



Volume 24 Issue 11
November 2016

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THE KEIKI



ORCHID PLANT AUCTION



Sponsored by

The Orchid Lovers of Spring Hill

Saturday Nov. 19, 2016

Preview at 11:30 Auction begins 12noon

First United Methodist Church

Spring Hill FL - 9344 Spring Hill Drive

Many beautiful hybrid, species orchids
and supplies will be auctioned off.

Cash and Checks accepted

-no credit cards-

Refreshments available

www.springhillorchidclub.com



*Newer members—See pages 11—14 for AOS
Culture Sheets on Cymbidiums and Dendrobiums*

OFFICERS

President

Jeff Rundell

1st Vice President & Past President

Geary Harris

2nd Vice President

Donna Fazekas

Treasurer

Helen Battistrada

Executive Secretary

Pat Dupke

Recording Secretary (not elected position)

Matt Riesz

COMMITTEES

Bulletin (The Keiki)

Ken & Delia Dunn

Membership

Linda Meyer & Gloria Thomas

Publicity

Julie Smolka

Refreshments

Laurie Ciannamea & Pat Dupke

Show Chair

Marita Reisz

Show Table Report

Matt Riesz

Trips

Sonia Terrelonge & Laurie Ciannamea

Website

Set up by Ken Dunn

Webmaster Bob East



**Treasurer's Report
By Helen Battistrada**

Balance last month:	9/17/16	\$6182.89
Income:		\$ 201.00
Disbursements:		\$ 240.11
Current Balance:	10/15/16	\$6143.78

REFRESHMENT REMINDER

by

Laurie Ciannamea



Pat Baig

Marie Tanaka

Marie Ciannamea

Soda or Juice

Bobbie Lemay

Laurie Ciannamea

**Additional Refreshments and Soda
& Juice will be appreciated**



President's Message

by Jeff Rundell

Going once, going twice.....sold!

You guessed it, time for our annual Auction. It looks like we may have over 200 plants for sale at the 1st Methodist Church on November 19. Judy Smith and Yati have been working on some wonderful plants donated by Barbara Dean and I just picked up another donation of about 30 plants from a friend at the wildlife park.



Ed Bugbee and I will be headed to Apopka to search for some blooming treasures to round out the group. I will forward a flyer to everyone soon so you can print it and post it some place special. I seriously hope we have a great turnout to make this fundraiser a huge success. Please advertise anywhere and anyway you can. I hope everyone goes home with some unexpected bargains.

We are also working hard to cement our plans for the show on March 18-19. I know Marita has been holding planning meetings to update our display while I focus on prospective vendors. It takes lots of people to make all this happen so don't be afraid to jump in.



We have a list for our Christmas party on December 10 at Buffet City but for those of you who weren't at the picnic to sign up, please call Marita at 732.673.1179.

One final crumb of news; thanks to everyone for making the picnic deliciously fun. I know we had some lines for food and we'll correct that next time, but I felt that it was still quite a party.

My secret greenhouse is now under construction and so far I've got a footer and a paver floor but no walls. I'm okay with that as long as this too balmy weather lasts but we all know what's going to happen, we just don't know when.

Finally, and I know that brings a sigh of relief, I'd like to make a plea for one of my favorite orchid techniques. When in doubt mount it! That's right. I'd like you to consider mounting more orchids and here's my case:



1. They will look more natural since that's the way they grow in the wild and they've spent millions of years perfecting their abilities to stick to just about anything.

2. You will be less troubled by fungal problems that make nasty soup out of your prized plants. It's just so much harder to over water and drainage is never a problem.

3. Just think of the money and space you will save not buying all those clunky pots. When you repot and have to smash them to release the plant does your wallet groan? Also, you won't have to soak and scrub the pots that always manage to spread disease anyway.

4. As a special bonus you can have three times the number of plants in a given footprint by going vertical. Use a cage, a tower, a trellis and hang it with mounted plants.

5. You will have your choice of many materials. Go to the cypress mill on 41 and fill your trunk with slab wood for 10 bucks. Cedar is even better and unfortunately somebody is always sawing it down in my community. There's cork, shingles, driftwood and who know what else you will come up with. Full disclosure; while cork is very earth friendly I'm not so sure about tree fern. The industry in New Zealand and other out of the way places claim otherwise but unique plant communities like these usually have other unique organisms in their household that get destroyed in the process. I've always found it perplexing that orchid lovers would endanger another plant community to raise their own plants.

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October 15, 2016	PICNIC SHOW TABLE PLANTS	By Matt Riesz
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<u>Plant</u>	<u>Grower</u>	<u>How Long Owned</u>	<u>Years Growing Orchids</u>
Vanda Sweet Spots	J. Parker	3 yrs	30
Bulbophyllum putidum	Kishore Sooknanan	2 mos	18 mos.
Rhyncattleyanthe Trick or Treat	Jeff Rundell	8 yrs	
Guarianthe bowringiana	Jeff Rundell	3 yrs	
Habenaria rhodocheila	Matt Riesz	2 yrs	15
Oncidium hybrid	Delia Dunn	1 yr	22
Laeliocattleya Tiny Treasure 'Star Amethyst'	Matt Riesz	2 yrs	15
Laelia perrinii	Delia Dunn	10 yrs	22
Bc. Binosa	Gary Gethen	6 yrs	25
Rhycostylis or Aerides hybrid	Jeff Rundell	2 yrs	
Vanda June Walcott Bingham	Matt Riesz	8 mos	15
Guarianthe bowringiana	Delia Dunn	6 yrs	22

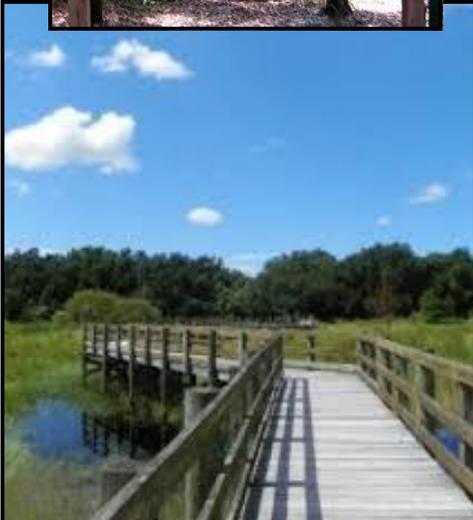
(Continued from prior page, President’s Message)

6. As a finale, I suggest that mounting orchids will stimulate the creativity that lies within all of us. Just like those obsessive bonsai people I love to hate, you can create something beautiful. Let's face it, pots are ugly but a curved piece of cedar is graceful with cascading blooms hanging right at nose level on your lanai is intoxicating. Your guests will swoon with envy.

Jeff



Snapshots of the October 15 Club Picnic



Spraying Fertilizer On Orchids

So you have a lot of orchids and find it time consuming to Fertilize. This is another method of applying various fertilizer on orchid plants.

Purchase a Gilmore Professional All Purpose Hose End Sprayer, or other hose end sprayer that has a metering dial. These can be found at Lowe's, Home Depot, Sears and many good hardware stores. Price should be



around \$20.00

Buy Southern AG's 16-16-16 or other similar Soluble Fertilizer. Dissolve 4 cups of 16-16-16 fertilizer in a bucket with one gallon of hot water. Transfer the solution to a one gallon container such as a bleach or milk bottle for storage and later use.

Set the dial on your metering dial on the hose end sprayer to 1 TSP per gallon. Fill the 16 oz. container on the hose end sprayer with the saturated solution of liquid fertilizer. This will give you approximately 32 gallons of finished spray @ 3/4 TSP./gallon. If you change the dial to 2 it will = 16 gallons @ 1 1/2 TSP./gallon. Set dial at 4 and the solution = 8 gallons @ 3 TSP./gallon.

By changing settings you can fertilize your plants all at once but use different strengths (Paphs , weak; Vandas slightly more.

Any unused fertilizer can just be returned to the gallon container as water only siphons liquid from the container and does not add water to the container on the hose end sprayer.

Membership Notes

By Linda Meyer



What a terrific time we had at the annual picnic, held at Crews Lake Park in October!! I didn't do anything that day but eat and chat with other picnic-goers,

so there is no way to tell exactly how many of us were there...but it was a bunch!! Lots of folks brought guests, and everyone seemed to be having a great time! The mountain of food was delicious, the orchids brought for display and raffle and sale were really gorgeous, and the weather that had seemed threatening in the early morning co-operated perfectly.

Marita Rietz had picked up the organizational baton from Pat Dupke when Pat was side tracked by illness, and Marita did a fabulous job of building on the foundation Pat had laid for our picnics. It was also gratifying to see so many newer members pitching in to help with the event. And it was especially heartening to have Pat be able to attend the picnic with us, as well as another member/ friend who had been absent and out of touch due to illness, Carl Waite! If you missed it this time, be sure to sign up next year! We do have a total of 115 members now. Wow! Please welcome our most recent member (who came to the picnic, and if I'm remembering correctly, won an auction plant!):

Rebecca Cicero
15825 Maran Dr
Spring Hill, FL 34610
(727)534-4354

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At this time we have 57 people who've indicated their intention to enjoy attending the Holiday Party December 10th at Buffet City. Please do sign up if you haven't already, so we can be sure to have enough places set in the private room for all of us. You can see me at the Auction on November 19th at First Methodist Church, Spring Hill Dr at 11:30, to sign up. How about coming a bit early and seeing if you can help with anything at the Auction? It will be another of our memorable events! Bring cash or checks to pay for the yummy orchids you won't be able to resist bidding on!

Linda Meyer

Monthly Orchid Quiz

The "Corsage" Orchid is another name for the following?

- _____ Cattleya
- _____ Vanda
- _____ Phalaenopsis
- _____ Dendrobium

Answer is on page 8.



Very Cute

Bob East's Orchid Story

I first got interested in orchids when I went to the tiny Caribbean island of Dominica to photograph the devastation from hurricane David in 1979. The category 5 storm knocked down huge trees, many covered in orchids. I found a couple of orchids in the downed trees and brought them back to Ft. Lauderdale where I was living at the time, and put them in a tree in my back yard where they promptly died. Thus begins my case of orchid fever.

I received my first blooming orchid in 1985, a green Dendrobium, from my girlfriend Kathleen, as a birthday gift while I lived in Tampa. It was all downhill from there. Kathleen bought me another orchid from Bob Fuchs at RF Orchids during a visit to Miami 2 weeks later.

Fifteen months later we were married and I had about a dozen various orchids growing on a lattice panel in the backyard of our Miami home. I joined the AOS and the South Florida Orchid Society [SFOS], read every book on orchid growing I could find and visited nearly every orchid grower from Homestead to Jacksonville. My work as a photographer for United Press International in Tampa and later in Miami had me traveling all over the state and I'd drop in on growers along the way, buying orchids of every type.

I became the official awards photographer for SFOS and provided the award photos to the AOS and also took many photos for RF Orchids and other growers in the Homestead area for their catalogs. By the time we left Miami for Connecticut in late 1988 I had over 600 orchids and a 10 x 20 foot shade house in the back yard. I sold most and left the rest on my Mom's South Miami screened porch. Unfortunately most were blown away in hurricane Andrew

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I tried growing orchids in Connecticut but that proved difficult. The house was too dry & I wasn't able to provide enough humidity for orchids and everything died. So for the next 12 years I divided my off time working on my 1930 Model A Ford and learning to fly fish. We enjoyed viewing orchids on our annual trips back to Miami when we stopped in to visit with Bob Fuchs in Homestead.

By 2001 we had had enough of Connecticut winters and moved back to Florida settling in Ocala. I started collecting orchids again when a bad storm uprooted a huge live oak tree with several clumps of native orchids. I peeled off the bark layer with the orchids and hung them in the back yard where they bloomed with a delightful fragrance. I didn't realize until later they would only grow on orchid bark and when the bark deteriorated the plants died. I had to satisfy my craving for orchids with a few phalaenopsis from Home Depot.

I started working in Brooksville for Hernando Today in 2001 and we moved to Spring Hill in late 2002. I learned of The Orchid Lovers of Spring Hill club when I photographed one of the shows for the paper. After attending a few meetings I joined the club when I retired in 2010.

After Ken Dunn designed and created the club's web site, <http://www.springhillorchidclub.com>, I began as the Web Master keeping the web site current.

My orchid collection has grown to about 60-70 plants, mostly Cattleyas, Phals and Dendrobiums. I still have orchid fever and would add more plants but I've run out of room on my patio and when a cold snap hits the plants have to come inside to the guest bathroom shower and there just isn't any more space. But I still buy raffle tickets at the club meetings!

My orchids don't like the bathroom but its the only way I can keep them warm when there is a cold snap. I made a rack from PVC pipe & plastic coated closet shelving that I put in the shower. I usually don't water them in there unless they stay

in longer than 2 days. I bring them back out as soon as the temps get to be in the 50's. I try to get them back outside as soon as I can, weather permitting.

If I do have to water, I use a small watering can with a long spout & add water to each pot; not too much, just enough to overcome the dry indoor air for a while. Mounted plants get their roots sprayed lightly with a 1 qt. sprayer of rainwater (we have a 2 barrel collection system outside). I try to keep the water off the leaves.

I have a 2-tube 40w fluorescent lamp hanging over the rack & leave that on as well as the regular bathroom lights. Its not enough to simulate sunlight but its better than nothing. The heater vent is closed but there's some air movement that leaks from it.

I also keep the door closed. I can't really say what does better or worse. I haven't noticed any difference.

Answer to Monthly

Orchid Quiz from Page 7

A Corsage Orchid is a Cattleya, one of the most popular kind of orchids, especially as cut flowers, as it comes with a variety of colors and lasts for quite a long time. This species is also known as the 'corsage orchid' because ladies liked to use the flowers as accessories for their evening dresses back in the day.



Our Facebook page is a great place to show off your prize orchids, ones you have worked so hard to grow and nourish. It would be good to see many more members represented. If you have a problem figuring out how to use Facebook, just email our Publicity Chairperson, Julie Smolka and she will be glad to provide some tips. jasmolka@verizon.net

Orchid Lovers' Christmas Party

Saturday, December 10, 2016



At: Buffet City
13235 Cortez Blvd.
Brooksville, Florida

Time: 12:00 pm

Price: \$7.01 plus tax each (Buffet)
Drinks \$1.59 for soda
Hot Tea \$0.50

Desert: Christmas Cookies provided by Club Members
(Members are asked to bring a dozen cookies)



Gifts: In place of the Gift Exchange, members are asked to bring an unwrapped child's toy, which will be given to needy families in our community.

If you haven't yet signed up for the Christmas Party or need more information, call Marita at 723-673-1179



Coralroot splendid in its spring profusion

This rare spring perennial orchid *Corallorhiza wisteriana* or Wister's coralroot was found along the Phipps Park in February in Tallahassee by Robin Kennedy, Pat Stampe and Virginia Craig of the Magnolia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. It likes rich damp woods. It is two to eight inches tall and the flower is perhaps a third of an inch wide. With no chlorophyll, it relies on a relationship with fungus which draws nutrients from decaying organic matter.

The small snow white - purple spotted lip glows like crystal under the light, and the photographer has captured this miniature world for us. Its rhizome, branched, looks like coral, from which it gets its name. It ranges to the northern United States and to the mountains in the west. There are several related species.

It was also seen recently in the [Wolf Creek](#) area south of Cairo, Georgia, on 140 acres of rare plants and beautiful trees that is a goal of preservation efforts .

Photos by Robin Kennedy.





Cymbidium Culture Sheet

Sym-Bid-ee-um

American Orchid Society
at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, FL 33156

Cymbidiums are prized for their long-lasting sprays of flowers. There are two main types of cymbidiums - standards and miniatures. Where summer nights are warm (above 70° F), miniatures are recommended because many are more tolerant of heat and able to flower in warmer weather.

Water

Provide a constant supply of moisture to cymbidiums. They need the most water during the spring and summer keeping the potting material evenly moist. Reduce water in late summer. Keep barely moist during the winter.

When watering, let the water run through for a minute or longer to thoroughly wet the potting mix. Do not use salt-softened or distilled water. Be sure to let the plant drain completely.

This is a good time to look closely at your plant for any sign of insects or disease.

Light

From spring to autumn cymbidiums should be grown in the maximum amount of light (but not full sun). Feel the foliage to be sure that it is not warm since the leaves can sunburn. Leaves should be a medium to golden green in color, not dark green.

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Temperature

If practical, bring in the cymbidiums in when frost is likely and then put them back out as it warms up. In the spring, move the cymbidiums out of doors as soon as the night temperature is going to stay in the mid 40's or above and bring them back indoors in the fall when a light frost is predicted. It is very important for initiation of spikes to have a difference in temperatures between night and day. This can be achieved in the summer by sprinkling the leaves in the late afternoon or early evening for evaporative cooling.

Fertilizer

Any balanced orchid fertilizer (look at the numbers on the container, 20-20-20, etc.) can be used to fertilize your orchid. Feed cymbidiums every two weeks from March until September to help establish good growth and a good number of spikes in the fall. In late winter and the fall, feed once every three weeks and once a month in the mid winter.

Tips

Potting is usually done in the spring after flowering, usually every two years or when the potting medium decomposes.

Give your plants room for air to circulate around them. Crowding of plants can lead to problems with insect infestations and fungus. A small fan will help provide good air circulation around your plants when inside.

When the blooms are finished, remove the spikes at the base of the plant.

Novice Dendrobium Culture Sheet

den-DROH-bee-um



American Orchid Society
at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, FL 33156

Dendrobium is a diverse genus of orchids with different cultural needs. This culture information is for the phalenopsis-type dendrobiums pictured above. They are evergreen with thin, tall stems (pseudobulbs).

Water

Water your orchids in the morning so that the leaves are dry before night. How often to water depends on the potting media used, the type of pot (plastic or clay), and the size of the pot. Dendrobiums like to be in small pots and are usually much taller than the pot is wide. Because they are usually large plants in relatively small pots, watering twice a week is about average. They like to be almost dry before re-watering.

When watering, place the plant in the sink and use tepid water. Do not use salt-softened or distilled water. Let the water run through the plant for a minute or so. Be sure to let the plant drain completely.

This is a good time to look closely at your plant for any sign of insects or disease.

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Light

Dendrobiums need lots of light, but not direct sun. A lightly shaded south window is best. East or west facing windows are satisfactory if bright (avoid direct sun except at the beginning or end of the day).

Temperature

Dendrobiums can withstand hot weather if adequate ventilation and humidity are provided. They are best grown when the temperature is between 65°F and 75°F in the day and between 55°F to 60°F at night.

Keep in mind that temperatures close to the window on a windowsill will be colder or hotter than your general house temperature.

Fertilizer

Any balanced orchid fertilizer (look at the numbers on the container, 20-20-20, etc.) can be used to fertilize your orchid. Feed weakly (1/4 strength) weekly works well for dendrobiums. Once a month use clear water to flush any accumulated salts from the potting mix.

Tips

Use a shallow tray of pebbles filled with water to increase humidity around your plants. Be sure the pot does not sit in water as this will rot the roots.

Give your plants room for air to circulate around them. Crowding of plants can lead to problems with insect infestations and fungus. A small fan will help provide good air circulation around your plants.

When your plant has finished blooming, you can cut the flowering stem at the point where it came out of the tall thin pseudobulbs. Do not cut off the tall thin stem because the new flower stem will grow from there. Continue watering and fertilizing and within a year a new growth will spike to begin the blooming cycle again!

When re-potting, use a small pot; using a large pot will slow growth and reduces flowering significantly. Re-pot every two to three years.