



THE KEIKI



Next meeting



Volume 32
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April 2024

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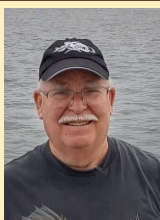
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Thanks to those who
have contributes to our
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April 13th and 14th, 2024: our annual AOS-judged orchid show to be held at St. Joan of Arc Church, 13485 Spring Hill Dr, Spring Hill, FL 34609. The theme is "Orchid Oasis". We will have many great vendors selling orchids, potting supplies, and orchid-related items. Don't miss it! No regular meeting.



President's Message

Hi Everyone!

It's only two weeks until our fabulous show on April 13th and 14th ! Things are coming together, and now we just need your help with our tables at the show (entry, membership and raffles), and **WE NEED YOUR PLANTS!!** We need at least 100 or more plants. Any orchid that has a pretty flower on it is acceptable, It need not be one that is suitable to win AOS awards. It might still win a ribbon, though. You just never know. The show is AOS-judged, and the judges will select plants they want to examine more closely.

Plant drop-off:

Please bring any plants you want to put into our display to the St. Joan of Arc church parish hall at 13485 Spring Hill Dr., Spring Hill, before 2:00PM on Friday April 12th. Please make sure each plant is clean, free of bugs and disease, and neatly groomed with the flowers staked if necessary. Put a label with YOUR name on the bottom or back of the pot or plant where it's inconspicuous. We will register them into our program, put a display tag on them with the plant name and exhibitor number, and place them into the exhibit. Please bring a list of your plants with you and give it to me when you drop them off. If you don't know the plant name, just show it as a hybrid. For example, "Phal. Hybrid – pink". Keep a copy of this list for yourself when you come to pick up the plants on Sunday, April 14th, at 4:00PM.

Plant pick-up:

Plant pickup this year will be a little different than what we have done previously. A few designated members will be inside the exhibit, carefully removing plants and calling out the owner's name. They will then pass you your plant. Owners will stay outside the exhibit. This is to prevent breakage and make sure each plant goes to its correct owner along with its ribbons and awards.

Next month, on May 18th, our next meeting will feature a repotting clinic. If you have a plant you'd like to repot or perhaps mount, bring it with you along with a suitable pot or mount and any medium you'd like to use. The club will provide some standard media that is good for most orchids in our area. We will also have Allan and Sonia Evans, from Garden Trails Orchid Supplies, at the meeting with a selection of pots, media, mounts, and whatever else you might need. If you don't have a plant to repot but would still like to learn how to do it, please come along and watch and learn! Watch next month's Keiki for details on what to bring with you.

Hope to see you all at the show. It's going to be fantastic!

Happy growing,

Matt

EXECUTIVE BOARD

OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Past President</u>	Steve Mattana
<u>1st Vice President</u>	Bob East
<u>2nd Vice President</u>	Susan Kimmel
<u>Treasurer</u>	Herbert May
<u>Executive Secretary</u>	Cheryl Crilly
<u>Recording Secretary for meetings</u> (not an elected position)	Cheryl Crilly
<u>Trustees</u>	Jeff Rundell
	Jeanne Montgomery

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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<u>Auction Chair</u>	Susan Kimmel
<u>Show Chair</u>	Bob East
<u>Bulletin (The Keiki)</u>	Denise Provencher
<u>E-mail Coordinator</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Historian</u>	Nancy Huff
<u>Membership</u>	Carol Siegley
<u>Publicity</u>	Gertie Messenger
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<u>Refreshment Reminders</u>	Annie Aierstock
<u>Show Table Report</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Speaker Segment Writer</u>	Denise Provencher
<u>Trips</u>	Volunteers please
<u>Webmaster</u>	Bob East
	(Website set up by Ken Dunn)
<u>AOS Representative</u>	Matt Riesz

NCOS speaker schedule through December 2024

Updated as of 04/01/2024

May 18th, 2024: We will hold a workshop on Repotting and Mounting Orchids

June 15th, 2024 Jim-N-I Orchids

July 20th, 2024. Nick, from Rusty Exotics will talk about growing Habenarias in Florida

August 17th, 2024. Annual NCOS orchid auction

September 7th, 2024. Saturday **Note this is a change from our normal meeting schedule.** Fred Clarke, of Sunset Valley Orchids in California will be our speaker

October 19th, 2024. Saturday— Annual NCOS picnic

November 16th, 2024. “Dendrobium anos-mum and its Relatives” talk will be presented by Jim Roberts, of Florida Sun-coast Orchids. Jim has been growing orchids over 30 years in climates ranging from cold Minnesota to hot SW Florida growing conditions. He has traveled extensively in search of orchid treasures in Hawaii, South America, & Europe, seeking the plants that will grow and bloom best for his clients. He will have orchids for sale.

December 14th, 2024. Annual Holiday Party

Membership Notes

by Carol Siegley

Carol Siegley has taken over handling membership information, and will be providing membership reports in the future.

We look forward to her contributions.

Thank you, Carol!



NATURE COAST ORCHID SOCIETY
Annual Show and Sale
"ORCHID OASIS"

APRIL 13TH – APRIL 14TH
 Saturday – 10 a.m. to 4 pm.
 Sunday – 10 a.m. to 4 pm.

American Orchid Society
 Judged Orchids on Display

ADMISSION \$5
FREE PARKING

www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com

Show Special

We will have 2 lectures per day:
 11:00AM and 1:00PM

Join NATURE COAST ORCHID SOCIETY
Membership Includes:
 Monthly Meetings 3rd Sat. ea. Month
 Expert Speakers Learning More About Orchids
www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com



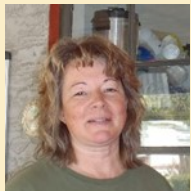
New Location – St. Joan of Arc Church
 13485 Spring Hill Dr., Spring Hill, FL 34609
 Corner of Spring Hill Dr. & Coronado Dr.
 About 1.5 miles West of FL-589.

Vendors:
 Accent Orchids * Garden Trails Orchid Supplies * Jim-N-I-Orchids * Orchids in Bloom
 Smiley Orchids * Lady Vanda Orchids * Florida Orchid House * Miranda Orchids *
 Plus more...

Growing and Flowering Better Cattleyas

With Speaker Courtney Hackney

Summarized by Denise Provencher



Professor Emeritus of Biology at UNF, speaker Courtney Hackney spoke about his favorite orchids, Cattleyas, at March's meeting. Courtney has been growing orchids for 57+ years, especially the old-time varieties.

Cattleyas are found in the New World, and the Caribbean. Plants can be a mere 1-2" tall, or up to 4 feet in height. The colors are endless. There are dozens of genera. Cattleyas are epiphytes, attaching themselves to what they are growing on. Some are lithophytes—growing on rocks. They have evolved to obtain critical needs of light, water, and nutrients from their environment. In nature, their roots systems are tremendous, and can be many feet long, and 10-12 times the size of a root mass of a potted plant. The plants rely on these extensive roots for attaching and feeding.

Courtney says he can leave his plants for several weeks unattended and unwatered, as the plants are able to survive just fine this way. In fact, if you are the type of gardener that wants to fuss, and water and fertilize your cattleyas every day, they are not the plant for you. If you forget to water your plants sometimes, you will have better success. Cattleyas are used to the dry seasons of their native environments. While water of course is the most important element the plants need, or they will perish, you don't want to create conditions where rot can occur either.

Courtney's watering tips:

If you are unsure if you should water, or think you've watered too much, then don't water today. They can easily go 3 or 4 weeks without water.

Use a coarse media that doesn't break down.

When watering, spray the water from the sides as well as from the top.

Fertilizing tips:

Cattleyas don't need much fertilizer. It is very easy to over-fertilize. Courtney uses 1/16th of the recommended dosage of any fertilizer.

Light is the source of energy for cattleyas, not fertilizer.

All orchids need Calcium (Ca) and Magnesium (Mg). A fertilizer of 8-3-13 NPR and 5-1 Ca/Mg is what he uses.

Do not use urea products. Bacteria and fungi love urea.

Salt build-up is one of the biggest killers, be sure to flush (watering with no fertilizer) on a very regular basis.

A Ph between 4.5 and 7 is good for cattleyas.

When you repot, don't water for a week or so to allow any wounds on the roots to heal before being exposed to moisture and any possible pathogens.

Other water mistakes:

Using softened water. Do not use.

Using ice. Don't use ice on your plants.

Not watering enough when you do water. Simply spritzing won't do it! The whitish coating on the cattleyas roots must darken when you water to show the moisture has actually reached the root itself.

The quality of water can be a problem. Get your water tested.

Overfertilizing, and neglecting to flush. Plants can get poisoned by fertilizer build-up.

Wrong media for your water.

Don't use sphagnum moss.

And finally:

Keep the original tag, taxonomy changes occasionally and having the original tag will help you keep track.

Know the type of environment your particular plants come from to match the proper care in your environment. Some cattleyas for example, come from areas with very long dry seasons, many months long, and the plants actually become shriveled before water returns.

Consider the type of roots the plant has. Very thin, fine roots may belong to rock-dwelling ancestors who had to probe deeply into rock crevices to find moisture. Big, thick roots come from drier environments, such as those growing on trees.

Remember plants metabolize differently depending on temperature and light. They need less water and fertilizer in cooler, shadier conditions, and more in warmer sunnier conditions.

St. Augustine Orchid Society has extensive tips from Courtney on its web page:

There is an amazing plethora of information here.

<https://staugorchidsociety.org/culture-monthly-tips.htm>

Past Speaker Segment — Delia Dunn June 2019



Male and Female Flowers on Same Catasetum Stem

By Delia Dunn with culture information from the internet.

The Catasetum orchid genus has unisexual flowers, either male or female (they look different); which type appears is controlled by the lighting. If grown in low lighting like a Phalaenopsis, male flowers will appear; if grown in high lighting like a Cattleya, they'll have female flowers. The two flower types look different, the male being more colorful and attractive and the female usually smaller, green and hooded. Other culture articles state *'Female flowers will often be produced when high light and low moisture is present, while male flowers are produced in shadier situation of higher moisture.'* And yet another article: *'Rarely do we get to see the female flowers because 90% of the time the plant produces male flowers, which is very fortunate for us growers, as the female flowers are downright ugly. Female flowers occur when the temperature rises higher than the norm while the plant is spiking and the flower buds are forming.'* (HEY, I LIKE THIS ONE!!)

It must be quite unusual but it is known to happen that both male and female flowers can appear on the same plant and even on the same stem. The plant shown on this page is my Catasetum tenebrosum. I've had it for years, lost the tag out of it and have never seen blooms with this coloring so the plant must never have bloomed for me. If I recall I had it stuck in the same pot as another Catasetum so believed it to be a Ctsm. pileatum Green Jade x sibling. Last winter I took it out of the pot, kept it dry all winter and didn't expect anything really from it as the bulb was very small. It received low lighting (in my winter vinyl room) and no moisture at all on the old bare roots. Then it received high light when the sun moved

around to the winter room and in the Spring when I saw a stem growing, there was also leaf growth of about 3" so I stuck it in the plastic pot with brand new sphagnum moss and put it outside on the bench where it would get lots of water. I want to say it was not fertilized but I normally layer fertilizer beads in sphagnum for Catasetums, so likely that is the case.

I'm very excited about my miracle plant and have taken many pictures and also on the next page I have 3 pictures of Catasetums each with male and female flowers and you can easily see why the male flowers are more in demand.



Delia's Catasetum tenebrosum

Catasetums have large, thick pseudobulbs about a foot long or somewhat longer, with a fan of thin, veined leaves. Each year's pseudobulb will be bigger than the previous one if you're keeping the plant happy.

Flower stems emerge from the side of the pseudobulb above one of the leaves. One or two flower stems is most typical, with one to a couple dozen flowers each, depending on species.

They need a long dry rest after flowering to prevent rot; you'll know it's time for this when the leaves drop. During this time, water only the bare

minimum needed to keep the pseudobulb from shriveling too much, such as every 3 weeks or so. But once new growth begins and roots are a couple inches long, you should be watering more normally, as the potting mix approaches dryness. Fertilize well during the active growing season, as the plant doesn't get a chance to be fertilized during its dry rest.

They like humidity of 50-70%. Also provide warm temperatures, 75-80°F during the day, dropping 10-15°F at night.

Repot just as new growth is beginning at the end of the dry rest. Sphagnum moss and fine fir bark work well as potting mixes for these epiphytes. Many growers like to divide these orchids at this time, usually leaving one pseudobulb from the previous season in each pot.

Delia's Ctsm. tenebrosum



Photos: Bryon Provencher

March meeting



Photos: Matt Riesz from posts in Nature Coast Orchid Society Facebook page



Brsdm. Kenneth Bivin 'Santa Barbara' HCC-AOS



C. Guatemalensis



C. mossiae 'Willowbrook' FCC-AOS



Paph. St. Swithin



Den. aphyllum



Cym. Hybrid



Den. aggregatum



Den. Angel Moon 'Love Letter'



Den. delicatum



Grt. Why Not



Max. tenuifolia



Rchg. Alexandra Kontos 'Bredren's Sunset'



Photos by Nancy Huff
Speaker Courtney Hackney
(above)

Show tables



NCOS Show Table 3-16-2024

Plant Name	Grower
C. Traveling Star x C. Colorama	Dan Grant
Den. aggregatum (lindleyi)	Randy Dugan
Den. Sakura 'Hime'	Matt Riesz
Den. aphyllum	Jeff Rundell
Den. aggregatum (lindleyi)	Jeff Rundell
Phal. Greenfield 'Red Zuul' x Phal. Sogo Metal	Ken Mort
Phal. Greenfield 'Red Zuul' x Phal. Sogo Metal	Ken Mort
Phal. Greenfield 'Red Zuul' x Phal. Sogo Metal	Ken Mort
Phal. Greenfield 'Red Zuul'	Ken Mort
Den. Red Emperor	Ken Mort
Phal. Hybrid	Ken Mort
C. mossiae 'Willowbrook' FCC/AOS	C. Villaroel
C. Snowblind 'Carlos Villaroel' AM/AOS ('Kenny' x 'Lea')	C. Villaroel
Max. tenuifolia	Ken Mort
Paph. St. Swithin	Ken Mort
Rlc. Burdekin Wonder 'Lakeland'	Bella Roberts
Onc. Twinkle 'Red Fire'	Bella Roberts
Den. delicatum	Bella Roberts
Rlc. Royal Digs	Matt Riesz
Den. Red Senator 'Maxim'	Matt Riesz
Den. Angel Moon 'Love Letter'	Matt Riesz
Guaritonia Why Not	Bella Roberts
Brassidium Kenneth Bivin 'Santa Barbara' HCC/AOS	Matt Riesz
Cymbidium Hybrid	Matt Riesz
C. guatemalensis (naturally occurring hybrid of C. aurantiaca and C. skinneri)	Susan Kimmel
Rchg. Alexandra Kontos 'Bredren's Sunset'	Susan Kimmel

New editor submission information:

Please send all your regular monthly Keiki contributions to: deemail@tampabay.rr.com by the end of the month to be included in the next month's Keiki.

All members are welcome to send items to the editor.

Send photos of your orchids, go ahead, show them off!

Let us know of any shows or events that members would be interested in attending.

Tips, hacks, and great ideas on orchid growing are always appreciated.



The Miami Beach Orchid Society is thrilled to announce our first-ever Orchids & Arts Festival, a celebration of the beauty and artistry of orchids. This inaugural event promises to be a spectacular gathering of orchid lovers, artists, and enthusiasts alike, showcasing the diverse array of orchid species and the creative expressions they inspire.

Should you have any questions or require further information about the Orchids & Arts Festival, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are more than willing to provide any details or assistance necessary to facilitate our collaboration.

Thank you for considering our proposal, and we look forward to the possibility of working together to make the Orchids & Arts Festival a truly memorable and successful event for all.

Warm regards,

Jeannette Dorfman

Correspondence Secretary

Miami Beach Orchid Society

<https://miamibeachorchidsociety.com/>

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 Botanical Garden, 2000 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>

Many Thanks to all the orchid growers that
donated plants to help make our annual auction
a success

Accent Orchids, St. Petersburg

St. Pete Orchid Farm, St. Petersburg

Orchids In Bloom, Apopka

Ecuagenera, Apopka

Smiley Orchids, Clermont

Florida Suncoast Orchids, Myakka City

Palmer Orchids, Sarasota