



April 2005 - Volume 2, Number 4

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President's Message

Dear fellow members,

We had an excellent presentation last month. Certainly, it was a very different approach for the culture of orchids but very effective as well. I hope I can remember all the tips that were given throughout the whole talk.

I don't know if all of you are experiencing in your yards and orchid collection what I've been seeing in mine. It is just breathtaking. At this time of the year most of my orchids have decided to bloom. I would like to describe it with words, but I don't think I know that many to illustrate the show of color and beauty. We have to consider ourselves very fortunate to be part of nature's splendor, even as spectators and make sure to record it in our retinas. I just thought I had to share this with you.

Mike Coronado, our program chairman, has prepared an incredible auction for this month's program. If you thought that last year's was great, wait and see this one. We have received donations from vendors from all over. I believe that the amount of plants available will be double the previous years.

Prepare yourself for a great night of bargains, and fun; bring as many friends as you can. This is not a secret; you can share it with other orchid lovers.

I'll see you tonight.

Eduardo Marcellini

Program: AUCTION

Be on hand this month for South Florida Orchid Society's fabulous annual auction, which will be conducted by professional auctioneer, Bryan Kinsley, of the Sunset Auction Co. The auction will start promptly at 8:00 pm.

Our auction is always a spectacular event, and this year will be no exception. So far we've received donations from Amazon Orchids, Amazonia Orchids, Baldan Orchids, Blue Sea Imports, Carmela Orchids, Godlove & Son Orchids, H & R Orchids, Hawaii Pacific Orchids, Hawaiian Island Orchids, Indian River Orchids, J & M Orchids, Krull-Smith, Norman's Orchids, Odom's Orchids, Orchis Floriculturing, PCK Orchids, Piping Rock Orchids, Plantio la Orquidea, Redland Orchids, Sew Special Embroidery, Stalt, Inc., Water Orchids, Whimsy Orchids, and Wooworks – and more are coming in!!

For the auction we will be accepting cash, checks and credit cards – so come prepared. There will be great bargains to be had!! This is your chance to add orchids from some of the finest growers in the U.S. to your collection! Proceeds from the auction will benefit SFOS programs for the coming year. Be sure to support your society and be on hand for an evening of fun.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Michael Coronado
VP – Program Chairman

Orchid Collectibles.... Ming Jewelry from Hawaii

by Linda Maher



Being an avid orchid lover, I enjoy wearing orchid jewelry. Ming's of Honolulu has a history of producing highly prized pieces featuring Hawaiian flowers, and of course orchids. Wook Moon was the owner and original designer when he founded Ming's just before WWII in 1941. He originally designed jewelry for the working woman to wear

on her suits and the pieces were very moderately priced. His work gained popularity because of the Polynesian/Asian themes he featured in his designs, which touched the hearts and spirits of the people of Hawaii. After much thought, the Moon family decided to close their doors in October 1999. This was a very sad day in Hawaii. This venerable and much loved institution was going to be sorely missed. When you started buying Ming's jewelry, you became a "hanai" (adopted in Hawaiian) family member. The clerks remembered your name and what you purchased before. Many of these clerks had worked for the family for decades! It always felt wonderful just walking into the store in the Fort Street Mall. For weeks prior to the closing, people lined up outside the store just to be able to buy the last few pieces of jewelry available. Signed Ming's jewelry is beautiful and a joy to wear. Today, Ming's orchid jewelry creations are truly a "treasure" to be collected and passed from generation to generation.

The 2005-06 Nominating Committee, comprised of Dorothy Bennett (Chair), Julie Rosenberg, Marlene Clark, and Robert Fuchs (alternate), met during the period of April 1-3, 2005 and proposes the following slate of nominees for the coming election to be held in May 2005:

President	Robert Fuchs
1st Vice President	Richard Brandon
2nd Vice President	Michael Coronado
Secretary	Maria Wood
Treasurer	Joan Viggiani
Directors, term expiring 2008:	Julie Rosenberg, Tony Viggiani, Sandy Schultz
Director, term expiring 2007	(vacancy left by resignation of Daniel Sumner); Dorothy Bennett

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Bennett, Chairman

Orchid Fragrance

by Wayne Warzecha

I love fragrant flowers. While most people associate fragrance with roses and other flowers, there are plenty of orchid species and hybrids with fragrances for you to enjoy. Some orchids have pleasant, distinctive scents while others are subtle yet intriguing. The popular *Oncidium Sharry Baby* 'Sweet Fragrance' has flowers with a fragrance that may entice chocolate lovers. Flowers of *Maxillaria tenuifolia* smell like coconut oil. The bright yellow *Lycaste aromatica* flowers have a strong cinnamon scent.

Many *Cattleya* alliance orchids have fragrant flowers. *Brassavola nodosa* has a powerful fragrance late at night. The scent of some *Bulbophyllum* orchids can keep people away from your greenhouse. Some *Phalaenopsis* species and their hybrids even have light alluring fragrances.

Orchid fragrance varies throughout the day and night. Some orchid flowers smell much better during the morning hours with the first light of day. Fragrance in orchids tends to dissipate after the noon hour. Moth-pollinated orchids emit their strongest scents after dark. You can trick a *Brassavola nodosa* to emit fragrance by placing a blooming plant in a dark place for about 30 minutes. In general, good culture with good lighting for the particular type of orchid is essential for sustained fragrance of your orchid blooms.

Through advances in analytical gas-liquid chromatography, orchid hobbyists trained as chemists have been able to identify the specific chemical compounds that produce fragrance in orchids. The volatile 2-pentadecanone is the primary component responsible for 50% of orchid fragrance. Other substances are 2-alkanones and 2-alkylacetate derivatives. Butyric Acid derivatives are responsible for the offensive odors of some *Bulbophyllum* flowers.

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SFOS NEW MEMBER PACKETS

To welcome new members into our Society, SFOS now offers an amazing new member packet that is mailed to all new members. The new packets contain updated pesticide information, our by-laws, a membership roster and several coupons, the value of which far exceeds the cost of membership. Please talk to your friends and let them know about our wonderful new member packets as well as the other benefits of being a member of South Florida Orchid Society like free entrance into the Miami Orchid Show and our wonderful and informative monthly programs, just to name a few. Below is a list of the businesses that have donated coupons for our packets:

- Orchids by Allison
- Ruben In Orchids
- Impact Orchids & Exotics
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- R.F. Orchids
- JEM Orchids
- Mickey's Orchids
- Alberts & Merkel Bros. Inc.
- Palm Hammock Orchid Estate, Inc.
- American Orchid Society
- Fairchild Tropical Gardens
- Amazonia Orchids

THANK YOU!!

This month a big SFOS thank you goes out to Mona Heider stepping up to the plate last month and manning our hospitality table at the March meeting. As Christa Collins was away and her designated substitute wasn't present, we were left with a gaping vacancy at the front door.

Thank you, Mona, for volunteering to help us out!

Bring Your Orchids in for Judging!

You can win with your orchids by bringing them in at our next meeting April 20th. Dress your plants up and bring them in.



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Smelly "Spiders" that Enhance and Enchant the Home

The most intriguing "spiders" in the plant world are known as Brassia. This genus was named in honor of William Brass, an 18th century botanical illustrator and plant collector for Sir Joseph Banks in western and southern Africa. Current orchid growers appreciate Brassias as adaptable, easy-to-grow orchids, well at home in a mixed collection.

This orchid is knick-named the "spider orchids" because the sepals and petals, which can be up to several inches long, resemble the legs of spiders. Although their color forms are usually green or yellow with spots or blotches of red-brown to almost black, they are well worth growing for their stunning flowers, light fragrance, and ability to bloom two to three times a year as the new growth matures.

Many species in the genus Brassia are pollinated by parasitic wasps, which normally lay their eggs on spiders. The patterns and structure of Brassia orchids resemble a spider in its web enough to encourage these wasps to lay their eggs in the plants' blooms and in doing so pollinate them.

Brassia species come from the areas of tropical America, including Jamaica, Central America, and tropical South America. One species, Brassia caudata, is found in the semitropical southern Florida Everglades as well as in warmer habitats such as Panama. Brassia maculata, a yellow-flowered species with compact growth, comes from tropical Central America. In El Salvador these sturdy plants can be found growing on coffee bushes. Brassias in these areas receive bright light and intermediate to warm temperatures, depending on the season. During the relatively dry months in their native habitat, these epiphytic orchids can survive for weeks without water. Primary hybrids (two species crossed), as well as hybrids can easily adapt to more dramatic temperature and light fluctuations. Culture for Brassias is similar to Cattleyas. Requiring intermediate temperatures, bright diffused light, and an evenly moist medium that does not dry out completely, plants will produce strong new growths to support the quick growing inflorescences. Feeding Brassias on a regular basis with a dilute solution of fertilizer is required except for about a month after blooming when active growth has stopped. Repotting Brassias should be done with care. They resent being disturbed, however, they often grow over the pot edge into a specimen size plant in just a few years.

Continued on next column 4

Popular hybrids are available from numerous sources. Outstanding selections include Brassia Edvah Loo (longissima x gireoudiana majus), Brassia Lance (caudata x gireoudiana), Brassia Memoria Fritz Boedeker (Rex x arcuigera), Brassia Santa Barbara (Rex x Edvah Loo), and Brassia Memoria Walter Bertsch (Rex x maculata). Popular species include Brassia maculata, verrucosa, caudata, gireoudiana, and longissima

(Reprinted with permission from the New Mexico Orchid Society)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Apr Annual Auction

May "Schomburgkia Intergenerics", Paul Storm, Meke Aloha Orchids


June Installation and Awards Presentation
Awards Committee Chairman, Robert Fuchs, will provide a review of the SFOS awards for the past year and make presentations to the winning exhibitors.

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

Moonlight Garden Tour

Tuesday, April 26, 7:30 pm
Vizcaya Museum & Gardens

Take advantage of a rare opportunity and visit Vizcaya under the full moon on Tuesday, April 26. Volunteer Guides will provide tours of Vizcaya's magnificent gardens along Biscayne Bay by the moon's alluring light. Curator of Orchids, Carol De Biase will also be on hand at the David A. Klein Orchidarium to discuss these magnificent flowers. Vizcaya was built by American Industrialist James Deering, who wintered on the property from 1916-1925. Garden tours are \$5.00 per person and begin at 7:30 pm. Reservations not required.



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SFOS Ribbon Judging Results, January 19, 2005

Blue Ribbons

Pedro Bonetti	Vasco. Viboon Velvet 'Puffy Cloud'
Pedro Bonetti	Asoda. Gold Sparkler
Mary Carol Boring AOS	Mtssa. Charles M. Fitch 'Izumi' AM/
Betty Eber	V Rasri Gold
Dave & Valerie Foster	Ltna. Renate 'S&W'
Luis Guemes	Phal. Summer Dream
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker Hannay	Dtps. Brother Vanessa
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Paph. (Candy Apple x fairrieanum)
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Trichoglottis wenzellii
Lore Wigley	Blc. Young Kong 'Sun #16' HCC/AOS

Red Ribbons

Pedro Bonetti	Phrag. Conchiferum
Pedro Bonetti	V Sansai Blue
Mickey Carmichael	Hasgw. Mickey's Gale
Mary Carol Boring	Beallara Tahoma Glacier
Luis Guemes	Opst. Suree
Luis Guemes	Phalaenopsis amabilis
Lore Wigley	Blc. Merrily Murinson 'Parfum'

White Ribbons

Pedro Bonetti	Blc. Golden Tang
Luis Guemes	Dtps. (Taisuco Candystripe x Rio's Candy)
Luis Guemes	Opst. Suree
Luis Guemes	Onc. Twinkle (alba form)
Eleanor Sanfillippo	Slc. Helen Veliz x C. percivaliana
Lore Wigley	Lc. Blue Koi

Ribbon Judges: Erna Maxwell, George Heider, Pedro Bonetti, Carol De Biase, Richard Brandon, Julie Rosenberg, Gladys Roudel, Javier Morejon

SFOS Ribbon Judging Results, February 16, 2005

Blue Ribbons

Ralph Hernandez	Rrm. Radiant Lure
Ralph Hernandez	Blc. Beautiful Morning
Karen Kubinec	Blc. George King 'Serendipity'
Jan & Allan Mink	Ludisia discolor
Jan & Allan Mink	Cym. Neil Pagano 'Lee'
Mike & Angie Pitiriciu	Asoda. Ben's Delight
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Paph. St. Swithin
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Opsistylis Mary Natrass
Eleanor Sanfillippo	Cookara Bill
Lore Wigley	Pot. Free Spirit 'Lea'

Red Ribbons

Eileen de Armas	Asoda. Motes Goldpiece
Luis Guemes	Phal. Brother Redland Spots
Luis Guemes	Phal. (Brother Sara Gold x Morie Daguia)
Luis Guemes	Angraecum eburneum
Karen Kubinec	Trichoglottis (cirrifera x bipunctata)
Jan & Allan Mink	Cym. Neil Pagano 'Lee'
Sandy Schultz/Georgia Tasker	Paphiopedilum lowii

White Ribbons

Eileen de Armas	Vuyl. Melissa Brianne 'Floricultura'
Ralph Hernandez	Paph. (Eagle Heart x Chocolate)

Culture Ribbon

Mike & Angie Pitiriciu	Asoda. Ben's Delight
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Ribbon Judges: Robert Fuchs, Vickie Hawk, George Heider, Richard Brandon, Julie Rosenberg



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An Introduction to Orchids

A Guide to Orchid Growing in the Subtropics

Third, revised edition, 2005,
ISBN 0-9679831-1-8

New for 2005, this completely revised edition brings 15 of South Florida's foremost orchid experts together to share their expertise on orchid care. Lavishly illustrated with hundreds of color photographs by award-winning photographers, this new edition includes useful appendices as well as informative chapters on the care of our most popular genera. 128 pages, edited by Julie Rosenberg, contributing editors Chuck McCartney and Michael Tibbs.

The contents include:

Foreword by Mary Noble McQuerry
General Orchid Culture, Ruben P. Sauleida, Ph.D., Ruben In Orchids
Growing Cattleyas, Bill Peters, Whimsy Orchids
Growing Phalaenopsis, Robert Randall, Carib Plants
Growing Vandas, Robert Fuchs, R.F. Orchids
Growing Dendrobiums, Lynn Bretsnyder, Impact Orchids & Exotics
Growing Oncidiums, Milton Carpenter, Everglades Orchids
Growing Tolumnias, Bill Peters, Whimsy Orchids
Growing Catasetums, Francisco Miranda, Miranda Orchids
Growing Slipper Orchids, Gene Monnier, JEM Orchids
Cymbidiums for Florida, Andy Easton, K-B Orchids
Orchids in the Landscape, Robert Fuchs, R.F. Orchids
Growing Terrestrial Orchids, Kerry Richards, A World of Orchids
Native Florida Orchids, Ruben P. Sauleida, Ph.D.
Orchid Pests, Catharine Mannion, Ph.D., University of Florida TREC
Orchid Diseases, Robert T. McMillan, Ph.D., University of Florida TREC
Potting and Mounting, Greg Allikas, The Potting Workshop
Caring for Seedlings, Ken Cameron, Redland Orchids
Judging and Exhibition, Dorothy Bennett, Judging Chair, 19th World Orchid Conference



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IN MEMORY OF DOTTIE KONE

Dottie was an AOS Judge, wife of past president Col. Ken Kone, and was judging chairman for the Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society for many years. Dottie brought dignity and graciousness to the orchid world. Dottie will be sorely missed by all those who loved and knew her.

DID YOU KNOW?

Orchids can handle temperatures from freezing to 100 degrees. There are approximately 34,000 species of orchids making this the largest family of all blooming plants.

Mustard! Next Biofumigant?

Reprinted from the FLOS January, 2005 newsletter

The USDA's Agricultural Research Service scientists are studying the effectiveness of mustard (Brassica) species as a biofumigant to control both weeds and other pests. In greenhouse studies on potted irises, a fumigant made of mustard extracts reduced weed and reduced nematode populations by 70-80% without harming the test plants. Scientists attribute the success of the fumigant to isothiocyanates, a chemical produced by mustard plants that make surrounding soil toxic to pests and competing plants.

ORCHID PRONUNCIATION

Ada	AY-da
Ascocentrum	as-koe-SEN-trum
Chiloschista	kye-low-SHIS-ta
Dendrochilum	den-droe-KYE-lum
Eria	EAR-ee-ah
Gomesa	go-MEZ-ah
Laelia	LAY-lee-ah
Oncidium	on-SID-ee-um



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SFOS Participates in the 18th World Orchid Conference

Several members of the South Florida Orchid Society have recently returned from participation in the 18WOC held in Dijon, France. The show and conference was well attended by many members of our Society, our show vendors and our show judges. Among them were Robert Fuchs, Mike Coronado, Dorothy Bennett, Erna Maxwell, Ed & Jean Gilliland, Rosita Stoik, Christa Collins, Alexandra Amiama, Bill & Joanna Guthrie, Ken & Boon Roberts, Tom Sheehan, Marion Sheehan, Juan Carols Uribe & Andrea Nissan, and George Vazquez.

R. F. Orchids placed a formal display of cut-flowers in the orchid competition, which was held in association with Florissimo, a well-known European flower show. In their display, R. F. included several blooms of SFOS members as well as their own selection. Special recognition was presented to:

* Vanda Robert's Delight 'Torblue', Gold Medal (Note: this same flower received an AM/AOS at the recent Miami Show)

* Asda. Motes Goldpiece '24 Karat', Silver Medal & First Place Ribbon, exhibited by David and Valerie Foster

* Vanda Adelaide Skoglund 'Crownfox II', Silver Medal (Note: this same flower received an AM/AOS at the recent Miami Show)

* Vanda Usha, Bronze Medal and 2nd Place Ribbon, exhibited by David and Valerie Foster

* Lc. Mem. Robert Strait 'Blue Hawaii', Bronze Medal

In addition, R. F. Orchids received a Bronze Medal for

their commercial website in the newly inaugurated WOC Website competition.

Several of the SFOS members mentioned above participated in the R. F. Orchids Tour Group which had a wonderful time after Dijon by continued explorations of France, visiting the Burgundy wine region, the Provence area, the Cote d'Azur and, of course, Paris.

Of course, our own 19WOC Committee members took lots of notes and now will escalate the planning activities for that event which will be held in Miami Beach in Feb-March 2008. We know all SFOS members will be supporting this coming event by volunteering and participating at every level.

Dorothy Bennett



R.F. Orchids display at 18WOC



Mike and Christa enjoy the show



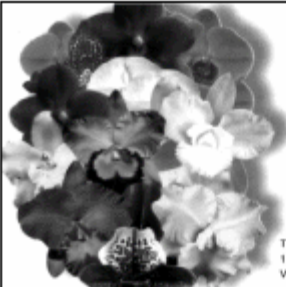
SFOS members conquer Paris
(l to r: Rostia Stoik, Erna Maxwell, Christa Collins)



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SFOS Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, April 20th, 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



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