



# The Keiki



Volume 20 April 2012 Issue

April 14, 2012

## OFFICERS

President:

Dave Dobson  
352-683-2767  
[davetheorchidaddict@gmail.com](mailto:davetheorchidaddict@gmail.com)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

Geary Harris  
727-856-0222  
[bibleman1948@yahoo.com](mailto:bibleman1948@yahoo.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

Sonia Terrelonge  
352-684-5810  
[sewingmom1@bellsouth.net](mailto:sewingmom1@bellsouth.net)

Treasurer:

Helen Battistrada  
352-597-0380

Executive Secretary:

Pat Dupke  
727-856-3485  
[pdupke@aol.com](mailto:pdupke@aol.com)

Recording Secretary:

Sue Caparbi-Taylor  
352-688-1463  
[scaparbi@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:scaparbi@tampabay.rr.com)

Membership:

Yvonne Allen  
352-238-1144  
[yallen1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:yallen1@tampabay.rr.com)

Publicity/Librarian:

Linda Roderick  
352-597-3736  
[lmroderick@earthlink.net](mailto:lmroderick@earthlink.net)

Historian:

Linda Hindman



Sue Caparbi-Taylor

## Autobiography of Sue Caparbi-Taylor

Born and raised in Trenton, NJ, I moved to Florida in 2007. I have always had a green thumb and while browsing a plant store 25 years ago, I first discovered my love of orchids. The blooms were beautiful. I bought one and promptly killed it. I tried again and had trouble getting the orchid to bloom. They all seemed to die no matter what I did so I stopped buying them. I continued to take care of my outdoor vegetable & flower gardens, which flourished.

When I moved to Florida five years ago I discovered I couldn't grow anything down here. Everything I tried to grow died. I purchased an ascocenda 'red robin' orchid at one of the orchid shows at the Slovene Club and hung it out by the pool. The blooms

reminded me of hyacinth flowers from up North. I performed research on the internet and read books. This plant seemed to take off. It bloomed 3 or 4 times through out the year & had 2 keikis on it. I call that ascocenda 'old faithful' because it blooms at least 3 times a year. I met my friend Jeanne thru our husbands; they both belong to the Hernando County Fishing Club. She also had an interest in orchids & suggested we go to a meeting at the Orchid Lovers Club of Spring Hill, which she saw in the paper. We both joined at the next meeting. Now I have 24 hanging orchids (mostly miniatures) and 14 planted in my yard. Three of my orchids in the ground are still blooming and one getting ready to bloom. My husband was nice enough to build a small greenhouse for the winter by wrapping plastic around a four

*Continued on page 3*

Orchid Lovers Club of Spring Hill Founded May 21, 1992

### Treasure's Report

By Helen Battistrada, *Treasure*

Balance 2/18/12	\$ 3226.47
Receipts	\$ <u>586.00</u>
Total	\$ 3812.47
Disbursements	\$ <u>431.08</u>
Balance 2/18.21	\$ 3381.39

### The Presidents Message

By Dave Dobson

Well the show is behind us and I think we had a successful festival this year from all I have heard, preliminary figures have us coming out in the black again this year. It seemed to be a steady influx of people to look at everything and to spend their money. Even with the economy in its current state it seems people were able to find some money to come out and buy some orchids, I have heard the way to a man's bill fold was through his hobby and this weekend proved that.

Now we are in the growing season and plants are starting to bloom, I find going out to the greenhouse there is always something new in bloom or bud. I love it when we have something to look at showing off it's beauty. I find nothing more relaxing than sitting and just plane watching the plants grow, I think that they give off an aroma that promotes relaxation and calm. This is what we are in this hobby for, isn't it?

Ed is doing his usual fine job of finding some good and informative programs for our monthly meetings and we should all thank him and tell him how much we enjoy what we have, we will sure miss him when he goes to Panama.

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### Upcoming Speaker Program

by Ed Bugbee

Program Coordinator

April Speaker TBA

I have confirmed Jack Batchelor from Paradise Orchids as our speaker May 19th.

He will talk about Care of Orchids, Cattleya + mostly Cats but some others and will take question on all orchids.

### ORCHID LOVERS' CLUB OF SPRING HILL MINUTES OF THE MEETING MARCH 17, 2012

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Geary Harris called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.
- Old business:
- Geary Harris passed around a sign up sheet for help with the Orchid Festival. He still needs workers. Set up is Friday, 3/23, from 8am – 2pm, the show is from 10am – 4pm on Saturday 3/24 & 10am – 3pm on Sunday, 3/25.
- Pat Dupke passed around the sign up sheet for food for the festival. Hot food was still needed for Saturday.
- Yvonne Allen asked if members would please sign in when they arrive to the meetings until she gets to know everyone.
- All dues must be paid by March 25, 2012, or your name will be removed from the roster & you will not receive a Keiki.
- New business:
- Sonia Terrelonge is planning a trip in the near future.
- Three people are needed for a nominating committee.
- Break.
- Show table.
- Jeff Rundell spoke about orchids & gave a slide show presentation.
- Al Fiore held a special raffle for the Orchid Wiz CD.
- The regular raffle was held.
- Meeting adjourned at 3:12 pm.

Minutes submitted by Sue Caparbi-Taylor

### Membership

By Yvonne Allen,

Membership Coordinator

62 Paid members.

March Meeting Attendance

33 Members.

0 Guest.

44 dues paying members to date.

**Newsletter Deadline** is the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. Forward newsletter submissions to:

[The.Keiki@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:The.Keiki@tampabay.rr.com)

Or

Judy Smith, Editor

7918 W flight Path Ct

### New Member

Please welcome as our newest club member;

Olivia Haaland  
1204 Staten Ave  
Spring Hill, FL 34609  
352-200-6213

Pat Baig  
3367 Gator Trail  
Brooksville FL 34604  
352-797-0963

Our meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of each month starting at 1:00 P.M. We usually have an informative speaker at each meeting, a show table of orchids grown by our members and orchids for sale.

We meet at the Partners Club of Oak Hill Hospital, 11375 Cortez

### Things My Mother Taught Me.

My mother taught me  
FORESIGHT...

"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."

### Refreshment Reminder

By Eleanor Szarzynski,  
Refreshment Coordinator  
352-688-3887  
April  
Donna Frazekas  
Judy Smith  
Connie Revoir  
Delia Dunn, soft drinks

### *The Presidents Message from page 2*

I want to thank those who brought out all the beautiful flowers for display, we almost ran out of room on the four tables we had set up. It proves what great growers you all are and what a variety of plants you all have. I did not get around to bring any out and I do not think they were missed.

Happy growing and see you at the April meeting.

### *Autobiography from page 1*

foot shelf with a tray of pebbles for humidity & a light for warmth. They don't need to be brought in the house on those chilly nights anymore and I already have 3 more that are sending out flower spikes.

Throughout my five years of orchid growing, I have found that my favorite is the Vandaceous species, they are so easy to care for, and my least favorite is the Paphiopedilum species, for some reason they just don't appeal to me. I look forward to many more years of growing orchids.

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### GUEST SPEAKER SEGMENT - by Delia Dunn



Jeff Rundell

One of our most interesting speakers was Jeff Rundell, who spoke to us last month. He has been one of our illustrious members for the past year and a half. Before he began he had the membership interact by answering a 13-point quiz to which we all should have known the answers as they had been facts that we'd heard from previous speakers, and which information would have been in the Keiki. We don't know who won because we were not asked to confess; then Jeff had us identify contents of plastic pots full of orchid medium. Apparently there were 8 types or was it 9, inside each one. Mine only

had 7!!

Jeff had three books that he highly recommended to those of us wanting more history and adventure and those were *Orchid Fever* by Eric Hansen; *Orchid Thief* by Susan Orlean; *An Enthusiasm for Orchids* by John Alcock.

How do you know you're an orchid addict? Well Jeff answered that with 10 suitable answers. And then he told us of his experience moving his plants down from up north. (see Jeff's personal story in the September 2011 issue)

So far Jeff has taken two trips to Costa Rica, one to Belize and two to Panama, not specifically for orchids, but he is fascinated by tropical ecosystems, which are the oldest and most stable on our planet. Orchids in such areas are not hanging off every branch as people might think, nor are they in continuous bloom, so it's the "big picture" that draws Jeff to such places - tropical ecosystems with orchids as a component. Not only is he a Biology teacher of many years, he has many deep thoughts on the subject of orchids, probably making him a philosopher also! He questions everything about them - how they got to be the way they are, how they

## From the desk of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Geary Harris

I would just like to thank all our faithful workers for their time and tireless effort, without you we wouldn't have had such a great show including:

Yvonne Allen, Helen Battistrada, Barbara Brillinger, Ed & Lynn Bugbee, Sue Caparbi-Taylor, Laurie Ciannamea, Pat Dupke, Bob East, Doug Feingold, Al Fiore, Jerry & Sara Hart, Linda Hindman, Lois & Ruth Jensen, Carolyn Monroe, Linda Roderick, Jeff Rundell, Judy & Tim Smith, Dale Story, Sonia Terrelonge and our President, Dave Dobson, who had the patience to let me run the show. If you helped and I forgot to mention your name, please forgive me. Great job, looking forward to doing a better show next year.

Geary Harris

~~~~~<>~~~~~



Our Greeters  
Richard Ratajczak & Jerry Hart



Show Chairman  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Geary Harris



The Driving Force L to R  
Lois Jensen, Sonia Terrelonge (back)  
Linda Roderick, Carolyn Monroe.

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*GUEST SPEAKER from page 3*

are different and what is the reason for their differences and what makes man mad for them. Some of these questions are what Jeff spoke about and he included a picturesque slide presentation of some highlights of trips to Belize and Costa Rica.

There are 25,000 species of orchids, which are the most diverse plants on earth - to identify an orchid you need to know there are 3 sepals and 3 petals of course, which are common to lots of plants but what is specifically different with orchids is their LIP, which is often modified to serve as a receptacle for nectar and as a lure for the particular pollinator the plant wants to attract and therefore the pollinator needs to be specific for each type of lip. One change to the lip could mean the pollinator would have to be different.



He talked about Intergeneric orchids, which are the result of crossing two different genera together, and using examples of animals which are probably easier for most of us to understand (ie.) Crosses between different genera (such as between sheep and goats) are known as *intergeneric* hybrids. In the orchid world, Miltassia (Mtssa.) is a hybrid between the genus Miltonia and the genus Brassia. In addition, there can be more than two genus for example a trigeneric of Brasso-laelio-cattleya or The Mokara orchid which is a trigeneric hybridized from Ascocentrum, Vanda and Arachnis orchids. Jeff pointed out the Iwanagaara Appleblossom belonging to a member, which is a cross between genera Brassavola, Cattleya, Diacrium and Laelia. He explained that orchids have the flexibility to make these intergeneric crosses due to what is called 'genetic drift' which affects their outcome. *Genetic drift or allelic drift is the change in the frequency of a gene variant*

Orchid Lovers Club of Spring Hill Founded May 21, 1992

**Club Display**  
By Carolyn Monroe

We were finished with the display and were trying to decide what to do with ribbons. Helen had left us the box and we were trying to remember what was done last year. Everyone present thought it would be nice to have ribbons awarded and Joyce Fowler of Joy Orchids said she would love to do it and asked Betty Burkam of B & D if she would like to do it with her. They seemed to have a lot of fun picking the winners. At the end they said they would like to give the Best to the whole group of Appleblossoms as a group Best of Festival.

**Festival Ribbons:**

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Cattleya:</b><br/>1. Jackfowlieara Appleblossom<br/>'Yellow Star'<br/>Carol Monroe<br/>2. Laeliacattleya 'Orange Nugget'<br/>Lois Jensen<br/>3. Blc. Carolina Golden D'or<br/>Linda Hindman</p>   | <p><b>Dendrobium:</b><br/>1. Dendrobium aphyllum<br/>Jerry Hart<br/>2. Dendrobium Lucky Angel Smash<br/>Linda Roderick<br/>3. Dendrobium Yellow Song 'Canary'<br/>Carol Monroe</p>  | <p><b>Misc. and Paphapedelium:</b><br/>1. Coel. Parisaii<br/>Linda Roderick<br/>2. Paph. deedmeraiaum<br/>Linda Roderick<br/>3. Paph. Hysinying Ruby Web<br/>??</p>   |
| <p><b>Phalaenopsis:</b> There were many Phal. Entries and 2 ribbons were given for each place<br/>1. Dtps. Taiwan Red Cat<br/>Linda Hindman<br/>1. Phalaenopsis Brother Oconee<br/>Yvonne Allen<br/>2. Dtps Sogoyelin<br/>Dale Story<br/>2. Noid (No Identification)<br/>Phalaenopsis<br/>Barb Brillinger<br/>3. Phalaenopsis Dorothy Applegate<br/>Pat Dupke<br/>3. Noid Phalaenopsis<br/>Yvonne Allen</p> | <p>1. Brassia Rex 'Sakata'<br/>Dale Story<br/>2. Odtnameemaria marta<br/>Linda Roderick<br/>3. Oncidium Spacelatum<br/>Al Fiore<br/>Rosette for Best in Festival was given to a group of Jackfowlieara Appleblossoms<br/>Carol Monroe</p> | <p><i>(allele) in a population due to random sampling.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Continued on page 5</i></p> <p><i>GUEST SPEAKER from page 3</i><br/><b>Jeff</b> pointed out that orchids have a very efficient method of reproduction and are bizarrely sexual plants using various methods to attract pollinators. Over 40% of orchids offer no reward to pollinators and have the ability to trick them with deception rather than</p> |

putting energy into rewards like nectar or pollen. Some use food deception. They might produce flowers that look or smell like food, but offer no edible reward. Other orchids use sexual deception. They produce flowers that look or smell like female insects, like bees or wasps. Males are drawn to the sexy flowers and attempt to mate with it. In doing so, they accidentally collect pollen on their bodies, which fertilizes the next orchid they visit. Some even torture their pollinators and

one good example would be the 'bucket' orchid.\*

Unlike plants that have large seeds and put a lot of energy into them to insure survival, orchids do not. But they have the ability to produce thousands of micro seeds that can make contact with *mycorrhizal fungus* which in turn stimulates the growth of seedlings with specific nutrients. The fungus benefits also in that it can take energy from the orchid during photosynthesis. That is called *symbiosis*, a mutually beneficial relationship between the two. Plants are incredibly busy and complex organisms that are each responsive to their conditions. Many orchids are found in habitats where there may not be enough light to produce chlorophyll and these orchids depend on specific mycorrhizal fungal symbionts to supply them with food in order to grow. Other orchids have the ability to manufacture their own food in a complex process of *photosynthesis* by using energy

## April In Your Orchids

Based on AOS monthly checklists by Robert Scully and Ned Nash & James Rose, adapted to St. Augustine by local growers.  
Re-printed by permission of the St. Augustine Orchid Society

### General Orchid Growing Tips

This is one of the most exciting months of the year, filled with an abundance of flower spikes emerging. It's the beginning of the long growing season, enabling us to provide our plants with the foundation for maximum flower production in the next flowering season. Increase water and fertilizer as the days lengthen and warm to yield floral dividends in the months beyond. Consider adding an additional 30% shade cloth to protect plants from the intense summer sun and heat.

### Cattleyas

*C. aclandiae* and *C. forbesii* produce flowers that last for weeks. *C. mossiae* and its hybrids are well known for their spectacular, long lasting heads of 6 in blossoms that provide an abundance of flowers. Begin the annual repotting cycle by shifting and dividing those cattleyas that flowered earlier this year and are beginning to produce new growth. Typically you should repot only when the new growth is emerging to take advantage of the plant's tendency to make new roots when it is forming new pseudobulbs.

### Encyclias

*Enc. cordigera* should be blooming profusely now. The spicy fragrance will last for several weeks. Consider shifting it to a wooden basket when flowering is complete.

### Cymbidiums

If you have more than one or two brown leaves, you may have a cultural problem. If the plant is loose in its pot, the mix has degraded and the plant should be repotted. If the plant is firm in its pot, it is asking for more fertilizer.

### Phalaenopsis

Moth orchids are in their prime, boasting arching and branching sprays of beautiful flowers. Most growers don't spray chemicals on blooming phals so check for signs of pests like scale or mites that you can spot treat with alcohol.

### Vandas

Vandas are entering into their growth period and you should see an abundance of new rootlets. Locate them where they get bright bright light (though not direct light) and plenty of fresh air. Increase water and fertilizer to fuel their growth, they'll reward you later in the season with abundant blooms. Water them two or three times a day with an automated spray system or water wand and apply fertilizer either before watering or after roots dry off a bit.

from the sun, to break down water and carbon dioxide molecules into sugars and oxygen. Some ground-

*Continued on page 6*

*GUEST SPEAKER from page 5*

### Upcoming Biography's

May  
Pat Dupke

June  
Connie Revoir

July  
You

dwelling species have green leaves that use chlorophyll to produce food. Some orchids that grow on trees (epiphytic) have no leaves but have chlorophyll in their exposed roots.

Jeff gave us a quote about nature being cruel and heartless but for organisms like orchids that have won our favor, the s

truggle is over. Now the question is, do we control our orchids or do our orchids control us?

**H**is presentation was followed with a few slides of pictures he took while he and his wife were in Belize. They spent time with the Mayan Indians who he describes as being lovely people; they had beautiful views of their drive south with the citrus groves on one side and the ocean on the other; the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary & Jaguar Preserve, an untouched and natural place where they saw jaguars wandering around. Jeff told us some stories of the jaguars and had great pictures up close. He mentioned

Orchid Lovers Club of Spring Hill Founded May 21, 1992

*GUEST SPEAKER from page 6*

reading the adventure book 'Jaguar' by Roland Smith.

In Costa Rica they went on a beautiful wooded trail into the Monteverde Cloud Forest; and to the coast near Osa Peninsula which is a primitive paradise of rain forests, empty beaches, and backwater settlements and to a park near Osa and it's 8 miles of beach that is known for whale watching; They heard the Arenal volcano gurgling and rumbling in the distance. They saw a sloth in a tree eating vegetation; tiny Bulbophyllums; a Cashew Apple from which they make beer; a large Capybara, which is the largest rodent in the world still in existence. He had photos of a large Kapok tree covered in bromeliads and termites doing their damage to a large tree; and a Giant Walking Stick insect which scared his wife in bed one night and I know we all sympathized with her looking at it, however, they are only plant eaters. There were pictures of leaf cutter ants\*, which cultivate fungus for food from fresh vegetation and in enormous numbers can literally destroy all the leaves on a tree overnight. Squirrel Monkeys that are seen late at night and early morning, known for their growling and throwing things; we saw pictures of a local market where beautiful wares and baskets were displayed. The natives make their dugout boats each entirely from a tree that has been scraped out and there was a picture of quite a large boat they'd made; a picture of a Tapir; and a Golden Frog that is a critically endangered toad that is endemic to Panama and has very sensitive skin - the frogs communicate with each other by hand signals. A beautiful picture of tree ferns ended the presentation and a Hawaiian sunset.



*The slides gave us an idea of the adventures that await those of us who would like to visit these tropical places. Thank you, Jeff, for a very interesting talk!*

*There are websites about all the above subjects. Following are just three:*

\* 'Genetic Drift' for which Wikipedia has a wonderful explanation (it seemed to me). [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic\\_drift](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic_drift)

\* The physical and mental tortures of the Euglossine bees: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coryanthes>

\* The fungus making antics of the leaf cutter ants on video: [http://www.nsf.gov/news/special\\_reports/science\\_nation/leafcutterants.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/science_nation/leafcutterants.jsp)

**To All Orchid Club Members,**

We want to thank all of the members who so kindly donated food items for our 2012 orchid festival and to those members who helped out in the kitchen and setting up the tables for our lunches. Thanks again.

Pat and Barb

Show Table

The show table featured many beautiful orchids this month. All who brought there favorite plant to showcase for the rest of us are to be commended for there efforts. If you have and outstanding orchid you would like to share with the rest of the club, I encourage you to bring it in for all to see. \* Denotes ribbon won.

| Owner/yrs grower           | Genus        | Plant Name                   | Age of plant |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Dale Story (15 Yrs)        | V. *         | Roberts Delight              | 6 Mo         |
|                            | phal. *      | Unknown                      | ?            |
|                            | C.           | Blc. Lucky Strike 'Wanthong' | ?            |
|                            | Mtdm.        | Bartley Schwarz 'Highland'   | 1 Yr         |
|                            | Den. Noble * | Amphyllum                    | 5 Mo         |
|                            | Iana.        | Appleblossom                 | 4 Mo         |
| Sherry Preston (3 Yrs)     | Den. *       | Aggregatum                   | 3 Yrs        |
| Delia Dunn (2 Yrs)         | Den.         | Aggregatum                   | 2 Yrs        |
| Sue Caparbi-Taylor (5 Yrs) | Tlmna.       | Freckle Face                 | 2 Yrs        |
| Judy Smith (11 Yrs)        | Pot. *       | Tropical Orange Apricosa     | 11 Yrs       |

**FIELD TRIP, SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2012**

*By Sonia Terrelonge*

The Field Trip planned by the club will have the following itinerary and will depart Leave the Partner's Club at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions or need to coordinate a ride, please call me at 352-684-5810.

**First Stop**

Joy Orchids (cash of check only please)

6060 Casson St.

Brooksville, FL 34604

She will have snacks for us. Leave at approximately 11:00 a.m.

**Second stop - 11:30 a.m.**

Everlast Orchids (cash only please)

17019 Us Highway 41

Spring Hill, FL 34610 Leave approximately 12:30 p.m.

**Third stop - 2:00 p.m.**

Touch of Orchids and More (cash of check only please)

9418 Penrose Court

New Port Richey, FL 34654

They will have facilities for us to have our lunch. We will bring our lunch and they will provide drinks.

They will have supplies. They also carry species and miniatures.

Leave approximately 3:30 p.m. for Partner's Club.

|  |      |  |  |
|--|------|--|--|
|  | C. * |  |  |
|--|------|--|--|

Aurartiacca

8 Yrs

The Keiki

7918 Flight Path Ct. W

Crystal River, FL 34429

Sue Caparbi-Taylor  
9299 Dunkirk Road  
Spring Hill, FL 34608

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