



Happy Mother's Day!

The Keiki



Volume 23

May 2014 Issue

May 10, 2014

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Over the Years by Tim Smith

Over the past three years publishing the keiki, Judy and I found it to be very rewarding to us on a personal level. Not only did we get to know nearly every one in the club over the years but became friends that we looked forward to seeing each month at the meetings and on other special occasions such as road trips, the picnic, and the Christmas Party.



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Treasure's Report

By

Helen Battistrada

Balance 03/15/13	\$ 5648.63
Receipts	<u>\$ 2237.25</u>
Total	\$ 7885.88
Disbursements	<u>\$ 2583.39</u>
Balance 04/19/13	\$5302.59



Upcoming Speaker Program

By Ed Bugbee,
Program Coordinator

May

Jack Batchelor of Paradise Orchids
He will have plants for sale.

June

Louis Del Favero.
He will have plants to sell.

July

T.B.A.

August

Hicks Orchid Supply



Membership

By

Linda Meyer
Membership Coordinator

As of March

89 Paid members.
40 Members in attendance.
2 Guest.
2 New member.

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 APRIL 19, 2014

- Meeting called to order at 1:08 pm by Jeff Rundell.
- Announcement made to turn off cell phones.
- Greeting of new members and visitors.
- Helen Battistrada read the Treasurer's report & the festival report.
- Jeff thanked all the workers who participated in the festival.
- Helen spoke about glasses & mugs that used to be given out as awards from previous shows.
- Linda Roderick is retiring from handling the club publicity & the library. Tom Govin volunteered to take the library position. Someone is still needed for the publicity position.
- There will be a party for Tim & Judy Smith in appreciation for their work on the Keiki at next months meeting.
- Someone is needed to take over the duties for the Keiki.
- May speaker is Jack Batchelor whose specialty is Cattleyas. June speaker is Louis Del Favero. July speaker is Raphael ?. August is Hicks Supply. September meeting will be held at Joy Orchids. October is the picnic. November is the auction & December is the Christmas party.
- Linda Meyer spoke on membership. There are 89 members.
- Bob East spoke about the website.
- Someone is needed to handle all e-mails.
- Delia Dunn spoke about the nominating panel. They are Geary Harris for President. 1st Vice President Donna Fazekes, 2nd Vice President Gary Gethan, Secretary Pat Dupke, Treasurer Helen Battistrada & recording secretary Sue Caparbi-Taylor.
- Judges chosen for show table.
- Break.
- Show table.
- Speaker Brett Ulluri from Accent Orchids spoke about Dendrobiums.
- Raffle was held.

Meeting adjourned at 3:24 pm.



Minutes submitted by Sue Caparbi-Taylor

SPEAKER SEGMENT - by Delia Dunn



Brett Ullary



Brett Ullary from ACCENT ORCHIDS was our speaker. He brought with him a colorful array of beautifully blooming plants, Dendrobiums of various types. *Dendrobium* is a genus of orchids containing about 1,200 species. Brett discovered his love for these plants when he gave his girlfriend a gift of a green Dendrobium 9 years ago. Apparently they were both impressed with the plant that together they started a business in January 2012 and he announced they got married this month.

Brett spoke generally about how he cares for his old clay pots which he claims will last forever. He cleans them with Formula 409 Cleaner and soaking them for ½ hr will sterilize them.

He uses a tile/ceramic drill bit to drill more holes on the sides of pots that only have one hole in the center of the bottom and explained that the plants need more holes for air movement, not necessarily for drainage.

He drills an 8"- bit hole at the top of each pot to thread the tag wire through and that way the squirrels won't take it away!

Students at Clearwater High School woodworking class make his baskets for him and he has some with feet or extensions along the bottom so that heavy plants can be put in them without tipping over.

The bottom of his baskets are lined with coconut husk and lots of plastic peanuts because the plants want drainage and air circulation. To keep the plant in place once it's in the basket he uses bamboo skewers pushed through one side then across the base of the plant and through the other side. By the time the skewer rots, the plant will be tight in the basket.

For plastic pots he uses metal pot clips and heats them with a torch until they are red and then he can push the clip right through the plastic. Whenever he uses wire he uses telephone wire as it lasts for years.

Brett loves to water his plants and admits to watering too much so he has to use a medium that allows good drainage and will not rot or gather mold. For most plants he uses 1/3 charcoal, 1/3 sponge rock and 1/3 coconut chips, all of which drain fast, add moisture and evaporates during the day. For Cattleyas he uses charcoal, Aliflor and sponge rock.

He gave brief descriptions of some of the different types of Dendrobiums (D.), starting with the **Phalaenopsis type**, which should not get below 60 deg. He said we have all been told to keep Dens in small pots and not disturb the roots but his opinion differs from that advice. He has proved the size of the pot does not matter because he showed us a Den in a basket with all the roots hanging down like a Vanda's roots and it was doing just fine. He said it can go into a big pot or a basket and the roots can hang out if they want. It's that they don't want their roots disturbed at all or it will set them back. Don't use bark as a medium because it will rot and eventually need to be replaced and then the roots get disturbed. If such a situation arises he simply hoses the bark out and refills rather than disturb the roots and remove them from the pot.

The Formosan type have waxy flowers that look fake and there are little black hairs on the canes. The flowers grow off the canes, last 3 months and take temperatures in the low 50's.

The Antelope or spatulatum type typically have twisted sepals and upright, twisted petals that suggest an antelope's horns. They do not take cold temperatures. He had one growing in a treefern pot with a bamboo skewer to hold it in. This type is pollinated by bees.

(Continued on page 4)



The Presidents Message

By Geary Harris

When a person volunteers, it puts things into action. When we say we will help out, we put action into our words.

When we don't volunteer, things come to a halt and die. I am not saying we don't have volunteers but, when some-one steps down; we need someone to step up.

This could be the last edition of the Keiki that will be printed but, I do want to commend Judy and Tim for stepping up and; making the Keiki the best paper we have ever had. Be sure and thank them for all their hard work for the last three years.

Continue to help Jeff any way you can.

Our speaker will be Paradise Orchids for May.

Hope to see you soon.



Refreshment Reminder

By

Eleanor Szarzynski,
Refreshment Coordinator
352-688-3887

May

None required this month

Soft Drinks

Please welcome our newest members;

Russell and Vickie Lewandowski
741 N Country Club Dr.
Crystal River, FL 34429
352-212-8487

Bill and Bobbie Lemay
11041 Cranston St.
Spring Hill, FL 34608
352-263-2055

Ponder This

Are you a club member
or
A member of a club?

(Speaker Continued from page 3)

Latouria types like warm temperatures, do not want to be over watered and will die quickly if they are so if that should happen he said yank it out and try to dry it out. The plant will bloom for months and the flowers bloom face down so need to be hung up high so the flower is plain to see from below

Jenkinsii types have orange flowers and are similar to D. aggregatum but have one single flower instead of a spray. They are slow growers. Brett likes D. aggregatum better - they like the cold and want high light and good drainage and can remain out over the winter into the 30s.

Brett had a D. Stardust Firebird (a similar one pictured here), a hybrid from the **unicum species** - it will take the cold - it's a small plant that has large orange flowers.



D. Convolutum ophioglossum (pictured here) is green, puts shoots out to the side and blooms for a month. It will take a bit of cold he said and the bottom of the leaves are purple.



D. bracteosum from the **tanii species** (pictured here) has short flowers on a small plant, which loses it's leaves at the top. It can take temperatures down to 60 deg.

(Continued on page 5)

(Speaker Continued from page 4)



D. aphrodite

Dendrobium Aphrodite is a species, only 1 - 2' high, with a large pale yellow and burgundy flower. Blooms only last two weeks. Grows well and looks great grown in a basket since the canes hang downwards. Because they don't like their roots disturbed, when repotting, it's just best to blow off the top medium and put into a bigger basket.

An interesting idea which we may never have heard about:: if plant is in a plastic pot and it's time to re-pot, cut the top section of the plastic pot off all the way around, then stick the whole thing in a larger pot or into a basket. The roots will not be disturbed and new medium can be added to the top.

D. anosmum var. **superbum** species has a powerful fragrance, has long slender pseudo-bulbs, each cane gets longer than the previous year and the flowers grow right out of the pendulous canes.

The nobile species can take heat in the summer down to the low 30s in winter. The leaves will fall off then the flowers show up so that it will get pollinated. Brett's plant bloomed late because he watered all the time.

Brett had a gorgeous **D. nester** that is a very fragrant purple plant crossed between **D. anosmum** and **D. parishii**. He explained that the plant got its color from the darker **anosmum** and not from the much lighter violet **D. parishii**.

And **D. Anosmum alba** (white) is a cross with **D. cotton candy** so is also very fragrant and that plant can take down to low 30s in the winter. He tells us to not let them dry so much that the canes dry up in the winter.

And he had a large **D. nobile anosmum** with longer canes and no fragrance but had a larger flower. It also takes temps down to the low 30s and it gets its longevity from **D. eikoh**.



D. anceps

D. anceps with it's fan-type canes has small flowers that bloom in summer and fall in between the leaves and beneath the leaves (always on the shady side) so the plant needs to be hung high so the flowers are visible. These plants will take the cold.

A complex hybrid, **D. Oriental Magic 'Carnival'** (pictured here), is an orange and purple select nobile type, hybridized by Jiro Yamamoto in Hawaii, who specializes mostly in tetraploid cultivars that have 4 sets of chromosomes in their genetic makeup, which tends to give thicker foliage. They are vigorous and easy to grow.



Contact Brett Ullary at Accent Orchids 813-299-8834 for further information about his Dendrobiums.

May 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

Summer is right around the corner. Now is the time to maximize growth and develop the plant strength and food reserves needed for good flower production. Larger plants typically produce bigger and better flowers than smaller ones so resist the urge to divide your plants just for the sake of having more plants. Recycle your clay or plastic pots but be sure to sterilize them first along with any wire products. Do not reuse potting mix or drainage material.

Cattleyas

Get a head start on dividing cattleyas by severing the rhizome in whole or in part (at a point where you will have 3 to 5 pseudobulbs per division) with a sterile tool while the plant is still in the original pot. The new growths will emerge weeks later at which point you can finish repotting using a rhizome clip to secure the divisions. Continue feeding cattleyas with a dilute fertilizer solution with each watering and flush with fresh water monthly.

Cymbidiums

Finish repotting these elegant orchids if they are bursting out of the pot. If the medium is in good condition (just a year old), you may be able to move the plant from one container to another with the addition of a small amount of medium without disturbing the roots. Keep the pots moist and syringe the foliage frequently, particularly if you have moved the plant into brighter light.

Paphiopedilums

This is the ideal month to complete repotting of your lady's slippers. Prepare a fresh terrestrial mix (say 85% bark, 10% peat and 5% charcoal). Remove dead roots and keep as many growths together as practical. The single flowered types should be in shade though the multiflorals like more light. Keep root zone moisture levels high (though *Brachypetalum* types generally like drier conditions).

Phalaenopsis

Repotting plants that have finished flowering is a priority. When you repot, remove the old inflorescence and eliminate all rotten or completely dehydrated roots and cut the roots back to about 2/3 the depth of the new pot. Remove also the dried bottom section of the old crown until you reach fresh tissue. Resume fertilizing when new roots become visible. Consider a spraying program with a recommended fungicide.

Vandas

Some plants may need more room for root development. If your plant is in a wooden basket, simply drop it into a larger size basket. If your plant has become top heavy and unsightly, cut away the top part of the plant as long as this section has three roots to sustain it and rebasket it being careful to secure it so roots will not be damaged in the wind. Keep the bottom section of the plant in the old basket as it will usually sprout keikis at the base and be well established by the end of the summer.

(Years Continued from page 1)

We have had personal contact with nearly every member at one time or another and to all those that submitted your biography in the beginning, words can not describe how much everyone appreciated a small glimpse into your story as how you became interested in our hobby. All of those stories were quite interesting such as Eleanor Szarzynski (December 2013 issue) or Richard Ratajczak (October 2013 issue) and the near tragic story of Pat Dupke (May 2012 issue) to name a few.

To all who answered our request for articles for the Keiki, Judy and I thank you from the heart and hope that you continue to do so for the new editor whom ever he or she may be.

We want to personally thank Delia Dunn for all her great write-up of the Speaker Segment these last three years. Delia has done a fantastic job.

Also along those same lines we thank Jeff Rundell for his very interesting technical articles and as always, with just a twist of humor that keep the reader interested.

President Geary Harris, 1st Vice President Donna Fazekas, 2nd Vice President Sonia Terrelonge, Treasurer Helen Battistrada, Executive Secretary Pat Dupke, Recording Secretary Sue Caparbi-Taylor, Membership Linda Meyer, Historian Linda Hindman, Webmaster Bob East all working hard making our club not only a club of hobbyist, but a social club as well. Thank you.

Over the years, Judy and I have seen many members come and go. Some out of sheer frustration because they could not master orchid culture to their expectations, others who sought other hobbies, some just plain lost interest and someone will have to explain that one to me. We have lost many a good friend over the years due to death or simply unable to attend meetings anymore...a road we all will travel one day but not soon I hope. To those good friends, we miss you and think of you often.

As you may have guessed, this is our final edition as editors of the Keiki. We sincerely hope someone steps up and take it over as this has been a tradition since the club started 1992. The website is a good tool but many of our club members are not on the internet so a hard copy of club news is all they have with the exception of attending the meetings. But as we all know, no one can make every meeting due to conflicting schedules or sickness.

So in closing just let me say that if I failed to mention your name in our thanks, it is not because we are ignoring your contribution to the club, it's just the old gray matter is not what it used to be.

Sinisterly,

Judy & Tim Smith



Command Center

Left to right;
Paper cutter and finger trimmer.
Blood pressure monitor so I keep track of my B.P. while waiting for late articles as the deadline approaches as well when computer crashes.
Brother Laser Printer, a real little workhorse. 17,280+ pages of Keiki over a three year period.
Brother Color Printer
Toshiba lap Top.
Pencil holder and chewed off finger nail storage device.
Phone .
Tail less Mouse.

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)					
Barb Dean (10 yr.)	Srgt; Max.	Sceptrodes Tenuifolia	Gary Gethen (24yr.)	L. Eplc. Cym. Gga. Den. Rdcn. Tolu. V. Bro.	Harpophylla Charlie Brown (no i.d.) Latisepala Farmeri Wingson Passionata 'Red' Juseph Falowitz 'Sanguinia
Yati Douglas (12 yr.)	E.	(no name)			
Gary Gethen (24yr.)	Onc. Iwam. Den.	Specklanspire. 'Whisp' Apple Blossom Crumgnatum	Barb Dean (10 yr.)	Den.	Aggragatum
Dale Story (16+ yr.)	Cat. Phal. V.	Skinneri Species (unknown) Kulvadee Big Spot	Dale Story (16+ yr.)	V. Den.	Pats Delight Pimk Tango Thryslform
Sonia Terrelonge(7 yrs.)	Den.	Lindley	Collectively these growers have 100 growing years experience.		
Honorable Mention					
Jeff Rundell (31 yr.)	Cook.	'Bill'			

The Keiki
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Crystal River, FL 34429

Judy Smith
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Crystal River, FL 34429