity of the private donor is known, you might want to reach out to that person to seek growing advice and background information. This could foster a friendship as well as provide some valuable cultural tips.
- Evaluate the existing potting media to determine if it is at the end of its useful life, and repot with new media if it appears to be broken down.

- If the orchid came in moss but your growing area is exposed to rain, consider switching it to a faster draining mix.
- Promptly mount bareroot divisions such as *Oncidium sphacelatum* (Dancing Lady) on your backyard trees, or attach them to portable mounts such as cork, cypress or branches of local trees with textured bark such as Live Oak and Bottlebrush.
- Consider the feasibility of testing new arrivals for virus or isolating them for an extended period of time to avoid introducing virus into your collection.
- Integrate new orchids into your growing area where you think they will best thrive, but be alert to signs of trouble and be prepared to relocate as necessary.

Lastly, for auction plants donated by a nursery, consider sending a thank you email to let them know that their generosity to the orchid society is appreciated.

Claire Garrett has been a FLOS member since 2011 and has received one FCC (91 points), one HCC and five CCM awards from the AOS. Send questions to clairegarr@aol.com.

Welcome Wagon

Please join in welcoming our new members:
Nossoma Morgan
Carem H Laverde
Judy Tkacs

– Sue Mitchell-Greig
 Membership Chair



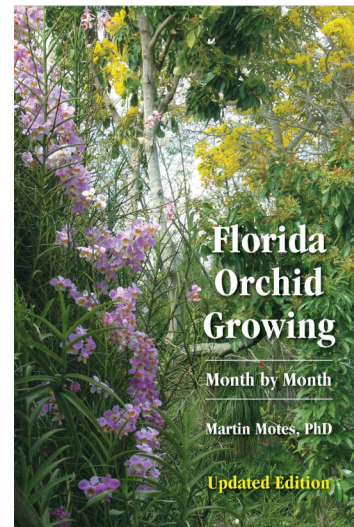
Blc. Burdekin Wonder
 'Lakeland' Auction plant 2019

September Ribbon Awards

Orchid	Grower	Ribbon
<i>Ascda.</i> Sukamran Sunlight	Grace Puentes	Blue
<i>Blc.</i> Windward Flare	Francisco/Paul	Blue
<i>Ctsm.</i> Penang* (<i>Ctsm.</i> Susan Fuchs x <i>Ctsm.</i> pileatum)	Jennifer Pagnant	Blue
<i>Den.</i> Black Cap	Mark & Sherrie Smith	Blue
<i>Den.</i> Doris Ann* (<i>Den.</i> biloculare x <i>Den.</i> convolutum)	Luanne Betz	Blue
<i>Den.</i> Emma Burana	Chris Crepage	Blue
<i>Dendrochilum magnum</i>	Francisco/Paul	Blue
<i>Pot.</i> Hsinying Pink Doll 'Hsinying'	Kate Donahue	Blue
<i>Ren.</i> Bangkok Beauty AM/AOS	Mary Jo Frick	Blue
<i>B. nodosa</i>	Roderick Lewis	Cultural
<i>Perr.</i> Bangkok Sunset	Sara Singer	Cultural
<i>C.</i> Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'	Mary Jo Frick	Red
<i>Pot.</i> Hsinying Pink Doll 'Hsinying'	Luanne Betz	Red

Book of the month

"Florida Orchid Growing: Month by Month" by Martin Motes is a mustread book that we have in collection available to members to borrow for up to two months. Consider acquiring this book for your personal library if you are a serious orchid grower.



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Kathy Homann,
Debby Johnson and
Fran Renguso.**

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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

