



sarasota orchid society **view**

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

November—Fred Clarke will speak on "Growing and Breeding Catasetums".

Fred offers clubs a 10% discount and no shipping costs. Members can call and mention SOS membership when they preorder or e-mail fred.clarke@att.net. See sunsetvalleyorchids.com for his catalog.

December—Annual Auction

January—Annual Show

February 7th—Bob Scully – tentatively titled "What's New in Asia"

Meetings are on the 1st Monday of each month. Doors open at 6:15 pm. Cultural Study Group starts promptly at 6:30 pm. Regular meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, 811 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota, Florida www.sarasotaorchidsociety.org

Sarasota Orchid Society

Annual Orchid Auction

Monday, December 6, 2010

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

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Preview—6 pm • Auction—7 pm • All are welcome

Free admission • Refreshments

Auctioneer: Neal Van De Ree

Along with hundreds of beautiful, blooming orchid plants, we will be auctioning several pieces of orchid related art work and a brand new, updateable license of the latest version 7.01 of OrchidWiz, an Orchid Encyclopedia and Journal on DVD. This software is valued at \$259.00.

OrchidWiz is the world's most complete and accurate orchid research software. Updated through June 2010 with the Royal Horticultural Society's Sander's hybrid registrations and

through December 2009 with the American Orchid Society's Awards. This software is easy to use, accurate, comprehensive and up-to-date. Minimum requirements: Windows XP, Vista, or 7 and 3.5 GB of disk space. One can look-up orchids by new taxonomic names or by older more familiar Sander's names. OrchidWiz Encyclopedia contains more than 30 different analysis windows, providing the most complete and accurate information on orchid species and hybrids ever assembled.

November in your collection

by Dr. Martin Motes

November looms as the only truly dismal month in South Florida. Even without the prospect of the unspeakable 'H' word, November disheartens since it is easily the dampest, dull-est month in the year. Although more inches of rain fall in June, more hours of rain occur in the often slow, seemingly endless drizzles of September. Frequently a day or two can pass without so much as a solid hour of truly bright sunshine to lift our spirits and dry out our plants. Days are growing much shorter

See "November" on page 5

INSIDE:

Upcoming Shows	4
October minutes.....	6
AOS President's message	7
Repotting your orchids.....	8
54th Annual Orchid Show	9
Upcoming changes to the judging process	10
Learn how to repot orchids	11

ORCHID VIEW is published monthly by the Sarasota Orchid Society and is available to members in either printed or digital format.

November

The Sarasota Orchid Society Inc.

(SOS) meets on the first Monday of each month at Selby Botanical Gardens, 800 South Palm Ave., Sarasota, FL. The SOS Inc., an affiliate of the American Orchid Society, is a nonprofit association with the aims of promoting the development, improvement and preservation of orchids through the dissemination of information concerning the culture, hybridization or development of orchids; and generally to extend the knowledge of orchids.

Annual dues are \$20; \$25 for family. Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the previous month.

Contributors to this newsletter give reprint rights of their work to newsletters and other affiliates of the American Orchid Society.

www.sarasotaorchidsociety.org

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Orchids Etcetera, Jeff & Walter
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941-366-4954 (Mon-Sat 9:00 am-5:00 pm)

JOIN THE AOS

If you are not a member of the American Orchid Society, let me briefly tell you about the premier organization devoted to our hobby. The AOS is the world's largest specialty horticulture group and offers information not available elsewhere. The monthly magazine, *Orchids*, is the most highly-regarded orchid periodical in the world. The photography and articles are outstanding. Membership entitles you to a 10% discount on publications and your dues support conservation and educational programs. As a new member you will receive a copy of *Your First Orchid*, a book chock full of advice and an *Almanac* listing all affiliate organizations (Florida has the most with 58), growers, special interest groups, descriptions of awards, and many more resources. Membership forms are available at the sign-in table for anyone who needs one.

The AOS also publishes the *Awards Quarterly (Now on CD AQ Plus)*, with detailed descriptions of 200-300 awarded orchids with color photographs. I eagerly await mine every three months.

Dues are U.S. single membership \$60.00; for a 2 year membership \$108.00. American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Fl. 33446

Monroe

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UPCOMING SHOWS

October, 2010

22-24—Tampa Orchid Club "Orchid Expo", University of South Florida, 12210 USF Pine Dr., Tampa, FL

29-31—Delray Beach Orchid Society Show, Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, FL.

January, 2011

8-9—54th Annual Sarasota Orchid Society Show and Sale, Sarasota Auditorium on US 41

14-16—Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society Show

<<http://www.flos.org/>>, War Memorial Auditorium, 800 NE 8th St., Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

22-23—Manatee River Orchid Society Show, Manatee Convention & Civic Center, 1 Haber Blvd., Bradenton, FL

February 2011

5-6—Venice Area Orchid Society Show, Venice Community Center, Venice, FL.

12-13—Boca Raton Orchid Society Show, Safe Schools Institute, 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd., Boca Raton, FL.

March 2011

4-6—Martin County Orchid Society Show, Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Highway, Stuart, FL.

11-13—Orchid Society of Coral Gables Show, Fairchild Botanical Gardens, Coral Gables, FL.

12-14—Port St. Lucie Orchid Society Show, 2195 Airso Blvd, Port St. Lucie, FL.

19-20—Jacksonville Orchid Society Show, Garden Club of Jacksonville, 1005 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville, FL.

25-27—Naples Orchid Society Show, First Presbyterian Church, Naples, FL.

25-26—Englewood Area Orchid Society Show, Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 East Dearborn St., Englewood, FL

For members who are receiving the newsletter by mail, you are missing out on some wonderful color pictures taken during the year in our newsletter.

If you have computer access and are getting the newsletter by snail mail, you can switch and save the Society \$7.00 per year per person.

Please contact me and I'll be glad to add you to our e-mail list.

Monroe
orchidpix@comcast.net

Newsletter advertisements are \$120.00 per year. Checks payable to Sarasota Orchid Society may be sent to:

Roberta Arcand
8727 53rd Terrace East
Bradenton, FL 34211

LET'S TALK ABOUT SALES
The vendors who lecture at our meetings take their valuable time and effort to educate us on orchid culture. In turn, they ask us to buy their plants which they bring to sell at our meetings.

We know that there are lots of places to buy orchids in our area but as members of SOS, we should really make a point of patronizing the speakers and advertisers when we buy new plants.

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HELPING HAND HOME SERVICES

"November" from page 1

also, with long nights when our plants are wet from the frequent

Clean up growing areas and remove any dead leaves, twigs or other organic debris from the

walk around without knocking them down, one provides the good air circulation which is absolutely essential in periods of protracted wet weather. Well spaced plants are much less likely to encounter disease problems this month. Remember that your plants will have grown considerably over the summer and that the space they occupied comfortably in the Spring has now been filled by their own growth as well as their neighbors. Space them out. Now is perhaps the time to decide to

circulation and enhance rapid drying is by trimming excess (particularly vertical) branches from all trees that support orchids or are near to orchid growing areas. By increasing the light and airflow one will also garner the benefit of reducing the possibility that such trees will be knocked down in a severe storm. As there is rarely time to do such pruning when storm warnings are actually posted and creating extra debris is not then wise, now is the time to protect both your orchids and your trees. Days are shortening quickly now and more hours of rain and overcast skies mean that your orchids will benefit from all the additional light that they can get. Beginning the process of "hardening off" our plants by allowing more light to reach them will give them a leg up on



Cym. Milton Carpenter Photo by Monroe Kokin

rains. Coming at the end of the rainy season when disease pressure has been building, November presents the maximum opportunity for fungal and bacterial diseases to take hold of our orchids. Hopefully careful watering practices and the judicious use of fungicides (as recommended last month) will have diminished the potential for disease in our collections. But even in the best managed collection, November calls for extra vigilance. Keep a close eye out for problems and remove immediately any plant that shows the first sign of fungus to a dry location to prevent the disease being spread by splashing rain drops. Good hygiene is particularly important this month.

plants and the ground. In November numerous diseases that linger in decaying plant material find the ideal conditions that allow them to jump to the living tissue of our prize orchids. Such problems can develop more quickly in November than in any other month. November is a month to stay home and be there for your orchids. Look at every plant, every day.

November, above all, is the month that the old Florida growers adage that "One needs a cat to grow good orchids," holds true. By leaving enough space between plants on a shade house bench for a cat to

hang some of the larger ones where they will dry much more quickly. The small cute ones left behind on the bench will be very appreciative of the extra air and light.

Another excellent way to increase air



Cym. Jean 'Ice Cascade' Photo by Monroe Kokin

"November" from page 5

the coming cool weather as well.

As orchids grown outside are so frequently wet in November, it is often difficult to apply fertilizer or fungicides to the plants because they are already damp. Catch 22! — the plants need extra protection because they are wet and because they are wet one can't apply chemicals to protect them. In these circumstances, many growers find Quaternary ammonium compounds useful. Sold as Physan, Consan, Greenshield or Triathalon these disinfectants dissolve totally in water and can be applied to wet plants. Strengths vary so follow the label. Although Federal regulations say they should not, many growers substitute the cheap and readily available pool algicide which contain the same active ingredient. Home Depot sells a brand called "Pool Time" which could be purchased legally to disinfect walks and pathways at the rate of 1 to 2 tsps. per gallon and would certainly do no harm at that rate, if it came into contact with the orchids no more frequently than every 7-10 days.

This month when those brief periods of dry weather permit growers to think of applying other pesticides, they are tempted to think of giving their

starving charges fertilizer as well. This is generally not a good idea with any fertilizer containing phosphorous (the second in the numerical series of three numbers). Phosphorus changes the Ph of water and tends to interact with many other chemicals reducing their effectiveness. In November we need as much fire power from our chemical arsenal as we can get. A much better strategy in general to add some nutrients employs potassium nitrate (KNO₃) 13-0-43 at a rate of 1 tbs per gallon of water. One should ask for the type usually referred to as "spray grade". In general sympodial orchids are reaching the end of their growth cycle as November progresses so a reduction in nitrogen from the potassium nitrate substitution or a missed fertilizer application usually does little harm to orchids grown outside in South Florida. Soft cane dendrobiums of the "Nobile" types will actually benefit from the reduction in feeding and drying out. It's time to wean these deciduous types before cutting them off entirely from the grub next month. Vandas and Phalaenopsis on the other hand can be fertilized as often as weather permits and will bloom all the stronger for this extra attention in the coming months.

SOS October minutes:

President Kokin called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Minutes of the August meeting were approved as printed in the September newsletter on a motion and second.

The treasurer's report was posted on a cover letter for members receiving their newsletter by email and an insert for those members receiving it by mail. A motion was made to approve and seconded.

President Kokin thanked Fred Bigio for the great October newsletter. President mentioned the bus trip run by Venice Area Orchid Society to Krull-Smith Orchids and Ritter/Tropic I Orchids on October 16th.

New business: President Kokin reminded the membership that when the society meeting has a speaker that is not selling plants, any member can bring in their plants for sale. He asked that members let Laurie Stoner know in advance so we only have one person selling at a time. He/she will be required to supply the raffle table with plants.

The 54th Annual Orchid Show will be January 8th and 9th, 2011. Set-up will be on Wednesday and Thursday the 6th and 7th. President Kokin and Jo Davis will be asking monthly for volunteers to fill various jobs. Note: At the November meeting, Jo Davis will be

giving a rundown of each of the committees to explain the various jobs available.

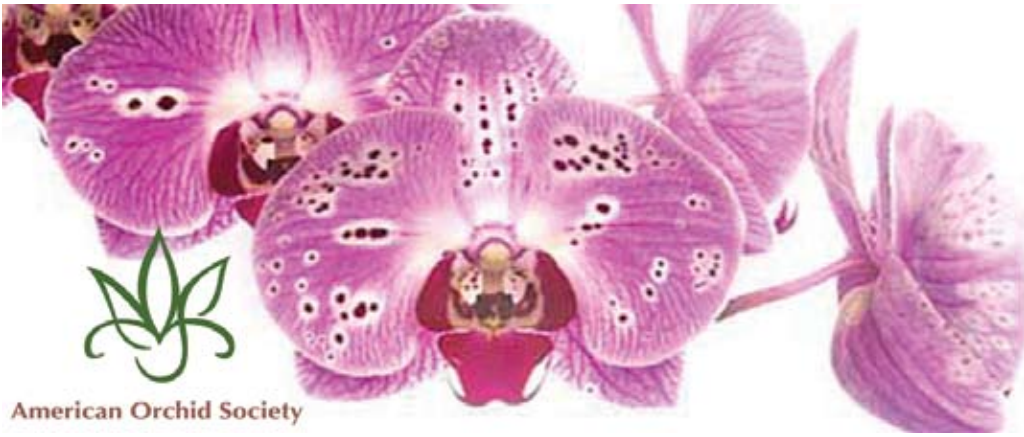
Selby Gardens will be holding their Garden Festival on February 26 & 27, 2011 and will give SOS a table. This is a great opportunity to promote the Society. The Society will be handing out information and answering questions. President Kokin asked for volunteers to sign up to man the table from 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday the 26th and 10 am to 5 pm on Sunday the 27th.

The library is open during the meeting for members to sign out books for the month. See Patti Quinnelly to check out any books.

Leroy Mouton brought in some wonderful plants for sale and supplied raffle plants for the meeting.

President Kokin then introduced Michael Sinn of Canaima Orchids located here in Sarasota on Honore Ave, with Orchids Etcetera. Michael spoke about Venezuelan Orchids. He stated that there are 1,600 described species in Venezuela, with at least that many more undescribed! He said *Cattleya percivaliana* is very temperature tolerant, can be grown outdoors with no protection, unless it gets extremely cold, and is very easy to grow in Florida.

Submitted by Jo Davis



American Orchid Society

From Chris Rehmann, President AOS

On July 24, 2010, the Trustees of the American Orchid Society met to resolve the ongoing financial matters facing us.

As a major step taken to refocus the Society on our core values, the trustees approved the establishment of a task force to investigate the sale of the headquarters building. In addition, adjustments were made to the 2010-2011 budget to balance anticipated cash flow.

Current economic conditions are difficult and we must remain solvent in today's economy. The overhead cost associated with the building and gardens have diverted funds from the primary mission of the Society. The trustees believe that it is in the long-term best interest of the members to make these changes. The facility will continue with a full schedule

of events and activities during the process.

Times are different now from those days when the decision was made to construct the headquarters. No one can say that the building and gardens are not beautiful. Many members have provided funds, time and labor to make the headquarters a first-class destination. We will never be able to thank them enough for their efforts.

It will be difficult to recover the value of the building because of today's economics, but if we do not plan now, we may miss opportunities that present themselves. The sale of a facility of this size will take time and it is not the intention of the trustees to sell the property at just any price. Appropriate consultants will be retained to determine the

potential uses allowed under current zoning as well as the feasibility of rezoning the property and professional appraisers will determine a fair market price. New locations will be investigated as well as the costs to relocate the Society's mission-related operations. We have much work ahead of us.

During the last ten years, many dedicated people have worked to make the facility a major asset to the Society. No one anticipated the economic disaster that has befallen all businesses worldwide. Non-profits everywhere have felt the devastating impact. The Trustees believe these actions are necessary to financially strengthen the AOS and ensure its ongoing contribution to the orchid community.

Winners from October 4th Meeting

There were two Members Choice awards



Guarianthe bowringiana—Species of the month—owner: Laurie Stoner



Ascda. Arunee's Honeymoon—Members Choice—owner: Bill Shaban



Rlc. Glenn Maidment—Members Choice—owner: Roy Kruger



Rlc. Frank Gilmore—Members Choice—owner: Susan Gerhardt



Brassia Eternal Wind—Novice—owner: Fred Bigio

All photos by Monroe Kokin

Repotting your orchids

Each orchid genus has different requirements for potting media. It is very important to have the correct medium for each type of orchid, depending on whether it is terrestrial or epiphytic—tree dwelling. Growing media commonly include fir bark, coconut husk, sphagnum moss, tree fern fibers and perlite, and frequently a mixture of two or three of these materials. All orchids potted in a typical bark medium need to be repotted every 18 to 24 months, depending on the needs of the individual plant.

The primary purpose of repotting is to provide fresh media, not necessarily a larger pot, but pot size should be selected according to the size of the root mass. Orchids like to be a little tight in their pots. Orchids transferred to overly large pots tend to concentrate their energy on root growth and may not show new growth or foliage for several months.

Orchids may be potted in plastic, clay or decorator pots, and the type of pot selected may influence watering frequency; plants in clay pots will need more frequent watering, as they will dry out a little faster. Always select pots with drain-

age holes; orchid roots in contact with standing water will rot and die, killing the plant. Media in the center of larger pots may remain wet for long periods and become an unhealthy environment for roots. This can be avoided by placing pieces of broken terra cotta in the bottom of the pot. A smaller pot inverted into a larger one can also help with drainage and aeration, with the roots of the plant draped over and around the smaller pot. Some orchids, such as Phalaenopsis, have roots capable of photosynthesis. For these plants, clear pots have become popular, as they allow light to get to the roots.

THINGS TO CONSIDER: Orchids should not be repotted without a compelling reason. If, for example, aeration of the potting materials is poor because of decomposition, it must be replaced. Care must be taken to ensure that new growths and shoots are not overlapping the rim of the pot—large, neglected plants that have been potted for a long time are notoriously difficult to handle, and it is easy to break off new shoots and roots. But, when in doubt, put it off for another year!

ANNUAL REPOTTING: Dendrobium, Miltonia, Paphiopedilum and Phalaenopsis and their hybrids.

EVERY OTHER YEAR: Cattleya, Dendrobium, Oncidium,

Odontoglossum and their hybrids.

EVERY THIRD YEAR: Vanda and its allies, Cymbidium

RECOMMENDED BOOKS:

Ultimate Orchid by Thomas J. Sheehan
Growing Classic Orchids by Mike Tibbs and Ray Bilton



C. The new pot should be sizable enough to accommodate at least two years' growth. Choose a potting medium (fine, medium or coarse) suitable to the particular requirements of the orchid (do not reuse old bark).



A. In this example, the orchid is burdened by a mass of root matter and excessive top growth. Remove any dead roots or roots affected by rot with a sharp, sterilized blade.



D. Place the newly separated plant in its pot. The most mature growth should be positioned against the side of the pot. Fill with the appropriate potting medium.



B. Divide the remaining root matter into several sections. Each division should consist of a small number of younger, healthy shoots.



E. Place the orchid label back in to the pot after repotting is done for a proper identification of your orchid.

54th Annual Orchid Show

The Sarasota Orchid Society will present their 54th Annual Orchid Show & Sale on January 8th & 9th, 2011. This American Orchid Society sanctioned show will be held at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, US #41, Sarasota, Florida 34236. Show hours are Saturday and Sunday 9 am to 5 pm. Admission charge is \$5.00 children under 8 are free.

"Wild About Orchids" the theme for Sarasota Orchid Society's 2011 Celebration, will showcase thousands of award-winning orchids in the displays created by orchid vendors and local orchid societies. A variety of orchids and orchid related accessories will also be available for purchase from expert orchid growers and artists from



the state of Florida, including American Group Travel, Byrd Orchids, Canaima Orchids, Chapman's Orchids, Featherstone Orchids, Florida SunCoast Orchids, Hicks Orchids Supplies, Jone' Ritchie Artist, Judy Robertson Orchid Ceramics, Krull-Smith Orchids, Marie Selby Botanical Book Store, Marie Selby Botani-

cal Garden, Nature on the Rocks, Odom's Orchids, Orchids Etcetera, Plantio La Orquidea, Stig Dalstrom Botanical Art, The Orchid Specialist, and much more.

Breathtaking displays of orchids will be showcased by Sarasota Orchid Society, and many other local orchid societies and Marie Selby Botanical Gar-

dens.

Throughout the two show days, visitors will have the opportunity to interact with the growers, purchase orchids and related items, and to immerse themselves in the beauty of orchids. There will also be educational classes given by our local growers.

Hibbs Farm & Garden Supply & Marie Selby Botanical Gardens are proud sponsors of the Sarasota Orchid Society 54th Annual Orchid Show.

For more information, please contact 2011 Orchid Show Co-chairs, Jo Davis at 941-228-5501, email srqjd@verizon.net or Monroe Kokin at 941-586-7795, email orchidpix@comcast.net

We welcome your visit at www.sarasotaorchidsociety.org.

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Upcoming changes to the judging process at our show

By Laurie Stoner

Orchid Show time! Every year it's a mad scramble to get all of the beautiful blooming plants assembled, identified, put in their proper classes, labeled, tagged, and creatively displayed for judging prior to opening the show to the public.

Jo Davis has chaired the judging process at our show for many years. I've only been involved for a few of those years, but I've seen her struggle with computer crashes, run after people whose handwritten entry forms are barely readable or missing information, and deal with temperamental software programs for printing the judging worksheets.

Right after last year's show, she and I met with Wesley Higgins, our head judge, and Alan Marlor, our webmaster, to brainstorm how to streamline this process. I volunteered to look into using Microsoft Excel to reduce the duplicate data entry—hopefully without complicating the process for our exhibitors!



Bulb. Jim Clarkson



Den. Green Wonder (Wonder Nishi x Green Elf)

All photos this page by Monroe Kokin

Of course, I started with an elegant vision of rewriting the entire data entry system and all of the printouts. After a little research, however, I wisely decided to replace only two of the handwritten forms with Excel spreadsheets and pre-assign the plant and exhibitor numbers for each of the societies.

How will this change affect what we do on show day? Once a society has arrived and entered all of their information on their laptop, they will give a copy of the two spreadsheets to the volunteers at our registration desk. In

turn, the society will receive their pre-printed plant tags (the little round numbers on sticks we put on each orchid) rather than waiting several hours for us to print them out.

Bottom line? Jo should be able to import the data into the judging program rather than painstakingly re-enter it from the handwritten sheets. The registration people should have more time to deal with changes during the day, which will still be handwritten. The judges should have adequate time to look over all of the entries to make sure they're in the proper

classes before the process begins.

If anyone is interested in learning this process and being part of the Registration Team, please contact either Jo Davis or Laurie Stoner and we will be more than happy to teach you, and we plan to do a dry run before the actual show. Wish us luck!



Den. Dawn Maree



LEARN HOW TO RE-POT ORCHIDS!



Join Us
Saturday, November 6th

9:00 am (at the orchid tables)
The Home Depot (S. Ft. Myers)
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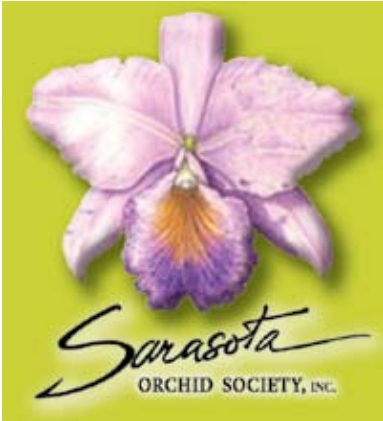


Featured instruction provided by:
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**DECORATIVE CONCRETE
SPECIALISTS**