

The Keiki



Volume 23

February 2014 Issue

February 7, 2014

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FESTIVAL OF ORCHIDS

presented by The Orchid Lovers Club of Spring Hill

Saturday March 29, 10AM - 4PM

Sunday March 30, 10AM - 3PM

Suncoast Dance Hall (SNPJ Lodge)

13383 County Line Rd.- Spring Hill

ORCHID displays, vendor sales, supplies,
potting booth and help

Free parking - \$ 2 donation for entry

Hourly orchid raffle

Directions: 3 miles east of Mariner on County Line Rd.

or 2.3 miles west of US 41 on County Line Rd. or

589 Pkwy. exit County line go west .5m

Call 352-503-7858 or 727-856-0222

for information





Treasure's Report

By

Helen Battistrada

Balance 11/14/13	\$ 5783.98
Receipts	\$ <u>270.00</u>
Total	\$ 6053.98
Disbursements	\$ <u>987.86</u>
Balance 01/18/13	\$ 5066.12



Upcoming Speaker Program

By Ed Bugbee,
Program Coordinator

February

Glenn Gross of Gross Orchids, LLC
Topic; Orchid mounting .
He will have plants and supplies for sale.

March

Member Gary Gethen will give an in-depth presentation on how to prepare your orchids for display at a show or just for your own viewing pleasure.

Membership



By Linda Meyer & Sarah Hart
Membership Coordinators

As of December

90 Paid members.

39 Members September attendance

9 Guest

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 11361 Cortez Blvd Cortez Blvd. Brooksville, Florida

ORCHID LOVERS' CLUB OF SPRING HILL MINUTES OF THE MEETING JANUARY 18, 2014

President, Geary Harris, called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm. He welcomed everyone with a Happy New Year. There were 39 members present, 9 guests, 3 of whom became members: Bruce and Jennifer Ristich from Spring Hill and Patti Helmly from Bayonet Point.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Helen Battistrada gave a 3-months report starting 10/10/13 with a balance of \$2,878.01 and receipts totaling \$3,773.50 less Disbursements of \$1,585.39, leaving a total of \$5,056.12. Membership dues for the year are due now.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Geary announced dates of **March 29th and 30th** for our show this year with set up on the 28th. Jeff Rundell will be Co-Chair with Donna Fazekas, Vice President. Jeff announced all arrangements have been made with the SNPJ Hall and signup sheets will be passed around for help. Areas they will need help are in the kitchen serving food, set up and take down of the display area, and hosts who would walk around being friendly to people and inviting them to one of our meetings as well as welcoming at the front door. There are 60 color flyers made up and Jeff asked us all to take one to pass out.

One of our members, Jeffery Mees, announced that he had just gotten a license to sell orchids and supplies. He did bring for sale some lovely wood mounts that he'd made - one of them he gave to the club for the raffle table. Thank you, Jeffery!! Information about his new business will be forthcoming.

Pat Dupke will give her usual excellent service in the kitchen and announced that **Friday the 28th**, the day of set-up, the Club will serve sandwiches only, with drinks. She will pass out a sign up sheet for volunteers to bring food.

Saturday the 29th she plans on having various interesting salads including pasta salads and veggies, which members are asked to make and there will be no hot food this year. She had printed out various recipes and members were asked to select one to make. The food will be only for members and vendors. **Sunday the 30th** will be leftovers, again for members and vendors.

Gary Gethen gave a brief talk on how to prepare plants for our show.

OLD BUSINESS: Helen delivered two orders of T-shirts which had names and Club logo applied.

REFRESHMENT BREAK AND JUDGING OF THE SHOW TABLE. (2 guests volunteered to be judges).

SHOW TABLE winners were announced by knowledgeable and enthusiastic guest, Bruce Narkiewicz of Spring Hill. He was a grower in the Miami area for 30 years, and loves orchids! Blue ribbons were given to those judged the nicest or

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A Reminder To All Club Members

Helen Battistrada reminds all club members that the 2014 club dues were due in January and will be continue to be collected at the February 15th, 2014 meeting.

Or you may mail your dues to;

Helen Battistrada
10355 Woodland Waters Blvd
Brooksville, FL 34613

Dues: Single membership \$17.00
Joint membership \$25.00.



A Reminder From Pat Dupke

Just a reminder that the sign-up sheet for our show food list will be available at our February 15th meeting. Your contributions are greatly appreciated since we provide lunch for our vendors and club members who are working. If there are any questions don't hesitate to contact me at (727)856-3485.

Thanks,
Pat

Show Dates

March 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

(Minutes continued from page 2)

best grown plants.

SPEAKER was member, Don Grill, Georgia State Master Gardner and Past President of several orchid societies.

RAFFLE tickets had been sold by **Richard** and drawing was held; there were several winners. Linda Meyer, Membership Chairman, held an incentive drawing for members who had remembered to sign in when they arrived.



ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by Delia Dunn in the absence of Sue Caparbi-Taylor.

SPEAKER SEGMENT - by Delia Dunn

Don Grill, a member of our Club has 30 years' orchid experience and has been Past President of different orchid societies.

This includes much experience with speaking engagements not only within orchid clubs but The Master Gardeners of Central Georgia and The Georgia National Fair, among others.



He worked in a commercial orchid/bromeliad nursery, was a plant broker and had his own orchid maintenance company. He provided clients with routine maintenance, fertilization, repotting, irrigation, and other necessary services. Don demonstrated many tools of the trade that he has acquired over the years. Some that have been purchased and many that have been homemade to facilitate the hobby of gardening, be it orchids or otherwise. His topic was entitled "Don's Tool Time" and it was just that, starting with a **large bucket**

with a fitted lid. What a great idea! Drill several holes on only one side of the lid. Soak your media in water in the bucket to prepare it and to clean out the dust and debris, then close the lid and drain off the water and the media is left in the bucket all ready to use for potting.

Don uses **clay pots** for outdoors rather than plastic, and told us that when clay pots are made, there are hundreds of tiny holes in the clay that you can't see, and when moisture is dried out in the kiln, the holes are naturally filled with air. Place water in that bucket and place the clay pot in the water and let it soak for a bit and the holes will be filled with water instead of air. At which point your orchid can go

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The Presidents Message

By Geary Harris

Our show is only two months away and our club needs to spread the news to your neighbor and friends.

Put the flyer in stores, workplaces, other clubs. If you were not able to get a show flyer at our last meeting. You can go to our website; orchidclubofspringhill.com or print one out of our next Keiki.

I believe this could our best show ever if, we all put fourth the effort.

See you in February.



Refreshment Reminder

By

Eleanor Szarzynski,
Refreshment Coordinator
352-688-3887

February

Dorothy Szwec
Laurie Ciannamea
Janet Urling

Soft Drinks

Jennie Cricchio
Sue Caparbi-Taylor

(Speaker continued from page 3)

into a damp pot with damp medium rather than have the pot and medium dry and suck moisture out of the plant.

It is difficult to **remove a Cattleya** from a clay pot as the roots adhere to the dry clay. Soaking the entire plant for a few hours first in water helps to remove the roots from the pot.

Don produced a **tool box** that he can carry anywhere, which contained everything he could possibly want for orchid culture. First were the **pliers** to cut or bend wire, **wire cutters**, a piece of **rebar** to tamp down medium in the pot and a **diamond sharpener** to sharpen scissors, pruners or knives.

To sanitize your tools you can use **liquid bleach** but he feels a **torch** works better. And he had a torch in that tool box! You need wire to tie your plants and he finds **telephone wire** is useful in that you can withdraw small wires from a larger wire. Cheap to make if you can get the telephone wire. He also uses **green wire** for tying, from the Dollar Stores.

He had **leather gloves** in his tool box for heavy work with thorns but he likes the disposable **nitrile gloves** made of synthetic rubber, for more feel when working with his orchids. A **toothbrush with a rubber tip** is a great tool to remove dead scale from your leaves, that with **alcohol**. **Two different kinds of scissors, pruning shears, an anvil type and a bypass type** are good for orchids - cheap ones work OK for him.

Tags are important to identify your plants, and the best thing to write on tags besides the name of the plant, is a **#2 pencil** and therefore a **pencil sharpener** is

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Please welcome our newest members;

Bruce and Jennifer Ristich
9332 Belvedere St
Spring Hill, FL 34608
636-357-5401
bruce.retired@yahoo.com

Patricia (Patti) Helmly
7511 Rocky Point Dr
Bayonet Point, FL 34667
727-226-2719
paekh@live.com

Bypass pruners usually work exactly like a pair of scissors, with two blades passing each other to make the cut. At least one of the blades will be curved: a convex upper blade with either a concave or straight lower one. Some bypass designs have only one blade, the lower jaw being broad (like an anvil) but passing the upper jaw.



Anvil pruners have only one blade, which closes onto a flat surface. They tend to crush the stem, but remain reliable when they are slightly blunt. They are useful for cutting thick branches.



February In Your Orchids

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

General Orchid Growing Tips

Spring is around the corner. Order your potting supplies early to make sure they are not sold out when it's time to repot. Observe plants (including companion plants like bromeliads) carefully for signs of disease and insects. Avoid having heated or air-conditioned drafts blowing directly on orchids. Don't bring your plants out too early. It is starting to warm but you can expect more orchid threatening cold fronts through March.

Cattleyas

Your cattleyas are starting to rouse, even though temperature and light conditions are not yet ideal for growth. Continue to use dilute water soluble fertilizer on your orchids at 1/4 to 1/8 strength. New green root tips are starting to emerge on the unifoliate, marking the beginning of the spring repotting season. Sometimes it is necessary to split open a sheath with a sterile blade to reduce pressure on the emerging buds or to allow accumulated condensation (possibly from fluctuating temperatures) to dissipate.

Cymbidiums

Stake cymbidium inflorescences that emerge from the mass of foliage on these winter-spring bloomers. Maintain temperatures at 50 to 60F to keep the flowers opening slowly. Dramatically higher temperatures and hot drafts cause bud drop.

Dendrobiums

Watch for flower buds on dendrobiums like *Den. lindleyi*, *Den. nobile* hybrids, *Den. superbum* (syn. *Den. anosmum*) and other deciduous species and hybrids. These have longer flowering when exposed to cooler night temperatures as the blooms open and mature. Avoid dousing open flowers when watering. Give slightly more water to these plants (that have been kept reasonably dry prior to flowering) once they begin to bloom. Continue to protect evergreen-type dendrobiums from low temperatures that may cause leaf loss.

Oncidiums

Do not permit miltonias and odontoglossums to dry out because this is a critical time for flower-spike development. Stake the spikes. Continue to use a dilute water soluble fertilizer before the flowers begin to appear.

Phalaenopsis

Continue to use a dilute water soluble fertilizer on phalaenopsis. Be careful not to splatter the flowers or they will stain. Phalaenopsis exude a honey-like substance on the developing inflorescence that attracts scale insects. Watch for signs of any problem that can be spot treated before it becomes a major situation. Avoid spraying insecticides on blossoms.

Miscellaneous Genera

The Catasetinae (catasetums, clowesia, cynoches and mormodes) have dropped most of their leaves and should be kept dry. Watch for signs of new growth that marks the beginning of the repotting season for the catasetum relatives. Remove the old medium, cut off dried roots and pot in a sphagnum moss or coco husk mix interlayered with the time released fertilizer Dynamite but DO NOT WATER. If you water before the new growth is about 4 inches tall, it will probably rot. Your *Ludisia discolor* is in bloom this month.

(Speaker continued from page 4)

needed and a **one-hole punch** to punch out a hole in the plastic tag. Once a wire is threaded through, the tag is ready to hang on your orchid.

Measuring spoons to measure fertilizers and such; **clothes pins** for which he did not tell us his uses; **Tweezers possibly to tweeze things out of the center of leaves**, **Screwdriver**, **box cutter and stainless steel knife** to loosen a plant in a pot if you can't soak it. And a **blunt dinner knife** to help to ease the plant out of the pot.

He uses a variety of different **spray bottles** useful for misting, fertilizing, fungicides, pesticides, alcohol etc. and said if you pay up for them you'll do better and they'll last longer.

Rubbing Alcohol and **Physan 20** to spray on your plants for a broad range disinfectant, which effectively controls a wide variety of pathogens on hard surfaces and plants. He uses a spray because it will get into the cracks not only of plants but also on benches etc.

Cinnamon is a great bactericide and works immediately to kill bacteria when sprinkled on edges of leaves and pseudo bulbs when you have to cut them. And lastly, a **scrubbing pad** to clean a dirty pot.

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Thank you, Don, for a very interesting and demonstrative talk. Those who are not avid orchid growers yet will surely be confused about some of those tools but the rest of us understand exactly why they'd be important and surely we'll all be adding something to our own regimen!

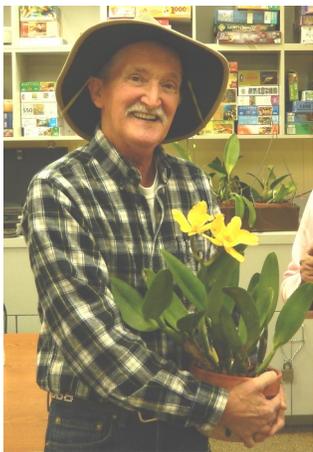
~~~~~  
QUIZ: WHAT DO YOU THINK DON USES CLOTHES PINS FOR?

WHAT IS THE BOX CUTTER FOR?

AND THE SCREWDRIVER?

WHY DOESN'T DON USE Q-TIPS AND COTTON BALLS?

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR ORCHIDS FOR OUR SHOW - by Delia Dunn



Gary Gethen did a brief introduction to prepping our plants for an orchid show. He will be our speaker at the March meeting on that topic and we'll look forward to his complete talk on the subject, but here are some brief pointers:

First thing to do is to pull out all weeds and dead leaves and things that don't belong. Cut off broken tips of leaves, apply cinnamon to the cuts of anything you cut off, pull off dead used up sheaths on Cattleyas.

You want your plants to be blooming so NOW is the perfect time to apply BLOOM BOOSTER and it will promote flowering. (you can buy it in the plant stores under that name)

Spray for scale with rubbing alcohol into the center of the leaves and with a toothbrush brush down the pseudo bulbs to remove scale that gets beneath the papery covering.

Stake drooping pseudobulbs either with a bent wire stuck in the medium or tied to another pseudobulb with green wire

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(How to prepare continued from page 6)

that doesn't show, rather than using a colored butterfly clip that tends to detract from the flower itself.

Finally, when the plant is ready for display, polish the leaves with milk on a cotton ball and it will give them a beautiful sheen.

ATTENTION ORCHID CLUB MEMBERS FROM PAT DUPKE

OUR CLUB PROVIDES LUNCH ON SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH FOR THE VENDORS AND CLUB MEMBERS WHO WORK AT THE FESTIVAL. WE ARE IN NEED OF A VARIETY OF SALADS SUCH AS: ANY KIND OF POTATO SALADS, PASTA SALADS, JELLO SALADS, FRUIT SALADS, BEAN SALADS, & VEGE-

TABLE SALADS, AS WELL AS DESSERTS. I WILL HAVE THE SIGN-UP SHEETS AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL ME AT (727)856-3485.

We Want You !

Just in from Jeff and Donna: As Co-Chairs of our Orchid Festival we are appealing for your help in staging what is our most important event of the year: The Orchid Festival on March 29th and 30th. At our last meeting the volunteer sheet was passed around but still has far too many empty spaces. We need : show hosts, set up and, particularly, take down helpers, ticket sellers, sign placement, greeters and helpers of all kinds. If, for some reason, you did not get to see the sign-up sheet e-mail me at jrundell@tampabay.rr.com .

Editors needed

Judy and Tim Smith, who have been the Keiki's Editors since 2011, have expressed their desire to resign from being the newsletter editors and publishers effective June 2, 2014.

We feel very fortunate to have been the editors of the club's newsletter for the last three years but feel it is time for another member step up and take over the responsibility.

We would like to acknowledge everyone who contributed their time and efforts submitting articles and reports that made the Keiki a success. We hope those individuals will continue to do so with the new editor(s).

We will help in any way we can to assist the new editor and will turn over the Publisher Program the club so graciously purchased as an aid for us to publish the Keiki.

Judy and Tim Smith

The Poets Corner

*Presented by
Jeff Rundell*



Here is a famous and moving poem that relate to the beauty of orchids and flowers in general. To me they show the parallels between ourselves and the blooms we treasure. With all the talk about orchid science and breeding it is easy to forget that what keeps us growing is largely intangible and deeply aesthetic

The Orchid Flower
by [Sam Hamill](#)

Just as I wonder
whether it's going to die,
the orchid blossoms

and I can't explain why
it moves my heart, why
such pleasure

comes from one small
bud on a long spindly
stem, one blood red
gold flower

opening at mid-summer,
tiny, perfect in its hour.

Even to a white-haired
craggy poet, it's purely
erotic,

pistil and stamen, pol-
len, dew of the world, a
spoonful

of earth, and water.
Erotic because there's
death at the heart of
birth,

drama in those old sun-
rise prisms in wet cedar
boughs,

deepest mystery
in washing evening dish-
es or teasing my wife,

who grows, yes, more
beautiful because one of
us will die.

See more at: <http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/16621#sthash.yBZFuuzg.dpuf>

Show Table

The show table featured many beautiful orchids this month. All who brought their favorite plant to showcase for the rest of us are to be commended for their efforts. If you have an outstanding orchid you would like to share with the rest of the club, I encourage you to bring it in for all to see. (In no particular order.)

Blue Ribbon (s)

Jeff Rundell (31 yr.)	Epi. C.	Flame Thrower		Den.	White Grace 'Sato' HCC/Aos
				V.	Prachara's Delight
				V.	lamellate
				Ascda.	Sweet Pea
Dan Grant (11 yr.)	Lc.	Maikai		V.	Laycokcii
				Wils.	Pacific Passage 'Handsom'
Gary Gethen (24 yr.)	C.	Roman Toga 'Snowball'	Judy Smith (14 yr.)	Ascda.	Mary Nathan
		X		C.	Perciviliana
		C. Christina Waglaya 'Kriss Krass'		Cal.	Rosea
	Rhy.	Gigantea	Dan Grant (11 yr.)	C.	Lodi Gisii
	Ascda.	Vacgntine		C.	Momilani Rainbow
	SAchom.	Luedemanii			

Honorable Mention

Collectively these growers have **80** growing years experience.

Jeff Rundell (31 yr.)	Ascda.	Krallerk
Gary Gethen (24yr.)	C.	Pgrcivilana

The Keiki
7918 W Flight Path Ct.
Crystal River, FL 34429