



The Orchidist

January 2005 - Volume 2, Number 1

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President's Message

Dear Fellow Members,

We all had a fantastic time at our Holiday Party thanks to Marlene Clark and the wonderful turnout of all our members. I think it was one of the best attended in the last few years. This party marked the end of a very busy year with a positive balance in all our activities. It also marks the beginning of a new year full of challenges. We always make sure that our show is the best ever. It takes a lot of planning. Luckily, we have Dorothy Bennett in charge and we all can rest assured that Dorothy will do a superb job, but it is getting so complex that Dorothy's assistant, Richard Brandon, is already working on our 2006 show. We also have speaker's day to look forward to under the supervision of Bob Fuchs. Michael Coronado is also making sure we will have the best speakers available every month. Julie Rosenberg is working on the third edition of our successful "An Introduction to Orchids" book. This book promises to be even better with new pictures and new and updated articles. But the biggest challenge of all, is the World Conference which is only three years away. It is on schedule, but many hours go into planning and when the time comes, we all are going to be proudly working on this magnificent event.

We have the first meeting for 2005 coming up, the Stanhopeinae and their culture by Erich Michel of Hoosier Orchids. You can show your appreciation for Mike's hard work and loyalty to our club by attending this meeting.

Happy New Year to all and I'll see you Wednesday, January 19th at 7:30 pm.

Eduardo Marcellini

Program: Erich Michel

"The Stanhopeinae and Their Culture"

Erich E. Michel, Hoosier Orchid Company, will introduce us to the fascinating and exotic with his talk on Stanhopeinae. The talk will be an overview of the major species in the genera Stanhopea, Coryanthes and Gongora, as well as some minor genera. Slides will illustrate the species discussed.

Erich started growing orchids in 1987 after receiving a plant as a gift from his brother. He has been growing them ever since. He joined the team at Hoosier Orchid Company as Laboratory Director in the spring of 1991, after studying Biochemistry and Microbiology at Indiana University.

Erich has a great interest in all aspects of the propagation of orchid species. His research has included Tetrazolium Red Stain testing for living tissue using oxidation; the determination of seed-coat thickness and consequential sterilization requirements; the germination of terrestrial orchid species from Europe, South Africa, Australia and the United States; experimental hybridization using new sub tribe combinations in the Catasetinae; media formulations in relation to growth rates; pollination mechanisms; phylogenetic relations; seed and pollen storage; and virus and its effect on plantlet growth.

Erich has been a speaker at two World Orchid Conferences, and has addressed many groups around the country on his specialty of laboratory technique and his favorite groups of orchids. Erich is also an accredited AOS judge.

SFOS Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, January 19th, 2005

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 - Orchid Clinic & Refreshments
- 9:00 pm - Awarded Plants Discussed
- 9:15 pm - Raffle

SHOW NEWS

The 60th Miami International Orchid Show

Show Theme: *Jungle Odyssey*

Honorary Show Chairman: Mary Noble McQuerry

Location: Coconut Grove Exhibition Center
2700 South Bayshore Drive

Schedule:

Plant Registration	Wednesday, March 3	2:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Judging	Thursday, March 4	8:30 am
Premiere Party	Thursday, March 4	7:30 pm – 10:00 pm
Open to the public	Friday March 5	10:00 am – 8:00 pm
	Saturday, March 6	10:00 am – 8:00 pm
	Sunday, March 7	10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Admission and Tickets

* At the gate: \$10.00 per person, members free WITH MEMBER BADGE AND PHOTO ID ONLY

* No discounts; no three-day passes

Pre-sale tickets: \$8.00, available from Ellen at the office. On February 28th these will no longer be available.

Premiere party tickets: \$50.00 – purchase through the office

Volunteers are needed for the following committees:

- Security – Eduardo Marcellini
- Hospitality – Julia Hamner
- Box Office – Joan Viggiani
- Walking Tours – Sandy Schultz,
- Clerking – Dorothy Bennett
- Trophy Placement – Mona Heider

Contact the committee chairman either directly or through the office.

Sponsor a trophy:

Two sponsorship levels: \$50.00 and \$100.00. Includes a presentation sign indicating the sponsor, name in the Show Schedule, as well. Contact the SFOS office.

Please support your society and help us make this the very best Miami International Orchid Show ever.

Dorothy Bennett
2005 Show Director

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT ADMISSION: Many of you will remember that our admission policy for members changed last year. Members are still admitted to the show free of charge, but you **MUST** document your membership by providing your membership ID badge AND a photo ID (e.g. driver's license) at the time of admittance.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Jan. "The Stanhopeinae and Their Culture", Erich Michel, Hoosier Orchids

Feb. Dorothy Bennett and Bob Fuchs team up to get us ready for the show with talks on "Entering Your Beauties in the Show" and "What Judges Look For", respectively. Be on hand to learn how you can participate and maximize your chances for medals, ribbons and trophies.

Mar. To be determined

Upcoming Area Events

The Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society presents its Annual Orchid Show - "Orchid Elegance" at the War Memorial Auditorium, 800 NE 8th Street, Holiday Park. Ft. Lauderdale, FL on January 21, 22, and 23, 2005. Admission to the show is \$6.00. Show hours are: Friday, 10am-9pm, Saturday, 10am-8pm, and Sunday, 10am-6pm. Top orchid growers known around the world will participate in this acclaimed show. The show will have more vendors than ever before. Orchid growers like Carter & Holmes, Carmela Orchids, Norman's Orchids, Soroa Orchids, R.F. Orchids, many Hawaiian, Californian and local growers are just a few. The Ft Lauderdale Orchid Show is one of the largest in the US and is internationally recognized to be one of the best! The Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society is a co-host along with the South Florida orchid Society of the 19th World Orchid Conference to be held in Miami Beach -Spring of 2008!



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SFOS Ribbon Judging November 17, 2004



Blue Ribbons

Pedro Bonetti	Ascda. (Waianae Brilliance x Yip Sum Wah)
Eric Gottlieb	Oncidium sprucei
Vickie Hawk	Paph. (kolopakingii x praestans)
Karen Kubinec	Blc. Saint Helena Sound 'Newberry'
Karen Kubinec	Encyclia cochleata
Allan & Jan Mink	V. (Udom Gold x Thailand Gold)
Sheila B. O'Dea	Catasetum incurvum
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Paph. Paul Parks
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Cochleanthes amazonica
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Paph. (Cameo x World Venture)
Eric Schue	Ascda. Crownfox Sundancer
Lore Wigley	Bc. Maikai 'Mayumi'
Lore Wigley	Angraecum eburneum
Lore Wigley	Colm. Wildcat 'Bloody Mary'



Red Ribbons

Pedro Bonetti	Gongora dressleri
Betty Eber	Rodriguezia secunda
Betty Eber	Pot. Rose Endo
Eric Gottlieb	Doritis pulcherrima
Karen Kubinec	Lc. Lauren Oka 'Kristi'
Luis Guemes	Howeara Lava Burst
Jan & Allan Mink	Mtssa. Shelob 'Tolkien' AM/AOS
Jan & Allan Mink	C. David Bishop
Jan & Allan Mink	Laelia rubescens
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Bc Maikai 'Mayumi'
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Paph. Jade Gift
Lore Wigley	Blc. Mem. Crispin Rosales 'Costa Mesa'



White Ribbons

Jan & Allan Mink	Blc. Plum Island 'Newberry'
Lore Wigley	Odbrs. Kenneth Bivin 'Santa Barbara'

Ribbon Judges: Vickie Hawk, George Heider, Erna Maxwell, Gladys Roudel, Julie Rosenberg, Pedro Bonetti, Yolanda Cuesta, Richard Brandon



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What's Bugging Your Orchid? Fungus?

Do you see pinpoint size, rust to dark colored spotting on your orchid leaves? If you have thoroughly inspected your plants and find on signs of insect infestation, consider bacterial fungal infections. How does one determine if your orchids have a fungus? Examine the leaves of the plant. Look for the tiny spots, soft spots, or sunken areas on the leaves.

What caused this disease problem?

Warm and humid environments with inadequate air circulation or ventilation are the perfect one to promote fungal growth. The easiest and best solution to prevent this problem, is "good air movement"! Should you have the need for a more aggressive treatment ----- try the Tetracycline Drench!

1 Tetracycline Capsule -- dissolved in 5 Gallons of water in a large bucket Dip entire infected plant in the "Tetracycline Drench"

Repeat the treatment daily for two more days (Note: save the "drench" for the three day treatment and then discard) Re-examine plants in two weeks to determine that the fungus has stopped spreading. Tetracycline capsules are available at most Pet Centers in the Fish Section



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What's Bugging Your Orchid? Red Spider Mites

It's been hot and dry everywhere this summer. These are perfect conditions for the red spider mite to take hold. A tiny arachnite, these creatures can cause damage if left untreated. They can attack any orchid but love Cymbidiums. If is difficult to see anything but a tiny dot if viewing the plant without magnification. Check your plants and follow the recommended "organic" control!

Red Spider Mite "Organic" Control
In a Blender Mix
Buttermilk and Water at a 50/50 ratio
Add a few drops of liquid dishwashing soap
Blend for 15 seconds

Pour into a hand held spray or a regular sprayer if doing a large area such as a greenhouse. Spray front and back of all leaves allowing mixture to run down the pseudobulbs.

Recheck the plants in two weeks!
Rid yourself of Red Spider Mites!



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Flasking Orchids by Alan Robinson

Reprinted from the Brisbane Australia Newsletter

The number of questions on seed propagation and flasking prompted Graham to ask for some of the details to be printed in the bulletin for those who wish to experiment. Flasking can be a costly operation or, with a bit of commonsense and ingenuity, a sterile area can be produced with very little cost at all.

The flasking medium can be purchased if required from suppliers who advertise in "Orchids Australia" or "Australian Orchid Review" and cost \$9.00 to \$8.00 for a pack sufficient to make 1 litre of medium. This contains agar (the jelly base), sugar and the minerals and trace elements necessary. Manana must be added.

A suitable medium can be made up using one of the foliac fertilizers in your garden shed and my experience has obtained best results from Aqua Feed. Add the fertilizer at the recommended strength specified by the fertilizer. i.e. if the fertilizer recommends 1 spoon per litre, add 1 spoon to a litre of flasking medium.

To make 1 litre of medium:-

1 litre dematerialized water

1 level tablespoon (9 gms) Agar (from Health Food Shop)

1 level tablespoon (20 gms) sugar

40 gms (approx half) of nearly ripe Cavendish banana blended Potato walnut size, optional blended with banana improves root formation.

Bring to boil and decant into prepared jars for sterilizing. Sterilize complete jars with lids for 15 minutes in pressure cooker.

Seed may be sown as "green pod", that is before the pod fully matures and splits open. In this case, the seed is sterile and can be sown directly into the flask. A pod, which has ripened and split (dry pod) is immediately contaminated by fungal spores, which are ever preset in natural air and must be sterilized in a suitable solution for 10 to 15 minutes before sowing. A 10% solution in water of Snow White (Sodium Hypochloride) is an effective sterilizing agent.

When sowing seed or transferring plants in your sterile case, everything introduced into that area must be sterilized and a 20% to 25% Snow White solution will accomplish this. If possible, use a different set of instruments for each flask. This ensures that if an instrument has not be sterilized properly and contaminates a flask, only that flask will be ruined, not the whole batch.

With care and thought in maintaining a sterile atmosphere, you will indeed find "flasking is easy".

Thank you South Florida...

Dear SFOS,

Thank you for another fabulous Holiday Party! It was such a wonderful evening that we felt a formal note of thanks would be in order.

The dinner was excellent. We all enjoyed our meals tremendously. A few of us even saved room for the great selection of desserts.

One of the highpoints of the evening was the dancing. Some of us danced. Some of us watched, but everyone had a great time. Eleanor mesmerized us all with her skill on the dance floor -- there wasn't a rhythm that she couldn't handle. And it was great to see Marlene relaxing and dancing after all the work of planning the party. The DJ was excellent, too, although some of us felt compelled to request a little more "salsa" in the mix.

The raffle was terrific. So thanks are in order to the Board members that donated all those gorgeous plants or jewelry for us to win. Clementine was by far the "big winner" and she took home a beautiful collection including the much coveted "green dendrobium".

We will all enjoy watching our gift "seedlings" growing. Although it seems that these plants, many in sheath or bud, are pretty well matured for seedling status. We should probably expect some nice cattleya flowers in our members' collections (and possibly on our judging table) in the coming months. Thank you, SFOS, for this annual gift.

The very best part of the evening, of course, was visiting with our friends old and new. It was wonderful to see people that don't make it to meetings very often, like John and Beth Allison (who looked great, by the way!), as well as spouses and family of members, like Charlie Clark, that we only get to see at these events. We even had several relatively new members there.

So, from all of us, a big "thank you", Marlene for another wonderful and festive holiday evening. And "thank you" South Florida for being so generous to your membership.

Sincerely,

The "gang" at the R.F. Orchids Table



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Plant Inventory Identification

by Regina Chandler

Reprinted from the Brisbane Australia Newsletter

Record Keeping

Record keeping is an important part of orchid growing. Unnamed plants do not please the judges, and it could prove a stumbling block in providing the correct cultural needs. Noting an orchid's history and progress can assist in improving the quality of the plant. As we know, observation is a very powerful tool. Meticulous records are particularly important when breeding.

Catalogue cards

Catalogue cards are very useful for recording such information as date, place and cost of purchase, awards, type of media, pots and fertilizer used, potting on and flowering dates, position in shade house, special growing requirements and general progress etc., for each plant. A blank recipe card And box set with alphabetical sections is ideal for this purpose. The lid on the plastic box will protect it from any moisture, so it can be taken temporarily to the shade house for use. Otherwise, a simple plywood box can be made to house the cards, or even an exercise book with a page for each plant would suffice. With a large number of plants, it's impossible to rely on your memory, and you can only fit so much data on the labels.

Stock lists

Stock lists typed and sorted alphabetically into natives, species and hybrids, are handy to take with you when purchasing plants, so as not to double up. Also take the list to orchid shows, so you can mark any prize winners you may have in your collection. You can also cross-reference your hybrids, so you have an alphabetical list of all crosses in plants.

Plant labels

Plant labels have a habit of becoming lost! A good idea is to write another small one and bury it in the bottom of the pot. You may prefer to number plants only, and record numbers on the cards. When you notice broken or faded labels, replace

them immediately. Use an indelible pencil. If you do have any unnamed plants, make an effort to identify them when in flower. There are now handy colored labels on the market, so make use of them and color code according to your own requirements:- eg. you may want to code species, native and hybrids, according to potting medium, or to indicate resting plants.

Photos

Photograph each plant in your collection when it flowers, and write the name on the back immediately. Photos are invaluable to display when selling plants not in flower, or to assist in breeding or identification. These are best stored with their catalogue cards for easy reference, or in a separate album.

So, with a minimum of fuss, you will be organized in no time, and have all the information you need at your fingertips!

It's Show Time.....

Of course we all know that our show isn't until March, but your Show Committee is very busy planning to make this 60th anniversary event one the best ever.

Just to whet your appetites, here are a few facts:

When: March 4-6, 2005
March 3rd, judging and opening party

Where: Coconut Grove Exhibition Center
2700 South Bayshore Drive

Theme: "Jungle Odyssey"

Honoree: Mary Noble McQuerry

You'll find more details in coming newsletters, of course, but for the latest up-to-the-minute Show News, be on hand at the monthly meetings.

PREVIEW PARTY MENU

A party not to be missed. The following is the menu that will be served at the SFOS Preview Party, Thursday Evening, and March 3, 2005, 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm. Reservations are necessary and NO Tickets will be available at the door. Reservation form included in this newsletter.

Butler Passed Hors d'Oeuvres

Petite Lamb Chops - Impeccably Grilled to the Ideal Temperature, Offered with Pomegranate Mint Julep Sauce

Sautéed Scallop - Resting on a Golden Yucca Chip, Garnished with Minted Sweet Pea Puree

Caribbean Vegetable Spring Roll Wrapped in Rice Paper with Goat Cheese and Ginger Soy Vinaigrette

Salmon Carpaccio Presented on a Rice Noodle Cake Garnished with Pickled Mango & Papaya

Coconut & Pistachio Encrusted Shrimp Deep Fried to a Golden Perfection Offered with a Tropical Fruit Coulis

Jazzy Sweet Potato & Walnut Beignet served with Honey Jack Daniel's Dipping Sauce

Lump Crabmeat Cake Offered with Roasted Red Pepper Aioli

Florida Flat Bread Crowned with Mesquite Grilled Chicken, Smoked Mozzarella & Chef Steven's BBQ Sauce

Bruschetta of Tenderloin Crowned with Pink Peppercorn Crusted Tenderloin of Beef and Drizzled with Pungent Blue Cheese Aioli

Brie French Toast Drizzled with a Fig Honey Garnished with Slivered Almonds

Delightful Dinner Stations

Carving Station - served with Petite Snowflake Rolls

Sirloin of Beef - Marinated in Herbs & Seared Medium Rare Thinly Sliced & Cut Into Bite Sized Pieces at the Station & Drizzled with Chimichurri Sauce & Horseradish Sauce

Herb Rubbed Breast of Turkey - Tender & Juicy Turkey Sliced to Order for your Guests Offered with Cranberry-Mayonnaise

Iced Seafood Station

Large Chilled Shrimp Served on Ice and served with Savory Spicy Cocktail Sauce and garnished with Lemon Wedges

Outrigger Oysters of the Sea on the Half Shell Shucked and served in their own liqueur

Chilled Mussels Concassée, drizzled with Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Dusted with Finely Chopped Tomatoes,

Garlic & Basil Chiffonade

Sip Of Soup Station

New England Clam Chowder offered in a Petite Cup

Caribbean Conch Fritters offered with Tequila Cocktail Sauce

Pasta Bar

An Interactive Sauté Station Prepared by Our Chef's in Front of Your Guests

Caesar Salad - Crisp Romaine Lettuce Tossed with Homemade Croutons, Parmesan Cheese & Sun Kissed Caesar Dressing

Petite Pasta - Crowned with Sautéed Mushrooms & Onions Tossed with Arrabiata Cream Sauce & Garnished with Fresh Basil Leaves

Garlic Rolls Dusted with Fresh Parmesan Cheese

Sauté Station

Tenderized Breast of Chicken Marsala Pan Seared in an Herb Olive Oil

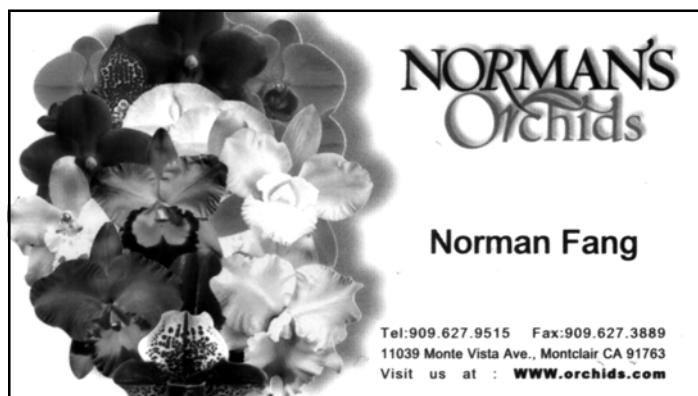
Fluffy Lemony Rice - Delectably Aromatic Rice accented with Fragrant Lemon Zest

Crisp Asparagus Platter Drizzled with a Citrus Glaze

Decadent Desserts

Chef's Selection of Desserts

Robust, Freshly Ground Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee & Harney & Sons Tea Selection



Bring Your Orchids in for Judging!
You can win with your orchids by bringing them in at our next meeting January 19th. Dress your plants up and bring them in.

Premier Party Registration

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please reserve _____ seats @ \$50.00

Total amount enclosed: \$_____

Address to mail tickets: _____

Please return this form along with your check to: SFOS, 10801 S.W. 124 St., Miami, FL 33176.

If you have any questions please direct them to Ellen Hanson at the SFOS office at 305-255-3656



South Florida Orchid Society
10801 S.W. 124 Street
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