



# The Orchidist

June 2009 - Volume 5 - Number 17

## JUNE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Co-sponsoring the 19th World Orchid Conference which brought the world to our door; producing the 63rd Miami International Orchid Show as a great follow; sponsoring foxtail orchid conservation in Sri Lanka and Andean orchid research in Peru- these are some of the highlights of the past two years.

As my tenure closes, I look back proudly on these accomplishments, not achievable without a fabulous board, officers and the hardest workers of any orchid society on earth.

We have had incredible speakers and sumptuous spreads at our monthly meetings and Speakers' Day, our excellent newsletter has been sent out on time every single month, our website has been improved and our Holiday Party continues to be an elegant event.

It truly has been an honor to serve as President of the South Florida Orchid Society.

Sandy

## MEETING NOTICE

### SFOS Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Fire Fighters Memorial Building

8000 N.W. 21st Street

Miami, FL 33122

7:30 pm - Registration & Judging of Plants

7:45 pm - Installation of New Officers and  
Awards Presentation

8:15 pm - Program Begins

9:15 pm - Awarded Plants Discussed

9:30 pm - Raffle

Published by the South Florida Orchid Society

## JUNE PROGRAM

### The New Mini Paphiopedilums

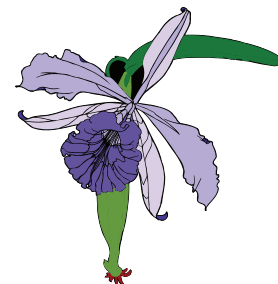
Harold Koopowitz

Harold grew up in South Africa where he attended University majoring in both Botany and Zoology. He then completed a doctorate at UCLA in California in 1968. A professor at the University of California at Irvine since graduating he was also the Director of the UCI Arboretum for twenty years. He recently retired as a Professor of Biology in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UCI, where he did research on conservation and ecology.

He is well known for his work on slipper orchids, both species and hybrids and is author of several books and over a hundred research papers. His most recent books include "Orchids and their Conservation" and "Clivias" and now "Tropical Slipper Orchids" for Timber Press. Harold was the Editor in Chief of Orchid Digest for nearly a decade. He was a founding partner in Paphanatics, unlimited. He still collects and breeds slipper orchids but now as an amateur.

Harold is a member of the Species Survival Committee for Orchids for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. He is on the board of Orchid Conservation International and is scientific advisor to the Orchid Conservation Alliance. In addition, he is a member of the International Orchid Commission.

Harold will be speaking on "The New Mini Paphiopedilum". The plants for the raffle table will be provided by Living Colors Nursery and R.F. Orchids.



## SFOS SPEAKERS DAY 2009

SFOS will host its annual Speakers Day on Sunday, October 4, 2009 at Signature Gardens, 12725 S.W. 122 Avenue, Miami, FL. We have a wonderful panel of highly respected speakers presenting an enjoyable and educational program. Speakers Day also includes AOS Judging and SFOS Medal Judging. Plants for judging must be registered by 10:00 A.M. and can be picked up at 12:00 P.M. Speakers' Day has AOS approval for judging seminar credits as well. Several of our speakers will have plants to sell and sales will be open only to registered seminar participants.

This year's speakers are:

**Bob Burkey** – owns Kamuela Greenhouse/Specialty Orchids along with his wife where they raise Odontoglossums, Oncidiinae Intergenerics, Cymbidiums, and Paphiopedilums. For the past four years Bob has also been the Director of the Hawaii Biotech Tissue Culture Center. He is an accredited Cymbidium Society Judge and an accredited American Orchid Society Judge. He has written many articles on growing orchids and judging, and has lectured on the subjects throughout the U.S., New Zealand, Japan, and the U.K. He is currently the Vice President of the Odontoglossum Alliance. Bob will speak on “Judging Oncidiinae/Odont Intergeneric Hybrids” and will have plants to sell.

**Jason Fischer** – Jason has had a life-long education in orchids mainly from the opportunity to be raised in a family orchid business. Jason Fischer works at and helps manage Orchids Limited in Plymouth, Minnesota with his father Jerry Fischer. Their operation consists of four greenhouses with 15,000 square feet of growing space, a shade house, and laboratory. He took interest in orchid hybridization and lab work around 14 years of age, and first started breeding with Phalaenopsis, which later on lead to Paphs, Phrags and miscellaneous hybrids. Jason's first lecture on Neofinetia Falcata at the Minnesota Orchid Society in 2004 was the kick-off for an amazing journey of lectures across America including the WOC in Miami in 2008. Jason will speak on “The Phragmipedium Craze” which will cover breeding and growing techniques. Jason will also have plants to sell.

**Norito Hasegawa** - is the owner of Paphanatics, unLimited. He has been a judge in both the American Orchid Society and the Cymbidium Society of America for over 35 years. He is primarily a hybridizer of Slipper Orchids (Paphiopedilum) although his interests and collection of 15,000 orchids include Miniature Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Cymbidiums and variegated orchids of all sorts. Norito is a 3 million miler travelling to many foreign countries talking and/or judging in places such as Japan, South Africa, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Germany, New Zealand, Taiwan, England, France, Switzerland and many cities in the USA. Norito will speak on “Paphiopedilum Species and How They Influence Their Hybrids.” Norito will also have plants to sell.

**Tom Miranda** - trained as a Marine Biologist, and has been an orchid addict since his childhood. Tom is presently the Orchid Collection Specialist at the Smithsonian Institution where he cares for a huge collection of orchid species and hybrids, and produces a four month long orchid exhibit each year and supplies information about orchid cultivation, ecology and conservations to the public year round. His mission in life is trying to bring the horticultural, scientific and conservation community's closer together. He has been writing two popular monthly columns in Orchids magazine ‘The Orchid Checklist’ and the ‘Genus of the Month’ for the last four years. Tom will speak on “Judging and Breeding of Miniature Art Shade Cattleyas”.

**Marguerite Webb** - Marguerite Webb began her orchid growing career in the mid-1970's when she took a job at J&L Orchids in Easton, CT. In 1979 she and her two partners Cordelia Head and Lucinda Winn purchased J&L, a small nursery that specializes in unusual species and miniature orchids. Marguerite has become an authority on certain New World genera such as Masdevallia, writing and lecturing about them and other aspects of orchid growing. She has traveled to places like South Africa, New Zealand and Japan to speak at orchid conferences and seminars, as well as lecturing at many World Orchid Conferences including Miami in 2008. She is a frequent contributor to orchid publications such as The Orchid Digest and Orchids. Marguerite will lecture on “Warm Growing Pleurothallidinae” and will be bringing plants to sell.

## SPEAKERS DAY SCHEDULE

8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast, plant registration (for judging), plant sales open
9:00 - 10:00	Jason Fischer
10:00 - 11:00	Bob Burkey
11:00 - 12:00	AOS Judging and panel discussion, plant sales open
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	Marguerite Webb
2:00 - 3:00	Norito Hasegawa
3:00 - 4:00	Tom Miranda
4:00 - 5:00	Plant sales open

\* Plant sales area will also be open during breaks and between speakers

Tickets for Speakers Day are \$40.00 per person. The price includes a continental breakfast and cold buffet lunch. This is one of the major orchid events held annually in South Florida! Be sure to register early since tickets are limited and sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are not available at the door. To register, please send your check and this order form to the SFOS office: 10801 S.W. 124 St., Miami, FL 33176. For more information call (305) 255-3656.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

AOS Judging Center & Status \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats @ \$40.00

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa & MasterCard accepted:

# \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Address to mail tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

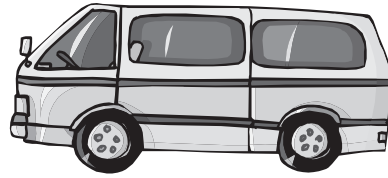
Please return this form to:

SFOS,

10801 S.W. 124 St., Miami, FL 33176.

We also accept Visa & MasterCard. Please call the SFOS office (305-255-3656) to process your charge.

## ROAD TRIP



Marlene and Charley Clark will not be at the next meeting. They are taking some time for RR. Marlene is asking

that all members please bring something to munch on for this next meeting. Any contribution will be greatly appreciated. The club will bring the coffee.

Thank you

Marlene

## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

President	Judy Mezey
1st Vice President	Sally Taylor
2nd Vice President	Carol De Biase
Secretary	Maria Wood
Treasurer	Dorothy Bennett

Director's Term Expiring 2012

Marlene Clark

Ralph Hernandez

Michael Coronado

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

If you move and have a change of address, phone number or email, please let Ellen know at the SFOS office (305-255-3656).

Coming to a meeting! Bring friends and family, get them to join and receive a free orchid seedling.

Don't forget The South Florida Orchid Society Culture book written for growing orchids in this part of the country. The member price is \$15.00

See you all at the next meeting, June, 17th.

**BEN FRANKLIN'S ALMANAC  
OF WIT, WISDOM, AND  
PRACTICAL ADVICE**

*Keeping Ants Out*

- If you can tell where ants are coming into your house, plug the hole with petroleum jelly or soft soap.
- Surround anthills with used coffee grounds, and the ants will not cross the barrier.

*Notes For Gardeners*

- Instead of using chemical herbicides, pour boiling water on pesky weeds.
- Don't handle plants immediately after a rainstorm, or you might spread fungal diseases.

*Home Remedies For Gardeners*

- Garden chores leaving you with blisters? Apply calendula ointment (made from the pot marigold) or make an antiseptic wash with two drops of chamomile oil in ½ cup water.
- For pests, think pesto. Rub basil on the skin as an insect repellent.
- Mix together equal parts witch hazel and rubbing alcohol and use it to massage a tired back or sore muscles. This refreshes the skin, too.

**ORCHID WORD SEARCH**

G A S T R I T I S X P B  
S N E L L A P A J R T U  
Y I I S S O L U O L M I  
R E L E U U F E V U N A  
I K M Y C C U Z I I S R  
N O T A T S P B S I A A  
G H R T U S A T T B B A  
O D D S S L O I U O W I  
T U V Z O E N R L L S S  
H Y B C I O D L E F D S  
Y O C U R E E O T T I A  
R A H H M A V Q M I P T  
S D P A L L A M I R L L  
U O G A B L E S A N D I  
S A I L L A V E D S A M

- |                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| SOPHRONITIS    | PROFUSUS    |
| SACCOLABIUM    | MASDEVALLIA |
| SYRINGOTHYRSUS | DEVA        |
| MILTASSIA      | DRACULA     |
| MORMODES       | GOMESA      |
| PTEROSTYLIS    | GASTRITIS   |
| PALLENS        | BOLLEA      |
| BUIARA         |             |

**NEW ROSTER**

We are in the process of preparing the SFOS 2009-2010 Membership Roster. If you have any changes in your contact information please let the SFOS office know by June 20th, 2009. You can send it by email (sforchid@bellsouth.net) or leave a message on the office phone (305-255-3656).

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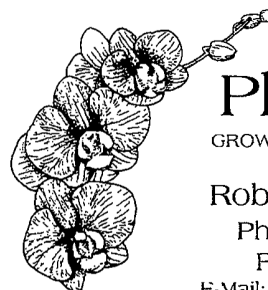
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## MOSQUITO SPRAY

Not sure how or if it works on animals, but.....

**Subject: Mosquitoes! Interesting!**



Mosquito Spray...Worth a try

I was at a deck party awhile back, and the bugs were having a ball biting everyone. A man at the party sprayed the lawn and deck floor with Listerine, and the little demons disappeared. The next year I filled a 4-ounce spray bottle and used it around my seat whenever I saw mosquitoes. And voila! That worked as well. It worked at a picnic where we sprayed the area around the food table, the children's swing area, and the standing water nearby. During the summer, I don't leave home without it.....Pass it on.



**OUR FRIEND'S COMMENTS:** I tried this on my deck and around all of my doors. It works - in fact, it killed them instantly. I bought my bottle from Target and it cost me \$1.89. It really doesn't take much, and it is a big bottle, too; so it is not as expensive to use as the can of Bug-spray you buy that doesn't last 30 minutes. So, try this, please. It will last a couple of days. Don't spray directly on a wood door (like your front door), but spray around the frame. Spray around the window frames, and even inside the dog house.



Now these are Good Mosquitoes!!!




Sandi Jones  
Tom Wells

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## COMPLIMENTS FROM "THE ORCHID DIGEST"

South Florida Orchid Society - From what I can tell, South Florida contains more orchid societies than alligators! A slight exaggeration, perhaps, but if there's any place in the continental United States that could justify a proliferation of orchid societies, the southern portion of the Sunshine State is certainly it. Established in Miami in 1945, the SFOS describes itself as a society "dedicated to the improvement and conservation of orchids through education and research. The web site reflects that identity through much of its content, including publications and descriptions of society activities. Each issue of the monthly SFOS newsletter, "The Orchidist" contains useful information about orchid culture as well as upcoming orchid events. Archived issues are available dating back to January 2005. The society sponsors an annual speaker's day, described on the site, that brings in authorities from around the world to talk about a variety of orchid-related topics. As if this weren't enough, the SFOS supports education and research through the awarding of grants to people engaged in the study of orchids. Descriptions of recently funded projects and guidelines for applicants can be found on the web site. South Florida may have more orchid societies than alligators, but the SFOS clearly stands out from the crowd!



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## A TRIBUTE TO TRUDY FENNEL

Trudy Fennell, a legendary and beloved figure in the orchid world, passed away on June 2, 2009, after a brief illness. She was born in Miami, Florida, on April 6, 1926. She married the celebrated owner of Fennell's Orchid Jungle, Thomas A. Fennell, Jr., on March 8, 1950. Trudy was not born into an orchid family as was her husband, but destiny brought them together during the period when she was the first floor manager of Burdine's Department Store in Miami. Tom, with his usual flare for orchid displays, had established an orchid kiosk at Burdine's, and as a consequence, the couple met over orchids. From that point until Tom's death in 1988, Trudy was a constant figure on the orchid scene. She along with her children were engaged in setting up the legendary displays at the Miami shows, attending the World Orchid Conferences including the first one, but Trudy was best known as the "orchid greeter." Trudy met every visitor who came to the Orchid Jungle in Homestead, Florida, with her ever-present smile and enthusiasm for life. She led tours, answered untold numbers of questions about orchids, but she was also a devoted wife and mother who embraced a deep faith. Trudy became a successful retailer of all things orchids when she opened her own business at the Orchid Jungle, The Patio Gift Shop, which had five immense live oak trees growing through it. Her inventory was diverse and ranged from local orchid creations to the finest European imports. Trudy never met a stranger and could engage in conversations with total strangers just as though she had known them all her life. During the last WOC, she attended a private party honoring the 125th anniversary of the founding of Vacherot and Lecoufle, where she had the opportunity to be with many people that she had not seen in years. In the typical Trudy fashion, she went up to each person, gave them a hug, and began a conversation just as though they had seen each other the day before. I will treasure having known her and will always cherish what she said that wonderful night during the WOC, "orchids are just so special aren't they, they bring such wonderful and interesting people together." Trudy will be missed by all that knew her. Requiem Aeternum

Trudy's many friends extend condolences to the entire Fennell Family.

Jeff H. Bradley

## PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURE TIPS

Paphiopedilums like bright indirect sunlight. They should never be exposed to strong direct sunlight or leaf burn will result.

Light for paphiopedilums should be adjusted to provide 10-18% of full sun. If you have a light meter, it should read from 1000 to 1800 F.C. (foot candles). If a meter is unavailable, you can judge the amount of light by touching the leaves to see how warm they feel. The leaves should feel warm but not hot.

Overtime, leaf color is a good indication of whether or not the plant is receiving the proper amount of light. Leaves should be medium green for the plant to bloom. If the leaves are more yellow, move the plant to a shadier area. If the leaves are a deep green, the area is probably too dark, and the plant may have a problem re-flowering unless it is moved to a brighter location.

The ideal temperature for paphiopedilums is 85° F during the day and 60° F. at night. Good air movement is a necessity. Paphiopedilums DO NOT like temperatures above 90° F.

Proper care and cultures is the most important factor in being able to re-bloom your orchid plant. Paph's should bloom with the maturing of each new growth. Keep the plant slightly dryer than usual as the new growth matures to stimulate bud formation. Annual repotting is important.

## AOS PINS

AOS is selling pins as a fundraiser. The pins are 1 1/2 inches wide and come with a piece that converts them into a necklace so you can wear them either way; however the chain is not included. The pin was designed by award winning jewelry designer Dawn Vertrees. The cost is \$25.00 which includes shipping and handling and you can order them on the AOS website. All proceeds to the AOS General Fund. Order yours today!



## JUDGING REMINDER

This month we will be holding our usual monthly judging. Please remember to bring your wonderful plants for our panel of judges to award.



**FIVE QUICK WAYS TO MEASURE  
(WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE A RULER)**

- It is useful to know what your hand span is, from out stretched thumb to tip of little finger. Sometime when you do have a ruler, measure it and remember the number, usually anywhere from 8-10 inches. Also, measure your foot (which will be 12 inches long only by coincidence) and remember that number.
- Use your body as a yardstick. Your arm span, fingertip to fingertip, is close to your height in inches, a number you presumably know.
- A standard size checkbook is 6 inches long.
- A stick a chewing gum is 3 inches long.
- A dollar bill is exactly 6 1/8 inches by 2 5/8 inches

**SAVE THE DATE**



Wednesday, November 18, 2009 the SFOS will hold its 1st Annual Holiday Pre Sale and Orchid Auction. All types of articles will be available not just orchids. More information to follow.



**THANKYOU**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the judges who have been at the monthly judging's and helped make this year so special and to everyone who brought in plants for all to enjoy. The judges are: Bob Fuchs, Dorothy Bennett, Erna Maxwell, George Heider, Sally Taylor, Joan Viggiani, Javier Morejon, Julie Rosenberg, Michael Coronado and our wonderful clerk Maria Wood.

I would be remiss if I didn't say a great big thank you to Ron Hunt & Georgia Tasker who takes the pictures of the awarded plants and other goings on for the society.

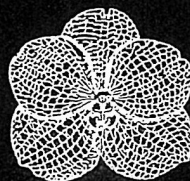
My hat's off to all of you for your dedication to SFOS.  
Carol



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## AOS BOTANICAL GARDENS TO REMAIN OPEN

*Jim Jordan*

Delray Beach, Florida- The American Orchid Society (AOS) Botanical Gardens, which were slated to close at the end of June, were given a new lease on life by the AOS Board of Trustees who voted unanimously on Tuesday (June 2,2009) to keep the gardens open to members and to the public.

President Carlos Fighetti said there were a number of factors that help support the decision. First and foremost was the local support that came forward both in terms of existing members and the general public who did not want to see the gardens closed. Over 10,000 signatures were gathered that urged the Board to look for ways to sustain the gardens during the months when visitors are at low ebb. In addition to this overwhelming interest, a quickly formed pledge drive headed by the South Florida Leadership Council consisting of many local orchid societies secured some \$40,000 that will help towards that end and also had many people volunteering their time to maintain the gardens along with American Orchid Society staff. A formal presentation was put together by the group and presented to the Board at their Annual Meeting held in Houston in April. The Board asked to include many of these ideas and events in the annual budget to see the impact keeping the Gardens open would have on the bottom line and the cash needs of the organization.

In commenting on the decision, Fighetti said, "We are very proud of the initiative and the results that were able to be generated by all those who treasure our Tropical Orchid Garden in Delray Beach. We are confident that with this additional funding both in terms of pledges and in terms of volunteers that we can show many more visitors why this is one of the most beautiful horticultural and visitor-attracting assets in southern Florida."

The American Orchid Society Botanical Gardens, adjacent to the Morikami Museum, are open to the public seven days a week, from 10:00am to 4:30pm. The 3.5 acre site has a magnificent collection of tropical orchids and companion plants in natural settings that complement the mission of the American Orchid Society. For information, please call 561-404-2000.

**Dated Material - Do Not Delay**

**South Florida Orchid Society**  
10801 S.W. 124 Street  
Miami, Florida 33176

