



Volume 28

Issue 4

April 2020

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THE KEIKI



Amid the ongoing pandemic emergency, and following the guidelines set forth by the CDC, we have decided to cancel our scheduled meetings in April. So there will be NO board meeting on April 15th, and no regular members' meeting on the 18th. We have not yet made a decision on our May meeting, but that may need to be cancelled as well. So please stay tuned to email and to social media (Facebook) for further updates. Elections and other society business will be postponed until we can begin regular meetings again.

We hope you are all staying safe and healthy, and that your orchids are making your days brighter. Please post some pictures on our Nature Coast Orchid Society Facebook group for all of us to enjoy!

CALENDAR OF SPEAKERS/EVENTS FOR NATURE COAST ORCHID SOCIETY FOR 2020

April 18th—Elections, and member plant sales **(CANCELLED)**

May 16th—James Stevenson, from Pinellas County—Native Orchids

June 20th—Glenn Gross

July 18th—Dave Goliath

August—AOS Seminar?

September—AOS Seminar?

October—Annual NCOS Auction

November—Annual picnic

December—holiday party

EXECUTIVE BOARD

OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	Steve Mattana
<u>Past President</u>	Jeff Rundell
<u>1st Vice President</u>	Geary Harris
<u>2nd Vice President</u>	Celeste Ogden
<u>Treasurer</u>	Pat Baig
<u>Executive Secretary</u>	Pat Dupke
<u>Advisory Capacity</u>	Helen Battistrada
<u>Recording Secretary for meetings</u> (not an elected position)	Kara Ramsey

COMMITTEES

<u>Bulletin (The Keiki)</u>	Matt Riesz and Julie Smolka
<u>E-mail Co-ordinator</u>	Tim Smith
<u>Historian</u>	Mary Lou Mattana
<u>Librarian</u>	Celeste Ogden
<u>Membership</u>	Arlene Appelbaum, Carol VanderLaan
<u>Publicity</u>	Mary Lou Mattana
<u>Refreshment Table</u>	Volunteers please
<u>Refreshment Reminders</u>	Mary Lou Mattana
<u>Show Table Report</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Speaker Segment Writer</u>	Kara Ramsey
<u>Trips</u>	Sonia Terrelonge
<u>Webmaster</u> (Website set up by Ken Dunn)	Bob East
<u>AOS Representative</u>	Matt Riesz

Mary Lou Mattana



People that signed up to bring food are:

Snacks:

Drinks:



TREASURER'S REPORT

By Pat Baig

No Treasurer's Report this month. All of our show vendors have had their money refunded, and we expect either a refund or a credit from the VFW for our show fees.

Stay home, and stay healthy!!



President's Message

From the desk of Steve Mattana

Good day everyone.

Looks like we're back to typical Florida weather finally. Warm weather is getting all our plants blooming like crazy. I know my Phals have buds all over the place, as well as loads of flowers!

Some of them have been posted on Facebook on the Nature Coast Orchid Society's Facebook page. Some more members recently have started posting. Looking forward to seeing more of our members posting their blooms especially this time of the year and of course with the extra time that we now have. Jeff Rundell has put up some rather humorous photos of his plants riding a bicycle and some other silly things like that. Just to kind of lighten the mood and the air around us with this pandemic all around us. So, feel free to take a photo, funny photo if you will. You never know, you might put a picture up of a dividable plant that someone may ask for a division of that you could bring to the auction in October and they could bid on it.

Well we've all been locked up now. I'm sure like most of us you have been working in the greenhouse trying to keep yourself busy. Since we are playing in the greenhouse/working it's a good time to start to divide plants for auction coming up this October. Even in times of trouble or worry we have to keep on planning ahead for the success of our society.

The board will keep you informed if there will be a May meeting for the board or for regular society meeting. A mass emailing will be sent out to keep everyone informed on what we plan to do. Hopefully by next weekend, we should have a fair idea about any meetings . Time will tell.

Until then happy growing and stay well

Steve Mattana

Attention, Members, WE NEED YOU!!!

Our society depends upon volunteers for everything we do. In particular, we need officers: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President (who coordinates our speakers), Treasurer and Secretary. Without these officers we CANNOT CONTINUE TO EXIST! Our current slate of officers have been in their positions for two years, having volunteered to continue for a second year. But this year we must elect NEW OFFICERS. The jobs of each officer are not a huge burden, and they're a great way to get to know people. Please, please, please consider volunteering for one of these board positions, as well as several other committee positions. Elections are coming up soon, so speak to Steve Mattana if you're willing to help!



Membership Notes for March

From Arlene Appelbaum

As uncertain as these times are for all of us now, hopefully all of our orchids are thriving due to the abundant care and attention they must all be receiving. So even sheltering at home has its rewards.

Our society currently boasts a membership of 128 orchids lovers.

Please be well and stay safe.

Arlene Appelbaum

MEMBERS:

Arlene has graciously taken over sending get-well cards and sympathy cards to members. If you know of any members who are ill or grieving, please send her an email to let her know at fluffy2cats@gmail.com

THANK YOU!



NCOS COVID-19 QUIZ

Answers on last page

1. Symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- A. Fever
- B. Cough
- C. Shortness of breath
- D. All of the above

2. COVID-19 spreads by

- A. Close contact
- B. Through respiratory droplets
- C. Sexually transmitted
- D. A & B Only

3. How to protect yourself

- A. Wash hands often
- B. Hand sanitizer 60% alcohol
- C. Avoid touching eyes, nose & mouth
- D. All of the above

The term used for avoiding close contact with others is called:

- A. Being standoffish
- B. Social Avoidance
- C. Social Distancing
- D. Anti-social distancing

In the future the society will provide a box at each monthly meeting for us to collect groceries for those in need all year round. Please bring food items such as listed below to the meeting, and put them in the box. It will be donated to People Helping People from NCOS.

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

In Hernando County

WEEKEND BLESSINGS FOR KIDS

*SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS	INDIVIDUAL CEREAL PACKS
*CANNED CHICKEN/TUNA	CEREAL BARS
*DEVILED HAM	RAISINS
*TUNA/CHICKEN SALAD W/ CRACKERS	NUTS
*BAKED BEANS	APPLESAUCE
*VIENNA SAUSAGE	PUDDING SNACK PACKS
*MAC/BEEF	CANNED SOUPS
*RAVIOLI WITH MEAT	100% JUICE BOXES/POUCHES
*CHILI	SHELF MILK BOXES

People Helping People in Hernando, Inc.—a 501©(3) charitable organization

Dedicated to providing basic necessities to those in need

PO Box 6182, Spring Hill, FL 34611

***items most needed**

Monopodial vs. Sympodial Orchids

Many thanks to **BETTER-GRO** for this article!

Have you ever taken the time to compare the growing structure of an orchid? Obviously, blooms can vary widely across the thousands of orchid varieties that exist. But the basic growing structure of an orchid boils down to essentially two types: Monopodial and Sympodial.



Monopodial Orchids Have One Root System

Monopodial orchids have one stem, or, technically speaking, one root system. “Mono” is Greek for “one,” and “podia” translates from Greek as “foot” or “leg.” Since plants don’t have feet, podia is used to describe their roots. “Monostemic” technically means “one stem,” but monopodial is often used to describe monostemic orchids because monopodial orchids usually only have one stem, and orchids with one stem always have one root system.

All of a monopodials’ leaves and flowers grow from its single stem, unless one of the nodes at the base of the stem sprouts a basal keiki. A basal keiki is a little stem, and can grow into a fully, beautiful stem, but it’s not a complete orchid in its own right. It lacks a root system, sharing the root system of the main stem. Thus, while monopodial orchids may develop basal keikis and eventually can have several stems, they always have only one root system.

Significantly, monopodial orchids don’t have pseudobulbs. Any water reserves they have are in their roots and leaves.

Many phalaenopsis, paphiopedilum and vanda orchids are monopodial.

Sympodial Orchids Have Multiple Root Systems



Sympodial orchids are characterized by their multiple root systems. “Sym” can be translated from Greek into English as “with,” “joint,” “together” and “sharing.”

A sympodial orchid has a stem that grows pretty close to the ground, although their flower spikes are sometimes mistaken for stems. From this low-growing stem, which is called a rhizome, sprout pseudobulbs, one growing from the base of the previous one. Each pseudobulb grows its own flower spike and root system, hence the name sympodial.

Pseudobulbs look like flower bulbs, but they aren’t bulbs. Their main purpose is to store water, providing a reserve supply should the growing medium around the flower dry out.

Cattleya, cymbidium, dendrobium and oncidium orchids are sympodial.

Caring for Monopodial and Sympodial Orchids

Monopodial and sympodial orchids have many similar needs, but there are two minor points where the care they need differs.

First, repotting sympodial orchids can be slightly more involved than repotting monopodial ones. Repotting monopodial orchids is pretty straightforward. The plant should go in the center of the pot so it can grow out towards the edge of the potting medium in all directions. Because the pseudobulbs of sympodial orchids can grow in any matter of patterns, it can sometimes take a little more creativity to center a sympodial orchid in a pot. Additionally, some pseudobulbs, particularly new ones with young root systems, may need to be anchored with clips or other methods.

Second, monopodial orchids usually need more regular waterings than sympodial ones. Because monopodial orchids lack the pseudobulbs that sympodial orchids have, monopodials will dry out faster if they aren’t well watered. In general, monopodial orchids should be watered as their potting medium becomes dry. Sympodial orchids can often go a little while after their medium dries out before they need water.

Both monopodial and sympodial orchids are fun to grow and become beautiful plants. For more information on different types of orchids and orchid care, visit <http://www.EasyOrchidGrowing.com>.

Happy Blooming!

April: The Month of Niceness

Thoughtful Gestures in the Orchid Community

Promote Positive Attitudes

By Thomas Miranda

Spring is a most uplifting time of year, with its cool, fresh weather, its astonishing rainbow palette of floral exuberance and accompanying fragrant essences in the air. Whatever hardships life may lay at our doorstep, daffodils, cherry blossoms and spring cattleyas are, at least, a temporary respite from adversity. Spring is nice. I had a teacher years ago who chided me for using that word too often and opined that “nice” was actually an insult, that it was an adjective used to describe something bland. Something “nice” couldn’t be branded with any superlatives. It merely described an object or experience that was pleasant, but evoked no passion. As I’ve matured I’ve come to think differently about “niceness” and its importance and relevance. For example, I’ve discovered that in my desire to always be right or correct, I’ve also become confrontational, calling people out when they say something inaccurate or that I do not agree with. However justified I may be in correcting someone, in the end this appears as negativity and drives away potential friendships and relationships. Being nice is something I have to work on every day, but this work has also yielded fantastic, if immeasurable, results.

At the risk of sounding like an elementary school teacher, I believe that, no matter what, it is always important to be nice, to listen to and respect others’ points of view and to be kind to everyone, even those we completely disagree with. This kind of sensitivity is especially important in today’s orchid world and particularly in the orchid judging community. It is frequently lamented that participation in judging has been waning over the years and that, in particular, young people are underrepresented or even absent from our meetings and events. While this is often blamed on the seductive pull of the internet, that is really a lame explanation, as in the orchid world, there is no image or website that can substitute for the real thing. It is up to us to create a nurturing environment for everyone who wants to take part in the joy of orchid growing, no matter how old and crotchety, how young and callow or how odd and quirky. It is this diversity that makes us stronger, and diversity is what I love most about orchids. We are all good at nurturing and coddling our plants, but seemingly less successful in growing our own ranks. I think that in this regard, niceness can go a long way.

MILDNESS even though spring rains and storms are still likely in April, we can all agree that the weather has improved greatly since the bleak midwinter. Orchids reflect the changes too and are stimulated by the lengthening days and increased light levels to begin their new growths. Even plants such as cymbidiums, lycastes and phalaenopsis that

have just finished blooming are already producing new roots, leaves and growths that are the beginnings of this year’s pseudobulbs. There is a lot of imminent work to be done now. You must take advantage of all this growing activity as this is the time when plants establish themselves most easily.

PREPAREDNESS Before repotting season gets seriously underway, be sure you have all the supplies you’ll need to do a good job. Hit the garden centers or crack open the supply catalog and get a generous supply of clean new pots and baskets in assorted styles and sizes, fresh orchid mixes, rhizome clips, blank labels for any divisions you might make and fresh, unspoiled fertilizers. If you’re anything like me, having everything needed at your fingertips makes for a fun and efficient session of repotting. If I have to keep going back to the store or discover I do not have everything I need, I risk doing a poor or incomplete job or recycling supplies that may be suspect. In the end, the plants will suffer and so will your growing. Your orchids’ needs are not that complicated. Just like when you are cooking, it is always true that the best results come directly from your best efforts and quality ingredients.

MINDFULNESS Go through every plant in your collection and assess its needs and progress. This will help you set priorities in terms of which plants need to be repotted first. While most everything benefits from a spring repotting, some plants, particularly cattleyas and species from seasonally dry forests such as encyclias, catasetums and brassavolas, are rapidly coming out of dormancy now and you should try to repot them before the new roots are 2 inches (5 cm) long. Otherwise, the new roots may be damaged and crushed while repotting. Allowing roots to develop and grow naturally into their new fresh medium is what we all strive for at this time of year.

GRACIOUSNESS Invite your curious friends, neighbors and even that surly teenager across the street to help you during potting season. If they are not interested they will likely politely turn down your entreaties, but you just might be surprised how interested they might be. Reward anyone who helps you with a nice division or a new blooming phalaenopsis from the supermarket. Your invitation to them into this unfamiliar but totally fascinating world might create a new orchid enthusiast. And besides, it’s a nice thing to do. *(As pertinent now, as it was then - Reprinted with permission ORCHIDS VOL. 82, NO.4, APRIL 2013)*

The American Orchid Society Webinars

Webinars are online video presentations. You can register for an upcoming webinar or watch the recorded webinars any time. Some webinars require you to be an AOS member.

Upcoming Webinars

Webinars-Coming Attractions!



When	April 23, 2020 8:30pm EST Thursday	May 12, 2020 8:30pm EST Tuesday	May 21, 2020 8:30pm EST Thursday	RECORDED WEBINARS at your convenience
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Australian Dendrobiums	Culture, Judging, Pests and Diseases, Greenhouse Chats indexed by topic
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Fred Clarke AOS Judge, Orchid Hybridizer & Greenhouse Owner	AOS Members, Judges, Concerned Conservationists, Scientists & More

Just click on: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx> and you can watch these videos at your convenience. Some webinars are reserved for AOS members only.

Don't miss out! AOS Membership offers something for everyone !

YOUR ORCHID LIBRARY

By Celeste Ogden



<http://www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com/library-checkout-books.html>

How do I get a book from the Club's Library?

1. Just Click on: www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com/library-alphabetical-list-books.html
2. Select Books or CD's you think would be useful and order right on the web page.

Select any number(s) that you would like to spend some time with and then you can sign them out at the next Members' Meeting. Keep them for 1 month and return them at the following meeting and remove your name from the list.

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Orchids for Tropical Gardens by: Dr. Chris K.H. Teo

Book # 300-018

Beautiful Orchids for the home and garden. This book tells you in simple, casual language how to grow them.....with 159 color illustrations. A must for all orchid lovers.

If you have any questions about our Library Books, my email address is:
c1948ogden@gmail.com



Here I am



The Society meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month, at 1pm, at the Spring Hill VFW Post 8681 18940 Drayton St. at County Line Rd

Enjoy great speakers, fantastic raffle prizes and beautiful orchids on display.

www.naturecoastorchidsociety.com

Answers to quiz

1. *D All the above*
2. *D A & B only*
3. *D All the above*
4. *C Social Distancing*