The Keiki

Volume 22 *August 2013 Issue* *August 9, 2013*

OFFICERS

President:
Geary Harris
727-856-0222
bibleman1948@yahoo.com

1st Vice President:
Donna Fazekas
727-457-8661

2nd Vice President:
Sonia Terrelonge
352-684-5810
sonia.sewingmom@gmail.com

Treasurer:
Helen Battistrada
352-597-0380

Executive Secretary:
Pat Dupke
727-856-3485
pdupke@aol.com

Recording Secretary:
Sue Caparbi-Taylor
352-688-1463
scaparbi@tampabay.rr.com

Membership:
Linda Meyer
727-808-3008
mmimilinda@aol.com
Sarah Hart
352-515-5504
shart120@tampabay.rr.com

Publicity/Librarian:
Linda Roderick
352-597-3736
lmroderick@earthlink.net

Historian:
Linda Hindman
352-597-1571
hindmanl@bellsouth.net

Meeting Under The Big Top

Joyce and David Fowler hosted an open house at there home and business that also included our regular club meeting.

Along with Kathy and Donny Stoner of Touch Of Orchids, the selection of various orchids for sale was second to none.

With rain threating but never coming, the overcast skies made for a very comfortable temperature to browse the greenhouses and to just visit with other club members.

Also, some members of the Pasco Orchid Club attended Joy's open house, her excellent lecture, and the great lunch she provided.

Usually, David and Joyce has an open house once a year for our club and is always a pleasure to attend. Thank you for the invitation and for the gracious hospitality.

☺

Treasure's Report
By
Helen Battistrada

Balance 06/15/13	$ 3465.38
Receipts	$ 247.00
Total	$ 3712.38
Disbursements	$ 227.45
Balance 7/12/13	$ 3484.93

Upcoming Speaker Program
By Ed Bugbee,
Program Coordinator

August

Louis De Favero

Subject; How to select and how to grow bare root orchids.

He will have orchids to sell.

September

Bill Thoms

Membership

By Linda Meyer & Sarah Hart
Membership Coordinators

84 Paid members.
40 Members March attendance
13 Guest

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 JULY 20, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Geary Harris, President at 1:05 p.m.

Greeting of visitors.

OLD BUSINESS

Membership: Linda Meyer reported a current membership of 84 paid members. Linda stated that the member name tags will be a light green rather than the maroon color.

Shirts: Sonia Terrelonge reminded members wanting to have a shirt embroided with an orchid and club name need to bring a pre-washed shirt to a club meeting by October. All orders must be prepaid – cost is $7.50 for the club name and an orchid; for an additional $3.50 member can have their name added. Information is available at the attendance desk.

NEW BUSINESS

Club Trip: Sonia Terrelonge reported that she is planning a trip in October. She will contact several nurseries south of us to check on their availability and then report back to the club.

Christmas Party: Club members voted to have the Christmas Party on Saturday, December 14; time will be discussed later. Al Fiore will check with Wellington to see if the date is available and get some idea on cost and menu.

Speaker: Geary announced that Louis Del Favero will be our speaker in August. Title of his presentation is not known at this time.

Program: Joyce Fowler, Joy Orchids, Inc., gave a very informative presentation on how to care for our orchids during the hot summer months.

Raffle was held.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Pat Dupke in the absence of Sue Caparbi-Taylor

ORCHID TRIVIA

1. Did you know that the 'Waling-Waling' or Vanda sanderiana which is (found) endemic to the Philippines is recognized as the 'Queen of Orchids' world wide because it has been extensively used for breeding and in the production of up to 80% of all hybrid vandas in the world?

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Refreshment Reminder

By

Eleanor Szarzynski,

Refreshment Coordinator

352-688-3887

August

Doug Feingold
Thomas Gavin
Judy Smith

Soft Drinks

Kara Warnock
Gayle Feins

GUEST SPEAKER SEGMENT - by Delia Dunn

Since the July monthly meeting was held at Joy Orchids it was only fitting that Joyce Fowler would talk about how she grows her orchids. She and her husband, David, have a nice selection of plants within their two greenhouses and after a delightful lunch, which Joyce provided, she gave an entertaining talk, outside under the tent, on orchid culture with audience participation throughout.

How do you know if your orchid is too hot?

Joyce asked someone to touch the leaf of a Cattleya to see what he felt and he apparently found it hot and this prompted Joyce to explain that if the leaves on your plants are hot to the touch then they are too hot.

Cattleyas have nice thick leaves and are heat tolerant plants.

Dendrobiums come from Asia and they are heat and water <u>tolerant</u> plants.

Vandas come from Asia and they are **heat and water loving** plants.

Photo courtesy of Linda Meyer

There are a lot of plants that don't mind our Florida summers but the Phalaenopsis is not one of them. They need protection from the summer heat and as magnificent as they are and as wonderful as the hybridizers have gotten at air conditioning their greenhouses and bringing up blooms in the summer, which really is out of season for the Phalaenopsis orchid, when it gets to be 90 degrees with 90% humidity, that plant needs some help. Has anybody ever had a Phal in their greenhouse? she asked. What you need to do is give it water, fertilizer, air flow and **NEEM OIL** is imperative. Neem Oil, which you can buy at Home Depot is a fungicide, miticide and insecticide all in one. It is not only for bugs and fungus, but it is for bacteria and the algaes that can kill a Phalaenopsis in the summer by 'bacterial rot' from too much water, water splashing on the leaves or water getting in the top leaf of the plant. When Joyce teaches about orchids at the Flea Market she is telling people to water when the medium is dry. They question if that means water once a week but she tells them that that is absolutely <u>not</u> what she means. She means test the medium first by putting your finger down inside the medium to see if it is dry. Only water when it's dry down inside.

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The Presidents Message

By Geary Harris

I just want to thank Joy and Touch of Orchids for all the hard work in making our field trip/meeting so much fun and for feeding us such a delicious lunch. Anyone who didn't go missed out but, don't think you will get the same at our August meeting. You will get a great speaker in Louis Del Favero who will give us an informative lecture on bare roots. He will have orchids for sale and orchids for our raffle.

There are many more things coming up in the near future, the club picnic in October, our annual club auction in Novem-

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Dear fellow club members,

Thank you for coming to our open house. I thought we had plenty of food but the desserts you brought, Magnificent!! To those who left us ice cream in the freezer, you are welcome back anytime.

We had a good time and hope you did too. Our sales were very good and we hope you are happy with your purchases.

Kathy and Donny Stoner wrote me a note and said they were happy they came. It was them who brought the tent and the tables for your club meeting area. I was so grateful. That was so nice of them.

Again, thank you. Joyce and David Fowler -- Joy Orchids, Inc.

(Guest Continued from page 3)

How can we cool our plants off in between those waterings? Just get a Windex bottle, rinsed really, really well, fill with water and spritz your plants lightly. What time of day do we always water? Early morning! Since at this time of year we are giving our plants a lot more water due to the heat, we need to add fertilizer. It's very important, Joyce said, to be diligent with our fertilizing this time of year. She told us that she missed two weeks of fertilizing her Vandas while she was getting ready for this open house and she noticed some were not blooming. She made up for it by fertilizing twice the next week, 3 days apart and all her Vandas went into spike and rewarded her for that diligence. She had always been watering but she was missing her fertilizing. Your plants behave like they are on steroids this time of year after they've been fertilized; they are in hyper growth mode this time of year. They are producing flowers more than any other time of year. Your plants are going great guns! It's very important to fertilize and water.

Have you done your repotting already? If not, we are getting near the end of repotting season. But definitely treat with Neem Oil after you repot and you don't always have to go up a pot size. She said sometimes it's nice just to change the medium (rock, bark etc., stuff it's planted in). If those roots are not <u>more</u> out of that pot than in the pot, don't step it up a pot size. Leave it in the same size pot, just trim off the dead roots and put fresh medium in it. Your plants will reward you handsomely all winter and spring with flowers on them

Geary asked a question about whether or not Joyce watered her plants first, before fertilizing, and her response was that she does not do that because she wants that dry root to suck in that fertilizer 110%. What she does do, however, when going thru the Vanda section where the roots are all exposed and hanging down and not in pots, she fertilizes them all until the roots turn green then she'll come back a while later and do it again and then you can really see the difference. The roots will get even greener for you. It's like it drank half the bottle but it's still in the mood to drink and can take the other half of the bottle. As far as watering first, she does not fault anyone who does water first - that's just not how she does it.

Another plant is the Oncidium orchid. How can you tell

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that the Oncidium might be heat sensitive? The leaves are thin. If you look at the Vandas, the leaves have substance. You look at Cattleyas, the leaves have substance. You look at Oncidiums, the leaves are almost paper thin. The Oncidium.is different because it needs the cooling in the greenhouse but if you ever water you can rot the roots because they are so fine. How do you handle that? She substitutes fertilizer water knowing that it has salt in it, which will protect the roots. Fertilizer salts in water make the plant absorb the water readily. Joyce says you may not have heard that before, but says that if it's day after day after day of hot sun and no showers (unlike this year) then she'll water; She always has fans for air flow and she'll water that plant once or twice but can't do more than that, that's too much water for an Oncidium. She will fertilize really well and the salt in the fertilizer water will not cause root rot like plain water would as the salts in fertilizer are drying to the roots.

Geary asked what about rain every day in the afternoon does she water in the morning before that? She waters in the morning before that but if it's hot and sunny and not totally overcast she can do a spritzing nozzle and run thru the greenhouse about 3 - 3:30 pm as it's still light until about 8:30 pm and she's got good airflow and just put the finest mist on the plants which drops the temperature in the greenhouse 10 degrees. And the plants love it and they drink it slowly for about an hour and it takes them closer to 5 or 6 pm in the afternoon.

She said that if your plants are outside, and it rained the previous day in the afternoon and again in the morning it could possibly be too much water for the Cattleyas. Vandas love it, Dens tolerate it, but Catts **must dry out** between waterings. A daily watering is too much for Oncidiums, and for Phals, a daily watering is much too much. Rain water is excellent for orchids because it has a lot of Nitrogen in it but too much water whether it's rain or well, is just plain too much water. We learn, she said! How many orchids have you killed? We learn as we go; it's a process. She advises us to grow what we do best at.

Air flow is essential - see if you can set up a fan. That's as important as the *Neem Oil 3 in 1*. She can't tell us how many Phals she killed before she started using Neem Oil. (You'll find it in the Insecticide section at Home Depot). It has bactericide, fungicide and insecticide. She puts it in a sprayer and sprays it separately. Follow the directions on the bottle. She uses 2 oz per gallon. But do whatever your bottle says. Always read labels. She sprays the entire plant to get the aphids, mealies, scale. They thrive this time of year. If you see scale, glove up and get a cotton ball and soak it in Neem Oil and wipe all the scale off first, then spray the entire plant. Keep doing that every week to 10 days until you don't see scale any more. Neem Oil is also good for ants. It's a smothering agent. They love to get in the pot but you can put out ant bait to draw them out. Roaches don't like Neem Oil and Malathion, if you can get it, is good for roaches. She's noticed a marked decrease in the number of roaches since she's been using Neem Oil on a regular basis in the greenhouses. It's worked for every plant and Joyce says she has fun using it.

Joyce thanked everyone for coming and we certainly appreciate her having us. We all went home with some great ideas whether we grow indoors or outside or in a greenhouse. ☺

Bacterial rot on Phalaenopsis

(President Continued from page 4)

ber, and our Christmas Party in December.

Tentatively, we discussed have the Christmas Party at the Wellington again this year. The food and the service have always been excellent. With our club growing and the room at the Wellington only seating 48 persons, we were filled to capacity last year.

With our club growing in membership every month, the Wellington may not be able to accommodate us this year. What I would like every member do is take a look around and see if there an alternative site we may use with the cost of the banquet room and menu in mind.

You can report to me any locations you may think of either by phone or email. My contact information is on the front page of the keiki.

Check the Keiki and our web site orchidlover'sclub.com. for further updates. Better yet, come to the club meetings and give us your input. Tell your friends about our club and by all means give out our club cards.

See at the next meeting
Geary

Chef's Corner

EASY BRUNSWICK STEW

1 (4- to 5-pound) Boston butt pork roast
4 cups frozen cubed hash brown Potatoes
3 (14 ½ ounce) diced tomatoes with garlic and Onion
1 (14 ½ ounce) can whole kernel com, drained
1 (14 1.2 ounce) can of creamy style corn
1 (15 1/4-ounce) can sweet green peas, drained
1 (l6-0unce) bottle barbecue sauce
1 tablespoon hot sauce
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon pepper

COOK pork roast boiling water to cover in a stockpot 2 1.2 hours or until tender; drain, reserving 4 cups liquid. Cool roast slightly; shred meat with a fork.

Return reserved liquid to stockpot; add hash brown potatoes, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, and simmer 15 minutes.

EASY BRUNSWICK STEW

ADD shredded pork, tomatoes, and remaining ingredients. Bring mixture to a boil; cover, reduce heat, and simmer I hour.

Yield: 5 quarts.

Prep: 30 minuets; cook: 3 hours 45 minuets.

Comments:
I used a whole bag of hash browns,1 - extra can of peas. I used dehydrated onions and garlic to taste. I also used pork sirloin roast or sirloin chops (less fat and easier to cut up). ☺

FRESH AND EASY PEACH COBBLER

Peaches are in big time. They are so delicious this time of year. Don't let the opportunity pass you by Try this for a perfect summertime dessert:

3 to 4 cups of sliced fresh ripe juicy peaches
1 regular size cake mix, yellow or white
1 stick butter or margarine, melted
1/2 cup pecans, medium chop

Spread peaches in large baking dish. Sprinkle one box cake mix evenly over the top of peaches. Drizzle melted butter or margarine over top of cake mix. Sprinkle chopped pecans over top of butter or margarine. Bake at 350 degrees in preheated oven for about 55 minutes. ☺

(Trivia Continued from page 2)

2.Orchids which are normally found clinging on trees are not parasites. They are actually epiphytes or air plants that gather nutrients from the air and surrounding humidity, they only use the tree for anchorage.

3.Did you know thatmythical black orchid comes from the Philippines. Trichoglottis atroporporueum which is recognize world wide as the black orchid is actually dark, dark maroon but looks black from a distance?

4.Did you know that the vanilla extract being used for flavoring ice cream and cakes comes from the seedpod of the vanilla orchids?

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August 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

August is the hottest month so be prepared to work diligently to ensure sufficient humidity and air circulation. Spray water on the floor, benches and outer surface of clay pots one or more times every day during the hottest times. Summer's higher temperatures, brighter light conditions and longer days induce orchids to manufacture the greatest amounts of carbohydrates when provided with enough fertilizer. The warm temperatures also cause insect populations to increase. Observe your plants carefully and spray for both insects and disease when first noticed. It may be necessary to move unsheltered plants into an area protected from torrential rains.

Cattleya

The extreme heat seems to discourage active growth and flowering, but many plants are either developing buds for their autumn flowering or are ripening growths that will power the winter and spring blooming season. The bifoliates and nodosa hybrids seem best able to bloom during the summer temperature extremes. Monitor water needs and continue to use a dilute fertilizer. Tie up new growths carefully to promote upright development of the pseudobulbs.

Cymbidiums

Use high potassium fertilizer in late August. The potassium level should be at 250 to 300 ppm potassium (K) and zero to very low N. Do this only two times at a two week interval. Wait a month then resume your normal fertilizer schedule.

Dendrobiums

The nobile-type dendrobiums are popular though some growers find them difficult to flower. In order to promote the gradual shift from active growth to the flowering cycle, start withholding nitrogen now. Some growers report using a bloom booster this time of year on winter dormant plants helps prepare them for their dormancy.

Phalaenopsis

Current high temperatures are particularly stressful for phalaenopsis. Excess heat and humidity promote bacterial Pseudomonas infections on the fleshy leaves. Keep light levels subdued, promote sufficient air circulation and do not splash

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ORCHID AND CLUB NAME EMBROIDERED ON YOUR SHIRT

Have 'your' shirt embroidered with our club's name and a beautiful orchid. Information will be at the attendance desk each month. Orders must be prepaid. Shirts must also be pre-washed. When we have a reasonable size order it will be sent in. Hopefully by October.

Sonia Terrelonge

(Continued from page 7)

water from one plant onto another. Keep using a dilute (1/8th strength) fertilizer with every watering to develop the strongest roots and largest leaves prior to the winter flowering season.

Vandas

Summer growing conditions are ideal for Aerides, Ascocentrum, Rhynchostylis and Vanda hybrids. Feed aggressively and provide high humidity. Try placing a rubber-topped plastic flower tube containing stale beer on a rigid, emerging new root. Rather quickly, the root will consume the beer and utilize its carbohydrate content, producing some remarkable growth responses this month.

(Trivia Continued from page 6)

5.Did you know that the orchid seed pod contains 20 to 30 thousand seeds but only about 10% of the seeds will survive in the wild?

Do you enjoy our mid meeting snack brake? I'm sure you do and it would be a big help if we as club members and not just members of a club take our turn providing the goodies. Our Refreshment Coordinator Eleanor Szarzynski could use more volunteers donating soda's and snakes either home made or purchased for our enjoyment. So lets all do our part to help keep this tradition going and sign up with Eleanor at the next meeting.

Ed.

The Keiki
7918 W Flight Path Ct.
Crystal River, FL 34429