



Volume 30

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# THE KEIKI



## Coming Soon



- Our June 18th meeting be at our **new venue**  
**Northcliffe Baptist Church**  
**10515 Northcliffe Blvd, Spring Hill, FL 34608**



### President's Message

As I begin my new position as President of our society, I have high hopes for the future. But I have very big shoes to fill. Our outgoing president, Steve Mattana, has done a fantastic job over the past few years, growing our society in members and bank balance and establishing a culture of friendly acceptance. I know we'll all miss his enthusiastic leadership. I hope I can live up to his high standard.

June is halfway through our year, and our auction is coming up in November this year. By now, you should have completed most or all of your repotting and perhaps created some divisions as well. Completing that task by now allows your plants to establish themselves during the most active growing period of the year, and divisions will be well-rooted by Fall, just in time to donate them to the auction.

Summer growth is in full swing by now and if you grow your plants outside, as I do, they may be getting TOO much water with our frequent rains. You can mitigate this by using a potting medium that doesn't retain as much water, and by locating your plants where you can better control it. I have been using a mix that contains a lot of leca (clay) pellets as well as Orchidata bark and charcoal. I'm still experimenting though, and isn't that part of the fun? Also keep an eye on your plants for signs of mites, scale and thrips which are a plague in our area. Thrips and scale require the application of some kind of systemic insecticide, and you might want to spray that on emerging buds since thrips tend to hide inside them and do a lot of damage. Mites require either a miticide or perhaps a regular application of neem oil or "kill sauce" (2.4 cups of water, 1 and a 1/4 cup isopropyl alcohol, 3 Tbsp Formula 409). Be careful if you use neem oil since in bright and hot conditions it can be phyto-toxic and burn the leaves. Apply in the morning, being sure to treat the undersides of the leaves, and make sure it's dry by the time sun hits the plants. Re-apply every three to seven days for a month to get all stages of the pest.

Happy growing!

**EXECUTIVE BOARD****OFFICERS**

|                                                                             |                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b><u>President</u></b>                                                     | <b>Matt Reisz</b>     |
| <b><u>Past President</u></b>                                                | <b>Jeff Rundell</b>   |
| <b><u>1st Vice President</u></b>                                            | <b>Bob East</b>       |
| <b><u>2nd Vice President</u></b>                                            | <b>Corbin Beller</b>  |
| <b><u>Treasurer</u></b>                                                     | <b>Yvette Lewis</b>   |
| <b><u>Executive Secretary</u></b>                                           | <b>Cheryl Crilley</b> |
| <b><u>Recording Secretary for meetings</u></b><br>(not an elected position) | <b>Ruth Taylor</b>    |

**EXECUTIVE BOARD****COMMITTEES**

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

**Corbin's Corner**

Last meeting we had a well known orchid "master" here on the east coast of Florida, Bill Nunez. Bill spoke to us about orchid care from flask to "seedling". Starting from a healthy flask ready to compot will be a lot easier then starting from seed, however the first step from seed is to flask. You need to sterilize everything well and flask the seeds in a low to no air movement chamber that has also been sterilized. You will flask them into a glass container or flask that can be sealed off, in the flask will already be your agar mixture, Without getting into depth you place the seeds and seal off the flask. During the life of the flask you will need to re-flask once the nutrients have been used up from the first solution. After re-flasking you may choose to do it again depending on the size of the young orchids. After that you will rinse the seedlings gently to try and remove as much agar as possible, if a little is left over that is okay and doesn't seem to affect the overall health of the seedling. You can pot them in a community pot, or compot, the orchids will work together and aid each other in growth until they have become large enough to pot separately. You then will repot them either in a large flat spaced apart or potted separately in small pots. To pot them you can fill a bowl with water, add your medium to the pot and submerge it but not where the media falls out just enough to push the orchid in then lift the pot. The media should then fill the pot and snug the orchid in place without messing with its important delicate root system. Remember that orchids are like humans in a way, a toddler does not need as much food as an adult. Young seedling orchids do not take as much food as a mature orchid. They also do not need as much sun or the same amount of water. Less is more with orchids of any age but be sure those seedlings receive the right amount of water.



Our next meeting, June 18th, we will be hosting a new speaker we have not seen before, Florida Orchid House of Myakka City. They were a new vendor at our show and we are excited to see them at our meeting. The topic of their talk will be on species cattleyas, not just any cattleyas though... The amazing unique bifoliate cattleyas of Brazil. These amazing cattleyas pose a challenge to new and even long time growers. They are loved for their fragrance and spotted blooms. These are both giants and compact orchids. One of the largest is the species cattleya granulosa, mature plants stand easily over three feet tall with large erect inflorescence carrying 12-20 blooms on a mature plant. Talk about a giant right?!

*A quick note from Bill Nunez our May Speaker*

When I last spoke at nature Coast I sold 2 Encyclias that did not have a registered name at that time. The cross was E. I'm telling you x E. key largo Jungle. I had two more bloom after the NCOS meeting and took them to judging. Both received an AM/AOS. I registered the name as Enc. I'm Telling Nick. Your members can now put the proper name on them, also they might want to keep this in mind and take their plants to judging next spring

## Florida Orchid Growing This June, brought to you by Motes

### Progress of the Season

Although the heavy storms that ended the month made up much if not all of the deficit, this May was drier than usual, almost more like April. The rain coming in large doses also created a wider swing of day to night temperatures. This has been good news for our orchids, allowing them to get relief from the added disease pressure that a wetter than average year had visited upon them. The wide swings of temperature delivered by radiant escape of heat into clear night skies has encouraged vigorous rooting in all genera. Careful watering now that the rains have begun in earnest will produce vibrant growth. Usually in the rainy season if plants require water, replacing water with liquid fertilizer is

May's rains coming mostly in heavy bursts have washed away most of the *Thrips* who also were not best pleased by the lower than usual temperatures. Now that the rains have settled in, they should be less troublesome but be aware that any time that four- or five-days pass with no rain, the *Thrips* which abound in our landscapes are waiting to descend on the lush roots and tender growing tips of our orchids. Scout for them on the new roots of vandas and

Successive days of rain such as we are now experiencing, provide the opportunity for snails to travel long distances from your neighbor's yards. Our plants are in tender new growth and are particularly vulnerable. Snail bait properly applied is very effective in controlling them. Remember, one pellet per square foot is plenty as the snails are irresistibly drawn to it. A five-pound bag treats our one acre plus nursery for two years. Applied judiciously one can keep both

The beginning of the rainy season is a good time to remember that because of the cooling effects of rain, S. Florida enjoys fewer days of extreme heat than anywhere East of the Rockies. Stay dry but enjoy the rain cooled air. As a very young, but very perceptive Bartholomew Motes noted "Rain sweet as honey".

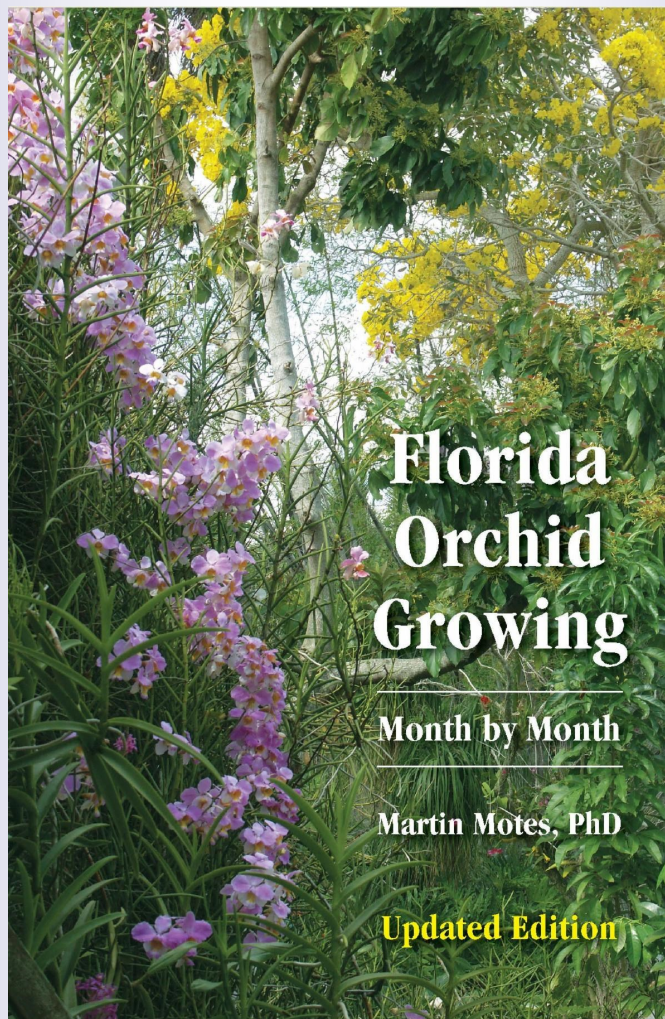


We always celebrate Fourth of July with a big, Black Friday level sale on our Made in the USA plants. This year the sale is going to be bigger and better than ever, and will feature many last chance legacy hybrids. So, bookmark [www.motesorchids.com/usa](http://www.motesorchids.com/usa) and if you're particularly obsessive, start checking it over the next few weeks as we preload deals into our Made in the USA sale.



### Tasks for June

- Careful watering this month often means no watering at all. Arise early to enjoy the cool and water only when truly necessary.
- Space plants amply. Good air circulation is essential across the coming months.
- Re-pot Phals and re-set Vandas. Make sure that plants are firmly set in their new abodes.
- Begin or continue a disease prevention program with the prophylactic application of Thiophanate Methyl (Cleary's 3336) and Alliette or Banrot.
- Clean up growing area and plants. Remove dead leaves from plants and the ground. Pull weeds.
- Prune trees and shrubs to increase light and air circulation.
- Apply snail bait lightly early in the month and again lightly mid-month.
- [Check out daily pictures of beautiful plants on our Instagram feed by clicking her](#)



# June in Your Orchid Collection

## June Climate Data

- Average high: 89.5
- Average low: 75.2
- Average mean: 82.4
- Average rainfall: 9.54"

Excerpted from [Florida Orchid Growing: Month by Month](#) by Martin Motes. *All rights reserved.*

June is the most dramatically tropical month in South Florida. As the southeast Trade Winds blow cool moist air off the Gulf Stream daily, as surely the heating effect of the center of the peninsula percolates up massive thunder heads. The increased cloud cover drawing a veil across the afternoon sun provides much cooling relief for our plants late in the day. Because of this additional cloud cover, our plants are less stressed than in the brightest of May sunshine. The increased humidity makes June feel hotter to us, but this humidity brings blessed balm to our plants from the unrelentingly dry heat of late spring. The shading clouds are also the harbinger of the almost daily rains that arrive like clockwork with the thunderstorms that re-circulate the moisture laden air back toward the ocean in the afternoon. These showers can drop the temperature 10-12 degrees in almost no time, again bring our plants relief when they need it most in the peak heat of the day. In June, such soaking rains that can sometimes be an inch or more an hour, are the norm rather than the exception. For orchids grown outside in South Florida this month, how to dry them out becomes more the question than how or when to water them. For most sympodial genera (cattleyas, dendrobiums, oncidiums, etc.) the natural rainfall of June is sufficient. Only in those rare once or twice times during June when no rain falls for nearly a week is it necessary to think of watering sympodial orchids in June. Even then it usually is a thought that can be dismissed. A thorough, "hard" drying in this first month of the rainy season is usually of much more overall value to sympodial orchids than the slight extra push of additional water. Harder plants that have not been pushed with extra water are much more disease resistant than softer more lushly grown orchids. Vandas and other high water requirement plants may still need periodic watering in June but remember that these types too relish occasional "hard" drying and the heavy often lingering, rains of June are just the nostrum for re-hydrating them even when they have become as dry as the cork in a wine bottle dry. When watering in June, remember at no season is the standard 'water early in the day' rule more relevant; those extra hours of drying are crucial. If your vandas or other orchids really need water, water early in the morning to allow time for them to dry not merely by night but by the time the all too likely afternoon thunderstorms arrive to soak them again. Be sure when you water that the roots of the vandas are saturated until they turn overall dark green. This will still take two applications of water spaced a few minutes apart. June is the archetypical month for careful but totally thorough watering. For those of us committed to sloth, this month is one in which benign neglect becomes a virtue.

With an eye to efficient drying which the season demands, June is an excellent time to review the spacing of our plants. Always give your plants sufficient space to allow for good air circulation to permit rapid drying. Crowded plants stay wetter longer encouraging fungus and bacteria. Scale and mealy bugs also thrive on the soft lush growth generated by overcrowded, overshadowed plants. Mites too love the extra protection from dislodging rain that overgrown plants provide. When looking at the spacing of your plants also allow some extra space for the new growth that will be rapidly developing in the new growing season. Remember your well grown plants will be much larger at the end of the rainy season when the fungus are savagely on the prowl. Plants and trees in your yard also will have grown in the past year and will be growing more in the rains of summer. June is a good time to think of pruning vegetation that is blocking light and air from our orchids. Come the true heart of hurricane season in September you will be glad that you did! Tree pruning alas, slips to a low priority in the face of an approaching storm. Your orchids will be glad right away that you pruned, rewarding you with harder, healthier growth sure to produce yet more lavish blooms in season.

A persistent problem in June is how to apply liquid fertilizer to our plants under these often persistently wet conditions. As all of our orchids are in rapid growth in June they need to be fed, ironically this comes in the face of super abundant moisture. While rain contains minute quantities of nitrogen, heavy persistent rain can in fact strip nutrients from our plants by reversing the normal osmotic process. To a degree this effect of the heavy rains can be positive leaching away any excessive fertilizer salts that have accumulated over the dry season but overall the rain leaves them needier than before. Those of us who have kept our plants well nurtured in May will be ahead of this curve but we all must keep our plants fat and happy at the onset of the heavy growing season. For orchid grown in pots with media, the relatively new, slow release fertilizer widely sold as “Dynamite” (*i.e.*, Nutri-cote) is of especial value at this time of year. Other brands of slow release fertilizer have not proven to be as reliable (neither consistent nor durable) under the hot humid conditions of South Florida. In general, a good rule in June, is that when some opportunities to water present themselves, think rather of applying liquid fertilizer instead of just water. Remember too, the oft repeated bad advice to water your plants before fertilizing them is particularly erroneous in June when over-watering can quickly have negative consequences. In June, as always, replace a watering with an application of the proper concentration of liquid fertilizer. Another frequently sought strategy is to apply fertilizer in conjunction with fungicidal sprays. In general it is not advised to combine balanced fertilizer (20-20-20, 18-18-18) with sprays because with South Florida’s highly alkaline water. Any phosphorus in the fertilizer tends to bind up most of the trace elements when conjoined to South Florida ground water. Phosphorus ( a very active metal) can also have adverse reactions to the fungicide itself, lessening or abnegating its effectiveness. The solution to this dilemma is to use a fertilizer without phosphorus when a bit of nutrition is desirable. The best source is potassium nitrate 13-0-44 (available at farm supply stores in 50lb. bags) which provides the additional potassium our plants crave. 1 Tbs per gal can be added to the spray solution. Be sure to use “Spray Grade” not “Prilled” which would need to be dissolved in hot water. Thiophanate Methyl, Cleary’s 3336 or its combination Banrot or Duosan should be applied prophylactically in June. Keep a sharp eye on your plants for any signs of black rot (*Pythium*). Should soft black or brown spots appear, they should be excised immediately using a sterile knife as this disease can spread quickly in wet conditions. Banrot gives good control but Alliette is the best fungicide to control this disease if it persists.

To minimize the need to apply fungicides, June is an excellent time to review our overall sanitation and cultural conditions in the growing area. It is always important to keep the growing area as clean as possible. In June, cleanliness becomes even more essential because water is the chief vector of most orchid diseases. Dead leaves, roots or other dead orchid tissue frequently harbor diseases that can be loosed upon our orchids by the heavy rains of June. Weeds (dead or alive) can hamper air flow and also harbor disease. This month whatever one can do to enhance air circulation is a plus. Under cover, fans to move air are of great value to Phals and other genera. Hopefully, if we have been doing a good job, our plants will have grown significantly since last year's rainy season. They all may well need more space. Remember that old time orchid growers would say one needs a cat to be a good grower in South Florida because a cat should be able to walk orchid benches without knocking plants down when they are properly spaced.

Snails and slugs will have the whole world as their stage in June and can travel considerable distances to eat our tender orchid shoots. Baits containing metaldehyde are very effective if applied evenly and often. Remember, bait draws the pests; spread it thinly but repeat weekly for thorough control. Snails and slugs always require multiple applications. Overly heavy applications of bait will merely waste in the heavy rain.

Although mites and to a degree thrips are washed away by the heavy rains of June, the warm conditions of summer speed the growth of scale and mealy bugs. At the first sign of either of these pests spray with Soap at 2 oz. per gal or an appropriate insecticide. Oil is no longer an option in the heat of summer. If the soap doesn't prove effective enough, try something stronger but apply with care early in the morning or late in the evening as the high temperatures of mid-day in June can exacerbate phytotoxic reactions.

June is a great month for top cutting strap leaf vandas, teretes (papilionanthes) and reed stem epidendrums. Most sympodial orchids are already in growth and unless their media is totally broken down are probably best left undisturbed till their new growths have matured and they have flowered. If you have not gotten your *Phalaenopsis* out of last year's sphagnum moss wait no longer! Phal roots in soggy medium in June is a receipt for "Fails".

For those of us so in love with Florida that we would never think of insulating ourselves with air-conditioning, the rains of June provide pleasant relief from the harsh Mediterranean sun of late spring. As my son Bartholomew at age two so aptly said "Rain sweet as honey". Enjoy! Our orchids do.

[Enjoyed this article? Consider getting a copy of the new updated 2nd edition of Florida Orchid Growing: Month by Month. Click here.](#)



**Membership Notes**  
**for May**  
*by Arlene Appelbaum*

## ORCHID QUIZ

(answers on last page)

- 1) What orchid is typically know to be the largest
  - A. Cattleya
  - B. Maxillaria
  - C. Vanda
  - D. Grammatophyllum (Gram)
- 2) There are how many known species of Gram?
  - A. One
  - B. Thirteen
  - C. Twenty-two
  - D. Over 100
- 3) What are the growth form in this genus
  - A. Long spindle-like pseudobulbs
  - B. Distinct ovate pseudobulbs
  - C. Both A & B
  - D. None of the above
- 4) Grammatophyllum preferred light
  - A. Shade
  - B. Low Light
  - C. Medium Light
  - D. Bright to full sun
- 5) Water requirements for the grammatophyllum
  - A. High humidity
  - B. Plenty of water during growing season
  - C. Less water in cooler months
  - D. All of the above

### TREASURER'S REPORT

By Yvette Lewis

#### Current Report as of 5/31/2022:

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Prior bal. as of 4/30/2022:    | \$13,481.18        |
| Total receipts (raffle, etc.): | -                  |
| Total disbursements:           | <u>\$250.47</u>    |
| Bank bal. as of 5/31/2022:     | \$13,230.71        |
| Outstanding Checks:            | <u>\$290.00</u>    |
| Cash On Hand 5/31/2022:        | <u>\$12,940.71</u> |

#### 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!



# Upcoming Speakers

June 18 – Florida Orchid House

July 16– Bredren

August 20 – TBD – possible a month off

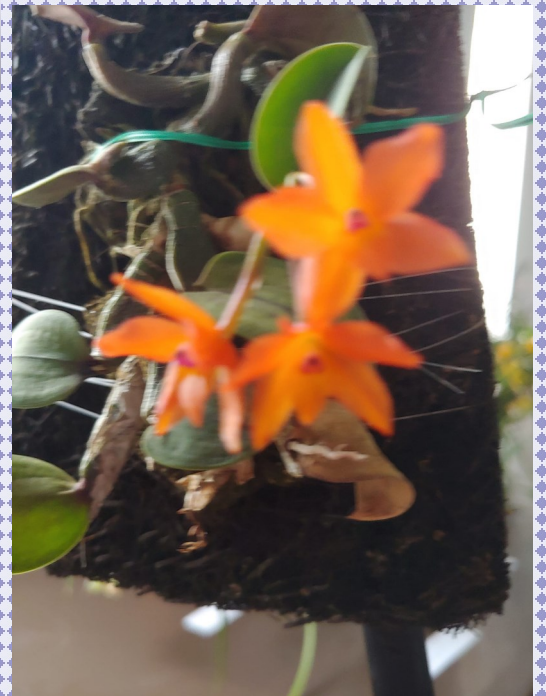
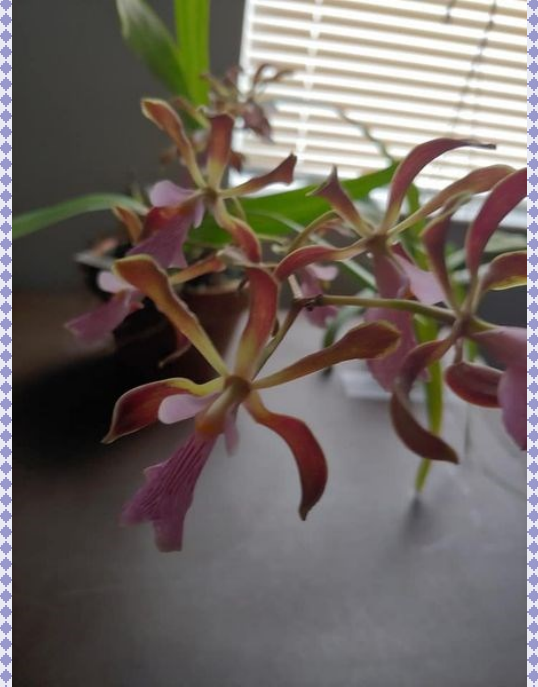
Sept 17 – Lady Vanda Orchids

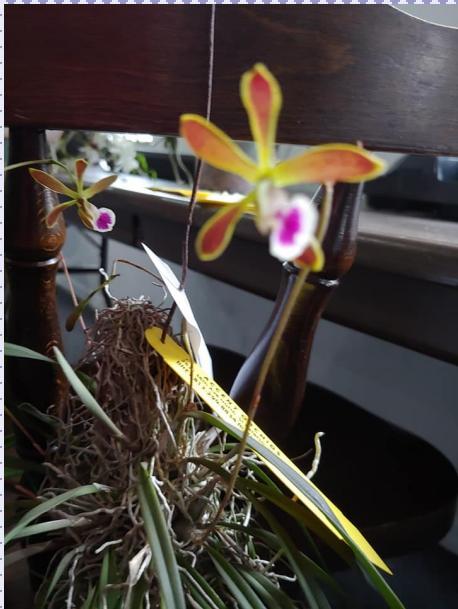
October 15 – Norman Fang

November 19 – Auction

December 17 – Holiday party

# HAPPY GROWING







**NCOS Show Table April 16th, 2022**

| <b>Plant Name</b>                             | <b>Grower</b>       |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Coeli parish                                  | Pat Dupke           |
| Den. Parishii alba                            | Allen & Sonia Evans |
| Brassavola Nadosa                             | Allen & Sonia Evans |
| Prosthechea Cochleata                         | Allen & Sonia Evans |
| RhycoBraso Spotted Charm                      | Bella Roberts       |
| Aranthes Hsinying romosa                      | Julie Smolka        |
| Enc. Gail Nakagaki                            | Julie Smolka        |
| Eplc. Jackie Bright                           | Julie Smolka        |
| Seidenfadenia Mitrata alba                    | Julie Smolka        |
| Enc. Tampensis                                | Julie Smolka        |
| Den. Capituliflorum                           | Julie Smolka        |
| Maxillaria houteana                           | Julie Smolka        |
| Maxilaria tenuifolia (yellow) 'Yamada' AM/AOS | Julie Smolka        |
| Maxillaria tenuifolia                         | Julie Smolka        |
| Maxillaria varibilis                          | Julie Smolka        |

## 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      | June 07, 2022<br>8:30pm EDT<br>Tuesday                                            | RECORDED<br>WEBINAR                                                            | June 28, 2022<br>8:30pm EDT<br>Tuesday                     | RECORDED<br>WEBINAR                                           |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Topic     | <b>Bulbophyllums of the Philippines</b><br>A Survey of Endemic Species            | <b>Judging Bulbophyllums</b><br>The Finer Points of Judging this Diverse Genus | <b>Greenhouse Focus</b><br>Mounting Orchids Made Easy      | <b>Mounting Orchids</b><br>Prepping, Care, and Best Practices |
| Presenter | <b>Jim Cootes</b><br>Australia-based Botanist, Author, Lecturer and Orchidologist | <b>Charles Wilson</b><br>Use Webinar Filter JUDGING                            | <b>Ron McHatton</b><br>Chief Education and Science Officer | <b>Michael Coronado</b><br>Use Webinar Filter CULTURE         |

**REGISTRATION IS EASY** <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry.  
Register now and view on your time schedule.

**Check out the timeless collection of Recorded Webinars on the AOS website.**

Greenhouse Chat Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.  
Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)

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

**NOTICE**  
**American Orchid Society**  
**Monthly Flower Judging**  
**Clermont, Florida Location**  
 Open to the Public - Guests Are Always Welcome

**The Florida North Central Judging Center Meets Here:**  
**Clermont Garden Club**  
**849 West Ave.**  
**Clermont, FL 34711**

Orchids are reviewed for flower quality and culture awards.  
**Flowers must arrive by 10 a.m.**  
**Judging begins 10:30 a.m.**

Entry Forms are available on our Home page and on site. Membership in the AOS is not required to enter your orchids for review.  
<https://fncjc.shutterfly.com/>

**Second Saturday each month**



Prelude to the 2022 International Phalaenopsis Alliance Summer Symposium  
**FREE Online Event! All Are Welcome!**  
**TUNE IN Saturday, JUNE 18, 2022**  
 1 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

Mixing It Up:  
Phalaenopsis Breeding  
Intergenerics



Alan Koch, Owner of California based Gold Country Orchids, American Orchid Society Accredited Judge, First VP - International Phalaenopsis Alliance

**Zoom Presentation.**  
**Space is Limited.**  
**To view this event you must request the Zoom Link.**  
**Send your request to**  
**ipa**  
**ipa.seminar618@gmail.com**  
**by June 15**

The Legend of  
Phalaenopsis violacea f. indigo



Dr. Leslie Lee, PhD, American Orchid Society Associate Judge, President of Canadian Orchid Congress (COC)

For Complete Summer Symposium Information go to [www.phoi.org](http://www.phoi.org)

# Things to do



**You're Invited**  
**Thursday, June 16, 2022**  
***auktion***  
*Orchids and Related Items*  
 Add something new to your orchid collection from our procured vendor selections  
**Doors Open 6 p.m. for preview**  
**Christ the King**  
**McLoughlin Center**  
**821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy,**  
**Tampa, FL 33609**

**Florida Seed & Plant Exchange**  
**Marion County Chapter**  
**June 4 @ 10 AM**

Bring seeds and plants to exchange with others

**Scott Springs Park**  
**2825 SW 24th Avenue**  
**Ocala, FL 34471**



## Quiz answers:

- 1) D. Grammatophyllum
- 2) B. Thirteen
- 3) A. Both A & B
- 4) D. Bright to full sun
- 5) D. All of the above