

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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President's message: 'Orchid Renaissance' coming in 2025



With great pleasure I am delighted to announce three exciting developments. The Society's Board of Trustees recently voted in favor of staging our 65th orchid show "Orchid Renaissance" January 10-12, 2025. Once again, the venue is the Charles F. Dodge Center in Pembroke Pines. It is a lovely and accommodating facility even though the distance may seem far for some people. I realize the desire of many of you to return to the War Memorial Auditorium,

but construction will not be finished in time for us.

The second announcement is Bob Fuchs has accepted our offer to become an Honorary Member. Owner of R.F. Orchids in Homestead, Bob is past president of the American Orchid Society, and winner of innumerable orchid awards and honors. He has been a long time friend and supporter of FLOS and we would like to honor him in this small way.

And finally, but certainly not the least wonderful announcement is that Jill Smith, "Keiki Mama" was recently made a Life Member of the Society for her tireless work and dedication to our Keiki

program. Jill started the Keikis with all odds against her, and made it such a success. In Jill's own words: "The Keiki Club is a group for newcomers to enable them to meet our members, create friendships and learn about orchid culture and caring for a collection of these great wonderful plants. During the two year membership duration, the Keikis visit members' growing areas to see the diverse ways we grow our orchids. Keikis are encouraged to attend all Keiki gatherings and general meetings, attend our events and volunteer. In addition to gaining a wealth of information, Keikis make new friends and have fun! The Keikis are the future of FLOS!"

– Vicki Hallock

Join the search for orchids in the Amazon with Vicki and Sara

Come along on our search for orchids up the flooded Rio Negro in the Brazilian Amazon with members Sara Singer and Vicki Hallock as we share our adventures at the 7:30 p.m. April 8 meeting.

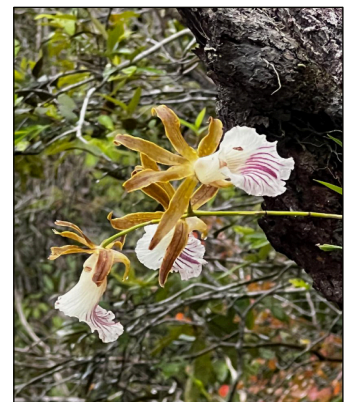
Along with several other FLOS members, we ventured for 11 days aboard the specially designed riverboat the *Otter*. The trip is one of the Orchid Conservation Alliance Ecotours. OCA is a nonprofit organization focused on raising funds to conserve land in orchid-rich regions of the world.

Each day we traveled between the flooded trees in small motorized flat bottom canoes, slowly moving through the forest canopy finding such orchids as *Galendra devoniana*, *Prosthechea fragrans*, *Epidendrum nocturnum*, and species of *Brassavola*, *Catasetum*, *Dichaea*, *Epidendrum* and others. After several days of not seeing another human

being we explored small villages and settlements, saw pink dolphins, monkeys, and parrots.

It was a trip of no stress, no internet, no TV, no phones, only the breathtaking beauty of the Amazon and with no mosquitos. No mosquitos? You'll find out more at the meeting.

– Vicki Hallock, President
Sara Singer, Trustee



Growing Orchids With Olivier

Spring is peak season for spider mites



Spider mites are quite a nightmare and spring is peak season for mites because they thrive in dry and warm weather. So, come March or April when the temps start rising and it is

still dry, they go on “full devastation” mode.

Mites are not insects, but rather spiders. So, insecticides do not work on them. Only products labeled “miticide” will kill them. Insecticidal soaps that are “miticides” work great. So does rubbing alcohol 70% that can be applied pure (never on your flowers or buds though, as it kills them). Also spraying the foliage with water is good practice as these pests like it dry. Spraying will usually knock the majority off your leaves. Always remember though that wet foliage can be a source of disease.

So, do this early in the morning and only if you have good airflow.

Bayer 3 in 1 with miticide works great on them. The product is best absorbed by the roots but foliar application works too. Remember to never expose treated plants to direct sunlight.

A product called Avid (Abamectin is the main ingredient) is expensive but considered one of the best systemic miticide (Sue Bottom). There are others.

Mites love tender foliage like Catasetum, Oncidium but a specific type of mite loves Phalaenopsis too. Those are sneaky as they hide underneath the leaves and once you spot them, the damage can be extensive. I have lost Phals to them!

Once an infestation is discovered, you have to treat every 4 days for 1 or 2 months and monitor. Some products don’t kill the larvae and they seldom kill every life stage of these spiders that reproduce way faster than rabbits!

You can use a Kleenex soaked in Isopropyl Alcohol 70% and rub the leaf and you will collect a black or red mess (there are different types of mites)



The mites typically attack the underside of tender leaves and their actions remove the chlorophyll from the leaf. You will notice translucent patches on your leaf. On Phalaenopsis which has much thicker leaves, you will notice white patches and damage to your leaf. They are not easy to get rid of!

It is important to act quickly when you notice the damage because an infestation will get out of control if you don’t.

Olivier Turina became a FLOS member in 2014 and a board member in 2020. Find Olivier’s tips on growing orchids at Orchid House - Fort Lauderdale, Florida on YouTube.com.

Proposed slate of officers and trustees

In January 2024, the Board of Trustees appointed a Nominating Committee in accordance with the Society Bylaws, Article XI, Section 1. The Committee members are Mary Jo Frick, Chair, Luanne Betz, and Olivier Turina.

In accordance with Article XI, Section 2 the slate of Officers and Trustees proposed for Fiscal Year 2025 is as follows:

OFFICERS

President:	Luanne Betz
First Vice President:	Sara Singer serves as Program Chair
Second Vice President:	Olivier Turina serves as Membership Chair
Recording Secretary:	Olivia Turowski
Corresponding Secretary:	Doreen Christensen
Treasurer:	Mary Jo Frick

TRUSTEES

One Year Trustees:	Joan Connors Karen Fleisher
Two Year Trustees:	Roger Triplett Justine Vishnesky
Three Year Trustees:	Gretchen Denton Len Emory
Past President:	Vicki Hallock

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank all the members we contacted during our search for considering the opportunity to serve and give back to the Society. We would also like to thank Jill Smith whose knowledge of our members as Keiki Committee Chair helped make this task a successful endeavor.

All members are also hereby notified that in accordance with Article XI, Section 3, additional nominations may be made from the floor at the April meeting only. A brief biographical resume shall be presented to accompany any nomination from the floor to provide the general membership with the opportunity to evaluate his/her suitability to hold office.

– **Mary Jo Frick,**
Nominating Committee Chair



Cattleya Secure in Pot

Top Ten Signs Your Orchids Are Happy – by SueBottom

1. You can pick up plant by the vegetation and the pot doesn't fall away. Roots are the secret to an orchid grower's success. If you want beautiful flowers, you need a healthy plant and for a plant to be healthy, it must have a vigorous root system. The rule in nature is there is a 10 to 1 ratio of the roots to the shoots. When the roots have filled the pot, you can pick up the entire plant from the leaves and the plant does not wobble in the pot.

2. The newest growth is larger than the prior growth. A great indicator of a well growing plant is that the new leads and leaves are larger than or at least as large as the prior year's growths. Don't fret too much if the year after repotting the growths are a little smaller than the prior year, that is probably just a short term case of transplant shock. If that trend continues though, ask for a consult with one of your orchid club's members.



Cynodes Jumbo Puff



Leaves Unmarred by Damage

3. Your orchid has thick, turgid leaves. If your leaves look dehydrated, they probably are dehydrated and you'll have to follow the old tried and true advice, knock it out of the pot and look at the roots. If the roots are rotten, you'll have to repot and consider whether it was overwatering or late repotting that caused the problem. If the roots are still viable, you may have to increase your watering frequency and or the amount of water you pour through the pot when you water.



Dendrobium Golden Aya

4. Pseudobulbs and canes are plump. The canes and pseudobulbs on your sympodial orchids like the leaves on your monopodial orchids function similarly to the hump on a camel. They should be full of water and energy reserves to get your orchid through the dry spells as well as to make sure your plant has enough energy in reserve to develop flowers. After all, most orchids aren't grown for their foliage.

5. Plants in growth show long green (or red) root tips. You know you are a real orchid addict when you are just as excited about a new root as you are a new flower bud. When a plant is in active growth, it throws off new roots and the faster it grows, the longer the root tip.



Cattleya Out of the Pot

6. Plants are flush with new growth, trying to jump out of the pot.

When your plant is growing well, it is throwing off new growths, more leaves on a phalaenopsis or vanda, more pseudobulbs on a cattleya, more canes on a dendrobium, etc. With each new growth, comes the potential for new blooms. Dendrobiums are the exception, many will bloom from older growths, but cattleyas will only bloom from new growth, and somehow they always seem to bloom best when they're a bulb or two out of the pot. A monthly application of seaweed or kelp which contains some plant hormones will encourage new growths on your plant.

7. You get multiple bloom spikes. Your orchids expend a tremendous amount of energy to form flower buds and then to carry the flowers in the hopes one of their pollinators will drop in for a visit. The more energy they are able to generate and store, the more energy reserves are available when it is time for them to start flowering. A drop in night time temperature also helps many plants conserve their energy stores. Multiple bloom spikes are your reward for meeting the cultural needs of your plants.

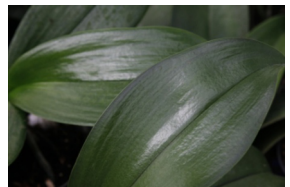


Calanthe Baron Schroder



Clowesetum Jumbo Circle 'Clair' AM/AOS

8. Your orchids don't complain about being hungry. Orchids aren't like teenagers, they can't keep saying I'm hungry every couple of hours. Your orchids will grow fine with little fertilizer and many people proudly say they never fertilize their orchids. The real orchid food is light, but fertilizer contains the essential mineral building blocks for your plant. Get into a fertilizer routine. Use either water soluble or timed release fertilizer, whichever suits you better. Your orchids may not burp in appreciation, but you'll see an improvement in growth.



Phalaenopsis with Healthy Leaves

9. No Vacancy" for disease and pests. A vigorously growing plant is much more capable of withstanding problems. It is axiomatic that if you have found the sweet spot for your orchid, you also have found a location where there is enough air movement to keep your orchid happy which means you'll have fewer fungal infections. While orchids don't have an immune system similar to we humans, a healthy plant can mount a greater defense against disease and to some extent pests. You always have to be vigilant looking for scale, mealybugs, mites and other opportunistic devils.



Cattleya Sue Bottom 'St. Augustine'

10. All your friends want divisions. The ultimate compliment is when friends come into your growing area and say I'd love a piece of that whenever you divide it. It means you've grown the plant to its maximum potential and gotten it to produce beautiful blooms. Do share your divisions with friends, it is one of the joys of gardening in general and growing orchids in particular. And who know, someday you may be asking for a piece of that plant back.

Keiki Club News: Fun meeting at the Orchid House

After a rainy two days and a meeting washout, the Keikis were able to gather at the stunning yard and growing area of Olivier Turina on Sunday morning, March 24th. Olivier's orchids were definitely showing off both their glorious colors and his hard work in producing such a gorgeous array of plants. Despite the date change, about 35 Keikis joined the fun and learned a lot about tools we use to make growing orchids efficient and successful. The presentation, called "Gizmos for Growing and Gardening" included a show and tell by Olivier and Jill Smith.

We discussed how to use different types of spray containers and those we prefer to apply fertilizers, fungicides and pest control products. Olivier talked extensively on the importance of always having spray bottles of hydrogen peroxide and alcohol nearby when working on orchids to minimize the entry of pathogens into a cut root or leaf and he also addressed techniques in how to properly mount orchids to get their roots growing so that they quickly graft to the

mount. We talked about how to keep your tools free of damaging material, offering two different methods. Olivier likes the torch and Jill prefers a ceramic container of a TSP (trisodium phosphate) solution in which to dip trimmers, knives and other tools. Olivier pointed out the importance of having a dedicated area to work on our plants so as to keep our equipment handy, in good condition and in one place.

The Keikis were given handouts with lists of all of these pointers as well as a list of all the little items we should have to work on our orchids—measuring cups and spoons, plant hangers, S hooks, rhizome clips, paring knife, old toothbrush, mini baskets for time released fertilizers, spray bottles, plant tags, razor blades, different types of pots, mounts and baskets—all the things that make life and growing orchids a little easier and more fun.

Thank you so much Olivier and Tommy for being such gracious hosts! And thanks to all the Keikis who contributed an

incredible array of goodies! We all benefit by and appreciate your generosity!

Sara Singer will be hosting us on April 13th so watch for more information and plan to attend to hear a presentation on "Orchid Speak"—all the orchid jargon that sounds like a new language!



March Ribbon Awards

Orchid	Grower	Ribbon
<i>Alcra. Marfitch</i>	Debbie & Mike Alley	Blue
<i>Bc. Picotee x Blc. Love Blush</i>	Doreen Christensen	Blue
<i>Bulb. fritillariiflorum</i>	Chris Morales	Blue
<i>C. labiata</i>	Rosa Brouillet	Blue
<i>Clty. Spring Fragrance</i>	Debbie & Mike Alley	Blue
<i>Den. Country Girl</i>	Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
<i>Den. farmeri</i>	Francisco/Paul	Blue
<i>Den. lindleyi</i>	Olivia Turina	Blue
<i>Den. nobile</i>	Gretchen Denton	Blue
<i>Den. Roy Tokunaga</i>	Elly Meisler	Blue
<i>Den. spectabile</i>	Francisco/Paul	Blue
<i>Den. superbum</i>	Allen Cogar	Blue
<i>Lc. Irene Finney</i>	Elly Meisler	Blue
<i>Ludisia discolor</i>	Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
<i>Phal. Mimi Mark</i>	Elly Meisler	Blue
<i>Phal. tetraspis</i>	Olivier Turina	Blue
<i>Trt. Ollie Palmer</i>	Karen Fleisher	Blue
<i>V. christensonianum</i>	Sara Singer	Blue
<i>Blc. Golf Green 'Hair Pig'</i>	Roger Triplett	Cultural
<i>Blc. Bouton D'Or</i>	Mark & Sherrie Smith	Cultural
<i>Cyc. warszewiczii</i>	Olivier Turina	Cultural
<i>Cym. Geno's Gem 'Emerald Fire'</i>	Sara Singer	Cultural
<i>Den. Rosey Cluster</i>	Eugenie Johnson	Cultural
<i>Max. endresii</i>	Linda Dawkins	Cultural
<i>Phal. Timothy Christofer</i>	Rosa Brouillet	Cultural
<i>Pls. stenostachya</i>	Vicki Hallock	Cultural
<i>Pot. Love Passion 'Island Romanze'</i>	Jill Smith	Cultural
<i>Rca. Frances Fox</i>	Doreen Christensen	Cultural
<i>Den. Adrasta</i>	Norma Jeanne Flack	Red
<i>Den. farmeri</i>	Francisco/Paul	Red
<i>Den. Oriental smile 'Fantasy'</i>	Haydee Valor	Red
<i>Ludisia discolor</i>	Mark & Sherrie Smith	Red
<i>Ons. Wild Cat</i>	Judy Tkacs	Red
<i>Pcv. Key Lime Stars*</i>	Seth Shealer	Red
<i>Trgdm. egertonianum</i>	Judy Tkacs	Red

*Denotes registered hybrid



Max. endresii Linda Dawkins
Den. lindleyi Olivier Turina



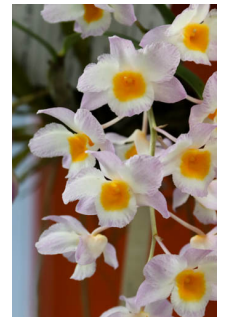
Phal. tetraspis Olivier Turina
Blc. Bouton D'Or Mark & Sherrie Smith



Ons. Wild Cat Judy Tkacs
Pot. Love Passion 'Island Romanze' Jill Smith



Blc. Golf Green 'Hair Pig' Roger Triplett



Den. farmeri Francisco & Paul



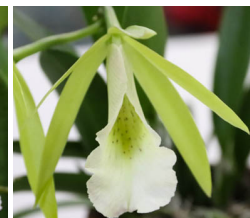
Cym. Geno's Gem 'Emerald Fire' Sara Singer



Cyc. warszewiczii Olivier Turina



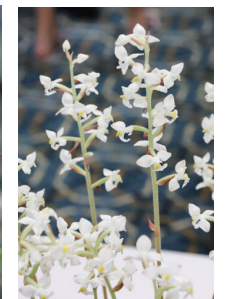
Trt. Ollie Palmer Karen Fleisher



*Pcv. Key Lime Stars** Seth Shealer



Alcra. Marfitch Debbie & Mike Alley



Ludisia discolor Norma Jeanne Flack



Clty. Spring Fragrance Debbie & Mike Alley

PHOTOS: Ginny Salus
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Thank you for the wonderful food donations and to our terrific kitchen volunteers, Kathy Homann, Debby Johnson and Fran Renguso.



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Lynne Gray
Diana V. MacKay
Sandra Rolfs
– **Olivier Turnia**
Membership Chair

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: Olivier Turina (Membership)
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Corresponding Secretary: Karen Fleisher
Treasurer: Brian Boyle

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