



Volume 25 Issue 8  
August 2017

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Michael Pollen

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# THE KEIKI



### NEXT MEETING

**Saturday August 19, regular meeting place,  
VFW Post 8681 in Shady Hill.**

**18940 Drayton Street & County Line Road**

**Time is 1:00 pm**

### FEATURED SPEAKER:

**All the way from Leesburg,  
Florida!!!!**

**Donna Goodwin of**



**OFFICERS**

<u>President</u>	Jeff Rundell
<u>1st Vice President &amp; Past President</u>	Geary Harris
<u>2nd Vice President</u>	Steve Mattana
<u>Treasurer</u>	Helen Battistrada
<u>Executive Secretary</u>	Pat Baig
<u>Recording Secretary</u> (not an elected position)	Matt Riesz

**COMMITTEES**

<u>Bulletin (The Keiki)</u>	Ken & Delia Dunn
<u>Mailing the Keiki</u>	Tim Smith
<u>Historian</u>	Mary Lou Mattana
<u>Refreshments</u>	Mary Lou Mattana
<u>Librarian</u>	Celeste Ogden
<u>Membership</u>	Linda Condon & Arlene Appelbaum
<u>Programs</u>	Steve Mattana
<u>Publicity</u>	Julie Smolka
<u>Refreshment Reminders</u>	Mary Lou Mattana
<u>Show Table Report</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Trips</u>	Sonia Terrelonge & Laurie Ciannamea
<u>Webmaster</u>	Bob East

(Website set up by Ken Dunn)

The Club would like to thank Laurie Ciannamea for her years of service looking after the refreshment list and reminding everyone each month in the Keiki of the goodies we all signed up to bring.

Great job, Laurie—THANK YOU!

**REFRESHMENT REMINDER**

By Mary Lou Mattana

**FOOD:**

Tom Govin,  
Pat Yucci,  
Marie Tanaka,  
Pat Baig  
Wenzel Ogden



**BEVERAGES**

Celeste Ogden  
Linda Rhodes

*If anyone wants to bring extra beverages we can use any soda, ice tea, lemonade and larger containers of water for coffee.*

Mary Lou

**Treasurer's Report**

By Helen Battistrada



**Beginning Balance :**  
\$8,814.63

**Total Receipts**         \$ 186.00

**Disbursements:**         \$ 243.00

**Ending Balance:**     \$ 8,757.63

**Announcement**



Be sure and read the bulletin carefully as Professor Rundell is going to give a test next Saturday.

Hint: Page 13



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jeff Rundell

What's going on with your orchids? I can tell you what is happening to mine in a single word.....mess. Yup I'm in "full repot mode" and it is truly a mess. The lanai has a wheelbarrow full of potting media along with buckets of the leftovers dislodged from old pots. Smashed pots, knives, scissors, and other tools of destruction are everywhere. My wife just shakes her head and hopes no one comes to visit. Hopefully some of these divisions will be making their debut at our auction.

Donna Goodwin will be our speaker on August 19. She is an expert on those Vandaceous orchids I have a love / hate relationship with. She is a delightful person with a great sense of humor I know you will enjoy. Check their website if you want her to bring you something special [www . g o o d w i n o r c h i d s . c o m](http://www.goodwinorchids.com)

Karen DiCristofalo's husband will be present to take your picture so we can have a pictorial record of members on our website. Other clubs have also done this so I hope you can squeeze out a smile. I have dodged a request to be the speaker for our September meeting. Instead I begged Dr. Charles Thomas to be our speaker. You may recall Dr. Thomas (a dentist in Homosassa) is an acknowledged expert on phalaenopsis orchids.

We are planning for our annual picnic October 19 at Crews Lake Park. We will be passing around a sign up sheets to help us get attendance numbers and delicious dishes. We need your help!

Last month I promised to write about the single most important, but frequently ignored, factor

in growing orchids. Hint: it's 93 million miles away and takes about 8+ minutes to get here traveling at 186,000+ miles per second. So let there be light! Sunlight is indispensable and, as one member is fond of saying, "orchids don't live in caves". Stay with me for a while and we will explore the most frequent complaint of new orchid growers: "Why won't my orchids bloom"?

Recall that when we split sunlight into its component colors (as a rainbow or prism does) plants use only two wavelengths. Red and blue are winners and green is reflected making plants appear, well green! To a degree you can reproduce the important part of sunlight with HID (high intensity discharge) light set up. I used one up north and would like it out of my garage if you're interested. Successful orchid growing requires all of us to figure out how to get that recalcitrant bloomer what it needs from sunny boy without scorching the species. Light intensity is measured in foot candles = lumens per square foot. Light of the full sun on a clear day is about 10,000FC. At 5,000FC. most plants are 100% efficient. Taking the number of foot candles and multiplying it by the number of hours of exposure gives us the number of foot candle hours. Not many of us are going to go into such detail but it helps to understand our orchids have specific light needs that, if not met, result in disappointing performance. In order to bloom many plants have very specific needs for not just light but also darkness. Christmas cactus and poinsettia are good examples along with a few orchids. The more complex orchid hybrids are far less demanding than many species orchids. Also, since many orchids are native to equatorial regions, where day/night length is less pronounced, they may bloom more than

(Continued on next page)

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once a year or be more dependent on wet/dry seasons. I would also warn you about stray light from street lights or any exterior lightning near your orchids that's on at night. Some dendrobiums and cattleyas are fussy about stray light while phalaenopsis could care less. Also, if you are growing inside, take a look at any window films that may be filtering out those red and blue wavelengths plants need.

One of the things that can help you understand the light situation with your orchids is a light meter (pictured). They are usually less than \$25 and there are even more advanced models that connect through a computer interface to track specific intervals. It helped me after the construction of my greenhouse which, thanks to it's help, now has an inner layer of 60% shade cloth. So if your orchid has not re-bloomed consider changing its lighting by relocating it, BUT increase exposure SLOWLY. A simple way to measure light is to place your hand about 1 foot away from a surface and observe any shadow. No shadow = very low light few orchids would tolerate. Diffuse shadow = medium light. Sharply defined shadow = high light for cattleyas, encyclias. If you touch an orchid leaf and it feels hot (above body temperature) retreat immediately. But maximizing light is your best bet to increase blooming. One final question; Can you do better than the sun? In some cases the answer is yes. The HID lights I mentioned before are able to increase the required wavelengths of light without the heat and therefore can be run for long periods. Fluorescent light set ups (T5 type) and LED units are also available and might increase your ability to bloom cooler growing species inside. I think we have one member who does this trick over a terrarium. Commercial growers, and some others operating outside the law, rely on these lights but in Florida I have never

seen a commercial artificial light orchid grower. The eclipse is coming, an event that always gives us a new appreciation for the wonders of the star that we owe everything to. Jeff



The light meter pictured is usually less than \$25 and there are even more advanced models that connect through a computer interface to track specific intervals.



Also available is this 3 in 1 PH Digital Soil Moisture Tester Light Sensor PH Meter Digital Moisture Meter for Indoor Outdoor Garden Plants





**A CATTLEYA BLESSING**  
 continuing my story  
 by Delia Dunn

In the Spring of 2005 a neighborly couple up the street gave me a Cattleya in a wooden basket to look after while they went north for 5 months. They had just been given the plant from an ill friend in Vero Beach who would hang it on their gutter on the roof - not under a screen. The plant had been very ignored after possibly even hanging on my neighbor's gutter in full sun and had parched bulbs and almost yellow leaves. Another one had been thrown in the garbage as it was "obviously dead", I was told. I asked the man to get it from the trash and when I saw it I knew I wanted to try to save it. It had no scale !! it was bare root probably ripped right out of a pot and was just dehydrated and had had too much light along with nothing else. I was excited about this obvious challenge and the chance to prove to myself that I did know what to do with a Cattleya. Neither one of these plants had a tag. The second plant was in worse condition and no telling how long it had been in the trash. I soaked them both in fertilizer water for several hours, maybe even overnight, (if there were bugs they would be flushed out although I doubt a bug would have survived in the dried up basket). I potted the bad one in a coconut fiber basket and hung them both under the screen. I remember them almost immediately changing color and looking so much healthier.



A year later in May 2006, with beautiful fat pseudo bulbs, the wood basket produced three absolutely beautiful, enormous fuchsia flowers with maroon and gold lip. I couldn't take my eyes off them every day I marveled and the fragrance was sweet and strong. The coconut basket took longer to catch up since it was recently basketed, getting stronger and

larger all the time with a bloom or two well over a year later, but in 2010 it produced many flowers. Both these plants were spectacular and had no problems after their first fertilizer soak. I made a point of pulling off loose sheath material from the bulbs to keep the heavy rain from getting inside in case it would rot the entire bud and the flower would be lost. It seemed like I was always pulling it off that's how many buds I had coming. It was very exciting watching these plants grow.



Every September I gave these plants back to my neighbors with instructions for care, and they'd return them to me swinging from the roof of their golf cart every May just before they left again. Most years they brought them to me with no blooms and as soon as I got them I'd fertilize and they'd bloom pretty quickly.

All went well until 2011 when the two plants were returned to me in May with masses of furry cocoons stuck under the leaves and about 7 totally dried up sheaths between the two plants. Sheaths that would have contained large buds. I was horrified and asked the *man if they hadn't been watered and his response was, "oh, are you supposed to water them?"* Well, they'd gotten older and they'd hung them under their roof and just forgotten them. I was upset and barely could look at the man, shocked at their lack of treatment for their own plants after all the effort I put into them during the summers and the resulting beautiful blooms. He acknowledged they looked pretty bad. They were still their plants but their interest definitely had waned. The next year I just didn't give them back and they never mentioned them other than to say they did really well under my care.

The plants didn't bloom that year. Once I cleaned them up they looked very much better but they didn't have the strength to bloom and that was the result of lack of fertilizer and water from September through May and the next year there were only two smaller blooms on

one of the plants. I was highly disappointed.

The reason for adding these Cattleyas to my story though is because they were grown in baskets and they had not suffered from scale at all. This was a remarkable revelation to me since suffering the scale infestation prior to getting these plants. Rain saturates them in summer but they can drain better and the rest of the year they do dry out on my sunny patio and can be fertilized properly. Each year, since their second 'recovery' these two plants have again put out more flowers, the bulbs are smooth and fat so no room for hidden scale on the bulbs and their leaves are longer and healthier every year. They are so heavy I could no longer pick them up easily. It's interesting to note that they bloomed for me in March/April every year but when the other couple had them they had not bloomed by the end of May over several years.

that it came from a superior grower with a famous name. These two plants had been given every chance to die and they didn't. A well grown mature plant from a well-known grower, I've heard, is more likely to survive and produce beautiful strong plants like these. Whom ever purchased these plants would have paid good money for them and now I'm blessed with the enjoyment of them.

The one in the coconut basket (shown here in



April 2016) has no bulbs left in the center of the basket—I think they love having their roots exposed – others say it's from being too wet, so now the bulbs literally just grow on themselves wrapping roots around bulbs and bulbs hanging around and below the basket so I had to re-

wire the basket so that it's turned on edge and the bulbs can grow upwards (not saying that they do). It's literally a mount now, all the roots exposed, growing like it would in nature *and 'just begging for a tree in the jungle and monkeys to jump on them'* was a description that Ed Bugbee used at one time when he was describing the strength of a Cattleya in the jungle. We heard Michael Pollen last month tell me to *'just let it be'* when I asked him what I should do with a Cattleya when it had outgrown it's basket and the bulbs were everywhere.

Rather than have you think these beautiful plants have turned out that way because of lack of scale, fertilizer maybe a few times a year and lots of rain in the growing season, I think perhaps it's more



March 2012—in the same Wood basket and 6 years later

March 30, 2012



Mar.31,2012  
Different view

May 14, 2013  
Same wood basket





## Minutes for July 15th meeting

By Delia Dunn for Matt Reisz

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Rundell who was happy to be back after his long trip north. He welcomed Michael Pollen, our speaker, and all guests and new members.

There were no corrections submitted for the Minutes as typed in the Keiki so they were approved.

Helen Battistrada read the Treasurer's Report.

Geary Harris was thanked for the great job he did filling in for Jeff last month and many thanks go to Mary Lou Mattana for stepping forward and taking on the position of Refreshment Chairperson. She has also purchased a new coffee maker for the Club. Mary Lou is also our new Historian.

Dates for our next show had been discussed by the Board and it appears that April 14-15 looks the most attractive. There are always conflicts with dates and other clubs and activities and this date looked the best.

The Christmas Party this year will be December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Buffet City Restaurant.

The Board wanted to get out the promised Questionnaire but there will be a slight delay with that.

Our Picnic will be October 21st and we need a Chairperson for that event.

Our annual Auction will be November 18 and we will be looking for a Chairperson for that. And plants! Be preparing your plants and decide which ones you will donate ahead of time so you can make them ready.

The membership was asked what they thought about another trip to Apopka to purchase potting supplies for the Club.

Jeff introduced a very special guest today. Kellie Petersen, from Iowa, who is a student at the University of South Florida has a challenge to complete and she chose orchids as her topic. Kellie needs to interview different people and get their growing conditions and see how they grow their orchids and where. She was collecting names of people willing to help her out.

Jeff selected judges for the plant table prior to the refreshment break and reminded everyone to purchase their Raffle tickets and check out Michael Pollen's beautiful plants.

Following the break Jeff and Gary Gethen described the Show Table with its many gorgeous plants.

Jeff introduced our speaker, direct from St. Petersburg, whose reputation precedes him, Michael Pollen who gave a very interesting talk on mounting different types of orchids. We all thoroughly enjoyed his talk.

Next month Donna Goodwin will be here talking about Vandas!

The Raffle was held next but prior to drawing a number he asked again for volunteers for Chair people for our two open positions.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Delia Dunn in Matt Reisz' absence.

### A note about the Minutes

**The minutes presented have yet to be approved by the members. If you see the need for an addition, a deletion or a correction, please use the address below to send an e-mail to advise that a change is needed.**

**THANK YOU!**

[kdunn004@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:kdunn004@tampabay.rr.com)

**SHOW TABLE July 15, 2017 by Matt Riesz**

Plant Name	Grower	How long owned	growing Orchids	Ribbon?
Bc. Sunset Glory (L. purpurata x Bl. Richard Mueller)	Delia Dunn	2 yrs	23	
Potnara Shinfong Little love 'Little Goldfish'	Delia Dunn	9 yrs		
<b>Blc. Waianae Leopard 'Ching Hua'</b>	Gary Gethen	4 yrs		Y
Encyclia radiata	Gary Gethen	5 yrs		
Den. Hibiki Pink 'Tiny Bubbles'	Gary Gethen	1 yr		
Cym. Heavenly Sundust 'Summer Gold'	Gary Gethen	6 yrs		
Paph. Dr. Jackwell x Paph. philippinense 'Light Touch'	Gary Gethen	4 yrs		
Phrag. Olaf Gruss	Gary Gethen	6 yrs		
Brassidium Golden Gamine 'White Knight' HCC/AOS	Gary Gethen	8 yrs		
<b>Schoenorchis fragrans</b>	Gary Gethen	2 mos		Y
<b>Den. bullenianum</b>	Gary Gethen	17 yrs		Y
V. Rasri Gold	Gary Gethen	10 yrs		
Neofinetia falcata	Jeff Rundell	4 yrs		
Encyclia dickensonianum	Jeff Rundell	5 yrs		
Enanthleya Middleburg 'MAJ' AM/AOS (Cattleyanthe Bactia x Enc. phoenicea)	Jeff Rundell	4 yrs		
Encyclia albatum (cannot verify name- maybe E. Alanthum?)	Jeff Rundell	6 yrs		
C. warneri f. coerulea 'Do Suzuki' AM/AOS x self	Jeff Rundell	3 yrs		
Bc. Nanipuakea Dogashima	Judy Smith	8 yrs		
<b>Encyclia ciliare</b>	Karen DiCristofalo	2 yrs		Y
Phal. Yin's Bellina Kaiulani x Ld's Bear Queen	Steve Mattana			
Phal. bellina 'Ponkan'	Steve Mattana	1 1/2 yrs		
Phal. Fushing Superman x Mituo King Bellina	Steve Mattana	2 yrs		
Phal. violacea f. indigo	Steve Mattana	1 1/2 yrs		
<b>Phal. violacea var. Indigo (Phal. violacea f. indigo 'Pachara Delight' x violacea f. indigo 'Royal Blue')</b>	Steve Mattana			Y





## **BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS**

*Re-typed from a Citrus County Chronicle article*

Jeff Rundell, an Ellie Schiller Homasassa Springs Wildlife volunteer, and retired biology teacher, invites you to learn about the Butterflies and Moths and other characters with more than four legs at his presentation at 1 p.m. Thursday, August 24, in the Florida Room of the Park's Visitor Center.

Rundell does outreach programs, works in the Discovery Center, and has created a variety of displays.

He spent his career teaching biology in the Adirondack region of northern New York. He is a product of the State University of New York and has done graduate work in Minnesota and in Ohio. He is an officer of the Orchid Lover's Club of Spring Hill and has a collection of plants that he terms "out of control".

Rundell notes that "Butterflies are the bright airborne stars of the insect world. Moths usually don't get as much positive attention, but many are magnificent in their twilight world. Florida is also host to a variety of other fascinating characters with more than four legs. They are often misunderstood, under appreciated and frequently sprayed or squashed. Although they don't have the flashy flight of butterflies, their stories are just as intriguing".

There is no charge to attend this program and there will be handouts available.



The plant on the left has received enough light to produce flowers while the one on the right has not. Note the difference in leaf color. While there are many factors that can trigger blooming in orchids; a drop in night temperature, increase or decrease in day length and even sharp restriction in water availability, none of these will be successful unless your orchids have been grown with adequate light.



## **LIBRARIAN**

**Celeste Ogden says**

**"Check out our DVD's!"**

Learn from a professional how to care for your orchids - Keep a book or DVD for a month! Click on:

[www.springhillorchidclub.com](http://www.springhillorchidclub.com)

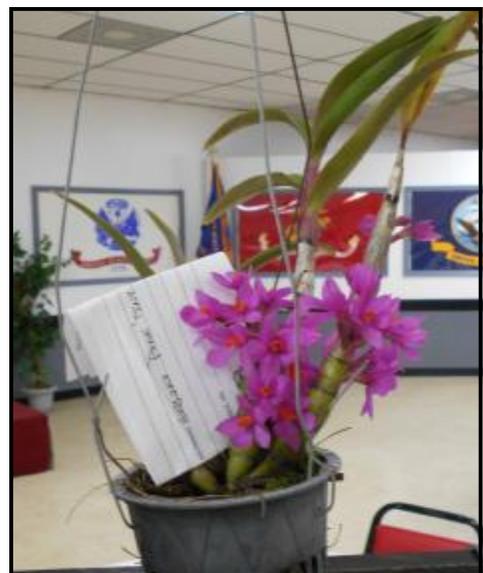
And then click on:

[Alphabetical Listing Library Books](#)



**"I even bring the books to you at the next meeting"**

Orchids Displayed by Members at the July 15th Meeting





## **SPEAKER SEGMENT**

**By Kara Warnock**

Our speaker for this month was Michael Pollen of Art Stone Orchids and Statuary from Saint Petersburg, Florida. His presentation was a nice workshop on how to mount orchids and display them in ways that are naturally beautiful. Up first was a display of how they grow their Vanda orchids in baskets with their roots hanging down from the baskets, taking on a wild and organic nature. Although they do not require repotting often, Vandas occasionally need to be repotted as their baskets break down. To assist with the repotting of Vandas, Michael has found that gathering the roots together using a twist tie twirled around the root system allows the mass of roots to be thread thru the bottom slats of the new basket without causing damage to them. He may sometimes remove one of the bottom rungs from the basket to create a larger opening for plants that have particularly large root systems. Once the plant is in place in the new basket, he secures the plant into the basket is by running a bamboo skewer between the slats in the side of the basket and over top of the roots (like a pot clip).

At his nursery he likes to use time release fertilizer (such as Dynamite) for his orchids to provide them with a small amount of nutrients every time they get watered. He mentions that it is important to read the label on your brand of time release fertilizer since some will last for 6 months and others 12 months. For plants that are grown in a basket with potting media the fertilizer is sprinkled around the root system. While mounted plants utilize a small pouch of fertilizer contained within screen wire (forming what look like tea

bags) hung just above the root system of the plant. In addition to the time release fertilizer they also apply a water soluble fertilizer to their plants at least once a month. A good non-urea, water soluble fertilizer that he suggests for the home grower is Better-Gro, which can be readily found at the home improvement stores.

Michael's preferred mounting media to use for his plants is coconut fiber. The main reason that he favors the coconut fiber for mounting purposes is that it is not prone to developing the green, or sometimes black, algal mats that can form over top of sphagnum moss. Although the algae is not parasitic, it is hydrophobic and can prevent water from penetrating the sphagnum moss providing proper hydration to the roots. He purchases the coconut fiber used for his plants from Tropical Plant Products out of Orlando. If you have interest in trying coconut fiber for your orchids he has small bags of the product available for purchase at his nursery. He mentions that Louis DeFavero and Phelps Farm orchid nurseries are probably our closest resources for obtaining coconut fiber locally

. At his nursery they like to grow a lot of Cattleya orchids, which take to being grown in baskets both horizontally and vertically. To pot the Cattleyas in the baskets the root system for the plant is spread out in a manner resembling a spider's legs, which allows for better air circulation as well as distribution of water and nutrients to the roots. Once positioned, the plant is secured in place using a bamboo skewer. The root system is then covered with the media (the coconut fiber) leaving the rhizome, new growth(s), and eyes still exposed to the light so that they can be stimulated to grow. .

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 A small handful of the time release fertilizer is distributed around the root system for feeding. At their nursery they also like to grow some of the Cattleya orchids in tree fern pots filled with loose tree fern fiber. The tree fern pots are typically used with plants that you intend to keep. The roots will grow down and thru the pot and the plant will eventually cover the entire surface of the fern pot.



Michael uses a variety of different mounting materials for his orchids. A favorite of his is cypress wood obtained from the Axley Bros Saw Mill located in Pinellas Park (12300 62nd Street). The saw mill will sell cut planks of cypress from the exterior of the

tree – consisting of the tree bark on one side and a rough sawn section on the backside. Because these cuts of wood are essentially considered scrap for the saw mill they can be purchased inexpensively for \$2-3 per 8-foot section. When mounting plants to the cypress planks it is important to affix them to the rough sawn side and not the bark side, as the bark will eventually slough off. He also utilizes materials such as cedar shake shingles from home improvement stores, freshwater red cedar driftwood, apple snail shells, coconut shells, and tree fern pots and totems.

They also grow a number of Phalaenopsis orchids mounted inside their greenhouse under a fiberglass roof. In order to mount them holes are predrilled into cedar shingles, the plant is positioned at a sideways angle, a small amount of sphagnum moss followed by coconut fiber is placed over top of the roots, and the plant is securely attached to the

mount using zip ties. Mounted in this manner they require more frequent watering (about every other day), but when in bloom their spikes create a natural pendulous display of flowers.

A variety of different orchid species can be mounted to driftwood, however, species that have pseudobulbs (Cattleyas, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums) and grow as a rhizome seem to be better suited since they are already accustomed to periods of infrequent rainfall. When mounting to the driftwood a small amount of backing material is placed onto the wood first, then the plant is positioned, followed by coconut fiber positioned over top of the root system, and the plant is securely fashioned to the wood using zip ties (no pre drilling required). In order to fertilize the plants positioned on the driftwood, he creates a pocket behind the backing material using his finger to place one of the screen bags filled with the time release fertilizer.

You may find through experimentation that most orchids will take to mounting. Michael suggests sticking with orchids that are miniature to compact in size, as they will generally work best. Orchid species such as Paphilopedium, Phragmipedium, and terrestrial orchid such as Phaius do not take to mounting well and are better suited to pot culture.



Speaker for this month was :  
 Michael Pollen of Art Stone Orchids and Statuary from Saint Petersburg, Florida

## MANY THINGS YOU MAY KNOW ABOUT ORCHIDS

From Flowerweb

1. Each orchid flower is bilateral symmetric, which means that it can be divided in two equal parts.
2. Size, shape and texture of leaves depend on the habitat. Orchids that live in dry climate have thick leaves covered with wax, while species that live in warm and humid areas have thin, elongated leaves. Certain species of orchids do not have leaves at all.
3. Orchids do not have usual roots. They have rhizome, tuber or aerial roots.
4. Orchids can live on the ground (terrestrial forms), attached to woody plants (epiphytic types) or under the ground.
5. Certain species of orchids are parasitic. They are not able to produce food (sugar) using the sunlight and carbon dioxide (like other plants). Instead, they obtain food from fungi that live inside their roots.
6. Bond between orchids and certain species of insects is tight and highly specialized. Petals have similar shape and color like female insects to attract males and ensure pollination. *Ophrys apifera*, better known as the Bee Orchid, lures male bees with its enticing smell and bee like appearance. When a male bee approaches the flower to mate, it becomes covered in pollen and is sent off to pollinate the next orchid it visits.
7. Due to high specialization of pollination, extinction of insect means extinction of orchid (there is no one else who can pollinate it in the wild).
8. Flower of orchid can survive from few hours to 6 months, depending on the species.
9. Orchids produce several millions of miniature seeds. Only few seeds will develop into mature plant.
10. The genus Orchid comes from an Ancient Greek word meaning "testicle"; because of the shape of the bulbous roots. The term "orchid", which is just a shortened form of the family Orchidaceae, was not introduced until 1845.
11. Orchid seeds do not have an endosperm which provides nutrients required for the germination. Due to this fact all orchids (including non-parasitic forms) live in symbiosis with fungi during germination. Germination can last from couple of weeks to 15 years.
12. People use orchids for numerous purposes. Substances isolated from orchids are used in industry of perfumes, spices and in traditional Asian medicine.
13. Did you know that certain species of Orchid can survive up to 100 years? And that Orchids have the largest variety of flowers with the number of officially documented species standing at an amazing 25,000 plus? With so much variety, it should be no surprise that there are some amazing facts about Orchids that are not widely known.
14. Except for areas with extreme hot or cold weather, Orchids practically grow everywhere in the world and scientist are discovering more new species as days go by.

**NOTE: Be sure and read this page carefully as Professor Rundell will be giving a test at the next meeting.**