The Keiki

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Show up or Showdown?

by **Jeff Rundell**

Being Orchid Festival show Co-chairman can produce feelings of insecurity I haven't felt since the first time I was on ice skates. But like the proverbial "well oiled machine", experience and planning quickly turned my frown into a smile that lasted all weekend. I'm not going to mention names lest I forget someone, but seeing the show table, the educational display, the kitchen overflowing with food, admission and membership tables along with the potting shed all come together with volunteers that know the drill made me feel something that is rare in most groups. Forgive me for sounding emotional, but that something is a strong sense of unity. If you were not involved in this year's show, I invite you to share some of this positive vibe with the rest of us next year. I hope you agree that all the planning, prodding and prognostication was worth it.

Granted this is just my view, but some of the proof of this comes from two sources. I tried to talk to all our vendors about their experience at our show and other shows they have attended. Without exception they felt our show was well planned and executed, but moreover, there was a friendly atmosphere that made them feel welcome. One vendor remarked that the limited size of the show didn't overwhelm people and they were pleased that they did not have to set up a separate display or focus on judging. Another vendor complimented the club on on how well things were organized and all of them simply loved the food. I also made it a point to speak with as many of our customers as possible without (as the song goes) "hearing a discouraging word". So many people had questions about all aspects of orchid growing and went home with

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Treasure's Report
By
Helen Battistrada

Balance 02/16/13	$ 3454.28
Receipts	$ 2408.00
Total	$ 5862.28
Disbursements	$ 2016.71
Balance 3/16/13	$ 3845.57

Upcoming Speaker Program
By Ed Bugbee,
Program Coordinator

April

Donny Stoner, Touch of Orchids, will be our April 20th speaker

Topic : "Baskets and mounting"

Membership

By Linda Meyer & *Sarah Hart*
Membership Coordinators

80 Paid members.

41 Members March attendance

1 Guest

5 New Members

Our meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of each month starting at 1:00 P.M. We usually have an informative speaker at each meeting, a show table of orchids grown by our members and orchids for sale. We meet at the ;
Partners Club of Oak Hill Hospital
11361 Cortez Blvd Cortez Blvd.
Brooksville, Florida

ORCHID LOVERS' CLUB OF SPRING HILL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING MARCH 16, 2013

President, Geary Harris, called the meeting to order at 1:09 pm. Geary welcomed everyone and invited guests to join the Club and said they could attend for 2 months first if they wish, after which membership is expected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Membership Chairman, Linda Meyer, reminded new members to please sign in at her membership table at the beginning of every meeting.

Geary thanked everyone for their efforts in making our show last month a successful one and we made a little money even though that was not the intent. He asked for a show of hands to see who wanted to do a show next year and the response was very positive.

Show Chairman, Jeff Rundell, stated that the advance purpose of the Club was education and that is what the Show provides to the public. It attracts new members which was evident, and he was definitely in favor of doing a show every year.
Geary stated that Pat Dupke needed more assistance in the kitchen in so far as serving food and putting it away and after discussion it was recommended that in future a sign up sheet be passed around for specific help and time slots in that department. Ed made the comment that upon talking with the vendors they were well pleased with the quality and quantity of the food that our Club provided.

2nd Vice President & Trip Chairman, Sonia Terrelonge, announced the costs of renting a van and driver for the one-day trip to Redlands the 3rd weekend in May. Because of the hours of the van company, 2 days are charged for rental.
For a 15-seater van (incl. driver): $420/2 days incl. tax and mileage, gas $240, driver $280; Cost pp $68.00
a 12-seater van (incl. driver): $236/2 days incl. tax and mileage, gas $280, driver $280; Cost pp $72.00
an 8-seater van (incl. driver): $147/1 day incl. tax and mileage, gas $280, driver $280; Cost pp $100.00
A show of hands was asked for to see who was interested in going. The money would be due by the April meeting.

Nominating Chairman, Delia Dunn, stated her committee was comprised of Linda Roderick and Connie Revoir and said that Connie had contacted everyone in Spring Hill about serving on the Board. There was nothing else to report.

OLD BUSINESS:
Geary put out a reminder for those who had not paid their annual dues that today was the deadline.
Geary requested that everyone take some business cards advertising our Club and pass them out everywhere.

NEW BUSINESS:
Geary has asked Delia Dunn's husband, Ken, if he'd be willing to set up a website for the Club and he said he would do it and train someone to look after the website in future as he doesn't want to do that. Geary will be in touch with Ken for further details to present to the Board. Ideas were discussed for a suitable URL for the website.

Dan Grant has volunteered to be our official photographer. Ed Bugbee has donated a large plaque on which we can post our pictures from different events. A guest at the show offered to give us pictures she took.

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Refreshment Reminder

By
Eleanor Szarzynski,
Refreshment Coordinator
352-688-3887

April

Judy Smith
Delia Dunn
Connie Revoir

Soft Drinks

Jeff Rundell
Don Grill

Upcoming Biography's

May

Me

Things My Mother Taught Me.

My mother taught me to THINK AHEAD...

"If you don't pass your spelling test, you'll never get a good job."

New England Clam Chowder

By Pat Dupke

I made the New England Clam Chowder for the festival on Friday. I had a number of individuals who wanted the recipe. Enjoy.

NEW ENGLAND CLAM CHOWDER - recipe from Yvonne Allen
2 - 7 1/2 oz. cans minced clams
4 oz. bacon, minced
4 C. diced potatoes
1 1/2 C. water
1/2 C. chopped onion
2 C. milk
1 C. cream or half & half
3 TBSP. flour
1 1/2 tsp. salt,
Dash of black pepper

Strain clams, reserving 1/2 cup liquid, set aside. Cook bacon in large pan till almost crisp, remove bacon and set aside. Drain fat. Add clam liquid, potatoes, water and onion. Cook covered till potatoes are tender; 15 to 20 minutes. Stir in clams, 1 3/4 cup of the milk and cream. Blend flour into remaining milk, then stir into chowder and stir until thickened and almost boiling. Add salt and pepper and reserved bacon. (Boiling will

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(Minutes Continued from page 2)

The Show Table was judged during the break.

There was a Panel to answer questions from members instead of a speaker.

The Raffle was held and following that the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by Delia Dunn in the absence of Sue Caparbi-Taylor.

PROPOSED TRIP TO REDLANDS INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FESTIVAL
in Homestead, Florida on MAY 17, 2013.

Entrance fee is $10.00.

We plan to leave the FRIENDSHIP CLUB at 3:00 a.m. and return approximately 10:00 p.m. We should have approximately 5 hours of shopping.

Due to the expense of a Coach bus and the difficulty of getting enough members (45) to participate, we are looking into renting a van. The cost of the vans are as follows:

8 seat van (including driver)
$147.00 for 2 days with unlimited mileage including tax.
Driver - $250 plus food $30.00
Gas - Approx. 70 gallons @ $4.00 per gallon = $280 Total - $700/7 = $100 person

12 seat van including driver
$236.00 for two days, unlimited mileage, tax Driver - $250.00 + $30.00 Gas - $280.00
Total - $756/11 = $72.00 per person

15 Seat van - per Al
Van - $100.00 per day with 150 miles and 20 cents per mile thereafter.
Tax not included.
So, Van = $200.00 plus $220.00 = $420.00 Gas = $240, 00 Driver = $250.00 plus $30.00

Total = $940.00/14 = $68.00 per person

Participants must provide their own lunch, snack, and dinner.
We currently have 5 members interested with a possibility of 2 more.
We need 4 more members to rent the12 seat, and should we get enough members, 9 more

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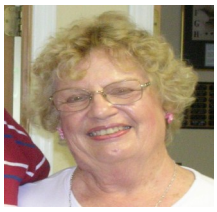
The Presidents Message

By Geary Harris

Congratulations to those who were on our panel and for the great advice on taking better care of our orchids. I believe that many of our club members were able to get a better handle on growing beautiful orchids. I hope in the future that we can do some one on one workshop's with our more experience growers to give those of us more help.

With our new web sight, we will be able to reach more people and introduce them to our club and perhaps get some new members. See you in April. *Geary Harris*



Orchid Club Members,

I want to thank those who donated food, sodas, kitchen helpers and those who set-up the picnic tables outdoors for our 2013 orchid festival. We received high compliments for our luncheons from the vendors and club workers. Again, a huge THANK YOU to everyone for making our festival a great success.

Pat Dupke

Orchid Festival Judging Results

By Carol Monroe

Thank you to all of the Club Members who brought orchids in for our table display. Thank you to the members who worked so hard on Thursday night and Friday to put the Club show table together. A special thank you to Louis Del Favero and Bill Fajen of Louis Del Favro Orchids and Joyce Fowler of Joy Orchids who kindly took the time to judge our Show Table for the Festival. My apologies if any names, floral or person were misspelled!! Many names were not printed clearly on the plant slips.

Nobile Dendrobiums

1. Dendrobium aggregatum
   Linda Roderick
2. Dendrobium Aussie Chip
   Linda Roderick
3. Dendrobium Emma White
   Linda Meyer

Other Dendrobiums

1. Dendrobium Love Memory
   Linda Roderick
2. Dendrobium Nobile hybrid
   Jeff Rundell
3. Dendrobium Yellow Song 'Canary'
   Richard Ratajczak

Cattleyas

1. Slc. Tutankamen
   Gary Gethen
2. Potinara Aussie Sunset
   Richard Ratajczak
3. Blc. Myrtle Beach x Blc. Caroline
   Golden Dior – Don Grant

Vandaceous

1. Ascda. Zengyd Blue Spot
   Gary Gethen
2. Ascda. Golden Red
   Gary Gethen
3. Ascda. G. Motes
   Gary Gethen

Species

1. Encylia cordigera
   Gary Gethen
2. Paph. glaucophyllum
   Pat Dupke
3. Encylia stamfordianum
   Linda Roderick

Miscellaneous

1. Smbc. Jewel Osment
   Linda Hindman
2. Neost. Lou Sneery 'Bluebird'
   Linda Hindman
3. Psycopsis Kalihii 'Green Valley.
   Jerry Hart

Ascda. Zengyd Blue Spot owned by Gary Gethen was selected Best in Festival

(Show Continued from page 1)

some well schooled advice from both members and vendors. A few questions like "Why don't you sell orchid seeds here?" led to more discussion that I would have liked. Then there was the infamous phone call my wife got from a nice lady who organizes beauty

Educational Table by Garnet Allport & JoAnn Oberley

Potters Don Grill & Linda Hindman *foreground* (Al Fiore not shown)

Pat Dupke and Ruth Redeker

Member Joyce Fowler of Joys Orchids

pageants. She wanted us to have a queen of the orchid show along with a little miss orchid at our next show. I might add that my greatest "guilty pleasure" was announcing and subsequently handing a prize plant to raffle winners. The look on those faces was priceless.

In the end I think we made the right decision about next year's show. There is no question it is huge amount of work, but spread evenly, the end result makes me proud I am a member. We have already seen some of the fruits from this show in the form of new members. More progress will come from our business cards and new website. While we need to be vigilant about staying financially solvent, we also need to consider what ultimate common goals we share. I would hope that, among them, is to demonstrate and advance the love of orchids and to show others the fascination and pleasure they can bring. Personally I can't think of a better way to do that than another orchid festival next year. One last thing I'd like to say, and last chance at a bad metaphor, even though it violates my first statement. For me, Geary Harris was the engine that kept this train on the tracks.

SPEAKER SEGMENT

by Delia Dunn

Instead of a speaker we had a Panel to answer questions from members. On the panel were Dan Grant, Gary Gethen, Dave Dobson and Kara Warnock.

Dan Grant Gary Gethen Dave Dobson Kara Warnock.

Dan, one of our newer members, comes from the cold north where he grew orchids and now grows on a lanai in Spring Hill;

Gary is a long time orchid grower recently from Key West with it's tropical climate, and now in Brooksville with it's not-so-tropical climate, and has just built a greenhouse for his many hundreds of orchids;

Dave, both a long time orchid grower in Spring Hill and member, grows his many orchids in a greenhouse;

Kara, another of our newer members, has a degree In Horticulture and grows her plants indoors in an apartment.

All very different perspectives from the point of view of growing orchids. There were many interesting questions and responses, not all described here, and everyone who was present enjoyed the various responses.

Members asked questions of the panel in general and not specifically of one person. Regarding the best media mix for orchids left a long time when the owner is away, the response given was that more sphagnum moss is needed in the mix as well as coconut husk as they hold water longer. Another used sponge rock in their mix and some type of irrigation system was also suggested. But if you're growing in a room in your house it would have to be some very specific type of automatic irrigation. The easiest suggestion and unanimous was to ask a neighbor to check on your plants while you're gone.

Another question asked by Geary was regarding acclimating plants to the warm weather when they have been dried out all winter long. Gary did suggest not to fertilize the plants in that condition but give them water and move them slowly outside for a couple of hours in the early morning before the sun gets hot. They love the humidity being outside overnight and they get the dew in the

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(Speaker Continued from page 6)

morning hours and even that little bit of moisture does them good and helps them to adjust to being outdoors again.

A question was asked how to repot a Cattleya when the roots are curving around the outside of the pot since the newer growth needs to grow toward the center of the pot - exactly how do you place the roots? One response was to divide the plant in order to keep the pot a small size rather than go to a larger pot unless it was desired to grow a larger plant. But with the larger pots very often the medium holds too much water in the center and the plant would therefore die in the center. When this happens the plant will grow only around the edge of the pot where there is less moisture and this can lead to the roots growing outside the pot.

Another answer for how to repot when the roots are curving around the outside was that you place the plant against the inside edge of the pot so the new growth goes toward the center.

Jeff wanted to know from all the panel which orchids they would describe as their 'failures'.

Dan described how in April he'd moved down from New Jersey with all his orchids and the Florida heat just killed two outright - the Miltonia and Zygopetalum. He said he's tried growing them in shade but that hasn't worked. He chaulked it up to climate change. Today he grows mostly Cattleyas.

Gary had the funniest response - he pretended not to understand the question and just repeated 'failures??' Apparently he had none, and growing in the Keys might explain it although you'd think they might have SOME problems down there. Perhaps Gary looked at a non-thriving plant as a 'learning experience' rather than an outright failure, which is the best way to look at it.

Dave, who grows beautiful orchids, understood the question only too well but didn't tell us what he failed at. He simply said he throws them in the garbage when they die.

It is said that you are not a good orchid grower if you have not had at least a few losses. I wonder how good we are if we have had 100% turnover? I supose that would depend on how many plants one has.

What are scale and mealy bugs? what do they look like and how do you eliminate them? was the question from one member and after discussing what each insect looked like and where it most appeared, Gary gave his formula for getting rid of them:

1 teaspoon of rubbing alcohol,

2 tablespoons of liquid soap (not dishwashing detergent),

2 tablespoons of vegetable oil mixed into 1 gallon of water.

Give the plants a good spray with this solution about every 3-10 days. This will kill the adults and also kill the babies as they hatch and will not harm the plants. Here are some pictures of these pests that cause damage by sucking the juice from their host plants, especially Cattleyas.

To get further information about them and how to treat them, just Google 'scale and mealy bugs on orchids'.

Male Boisduval scale

Mealy Bugs

April In Your Orchids

Based on AOS monthly checklists by Robert Scully and Ned Nash & James Rose, adapted to St. Augustine by local growers. Re-printed by permission of the St. Augustine Orchid Society

General Orchid Growing Tips

This is one of the most exciting months of the year, filled with an abundance of flower spikes emerging. It's the beginning of the long growing season, enabling us to provide our plants with the foundation for maximum flower production in the next flowering season. Increase water and fertilizer as the days lengthen and warm to yield floral dividends in the months beyond. Consider adding an additional 30% shade cloth to protect plants from the intense summer sun and heat. When the humidity is low, consider switching to Courtney's nighttime watering regimen.

Cattleyas

C. aclandiae and C. forbesii produce flowers that last for weeks. C. mossiae and its hybrids are well known for their spectacular, long lasting heads of 6 in blossoms that provide an abundance of flowers. Begin the annual repotting cycle by shifting and dividing those cattleyas that flowered earlier this year and are beginning to produce new growth. Typically you should repot only when the new growth is emerging to take advantage of the plant's tendency to make new roots when it is forming new pseudobulbs.

Encyclias

Enc. cordigera should be blooming profusely now. The spicy fragrance will last for several weeks. Consider shifting it to a wooden basket when flowering is complete.

Cymbidiums

If you have more than one or two brown leaves, you may have a cultural problem. If the plant is loose in its pot, the mix has degraded and the plant should be repotted. If the plant is firm in its pot, it is asking for more fertilizer.

Phalaenopsis

Moth orchids are in their prime, boasting arching and branching sprays of beautiful flowers. Most growers don't spray chemicals on blooming phals so check for signs of pests like scale or mites that you can spot treat with alcohol.

Vandas

Vandas are entering into their growth period and you should see an abundance of new rootlets. Locate them where they get bright bright light (though not direct light) and plenty of fresh air. Increase water and fertilizer to fuel their growth, they'll reward you later in the season with abundant blooms. Water them two or three times a day with an automated spray system or water wand and apply fertilizer either before watering or after roots dry off a bit.

(Proposed Continued from page 3)

we could rent the 15 seat.

Please email Judy or I at < sewingmom1@bellsouth.net > if interested or call 352-684-5810. We must know definitely on or before the next meeting, Saturday, April 20th, 2013. Payment MUST be made to Helen at our meeting on the 20th, so we can finalize the vans.

Thanks,

Sonia Terrelonge

(New England Continued from page 3)

make clams tough). Makes 6 servings. NOTE: Sometimes I add a little more flour stirred into more milk or water if it is not thick enough. I usually add all the clam liquid too to give it more of a clammy taste. Whatever your preference is.

Keith Richards's smoking habits and the death of a rare orchid

The Rolling Stone's cigarette played a part in the end of a Phalaenopsis amabilis at the New York Public Library

Keith Richards: his smoking has been blamed for the death of a rare orchid.

Keith Richards: his smoking has been blamed for the death of a rare orchid.

It is not exactly on the scale of trashing a hotel room, but Keith Richards has been blamed for killing an orchid at a library in New York, sending the plant on a death spiral with a few puffs of cigarette smoke.

The orchid, a Phalaenopsis amabilis, was at the main branch of the New York Public Library, where Richards spoke almost six weeks ago. The Rolling Stone had been given a tour of the premises, finishing with an invitation to sit "backstage" in the office of Marie d'Origny, deputy director of the library's Cullman Centre for Scholars and Writers.

When d'Origny returned a little while later, Richards was smoking a cigarette, the office window open, and according to the library's blog, "between the cold and the smoke, the little orchid never stood a chance".

It took four days for its 12 white flowers to tumble from the stem, the New York Daily News reported. Also known as a moon orchid, a healthy Phalaenopsis amabilis requires lots of light, gentle ventilation, and careful, meticulous watering. But as Richards would remind you, you can't always get what you want. RIP Phalaenopsis amabilis.

Although the incident took place on 29 October, 2010, news of the botanicide only surfaced this week. Luckily for investigators, Richards left both witnesses and evidence at the scene of the crime. Library workers recalled that the Rolling Stone was "very much a gentleman", and nothing at all like a "devilish rock star".

And as if sensing his wilting effect on the orchid, Richards autographed the clay saucer it was sitting in. He had used this, naturally, as an ash-tray. "He extinguished the cigarette in the sign of the cross and signed it, 'Thanks, Keith Richards, 2010,'" d'Origny said.

Despite his horticultural havoc at the library, Richards is in fact a budding gardener. "I had nothing else to do," he explained in a TV interview this spring. "I took the damn pips out [of a lemon] and I put them in a little flower pot. I just left it there – and, lo and behold, this thing starts to sprout."

Richards has "always planted things", he claimed. "I used to grow weed, but I was never there for the harvest, you know?"

Richards was at the library to read from his new memoir, Life.

Orchid Mix Recipe Ideas

Here are some orchid mix recipes.

General Purpose Orchid Mix
6 scoops medium coconut husk chips
4 scoops medium sponge rock
2 scoops small charcoal
This classic mix works well for a wide variety of orchids.

Seedling Orchid Mix
5 scoops small coconut husk chips
4 scoops small sponge rock
2 scoops coir
1 scoop small charcoal
The small particle size of the ingredients and addition of coir for moisture make this a good mix for seedlings.

Phalaenopsis Orchid Mix
9 scoops Chilean 5 Star sphagnum moss
2 scoops medium sponge rock
1 scoop aerolite
For moisture loving orchids, Chilean 5 Star sphagnum moss provides ample moisture while the sponge rock keeps the mix from compacting too much and aerolite lightens the mix. Try with Phalaenopsis.

Cattleya Orchid Mix
6 scoops fir bark
3 scoops tree fern fiber
2 scoops medium perlite
1 scoop redwood chips
A favorite for cattleya.

Fir Bark Orchid Mix
7 scoops medium fir bark
3 scoops medium sponge rock
1 scoop charcoal
1 scoop chopped sphagnum
This classic mix works well for a wide variety of orchids.

Orchid Mix for Humid Climates
6 scoops tree fern
2 scoops peat moss
2 scoops coir
2 scoops charcoal
The tree fern in this mix makes it perfect for humid climates.

Tropical Orchid Mix
2 scoops tree fern
2 scoops small coconut husk chips
2 scoops small fir bark
2 scoops chopped sphagnum moss
1 scoop Pro-Mix HP
1 scoop aliflor
1 scoop small charcoal
1 scoop small granite chips
This unique combination is a good mix for a wide variety of orchids. The tree fern and aliflor in this mix will deter it from breaking down quickly, even in very humid environments.

Orchid Mix for growing orchids in 'Mud'
8 scoops Metro Mix 380 (w/ coir)
2 scoops coir
1 scoop aerolite
1 scoop small charcoal
A soil-less mix for growing seedlings and phalaenopsis.

If you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share please send it to us and we will post it here.

Show Table

The show table featured many beautiful orchids this month. All who brought their favorite plant to showcase for the rest of us are to be commended for there efforts. If you have an outstanding orchid you would like to share with the rest of the club, I encourage you to bring it in for all to see. (In no particular order.)

Blue Ribbon (s)

Linda Roderick (11 yr.)	Coel.	Parishii
Yati Douglas (13 yr.)	Max.	Maxdense
Gary Gethen (23 yr.)	V.	Sally Roth
Dan Grant (8 yr.)	C.	Aurantiaca
Donna Fazekas (4 yr.)	Den.	Wenzelii

Honorable Mention

Delia Dunn (20 yr.)	D. Noble	Himezakura 'Sanokku'
Linda Roderick (11 yr.)	Phal.	Sturartiana
Gary Gethen (23 yr.)	Ctna.	Maui Maid 'December Bride'
	Blc.	Fortune Dor 'Honey Butter'
	E.	?
	Lc.	Aussie Sunset Spring 'Cosmic Fire'
	Rhrds.	Bangkok Sunset 'Hony Bee'
	Onc.	Splendidum
Kathie Conquest (1 yr.)	Pyp.	Mendenhall Alba
	Pyp.	Kalihis Green Valley Alba
Dan Grant (8 yr.)	Blc.	Myrtle Beach X Caroline Dor

Collectively these growers have **80** growing years experience.

The Keiki
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Crystal River, FL 34429