



# THE KEIKI



**Coming Soon**



Volume 31  
Issue 8  
August, 2023

**Our next meeting will be on Saturday, August 19th open at 11 AM for preview and auction starts at noon. Auctioneer is Laura Newton**

CONTENTS

Page 1

President's message

Page 2

Officers, Committees,  
Speaker Schedule

Page 3

Membership  
Treasurer's Report

Page 4

NCOS Meeting Minutes

Page 5

New member in the Mat-  
tana household

Page 6-7

Catasetum culture sheet

Page 8-9

Catasetum update by  
Vick Fisher

Page 10-12

Pictures

Page 13

Save the date

Page 14

AOS Webinars

Page 15

Thanks to those who  
have contributes to our  
club.....Advertisement  
page

**Northcliffe Baptist Church  
10515 Northcliffe Blvd  
Spring Hill, Florida 34608**

## President's Message



Hello everyone! Our annual auction is upon us! It will be on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> at our usual meeting place. Setup (for those of you bringing plants or otherwise assisting us) will be at 10:00AM. Doors open at 11:00AM for registration and plant preview. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00AM. Our auctioneer will be esteemed member and all-around great person Laura Newton. This will be a fun and special event, and we expect to have lots of unique and special plants available. So, COME GET 'EM!!

The dog days of Summer are upon us, with high heat and humidity. My catasetums and warm-growing cymbidiums are starting to bloom, and my warm-growing Phals are looking very happy. I hope yours are too. Watch out for thrips and spider mites, and treat for them before they can do damage. I use Neem oil for the mites, although there are miticides available and "kill sauce" (a mixture of alcohol, formula 409 cleaner and water) is supposed to be effective. You should still be feeding all your orchids as they're in active growth now, especially Vandas. With the high rainfall and temperatures, treat regularly with fungicide too – Thiomyl and BanRot are my choices but others can help too.

September will be a special meeting, as Norman Fang will be with us. I'm not sure of his exact topic but he's an internationally known expert on Phalaenopsis, with many hybrids to his name. He'll have plants for sale.

Best wishes, and I hope to see you ALL at the auction!

Matt

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

## OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Past President</u>	Steve Mattana
<u>1st Vice President</u>	Bob East
<u>2nd Vice President</u>	Bella Roberts
<u>Treasurer</u>	Herbert May
<u>Executive Secretary</u>	Cheryl Crilly
<u>Recording Secretary for meetings</u> (not an elected position)	Cheryl Crilly
<u>Trustees</u>	Rosanne Wenz Jeanne Montgomery

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

## COMMITTEES

<u>Auction Chair</u>	Susan Kimmel
<u>Show Chair</u>	Bob East
<u>Bulletin (The Keiki)</u>	Julie Smolka
<u>E-mail Co-ordinator</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Historian</u>	Susan Kimmel
<u>Membership</u>	Arlene and Arty Appelbaum
<u>Publicity</u>	Gertie Messenger
<u>Refreshment Table</u>	Annie Aierstock
<u>Refreshment Reminders</u>	Annie Aierstock
<u>Show Table Report</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Speaker Segment Writer</u>	Volunteers please
<u>Trips</u>	Volunteers please
<u>Webmaster</u>	Bob East (Website set up by Ken Dunn)
<u>AOS Representative</u>	Matt Riesz

# NCOS speaker schedule through December 2023

*Updated as of 3/1/2023*

**Note:** Dates \*\*\* are different from our normal 3rd Saturday schedule, as the facility is not available on our normal dates those months.

March 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> – annual orchid show

April 15<sup>th</sup> – Bill Nunez – Vanilla orchids in FL

May 20<sup>th</sup> – repotting workshop

\*\*\*June 24<sup>th</sup> – Ecuagenera/Dayanette

July 15<sup>th</sup> – Bret Ullery – Accent Orchids

August 19th – Auction

September 16<sup>th</sup> – Norman Fang (tentative)

\*\*\*October 14<sup>th</sup> - Picnic

November - TBD

December 16<sup>th</sup> - <Holiday Party>



## Membership Notes

*by Arlene Appelbaum*

Our monthly NCOS meeting was very well attended with over 50 members plus guests. Our total membership numbers now stands at 120 folks, which consists of 12 honorary and 108 paid.

Thank you to all of our people who provided refreshments for the meeting. Special kudos to Annie Aierstock who has volunteered to chair this committee.

Don't forget our auction on August 19 th. See you all there.

Arlene Appelbaum  
Membership

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Current Report as of

Prior bal. as of 7/1/2023:	\$13,953.78
Total receipts (raffle, etc.):	\$ 178.50
Total disbursements:	<u>\$365.95</u>
Bank bal. as of 2023:	\$13,766.33
Outstanding Checks:	\$
Cash On Hand 2023:	\$

### 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](mailto:fluffy2cats@gmail.com)



THANK YOU!

NCOS Meeting Minutes  
July 15, 2023  
Northcliff Baptist Church

Meeting was called to order at 12:05 by Bob East. President Matt Riesz was unable to attend.

Bob East indicated to Members that our Web-site was having issues and hopefully it will be corrected soon.

August will be our annual Auction. If any Members have plants they wish to donate to the Auction please let Bob know so arrangements can be made to pick them up. Susan Kimmell indicated that the Auction was one of our biggest fundraisers and would like to have more Member participation. Bidding starts at noon. Save the date cards are available and Members were asked to pass around. Per Bob East, our 2024 Show and Sale will be held at the Joan of Arc Church. More information will be coming soon.

Arlene Applebaum indicated we had 45 Members and 8 Guests who were introduced to the Members.

For the September meeting – our Speaker will be Norman Fang.

Our Speaker – Ruth Ullery discussed mounting and the different ways to mount. She demonstrated how to drill holes in ceramic pots, including using a clay saucer as a mount. She also indicated when to use spagnum moss when potting, how to place the plant in pots, also how to use wood baskets to pot.

Bob East and Jeff Rundell discussed the Bloom Table.

Winning raffle tickets were drawn.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.  
Minutes submitted by  
Cheryl Crilly - Secretary

Steve and MaryLou Mattana welcome a new member to their family.  
Everyone meet Rookie



He is so cute



# Catasetum Culture Sheet

kat-ah-SEE-tum



Ctsm. Sherriff Frank Drew from Matt Riesz

This unusual group of orchids offers fascinating, waxy flowers that often have the peculiar habit of discharging their pollen masses (pollinia) onto pollinators. Almost always deciduous, the pseudobulbous plants have strict growing and resting periods. Most flower before entering a dormant period when they drop their leaves

**Light** should be strong, especially near the end of the growth period. Early in the annual growth cycle, plants will tolerate less light, from 1,500 to 3,000 foot-candles. Plants grow best with light levels of 3,000 to 6,000 foot-candles, or one-half to three-fourths full sun. As pseudobulbs mature, harden them by giving slightly more light.

**Temperatures** reflect the fact these orchids are native to hot tropical areas and grow during the rainy summer months. During this growing period, day temperatures of 80° to 100° F and night temperatures of 60° to 65° F are beneficial. After growths mature, temperatures can be reduced to 55° F at night, with day temperatures of 70° to 85° F.

**Water** is a critical factor for the production of large pseudobulbs that result in best flowering. A great quantity of water must be stored by the plant in a relatively short growing season. Water heavily as new leaves are forming. As the pseudobulb matures, gradually reduce watering frequency. Leaves will yellow and drop. At this time, watering should be stopped completely until new growth begins. Water during this dormant period only if the pseudobulbs shrivel severely.

**Humidity** should be 40 to 60 percent. This can be provided in the home by placing the plants on trays of gravel, only partially filled with water so that the plants do not sit in the water. Air should always be moving around the plants to prevent fungal or bacterial disease, especially if high humidity or cool temperatures exist. In the greenhouse, the humidity is best increased by use of a humidifier. Evaporative cooling increases humidity while cooling the air.

**Fertilize** and water regularly to produce strong pseudobulbs. Use a high nitrogen formulation (such as 30-10-10) while plants are in active growth, slowly tapering off as pseudobulbs form. A blossom- booster formulation (such as 10-30- 20) should be used in the autumn, except for plants that normally bloom in the spring. Frequent applications of a dilute concentrations of fertilizer are more effective than occasional applications of strong concentrations.

**Potting** should be timed to coincide with the initiation of new growth, usually in the spring. New roots will be produced quickly at that time, and plants will experience minimal setback. These plants have vigorous root systems and require a rich, moist potting medium during the growing season. Many growers bare-root their plants during the resting period to ensure dryness at that time. Fine-grade media are common for smaller pots; medium-grade media are used only in larger pots. Sphagnum moss is used successfully for plants in many areas, as it provides tremendous water- and fertilizer-holding capacities. Some plants can be grown on slabs of tree fern or other material, which makes it easier to keep them dry during dormancy; however, it is harder to keep them moist while growing. When well grown, these orchids can be divided down to one mature pseudobulb and will then flower on the next mature growth. Spider mites are a common pest of these orchids when in leaf. Control spider mites by keeping humidity high or spraying with recommended miticides.

Thank you to the AOS for this information taken from their website

## July 28, 2023. Catasetum Update

From Vicki Fisher

We are now on the other side of the growing season and all your hard work has paid off.

Here are a few things for this time:

**Fertilizing:** If your plants have stopped producing new leaves, stop fertilizing. Fertilizing at this point is a waste of fertilizer. Fertilizer is used to help your plant grow, if it's no longer producing leaves, it has finished growing. And no, you do not need to switch to a bloom booster, your catasetinae will bloom when it wants to. It may be this year or it may be next year.

**Late Season New Growth:** It is not uncommon for some catasetinae to develop late season new growth. If yours does, water and fertilize as normal. If the Spring new growth has stopped growing, but you have late season new growth, continue to fertilize.

**Mealy Bugs and Spider Mites:** These nasty little bugs are always an issue. They just love the tender thin leaves and will destroy the leaves in no time at all if they go unchecked. Always watch for them. I check my leaves every day. You can use Kill Sauce to take care of both, spraying the leaves liberally both the top and the undersides; or, use insecticide for mealy bugs and a miticide for spider mites

**Yellowing Leaves:** You may be noticing that leaves at the very base of the bulbs are starting to turn yellow. This is perfectly normal. Catasetinae are deciduous and leaves will turn yellow and fall off. Some slowly, some may do it quickly. If your plants lose all of its leaves, stop watering. Hopefully that won't happen for a few months yet, but I have had plants do it early.

**Spikes, When & Where:** I get asked this all the time. The short answer is "I don't know". All I can tell you is a general timeline:

**Catasetums:** When: Catasetums can bloom in the Spring, Summer, Fall or Winter. It depends on what you have. Where: Generally catasetum spikes begin at the base of the bulbs.

**Cycnoches:** When: Late summer to Fall. Where: Normally from the middle to the top of the bulb.

**Mormodes:** When: These bloom on bare bulbs and bloom between late Fall and into the Winter. I'm still new to growing these, and hopefully the mormodes I got last year will bloom for me this year. Where: Spikes generally start in the middle of the bulb.

**Clowesia:** When: Winter (there are a few Spring bloomers): Where: At the base of the bulb on bare bulbs. Again, this genus is new to me.

Now for the Hybrids:

This gets a little bit tricky because it depends on the cross. Most of the time, the plant will follow the seed parent, but not always, sometimes it could bloom on the pollen parent's schedule. It's a toss up. This is why tags are so very important. They not only help with the pedigree of your plant, it will give you a guide on how they will grow and bloom. So don't lose them or throw them away.



Fredclarkera (FDK): These are complex hybrids. It can be a Mormodes x Catasetum or a FDK x Catasetum. A prime example of two that I have are Fdk. After Dark (Morm. Painted Desert x Ctsm. Donna Wise) or Fdk. Midnight Lace (Morm. Painted Desert x Ctsm. fimbriatum. The After Dark has bloomed consistently in the Winter, while the Midnight Lace blooms in late summer. In fact, my Midnight lace is in spike and close to blooming right now. It's spikes are at the base of the bulb, whereas the After Dark spikes at the lower middle of the bulb. Both of these have Morm. Painted Desert as the seed parent, but one follows the typical mormodes blooming season, while the other follows the catasetum bloom season.

Clowesetum (Clo.): This one will also depend on what is in the cross. I have some that bloom in the early Spring, some in the late Summer and others in the Fall.

Catamodes (Ctmnds): I am new to these, buying my first last year, so I have no information yet to share. I am excited to see the flowers.

Cycnodes (Cycd): This is a cross between Cycnoches and Mormodes and they are some of the coolest looking flowers. In my experience these bloom in the late Fall to early Winter.

Monnierara (Monn.) I don't grow these. They have been over-cloned.

There are other crosses that I have not discussed as I do not have them in my collection yet.

Male vs. Female Flowers on Catasetums & Cycnoches: How do you get the male flowers as opposed to the female flowers? There is back and forth on this. Some say it has to do with the culture of how you grow them, while others say it's all about the light. How I do it is as soon as I see a spike, I move the plant to shade. This has worked for me pretty consistently.

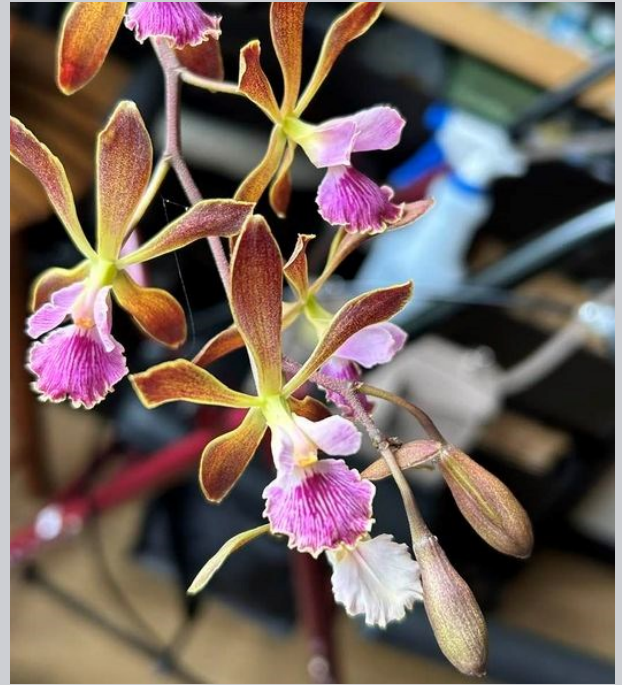
I hope this information helps. I've been growing Catasetinae for 10 years now and the information above is from my own personal experiences with these plants. I am in no way an expert, just a hobbyist that has an obsession with Catasetinae.

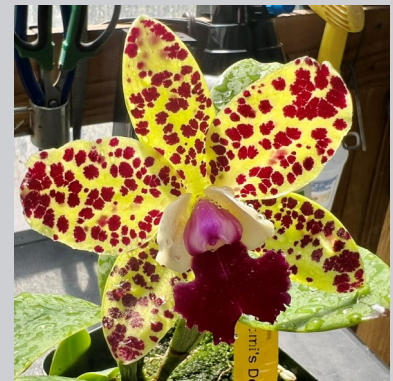
Here are some of my plants, just after a wonderful downpour.

Many thanks for Vicki Fisher for allowing use to use her  
article for this months Keiki

Sorry, no pictures were taken at July's meeting so I took a random sampling from our page on facebook. Please enjoy these photos and come visit Nature Coast Orchid Society on facebook for more beautiful pictures from our members. You can also post pictures yourself and ask our members questions about your orchids







Plant Name	Plant Owner
Phal. Bellia "firescape"	Jeff Rundell
Vanda Yellow Butterfly	Susan Diemer
Gram Scriptum var Citrinium	Julie Smolka
Cadetia Taylori	Julie Smolka
V. Prapathom Gold X Chaopraya Sapphire	Randy Dugan
Vanda Kulwadee Cream Spot	Susan Diemer
Enc. Steinbachii x Enc. Howardii	Bella Roberts
Bc Maika x Bl Morning Glory	Bella Roberts
Bc Jairak Kiku	Bella Roberts

# **SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, August 19, 2023**  
**Starts 12 PM**

---

## *Orchid Auction*

---

**Located at Fellowship Hall**  
**10515 Northcliffe Blvd**  
**Spring Hill, FL 34608**



*Nature Coast Orchid Society*

**Preview at 11 AM**  
**Free Entry**  
**Cash/Credit Card Accepted**

Everyone welcome for this exciting event. Don't forget to spread the word

## 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



<https://www.aos.org/all-about-orchids/webinars/judging/virtual-judging-as-a-training-and-educational-exer.aspx>

**Go here to join the AOS:**  
<https://secure.aos.org/join/new-membership>

Many Thanks to all the orchid growers that  
donated plants to help make our annual auction  
a success



*Smiley's Orchids*

6836 Green Swamp Rd. Clermont FL34714  
Phone 352- 241-6166 , 407- 497-7682  
e-mail: smileyorchids@yahoo.com

*We grow with passion and share with reasonable prices.*



*Accent Orchids*

2835 38th Ave N, Saint Petersburg, FL, United States, Florida  
(727) 550-7993



*Art Stone Orchids & Statuary*

3611 Tyrone Blvd, Saint Petersburg, FL, United States, 33710 (727) 345-6733



St. Pete  
Orchid Farm

1228 15th St N, Saint Petersburg, FL, United States, Florida  
(727) 201-8264

by appointment only



*Orchids in Bloom*

2001 Rock Springs Rd, Apopka, FL 32712  
(407) 242-0619