

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

The purpose of the Society is to stimulate interest, provide education, support conservation, and enable the exchange of information among those interested in all aspects of orchid culture.



Loving orchids since 1951

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July 2026

FLOS.org

Presidents Message – Donate orchid divisions for October auction



We are on the tail end of the potting season, making this the perfect time to think ahead to our Annual Orchid Auction in October. As you're dividing and repotting

your orchids, I encourage you to set aside a division or two to donate. Our annual auction is one of the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society's most important fundraisers. The proceeds help support the day-to-day operations of the Society, expenses that far exceed what we collect through membership dues alone. One of the things I enjoy most about our auction is seeing the remarkable plants

donated by our members. Every month, our judging table showcases beautifully grown orchids, and divisions from these proven performers are always among the auction's most sought-after treasures. There's something special about owning a plant that has been lovingly grown by another FLOS member. Not only do you know its history and quality, but you also have the opportunity to learn firsthand from the grower who helped it thrive. Sharing divisions also helps preserve exceptional plants within our Society. If misfortune strikes and you lose a favorite specimen, there's a good chance another member is growing a division of that very plant. In many ways, donating divisions is an investment in the collective collection and knowledge of our orchid community.

Tips for Dividing Orchids

The ideal time to divide most orchids is after they have finished blooming and are beginning a new growth cycle. Dividing during active growth allows the plant to recover quickly and establish new roots before its next flowering season.

Gather Your Supplies

Before you begin, have the following on hand:

- Sharp, sterilized pruning shears or a knife
- Fresh potting media appropriate for the orchid species
- Clean or sanitized pots
- Ground cinnamon, fungicide, or isopropyl alcohol to treat cuts
- Plant labels

Continued on page 2



Join us as we continue to celebrate the **Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society's 75th Anniversary** with an evening of food, fun, fellowship, and orchids!

We'll kick off the festivities with a summer potluck dinner, followed by one of our most anticipated social events of the year: Orchid Bingo! What better way to spend a summer evening than sharing a meal with fellow orchid enthusiasts and playing for beautiful orchid prizes?

What you need to know

We invite members to **bring a dish**, along with any serving utensils needed.

- There will be **no orchid judging this month, and no membership/renewals** will be processed at the meeting either.
- **Please bring cash for bingo card purchases.**
- **Dinner will begin at 7:30 PM.** Orchid Bingo is immediately after.

Continued on page 2

Remove the Plant Carefully
Gently remove the orchid from its pot, taking care not to damage the roots. If the root system is tightly bound, soak the pot in water for 10–15 minutes to make removal easier. Shake away the old potting media so you can clearly see the root system.

Divide at Natural Growth Points

Look for the orchid's natural division points.

Sympodial orchids such as Cattleyas, Oncidiums, Dendrobiums, and Cymbidiums should be divided so that each section contains at least three to five healthy pseudobulbs.

Monopodial orchids such as Phalaenopsis are generally not divided. Instead, propagate well-rooted basal or stem keikis with several healthy roots and at least three leaves.

Make Clean Cuts

Using your sterilized tool, separate the divisions with a clean cut. Dust the cut surfaces with cinnamon or apply a fungicide to help prevent infection. Remove any dead or damaged roots before repotting.

Repot the Divisions

Select pots that are appropriately sized for each division and use fresh potting media suited to the orchid. Position the plant so the roots are well supported while keeping the pseudobulbs above the surface of the media. Secure the division firmly

so it remains stable as new roots develop.

Aftercare

Help your new divisions establish by following a few simple guidelines:

Water lightly during the first week.

Provide bright, indirect light with good humidity and air circulation.

Watch for signs of stress or disease.

Wait about two weeks before resuming fertilizer.

Preparing Your Donation

Before auction day, make sure your orchid division is:

Healthy and well rooted

Free of pests and disease

Properly labeled with the species or hybrid name

Accompanied by any special culture notes that may help the new owner

Presentation matters, too. A clean pot, tidy foliage, and an attractive, healthy plant will always generate more excitement at the auction.

Thank you for helping make our Annual Orchid Auction a success. Every donated division helps support the Society while giving fellow members the opportunity to add exceptional orchids to their collections.

— **LEN EMORY**
President

2026 - 2027 FLOS Board of Directors



Left to right: Mary Jo Frick, Bob Brach, Luanne Betz, Rich Ackerman, Grace Boston, Gretchen Denton, Justine Vishnesky, Keith London, Doreen Christensen, Olivier Turina, Joan Connors, Len Emory, Roger Triplett (Karen Fleisher, not pictured)

FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY
Annual AUCTION
7 P.M. OCT. 12
Preview at 6:30 PM

Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

Catalog and info at www.flos.org

Orchid Bingo: Continued from page 1

How Orchid Bingo Works

Bingo cards will be available for purchase when you arrive:

Participation is \$20 per player.

Prizes for each winning game will be, of course, wonderful orchids, and we have an exciting selection of plants ready to find new homes. If you have bingo daubers, feel free to bring them; we will also have some available for use. We'll review the rules and game format during dinner before the first game begins.

We look forward to seeing you at Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall, 1955 E. Oakland Park Blvd., Fort Lauderdale.

Bring a dish, bring your luck, and join us for a memorable evening as we celebrate 75 years of orchids, friendship, and community!

— **MARY JO FRICK**
Program Chair



Using Orchid fertilizer

As seen on the Youtube channel "Orchid House Fort Lauderdale"

Growing Orchids With Olivier

I often get asked: what kind of fertilizer do you use? What follows is my answer....

Fertilizing is "icing on the cake" of orchid cultivation. If the cake is good, it will taste and look even better. In orchid lingo, if you get everything else right, proper watering, proper light level, temperature and medium, you will get even better results with fertilizing: more blooms, larger blooms, longer-lasting blooms, better pseudobulbs, etc. If your cultivation practices are wrong: you overwater, the light level is insufficient etc, you can fertilize all you want but the result will likely not be different.

So, in the learning curve about orchid cultivation, just like the icing on the cake, fertilizing comes at the end of the recipe.

Rather than focus on the type or brand of fertilizer, I would stress a few good practices about fertilizers in general.

1. The saying goes "fertilize WEEKLY, WEAKLY". It means you do it once a week and at a "weak dose". The "weak dose" usually means half the dosage recommended on the package? Why? Fertilizers producers want you to buy as much as you can and tend to exaggerate the dilution level.
2. Also using less than recommended is good because too much fertilizing can be detrimental: fertilizers release salts in the medium that become toxic after a while and also too much fertilizing can cause leaf burn etc...
3. How do you cope with excess salts in the medium? You flush the medium once a month by soaking really good and wait for water to freely flow from the drainage holes. Also, repotting is needed not just because the plant has overgrown the pot, but also because the medium deteriorates and the salts in it can be hurting the plant

4. You may want to fertilize a bit more over the summer as the heat and may be lots of rain may induce stronger growths and you can boost it with extra fertilizersalways at a weak dose though!
5. You may want to stop fertilizing altogether when daytime temperatures drop below 75°F for a while. That usually means January but at times late December or early February.

Now: what about which brand I use? I alternate 4 types of fertilizers because I like to "not put all my eggs in the same basket". I honestly don't know which one is best and by rotating, I maximize the odds of a good result. One of them is the famous "Cal Mag".



Besides fertilizing, I use Kelpak once a month. This is seaweed extract which should be considered more like a vitamin and

contributes to the overall health of your orchids. There are many different seaweed products out there but many may smell like fish. Kelpak is odorless.

Epsom salt once a month is a good idea unless your plants have plenty of magnesium as it is. Magnesium is beneficial for your plant but excessive fertilizer can be detrimental too. So, moderation is again key.

Olivier Turina became a FLOS member in 2014 and a board member in 2020. Send your growing questions to OlivierFTL@gmail.com.



FLOS offers many opportunities to get involved and make new friends by having fun networking with members and acquiring knowledge in the culture of orchids at the same time. We can always use volunteers to help setting up meetings, assist with refreshments, and support Society events. We can always use extra hands. Please contact Roger Triplett if you would like to volunteer at r.triplett22@gmail.com

Welcome new members

- Bob Bell
- Alexandra & Luis Guevara
- Marilyn Lorigas
- Jorge Hernandez
- Audrey Moskow
- Jan Jonas
- Chong Piper
- Richard Wong
- Geoffrey Bash
- Chris Gardner

Fall ramble anyone?

We are currently checking to see if there is sufficient interest in doing a Fall overnight ramble to Palmer Orchids in September of this year. If you are interested please contact Grace Boston, who is organizing this trip. graceboston2010@gmail.com





*Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society's
Annual Holiday Party*

**6-10 PM
Friday December 11th**

Coral Ridge Yacht Club
2800 Yacht Club Blvd
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Complementary valet parking

**Cocktails & appetizers
Dinner & drinks
Guests receiving a
blooming/budding orchid**

Music by Andrade World Music

Keikis plant native orchids at Butterfly World



Heat wave, smeat wave. Our Keikis arrived en mass to plant native orchids at Butterfly World in Coconut Creek on June 20, despite a triple-digit temperature index. We assembled five teams for this hands-on conservation project installing dozens of *Enc. tampensis* into the stunning butterfly aviary. There could not be a more appropriate place to plant these adorable natives — which are known as the butterfly orchid. They will be at home nestled in the massive enclosure that holds more than 20,000 winged beauties fluttering among lush tropical plantings and water features.

Keiki Club members learned proper installation techniques to ensure these endangered plants thrive. Our handiwork will be sure to delight park visitors when they bloom for years to come. The orchid society donated the orchids and time to install them in support of our nonprofit's education and conservation mission. Over the years, we have planted thousands of native orchids into South Florida's urban landscape. Plan to stop by Butterfly World to enjoy its many delights including birds and beautiful gardens filled with specimen orchids. Many were purchased at our show at War Memorial over the years by the park's founder.

— **DOREEN CHRISTENSEN**
Conservation Team Chair

AOS Corner



[June AOS Magazine](#)

Featured this Month

The *Dendrobium* series by Jim Cootes continues this month with Part 20: *Dendrobium* section *Aporum*. This curious group of species is considered to be a separate genus, *Aporum*, by some taxonomists but is currently accepted by

Plants of the World Online as a section of an expanded genus *Dendrobium*. Regardless of where you put this group, these plants, with their unusual imbricated foliage, deserve a bigger presence in our collections. This month also concludes the series on *Cattleya violacea* Hybrids by Juraj Kojš with a lavishly illustrated survey of the hybrids of the 21st century.



Justine's
Salmon Dip

Creamy, zesty and just a little spicy!

INGREDIENTS

- 2 Cooked salmon filets – sweet thai chili butter, coho salmon filet
- 8 oz softened cream cheese
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 tbsp mayonnaise
- 1 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp smoked paprika
- 1 thinly sliced green onion
- 4 dashes of hot sauce (optional)
- salt & pepper to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

- Let cream cheese sit at room temperature until soft and spreadable. Place in mixing bowl and beat with a hand mixer and whisk until completely smooth with no lumps.
- Add the sour cream, mayo, lemon juice, garlic powder, paprika, and a pinch of salt and pepper. Mix until the base looks creamy and even in color.
- Add the flaked salmon and sliced green onion.
- Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.

Garnish
with chopped parsley or extra green onion.

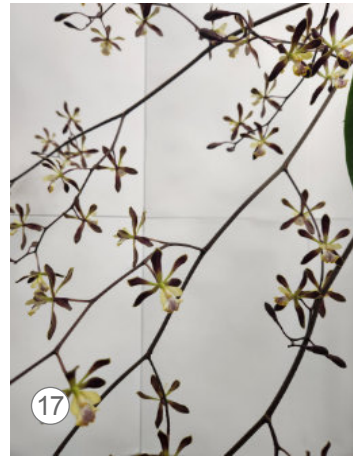
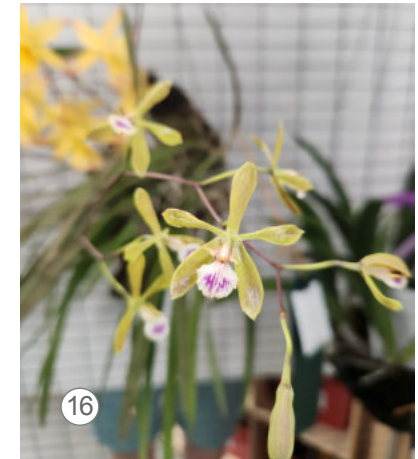
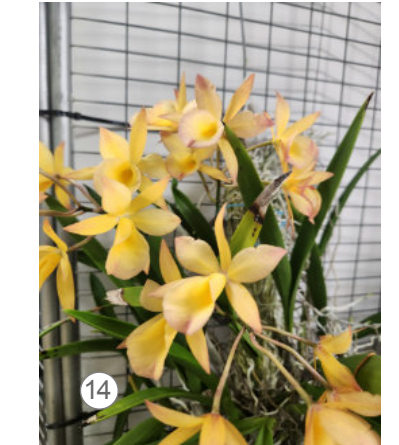
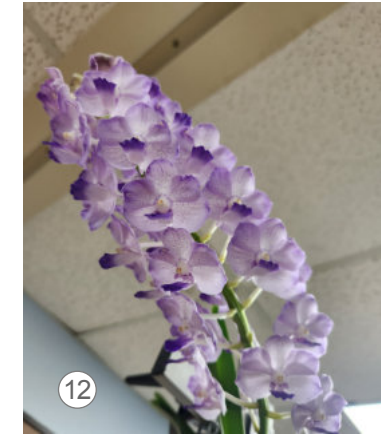
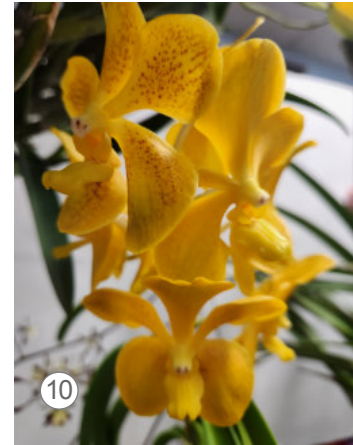
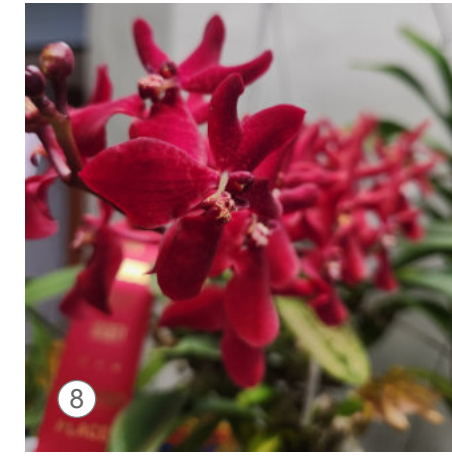
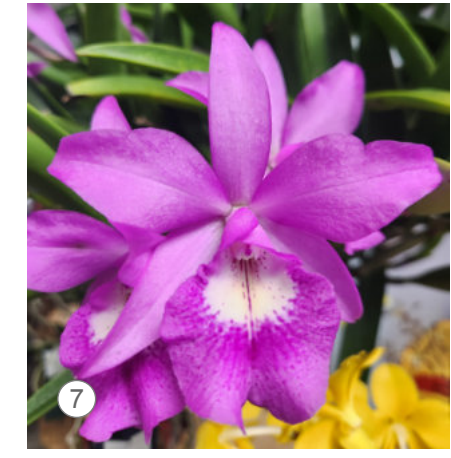
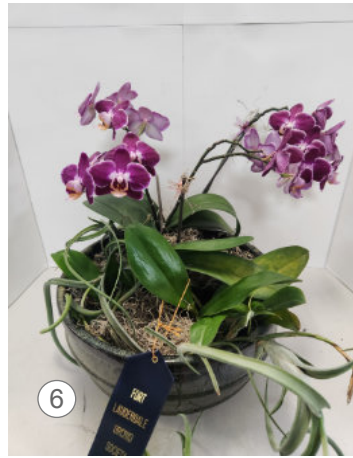
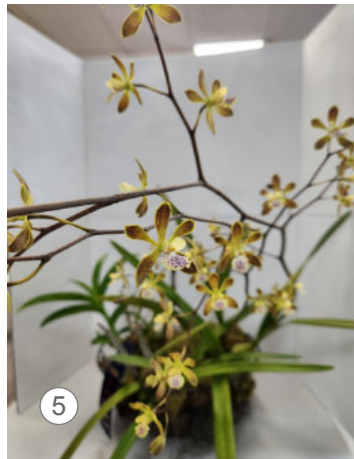
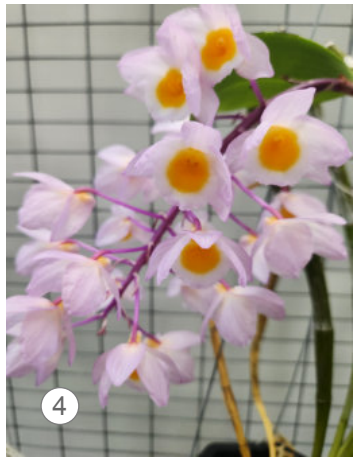
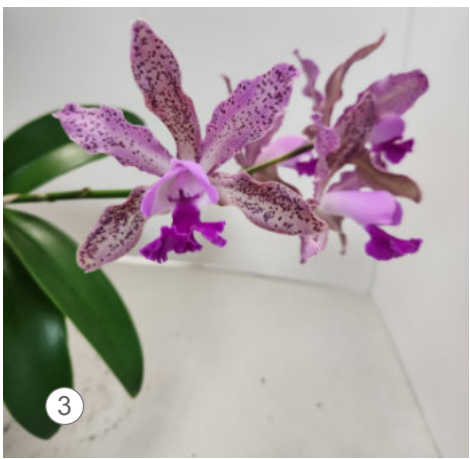
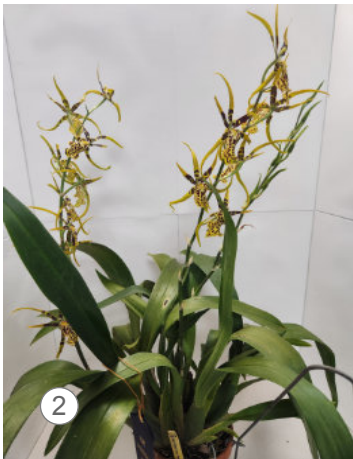
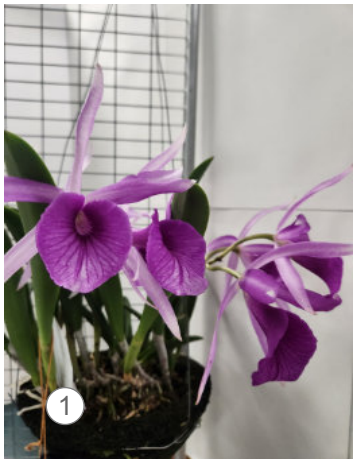
Serve
with crisp vegetables, crackers, toasted baguette slices and pita chips.

Chill, Garnish, and Enjoy!

June Ribbon Awards

#	Orchid	Winner	Ribbon
1	<i>Bc. Morning Glory*</i> (<i>B. nodosa</i> x <i>C. purpurata</i>)	Mark/Sherrie Smith	Blue
2	<i>Banfieldara [Bnfd.] Gilded Tower</i>	Maribel Beas	Blue
3	<i>C. Tony Millet</i>	Luanne Betz	Blue
4	<i>Den. amabile</i>	Norma Jeanne Flack	Blue
5	<i>Encyclia phoenicea</i>	Len Emory	Blue
6	Phal NOID	Debbie/Mike Alley	Blue
7	<i>Rc. Little Mermaid</i>	Len Emory	Blue
8	<i>Renanstylis Bangkok Beauty</i>	Olivier Turina	Blue
9	<i>Rlc. Nakornchaisri Delight</i>	Randy Schull	Blue
10	<i>V. Vicki Hallock</i>	Jill Smith	Blue
11	<i>Van. Chulee Red</i>	John Soto	Blue
12	<i>Van. Mae Klong Beauty</i>	Arian Cattes	Cultural
13	<i>Blira. Marfitch</i>	Maura Mitzner	Cultural
14	<i>Broanthevola [Btv.] Florida Sunset</i>	Doreen Christensen	Cultural
15	<i>Brsdm. Gilded Urchin</i>	Eugenie Johnson	Cultural
16	<i>E. tampensis</i>	Justine Vishnesky	Cultural
17	<i>Encyclia cordigera</i>	Luanne Betz	Cultural
18	<i>Myrmecophila thomsoniana</i>	Claire Garrett	Cultural

(*) Denotes Registered Hybrid
 Photos by Gretchen Denton
 Orchid Identification by Tony Millet and Joan Connors





Why Summer May Be the Best Time of Year for Your Orchids

As orchid growers, we spend much of the year trying to recreate nature inside our homes, greenhouses, and growing areas. We monitor humidity, adjust lighting, run fans, and carefully manage watering schedules.

But what if nature could do much of that work for us?

For many orchid growers, summer is the perfect time to give orchids a well deserved vacation outdoors.

Once the danger of frost has passed and nighttime temperatures remain suitable, many commonly grown orchids can benefit tremendously from spending the summer outside. In fact, the combination of fresh air, increased humidity, natural rainfall, and brighter growing conditions often produces stronger plants and better growth than indoor culture alone.

Why Orchids Love the Outdoors

One of the biggest advantages of outdoor growing is improved air movement. Constant airflow helps reduce fungal and bacterial problems while encouraging healthy root growth. Outdoor conditions also provide natural humidity levels that many indoor environments struggle to maintain.

Many growers are surprised by how quickly their orchids respond. New roots emerge, leaves become more vigorous, and pseudobulbs often develop larger and stronger than they would indoors.

Natural rainfall can also help flush accumulated fertilizer salts from pots and provide a more natural watering cycle.

Not All Sun Is Good Sun

Before moving orchids outside, remember that more light does not mean full sun.

Most orchids should be placed in bright shade or filtered sunlight. A location under a shade tree, covered patio, pergola, or shade cloth is often ideal. Orchids grown indoors or in a greenhouse must be gradually acclimated to brighter outdoor conditions to avoid sunburn.

A good rule is to start in full shade and slowly increase light exposure over several weeks.

Watering Changes During Summer

Outdoor orchids typically dry much faster than indoor plants. Depending on temperature, wind, and humidity, some orchids may require watering every day during the hottest periods of summer. Regular observation is important because each growing area is different.

The active growing season is also the perfect time to fertilize regularly. Most orchids are producing new roots and growths and can take full advantage of the extra nutrients.

Which Orchids Benefit Most?

Many popular orchids thrive outdoors during the summer months, including:

- Cattleyas
- Dendrobiums
- Oncidiums
- Brassias
- Encyclias
- Vandas (with proper protection and watering)
- Cymbidiums

Phalaenopsis can also enjoy outdoor conditions but generally require deeper shade and more protection from direct sunlight than many other orchid types.

A Few Things to Watch For

Growing outdoors does come with a few challenges.

Keep an eye out for slugs, snails, squirrels, insects, and other visitors that may view your orchids as an invitation to dinner. Be prepared to adjust watering during periods of excessive rain or extreme heat.

Most importantly, monitor weather forecasts carefully as summer transitions into fall. Orchids should be brought back indoors before temperatures begin dropping below the comfort range for the species being grown.

Give It a Try

If you have never grown orchids outdoors during the summer, consider trying it with a few plants this season. You may be surprised by the results.

Many experienced growers consider summer outdoor culture to be one of the best ways to build stronger root systems, encourage vigorous growth, and prepare orchids for future blooming.

Sometimes the best greenhouse is the one nature provides.

Sources and Credit: This article was inspired by summer orchid care recommendations from the American Orchid Society, Maine Orchid Society, CAIOS, Gardening Know How, and other orchid-growing resources that promote outdoor summer culture for suitable orchid species.

Article Submitted by:

— **JOAN CONNERS**
Past President and AOS Judge

Refreshment donations

We appreciate the wonderful food donations for our meetings.

Thank you:	Peppe Troche
Justine Vishnesky	Glenda Connolly
Zoe Bejar	Glenda Vermaak
Sona Peña	Judy Tkacs
Grace Boston	Anne Marcovich
Robbie Romani	Sherry & Mark Smith
Roger Boone	Deb Johnson
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Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society
P.O. Box 4677
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338
www.flos.org

Meeting Info

2nd Monday of each month.

Time 7:30 - 9:30 PM

Location

Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall,
1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306
[Google Map](#)

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