

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.

Volume 75

Issue 1

January 2025

President's Message: Happy New Year



As we look back on a fantastic year of orchid growing, we're excited to step into a fresh year filled with opportunities to share our passion, expand our knowledge, and enjoy the camaraderie of our orchid community.

Kicking off 2025 in grand style, we'll host our much-anticipated "Orchid Renaissance" show — a spectacular

event you won't want to miss! Then on Monday, Jan. 13, we'll resume our monthly general meetings, setting the stage for a year brimming with exciting activities and events.

Here's a glimpse of what's ahead: a Spring Bus Ramble, native orchid conservation projects, Keiki meetings, our annual auction, plant judging, and so much more. With so many opportunities to connect and have fun, 2025 promises to be an incredible year for our society.

Wishing you a joyful, healthy, and orchid-filled New Year. See you at the show!

Luanne Betz, FLOS President

Sara Singer, Program Chair



Orchid Renaissance is Coming! We need YOU to help making it successful!

Our show is the weekend of January 10-12, 2025. Setup begins January 7th.

First, if you have not already done so, please pay for the tickets that were sent to you! We have the vendors, but need to provide customers for them! Your support by

purchasing (or selling) your allocated tickets will bring more people to the Dodge Center, therefore more sales for vendors! It's a recipe for success!

If you returned your tickets, please reconsider and contact Vicki Hallock (wickirae@aol.com).

Your reward for helping the show with the tickets is our Preview Party on the 9th, where you can shop for the best offerings from the vendors (prior to the public opening of the show), while enjoying cocktails and hor d'oeuvres!

Calling all volunteers! We also need help in staffing the show! There will be two shifts, 10-2 and 2-5 daily. Please check your schedule and volunteer as much and as often as you can!

Please contact Roger Triplett by email at r.triplett22@gmail.com to sign up!

Here's to another GREAT show! It is Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society's 65th!

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Holiday Extravaganza



2019



2001

Holiday Party-Photos



Those 3 smaller Brazilian species are somewhat of an oddball in their behavior compared to other *Cattleyas*. In South Florida they should all be mounted as they really don't like wet feet and repotting.

C. aclandiae is a dwarf species that seldom

exceeds 8" in height. It has slender stems with 2 or 3 leaves on top.

The very fragrant flower pops out of the bulb without any sheath (unlike most *Cattleyas*).

There are 1 or 2 (rarely 3) flowers per stem. The peak of the blooming season is April/May but the plant can rebloom over the entire summer. So, the plant keeps on growing new stems for several months and they usually bloom immediately.

It has an extensive root system that develops while the plant is in bloom throughout spring and summer and the root system should not be damaged as it sets back the plant dramatically. Mounting is best.

C. aclandiae grows in high light and should be watered abundantly while growing (spring and summer) but dry out in between and kept very dry when dormant.

C. walkeriana

Another dwarf plant with bulbs up to 6" tall with ONE very rigid leaf up to 5" max. So, it is usually a unifoliate although two leaves do occur.

The root system does not tolerate any stagnating moisture, hence mounting is the best option. In nature they are living in very harsh conditions and can withstand a lot of drought. They should be watered plenty when growing but always dry out in between; they should be watered sparingly over the winter. Rain water is ideal for

them.

They grow in very high light.

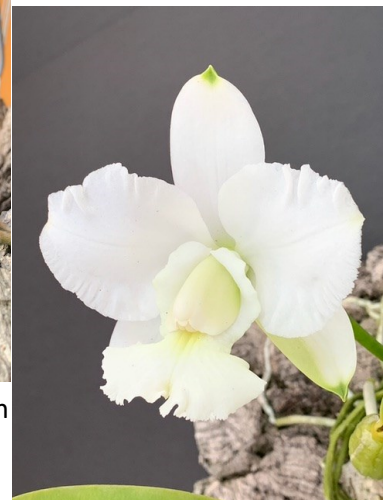
C. walkeriana has a unique feature among *Cattleyas*: the inflorescence almost always grows from the rhizome and not from the top of the bulb (although that happens but usually from plants that are hybrids rather than true *walkerianas*). They are very fragrant and usually have 3 flowers per stem but can at times reach 5 flowers. The flowers are long lasting (over one month). The new inflorescence may look like a new bulb at first but then turns into a spike. They bloom mostly in the late fall and winter. Some bloom in the spring as well but may be hybrids instead of pure *walkeriana*.

C. nobilior was considered a variety of *C. walkeriana* for a while.

C. nobilior never blooms from leafed bulbs while *walkeriana* can at times. It also usually has 3 flowers per bulb and blooms later (February till April). The flowers look similar but *nobilior* is a bifoliate (two leaves) while *walkeriana* is unifoliate (one leaf)



C. walkeriana flower growth #2 Feb. 2022



C. walkeriana var. *alba* flower March 2022

Program Report:

Our January meeting promises to be a very interesting presentation offered by Mr. Ron Kaufmann. "101 Ways to Kill an Orchid" will be insightful since we will all have new orchids from our show!



Ron Kaufmann is chair of the American Orchid Society Conservation Committee and a founding director of the Orchid Conservation Alliance. Ron has been growing orchids for more than 25 years and has travelled extensively to view orchids in the wild in Asia and South

America, particularly Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia. Ron is a marine biologist by training, and his scientific work includes studies of Antarctic and deep-sea ecosystems as well as marine communities in coastal Southern California. His orchid collection began with a reedstem Epidendrum and progressed to a diverse assemblage that

contains mostly species orchids.

Ron has a long-standing interest in conservation. He joined the San Diego County Orchid Society's Conservation Committee in 1999 and became chair in 2004. Since 1991, the Conservation Committee has awarded over \$285,000 to support projects in 24 different countries. Ron also helped to found the Orchid Conservation Alliance and serves on the boards of the OCA, Orchid Digest, and Fundación EcoMinga (an Ecuadorian conservation organization). Most of Ron's orchids are grown in a 36 x 24 foot greenhouse and several outdoor shade-covered areas around his house in San Diego. Friends have suggested that he build a second, much larger greenhouse to accommodate the many plants that often make walking through his greenhouse an exercise requiring extensive training in gymnastics and yoga to avoid serious injury. Thus far, this recommendation hasn't been followed, although the temptation is always there.

Sara Singer, Program Chair

FLOS Holiday Party 2024

Holiday extravaganza:

The holiday party did not disappoint with over 80 Guests in attendance. The Coral Ridge Yacht Club rolled out the red carpet for us. From the time you entered you noticed the amazing 15-foot live Christmas tree. The hall was decorated so elegantly, setting the tone for a festive evening. A huge thanks to Brian Boyle, Joan Connors, Len Emory and Gretchen Denton who helped create the tablescapes and the stunning display of orchids. As you entered you noticed the place cards created by Luanne and Dave which made for a smooth transition for our assigned seating. The open bar kicked off at 6:30 with passed appetizers that had the crowd wanting more. Everyone was able to grab a seat on the open patio enjoying the view and having great conversations with first timers to long time attendees.

As you entered the festive dressed banquet hall you enjoyed the wonderful music and sounds of D.J. Tim. Luanne gave a warm welcome Holiday greeting followed with dinner service. The first course was a mixed green, seasonal berries, goat cheese crumble, toasted pecans, red onion with champagne vinaigrette dressing followed by your Entrée selection and dessert. After dinner guests enjoyed listening to the amazing vocals of Tim and crowd watching as many took to the dance floor with creative dance moves. The evening capped off with everyone taking home a beautiful Orchid.

Thanks to everyone who attended and those who did not I am sure the word will spread that this event is not to be missed. Thanks for all your support for the party and the orchid society.

Warm Holiday wishes

Joe Akin, Holiday Chair
(More Holiday Party photos on page 1)





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Thank you to our kitchen volunteers: Kathy Homann, Debby Johnson and Fran Renguso for all their efforts during the year!.

Regular Meetings: Second Monday of each month.
 Time: 7:30 pm
 Place: Christ Lutheran Church School 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 Highway) to Oakland Park Blvd. west for two blocks, turn north on NE 20th Ave. Park in the rear to the church which is on the NW corner of Oakland Park Blvd. and NE 20th Ave.
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