



Volume 6, Issue 37

The Orchidist

THE ORCHIDIST

March 2011

President's Message



Dear South Florida members,

Our last meeting was quite a treat, and I am sure

that all of you who attended the meeting were glad that you were there.

I want to thank Bob Fuchs for his most interesting talk on vanda inter generics, and his beautiful raffle table. Bob is an accomplished speaker, and we all benefited from his vast knowledge. He generously donated two orchid arrangements for our raffles, which we most appreciated.

Our next speaker will be Paul Storm who will present "Schombo-Love 101".

Remember to bring all your questions about these interesting plants to our next meeting. We are re instituting our mini classes before the meeting, so be sure to arrive around 7:30.

What an interesting winter this

has been! I nearly froze in December, and the end of February was so warm I was tempted to take down my plastic in the greenhouse (but I didn't!) I will wait until the middle to end of March to remove it when I am certain there will be no more cold snaps. But I do hope we get some more cool (not cold!) weather before our steamy summer!

Please remember that our April meeting is our annual auction. Carol De Biase has gathered many beautiful plants from our local growers, as well as growers from different parts of the United States and abroad. Make sure you bring your checkbooks and friends for a most wonderful evening. Consider the auction as you begin your own repotting; we have wonderful growers in our club, so consider sharing your divisions (helps make room for more purchases!)

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting.

Good growing,

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT - JUDY MEZEY

1ST VP - SALLY TAYLOR

2ND VP - CAROL DE BIASE

SECRETARY - JAVIER MOREJON

TREASURER - DOROTHY BENNETT

TERM EXP. 2011:

CHRISTA COLLINS, JULIE ROSENBERG AND TONY VIGGIANI

TERM EXP. 2012:

MARLENE CLARK, RALPH HERNANDEZ AND JOAN VIGGIANI

TERM EXP. 2013

DAN CHRISTENSEN, BONNIE RILEY, AND MARIA WOOD

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

SANDY SCHULTZ

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This Month's Meeting - Schombo-love101 with Paul Storm



Paul and Mary Storm, who operate Meke Aloha Orchids fell in love with schomburkias many years ago and have travelled extensively seeking the finest examples with which to make their hybrids.

Their mission is to convert as many growers as possible to schomburkias lovers and are presenting Schombo-Love 101 at the meeting which will present the most current info on myrmecophilas and schomburkias

available. They will be have plants for sale and look forward to infecting us all with Schombo-Love as they explain why this group is fast becoming one of the most popular orchids in the country.

Get Growing with Lou Lodyga... Epidendrum prismatocarpum

If you like flowers that make a statement then this striking species is for you.

Native to Mexico and Central America it's found in forests growing on large tree branches. The bright, long-lasting flowers are produced in the summer on an 15" inflorescence.

An easily grown species, it needs strong bright light and can be grown mounted or potted, and since it has pseudobulbs, it needs to dry out between watering. Fertilize only in active growth.



Epidendrum prismatocarpum

Upcoming Events

Club Meetings:

3/15: Pan AM meeting

3/16: SFOS meeting

3/21: COS Meeting

3/22: East Everglades Orchid Society meeting

4/1: SDAOC meeting

4/5: Orchid Society of Coral Gables meeting

4/12: Pan Am Orchid Society Auction



Think About it

"Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram, once recorded will not die, but long after we are gone be a living thing, asserting itself with an ever-growing insistence."

Daniel Hudson Burnham

Judging Report

February 2011 Judging Report

We had a great plant table this month with a lot of winners. I really appreciate everyone sharing their blooming plants with us. I neglected to write down the owner of one of our winners - C. loddigesii. Please contact me so I can give you credit. Any comments during plant discussion are always welcome. Please share with us any additional information you have about your plants.

We need a portable rack for the hanging plants that are brought in. If anyone can make something for us, please let me know. Bonnie

FEBRUARY RIBBON JUDGING - First Place Winners:

Aranda Noorah Alsagoff - Betty Eber

Rth. Fuchs Orange Nugget - John King

Vnra. Honolulu - Joan and Tony Viggiani

C. loddigesii -

Den. peguanum - Julie Rosenberg and Ron Hunt

Den. goldscmidtianum - Julie Rosenberg and Ron Hunt

Dtps. Champion Lighting - Betty Eber

Phal. He Ying Pi - Judy Mezey

Paph. Cosair - Carmen Segrera

Paph. Angela - Joan and Tony Viggiani

Gongora historionica - Javier Morejon

Bulb. arfakianum - Javier Morejon

Trias oblonga - Javier Morejon

FEBRUARY CULTURE WINNER - Den. peguanum - Julie Rosenberg and Ron Hunt

FEBRUARY MEDAL WINNER - Den. peguanum "Punkin" CCA/SFOS - 87pts. Julie Rosenberg and Ron Hunt

Just a reminder there will be no judging in April because of the Auction.

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Everglades Art Exhibit

Ultra-rare native orchids and endangered, threatened or endemic plants and butterflies are some of the subjects of a month-long art exhibit at the Coe Visitor Center, Everglades National Park, Homestead FL. The exhibit, entitled "Endangered and Endemic: Beautiful but Threatened Plants and the Animals that Depend on Them," is a collaboration between local photographers and botanical artists. It can be viewed every day from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, March 1 – 31, 2011.

Local wildflower expert and author, Roger Hammer, will be showing his photographs, as will Keith Bradley, Assistant Director of the Institute for Regional Conservation and premier plant photographer. Kathleen Konicek-Moran, a long-time volunteer for the Everglades National Park and creator of trail guides and signs throughout the Park, is contributing watercolors and works in pencil to the show. In addition, seven members of the Tropical Botanic Artists (Margie Bauer, Silvia Bota, Marge Brown, Marie Chaney, Susan Cumins, Pauline Goldsmith and Leo Hernandez), an organization based out of the Fairchild Tropical Gardens in Coral Gables, are showing works. A special guest contributor is O.M. Braid, internationally known botanic artist and teacher at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota. There will be a talk by Jimi Sadle, Everglades National Park Botanist on Sunday, March 20 at 7:00 pm about the issues surrounding endangered plants and animals in South Florida and the Everglades. This will be followed by a gallery tour and a meet-the-artist reception. Refreshments will be served.

Directions to the Park can be found on the website at <http://www.nps.gov/ever/index.htm> or by calling the Park at (305) 242-7700.

ORCHID BRAINTEASER - Look Alikes

These are examples of orchids that look similar but are not.

One is found in the South American Andes of Peru and the other is found growing alongside riverbanks in South Africa, but they are remarkable similar in terms of climate, flower culture and flower size.

Can you figure out which species I am thinking about?

Remember to send your answers to the monthly brainteasers to me. You guys can win some lovely prizes, but not if you don't participate...

Membership Dues

Just a friendly reminder that dues are due. If you have not paid your dues this month, you can send a check for \$30 for a single member and \$40 for a family membership with \$10 for each additional member. Dues can be sent to Ellen Hanson at the membership office or paid at the next meeting.



ORCHID BRAINTEASER ANSWERS

Below are the answers to last month's brain teaser.

- 1 - *Bulbophallums* which are native to Asia, Africa, and South America
- 2 - *Disa* and *Phragmipedium*
- 3 - My name is *C. labiata* and I come from Brazil
- 4 - *Eulophia*
- 5 - I am *Cyrtopodium punctatum* and am native to the Florida Everglades
- 6 - Ghost Orchid

Members are encouraged to submit their answers to me by noon the day before the meeting. Those members with the most correct answers are eligible to win prizes including gift certificates from RF and Dan and Margie Orchids and plants. Winners will be announced bi-annually in June and December. For more info, e-mail me at jvmorejon214@gmail.com

Other Special Events

The 2011 Native Orchids Conference

This conference is an annual event that brings together information from all over the world to take about these plants.

These year's conference is being sponsored by the Mt. Cuba Center and the Native Orchid Conference Inc.. The event will be held on July 30-31 with optional trips over the next two days. Registration opened March 1 and costs \$125 for singles and \$225 for couples.

It will be held at the Mt. Cuba Center 3120 Barley Mill Rd., Hockessin, DE 19707. For more info go to <http://www.mtcubacenter.org/education/symposiums/2011-native-orchid-conference>.

Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale

The Tampa Bay Orchid Society invites you to help celebrate their 30 anniversary at their annual show and sale to be held May 6-8, 2011.

The show, entitled *Orchids through Time*, will take place at the Egypt Shrine Center Activities Building, 4050 Dana Shores Dr., Tampa, FL. Parking is free and the show will include displays and educational exhibits and programs. Orchid plants will also be for sale.

Hope to see you there



Spring Orchid Festival
presented by St. Germain Orchids

April 8-10, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
18290 S.W. 254 Street
Homestead, FL 33031

Free Admission

A spectacular festival of exotic orchids in a picturesque garden setting. Peruse the beautiful blooms while savoring a mouth-watering barbecue, luscious desserts, beverages and live entertainment. Receive free tips on orchid care. Orchid repotting services available.

Participating Vendors
Broward Orchid Supply
Ruben in Orchids
Hennington Farms
Mac's Orchids
Stelmar Gardens
Caribe Plants
Music & Festival
Production by Unique Audio

www.StGermainOrchids.com

March Trivia

St. Patrick's Day held every year on March 17 celebrates the saint who is traditionally held with bringing Christianity to Ireland.



Although not an official holiday, it has a long history of being celebrated with parades.

The most common term you'll hear on this day is Erin Go Braugh, which means Ireland Forever.

It is a day to celebrate Irish history and customs.

Other interesting March trivia

Did you know...

March was originally named after Mars, the Roman god of War.

It is National Women's History Month, Poetry Month, Red Cross Month and Social Worker's Month.

The first Friday of the month is Employee Appreciation Day.

It is also the month we "Spring Forward" as Daylight Savings Time ends as well as the month we celebrate the solstice.

Our prayers go out to the residents of Japan as they struggle to recover from the devastating earthquake.

Recipe: Hot Cross Buns

Ingredients: 3 cups unsifted flour, 3/4 cup granulated sugar, 1 cup evaporated or whole milk, 1/4 cup softened butter or margarine, 1/8 teaspoon salt, 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon, 1/8 heaping teaspoon allspice, 1 cup raisins or walnuts, 1 package dry yeast, 1/4 cup hot water (for dissolving yeast), 1 large, well-beaten egg

Frosting: 2 cups confectioner's sugar, 1 tablespoon milk, 1 cup orange juice

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. While the oven is warming, combine all ingredients except yeast, hot water, the egg, and the frosting ingredients and mix them well. Dissolve the yeast in the hot water and add it and the egg to the rest of the mixture. Combine well. Shape into a ball and place in a lightly greased bowl, turning once to grease the top. Cover the mixture with a cloth and allow the dough to rise in a warm spot for about an hour, until nearly doubled in size. Shape the dough into round balls about 3 inches across and place them at least 3 inches apart on a lightly greased and floured baking sheet. Place the sheet in the preheated oven. After 5-8 minutes of baking, open the oven and use a sharp knife to slash an equilateral cross about 3/4 of an inch deep into the top of each bun. Allow the knife to pry open these wounds slightly so they will be less likely to bake themselves closed again. Return the buns to the oven and allow them to bake for another 15-20 minutes or until they are a brownish-gold. Remove the buns from the oven and drizzle the frosting on them.



Species of the month: **Schomburkia splendens**

These plants are found in Colombia and Ecuador in dry montane forests as a large size hot to warm growing epiphyte found growing along branches of trees next to riverbanks in full sun.



Plants bloom from summer to winter on 4-5 foot spikes with 8-10 red flowers.

R.F. Orchids Presents Our Annual

Spring Fling Orchid Sale!

April 8, 9, 10
Friday, Saturday & Sunday
9am - 5pm

Great bargains on new arrivals, flowering plants,
garden decor and lots more!

Art exhibition by the Homestead Art Club!

Refreshments, and garden tours, too!



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Homestead FL 33030
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sales@rforchids.com



Proud member of the Historic Redland Tropical Trail



IF YOU WOULD LIKE
TO PLACE AN AD AND
ARE INTERESTED IN
FINDING OUT INFO ON
AD RATES, PLEASE
CONTACT ME AT THE
E-MAIL LISTED BE-

LOW.

jvrmoreon214@gmail.com