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President's Message

Dear friends,

As my term as your President draws to a close, I want to thank all of our members for your support during the past two years.

It has truly been my pleasure to serve as the leader of such a prestigious Society. South Florida has such a long and rich history as a ground-breaking orchid organization that it often leaves me in awe of our traditions and continuity. I want to thank you again for entrusting this position to me.

I know that our incoming President, Sandy Schultz, will do an outstanding job. Her leadership ability and personal integrity will continue to carry our organization forward in the future in keeping with the ideals and goals established by our founders.

As you know, this month we will celebrate the conclusion of our orchid year with the presentation of our annual awards, along with the installation of your new officers. Please be sure to be there to congratulate the award winners and welcome your new Board.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Robert Fuchs
President

June Program: Annual Awards Presentation and Installation of Officers

hosted by Carol DeBiase

In lieu of an outside speaker for June, we will continue our annual tradition of presenting the end-of-the-year awards to our exhibitors. Carol DeBiase, chairman of our Judging Committee, will host this presentation. We will award the grand prize trophies for the ribbon judging winners during the past calendar year, present this year's Medals and Certificates and, of course, announce the annual recipients of our Perpetual Trophies.

We will also have a very brief ceremony to install our incoming Officers and Directors for the coming year.

I urge you all to attend this special evening. In addition to celebrating with our new officials, you will have a chance to participate in a Special Raffle, and enjoy the extra-special refreshments provided by our Refreshment Chair, Marlene Clarke.

I look forward to seeing you all.

Michael Coronado
Program Chairman



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Commemorative Poster

The Second Commemorative Poster of the 19th World Orchid Conference® Just Released!

One of the first goals of the 19th World Orchid Conference® Committee was to create excitement in the orchid world for the spectacular event that was about to come. This desire led the committee to seek out artists and illustrations that would appropriately depict the beauty and magnitude of the 19th World Orchid Conference®, to be held in one of America's most exciting cities—Miami, Florida. Members of both hosting societies and their affiliates were invited to submit posters representing this magnificent event and its exciting venue—Miami, Florida.

The second commemorative poster for the 19th World Orchid Conference has just been announced in the March 2007 issue of the Ameri-

Continued on next column

can Orchid Society Orchids Magazine. It is designed by Fort Lauderdale artist Barbara Gaterman. Her original water color painting, "Orchids on a Florida Palm" appears on the poster. This poster and the first commemorative poster can be purchased on line at our Store.

The first and second "commemorative" posters are available now! Don't miss this opportunity to collect all three of these limited editions. These commemorative illustrations are proudly presented in a 24" x 36" format, on heavy high-quality paper with UV coating. The posters are available for only \$20.00 plus \$5.00 per poster for shipping. If you prefer a poster signed by the artist, the cost is \$30.00 plus shipping. For posters shipped outside the U.S., an additional handling fee will be applied per poster. Please visit our store to order. You may also order by calling the 19th World Orchid Conference® executive office at 305-662-8024 or e-mail director@19woc.com. Please show your support of the 19th World Orchid Conference® by purchasing a commemorative poster, becoming a sponsor and by attending this once in a lifetime event.



Sign up for full registration before the price increases!

19th World Orchid Conference®
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Complete your full registration for the 19th World Orchid Conference® before July 1, 2007 to receive your \$50 "Early Bird" discount.

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To register or for more information on events, please visit the 19th World Orchid Conference® website at:
www.19woc.com



THE 19TH W.O.C.



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THE 19TH WORLD ORCHID CONFERENCE®
RETURNS TO MIAMI FOR 2008
GLOBAL CONFERENCE AND SHOW

Registration Now Open for Most Prestigious Orchid Event on Earth

MIAMI, FL. – Orchids have been revered for centuries for their botanical properties and luscious foliage. To ancient civilizations, these delicate flowers came to represent adoration, luxury, beauty, virility and fertility. Now, the public can witness the timeless appeal of these captivating plants when the 19th World Orchid Conference®, the most prestigious Orchid event in the world, comes to Miami January 23-27, 2008. Hosted

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jointly by the Ft. Lauderdale and South Florida Orchid Societies, the show's theme is "**Orchids-Nature's Masterpiece®**." The newly renovated Exhibition Center of the Sheraton Miami Mart Hotel in Miami will house this world-class event that includes lectures, workshops, parties and, of course, one of the largest orchid shows and sales on the planet.

Held once every three years in a different international location, the World Orchid Conference is the biggest and most influential gathering of orchid enthusiasts, growers, hybridizers, and scientists. The Conference draws top local, regional, national and international growers and their most unique and stunning plants. Horticulturists and orchid lovers alike will be dazzled by the array of orchids on display at the conference. Orchids by the thousands, as potted plants and cut flowers, will arrive from every major orchid growing center in the world. Rare species, fragrant floral compositions, and creative hybrids will seduce and impress visitors to this momentous show.

Throughout the Conference there will be extensive seminars and educational lectures on conservation and horticulture. There will also be celebrations, networking events, and sightseeing opportunities to keep the registrants happily and productively involved in the exchange of ideas and appreciation of this engaging plant. Orchid art and related items will be on display and, of course, there will be a large sales mart carrying plants and all things related to orchids.

"The South Florida Orchid Society and the Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society annually sponsor the two largest orchid shows in Florida, and their expertise and experience is exactly the right combination for organizing and hosting a World Orchid Conference," said co-chairman of the conference Robert Fuchs, president of South Florida Orchid Society. "Indeed, having hosted the 11th World Orchid Conference in 1984 in Miami, the two local societies are looking forward to bringing this event back to beautiful South Florida for a spectacular and successful conference."

Orchid connoisseurs and novices alike will convene for five days to admire the stunning orchid displays, discuss a variety of topics related to Orchids, and network within the Orchid community. The organizers of this international event expect more than 250,000 people from around the world to attend this hotly anticipated tribute to the

plant that has inspired a spectrum of emotions from admiration to infatuation.

"Orchids, with their lively hues, elegant blossoms and vibrant flora, evoke passion and awe among gardeners, collectors and flower aficionados across the globe," said co-chairman of the conference Col. Kenneth Kone, past president of Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society. "The lush, tropical setting of South Florida is a perfect place to host the World Orchid Conference. With international vendors and experts attending, this orchid show will be the epicenter of the Orchid world."

Orchids are the largest and most diverse of the flowering plant families, with more than 25,000 species. The Chinese were the first to cultivate orchids, but Victorian England was obsessed with them — sending explorers to South America to bring back exotic varieties. Now conference attendees will have the chance to see the flower that has evoked such fervent adoration.

Orchids now account for over \$120 million in sales and are the fastest growing segment of the United States' floriculture industry. The 2008 event will be only the fourth time that a World Orchid Conference has been held in the United States, making this a triumph for Florida orchid devotees. Last year's conference in Dijon, France, attracted 200,000 visitors and vendors from 30 countries. Other major cities that have hosted this celebrated event include Rio de Janeiro, Glasgow, and Tokyo.

Interested Conference exhibitors and attendees can register online by simply going to www.19woc.com. For those who do not wish to register on-line, registration packets can be obtained by emailing a request to: director@19woc.com.

Remember, if you would like to volunteer, go to www.19woc.com and register.

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Fregea Rchb.f. 1852

The Genus

Native to Central and South America

Edited 18 May 2007

© Nina Rach

The genus *Fregea* was originally described by Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach (a.k.a. Rchb.f.; 1824-1889) in *Botanische Zeitung*. Berlin 10:712-713. 8 Oct. 1852, with *F. amabilis* as the type species. Notes about the original collection can be found in George Bentham (1800-1884) & Joseph Dalton Hooker (a.k.a. Hook.f.; 1817-1911) iii. 590. The nomenclatural synonym is: *Sobralia amabilis* (Rchb.f.) L.O. Williams.

A second species, *Fregea wercklei* was described by Rudolf Schlechter in 1923, in *Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. Beih.* 19:9 (*Repertorium Specierum Novarum Regni Vegetabilis*. *Centralblatt für Sammlung und Veröffentlichung von Einzeldiagnosen neuer Pflanzen*. Beihefte. [Edited by Friedrich Fedde]). The nomenclatural synonym is: *Sobralia wercklei* (Schltr.) L.O. Williams.

Flowers of *Fregea* are distinguished by the abbreviated column and open, relatively large, lip. Plants are found in Costa Rica and Panama.

L.O. Williams (1946-p.28; 1980-p.134) writes "*Fregea*, a genus described by Reichenbach, has been maintained as distinct but has no characters which will separate it from *Sobralia*.-- The original specimen was collected in Chiriqui."



Photo at left is listed in the TROPICOS database as *Fregea amabilis* (synonym *Sobralia amabilis*), but more closely represents *Fregea*

wercklei, based on the type drawings of both species.

Pests and Diseases

By Waldorbigbill

Bugs create a host of problems and can seriously damage a collection if left untreated. Scales, mealybugs, aphids and mites are the most common orchid pests. You will find that bugs are attracted to certain genera. For instance, mealybugs like phalaenopsis and bifoliate cattleyas, while scale prefers cattleyas and cymbidiums. Aphids are attracted to the buds and flowers of dendrobiums and oncidiums, but they do not discriminate between orchid genera. Spider mites will show up when there is a lack of humidity especially on dendrobiums, oncidiums and cymbidiums.



Always keep a close eye out for bug damage. They like to hide under leaves and sheathing and, if left untreated, they will quickly spread through your collection. By removing old sheathing once it becomes loose, it will be easier to recognize the early signs of an insect problem. Scale depletes chlorophyll leaving yellow spots on the foliage. They also love to feast on the tender eyes at the base of the pseudobulbs. Aphids will leave a sticky residue on the foliage below where they are eating. Spider mites can be identified by the silvery scarring they leave under the leaves. The good news is that most orchid pests are easily exterminated. Home and garden sprays will provide a long list of bugs they will kill. We recommend spraying the plant, then manually clean-

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ing it as much as you can with a Q-tip or toothbrush, followed by another treatment of spray. Follow up treatments after five to seven days may be necessary to fully eliminate the problem.

Schultz, Bayer and Ortho all carry a good line of sprays that are available at any garden center, hardware store or home improvement warehouse. For a less toxic approach, we recommend using denatured alcohol, neem oil or insecticidal soap. Remember to always be extra careful of what you spray, especially on the flowers, and always follow the manufacturer's instructions to prevent plant and flower damage.



Slugs and snails chew flowers and buds as well as the tender new roots and growths. Bait is readily available and will do a good job of ridding your collection of these pests.

Ants can be a problem, especially when moving your orchids back inside in the fall. Orange Guard, a citric acid product, is a good way to eliminate these pests. However, if they are down in the mix, you will need to drench the pot with an insecticide or repot the plant.

Other orchid problems, like rot and fungus, can be treated by first removing the infected area with a sterile tool, then applying a fungicide spray or powdered cinnamon, which is a good natural fungicide. Improved air circulation can help prevent a reoccurrence of this problem. Flowers that have botrytis (small dark spots) should be removed to prevent spores from spreading to others blooms.

Continued on next column



Any orchid exhibiting signs of a viral infection should be totally segregated as contact with diseased plant fluids will cause the virus to spread and may contaminate other plants. Any questionable plant should be tested and if it tests positive, it should be destroyed as there is no cure for orchid viruses. This is why it is so important to use sterile tools and equipment when handling your plants. Human contact and chewing insects are also vectors for spreading viruses.

We hope these tips will help you to be successful with your orchids. There are many orchid books, magazines, periodicals and internet sites that can help you to become a better grower. We also recommend that you go to the American Orchid Society link at the top of the page for individual culture sheets for all types of orchid genera. You will find growing orchids to be an exciting hobby. However, a word of caution, orchids are extremely addicting! Once you purchase your first plant, you will be 'hooked' for the rest of your life!



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Hydroponics and Orchids

Growing and caring for orchids is a very pleasurable experience for any enthusiast. There is however an alternative to growing orchids the traditional way and that is with hydroponics. Hydroponics allows you to grow crops and plants without soil or compost as the roots of the plants are placed in a mineral nutrient solution.

The Babylonians and Aztecs cultures grew plants without soil so technically they were using a form of hydroponics. Our technology and scientific knowledge has improved dramatically since the times of the Babylonians and Aztecs as well as our understanding of the benefits

In their natural environment, plants absorb mineral nutrients from soil when these nutrients dissolve in water. The level of our understanding of the required nutrients has enabled us to artificially introduce them into the plants water supply and as a result the soil is no longer required.

Please be aware that there is a difference between hydroponics and a soilless culture. Hydroponics is a type of soilless culture but other soilless cultures include sand and gravel.

There are many advantages using hydroponics which can be applied to the care of orchids.

- No soil – It should be obvious that you don't need to purchase any soil. No soil means that soil borne diseases are no longer an issue which reduces the need for pesticides.
- No weeding required
- Watering – It is very difficult to under water an orchid but over watering is a very common problem. Hydroponics removes this headache and at the same time saves water.
- Space – Less space is required with hydroponics.
- Light – More of the plant is exposed to sunlight. Also, as more of the plant is exposed it is possible to see the roots so identification on any problems is easier.
- It's easy – The system is very easy to set up and once set up it requires very little maintenance.
- Growth – The orchid is given the correct nutrients in the correct quantities which means more beautiful and healthy orchids can be grown. There are obviously many advantages which hydroponics provides. It won't however solve all the problems faced by the orchid enthusiast. Greater flower yield isn't always guaranteed and the costs can sometimes be higher than when grown in soil.

Continued on next column

Orchid enthusiasts should make an effort to grow at least a few orchids using this method. They will be surprised at the ease of using hydroponics and it will only increase their knowledge and experience in the care of orchids.

We are in the process of preparing the **SFOS 2007-2008 Membership Roster**. If you have any changes to your contact information please let the SFOS office know by June 22, 2007. You can send it by email (sforchid@bellsouth.net) or leave a message on the office phone (305-255-3656).



Sandi Jones
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SFOS Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, June 20, 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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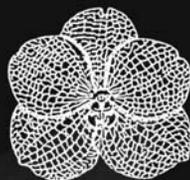
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