



April 2007 - Volume 4 - Number 4

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President's Message

Dear fellow orchidists,

I hope everyone is enjoying our beautiful South Florida spring season and that your orchids are blooming well! It seems this is the month for both spring fever and orchid fever, so you won't want to miss our April meeting.

Yes, it's auction time!! As those know that have attended in the past, Michael Coronado always manages to coax a wealth of wonderful donations from our vendors and patrons. This year is no exception. We'll have a wide range of plants from bare root species to the latest hybrids and mericlones. There will also be supplies and artwork.

As in the past, Bryan Kinsley of Sunset Auction Co. will be our professional auctioneer and bidding is likely to be fast and furious – and, always, entertaining. Don't miss it!

As a reminder, next month (May) will be our annual election. You will find the slate of nominees elsewhere in this Newsletter. Be sure to attend to cast you ballot.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Robert Fuchs
President

April Program:

South Florida Orchid Society Orchid Auction

South Florida Orchid Society presents
our Annual Orchid Auction.
We have orchids from all over the
world plus Orchid Art and Collectibles.

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Preview 7:00 PM

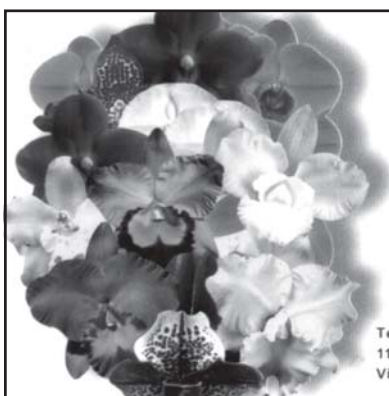
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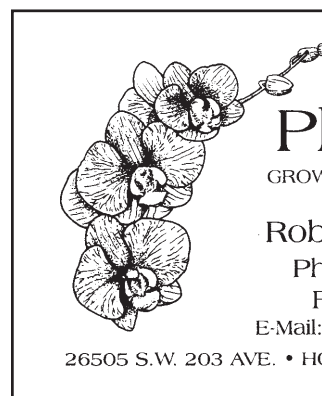
**** All members are requested to bring
plants to donate to the Auction. ****



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NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS

Dear Member of SFOS,

The following is the new slate of officers as recommended by the nomination committee of Judy Mezey, Carol De Biase, Sandy Schultz and Alternate Michael Coronado.

President - Sandra Schultz
First Vice President - Carol De Biase
Second Vice President - Judy Mezey
Treasurer - Dorothy Bennett
Secretary - Maria Wood

Directors - Michael O'Dea
Sally Taylor
Joan Viggiani

- Sandy

SAVE THE DATE
Sunday October 7th
Speaker's Day
December 2nd
Holiday Party
More information to follow

AWARD WINNERS

FEBRUARY - 2007

BLUE RIBBON WINNERS

Ludisia discolor

Jan & Allen Mink

Lc. Trick or Treat

Lore Wigley

Iwan Apple Blossom 'Golden Elf' AM/AOS

Gene Stevens

Lc. Susan Holguin x Lc Mildred Rives

Lore Wigley

Den. chrysotoxum

David & Valerie Foster

V. Adele Graham

Christa Collins

Tolu. Esther Oka 'Lake View'

David & Valerie Foster

RED RIBBON WINNERS

V. Pat Delight 'Pink Tango'

Christa Collins

Phaius tankervilleae

Jan & Allen Mink

TRIVIA

by Bella OnLine

April is National Orchid Month

April has been designated National Orchid Month by the American Orchid Society to celebrate its 80-year anniversary and to increase awareness of the popular hobby of growing orchids. More people than ever are growing orchids, they have become the second most popular potted plants after Poinsettias.

World's Worst Smelling Orchid

The worst smelling orchid is *Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis*. We picked this particular *Bulbophyllum* due to the sheer size of the plant and flower and therefore the amount of scent it produces. Many other *Bulbophyllums* produce the same carrion scent as this one, but are much smaller. Native to New Guinea, the pollinator is a fly which is attracted by the unpleasant odor. Last year, I found a live webcam of an opening flower -- the grower couldn't stand the smell but wanted to see the flowers opening!

World's Tallest Orchid

The tallest freestanding orchid is *Sobralia altissima* from the high forests of Peru. It is reported to grow up to 44 feet or 13.5 meters high in optimum conditions. The bright reddish-purple flowers are up to 6 inches or 15 centimeters across and are displayed in spectacular groups of up to 8 flowers per stem.

GREEK MYTHOLOGY ON ORCHIDS

There is a Greek legend about how the name "Orchid" came about. It seems that there was a youth named Orchis who was the son of a nymph and a satyr. He was attending a festival of Bacchus, the God of Wine, one evening and indulged too much in the plentiful beverage. He let his passions get the better of him and accosted Bacchantes the favorite priestess. As satyrs are wont to do, he may have gotten carried away and raped her, but the details were fuzzy. Anyway, in response to his actions, the rest of the guests, enraged by his disrespect, tore him apart. His father begged the gods to make him whole again, but the gods refused. However, taking pity on the father, they did allow Orchids to be made from the remains of his body, thus bringing beauty into the world.

World's Smallest Orchid

The smallest orchid is *Platystele jungermannioides* which has flowers only half a millimeter or one-hundredth of an inch in diameter. The entire plant is only about a quarter of an inch or half a centimeter tall. They grow naturally in the cloud forests in Central America, principally in Costa Rica. The flower, when viewed through a magnifying glass, is a pale greenish color with a purple lip.

THE NUN ORCHID

By *How to Grow Orchids*

The genus *Phaius*, also known as the nun orchid, although not one of the treasured 'commercials,' is satisfactory and easy to grow. The plant is terrestrial and epiphytic, handsomely ornamental, and usually pseudo bulbous. It has large fine leaves from the midst of which rise tall, erect stems bearing large, showy flowers. The coloring is odd with the frequent combination of white and yellow, while the outside of the petals, sepals, and lip is white. *Phaius* crosses readily with *Calanthe*. **Description of the Nun Orchid:** *Phaius Cooksonii*. (P. Wallichii x P. tuberosus). Handsome hybrid. P. grandifolius, called by Schlechter from Bletchly 'P. Tankervilleae. **Habitat China of the nun orchid:** Malay Peninsula, Australia. Blooms May to July. Flowers showy, chocolate-brown inside, white outside; lip curled or trumpet-shaped, long, white, with crimson lines leading into the yellow throat. P. grandifolius var. superbus. Inside of the petals and sepals a brilliant chamois; lip bright amaranth, margined with rose. P. Humblotti. Habitat Madagascar of the nun orchid. Blooms June to July. Flowers large, rosy, showy; lip not tubular, but open and winged, with spreading basal lobe and white center, startlingly red. P. maculatus, also called flaws. Habitat China, Australia, Malay. Blooms April to May. Large pseudobulbs; leaves dark green, flecked with yellow. Bears ten to twelve flowers, yellow with chocolate-brown rolled lip. P. tuberosus. Habitat Madagascar. Blooms May to June, according to Schlechter; winter, according to Sanders. Odd tubular lip gives name. Flowers large, up to 2% inches across; white sepals and broad white petals; lip yellow, spotted dark rose. P. Wallichii (wall'eech-i). Habitat Ceylon, India. Blooms various times. Flowers typical, white outside, orange-yellow, or buff; flushed amethyst inside.

GROUND ORCHID

BY WEBINDIA 123

Scientific Name: *Spathoglottis Plicata*
Family: Orchidaceae
Common names: Ground Orchid
Flowering Period: Throughout the year
Colour: White, Violet/Lavender,
Light pink, Orange-Yellow

Spathoglottis plicata or Ground orchid, native of Southeastern Asia to the Philippines, is the common species of Orchid which blooms round the year. This easily grown terrestrial herb has pretty, arching broad leaves with prominent parallel veins and a few or large cluster of small flowers at the end of a long stalk as tall as 1 metre arising from a basal leaf axil. The flowers are seen from the more common purple to white, yellow, peach, pink and magenta shades. and The leaves emerge from round pseudo bulbs that become increasingly multiple and larger as the orchid matures. Ground orchids can be grown as potted plants and also do well in beds and borders.

Propagation and Care:

It is an easy to grow, extremely adaptable orchid which blooms round the year. Propagation of *Spathoglottis plicata* is by division. Many plants can be separated from the large clump and can be planted in individual pots or in ground 3 to 6 inches apart. Before planting, enrich the soil with a mixture of garden soil, dried cow dung and leaf mould. Addition of broken bricks and charcoal makes the growing medium loose for roots to spread easily.

Heavy watering is essential during the growing season but allow the plant to get almost dry before watering again. Some good fertilizer can be used to enhance its growth. The plant requires medium shade to full sun and should be watered regularly. In warm places, partial shade is ideal.

Cut off the flower stems after it finishes blooming. Remove dead or rotted foliage regularly



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62ND MIAMI INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW

"Orchids in Paradise"

March 2-4, 2007


The South Florida Orchid Society presented its 62nd International Show "Orchids in Paradise", March 2, 3, and 4, 2007, in Sheraton Miami Mart's Convention Center. Landscaped exhibits, individual plants, Ikebana demonstrations, photography entries, decorated cakes and a wonderful display of quilts of all sizes, filled the convention center.

R. F. Orchids, Inc. won first place in the 500 square feet open class for their exhibit "Margaritaville". They also won the coveted AOS Show Trophy for the most outstanding exhibit in the show. Carmela Orchids, Inc. won third place in the 500 square foot class for their exhibit "Garden of Eden".

In the 400 square foot open class H & R Nurseries, Inc. won first place for their exhibit "El Paraiso es Aqui". Second place went to Soroa Orchids for their exhibit "Oriental Heaven".

Continued on next column

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Carib Plants, Inc. won first place in the 300 square foot category for their exhibit titled "Eden". Second place went to Krull-Smith for their exhibit "Relaxing in Paradise" Third place went to Quest Orchids for their exhibit "Miami es el Paraiso".

Mac's Orchids won first place in the 200 square foot class for "Water Fall". "Woodland Paradise" exhibited by Woodland Orchids took second place and Ruben in Orchids won third place for their exhibit titled "Little Bit of Florida".

In the 100 square foot class Water Orchids of Taiwan won first place for "Formosa Paradise" and Orchis Floriculturing also of Taiwan won third place for "Taiwan Orchis Paradise".

Andy's Orchids won first place for a beautiful Wardian Case exhibit titled "My Itty Bitty Paradise".

Table top exhibits of 25 square feet were entered and the following nurseries won the prizes. Orquideas del Valle, Cali, Columbia took home first place for "Paradise Delight"; Asociacion Vanezolano de Orquideologia, Ellenton, Fl won second place for "A Tropical Eden Corner"; and Suwada Orchid Nursery, Ellenton, Fl won third place for Oriental Paradise.

Cut flowers arranged for effect, 25 square feet minimum entry open only to international exhibitors was won by Mario & Silvia Palmieri of Guatemala City, Guatemala for their beautiful exhibit of "Guatemalan Tropical Paradise".

An Educational Exhibit was entered by Marie Selby Botanical Gardens and won first place.

Bob Clifford & Rodney Atkinson of Orlando Florida won second place for 25 square foot Hobby Class Table Top Exhibit titled "Our Bit 'O' Paradise".

Continued on page 5



Amy Simons

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Corporate Event Planners

Also in the Hobby Class for a group of five plants from one genus Andrew & Fran Boros won first place for their group of five phals, Sandy Schultz & Georgia Tasker took home second place for a beautiful bowl of five paphs, and Maria Wood won third place for a five paph basket.

The East Everglades Orchid Society won first place in the 200 square foot class for orchid societies. Key Largo Orchid, Fern & Bromeliad Society won second and Central Florida Orchid Society won third place.

Orchid Societies who put in table top displays were Coalition for Orchid Species and they won first place, Maria Wood took home second place and the South Dade Amateur Orchid Club won third place.

In individual plant entries, numerous ribbons and trophies were awarded to deserving plants.

The Grand Champion of the show was awarded to Dendrobium spectabile owned and exhibited by Hawaiian Orchid Source, Honolulu, HI. The Reserve Grand Champion was awarded to Angest. Olympus 'Crystelle' owned and exhibit by Krull-Smith, Apopka, FL.

Needless to say, the South Florida Orchid Society's show was worth seeing. An evident spirit of cooperation among members in helping with the show was clearly demonstrated. The entire Show Committee and all those who helped are to be commended for a job well done.

In Memoriam

Our thought and prayers go out to Michael & Sheila and all the O'Dea family on the passing of Michael's Father during the Miami Show.

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SFOS Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Fire Fighters Memorial Building
8000 N.W. 21st Street
Miami, Florida 33122

- 7:30 pm - Registration & Judging of Plants
- 7:45 pm - Announcements
- 8:00 pm - Program
- 8:45 pm - Refreshments
- 9:00 pm - Awarded Plants Discussed
- 9:15 pm - Raffle

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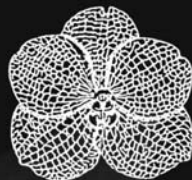
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