



THE KEIKI



Coming in May

Our May 15th meeting will feature Steve Mattana teaching us how to properly mount an orchid, and Matt Riesz showing us how to divide and re-pot an overgrown orchid. Member sales are allowed at this meeting.

Our next board meeting will be held on May 12th at 1pm.

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CONTENTS

Page 2

Officers, Committees
Treasurer's Report
Corbin's Corner

Page 3

April Show Table

Page 4

Membership Notes
Quiz

Page 5

April Meeting Minutes

Page 6

April Speaker Notes

Page 7

Orchid Culture

Page 8-9

AOS Information

Page 10

Library

Quiz Answers

President's Message

From Steve Mattana



Good day everyone

Our April meeting with Tony Millet was quite uplifting, a lot of fun, very interesting, and Tony was most generous with plants for our raffle table. Tony gave us 20 plants! That's right 20 plants. Our group interacted with Tony very well with many interesting questions asked and answered. And since we had such a terrific meeting with Tony, I have invited him back for September meeting.

Yvette, our treasurer, has suggested that we try to put a field trip together down to Accent Orchids in St. Petersburg. I'm sure that she will be bringing this up at our next meeting to see how many people that are interested. Bret and Ruth. The Ullerys said that they would provide food and drink! Most generous!! We will try to set this up separate and apart from a regular Saturday meeting. Again, discussion will follow on this subject. Dates yet to be determined.

Our May meeting will be an educational meeting. Matt Riesz and I will show the group how to divide a plant and I will show how to mount plants onto wood. Many have asked for this type of demonstration, and just a couple of months ago I was called out to show the group how to mount an orchid on a stick. We may have a special guest step in as well. Stay tuned.

We have an amazing collection of books in our library. We are going to be dispersing these at the next couple of meetings. What you saw on Saturday was just a smattering of what we have available. A lot of these books are out of print. Which makes them valuable. Every grower should have a couple of books in their collection for a reference. More information to come on this.

We are still looking for people to join the board. Please contact Jeff Rundell if you wish to apply for a position. We will definitely need a first vice president, a secretary and a trustee. We will be changing the bylaws to reflect that will be four trustees on the board. Your help, volunteering for these positions, will keep our society going and growing.

First vice president position needs to be filled. The responsibilities of this position are to take over if the president is not available. To make sure that the VFW Is paid for our monthly meetings and for our events. To make sure that our marquis is up and correct for our special events.

Second vice president position we have a nominee, his name is Corbin Beller. If anyone wants to run against Corbin or with Corbin. Please stand up at the next meeting. If you want to be president of the organization, please stand up at the meeting. I have volunteered to stay on if nobody wants to be president.

The board secretary goes to the board meetings and records it, then types up the minutes. This position is important, so that there is a record of the meeting, but only takes up a few hours of time each month.

Good growing until we meet again — S

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>	Corbin Beller
<u>Treasurer</u>	Yvette Lewis
<u>Executive Secretary</u>	Linda Moore
<u>Recording Secretary for meetings</u> (not an elected position)	Kara Ramsey

COMMITTEES

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



Corbin's Corner

Next meeting, May 15 our very own Stephen Mattana our president, Matt Riesz our valued member and Keiki editor and valued member Gary Gethen will present some demonstrations. We will learn about how to mount orchids on wood and how to successfully grow them in that way. Matt will be presenting "Divisions of a Cattleya", he will be dividing and repotting a gnarly overgrown cattleya. These have been questions from members all the time. Be sure to attend this meeting to get your questions answered.

Ants and Orchids

Are ants bad for my orchids? Will ants cause harm to my orchid or flower spike? What do I do about the ants in my orchids? These are all questions we might ask if we see ants on our orchids. Oftentimes ants will be present on our orchids because the buds secrete sweet nectar most commonly known as "honeydew" before they bloom. The orchid has evolved to do this to attract pollinators into the area before the blooms are open. The only time to worry about nats on your orchids are if there is a nest, or a large amount present on the orchid as this could mean aphids are present.

This leads us into the Myrmecophila genus. This genus used to be called Schomburgkia however the name was changed in recent years and now is directly correlated to ants. The greek word myrmex means ants and philos means friend. Knowing this we can now know that the genus has something to do with ants right. In fact the relationship between ants and Myrmecophila are much more than getting to the sweet sap the buds secrete.

Ants and this species help each other out with a symbiotic relationship. The orchid's pseudobulbs when they age become hollow. These hollow old p.bulbs will oftentimes have small holes, these holes are the passageway for the ants. Ants live in these old p.bulbs storing leaf litter and other organic matter for their use. When it rains however, the organic matter actually helps aid in fertilization of the orchid. Not only do the ants aid in fertilization of this unique genus they also protect its flower spikes from small insects. The ants will go up and down the growing and towering spikes on some of the species to collect the "honeydew". While doing this they are actually cleaning the flower spikes and going about eating and fighting away small and malicious insects. The orchid and ants both receive a benefit from each other, the orchids get fertilization and protection and the ants get a home and food. This type of relationship is called a symbiotic relationship.

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Yvette Lewis

Current Report as of 4/30/2021:

Prior balance as of 3/31/2021:	\$11,091.10
Total receipts (raffle, etc.)	\$381.50
Total disbursements	<u>\$(1,349.28)</u>
Bank balance as of 4/30/2021	\$10,123.32
Outstanding Checks	<u>(\$0.00)</u>
Cash On Hand 4/30/2021	<u>\$10,123.32</u>

NCOS Show Table April, 2021

Plant Name

Cattleya hybrid - blue
 Den. aphyllum hybrid
 Rth. Beau's Golden Touch 'Touch of Class'
 E. cordigera h.v. randii x E. cordigera 'Dark Variety'
 Epy. Serena O'Neill
 Dendrobium chrysotoxum
 Coel. pandurata 'Tristan'
 C. Irene Finney 'Spring's Best' AM/AOS
 Encyclia profusa
 C. Snow Blind 'Kenny' FCC/AOS
 Epicattleya Rene Marques
 Phal. Ba-Shi Canary 'Xavier' AM/AOS
 C. Jewel Box 'Dark Waters'
 Phal. schilleriana
 C. nobilior var. amaliae
 C. hybrid - bright pink
 Leptotes bicolor
 Maxillaria houtteana
 Leptotes bicolor
 Epidendrum radicans hybrid

Grower

Regina Epple
 Regina Epple
 Ken Mort
 Bella Roberts
 Bella Roberts
 Matt Riesz
 Matt Riesz
 Matt Riesz
 Ken Mort
 Regina Epple
 Steve Mattana
 Ken Mort
 Steve Mattana
 Steve Mattana
 Delia Dunn
 Ken Mort
 Matt Riesz
 Matt Riesz
 Regina Epple





Membership Notes for May

by Arlene Appelbaum

Hello Everyone,

Our society has grown in membership to an amazing 116 members. This is a wonderful accomplishment and a credit to all of our existing members who brought folks to our show as well as our meeting who then decided to become new members.

Our April meeting was attended by 36 members and 4 guests.

I hope by now all of you who sent in your 2021 dues have received your membership cards and well as your receipt for payment.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, May 15th at the V.F.W. at 1P.M.

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 ORCHID QUIZ

Answers on last page

1. ***Orchids comprise approximately what percent of flowering plants?***
 - A. ***3%***
 - B. ***27%***
 - C. ***14%***
 - D. ***8%***
2. ***Which fictional detective was known for growing orchids?***
 - A. ***Sherlock Holmes***
 - B. ***Nero Wolfe***
 - C. ***Agatha Christie***
 - D. ***Philip Marlowe***
3. ***Orchids have similar smells to which of the following scents?***
 - A. ***Rotting dead elephant***
 - B. ***Chocolate***
 - C. ***Cinnamon***
 - D. ***All of the above***
4. ***The corsage orchid is another name for***
 - A. ***Cattleya***
 - B. ***Vanda***
 - C. ***Phalaenopsis***
 - D. ***Dendrobium***
5. ***The easiest way to re-bloom your first orchid is***
 - A. ***Build a greenhouse***
 - B. ***Buy an orchid matched to your growing conditions***
 - C. ***Water it every day***
 - D. ***Hire Matt Riesz to tend to it***

The Orchid and the Tree.

An orchid seed was flying through the air when it landed on a tree. The Orchid seed said to the Tree "Is it ok for me to live here?" The Tree asked the Orchid "are you going to feed on me" ? The Orchid said "No, I landed on the rock first, he never said anything, and it was not safe for me, then the wind took me to you. So here I am. I just need to live with someone." The Orchid said "besides, I would like to live with you. I really like to hear your whispers, in the breeze."

SM

Minutes from the April 17th Meeting

Steve Mattana welcomed everyone to our April meeting.

Yvette Lewis provided the club's treasury report. We had a very successful orchid show with a good turnout and lots of participation from vendors and newcomers interested in our club. The show netted a profit of \$853 for the club. The balance of the club's account as of the end of March was \$10,266.

Arlene Appelbaum provided our membership report. As of today's meeting, the club has a total of 116 registered and paid members. We had 4 new members that joined the club and were recognized at this month's meeting. The club picked up 38 new members as a result of activities associated with our annual orchid show. Please see Arlene if you are interested in purchasing a name tag/badge to wear featuring the club's logo (they are \$13.50).

Steve recognized Laura Newton and Bill Nunez for their contributions with the AOS judging of plants during our show. Matt Riesz was also recognized for all of his hard work in putting all of the paperwork together for our show. Steve also took the time to recognize all of the many individuals who volunteered their time to help out during the show.

During the meeting Steve proposed a motion to add two additional trustees. This motion was seconded and the club's total number of trustees has been raised to four. The idea of a trustee is to become familiar with how our organization runs and to possibly help out during times special events are held.

Jeff Rundell spoke that we are in need of individuals to fill some of the officer positions on the club's executive board. We would be looking for interested individuals to be mentored and eventually move up into some of the leadership positions. We are currently looking for individuals interested in the Secretary, Vice President, and publicity/advertisement positions.

Our speaker for this month was Tony Millet who discussed his hybridization work with Cattleya and Schomburgkia orchids.

Matt Riesz and Laura Newton discussed all of the beautiful orchids featured on our show table for this month.

The raffle was drawn and the meeting adjourned.

April 17th Speaker Notes

Our speaker for this month was Tony Millet from West Palm Beach, Florida who led an open “conversation” on his work in hybridization with *Cattleya* and *Schomburgkia* orchids. Tony has been working on hybridizing rare species and color forms of these orchid species for the past 20 years. His work in hybridization of *Schomburgkia* orchids has been geared towards creating hybrid plants with interesting colorings and markings with an overall smaller size that are easier for the average grower to maintain.

Schomburgkia species orchids are generally large, clumping plants with tall inflorescences (flower stems) that can reach heights of 5 to 6 feet or more. They like to grow high in the canopy of trees typically in full sunlight. The native habitat for members of this genus is found in Belize, the Caribbean basin, and Mexico. *Schomburgkia* (Schom.) is a small genus of about 10-12 species with three main species that orchid growers utilize the most when creating hybrids. They are *Schom. tibicinis*, *Schom. albopurpurea*, and *Schom. thomsoniana*. *Schom. tibicinis* is a large plant that features successively blooming brightly colored magenta flowers with wavy bronze tipped sepals and petals. This species is often used in hybridization because of the intense markings found on the lip of the flower. *Schom. albopurpurea* is a more compact growing member of this genus with creamy white sepals and petals with a deep crimson colored lip. Lastly, *Schom. thomsoniana* is a small sized plant with citrine-colored sepals and petals with a magenta or purple colored lip. There are several traits of interest that hybridizers look at when planning to cross pollinate orchids, these traits include: good flower color, good flower form, striping, spotting, and picotee.

The culture or care of *Schomburgkias* is similar to that of *Cattleyas* with some minor tweaks. *Schomburgkias* once settled into a spot in your greenhouse that they like prefer to stay put and are not very receptive to being moved around or repotted. They have a smaller diameter root than *Cattleyas* and their roots are a little more fragile and not as receptive to disturbances. These orchids will exhibit slow growth for the first 5-7 years of their life, after which they will begin to exhibit very rapid growth. These orchids grow very well in south Florida where nighttime temperatures are warmer and humidity is constant. Although they are tough plants, they might not be able to tolerate our cooler winter temperatures (or temperatures below 40 degrees). Tony prefers to grow his *Schomburgkias* mounted on cypress wood. Over the years he has found that the outer bark of the cypress wood will hold moisture next to the plant's roots for about two to three days – allowing for less frequent watering. Although they can be grown in pots their root system does not seem to like being constantly saturated by moisture from the media contained inside the pot. Tony's mantra for watering his orchids is volume in, volume out. Meaning you must thoroughly soak your plants with water and not mist or sprinkle in order to keep them truly happy. Tony waters his plants once a week and it takes him approximately 5 hours to water his entire collection of orchids. These plants love high light. In order to get these plants to bloom successfully they require almost full sun (about 80 percent) just shy of light levels that would burn the leaves of the plant. However, once the plant is in bud and/or flower you should reduce the amount of light received. Although the plant the intense light the flowers do not, and the buds might blast if not moved to a slightly shadier spot. Tony uses a balanced 20-20-20 fertilizer on his plants. He creates a weak fertilizer solution that is applied to his plants on a weekly basis separate from his weekly watering routine.

Make sure to consider the *Schomburgkia* genus the next time you are looking for a unique looking orchid to add to your collection. Hybridizers like Tony are working hard create overall shorter plants with wavy petals, interesting color patterns, and distinct markings on the lip for new orchid growers to enjoy.

May: The Month of Exploration and Adventure

by Thomas Mirenda

A great thinker named Helen Keller once wrote this: "Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing." I dare say she had a very different perspective about life than the rest of us, but I believe that perspective revealed a larger truth to her. I can't imagine how dangerous it would be to be blind, nor what an adventure it would be to discover, or rediscover, our world minus the incredible gift of sight! In a way, without venturing out into the world, we are blind to its many glories and mysteries. Some, like our beautiful native orchid species, might be just outside our back doors whereas others require treks across mountains, oceans and hemispheres to discover.

This is a remarkable planet with outstanding and dazzling diversity. To spend your life in just one place, however safe and lovely, would be like reading just one page of the encyclopedia. The fields and forests of May are a wonderland of floral magic and I encourage you to get out there and see them for yourself. I try to go on an orchid trip every spring; sometimes a local jaunt to the Green Swamp Preserve in North Carolina is all I can muster, but it is still most incredibly satisfying. I guarantee you that there are some fascinating and beautiful wild and orchid-rich areas well within driving distance. With a little bit of research, you can easily find out about them. Last year a group of my friends reveled in the spring spectacle that occurs annually on the island of Sicily. It was probably one of the best experiences of my life. Don't sit on the sidelines! Get out there and explore your world! Enjoy an adventurous spring this year!

EMERGENCY Don't be alarmed! Spring is all about emergence. And your orchids are showing the signs of this. New roots and growths are popping out of your plants rhizomes with incredible vigor now! Everything wants to grow in May while the air is cool, fresh and moist! The flowers in your garden will attest to this basic truth of the spring.

TAKE ME OUT Any cool- to intermediate-growing orchids in your collection can be moved outside this month. Bringing orchids out for the fine weather will produce stronger and tougher growths. Spring rains are falling and the delicious rainwater can be a tonic for struggling orchids. Chlorine and fluoride added to our water are often the culprits when an orchid seems to languish. If such plants seem to perk up when exposed to spring rain and weather, it may be worth your while to invest in rain barrels or a reverse osmosis water purification system for your orchids.

DO ME PROUD Take this spring growth spurt as your golden opportunity to repot. Repotting during dormancy, while sometimes necessary if a plant falls over or starts to rot, is rarely a good idea. But the spring, when new orchid roots are searching for fresh bark to adhere to, is just about the best time to take on this annual chore. Cattleyas that have grown to the edge of their pots, oncidiums and miltonias with broken-down mixes, catasetums and lycastes coming out of dormancy and any pot that has weeds growing in it, should be taken and redone while they are in active new growth. Plants establish best when repotted with about 1 to 2 inches (25–50 mm) of new root growth. Roots longer than this are more easily damaged.

THE EDGE OF WETNESS Always soak your bark overnight before a potting session. Orchids take in water through the velamen in their roots by osmotic pressure. If your mix is too dried out, it will actually desiccate your orchids by wicking moisture out! This being said, roots are searching for moisture and keeping them too wet will inhibit their colonization of your new medium. Always allow newly potted plants to dry out a bit between waterings for best results. Watering and fertilizing in general should be stepped up this time of year. Take advantage of your orchid's natural willingness to grow in the spring. Water and fertilize accordingly!

EXPLORE YOUR WORLD Whether it's the wooded area down the street or across an ocean, wild orchids are patiently waiting for you to discover them this month. Don't disappoint them! Many orchid societies and botanic gardens offer nature walks and other excursions this month to see some pretty incredible places, encrusted with fantastic plants at their peak. If such trips are just too challenging to participate in, I encourage you to go to your local public garden! National Public Garden Day is on May 9 this year: www.nationalpublicgardensday.org/gardens.

I hope each and every one of you ventures out that day to see all the great marvels of nature, which are everywhere on our spectacular planet.

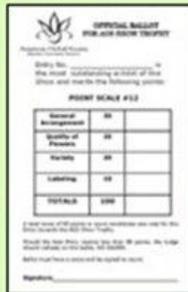
- *Tom Mirenda has been working professionally with orchids for over three decades and is the past chair of the AOS Conservation Committee. He is an AOS accredited judge in the Hawaii Center (email: biophiliak@gmail.com).*

This article was reprinted from the May, 2014 issue of ORCHIDS magazine

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.

Webinars-Coming Attractions!



When	May 04, 2021 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	May 31, 2021 8:30pm EDT Monday	June 08, 2021 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	June 17, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	<i>Prosthechea karwinskii</i> in Mexico, reintroducing a threatened species	Show Trophy Subjective or Objective	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Julia Douglas AOS Conservation Grant Recipient	Marc Burchette Head of Biltmore Estate Orchid Collection	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyhow!

Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook,

Instagram and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.

We digitize the webinars and they are available to view at your leisure.

GREENHOUSE CHAT Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.

Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

- **ORCHIDS MAGAZINE - Coming in April 2021**

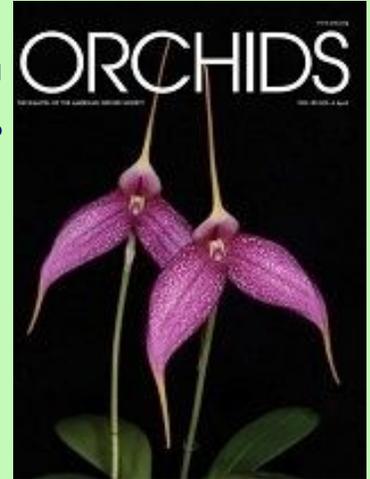
Repotting Those Huge Cattleyas

SEEDLING CATTLEYAS are so much fun. They do not take up much space in your growing area when you first bring them home, so you can buy lots of them at orchid shows without worrying about where you are going to put them. You get to watch each plant grow bigger and stronger and imagine what their first blooms will look like. If you decide the flower was worth the wait, you give it a permanent home in your growing area. When it starts growing out of the pot, you move it into a larger pot and look forward to it producing multiple flower spikes and putting on a real show. Then one day your plant is growing out of an 8- or 10-inch (20- or 25-cm) pot, you start running out of options, and eventually you have to decide to either find a bigger pot or divide the plant.

I have a serious orchid addiction so it goes without saying that I am always running out of bench space. A compounding problem is my love of the large standard cattleyas that, not coincidentally, take up a lot of space. I needed a way of potting-up my overgrown cattleyas without having one pot turn into two or three or four, so I often pot divisions into the same pot. Spoiler alert: You will be ineligible for AOS cultural awards by having more than one plant in a pot, but if your primary goal is getting the most flowers per square inch (square centimeter) of pot space, read on...

(Find the [entire article](#) beginning on page 260 in the April 2016 edition of [ORCHIDS](#).)

Text by Sue Bottom/Photographs by Terry Bottom)



Some recent AOS awards, found in **OrchidPro**



Rhyncattleanthe
Fuchs Orange Nuggett 'Lea' CCM/AOS
(82 points)

(*Rhyncattleanthe* Orange Nuggett x
Cattlianthe Viola Sanjume)

Award No: 20211291 left

Exhibitor: David White

Photographer: Kay Clark

Florida North-Central Judging Center

Pterostylis concinna
'Dusty's Pea-Wee'

CBR/AOS (0 points)

Award No: 20212557 center

Exhibitor: Nile S. Dusdieker

Photographer: Nile Dusdieker

Chicago Judging Center

Papilionanda Batram

'Frank Smith'

FCC/AOS (92 points)

(*Papilionanda* Mimi Palmer x
Vanda denisoniana)

Award No: 20211287 right

The plants showcased here demonstrate the variety of awards granted by the AOS.

The CCM, Award No: 20211291, was given to the grower, and first time AOS exhibitor. He is now a proud member of the AOS.

Award No: 20212557 is something you do not see every day. A **CBR** is awarded to rare and unusual species with educational interest that has received no previous awards.

The judges liked **Award No: 20211287** enough to grant it an **FCC**, the highest flower-quality award designated for orchid species or hybrids scoring 90 points or more, on a 100-point scale.

To learn more about [orchid awards and judging](#) visit <https://www.aos.org/orchid-awards-judging.aspx>

Club Library

Important notice !!!

The club will be disbursing our entire library at the next meeting. There are many quality books and other items that are valuable educational resources. We would ask for a donation of one or two dollars for each book. If any are left at the end of the meeting they will be available for free. Member donations



Nature Coast
Orchid Society

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. 8%*
2. *B. Nero Wolfe*
3. *D. All of the above*
4. *A. Cattleya*
5. *B. Buy an orchid that matches your growing conditions*