



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.



Loving orchids since 1951 Volume 76 Issue 6 June 2026 FLOS.org

President's Message: A lifelong love of playing in the dirt



It feels exciting and humbling to sit down and write my first message. Over the past few weeks, I have often asked myself—and several friends within FLOS—what I should

share. The overwhelming response was simple: Tell a little of my story. So, here goes.

My appreciation for gardening began early in life. As a child, I helped my father tend fruit and vegetable gardens in the suburban backyards of Oklahoma, Iowa, and eventually the Lowcountry of South Carolina. Looking back, I now understand these gardens were an important connection to my parents' roots in Eastern North Carolina. While the climates of the Southwest and Upper Midwest often challenged our lima

beans, field peas, okra, tomatoes, peaches, and other crops, there was always joy in harvesting what we had grown together. Most importantly, I discovered a lifelong love of "playing in the dirt."

After graduating from high school in Charleston, my gardening pursuits paused briefly while I completed my undergraduate and graduate studies at UNC Chapel Hill and USC Columbia. In 1993, I began a 29-year career in corporate finance in Central New Jersey. I eventually settled in the charming town of New Hope along the Delaware River in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where I met my husband, Perry.

It was there that my passion for gardening truly flourished once again. I became captivated by perennials, shrubs, and trees—while always maintaining a vegetable garden, of course. The beauty of rhododendrons, azaleas, phlox, roses, and daffodils was irresistible, and before long, gardens



Luanne passing the FLOS torch to Len.

began expanding across the property. As much as we loved them, maintaining so many gardens became quite a challenge. Perry and I ultimately decided the solution was to make tropical Fort Lauderdale our full-time home.

Although we miss many aspects of the Mid-Atlantic—especially the vibrant emerald greens of May—South Florida

Continued on page 2



Julien Baruch

June presenter: Julien Baruch-Krull Smith, introduction to bulbophylums

Julien Baruch is an accredited judge for the American Orchid Society at the Florida-North Central Judging Center and has grown orchids his whole life, but became more serious about them in 2014 after joining the Sarasota Orchid Society. Julien went on to intern at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens for The Million Orchid Project before moving to Apopka to work at Krull-Smith where he manages their sales,

website, and social media and works with Frank Smith on the nursery's hybridizing. Julien will be bringing plants for purchase along with some plants for our spectacular raffle!

— LEN EMORY
President

introduced us to an entirely new world of gardening treasures, with orchids at the very top of the list. As seasonal residents beginning in 2007, we gradually learned what thrived in our small Wilton Manors bungalow yard and what decidedly did not. We traded the challenges of deer for iguanas, lost more than a few gardenias along the way, and discovered which shrubs could not survive six months without attention. Most importantly, our smaller yard gently curbed my tendency to continually expand garden beds.

Then came orchids.

In 2009, friends invited Perry and me to an event at the War Memorial Auditorium called Orchids By The Sea, hosted by the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society. That

experience sparked an immediate and lasting passion for orchids. After retiring from corporate America in 2022, I joined FLOS, became a Keiki under Mama Jill's guidance, and joined the board in June 2023.

As President, I hope to continue fostering an environment where everyone feels welcome to learn, share knowledge, and deepen their passion for orchids—while enjoying the journey together. We are fortunate to belong to an organization filled with talented and dedicated growers. To ensure that FLOS and its mission continue to thrive, however, we must also attract and nurture new members who will become the next generation of experienced growers, educators, and conservationists.

— **LEN EMORY**
President

Conservation is especially meaningful to me, whether it involves preserving cultural heritage, protecting historic architecture, or safeguarding our planet's endangered flora and fauna. I am committed to encouraging members to share their expertise and enthusiasm in support of the FLOS mission of education, conservation, and the proliferation of orchids.

I look forward to working alongside all of you in the years ahead—and I hope you will join me in continuing to strengthen and grow our wonderful society.

FLOS members at the native orchid planting in Richardson Park

The FLOS conservation team, members and Equality Garden Club volunteers planted dozens of native *Encyclia tampensis* and other orchids into Richardson Park in Wilton Manors on May 23.

The Island City Orchid Project is part of FLOS's multiyear partnership with the club. Currently, there are more than 55 native species blooming around the park. FLOS has planted thousands of native orchids into the urban landscape in South Florida in partnership with Fairchild's Million Orchid Project. This is an important mission of our nonprofit, and we are proud of our strides to help restore these beautiful plants to their native habitat.

— **DOREEN CHRISTENSEN**
Conservation Chair



Happy Birthday FLOS! Celebrating 75 years of orchid excellence

Over the decades, the Society grew alongside South Florida's orchid community. Meetings expanded from living rooms to larger venues including the Birch State Park Garden Center and various community halls, reflecting the enthusiasm and dedication of generations of members. In 1983, FLOS was officially recognized as a nonprofit organization, reinforcing its commitment to education, conservation, and community engagement through orchid culture.

From hosting its very first orchid show in 1957 to producing today's celebrated exhibitions, educational programs, and outreach initiatives, FLOS has spent 75 years inspiring orchid lovers of all experience levels. The Society has become more than an organization, it is a community built on mentorship, friendship, volunteerism, and a deep appreciation for the extraordinary beauty of orchids.

This milestone anniversary is not only a celebration of our history, but also of the members, volunteers, growers, and supporters who have shaped FLOS through the decades. As we look toward the future, we remain committed to sharing knowledge, encouraging new growers, supporting conservation efforts, and fostering the same spirit of curiosity and camaraderie that defined the Society from the very beginning.

Whether you have been part of FLOS for decades or have only recently discovered the world of orchids, we invite you to join us in celebrating 75 incredible years of orchid passion and community.

Here's to the next chapter of the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society.

— **GRETCHEN DENTON**
Newsletter Editor

The 2026 - 2027 board

This is the ratified slate for 2026-2027.

OFFICERS

President	Len Emory
First Vice President & Program Chair	Mary Jo Frick
Second Vice President & Membership Chair	Rich Ackerman
Recording Secretary	Doreen Christensen
Corresponding Secretary	Justine Vishnesky
Treasurer	Olivier Turina
Past President	Luanne Betz

TRUSTEES

One Year Trustees:	Roger Triplett Karen Fleisher
Two Year Trustees:	Gretchen Denton Grace Boston
Three Year Trustees:	Joan Connors Bob Brach

— **LEN EMORY**
President

We ♥ FLOS volunteers

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 help setting up the meetings, help with refreshments, or volunteering at 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



Common genera in South Florida

Growing Orchids With Olivier

This article just wants to summarize for the most common genera encountered in South Florida, where you can expect to see a new growth emerge from and where a new spike comes from.

A first concept is that of sympodial vs monopodial orchids. Monopodial orchids do not have a pseudobulb to store water and they keep on growing vertically from one stem. The main 2 groups are Vandaceous and Phalaenopsis. The sympodial orchids have a rhizome which is a creeping stem at the base of the plant. Those orchids have pseudobulbs and they expand horizontally along the rhizome.

Cattleyas:

Cattleyas have pseudobulbs and new growths grow at the base of an existing pseudobulb. Bulbs bloom only once and sustain the development of the plant with their water storage. The flower spikes emerge from the top of the bulb. There are 2 exceptions to this rule: *C. walkeriana* and its "sister" *C. nobilior* grow spikes from the rhizome.

In the Cattleya alliance, Epidendrum stamfordianum is the other exception where flower spikes grow from the rhizome rather than the top of the bulbs. All other Cattleya alliance orchids grow spikes from the top of their bulbs.

Vandas:

Vandas grow up continuously but will occasionally grow a keiki somewhere on the lower end of the plant. Old plants can have many such keikis. Flower spikes emerge from the leaf axils. Future flower spikes will always grow higher up (never below previous spikes). Some plants bloom at every axil and some skip one or more axils.

Renantheras, Arachnis, Aerides, Rhynchosstylis are all Vandaceous orchids which grow in a similar fashion.

Among Vandaceous there is a **Seidenfadenia mitrata** and four **Paraphalaenopsis** which have terete leaves (pencil like). Their new leaves grow from the inside of the existing leaf stack right in the middle. Flower spikes emerge at the base of the stem.

Dendrobiums:

There are so many different types of Dendrobiums and you have to research for each section how they grow.

Among the common types:

Antelope Dendrobiums grow (usually large) canes and new canes appear at the base of existing ones. Flowers appear randomly up the stem. Older canes can rebloom for many more years.

Callista Dendrobium: the prototype is *Den.lindleyi* (syn. aggregatum) which has pseudobulbs and new ones emerge at the base of existing ones. Older bulbs can rebloom for many years

Latouria Dendrobiums have canes that emerge from the rhizome but their flowers grow from the very top of each bulb (above or just below the leaf). Older canes can rebloom

Phalaenopsis:

They grow up from the same stem.

Occasionally they will grow a keiki at the base. Flower spike usually grow from the base of the stem. Flower spikes from hybrids may regrow from the same spike if you cut it above the second or third node but it is not guaranteed and the new flower spike will likely be shorter and in an odd position. Many small flowered Phal species will rebloom for many years from the same spike and you should never cut a spike as long as it is green.

Oncidiums:

They grow new pseudobulbs from the base of existing ones. Flower spikes emerge from the leaf axil. It is very rare that Oncidium bulbs bloom more than once.

Catasetums:

New bulbs grow from existing bulbs after a period of dormancy. New bulbs that emerge higher up existing bulbs is usually caused by rot at the base of the existing bulb. It is a sign of trouble. Flower spikes will emerge from the base (there are rare instances when they emerge from the top of the bulb but those are never strong blooms). Bulbs can generate several spikes in

their growing season but never rebloom after they have gone dormant and they will remain leafless.

In the Catasetum alliance, Mormodes and Cycnoches have flower spikes that emerge randomly higher up the bulb

Paphiopedilums:

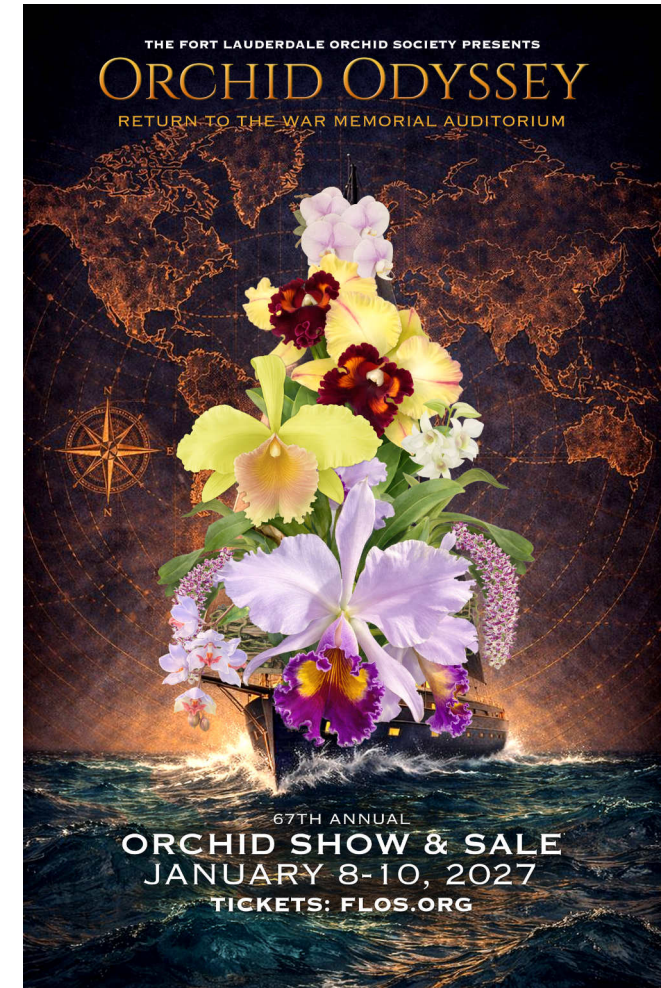
They grow new "fans" from the base of existing ones. Flowers emerge from the top of a fan. A fan only blooms once.

Stanhopeas:

They grow new bulbs from the base of existing ones. The flowers emerge BELOW the root ball and into the medium. You need to grow them in open baskets. Flower spikes are only produced by new bulbs which never rebloom.

Most Orchids from the Stanhopea alliance behave the same way but they don't all grow flowers below the root ball.

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



Artwork by Gretchen Denton

It's official! The contract has been signed with the Fort Lauderdale War Memorial Auditorium for our 67th Annual Show & Sale, 'Orchid Odyssey', on January 8-10, 2027. The War Memorial has a long history with the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society, serving as the home of our annual show for more than two decades. We are thrilled to be bringing the show back to Fort Lauderdale, as this iconic venue has become closely associated with the society and holds many fond memories for longtime members, vendors, exhibitors, and visitors alike.

The Show Committee has already held its first meeting, and the planning process is in full swing. We look forward to sharing more details in the coming months as we prepare to make 'Orchid Odyssey' a memorable celebration of orchids, community, and the enduring legacy of the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society.

— GRETCHEN DENTON
Newsletter Editor



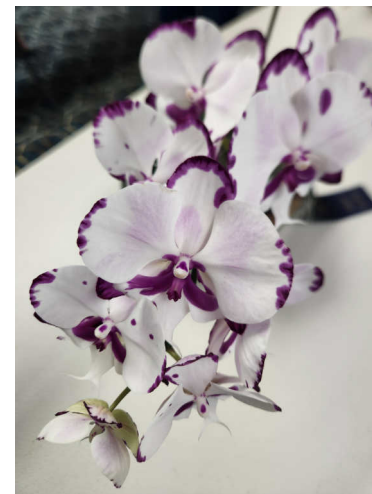
Cattleya Melody Fair grown by Mark/ Sherrie Smith



Vanda Pranam Prai x V. Tawecsuksa*



Dendrobium Yaya Victoria grown by Doreen Christensen



Phalaenopsis King Car Dalmatian grown by Deborah



Oncidium Tariflora Lady*grown by Gretchen Denton



Keiki's visit Keith London's 'Little slice of paradise'



The Keikis had a wonderful day at Keith London's garden oasis! We began with a guided tour where Keith shared how he developed his vision, selecting and adding plants to create the amazing environment he enjoys every day. We then explored the property, viewing numerous orchids in pots, on mounts, and attached to trees. It was inspiring to see these different growing techniques and provided many ideas for the Keikis to incorporate into their own gardens.

Our visit to this "show 'em how you grow 'em" garden meeting was a fantastic experience. We concluded the day with a fish feeding, which was another great addition to Keith's eclectic tropical space. It is easy to see why he has received so many awards for his gardening efforts. Keith was also incredibly generous, providing the Keikis with cuttings from several different plants. Thank you, Keith and Ilene, for being such wonderful hosts

and sharing your beautiful space with us.

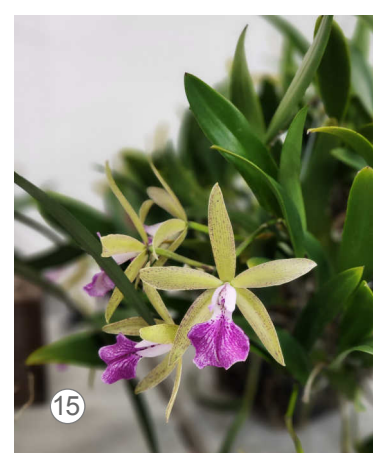
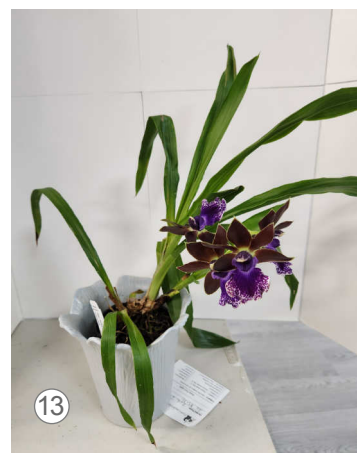
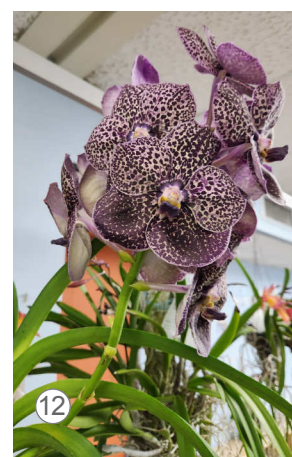
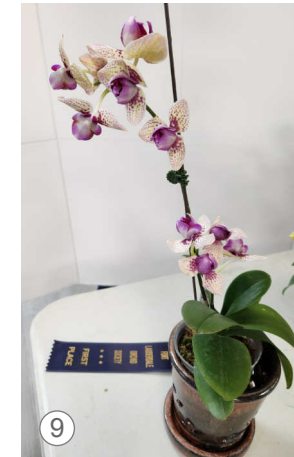
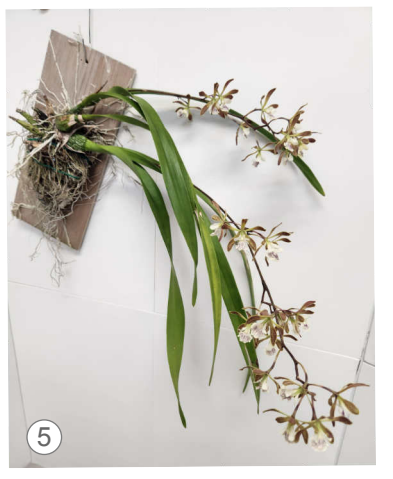
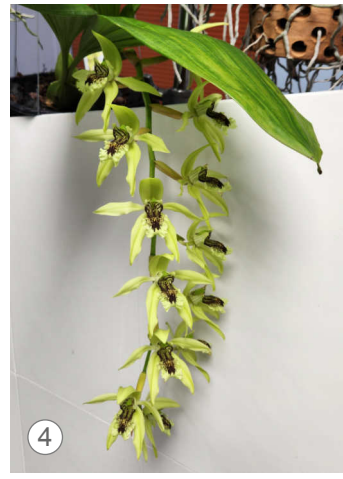
Additionally, FLOS member Claire Garrett joined the meeting and donated two mounted divisions for the Keiki raffle—a preview of the superb plants she will donate to our FLOS Auction in October. Les Corbin also donated several mounted divisions, including a division of his Brassavola Little Stars that won the Grand Prize at the FLOS Orchid Renaissance show from the Keiki display. Doreen Christensen donated a large Brassavola nodosa division for another lucky winner. A big thank you to our longtime FLOS members for your generosity and for supporting the next generation of orchid growers. With such wonderful participation and support, it is no wonder no one wants to graduate!

— KAREN FLEISHER
Keiki Chair

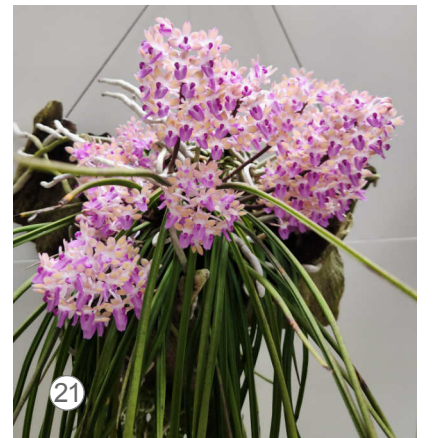
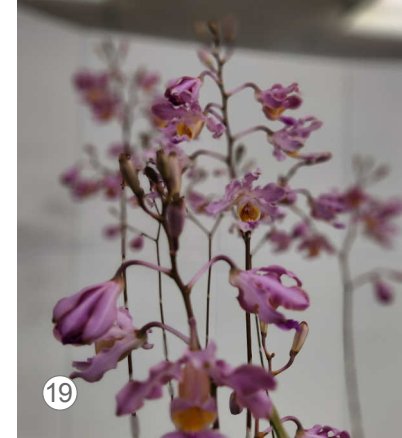
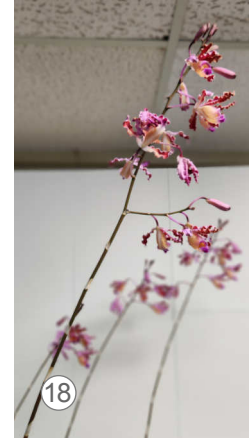
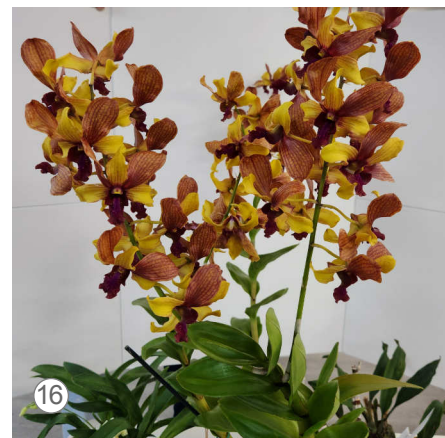


May Ribbon Awards

#	Orchid	Winner	Award
1	<i>Broanthevola Florida Sunset</i>	Doreen Christensen	Blue
2	<i>Brs. Rex Sakata</i>	Francisco/Paul	Blue
3	<i>C. schilleriana</i>	Dourado/Cattes	Blue
4	<i>Coelogyne Pandurata</i>	Dourado/Cattes	Blue
5	<i>E. Eva's Vino Tinto</i>	Gretchen Denton	Blue
6	<i>Eulophia petersii</i>	Hung Tran	Blue
7	<i>Max. tenuifolia</i>	Bob Brach	Blue
8	<i>Max. tenuifolia</i>	Gretchen Denton	Blue
9	<i>Phal. Lioulin Sparrow</i>	Elly Meisler	Blue
10	<i>Seidenfadenia mitrata</i>	Hung Tran	Blue
11	<i>Tolu. guianensis</i>	Olivier Turina	Blue
12	<i>V. Kulwadee Fragrance</i>	Randy Schull	Blue
13	<i>Z. Debbie de Melle</i>	Elly Meisler	Blue
14	<i>Alcra. Pacific Nova</i>	Francisco/Paul	Cultural
15	<i>Bc. Adrienne Arsh</i>	Claire Garrett	Cultural
16	<i>Den. Golden Bell</i>	Doreen Christensen	Cultural
17	<i>Epi. Mabel Kanda</i>	Carolyn Metcalf	Cultural
18	<i>Mcp. Tibiana</i>	Carolyn Metcalf	Cultural
19	<i>Mcp. tibicinis</i>	John Soto	Cultural
20	<i>Mps. Rubaiyat</i>	Elly Meisler	Cultural
21	<i>Seidenfadenia mitrata</i>	Olivier Turina	Cultural



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



Claire's Quick Tip: Summer orchid survival guide

Editors note: This article was originally published in the June 2022 of the FLOS newsletter.

A noxious Trifecta of problems can hit our orchids each summer:

- root rot
- fungal and bacterial
- diseases
- insect explosion

A combination of climatic conditions including unrelenting high heat and humidity, less air circulation and periodic monsoon rains is responsible for cooking up this witches' brew that can threaten the orchids that we grow outdoors.

It is a wise idea to take proactive steps before leaving home for an extended summer vacation so you don't come home to a catastrophe. Here are some steps to take:

To avoid root rot:

For orchids growing in moss or old media that is breaking down, move them to an area out of the rain, or replace the media with a faster draining mix.

To avoid fungal and bacterial diseases:

Be sure that you are up-to-date on preventive fungicide treatments, and add a spreader sticker product to ensure durable uniform coverage.

Increase spacing between orchids.

Consider adding an outdoor fan if the growing area is not breezy.

To avoid an explosion of insects that reproduce exponentially when temperature rises:

Use systemic pesticides for longer lasting protection.

Peel back dry sheaths on Cattleya alliance orchids to eliminate attractive breeding grounds for scale.

Add soap to combat mites when you spray liquid fertilizer.

As it has been said: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Claire Garrett has been a FLOS member since 2011 and has received one FCC (91 points), five CCM awards, an one HCC from the AOS. Send questions to clairegarr@aol.com.

Orchid watering tips

1 OVERWATERING
Soggy roots lead to root rot.
DO: Water only when roots are silvery and the pot feels light.

2 NOT ENOUGH LIGHT
Too little light = no blooms.
DO: Give bright, indirect light. An east or south window is ideal.

3 TOO MUCH DIRECT SUN
Leaves can burn in strong sun.
DO: Use filtered light or a sheer curtain. Morning sun is usually OK.

4 USING THE WRONG POT
Orchids need air around the roots.
DO: Use pots with drainage holes and sides that allow airflow (clear pots are best!).

5 COMPACTING THE MEDIA
Old or compacted mix suffocates roots.
DO: Use chunky orchid bark and repot every 1-2 years.

6 FERTILIZING TOO MUCH
Too much fertilizer burns roots.
DO: Fertilize weakly, weekly or every other week during growth.

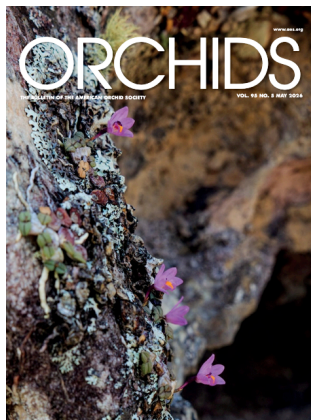
7 IGNORING ROOTS
Roots tell you what your orchid needs.
DO: Check roots regularly. Healthy roots are firm and green (silvery when dry).

8 WRONG TEMPERATURE
Too cold or too hot = stress and no blooms.
DO: Keep in the right range—most orchids prefer 60–85°F (16–29°C). Avoid cold drafts and heat vents.

GOOD CARE = HAPPY ORCHIDS!
 ✓ Bright, indirect light
 ✓ Water when needed
 ✓ Airy pot & chunky bark
 ✓ Regular but gentle fertilizing
 ✓ Good air movement and right temps
 Enjoy the journey!

♥ Orchids reward patience and observation. Learn, adjust, and enjoy! 🌸

AOS Corner



[April AOS Magazine](#)

Featured this Month

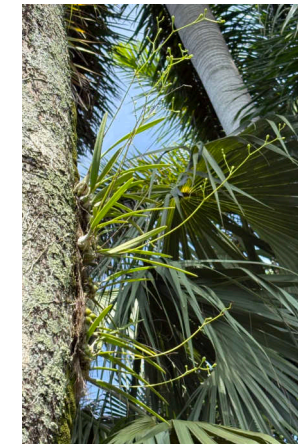
Our features this month include the second half of Heidi Kirkpatrick's article on the Grand Champion cymbidiums of the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, the second installment of Juraj Kojš' three-part series on Cattleya violacea hybrids, covering the developments of the 20th century, another armchair adventure following Stephen van Kampen-Lewis, Francisco Miranda and Chris Maupin on their Brazilian travels and an overview of Bulbophyllum section Plumata by Wolfgang Rysy.

Refreshment donations

We appreciate the wonderful food donations for our meetings.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Thank you: | Roger Boone |
| Justine Vishnesky | Glenda Connoly |
| Zoe Bejar | Doreen Christensen |
| Robert Romani | Keith London |
| Sona Peña | Carne Ackerman |
| Joan Connors | NormaGeen Flack |
| Karen Fleisher | Peppe Troche |
| John Soto | Bill Hinton |
| | Norma Jeane Flack |

Did you know?



Florida is home to at least 106 distinct native orchid species, the most in the United States. This accounts for over half of all orchid species native to the entire country, with dozens of them growing only in the southern region of the state. The most well known species are the butterfly orchid (*Encyclia tampensis*) and the endangered ghost orchid (*Dendrophylax lindenii*).

— **DOREEN CHRISTENSEN**
Conservation Chair

Advertisers

From Bloom to Bling - Shop Orchid Accessories
at
www.orchidique.com

Contact us:
info@orchidique.com
@Orchidique

Diana Waterous Centorino
Attorney at Law, P.A.
Also Member of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Washington, D.C. and Nebraska Bars

1230 Southeast 4th Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316-1912
Tel 954-462-7760
Fax 954-462-7761
DWC@dianawaterouscentorino.com

Olivier Turina, P.A.
Realtor, GRI
C 954-591-1487
OlivierFTL@gmail.com
3432 N Ocean Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308
Français • Italiano
Deutsch • Nederlands

Atlantic
PROPERTIES INTERNATIONAL

Blooming Wild

Limited Edition Orchid Prints
we do commissioned orchid prints
www.bloomingwild.online

MANLEY TREE SERVICE

Licensed and Insured
Certified Arborists
30+ years experience

Our Services

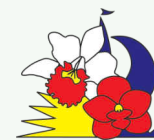
- Trimming
- Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Installation

954-566-7220
manleytrees.com

Norma Jeanne Flack D.O.
Board Certified Eye Surgeon

Glaucoma Specialist
Cataract & Laser Surgery
Oculoplastics
Eye Exams
Botox / Fillers

Cross Medical Building
2334 NE 53rd Street • Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308
954-776-0292



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 - 9:30PM

Location

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

[Google Map](#)

FLOS Officers

President - Len Emory

1st Vice President - Mary Jo Frick
(Programs)

2nd Vice President - Rich Ackerman
(Membership Chair)

Recording Secretary - Doreen Christensen

Corresponding Secretary - Justine Vishnesky

Treasurer - Olivier Turina

Past President - Luanne Betz

Board of Trustees

One Year Trustees

Roger Triplett

Karen Fleisher

Two Year Trustees

Gretchen Denton

Grace Boston

Three Year Trustees

Joan Connors

Bob Brach

AOS Representative - Joan Connors

Parliamentarian - Keith London

Newsletter Editor - Gretchen Denton

Keiki Chair - Karen Fleisher

Social Media - Gretchen Denton

Plant Raffle Table - Francisco Lambert and

Paul Gebrian

Webmaster - Luanne Betz

For a full list of FLOS Committees and Bios go to our website - [Committees List](#)