

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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Vicki's Final Column as FLOS President



Since this is my final column as President, I've been reminiscing about my orchid sojourn and how I've been a "work in progress" since those first fateful steps.

About twenty years ago someone gave me an *Encyclia tampensis*, which, despite my earnest efforts, promptly died. Then my husband Sandy gave me a *Dendrobium* from a big box store and to my surprise it bloomed the following year. Was it glorious? No but it bloomed, and I was hooked. Years later I found out it was *Den. Sonja*. Just starting out with my new hobby, I didn't realize then the importance of keeping tags. In fact, my overall naivety was embarrassing. I once repotted an epiphytic *Cattleya* in garden soil and I had the ridiculously ambitious goal of collecting every *Encyclia* species until I learned there are over 200 of them.

In South Florida there's an orchid or garden event every weekend in the winter and spring. I had caught orchiditis and

attended them all, gathering as much information as I could from local growers and vendors. My collection grew but many of my plants failed to thrive. I hadn't learned that just because an orchid is *sold* locally doesn't mean it will grow well or even survive in our wet, hot, humid weather. Fortunately, orchids were less expensive than they are today and I was eager to learn more about this alluring, addictive plant.

I started attending our society's meetings but I didn't have much of an idea what the speakers were talking about, but they did show pretty pictures. Although I was intimidated by the stunning orchids on display that members had proudly brought for ribbon judging, I found that the refreshments were yummy, and I had success with raffle winnings. However, for me, the best of all was the library. I devoured a book each month and for years I was the only person who checked out any publications at all. When our then librarian Sister Janet retired, I was, by default, offered the position. She said to me, "There's more to life than orchids." Too late for me. I continued

reading, researching, asking questions and learning.

Eventually I became Parliamentarian on the Board and held other positions until finally achieving the honor of becoming President of this wonderful society. Never could I have imagined when given that first orchid, that I would have come so far!

It has been said many times and is so true, "you come for the flowers but stay for the people." I have made lasting friendships, met the most interesting and knowledgeable orchid gurus, traveled to Asia and South America, and trudged through the Fakahatchee swamp with Captain Allen for the love of orchids.

We belong to a wonderful society with a long history of greatness, a society to be proud of and one with a bright future. You can count on me to continue as an active supporting member. I humbly thank the Board of Trustees for my promotion to Life Member. My orchid adventures are far from over! Perhaps they are just beginning! – **Vicki Hallock**
FLOS President

Our May 13th Speaker is Tony Millet

His topic will be, GOOD GROWING.... the BASICS and WHAT IT TAKES!

Tony Millet's mom started his growing career at a very young age, growing everything from seed. Growing up in Brooklyn NYC, his orchid growing career delved into cool, intermediate and warm types. Having the experience of growing in underground cold frames to an above greenhouse did set the tone for his new semi-retirement growing style. Presently he is growing under plastic covered lathe houses South Florida style (open on all sides) to include a small greenhouse for early seedlings. The early childhood experience of growing from

seed set the tone for his own orchid hybridizing program.

He breeds and grows unusual hybrids in the large *cattleya* alliance. He offers all flasking activities, lectures and teaches. He is an AOS judge. Many of his hybrids have been AOS awarded and are one of a kind, meaning not cloned or meristemed. His present growing goal is to impart warm tolerance to some of the cooler growing colorful *hadro laelias* now *cattleyas*. Enjoy nature's best...Orchids.

He is a member of FLOS. You may have seen him as he enthusiastically judges the plants, awarding ribbons when

appropriate, at our monthly meetings. Tony will contribute plants to spice up the raffle.

– **Luanne Betz**
Program Chair



The “Butterfly orchid” has a name! Psychopsis



What most people refer to as the “Butterfly Orchid” is a genus of its own in the Oncidium alliance called Psychopsis (abbrev. *Pyp.*). There are actually 4 different species in the genus and many hybrids that are a combination of them all. The plants sold are often hybrids which have improved the qualities of both parents.

Typical of the Butterfly orchid is that beautiful long upright (staked) inflorescence that is a sequential bloomer and keeps on growing one flower at a time; the flower usually lasts one month and then within a month you have a new fresh flower. The spike can last for years and should never be cut as long as it is green. One plant can have many spikes if well grown.

Key to successful growing is to give them somewhat more moisture than your standard Oncidium but, at the same time, to let them dry out fully between watering (which should be a good soaking). I grow mine like my Phals: in a transparent plastic pot with sphagnum moss which lets me monitor how wet or dry the medium is. They also need fairly low light, even Phal. light for some (with mottled leaves). It is a warm grower and temperatures below 50-55 F should be avoided. They absolutely hate repotting and you should make sure you have good root growth before you repot them. They prefer to be very tightly potted. Avoiding water on the leaves is best. You should also monitor the bulbs; they should be really hard and plump if the plant is happy. Fertilizing is not critical.

The four species are: *Pyp. papilio* which is the most common with the largest flower at 6”. It needs less water in winter and is exceedingly intolerant of repotting. *Pyp. krameriana* has similar flowers but slightly smaller at 5” and no need for a winter rest.

Pyp. versteegiana and *Pyp. sanderae* are similar but the latter which is endemic to Peru, is the smallest of all, rare and often mislabeled.

A very popular and commonly encountered hybrid is *Pyp. Mendenhall* ‘Hildos’ FCC/AOS. The FCC label indicates this is a very high-quality clone. The leaves are a beautiful dark mottled green and they are quite rigid. Mottled leaves indicate low light level requirements. In the background is 75% *Pyp. papilio* which is the largest flower of the 4 species in the genus and one which needs less water in winter and totally hates root disturbance. This translates into *Pyp. Mendenhall*’s needs obviously. Mendenhall is the name given by Carter and Holmes from NC to the top line of hybrids they produce. In my experience this is a very tough plant to grow.

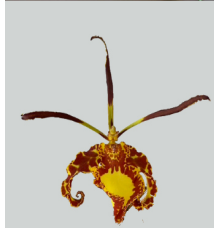
Another popular hybrid is *Pyp. Butterfly* which is a primary hybrid between *Pyp. sanderae* and *Pyp. papilio*. *Pyp. sanderae* is endemic to Peru and is of smaller size. This one is much easier to grow.

A yellow-white flower (without any orange or brown) is often a var. alba of *Pyp. papilio*.

– Olivier Turnia
Membership Chair



Yellow variety of *Pyp. papilio*



Pyp. Mendenhall ‘Hildos’



Pyp. Mariposa
First bloom
May 2021

The Miami Beach Orchid Society is thrilled to announce their first-ever Orchids & Arts Festival!

Show information:

The Orchids & Arts Festival, scheduled for May 4th-5th, 2024, promises a weekend dedicated to celebrating orchids. Co-hosted by the Miami Beach Orchid Society, Foundation for Emerging Technologies, and Miami Beach Botanical Garden, the festival will feature orchid and art exhibits, musical performances, dance showcases, educational sessions, and a vibrant vendors market. Emphasizing our Florida native orchid species, the festival aims to raise awareness about the importance of preserving our delicate ecosystems. The festival takes place at the Miami Beach Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33140. Festival hours are 9am-5pm daily. Ticket price is \$5, and children are free.

<https://miamibeachorchidsociety.com/2024orchidshow#tickets>

https://www.instagram.com/miamibeachorchidsociety/?img_index=1

Tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/orchids-arts-festival-saturday-tickets-823170052787>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/orchids-arts-festival-sunday-tickets-823174616437>

Keiki Club News

Our Keiki's Enjoyed the April Meeting At Sara's

Who doesn't love to go to Sara Singer's?? Nobody I know, that's for sure. It's always fun and a good time to gather on her beautiful patio with pool and lake views, gorgeous trees, foliage and fabulous orchids displayed everywhere. Sara's many little nooks around her yard also boast stunning blooming plants of all sorts of species. And with the glorious weather we have been experiencing, it was really a treat for both the Keikis, Board and others from the general membership to be together in this lovely venue.

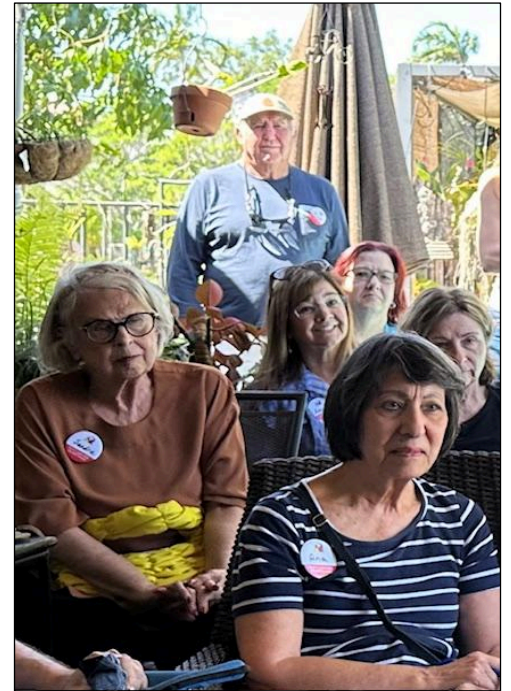
Vicki, Sara and Jill did a "Tell and Show" presentation which was a foreign language class in "Orchid Speak!" We all experienced that wonderment of wild words and expressions when we first ventured into the orchid world — we were knee deep in vocabulary that was not just foreign, but pretty weird. Think — pseudobulb, epiphyte, phragmi-pedium, sympodial, inflorescence and so many more multi-syllable concoctions

that made us scratch our heads. Sara provided us with examples of the vocabulary words by showing the group real plants and pointing out the concepts. There were so many great questions and everyone agreed that they had learned a huge amount of valuable information. We would like to think that before long they will all be fluent in Orchid Speak! We had a great raffle, giving away all sorts of orchids and orchid paraphernalia -books, sprayers, pots and baskets and everyone left with something. Keiki Joe Akin was the last one holding a raffle ticket and as such, was awarded the best prize — a big epidendrum in full bloom.

Special thanks to all of those who brought goodies and snacks — your contributions are always so appreciated. **And Extra Special Thanks** to Sara and her husband Rich for hosting the Keikis once again. You are always so gracious and generous and we hope you'll invite us back!

There will be no Keiki meeting in May because of the Air Show, Mother's Day, the Redlands Orchid Festival and Memorial Day. If anyone would like to host the Keikis at any other time, please let us know. We're always looking for a place to go!

— *Jill Smith, Keiki Chair*
Karen Fleisher, Keiki Co-chair
Rick Bellas, Keiki Co-Chair



AOS Greenhouse Chat
with Ron McHatton

Thursday, May 9, 2024
Availability : Public
Tags : [Greenhouse Chat](#)

REGISTER NOW

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3489269801461937760](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3489269801461937760)**

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 May 7, 2024.



Take a Trip to Taiwan, and the
World Orchid Conference with
Carol Klonowski

Carol Klonowski
Calendar-ico
Thursday, May 16th, 2024
8:30 PM EST

Carol takes us to Taiwan for the 2024 World Orchid Conference, and the TOGA show, occurring together for the first time. Come see the fabulous exhibition of orchids, displays that will boggle the mind, prize winners that are spectacular.



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Get your Orchids ready for Summer

Cattleya

The last of the spring-flowering types -- those that flower from a ripened hard pseudobulb -- will be finishing, while the first summer-blooming types will be showing buds on their rapidly growing, soft pseudobulbs. Both may need potting, as signaled by deteriorating mix, this month. The spring bloomers present no problems, as you will be dealing with fully ripe, well-hardened pseudobulbs. They will be ready to root on the mature front pseudobulb and will establish quickly. The summer bloomers, will be brittle and may be in bud. Nonetheless, experienced growers know that unless potted now, they may not root later, as this type tends to be seasonal in its rooting behavior. Stake the lead growth to avoid breakage. May can still present some changing light conditions that can lead to burning of the foliage if the plants have not been properly acclimatized. Allow them to build up their tolerance to higher light gradually. Changing light and temperatures can also be the source of some frustration when trying to determine when plants need watering. While cattleyas will be entering into a period of rapid growth starting this month, they have still not built up sufficient momentum to be significantly slowed by your missing a day or two of watering owing to dark weather. As always, it is safer to err on the dry side than on the wet. It is important, though, especially to the summer bloomers. Too much shade will cause rapidly developing inflorescences to droop unattractively.



Cattleya purpurata, formerly in the genus Laelia, is without a doubt one of the most stately orchids to bloom in this season. © G. Allika

Paphiopedilum

The Paphiopedilum Maudiae types will be well into their season now, so a careful eye should be used toward staking. Do not be too anxious to stake, however. Many of this type, if staked too soon, will develop nodding flowers that do not face the observer. It is better to allow the flowers to ripen naturally, then support the spike right below the ovary for best display. This is especially common in Paphiopedilum fairrieanum-derived hybrids. If you have to do something when you first see the emerging spikes, just put the stake in the pot next to the spiking growth. Not only will this help you, but you will be able to see where the spikes are, so you can continue to pay attention to their development. The multifloral types will be entering their most active growth phase, so lots of light, water and fertilizer are called for to mature their large growths. Many will be spiking in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for the emerging inflorescences. These may benefit from earlier staking than most, as the inflorescences grow so quickly in some cases that they can be quite soft. Again, best support is right below the ovary of the first flower. This will allow the most natural presentation of the blooms.



Paphiopedilum Maudiae types may need staking for best presentation

Phalaenopsis

Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for repotting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior. The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant. This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on Doritis background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the

summer season. Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne pathogens and viral contamination. Phalaenopsis are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

The FLOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose of the AOS.org for this essay.



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RAMBLE to the REDLANDS

What: Day Trip via Luxury Coach to the *Redland International Orchid Festival*

Who: FLOS Members and/or Guests
When: Saturday, May 18, 2024
Bus departs 8:00 AM Sharp

Where: Christ Lutheran Church
Parish Hall
1955 E. Oakland Park Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

How Much: \$45.00

Please Bring: 1. Box or Crate with Your Name Printed Clearly. (for your purchases)
2 Bring your lunch, bottled water will be provided on board the coach.

Itinerary: 1 **Redland International Orchid Festival**

2 **Isaac Farms** (on the way home) Orchids & Succulents
NOTE: Price Includes Admission Plus a \$5.00 voucher for orchid purchases, Bus will park near gate, no lines. Many Food Trucks and Caterers are on the site.

Contact: Capt. Allen Cogar
call: 954.553.1351 or email:
tacogar@gmail.com

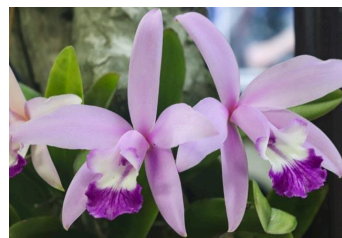
April Ribbon Awards

Orchid	Grower	Ribbon
<i>Bc. Nani</i>	Doreen Christensen	Blue
<i>Brassacathron Aka's Aloha</i>	Chris Crepage	Blue
<i>Brassia Rex</i>	Francisco/Paul	Blue
<i>C. Dimond Girl</i>	Roderick Lewis	Blue
<i>Den. Chanthaboon Sunrise</i>	Mercedes Rodriguez	Blue
<i>Den. Pixie Charm</i>	Les Corbin	Blue
<i>Den. thyrsoflorum</i>	Les Corbin	Blue
<i>Laeliocatonina Renate 'S & W'</i>	Chris Crepage	Blue
<i>Phal. lobbii</i>	Vicki Hallock	Blue
<i>Phal. Perite?</i>	Tena Swiller	Blue
<i>Seidenfadenia mitrata alba</i>	Vicki Hallock	Blue
<i>V. Brighton Sunset *</i>	Joe Akin	Blue
<i>V. umpullacea</i>	Debbie/Mike Alley	Blue
<i>Z. Advance Australia</i>	Maribel Beas	Blue
<i>Enanthleya Golden Sunburst</i>	Roderick Lewis	Cultural
<i>Eny. Jackie Bright</i>	Luanne Betz	Cultural
<i>Eny. Pixie Charm</i>	Luanne Betz	Cultural
<i>Eulophia andamanensis</i>	John Wrench	Cultural
<i>Jackfowlieara Apple Blossom</i>	Jill Smith	Cultural
<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia</i>	Eugenie Johnson	Cultural
<i>Microterangis hariotiana</i>	Claire Garrett	Cultural
<i>Paph. Moustache</i>	Sandra Pickut	Cultural
<i>Phal. Chi Yueh 'Peach'</i>	Elly Meisler	Cultural
<i>Phal. cornu-cervi 'Red'</i>	Allen Cogar	Cultural
<i>V. lamellata h.v. boxallii</i>	Olivier Turina	Cultural
<i>Den. lindleyi</i>	Debbie/Mike Alley	Red
<i>Den. Love Memory 'Fizz'</i>	Eugenie Johnson	Red
<i>Den. Love Memory 'Fizz'</i>	Norma Jeanne Flack	Red
<i>Microterangis hariotiana</i>	Norma Jeanne Flack	Red
<i>Osp. Brazilian Sun</i>	Debbie/Mike Alley	Red
<i>Vandachostylis Dainty</i>	Hung Tran	Red

(*) denotes registered hybrid



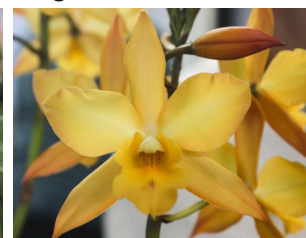
Zygo. Advance Australia
Maribel Beas



C. Dimond Girl
Roderick Lewis



Eny. Jackie Bright
Luanne Betz



Jackfowlieara Apple Blossom
Jill Smith



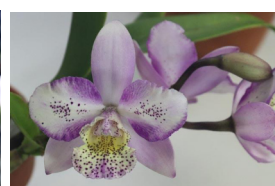
Seid. Mitrata alba
Vicki Hallock



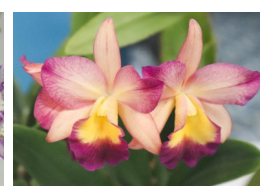
Phal. Cornu-Cervi 'Red'
Allen Cogar



Brassia Rex
Francisco & Paul



Bcn. Aka's Aloha 'Dream Dust'
Chris Crepage



Gur; Renate 'S&W'
Chris Crepage



Eulophia andamanensis
John Wrench



Paph. Moustache
Sandra Pickut

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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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