



The Orchidist

SFOS Program

Paul Phelps of Phelps Farm Orchids, Inc. will present our October program. The program titled *"Cattleyas, The Queen of Orchids"* is a hands on presentation that will talk about culture, potting and repotting, fertilizer needs and other growing tips specific to growing the Cattleya alliance.

Phelps Farm Orchids Inc. is a commercial Orchid farm located on five acres in North West Hillsborough County about 15 minutes north of the Tampa International Airport. The business was started in 1986 by Paul and Patricia Phelps and grew out of Patricia's love of orchid collecting, into a thriving commercial operation. At the time the business was started, the growing area was 3500 square feet of Quonset greenhouse. In 1992 the greenhouse was doubled to 7000 square feet. In 2012 a 1600 square foot greenhouse was built to house hanging and mounted Orchids that require daily watering.

Cattleyas are the specialty of the house but other genera are grown there as well. A breeding program was started in the late '80's with the main focus on the Cattleya alliance. At present Paul has made over 800 hybrids.

A web site was brought on line in 1994 featuring an on line catalog. You can visit this site at www.phelpsfarm.com. This web site is currently undergoing a renovation including a shopping cart for online ordering and a link to articles about Orchid culture and other relative information. Locally Phelps Farm Orchids was featured on NBC's Daytime show with Cyndi Edwards and nationally they were featured on the PBS series Americas Heartland. If you would like to see the episode on the web, go to www.americaheartland.org. Click on Stories, choose Season 5 and click on Episode 503 and then select the story called Petal Pushers.

Phelps Farm Orchids, Inc. will be providing the plant raffle table as well as bringing plants for sale. Many of the plants Paul & Patricia are bringing were produced at their nursery from their breeding program.

We hope you will join us for the wonderful program.

Guests are always welcome at our meetings.

President's Message

Hello all:

I find myself writing this letter Thursday afternoon, October 2nd. Can you guess where I was this morning? The Miami Orchid Show! Your 68th Miami International Orchid Show is this weekend. 'Orchid Jubilee.' A celebration of orchids indeed!

Our September presentation on 'How to Grow Great Slipper Orchids' by Glen Decker was well received. The meeting was well attended. I was glad to see some familiar faces back with us. Also, glad to see new guests in attendance. You all are always welcome to any of our meetings.

Glenn gave us good tips on fertilizing and watering. He explained the importance of controlling your water pH levels. He talked to us about which slippers do well in South Florida. Which do not, and most importantly, the reasons why for any of his comments.

We learned of the importance of calcium rich fertilizers, calcium additives, and organic fertilizers. The different quality of growing mixes, insect control, bacteria and fungi control. Most Important lesson of the presentation to me, was his phrase 'infestation through inaction.' Be pro-active with your insect and disease control. His advice does not require you to pour a ton of chemicals on top of your orchids. But I understood it to mean to keep an eye on your orchids, and act decisively when required.

(Continued on page 9)

Upcoming Events!

- **November 19, 2014 –James Watts "Leafless Orchids, fascination and frustration!"**
- **December 17, 2014 – SFOS Holiday Party**

Images from the 68th Miami International Orchid Show



Friday's raffle winner — Janet Bass.



Saturday's Raffle Winner
Sarai Suarez.



Lots more photos
on our [Facebook](#) page!



SFOS September 17th Judging Report

Judges: Gladys Roudel, Judy Bailey, Jackie Wood, Javier Morejon, Jim Davison, Melana Davison, Julie Rosenberg

Blue ribbons:

- *Paph. chamberlainianum*, Betty Eber
- *Ascda.* (V.) Motes Flamboyant, Betty Eber
- *Bc.* Binosa, Sandy Schultz and Georgia Tasker
- *C. dormanniana*, Sandy Schultz and Georgia Tasker
- *Cyc. cooperi*, David Foster
- *Onc.* Mayfair, David Foster
- *Brassocatanthe* [Bct.] (syn. *Bc.*) Haleahi Profusion (*C. maxima* × *Bc.* Maikai), David Foster
- *Aerides quinquevulnerum*, David Foster
- *Trichocentrum jonesianum*, Alfredo Figueroa
- *Onc.* Jiuhbao Gold 'Tainan' AM/AOS, Alfredo Figueroa
- *Cycd.* Jumbo Phoenix, Lorraine Lee
- *Pot.* Susan Fender, Jim & Melana Davison

Red ribbons:

- *Miltonia spectabilis*, Betty Eber
- *Rlc.* Amazonia, Jim & Melana Davison
- *Ctsm.* Rebecca's Daughter × *Cl.* Grace Dunn, Lorraine Lee

White ribbons:

- *Pot.* Krull's Splendor 'Jim & Melana' HCC/AOS, Jim & Melana Davison

Thanks for all the gorgeous orchids brought to our September meeting! We're looking forward to seeing your beauties in October.

Reminder: plants for judging must be in place by 7:30pm, so we can conclude judging before the program starts.

Julie Rosenberg

Acting Judging Chair

All award photos by and ©2014 Ron Hunt



Paph. chamberlainianum, Betty Eber



Trichocentrum jonesianum, Alfredo Figueroa



Cygd. Jumbo Phoenix, Lorraine Lee



***Cyc. cooperi*, David Foster**



Aerides quinquevulnerum, David Foster



Pot. Susan Fender, Jim & Melana Davison



Ascda. (V.) Motes Flamboyant, Betty Eber



Bc. Binosa, Sandy Schultz and Georgia Tasker



Brassocatanthe [Bct.] (syn. Bc.) Haleahi Profusion (*C. maxima* × Bc. Maikai), David Foster



Onc. Mayfair, David Foster



***C. dormanniana*,
Sandy Schultz and Georgia Tasker**



Onc. Jiuhbao Gold 'Tainan' AM/AOS, Alfredo Figueroa

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SFOS Contact Information

Ellen W. Hanson, Corresponding Secretary
South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.
Tel: 305-255-3656
E-Mail: sforchid@bellsouth.net

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East Everglades Orchid Society

presents their

17th ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW AND SALE



Orchid Melody

October

17, 18, & 19, 2014

9:00 - 5:00

In the gardens at

R.F. Orchids Inc.,

28100 SW 182 Ave.,

Homestead Fl

Free Admission and Parking

www.orchidseeos.com



With the support of the Miami-Dade County
Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council,
the Mayor, and the Board of County Commissioners.



Items of Interest

(President's Message Continued from page 1)

Glen brought a nice selection of his plants for sale. He also donated three for our special raffle. Thanks to Terry Glancy of Pine Ridge Orchids and Carol De Biase for their Slipper orchid donation to our evening's raffle table.

The orchid submissions for evaluation were outstanding. There were over 10 blue ribbons awarded on a wide variety of orchids. Congratulations to all their proud parents. My personal thanks to all who contributed with our refreshment table efforts. I received many compliments from our guests Thank you!

My thanks to all who helped with our meeting. To the O'Deas for transporting and hosting our presenter. Dorothy, Julie, Ron, Ralph, Dan, Carlos and Carmen, Betty, Sandy, Jim and Linda, thank you all for your kind help.

We are planning our Holiday Dinner get together for Wednesday December 18th. You will receive more detailed information, as soon as it is available. For now, please pencil the date in your calendar.

Wishing you all the best,

Carlos

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR NEW MEETING LOCATION



Valuable Coupon 1 Free Raffle Ticket

SOUTH FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY
October 15th 2014 Meeting
One ticket per member / Members Only!

Expiration Date: October 15, 2014r

MEMBER BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES

- **MEETING AND MIXING** with many friendly and helpful orchid "neighbors", amateurs, advanced collectors and commercial growers.
- **WELCOME KIT** includes first purchase discount coupons from leading member growers.
- **MONTHLY MEETINGS** with slide lectures by leading local and national orchid authorities – exhibits and refreshments.
- **EXHIBIT TABLE** each month for displays of member's plants. Some plants are spotlighted and exhibitors identified before members.
- **JUDGING** each month by qualified regional and national judges.
- **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** that includes awards given and timely cultural notes.
- **FESTIVE HOLIDAY PARTY!**
- **FREE ADMISSION** to the annual **SFOS** Show!
- **AIR CONDITIONED** spacious conveniently located meeting hall with ample **FREE** parking.

The Orchidist is published monthly by the South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

Submissions from members are always appreciated. If you have an orchid growing technique that works for you we want to know about it. You don't need to send anything fancy; a text file is fine. If you have digital photos send them along too. We'll take it from there. You will, of course, receive credit for your submission. Please send your submissions to ...

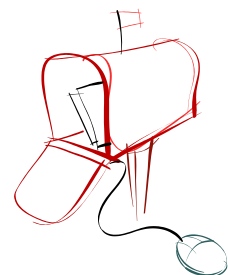
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And be sure to visit our website at...

www.sforchid.com

See you next month!

Ron Hunt—Editor, *The Orchidist*



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