



May 2007 - Volume 4 - Number 5

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President's Message

Dear friends,

Our April auction was a great success. I know I'm sorry I missed it. I heard there were lots of great bargains on fabulous plants. I want to personally thank the Auction Committee and our generous Donors, and especially Marlene Clark who provided fabulous refreshments for the event.

I hope to see everyone at this month's meeting. I know you won't want to miss the great program this month. Bob Hague is a great orchid grower and you'll want to be there to learn his tricks and tips.

Don't forget that May is our annual election month. Please be on hand at the May meeting when we hold our annual election of officers and directors. Come, vote, and show your support for our society!

Following the May election, we will hold the Installation and Awards presentation at the June meeting. Carol DeBiase, our Awards Committee Chair, will provide a wonderful program as well as presenting the awards.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Robert Fuchs
President



May Program: "Growing Specimen Plants"

presented by Robert Hague

Our May speaker, Robert Hague, is a long-time South Florida orchidist. Bob has been growing orchids since 1989 and is the owner of Venice Orchids on Florida's west coast. Bob has made a semi-career of assisting other growers at sales and shows and you will probably recognize him from one of these events. If he looks familiar, you probably saw him behind a counter for R. F. Orchids, Norman's Orchids, Krull-Smith or Carter & Holmes.

Bob credits most of his abiding interest in orchids to Bob Fuchs and Michael Coronado of R. F. Orchids where he is a long-time customer, helper and friend.

In this month's lecture, Bob will teach us how to deal with the special needs and requirements of larger, older plants. It takes special techniques to cultivate large specimens and Bob will show us all the tricks!

The raffle table will be provided by Venice Orchids.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

Michael Coronado
Program Chairman



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

Orchid Growing Tips #15

By Susan Taylor - BellaOnline

Ground cinnamon paste for wounds

Use a paste made of ground cinnamon and a common household glue, such as Elmer's, to cover and protect wounds on plants so that they will not become infected with fungi. This remedy is for badly damaged plants that you truly want to save after being damaged. The glue will form a protective barrier and the cinnamon acts as a fungicide.

All purpose cinnamon spray

Cinnamon can also be used in spray formula. Make a mixture of 30 ml of ground cinnamon with 500 ml of alcohol and mix it well. Allow the alcohol mix to steep overnight and then filter to remove the sediment. A coffee filter will do this admirably. Mix 250 ml of the resulting liquid with a liter of water and 10 ml of liquid detergent. Use this as a spray for insects as well as a fungicide.

Always follow the instructions on insecticides

Protect yourself and your plants when applying any kind of product. Some of these products are poisonous to humans or pets as well as to the pests you're trying to kill. Be especially careful if there are children around and only apply when they are not going to be in the vicinity. It is a good idea to wear protective gloves such as the latex gloves for dishwashing while applying insecticides even if the directions don't call for them.

Always throw away old potting materials

When repotting, always maintain a clear distinction between old and new potting materials. Throw away any old potting medium which may contain pests or eggs of pests. One good idea is to spread out old newspaper and fold up and dispose of old medium after it is removed as well as the top layers of paper. You will then have a good sterile environment to put the next plant on. Dip plants in insecticide as well as fungicide before repotting in clean medium and pots.

When you cannot spray plants

An interesting idea I came across the other day was instead of spraying plants, take a plant with insect problems and tie it up in a plastic bag with a new dog or cat flea collar. Leave unsealed in the shade for a day to kill insects.

To get rid of fungus gnats

To get rid of those annoying little fungus gnats put one of those mosquito larvae killing wafers in water in a bucket. Use this water for your normal watering. The insecticide in the water will take care of the larvae of the gnats which eat decaying matter in the medium.

Rotate vandas and sympodials

In order to get your Vandas and Ascondas to grow upward rather than to one side, rotate them a half turn once a month. This will encourage nice upright growth as well as give the inflorescence a nice presentation.

Color Coded Spray Bottles

Use different colored spray bottles for different kinds of sprays—one for plain water, one for fungicide, one for an insecticide, etc. Using different colors makes it more difficult to spray with the wrong thing. Most garden centers today offer different shape, size and color bottles.



Sign up for full registration before the price increases!

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19TH WORLD ORCHID CONFERENCE - SHOW PROGRAM ADVERTISING

Dear Sponsors, Vendors and Registrants:

The long-awaited 19th World Orchid Conference® and its spectacular Show Orchids Natures Masterpiece® is quickly approaching. We are now working on what will be a fabulous, full color souvenir Show Program. The Show Program will include a directory for the 19WOC® activities, sponsors and vendors, contain interesting articles and photos, provide information on show awards and will be a means of advertising for vendors, suppliers and businesses who wish to support the incredible 19WOC®. All conference sponsors, vendors, registrants, as well as the general public, are being invited to advertise.

The 19WOC® Show Program is sure to become a highly-collectible souvenir and something that attendees can use as a directory of sources for orchids and supplies for years to come. It will give attendees a reference to contact your business after the exciting global event is over! Space is limited, so submit your advertisement now! The prices for advertising are as follows:

Size Price	Height	Width
1/4 Page	1 7/8" x 4 7/8"	\$125.00
1/2 Page	3 7/8" x 4 7/8"	\$200.00
Full Page	7 3/4" x 4 7/8"	\$350.00
Inside Front Cover	7 3/4" x 4 7/8"	\$400.00
Inside Front Cover to Right	7 3/4" x 4 7/8"	\$375.00
Inside Back Cover	7 3/4" x 4 7/8"	\$400.00
Inside Back Cover to Left	7 3/4" x 4 7/8"	\$375.00

Continued on next column

Back Cover 7 3/4" x 4 7/8" \$500.00
All ads should be in CMYK (4-Color process) format - including all embedded graphics. Please send artwork via e-mail or on CD and must be accompanied by a color printout of the final artwork provided. All photos should be scanned at 300dpi resolution at 100% size it will be produced in CMYK *.tif or *.eps format. Complete digital ads including all text and graphics to be provided in one of the following: as a press quality, CMYK *.pdf format with all fonts embedded; as Pagemaker 6.5 or QuarkXpress 5.0 document with all linked fonts and graphics; as an Illustrator or InDesign CS2 will all fonts converted to outline and including all linked graphics; OR as a high resolution 300dpi *.jpg image of the final composed ad. Ads can be e-mailed directly to files@printmaster.net with a copy to publicity@19woc.com. Please specify the size and desired location. If the requested location is already taken, a comparable space will be reserved.

Make checks out to 19th World Orchid Conference® and mail with advertisement to:

Janett McMillan
909 S.E. 11 Street
Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

Space will be on a first come first served basis and will not be confirmed until payment is received. Credit cards will be accepted. Call (954)683-9906 or e-mail publicity@19woc.com. The deadline for advertising is October 1, 2007. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to be part of 19th World Orchid Conference® history!
--Janett McMillan, Publicity Chairman

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The Florida West Coast Orchid Society

Dear Show Participants,

The Florida West Coast Orchid Society would like to invite you to participate in our Annual Orchid Show and Sale. Our show and sale will begin FRIDAY, October 5th from 1-5pm, and continue on Saturday, October 6th from 9am to 5pm and Sunday, October 7th from 10am until 4pm. Any plants for judging will need to be entered by 4pm since AOS judging will be Friday evening.

We will be at a new location this year which has ample parking, ample floor space, and is more centrally located for all our bay area guests. The location is the Honeywell Minnreg Building, 6340 126th Ave, Largo, Florida.
(www.minnreg.com)

If you have any questions, you can contact Pam Heath at the address above, through email at pheath2@tampabay.rr.com, or by phone at home (727-518-2436) or cell (727-510-4956).

Thank you,

Barbara Pecan, Publicity

727 733-8167

Thank you....

I would like to thank all those that participated in our recent auction. The evening was both profitable and a lot of fun!

Bryan Kinsley, our professional Auctioneer from the Sunset Auction Co., did a fabulous job keeping the action moving, entertaining us, and especially pronouncing those orchid names.

Carol De Biase, was fabulous as our auction coordinator. She had all the donations and the volunteers well organized and everything ran very smoothly.

I want to thank Carol, Maria Wood, and Marlene Clark for their preliminary efforts in grouping our donations into box lots and creating our catalog. They did a great job of organizing and created collections that obviously appealed to many of our attendees.

Marlene, as usual, prepared and served our wonderful refreshments. Everything was delicious and I know we all enjoyed the goodies – especially that terrific wallet-loosening punch!

I also want to thank those that helped during the event: Carlos San Martin for help with unloading; clerks Carol and Dorothy; cashiers Sally Taylor, Ellen Hanson and Joan Viggiani; check-in clerk Maria; and our “runners” Mike O’Dea, Mike and Angie Pitiriciu, and, of course, Vanda White.

Continued on page 5



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Most importantly I want to thank all of our donors:

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and all of our members and guest that attended and bid to support our Society.

Sincerely,
Michael Coronado
Vice President - Programs

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SAVE THE DATE

Sunday October 7th

Speaker's Day

December 2nd

Holiday Party

More information to follow



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Choosing The Best Home Orchid

By *Orchids-Plus-More.com*

So, you want a home orchid. And I want you to succeed. There are many different orchids available but let's look at the environment it will be spending time in. The one way not to succeed is to buy the wrong plant for your home environment.

In a home there are only a certain number of changes that can be made for a plant, any plant. They are:

- * moving your orchid closer or further from the window
- * watering a home orchid more or less frequently
- * varying the room temperature
- * changing the humidity with a water tray
- * moving closer or further from other plants
- * repotting when needed

Let's take a look at how to survey your home for the best orchid that will grow well.

* use a light meter to show how much light you have in your home. Also, try it at different times of the day.

* do you have pets? Do they tend to get into the plants. If so, your orchid may not do well.

* survey your home, where would you put your orchid? Does your home have mostly shade or full sun? Would you be ok with putting your orchid in a bathroom that gets great humidity or in front of a living room window?

* How good are you at watering? Do you forget? What about giving fertilizer to your plant?

Now is the time to get the best home orchid that will fit your home environment.

* you want plenty of pretty flowers and have bright light, Dendrobium is the plant

• if you have little light but want plenty of flowers, try a Phalaenopsis orchid

• a Paph is great when there is little light and you want a compact plant

• your home is fairly bright light but it does get a bit cold in your house, get an Odontoglossum.

• you live in South Florida and get plenty of sun as well as humidity, then a vanda orchid is the one for you. A Brassia also does well in these conditions or in a greenhouse

• there is medium light, a miltonia will suit this situation

• on oncidium is best suited for fairly bright areas.

These tips will get you the best home orchid for your house. Orchids are surprisingly very easy to care for and are spectacular when in bloom. In fact, in some of the orchid species the blooms will last up to 4 months.



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SFOS Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, May 16, 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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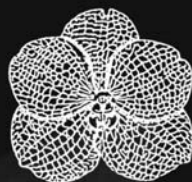
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