

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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JULY 2024

President's Message, Exciting events coming your way.



At the June meeting of the board of trustees, we planned some exciting events in addition to our monthly member meetings, so mark your calendars.

Our annual auction will be on Oct. 14th. Please start grooming

any donations you may have to make this year's event a success.

There will be a home ramble on Nov. 16. If you are interested in sharing your garden and orchids for this event, please contact Grace Boston at GraceBoston2010@gmail.com.

Our annual holiday party will be Sat, Dec. 7, at Coral Ridge Yacht Club in Fort Lauderdale. Tickets are now available on FLOS.org. Thank you to Joe Akin's holiday party committee for their work on this year's event.

In conservation committee news, chair Doreen Christensen and her team are working to put together a member sale of native orchids at our August meeting. Other interesting new projects include a multi-year collaboration with the Seminole Tribe's Okalee Village and Museum to promote orchid conservation and education within Hollywood's indigenous community. Also new, our partner Fairchild Garden's Million Orchid Project has begun introducing Caribbean native orchids to its lineup of plant offerings amid shifting environmental conditions in South Florida. Our society remains steadfast in its mission to cultivate a vibrant community of orchid enthusiasts through education and conservation while expanding our outreach. If you would like to help in these efforts, please contact Doreen at cneerod@gmail.com.

Planning for our January "Orchid Renaissance" show at the Dodge Center in Pembroke Pines is well underway and **we cannot stress enough how**

important it will be for members to get involved in promoting, volunteering and selling their assigned tickets. Thank you to our co-chairs Sara Singer and Vicki Hallock.

The Bylaws Committee is working on updating our bylaws to current standards. The last update was in 2019. Recommended changes will be presented to the membership and then voted on at a subsequent meeting.

I am delighted that some members have stepped up and heard the call to action. We now have new volunteers for several of our committees. There is still time to get involved in one of our many worthy endeavors. This enthusiasm and engagement help us to grow as an organization and community.

– *Luanne Betz*
FLOS President

Mark Your Calenders!



We are delighted to have Keith and Dina Emig, owners of Winter Haven Orchid Nursery in Winter Haven, present a program entitled "Vandaceous... But Not Vandas" at our 7:30 p.m. meeting on July 8. Keith and Dina grow, hybridize and register plants in the Oncidium, Cattleya, Phalaenopsis, Vanda, and Dendrobium alliances, and have created their own genera (Emigara).

They have received more than 45 American Orchid Society awards, so far,

including nine for their original crosses. Keith's orchid journey started with a trip to the dentist where, on the receptionist's desk, was a small plant with three leaves and an inflorescence with twenty blooms suspended in a beautifully presented fashion. He learned the dentist was an orchid hobbyist who grew the multifloral Phalaenopsis. It was on. Orchid fever is infectious, and all possible information and plants were obtained. What resulted was a uncontrollable driving force of endless experimentation to better grow and flower these plants. There is no substitute for the company of other enthusiasts, with whom to share this fever.

(Continued on next page)

In This Newsletter

1. **President's Message - Luanne Betz
Sara Singer - Program Chair**
2. **Growing Orchids With Olivier**
3. **Keiki Club News
Monthly Checklist**
4. **From The American Orchid Society**
5. **June Ribbon Awards**
6. **Advertisement, our FLOS Board
and our thanks!**

Soon the passion of combining the attributes of two beautiful plants, by cross pollinating, stimulated his imagination. A flasking case was built and has been a fixture in their kitchen for over a decade. More than 1,000 seed pods have been flasked to date and it seems each season there is some new cross that has more exciting possibilities.

Keith's passion also drew him to the Ridge Orchid Society in Lakeland and the American Orchid Society, revealing the orchid world's secrets. Keith has served on the board of directors of the Ridge Orchid Society for more than a decade, including at least seven terms as president. Be sure to check out Keith's article "Luck of the Draw" in the March

2017 "Orchids Magazine" (p. 208). We are excited that Keith and Dina will be sharing their growing knowledge, bringing their plants for our raffle table and selling plants at our meeting!

- Sara Singer
Program Chair

Growing Orchids With Olivier



Your orchids' care cannot be robotic and must constantly adapt to changing growing conditions like today's weather and seasons.

During winter months, most orchids grow slower or stop growing altogether because of lower temperatures and shorter days which means less light. Fertilizing must be reduced or eliminated entirely. Watering must be reduced and for dormant plants, it is usually reduced to very little or nothing at all. If the air is very dry though, your plants will dry out faster and you will need to water more. So, the key is to observe and take into consideration different elements (temperatures, wind, rain, air humidity) that may have opposite effects on your plants.

Spring is the right time to repot any orchid that needs repotting. Water is increased dramatically and so is fertilizing. This is when spider mites wake up and you should make sure you keep any outbreak under control or it will get out of control very quickly.

During summer months, you need to water more (unless it rains) as our temperatures usually remain stubbornly high for 4 months, including at night, and hot weather will dry out your orchids faster but at the same time, since humidity is very high as well, it keeps plants moister longer. So, these are two factors with opposite effects. You have to observe which plants dry fast and which don't. They don't all respond the same way and the type of medium you use as well as the type of potting (or mounting) has a big impact here.

Strong winds are another important factor: they will dry out plants faster and you will have to water more. In

Ft Lauderdale, a NW wind in winter is the worst as it comes down the peninsula and is drier than any other wind which goes over water and picks up humidity. So it has a desiccating effect on your plants. Strong NW winds in winter can wreak havoc in your collection if those winds are sustained, especially at night. You may want to protect your plants in such instances. The desiccation from such winds is ruthless and can at times kill orchids in a matter of hours.

If your growing area enjoys good ventilation, it means you will have less problems with diseases because diseases don't have time to take hold. If your growing area is poorly ventilated, you have to pay extra attention to diseases and you should consider adding fans to increase the ventilation.

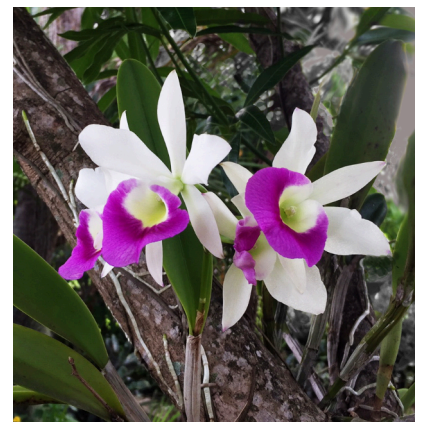
Temperature extremes are something to keep an eye on. If you grow your orchids outdoors in South Florida, they are likely mostly warm or hot growers with a few intermediate growers as well. When the weather forecast calls for cold nights below 55 F, I keep my orchids dry a few days ahead of time, as moist medium mixed with cold at night can wreak havoc (rot, disease etc...). A few very cold sensitive orchids are brought indoors as they need nights above 60 F. When night time temps drop below 50 F, it is time to consider protecting your most sensitive orchids. Below 45 F, I bring the majority of my orchids indoors but some plants will enjoy those temperatures like *Dendrobium lindleyi* (syn. *aggregatum*), *Latouria* section *Dendrobiums*, many *Oncidiums*, *Guarianthe aurantiaca* etc....

It is always best to avoid having wet leaves at night (year-round) as they can develop pathogens but it is particularly true if the night is cold.

Several days with 95 F or more are dangerous for many orchids, especially since nights will likely be in the mid 80's as well and plants cannot catch a break. Adding fans and extra water may be warranted although those temperatures usually go hand in hand with high humidity down here but some plants will dry out faster anyway. Basically, your care should constantly reflect changing environmental conditions if you grow your orchids outdoors.

- Olivier Turina
Membership Chair

**New Member
Welcome Wagon:
Aaron Ritter and Danny Diaz**
- Olivier Turina
Membership Chair



Blc. Hawaiian Stars

Keiki Club News

Exciting Month for the Keikis – Jill Smith, Keiki Nana

June has come and gone but it certainly was action packed for our Keikis! In addition to welcoming their new Keiki Mama, Vicki Hallock, they enjoyed a fun filled meeting at the “Little Slice of Paradise” of Keiki Keith London in Hallandale Beach. Saturday, June 22 found the Keikis—37 of them—gathered in the shaded driveway, poised for a morning of viewing some eye-popping plant life, learning how to shop for orchids and winning something orchid related in the raffle. Keith took everyone on a tour of his side and back yard to check out the staggering number of bromeliads, flowering trees and ferns and, of course, orchids, potted, hanging and mounted on trees. And we also got to “meet” his chubby hens, Thelma and Louise. Keith has multiple awards from the city and county for his amazing property and he is a self-proclaimed plant hoarder!

Keiki Nana Jill spoke to the Keikis about shopping for orchids—all the do’s and don’ts, what to look for and what to beware of. She also stressed the importance of paying close attention to space and environment and what kind of conditions you have so that you can purchase plants wisely, giving consideration to vendors, local growers and buying from box stores. One of the major topics she addressed was knowing what kinds of orchids grow well in our climate and avoiding those that are cool growers and choose accordingly.

The raffle was great fun and Keith donated “cookie” mounts, bamboo hollowed pieces and bromeliads. We also had clipper/trimmers, assorted dendrobium keikis and books. Everyone walked away with something.

Thanks to all those who contributed to the array of goodies and refreshments that were available and of course, extra special thanks to our gracious host, Keith! We so appreciated the sharing of your knowledge and expertise and opening your beautiful yard to the group.

The Keikis were also treated to a superb plant distribution on Sunday, June 23 at the home of John Wrench and Steve Herman. They are downsizing and actually *donated* all of their orchid collection exclusively to the FLOS Keikis! They opened their yard for two hours on a first come, first serve basis and it was a hugely successful endeavor and the Keikis really “scored!” John and Steve, your generosity is unbelievable, and we are all so grateful to you for this marvelous opportunity to add some beautiful plants to our collections.

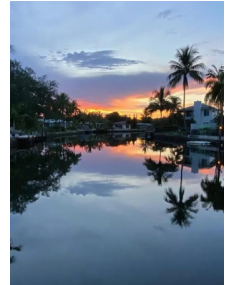
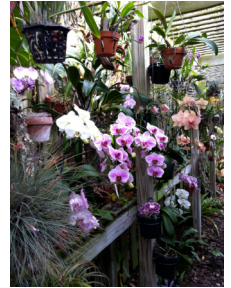
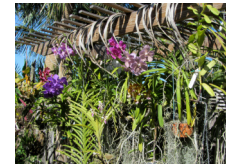
Our next Keiki meeting is scheduled for July 20th at Keiki Nana’s condo party room. Details to follow around July 10th. We will be also honoring 11 Keiki graduates who have been consistent in their participation in FLOS activities and meetings. See you there!

– Vicki Hallock, Chair
Karen Fleisher, Co-chair
Rick Bellas, Co-Chair

Keikis during Keith’s garden tour.



John & Steve donated all their wonderful plants to the FLOS.



Monthly Checklist for July and August

Cattleya

Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs owing to characteristically high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a must in areas of the country where it is effective. Where it is not (the more humid regions), care needs to be paid to proper venting to keep temperatures within reason. Bottom vents in conjunction with top vents provide enough rising airflow to help keep plants cool. Increased air flow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent damping down and watering, in areas where high humidity is not a problem. Higher light

and heat indicate more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of this autumn, winter and spring's blooms, so applying adequate fertilizer this month is the best way to ensure future blooms. Higher temperatures and humidity may also lead to fungal or bacterial rot problems, so it is important to closely observe your plants for any early indication of problems. Pests are also at a high point this month for the same reason.

Paphiopedilum

Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these two months to prevent stress and avoid disease problems. Watering needs to be closely monitored to ensure that plants do not dry out. Warmer-growing hybrids will be at the peak of their blooming, with attention

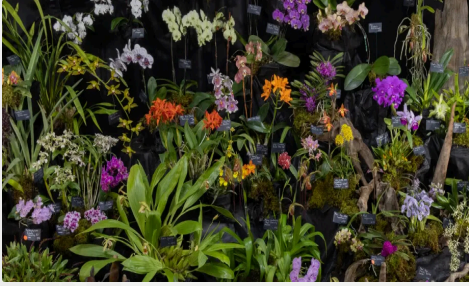
needing to be paid to staking of spikes. Look for water lodging in growths, which can rot emerging spikes and lead to the loss of the entire growth.

Phalaenopsis

Most, if not all, potting should be complete by now. This month and next are when these plants achieve their maximum growth. This growth will be that from which they set their spikes for the coming season. The more leaves the plants grow, the better potential for spiking will be realized. Growers in cooler areas such as the Pacific coast have the advantage this month, should they choose, of cooling for early season spikes. Lots of heat and light call for liberal applications of water and fertilizer.



From The American Orchid Society



All About Orchids

Everything you ever wanted to know about orchids, from basic growing information to expert guidance all at your fingertips.

Webinars

Webinars are online video presentations. You can register for an upcoming webinar or watch the recorded webinars anytime, at your convenience. We add multiple webinars every month, so check back often.

Our next webinar...

Tuesday, July 9th, 2024
8:30 PM - 9:20 PM EDT EST

Greenhouse Chat July 2024

Join Dr. Ron McHatton as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Please send your question and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by July 7, 2024.

Great Ideas Telephone Wire Loops to Support

(Reprinted from 84[1]:10)

by Ed Wright and Bill Tippitt

Support for an emerging Phalaenopsis inflorescence (herein called the spike) can present problems both horticultural and structural. We have tried various methods ranging from the common plastic clip to tying the spike to a galvanized-metal support rod. None of these methods worked to our satisfaction. Plastic clips seem to degrade after a while and either break or fail to retain enough spring tension to grip the support rod. Tying the spike to a support rod does not allow for growth of the spike, so we are constantly retying. A technique we developed using lightweight telephone wire (22-24 gauge, plastic insulated) has solved the problem and is just about the ideal way to support a Phalaenopsis spike. Attributes like economy, speed of assembly (or construction) and ease of adjustment are the pluses. Start with a reasonably straight piece of telephone wire about 6 inches (15 cm) long. Make a hairpin shape with legs of equal length. Now twist a loop ($\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{3}{4}$ inch [1.3–1.9 cm]) in the U-shaped end. Spread the legs at the open end and place one on either side of the

galvanized support rod. Wrap one leg clockwise around the galvanized support rod, then wrap the other leg counterclockwise around the rod.

Wrapping the two legs in opposing directions will cause the resulting coils to grip the support rod firmly while still permitting the loop to slide up or down the rod as needed to support the growing spike. When a new phalaenopsis spike first needs support, insert a galvanized support rod, with loop attached, in the pot. Slide the loop up and down until an appropriate support level is obtained. Gently force the emerging spike into the loop. Check each staked plant frequently and adjust the level of the loop as often as necessary to keep the spike supported fully. — February 1994 In the late 1990s, Ed Wright and Bill Tippitt authored the regular feature, “Great Ideas,” showing readers useful tips for growing orchids. They were always a popular addition to the magazine. Ed and Bill have graciously agreed to allow us to republish “Great Ideas.” (AOS June, 2024)

Go to AOS.org to learn more.



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.



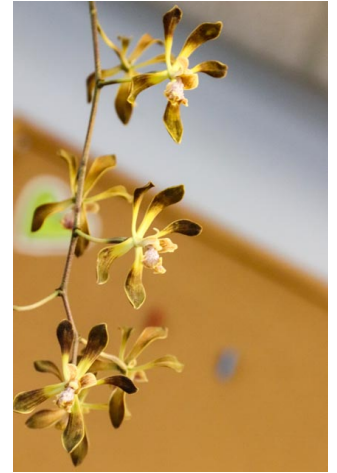
Get Ready for Orchid Renaissance!

June Ribbon Awards

Orchid	Grower	Ribbon
<i>Brs. Edva Loo 'Nishida'</i>	Francisco/Paul	Blue
<i>C. loddigesii</i>	Rod Lewis	Blue
<i>C. purpurata</i>	Mary Jo Frick	Blue
<i>Prosthechea cochleata</i>	Mercedes Rodriguez	Blue
<i>V. ampullacea v. alba</i>	Mark/Sherrie Smith	Blue
<i>C. warszewiczii</i>	Hung Tran	Cultural
<i>Cstm. Durval Ferriera</i>	Olivier Turina	Cultural
<i>E. parviflora</i>	Charlie Rowell	Cultural
<i>Mps. Morris Chestnut 'H171'</i>	Doreen Christensen	Cultural
<i>Prosthechea fragans 'Gigi'</i>	Omar Gonzalez	Cultural
<i>Sobennikoffia robusta</i>	Haydee Valor	Cultural
<i>Stan. reichenbachiana</i>	Mary Jo Frick	Cultural
<i>Stanhopea</i> NOID	Linda Dawkins	Cultural
<i>Bl. Richard Mueller</i>	Regina Roszkowski	Red
<i>Max. tenifolia</i>	Grace Fuentes	Red



V. ampullacea v. Alba
Mark & Sherrie Smith



E. Parviflora 'Dark'
Charlie Rowell



Prosthechea fragans 'Gigi'
Omar Gonzalez



Brs. Edva Loo 'Nishida'
Francisco & Paul



Prosthechea cochleata
Mercedes Rodriguez



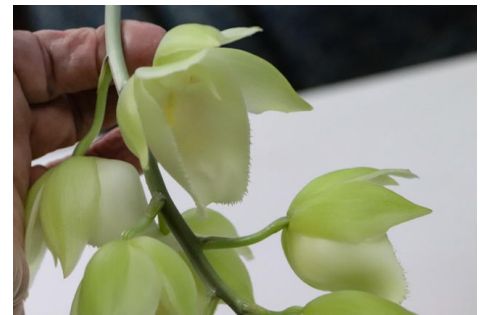
C. purpurata
Mary Jo Frick



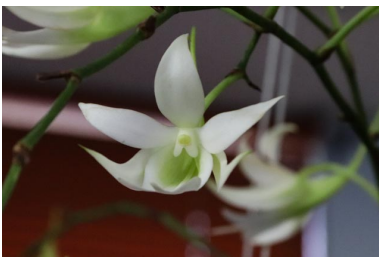
Mclna. Yellow Star 'Okika'
Ken Salzsieder



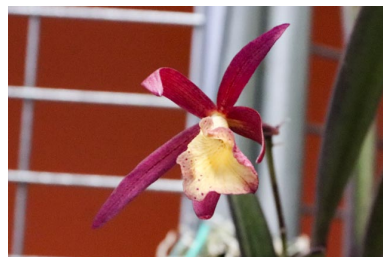
C. warszewiczii
Hung Tran



Cstm. Durval Ferriera
Olivier Turina



Sobennikoffia robusta
Haydee Valor



Bl. Richard Mueller
Regina Roszkowski



Mps. Morris Chestnut 'H171'
Doreen Christensen

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Thank you to our terrific kitchen volunteers, Kathy Homann, Debby Johnson, Fran Renguso, and for the wonderful food donations from our members: Deb Johnson, Kathy Homann, Fran Renguso, Seth Shealer, John Soto, Doreen Christensen, Robert & Idan Doerfler-Eckstein, Haydee Valor, Elaine Jordan, Ginny Salus, Regina Roszkowski, Judy Tkacs, Justine Vishnesky, Tana Hacken

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Newsletter Editor: Ginny Salus

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1st Vice President: Sara Singer (Programs)
2nd Vice President: Olivier Turina (Membership)
Recording Secretary: Olivia Turowski
Corresponding Secretary: Doreen Christensen
Treasurer: Mary Jo Frick

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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