



August 2015
Volume 23 Issue 8

THE KEIKI



**Our Next Meeting Will Be Saturday August 15th at 1:00 pm at the
Partner's Club of Oak Hill Hospital**

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OFFICERS

President

Jeff Rundell

1st Vice President

Geary Harris

2nd Vice President

Donna Fazekas

Treasurer

Helen Battistrada

Executive Secretary

Pat Dupke

Paul from Phelps Farm Orchids will be our speaker.

Phelps Farm Orchids Inc. is a commercial Orchid farm located on five acres in North West Hillsborough County about 15 minutes north of the Tampa International Airport. The business was started in 1986 by Paul and Patricia Phelps and has grown out of Patricia's love of orchid collecting into a thriving commercial operation. At the time the business was started, the growing area was 3500 square feet of Quonset greenhouse. In 1992 the greenhouse was doubled to 7000 square feet. In 2012 a 1600 square foot greenhouse was built to house hanging and mounted Orchids that require daily watering.



Cattleyas are the specialty of the house but other genera are grown there as well. Some other things you can find at Phelps Farm are Bulbophyllum, Coelogyne, Dendrobium, Oncidium, Paphiopedilum, Phragmipedium, Phalaenopsis, Vandaceous Orchids and assorted species and hybrids of other genera. A breeding program was started in the late '80's with the main focus on the Cattleya alliance.

At present Paul has made over 800 hybrids. A web site was brought on line in 1994 featuring an online catalog. You can visit this site at www.phelpsfarm.com. This web site is currently undergoing a renovation including a shopping cart for online ordering and a link to articles about Orchid culture and other relative information. Locally we were featured on NBC's Daytime show with Cyndi Edwards and nationally we were featured on the PBS series Americas Heartland. If you would like to see the episode on the web, go to www.americasheartland.org, Click on Stories, choose Season 5 and click on Episode 503 and then select the story called Petal Pushers. At Phelps Farm a special emphasis is placed on "Quality". Only the finest products available are used to grow, as our motto says, "Quality Plants at Reasonable Prices".

(Continues on page 2)

(Continued, Paul Phelps, Speaker)

Phelps Farm is open by appointment only. Appointments are available Monday through Friday 9-5 and on Saturday 9-12. Closed on Sundays. Please call (813) 961.8427 for your appointment.

Refreshment Reminder

By Laurie Ciannamea

Snacks:

- Tom Govin
- Yati Douglas
- Caitlin DiCristofolo
- Kara Warnock



Beverages:

- Carl Waite
- Barbara Dean
- Javon Parker

Explanation of the Club Website

Written by Delia Dunn

Ken Dunn, who initially set up the website for the Club, gave us a little education on how to use the site. He gave an explanation of our address being www.springhillorchidclub.com instead of Orchid Lovers Club of Spring Hill, because of a defunct website with that name that we used to have years ago, that was set up by a member who moved away. The Club did not have the password to continue with it. We had to have a new name so that the old site would not keep popping up.

Ken showed us basically what is on each page of the website and how to move from page to page. He said it was a lot of fun setting it up with me adding finishing touches in the way of photographs, color and correcting grammar. Bob East, as Webmaster, is the one to go to if you want to add something or change something on the website, and he is always open to suggestions if you see something that needs changing. There are thousands of words on the site to keep up with and the site is not just for members – it’s also for the public, to attract them to our meetings and should be continuously kept up to reflect our activities as they change. Bob's e-mail address is on the front page of the website at the bottom. Jeff Rundell's e-mail address is also shown there and all you have to do is click on those addresses to be able to write an e-mail to them.

It's a very simple site and a beautiful site and we hope that all members will go to it either on their computer, or someone else's computer, just to be able to see everything we have on there. We have many photographs on there of all events from the past, and it would be appreciated if anyone who has photos taken at our events would forward them to Bob for addition to the site, with a note saying what event and when they were taken.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

By Helen Battistrada

June Balance	\$6,184.44
Receipts	\$ 189.00
Disbursements	<u>\$ 400.94</u>
<hr/> BALANCE 7/18	<hr/> \$5,972.50

Don't forget to send your Keiki entries to the editor via the website Submission Form (found under 'more')

In memory of Barbara Dodson

Written by Tim Smith

On June 26, 2015, club member Barbara Dodson passed away. She was a good friend of Barbara Dean and a friend to Judy Smith and Yati Douglas.

On July 2nd, Barbara's husband, Don, contacted Barbara Dean. Don told her that if she, Yati, and Judy would like to come over to his house, they could have their choice of all the orchids in Barbara's collection. On July 3rd I went with them and we selected the orchids that we wanted. And as we were getting ready to leave, Don made the statement to Bar-

up my trailer and we met out at the greenhouse around 10 AM. Three full loads later, a trailer and two cars full, we finally got all the orchids over to our house and found space outside to keep them.

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bara Dean that he didn't know what to do with the rest of them. They were in need of some care as his wife had been sick for awhile. Barbara suggested to him that he donate them to the club for fundraising purposes. Don embraced this idea and said that his wife was really taken with the club because a few months before her death, someone from our club, Connie Revoir as it turned out, called and asked her to be on the Board of Directors. Don said she was overwhelmed with this and thought highly of our club. This, he said helped to make up his mind to donate the collection to our club, rather than the Gainesville club that she was also a member of. Monday, July 6th, Barbara, Judy, Yati and I hooked

(Members Corner continued from page 3)

We immediately watered them and separated them according to which could take sun and which couldn't.

A few days later they got the first fertilizing treatment and then later Potion #9. The plants responded well and look very nice at the moment. They are not your run-of-the-mill orchids but an actual collection from a very discerning person.

The Board of Directors has decided to raffle off 10 at each meeting until the Auction at which time the rest will be put up for sale. Since the Auction is not until November and we have no place to keep them inside, Joyce Fowler of Joy Orchids has offered one of her green houses to store them in the event we get an early frost before the Auction. There were about 165 plants donated to the club.

President Jeff Rundell has suggested that we make special memorial tags for each plant and insert them into the pot before selling. We have started that and the first 10 have already had the memorial tag inserted. In the future he suggested the club do this for all members who donate their orchids either from passing away or simply being unable to care for them anymore.

What a great suggestion as a remembrance to that club member!



Note the memorial tag



Follow up on the fertilizer injector from July

When Jeff came to our house to look at the donated orchids from Barbara Dodson's estate, he also brought his TDS meter to check on our solution that we were making for our fertilizer injector. We took a sample of what Judy normally uses and checked it against a sample that was coming out of the injector. The two were within 100 PPM with just using the color matching scheme.

President Jeff indicated that he would bring his meter to the meeting and check anyone's solution PPM readings if requested.

Tim Smith



President's message August 2015

The warmth of this month surrounds everything. After all the recent rain my backyard is dripping and fungi are poking above ground from every corner. Okay, just stay away from my too wet orchids.

My sincere thanks to Laura Newton for her sparkling presentation on AOS and the wonderful variety of plants she brought along. I'm spraying everything with her potion dreaming about how some of my "strugglers" will finally awaken.

Our August meeting will bring Paul Phelps of Phelps Farm orchids in Tampa to us. Check his website to get an idea of the marvelous variety of plants he has bred. My personal favorite is Brassia Sunrise Glow. This spider mimic has 18 inch legs, great color and hopefully a sweet scent. He also stocks an amazing variety of Paphs.

I'm pleased to announce that we now have volunteers for all our vacant positions except one. You guessed it - **Show chairman!**

I thought this might be a good time to write a bit about the wild, and frequently overlooked side of our hobby, Florida's native orchids. We are living in a state that is the orchid capital of the country. There are 118 species here, 106 are native and 3 are endemic (found nowhere else). Of these, 56 are endangered, 18 are threatened and several are exploited. Every orchid you grow probably has a wild parent that is struggling to survive the challenges of habitat loss, climate change and over collecting. There are some great places to see these treasures and the best resource I've found is Prem Subrahmanyam's website fnativeorchids.com.

You may remember his fascinating presentation at one of our meetings. The Million Orchid Project, run out of Fairchild Tropical gardens in Miami, seeks to reintroduce wild orchids in south Florida. It's modeled after a similar project in Singapore. See their website fairchildgarden.org and use the conservation tab for more information. Their efforts focus on the Butterfly and Cowhorn orchids that used to grow in abundance in much of Florida. As you may know,

one of my diversions is volunteering at the Florida State Wildlife Park here in Homosassa. I'm told that, when the park was private, there was a thriving orchid business there that sold some fine plants. One of the old greenhouses is attached to the Discovery Center building and will, if I get my way, display

Florida native orchids and air plants (*Tillandsia bromeliads*).

After the building gets some maintenance in September I'll be pleading with anyone who grows Florida natives for a donation. We all stumble over the scientific names of orchids, so why not enjoy some of the colorful and even romantic names of our Florida orchids like: Lady tresses, Shadow witch, Grasspink, Crane fly, Wild coco, Addersmouth, Jinglebell, Clamshell, Coralroot, Ghost, Fringed, Waterspider, Twayblade, and our little, local, fragrant Greenfly. Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Jeff Rundell

Saved from the chipper a few years ago from around the Mason Creek area.

GREENFLY ORCHID



Picture by Judy Smith



!! BLUE RIBBON WINNERS !!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS!!!!

GARY GETHEN	MOKARA (Mkra.)	
JEFF RUNDELL	CATTLEYA intermediata (C.)	3 yrs owned
JEFF RUNDELL	BOLLOPETALUM (Blptm.) Midnight	2 yrs owned
CAITLIN DiCRISTAFALO	CATASETUM (Ctsm.) pileatum x clowesetum	2 yrs owned
CONNIE CHASE	DENDROBIUM (Den.)	6 yrs owned
DAN GRANT	BULBOPHYLLUM (Bulb.) carunculous	
PAT DUPKE	PAPHIOPEDALUM (Paph.) niveum	5 yrs owned

AND OTHER SPECIAL PLANTS ON THE SHOW TABLE:

JOYCE & DAVID FOWLER	LAELIOCATTLEYA (Lc.) L. purpurata alba 'Beauty' x C. gigas alba 'Leo Holquin' FCC/AOS	3 yrs owned
JOYCE & DAVID FOWLER	BULB. carunculous 'M' x Bulb. carunculous 'Adoribil' AM/AOS	3 yrs owned
JEFF RUNDELL	ENCYCLIA (Enc.) 'Cindy'	
CAITLIN DiCRISTAFALO	ASCOCENDA (Ascda.) x V. Tessellata	1 yr owned
CAITLIN DiCRISTAFALO	VANDA (V.) Pachara Delight	2 yrs owned
CONNIE CHASE	DEN. Burana Princess	6 yrs owned
DAN GRANT	BRASSIOCATTLEYA (Bc.) Maikai	
CARL WAITE	C. STELLAMIZUTAARA (Stlma.)	2 yrs owned
CARL WAITE	CYMBIDIUM (Cym.) species	2 yrs owned
CARL WAITE	V. Pakchong Blue	3 yrs owned
GARY GETHEN	MILTASSIA (Mtssa.) Aztec 'Toni' HCC/AOS	
GARY GETHEN	V. Kultana Gold x V. Rasri Gold	10 yrs owned
GARY GETHEN	Mkra. 'Raspberry Tart'	

**ORCHID LOVERS' CLUB OF SPRING HILL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING JULY 18, 2015**

The meeting was opened by President, Jeff Rundell, at 1:05 pm. Cell phones were silenced and Jeff gave a summary of the meeting agenda.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance last month was \$6,184.44 plus receipts of \$189.00 less disbursements of \$400.94 leaving a balance this month of **\$5,972.50**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership

Gloria Thomas, announced that we had 38 members in attendance, 2 guests signed in. Each was introduced and welcomed by the Club.

Upcoming Events

August speaker will be Phelps Farm Orchids;
September will be a meeting with refreshments at Joy Orchids and Joyce Fowler told us that detailed information and directions would be forthcoming in the Keiki and on the website. The event is for members only.

October will be our annual picnic at Crews Lake Park. Pat will have a sign-up sheet for food. The Club will supply the meats and Al Fiore will be cooking on the BBQ.

November will be our annual Auction which is our largest fund raiser of the year.

December will be the Christmas party at Buffet City and Pat will have further information on that event. All attendees should bring a dozen cookies for dessert and a Toys for Tots donation is recommended, as we have done in other years.

Field Trips

There was no report.

Committee vacancies to be filled

We have vacancies for the following: Recording Secretary for the meetings and Show Chairman.

Vacancies already filled

Publicity: Julie Smolka volunteered! Thank you, Julie!

Refreshments: Laurie Ciannamea volunteered! Thank you, Laurie!

OLD BUSINESS:

Members gave thanks to Geary for stepping in as President, served 2 years and half a year for part of Dave Dobson's tenure, and now he's stepped up again agreeing to be 1st Vice President for the next year. Many thanks, Geary!

NEW BUSINESS:

Tim and Judy Smith reported on plants belonging to Barbara Dodson, who passed away last month, that were given to the Club by her husband. There are about 168 plants, as well as supplies, many of which Jeff said will be put into our Auction in November. A few each month will be entered into our monthly raffle. Tim and Judy will be caring for them. Joyce Fowler with Joy Orchids has volunteered to protect them in one of her greenhouses if the weather turns cold so that the plants will be in good condition for our Auction. The Club is greatly appreciative of this donation.

Jeff suggested to Tim that we put memorial tags in each plant that we get from such a donation. Tim has made a tag for each of Barbara's plants, saying 'In memory of Barbara Dodson'. Thank you, Tim!

Jeff made 25 hard copies of the new Keiki for people without computers. Be sure you pick up a copy. Guests who join will be put on the mailing list.

Ken Dunn, who initially set up the website for the Club, talked about how to use the website and also how to submit articles or reports to the Keiki through the website.

Laura Newton, at Jeff's request, educated us on the benefits of her plant Potion #9 that she had on her sale table.

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(Minutes continued from page 7)

Jeff reminded everyone in the break to go to our library; pass around the club copy of the current AOS magazine; go by Laura Newton's table for beautiful plants and Potion #9, and be sure to buy raffle tickets as we had a good chance of winning with so many plants.

Three people volunteered for judging the Show Table. Refreshments were served in the break room.

Speaker this month was club member, Laura Newton, who gave an exhilarating talk, with slides, on the judging of orchids, and just what those AOS judges are looking for when we enter a plant.

Our Show Table blue ribbon winners talked a little about each of their entries.

Jeff said there were outdoor plants, houseplants and also supplies of Barbara Dodson's and also some beautiful plants donated by Joy Orchids for our regular monthly raffle, and the members-only raffle held by Membership Committee member, Gloria Thomas.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Delia Dunn

Highly requested recipe from Connie Chase

O'HENRY BARS

1 Cup white corn syrup
 1 cup white sugar
 Bring to boil a minute or two until all sugar dissolves and cooks up a bit. Remove from heat.
 1 1/2 cup peanut butter. Stir in until blended.
 6 cups regular Special K cereal
 Press into buttered pan.
 1 cup chocolate chips
 1 cup butterscotch chips
 Melt and spread over as frosting.

That's it. Easy Peasey! Enjoy

PLANT POTION # 9 *submitted by Delia Dunn*

POTION #9 is a unique formulation of chelated nutrients necessary for optimal plant growth. The chelation process minimizes the size of the nutrient so that it can pass directly through the cell wall of the leaves and get immediately into the phloem of the plant's nutritional system, enabling a greater percentage of the nutrient to be absorbed by the plant and flowers. Fertilizer does not do that. Calcium is as essential to plant growth as it is to human growth, and is highly overlooked in plant nutrition. Calcium makes your plants stronger, resistant to pests, extreme temperatures and enables flowers and fruit to last longer. You can use it in the winter because it will boost the immune system. Because this is a foliar spray, you only need to spray the leaves and flowers, not the surface of the pot or the roots, consequently, you will use much less than you would a standard fertilizer. A pump sprayer with a gallon can get most of your plants done and you will see them putting out new roots. It is best not to put it into your fertilizer because you don't need to drench the pot as you would fertilizer. This is a plant supplement that should be used in conjunction with your regular fertilizer routine.

Directions: 1 teaspoon per gallon with a little squirt of soap as a surfactant to help spread it out and sheet on the leaves. Use every 10 - 14 days. More often is not beneficial. Be careful not to use more than 1 teaspoon per gallon. If a plant is doing really well and you've been fertilizing regularly, you won't notice a big difference, but if a plant is struggling a little bit then the Potion will give it that extra boost it needs. Laura has been using the product for years and has seen great results in her own orchid collection and she's been able to earn over 30 American Orchid Society awards. It has helped her fruit trees bear fruit sooner and increased the amount of fruit.

Contact: Laura Newton at 352-799-7604

laura530@bellsouth.net

SPEAKER SEGMENT *by Delia Dunn*

Laura Newton, Club member and AOS Certified Orchid Judge, was our speaker this month about what is involved in having our orchids judged either at the judging centers or at our own annual show.

If we just have a table of plants to be judged, the processing fee to have judges come is only \$50. If we have a display to be judged and a trophy it would be \$60 extra. We would have to fill out an application and arrange a date at the central Florida judging center. We would have to find 4 judges who would agree to come. Classification is now done by Laura and a friend of hers. They look after registration of plants, using Orchid Whiz to look up parentage and they also do the Classification. It is a much simpler process than it was years back when club members did all of it and it was quite an endeavor and time consuming. The Judges require that you feed them a meal, it doesn't matter which one. And we need to supply 2 clerks for each judging team on a non-display show - 1 to handle the award sheet and point out the plant to the Judge, and 1 clerk to place the ribbon on the plant.. The plant tag is printed out of supply card stock if we want them to do it and we would have to buy the ribbons. The tags are even easier to do now as the tag is folded in half with the name of the plant on the top and the name of the owner on the bottom half, which is then folded under.

Laura described what the judges have to go through to become a judge. There is 3 - 5 years of study; about 5 assignments per year to be done; presentations to do and much research. Laura spent 3 hrs per day researching and had to go to all shows and all judging. Laura is in her 2nd year of probation. She is a Certified Judge now and that means that her score actually counts. Her probation time is 3 years minimum and she cannot mess anything up. Then she will go through another presentation in order to become an Accredited Judge. It's a total of 10 years to get through the program. You can be a student for a maximum of 5 years but 3 yrs. Minimum.

The Judging Center in Tampa have shows the 4th Wednesday of the month. Registration of your plant is at 6:30 pm and Judging is at 7:00 pm.

The University of Florida have a great Research Center in Apopka and they have judging the 2nd Saturday of the month with Registration at 12:30 pm and Judging at 1 pm. Study groups and seminars are available at both centers. For further information contact Laura Newton at 352-799-7604.

Laura had a great slide presentation highlighting each of the awards that are given to orchids, exhibitors or growers, and showed beautiful examples of orchids that had earned such awards and pointed out the reasons why they each had earned it.

The American Orchid Society grants the following awards to orchids and exhibitors. AOS awards are a recognized measure of quality the world over and coveted by hobbyists and commercial growers alike. An AOS flower quality award adds value to an orchid in its own right, and as a parent for creating hybrids.

HCC (Highly Commended Certificate)

Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 75 to 79 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

AM (Award of Merit)

Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 80 to 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

FCC (First Class Certificate)

The highest flower-quality award, awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 90 points or more on a 100-point scale.

JC (Judges' Commendation)

Given for distinctive characteristics that the judges unanimously feel should be recognized but cannot be scored in the customary ways.

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AD (Award of Distinction)

Awarded once to a cross representing a worthy new direction in Breeding. The award is granted unanimously without scoring by the judging team assigned.

AQ (Award of Quality)

Awarded once to a cross exhibited by a single individual as a group of not less than 12 plants or inflorescences of different clones of a hybrid or cultivated species. At least one of the inflorescences must receive a flower quality award and the overall quality of the group must be an improvement over the former type.

CBR (Certificate of Botanical Recognition)

Awarded to rare and unusual species with educational interest that has received no previous awards. The entire plant must be exhibited. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification supplied by the exhibitor. (see Taxonomic Authorities)

CHM (Certificate of Horticultural Merit)

Awarded to a well-grown and well-flowered species or natural hybrid with characteristics that contribute to the horticultural aspects of orchidology, such as aesthetic appeal. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification supplied by the exhibitor. (see Taxonomic Authorities)

CCM (Certificate of Cultural Merit)

Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must score more between 80 and 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

CCE (Certificate of Cultural Excellence)

Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must score more than 90 points on a 100-point scale. Plants

receiving this award represent the highest level of orchid culture.

! MEMBERS ONLY UPCOMING EVENT !
3rd Saturday in September

Open House @ Joy Orchids
We will have plenty to eat and drink
starting at 10 AM with donuts and coffee.

At noon we will serve lunch and then have an informative talk on orchid care.

Please bring a plant you wish us to see.

We will have the regular raffle and then I will raffle off one plant. Something very special!!

All this happens on
SEPTEMBER 19th, 2015

A surprise visitor will be there also.

Directions to JOY ORCHIDS

From Oak Hill Hosp go EAST 3.3 miles.
Go under Suncoast Pkwy; turn right on WISCON
Go 2 blocks and make a right on ARIZONA.
Go to end and make a right on FORZANDO.
Left on Casson St.

Joy Orchids
6060 Casson St. Brooksville
FL 34604

Joyce & David Fowler 352-799-8369